



A look inside The Oak "K"

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FIFA

For the Good of the Game

GSP Scholars!

Ruth Wooten
Business Manager

In mid-April four grateful LOHS students were notified that they had been accepted into the Governor's Scholars Program, more commonly known by its acronym, GSP. Nine students from Lone Oak High School had made it past the District Selection Committee to be considered at the state level. In the days prior to the April 16th mailing date, these nine students became frighteningly familiar with their mail carrier's schedule and anxiously awaited for the delivery of the notification letters.

The four juniors who were accepted are Nolan Brelsford, Jordan Potter, Sanjana Pampati, and Ruth Wooten. If these four students accept their invitations, they will be spending five weeks at one of the three GSP campuses. Bellarmine University in Louisville, Murray State University in Murray, and Centre College in Danville will all host students from around the Commonwealth. Pampati says, "I am elated about experiencing campus life and interacting with the brightest minds in Kentucky!" Brelsford says he is excited about "meeting a bunch of new people."

Completion of the Governor's Scholars Program opens doors to many scholarships. The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville both offer full tuition to qualifying GSP scholars. Wendy Watts, who played a vital role in helping students apply, added, "I am very pleased with the number of students who were accepted into GSP. This is an excellent opportunity for our students and I can't wait to hear from the chosen ones when they return! Past experience has shown that this will be one of the best events in their lives."



Pictured left to right are: Nolan Brelsford, Sanjana Pampati, Ruth Wooten, Jordan Potter. Photo courtesy of Sanjana Pampati.

NEW SUPERINTENDENT

Rachel Sloan
Assistant Business Manager

On April 26, 2010, Dr. Nancy Waldrop was named the new McCracken County superintendent by a unanimous vote by the school board. She will succeed Tim Heller, who was superintendent for nine years. He will retire on June 30, but had originally planned to retire in 2009.

Waldrop was one of three finalists for the position as new superintendent. The other two finalists were Tres Settle, superintendent of McLean County, and Steve Bayko, superintendent of Humboldt, Tennessee school system. Bayko withdrew from the consideration after the final interviews for the position in mid-April.

Nancy Waldrop has been the assistant McCracken County superintendent for nine years and has had administrative experience with other Paducah schools. She has been preparing for this position for nearly her entire education career, and her main focus will be to be as accessible as possible in dealing with concerns about the consolidation of the three high schools. She says, "It's important that our classrooms have the best teachers, the buses have safe tires, classrooms have Wi-Fi, the teams have dedicated coaches, the music programs have the right directors, and our bank accounts balance." She also wants students to have opportunities to have fun in high school.

One of Waldrop's goals as superintendent is to be accessible to students. "I am eager to find ways to hear from students--to listen to your concerns and to celebrate your successes," she explains. "Don't be surprised when I visit your classroom and ask for your input."

MACBOOK MANIA!

Sanjana Pampati
Asst. Editor

The end of the year and Macbook collection are both swiftly approaching. If everything goes as planned, MacBooks will be taken up on May 17 for seniors, May 19 for juniors, May 20 for sophomores, and May 21 for freshmen. Students should return their Macbook, charger, and laptop case. Lost/missing bags and chargers will cost \$10 for bag and \$30 for charger. Also a \$100 fee will be assessed for any significant damages to the Macbook.

Students are encouraged to back up of all their information on the computer and the network, either using a flash drive or a hard drive. While the intent is to return MacBooks to their original users, all MacBooks will be re-imaged this summer. An easy way to transfer all your files is to copy your home folder on to a flash drive. Your home folder can be accessed by going to Finder and clicking on the icon with your username on the left. Along with the re-imaging, the district is considering updating all MacBooks to Snow Leopard. Snow Leopard is a faster and more efficient server. Mason English (11), a user of Snow Leopard, comments that with Snow Leopard comes "minor changes on how MacBooks operate visually, faster boot times, and a minor increase in storage size." Mason adds, "most of the upgrades deal with speeding things up."

This year, all MacBooks must be returned. This might change for next year. A recently conducted poll revealed that 80% of students would like to have their MacBooks during the summer. In addition, 96% of the students who would like their Macbook during the summer are willing to pay an extra insurance fee. According to Mr. Brian Harper, this poll will be considered by the Board of Education as it sets policies for next year's Macbook use. It is possible that students will be able to keep their MacBooks during the summer in the future. Many AP classes have summer assignments that might benefit from access to a Macbook. For example, Mrs. Stephanie Carter's AP English Language class has a summer blog assignment for which students are required to read and comment on posts. Students who are taking AP classes might have the opportunity to pick up their MacBooks early to complete summer assignments.

While seniors cannot buy their MacBooks, they are offered a discount on any future Apple computer purchases. Many LOHS teachers have successfully incorporated MacBooks in their instruction. Although some teachers utilize the Macbooks more than others, MacBooks are still a great compliment to our curriculum. Hopefully, next year will be even more successful!

BUDGET CUTS AFFECT EDUCATION

Kendra Sanders
Photographer

Despite the emphasis on education in the U.S., the new budget cuts will affect public schools across the nation. Public schools from coast to coast are looking at budget cuts from \$10,000s to \$100,000s. Many teachers will lose their jobs. Eventually, every American is expected to be affected by the budget cuts. The U.S. Secretary of Education has declared this "an emergency."

Outraged, teachers across the country are organizing against the budget cuts and asking for serious reconsideration of where to take these cuts from. The U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan admits that it can be anywhere from "a minimum of 100,000 to as many as 300,000 teachers laid off around the country." Duncan refers to the number of possible teacher lay offs as a "devastating number." Specifically, New York is expected to possibly lay off 15,000 teachers, Illinois: 17,000 teachers, and California: 27,000 teachers by June. Many teachers have already received their pink slips. In Springfield, IL, thousands of teachers protested to save their jobs, school programs, and children's education. School programs such as sports teams and art clubs are all facing elimination.

The nation's budget cuts are even beginning to affect our local schools. On April 29, the faculty and staff of McCracken County Schools received a memo informing them that the 2 additional state-funded days (one planning and one instructional) which were added in the year 07-08 are no longer being funded by the state. The teachers have lost 2 work days which means teachers' salaries will be less. The first steps to reducing the educational system budget is starting to hit home.

The question of how teachers will continue to teach after these cuts is threatening our educational system in an already struggling system. Michael J. Petrilli from the Thomas Fordham Institute suggests that schools need to "adapt a whole new way of life" because of the loss of funding and refers to the budget cuts as a "diet." Our nation faces the problem of trying to educate growing numbers with less. In an interview with NBC News, Duncan exclaims that "we are strongly urging Congress to consider an education bill, an emergency jobs bill, to save teachers' jobs." Duncan continues on to say, "This is not good for education; this is not good for children; this is not good for reform."

Smith's Shoutout

Kelsey Smith
News Editor

Most people want to go out on a positive note, but I just want to go out on an honest one: Senior year is the first year I have taken seriously. It is the year I began caring more about learning than passing, understanding than memorizing; it is the first year I have not wasted. And it has been rewarding but frustrating, frustrating to realize I could know more about biology, I could know more about US history, I could know more about light refraction or the dynasties of India. But I copied, I skimmed, I deprived myself of this knowledge.

I am hoping college will atone for this, and I will continue to learn fully and honestly. I have never been more eager or excited. I am looking forward to taking classes in Arabic and audiology and walking into a room where I don't know anyone and seeing the ocean instead of a sea of trees when I step outside.

There is little I will miss about this school and this city, but to those things and people who are worth missing, I will remember you.

The Last Epic

Cody Waggoner
Sports Editor

I thought long and hard about what to say in my senior goodbye and came to the conclusion that I have no idea. So I figured I would go somewhat cliché and say some thing to some general groups of people.

To those people who I have ever hurt or wronged in any way, I am sorry for causing you grief or trouble. I would never intentionally do something to cause harm. To those who have helped me through the years, teacher, friends, and colleagues alike, thanks for making my life easier.

To everyone who ever needed anything from me, I hope that I was able to help you as much as you hoped. As for my effect on others, I hope that it was a positive one and that you enjoyed time with me as much as I have enjoyed myself while here with you.

Can I Graduate Now?

Seth Helton
Features Editor

High school has been great, but when is it going to end? It seems like I have been walking these halls forever. In my dwindling days as a Purple Flash, I have felt a slight twinge of loss; the loss of seeing friends and teachers whom are not accompanying me as I attend Murray State University. I would like to take a few sentences to say goodbye to all those I will miss and will miss me in return after I walk across that stage and into higher education. I remember fondly the times spent with my indoor soccer team, as we morphed from the worst motley crew ever to kick a ball to playoff champs (who-hoo)! The band (both marching and jazz) has consumed the largest amount of my time, and it was time well-spent. If it were not for band, I would not have met a certain blonde beauty whom I am still happily in a relationship with almost 2 years later.

In retrospect, high school has been an experience to remember. I will likely look back on high school as the greatest time of my life, when I enjoyed the full freedoms of adulthood without any harsh responsibility to hinder the fun. I have many pressing questions about the future: where to live, where to work, what degree to get... the list goes on and on. There is only one question that I am truly concerned with for now; can I graduate yet?

Mystery Stars Answers:

Geoff Jones (12), Jeran Swift (11), Cameron Byrd (10), Allie Guill (9)

Purple Flashback Answers:

A. Mrs. Massa; B. Mr. Sims; C. Mrs. Jarvis; D. Mrs. Powless; E. Mr. Pope; F. Mrs. Durbin; G. Mr. Gagnon;

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| Assistant Editor Sanjana Pampati | Illustrator Spenser Price |
| News Editor Kelsey Smith | Business Manager Ruth Wooten |
| Entertainment Editors Charis Gurrola Andrew Harlan | Assistant Business Manager Rachel Sloan |
| Sports Editors Cody Waggoner Kylie Tillet | Photographers Kendra Sanders Megan Ross |
| Features Editor Seth Helton | Advisor Stephanie Carter |

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Lundberg's Last Laugh

Rachel Lundberg
Editor-in-Chief

So I popped open my Macbook and got ready to write this thing when a thought suddenly occurred to me. I'm about to write this "Senior Goodbye" and I realize, oh yeah, I *am* a senior! When did that happen? It's not exactly like it snuck up on me. I'm not going to say that the years "flew by." No, my K-12 education has felt just about interminable, as I'm sure it has for most people. The thing is, it feels strange, in a way. I've been a senior all year long, but I hadn't really thought about it. I've been preparing for college, sitting in the seat of my choice on tennis trips, and all the other things that come with the position, but it hadn't really sunk in.

I guess it's starting to sink in now, at least a little bit. Maybe that's ironic, but it doesn't matter--it's been a pretty good year. There have been days, of course, when I wouldn't have agreed with that statement, but those little trials are so much smaller now. It's easier to look favorably on difficult time once you've passed it, and why not? We get to choose, so why not choose to remember the good things? That's what I'm going to do. I'm going to remember the fantastic teachers I've had over the years, and hopefully I'll remember enough of what they taught me to get through the rest of my life. I'm going to remember all my amazing, jam-eating friends, and all the jokes that will always be funny enough to laugh about.

And so it is goodbye, Lone Oak High School! I'll see you all in ten years, I hope! Who knows what may happen before then? I cannot even venture a guess. In the words of the great Sherlock Holmes, "Life is infinitely stranger than anything which the mind of man can invent." And if there's one thing I know, it's that you can't go wrong taking life lessons from Holmes.

Gurrola's Goodbye

Charis Gurrola
Entertainment Editor

I could have written a better goodbye, but I have Senioritis. At this point, every one of us soon-to-be graduates are infected. I swear, you can smell the apathy clinging to the Senior hallway. Do I have any homework? Yeah, but I can always do it five minutes before class. Group think? Get. Us. Out. Of. Here.

Senioritis is the Catch-22 of all Catch-22's: I would love to graduate but I have no urge whatsoever to do my homework. Most likely, I'm going to graduate. But it really puts a damper on my lethargy routine when I have a paper bag over my head, panicking over a new personal-worst in the grades department. I could do some extra-credit, or dig in my heels and get my act together, but once again, I have Senioritis. I'm so far gone, the most I can probably make myself do is ask my mom for the Supervalu receipts.

I think those of us who are able to overcome the sluggish symptoms of Senioritis deserve a graduation celebration. Those of us who can pull our minds away from nBlox or Woobies long enough to write down the assignment and get it done (Dare I imagine it?) the night before it is due; those of us who actually read the chapter in Physics or History instead of just writing down the bold lettering and calling it notes, are courageous. We've overcome our twelve-years-was-too-long-get-me-out-of-here cabin fever and taken the first steps towards, well, getting out of here. We've passed the first phase of life and are ready to face a world of college, jobs, taxes and whatever. Goodbye, Lone Oak; hello, Reality.

Later, Lone Oak

Kyle Fouse
Writer

As the year draws to a close I find myself not really readily able to recall all the wonderful shining memories that are usually associated with high school and the glory days therein. Perhaps it is simply that these are the kinds of memories that grow more notable and profound with time. This seems to me to be the most optimistic option when I try to make sense of everything high school encompasses.

Let's see exactly how it is that I will say goodbye to my senior year as a staff member of *The Oak "K"* newspaper. Should I start by saying that maybe politics isn't going to be my forte in life, simply because regime and schedule changes don't particularly suit my fancy. I should also make mention of my horrendous work ethic when it comes to easier classes, not saying that newspaper is a pushover class or anything, but sometimes too much freedom isn't the best way to get things done. I would like very much to say that I regret greatly not enjoying a certain chess pie more intimately. That might be quite inappropriate for a handful of senior returning staff members and will be something engraved on their minds for the rest of eternity.

I will also say that I expect to eventually miss high school and its simplicities. The same old walls and familiar faces will no longer impose themselves on my daily routine and college will bring a handful of new experiences, faces, and perhaps even fond memories. I really cannot wait to get to college, be a new person, and create a life out there in the big old world.

The planet is a lot bigger than Paducah, and many of you would do well to take this into account when you put your life into perspective. Just because you are having a hard time in high school or even just in general, that doesn't mean that life will always be that way. Suck it up! Play some *Modern Warfare* and get over it. Nothing relieves stress more than a random-moded game where you call in a nuke set to detonate in 16,667 seconds. It's real annoying actually.

So basically what this senior goodbye is going to amount to is me telling you that school sucks, life is boring, and everything is eventual. One day you'll get lucky enough to have things work out your way, and when it does happen you should take your victory in stride, because there is nothing worse than a jerk for a winner.

So this is the conclusion to my senior goodbye and I have to say I am not any more relieved. My greatest and most profound victory will be that which I experience directly after walking off the platform with my diploma. Let me tell you it will be the greatest feeling in the world to not only be out of this place, but to have a vast unknown in front of me in which my horizons are unlimited.

Cheerio!

Jordan Price
Editor-in-Chief

In preparation for writing this piece, I have thought quite a bit on what I want to say and how I want to say it. But to my own anguish I have yet to think of a way to say goodbye that hasn't already been said about a million times before. So in an attempt to avoid being cliché, I am merely going to be honest.

Although I wouldn't say that these past few years have been the best of my life (mainly due to my having to leave my warm bed at 6:00 a.m. every morning for the last four years), I would say that I have had some good times and have made some great friends. So instead of reminiscing I would much rather take this opportunity to thank those people who have influenced me the most during my high school career.

To all the friends I have had the pleasure of knowing, thank you for saving me a seat at lunch or letting me borrow your pencil when I forget mine. Thank you for giving me a big hug when I lost the class presidential election and for giving me an even bigger hug when I won Homecoming Queen. I will always remember the times we have shared and how they sometimes make me laugh out loud. It is great to know that I have gained such wonderful life-long friends that I can count on to be my shoulder to cry on or to be my hand to hold.

To all the teachers whose classes I have attended, thank you for pushing me to do my best, even when I didn't think I could go any farther. Thank you for teaching me the things that are necessary to be successful in both my future school career and in life. I will always remember the little things like "mem-yows" or "math is a whole bunch of B.S." and can guarantee, despite how silly these phrases may sound, I will use them to remember the important aspects of a memoir and how to balance an equation.

To all the other wonderful people at Lone Oak High School, thank you for the time you spent making my brief stay here enjoyable. I really appreciate what you have done for me and what you have done for the soon to be graduating class.

Carneal's Appeal

Jordan Price
Editor-In-Chief

The person responsible for the Heath High School shooting in 1997 is being considered for another appeal because officials have reason to believe that mental illness caused him not to appeal when he was sentenced. Michael Carneal, is currently serving a sentence of 25 years to life and was only 14 at the time of his sentencing. Melissa Jenkins-Smith, who was paralyzed as a result of the shootings said she will be there when this new appeal goes to trial. Many victims of the shooting are speaking out against this movement after years of trying to forget the heinous events of that seemingly ordinary December day all those years ago.

Carneal killed three female students and injured five others, three females and two males. The victims were all part of a prayer group starting off their busy days with a little one-on-one time with God. Carneal brought two shotguns and two rifles to school wrapped in a blanket. The larger weapons he passed off as an art project while he kept a .22 handgun in his bag. After the shooting, he was confronted by one of the surviving members of the prayer group and dropped his weapons. He then turned himself into the principal saying, "Kill me, please. I can't believe I did that."

In the initial trial, Judge Jeff Hines accepted a guilty plea from Carneal and gave him a life sentence with a chance for parole in 25 years (2023). Although Carneal still had 13 more years to go before he even had a chance at parole, he filed a suit in 2007 stating that his mental illness kept him from making his correct plea and asked for a re-trial. His plea was denied.

Since the shooting, information has been released suggesting Carneal was frequently bullied at school. While incarcerated, he has been diagnosed with schizophrenia for which he has been receiving treatment. Some allege his violence is linked to gaming and pornography websites as well as video games and even books, especially *The Basketball Diaries* by Jim Carroll. His point on aim is being blamed on the time he spent playing violent video games. He had a history of weapon misuse. Weeks before the shootings, Carneal stole a .38 handgun from his parents and tried to sell it. When another student found out about the gun, he told Carneal to hand it over or the police would be notified.

According to *courier-journal.com*, Carneal is being granted a new hearing. This hearing is to determine if his mental illness kept him from appealing his guilty plea and from filing his state court petition and habeas petition. Although a date for the hearing has not yet been set, U.S. District Judge Thomas B. Russell says that his ruling does not directly deal with Carneal's mental incompetence but instead how his mental disability may have inhibited him from challenging his guilty plea.

Although his excuse is mental illness, his attorney says Carneal did not mention hallucinations until 2004. Although two doctors diagnosed Carneal with mental illness in 1998, Schetky and Cornell also stated that he was competent to enter a guilty plea. Now those doctors are changing their minds. If the State Supreme justices grant Carneal the appeal, he will go back to trial court for a competency hearing which is the beginning of the trial process.



To the Popemobile!

Seth Helton
Features Editor

Not even the bulletproof papal Mercedes can protect his Holiness from the continuing volley of child abuse accusations against the Catholic Church. Child abuse has plagued the Church since the 1960's, when it first came to the attention of the public that members of the clergy in the United States had sexually abused children trusted to their care. Soon after, abuse allegations were being made in other countries too. A new batch of sex abuse cases would come up every few years, only to be swept under the rug by the Vatican. The newest batch of cases is going to be much harder for the Vatican to ignore than previous ones though. Why? What makes the newest allegations different? They are different because they are targeted at Pope Benedict XVI.

Now, before anyone gets up in arms thinking that the Pope has personally abused children, the rest of the story needs to be heard. In March 2010, German media reported on a former priest, Father Peter Hüllermann from the Diocese of Essen, who was accused of abusing several boys in the 1970s and 1980s. He was removed from his parish assignment, and his transfer to Munich for psychiatric treatment was formally approved by then-Cardinal Ratzinger (whom is now Pope). Father Hüllermann was later allowed to resume his pastoral duties in Munich (which was under Cardinal Ratzinger). In short, a priest who was known as a child abuser was allowed to work in the church as a priest again. Questions were raised about how much Ratzinger knew about Hüllermann's reassignment. Despite the fact that Ratzinger's subordinates reassigned Hüllermann against the Cardinal's suggestion, he took no steps to remove Hüllermann from Munich and the priesthood permanently. In 1986, Hüllermann was accused of abusing children in another parish.

There is no doubt that many lives have been damaged by abusive priests. The next question is: just how many lives have been damaged? The most detailed (and horrifying) statistics come from the John Jay Institute's report on Catholic child abuse cases made for an American Catholic Bishops conference. The most pessimistic survey conducted found that 27% of American women and 16% of men had "a history of childhood sexual abuse," while the most optimistic had 12.8% of women and 4.3% of men. These wild differences are due to varying definitions of "childhood." In some surveys the ages run up to 18 years, which is legally considered adulthood in the United States.

This crisis has long been under-reported; the Vatican has been slow in its response and far too lenient in punishing deviant members of the clergy. It's shocking and upsetting that one of the world's largest and oldest religious institutions has been harboring and hiding abuse of children for so long.

Health Care Reform

Kelsey Smith
News Editor

Health care reform is no longer a far-off promise in a presidential campaign or a page in another nation's legislation but a reality in this country, in this era.

After clearing the Senate in December, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was passed in the House on March 21st by a vote of 219-212 (all Republicans opposed the bill, along with 34 Democrats.) Two days later, President Obama signed the bill into law.

The House then passed a "fixes" bill, designed to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act without having to push a revised bill through the Senate. Under the reconciliation rule, the bill needed only a simple majority (51) in the Senate to be added to the health care package.

The "fixes" bill made these changes to the bill signed by Obama: the Medicare "doughnut hole" will be filled by 2020 (Medicare stops covering prescription costs after costs exceed \$2,830 and only begins to cover the patient again when out-of-pocket expenses reach \$4,550); the threshold for imposing Cadillac taxes will be raised (to \$10,200 for an individual and \$27,500 for families); those making over \$200,000 a year will pay an additional 3.8% Medicare payroll tax; the fine for those who do not purchase health care will be reduced from \$750 to \$695; and the fine for large companies that failed to provide coverage for employees increase from \$750 to \$2,000 per employee. The bill also expands subsidies for less wealthy families and includes new education initiatives to help families with the costs of college. The cost of the health care bill with the "fixes" will be \$940 billion.

Many initiatives in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will not go into effect until 2011, 2014, or even 2018, but there are some measures that will take effect immediately. Children can no longer be denied coverage based on a pre-existing condition, young adults can stay on their parents' insurance plan until the age of 27, and insurance companies can no longer drop clients when they become sick. In addition, businesses with less than 50 employees will receive a tax credit to help cover premium costs, and in order to help Americans choose the best and most affordable coverage, the US Health and Human Services Department will maintain a website devoted to providing insurance information to the public. Republicans are outraged, arguing that the bill is unconstitutional and the GOP will seek to "replace and repeal" - that is, replace the officials who voted for the legislation and then repeal it.

Although outright repeal of the bill is unlikely, health care continues to be debated among the American people and government. But over time, the effectiveness of the bill or lack thereof will speak for itself.

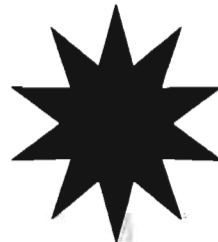
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A PERFECT PLACE

Andrew Harlan
Entertainment Editor

Few things are more beautiful than the lush forest: green expanses of trees, winding creeks, and small lake inlets that furry animals roam freely. I recently visited one of these such wonders. A place where everything, so it seems, is *perfect*.

Instead of partying in Florida with thousands of other minimally clothed young adults, this spring break I partied with bare-naked nature. In a world filled with the noise of machines and people, I wanted a break from all such distractions. With **Bailey Orr (10)** as my accompanying pioneer, I began an adventure.

Some fifteen miles past the North Welcome Station in the Land between the Lakes State Park, I turned onto a narrow, rutted gravel road. After about ten minutes of navigating between the deep holes and muddy areas of the apparently old and poorly maintained road, we arrived at a dead end at an old cemetery in which the most recent grave is marked 1928.

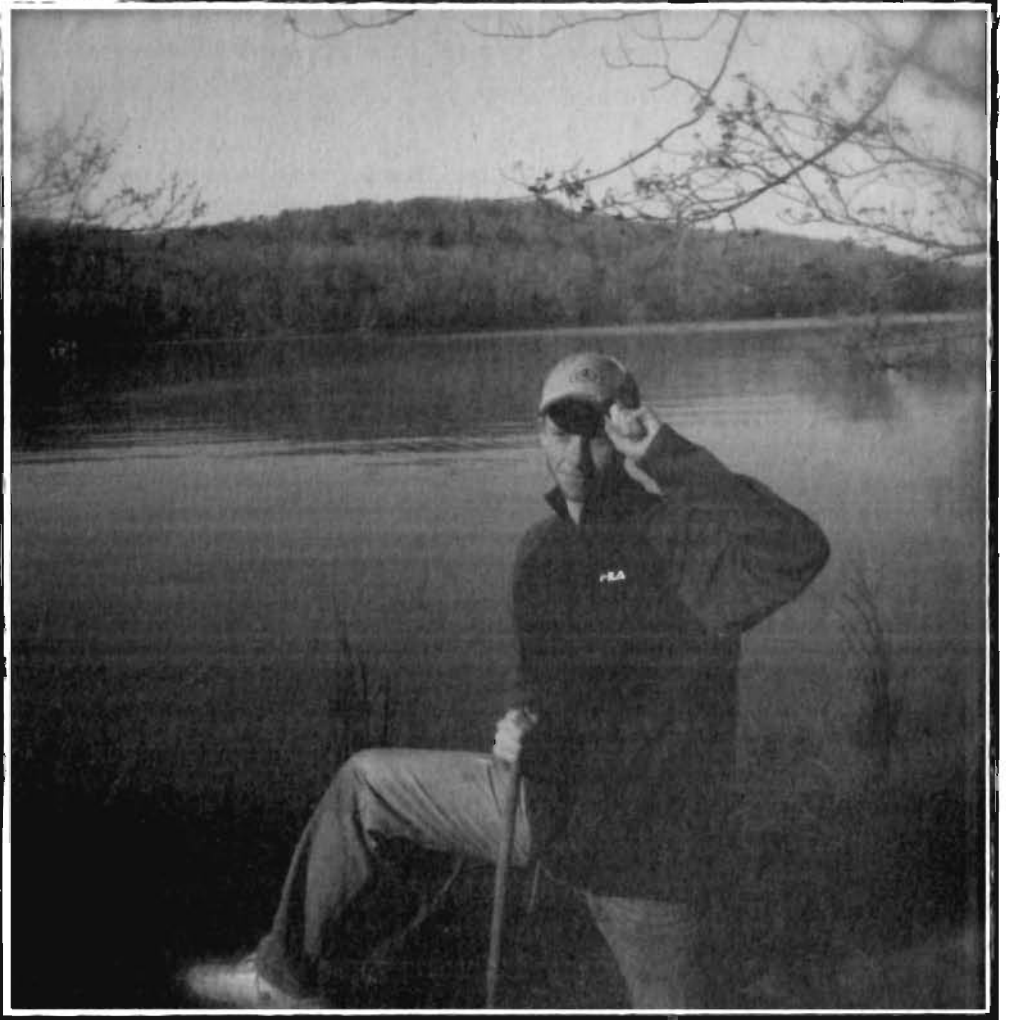
From here, we hiked to the majestic little place I had discovered months before on a random expedition to find a good spot for just such an adventure as this. The hike was not an easy one since there was no trail to lead us there. We relied simply on my memory, one that can sometimes be a bit shaky.

After about a two mile hike, we arrived at a little lake inlet on the southern edge of Duncan Bay. Here in a small clearing was a beautiful, enchanting little location. The sun shown down right on top of the water, and the birds sang beautiful songs as Bailey and I sat our things down to rest from our walk. The location in which we chose to set the tent was a flat grassy region that was surrounded by pines that reached close to 150 feet.

The sun settled itself over two hills on the opposite side of the bay making it one of the most beautiful sunsets I have ever witnessed. Taking the place of the blazing ball of fire was the cool moon. Sitting in the moonlit forest we heard distant howls. Coyotes are something to be fearful of when in the dark of the forest. For this reason and our fatigue we packed ourselves into the tent to be off to sleep. The sounds of the birds quieted and after some time the coyotes did too allowing Bailey and I to be fall asleep peacefully.

We awoke to the sun right around 7 a.m. The cool fresh air was the first thing I noticed. We were inspired by the morning beauty. The sun now on the wooded side of our location cast shadows of the trees we slept under into the bay. Dew was quite thick on this morning making the ground damp but still our little piece of heaven was perfect. The birds were happy to be there as were we.

It is a wonderful thing to enjoy nature in all its glory. I believe that every young person should do a fair amount of camping - it will teach you some great things. I know that my spring break was lived to its fullest with the time spent outdoors, far from people and the hustle and bustle of the city.



Blue Sky Noise

Rachel Sloan
Assistant Business Manager

The first thing I did on the morning of April 20, 2010 was open iTunes and buy *Blue Sky Noise*, the latest album by Circa Survive. I've been a fan of Circa Survive for a while now--beginning with their debut album and my personal favorite, *Juturna*. It's been three years since they released their last album, *On Letting Go*, so I had been anticipating *Blue Sky Noise* for a while.

I have a habit of basing my opinion of the album on the first song, and *Blue Sky Noise* is an album that I would definitely recommend listening to in order. It opens with "Strange Terrain," which is possibly my favorite first song of any album. The song gradually intensifies and abruptly leads into the second song, "Get Out," which is the first single from the album. When this song was released earlier this year, I couldn't take it off repeat. It is definitely the most "angry" song on the album, through not only the lyrics, but the passion and rage in lead singer Anthony Green's voice. One of my favorite qualities of any Circa Survive song is the way the intensity changes throughout, which is heavily demonstrated in "Fever Dreams." Much of the song is quiet with little guitar, but the instruments come in all at once for the heavier chorus, as well as the notable change in emotion. This is a common theme in Circa Survive songs which seems to set them apart from any other band.

Lead singer Green has always been known for his high, unique voice, and my favorite song on the album vocal-wise is the acoustic version of "I Felt Free." This version can only be found on the deluxe edition of the album which also includes an acoustic version of the song "Dyed in the Wool" and a demo of the song "100 Steps." The main reason I love most Circa Survive songs is the blend of all the instruments with his high-pitched voice, but I felt that the acoustic songs really added something to the album.

If you have never given Circa Survive a listen, I recommend you start with *Blue Sky Noise*--especially if you're willing to sit down with good-quality headphones and listen to the entire album in order.

Crystal Ballin'

Cody Waggoner
Sports Editor

Third Eye Blind, though not as popular as at their peak in the late 1990's, still have a huge following. Their concert in Panama, Florida made this obvious as Club La Vela was packed from front stage to the end of the venue past the pool in the center. Third Eye Blind brought as their opener Joshua James, a fairly unheard artist who plays with a passion and angst that pulls a connection from the crowd. After his final song, he announced that the band would be out shortly. Roadies came and quickly prepped the stage for the feature act.

The band members came out, one by one, the final being lead singer Stephan Jenkins. Jenkins paraded about on stage throughout the length of this concert showing great passion on the slow emotional songs and an unrivaled energy on songs of greater tempo, giving the audience every bit of belonging that one seeks with a concert. His stage presence prompted Lone Oak Senior Andrew Croft to say "Stephan Jenkins is nothing short of a bad ass." Of course, stage presence isn't enough to make a concert, but the set list was an excellent mix of their biggest hits to interest the casual listener and their new and less famous stuff to satisfy even the devoted fans.

After the concert the band was kind enough to cater to fans waiting out by their tour bus. They all stayed after, signing memorabilia and souvenirs while taking pictures with whoever wanted them. Despite their success, Third Eye Blind's connection and commitment to their devotees make their concerts a show for any kind of fan from any type of interest.

Undead Classic

Charis Gurrola
Entertainment Editor

"It is a truth universally acknowledged that a zombie in possession of brains must be in want of more brains." This line is the most glorious butchery of classic literature. Seth Grahme-Smith's quirky tweaking of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, has revived this stick-up-the-butt novel creating one of the most brilliant parodies since Looney Tune's *Carrotblanca*.

Grahme-Smith kept the basic skeleton of *Pride and Prejudice* intact. In fact, about eighty percent of Austen's original work is still there. ... Grahme-Smith just spliced it together with hordes of the living dead. Right from the beginning of *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, you know every single literary snob is pulling an *Exorcist* head spin.

Although I feel like Grahme-Smith has found a cheap niche, *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* is actually entertaining. It's not like a madlib of Austen with brains and zombies randomly shoved into it. The additions don't take away from the beauty of Austen's original words. Grahme-Smith's idea may be juvenile, but his writing is mature. He did an incredible job of matching the original flow of language, which makes the newly added content all the more hilarious.

And I have to confess; I was never a big fan of the original. Pretty much I spent my entire read of *Pride and Prejudice* flipping through the pages wondering when the heck Mr. Darcy was going to make another cameo. He was the best part of the original novel. No one in 2010 wants to read about a bunch of flighty girls wanting to get married. *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* matches this generation of readers. It's a quick read and has the necessary violence every teen needs pumped into their systems.

Living and undead audiences alike should enjoy this book. What makes *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* special, is its brilliant twists on the original. The best lines are left in, ("You have no compassion for my poor nerves.") but like the best spoofs, its tweakings bring out the most notable parts of the original. This book is fun and irreverent and even the purists should be able to relax enough to enjoy this book.

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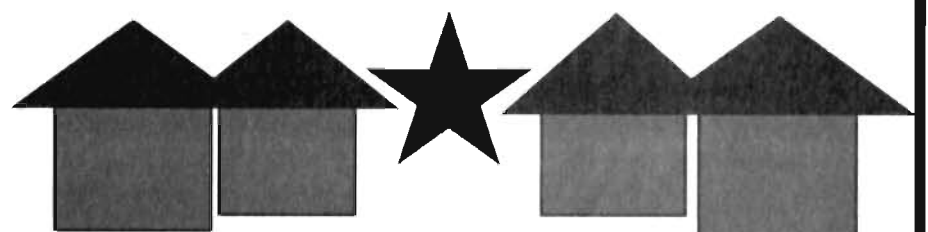
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IRON MAN 2

Rachel Lundberg
Editor-in-Chief

To be honest, I was a bit nervous about *Iron Man 2*. After all, those were some pretty big shoes to fill after the spectacular film that was the 2008 summer blockbuster. Well, let me tell you, this sequel *delivers*. Once again, Jon Favreau has brought us superhero cinema at its finest.

Whiplash, the star antagonist of the movie, is one of Iron Man's most memorable villains, but he's not quite the character comic readers remember. His origin story, and more importantly, his costume, were reworked entirely for this adaptation. The Whiplash of the film is Ivan Vanko (a name some may connect with the original Crimson Dynamo), a Russian engineer with a grudge against Tony Stark and access to Tony's arc-reactor technology. Iron Man soon realizes he's got his hands full when he finds out that Vanko is backed by Justin Hammer, one of Stark Industries' competitors in weapon manufacturing. To add to these problems, Tony also has to deal with a mysterious new secretary, a government order to relinquish the Iron Man armor, and palladium poisoning from the very device that's been keeping him alive! With all of this going on, there's not a dull moment in the whole two hours. The plot is perhaps not as strong as that of the first film, but is still solid.

Tony Stark's sense of humor is entirely intact for *Iron Man 2*, and the movie is full of the witty one-liners fans have come to expect. The action is also as good as I had hoped, whether it was Iron Man, War Machine, or Black Widow doing the butt-kicking. The effects, especially on the titular character, were superb. As far as the actors, nothing was amiss. RDJ proved once again that this part was made for him, and Gwyneth Paltrow's Pepper Potts is just as convincing as before. The change to Don Cheadle as Rhodey seemed strange at first, and though his Rhodey is quite different from Terrance Howard's, it still works, and he made an apt replacement. Mickey Rourke's portrayal of Whiplash had a wonderful, chilling sort of drama to it that really brought the character up to a level worthy of a main villain. Finally, Sam Rockwell was perhaps the closest thing to a perfect choice for the young version of Justin Hammer, and brilliantly completed the image.

There were several scenes that I thought weren't so well done, but for the most part, there were a lot of great things that I wasn't expecting. For one, the inclusion of Justin Hammer was a great idea; the film needed a bit more than Whiplash to round it out, and Hammer filled that role excellently. I also really enjoyed seeing a bit of Howard Stark; that was a nice touch. Finally, I feel compelled to mention that seeing Iron Man and War Machine duke it out to "Another One Bites the Dust" could have made the whole movie worth it by itself. It was so awesome, in fact, that I almost forgot about the weak, rather poorly-written scene leading up to it.

Was *Iron Man 2* as good as its predecessor? Well...maybe not. But it was still an excellent film and a must-see for fans of the first. There is no doubt that there is a third yet to come. The conversation between Tony and Nick Fury at the end seems to me to suggest that it will be before the Avengers movie (set for May 2012), but I may be reading too much into that. In any case, there's a lot to look forward to with the Thor and Captain America adaptations on the horizon, so keep your eyes peeled.

A NEW KIND OF

Ryan Steele
Staff Writer

The classic horror brought to life by the visionary horror director **Wes Craven** is back in a whole new way. *A Nightmare on Elm Street* brings viewers back to the haunted realm of **Freddy Krueger**, America's favorite burned-face, sweater-wearing maniac. As this version is a re-imagining of the original, things have obviously been changed to meet the expectations of today's audience. **Robert Englund** no longer portrays the lead character Freddy. In the new film he's been replaced by **Jackie Earle Haley** (*Little Children*, *Watchmen*) who portrays a darker, less comical version of the dream-haunting maniac.

While the story remains fairly close to the original series, there have been some notable changes. Most obvious is the reduced comedy due to Freddy being replaced by a more somber, angry, and vengeful Krueger. Also, as I'm sure the parents of America's youth will be pleased to learn, to suit a more conservative audience the usual amount of sexual content has been cut back to basically none which makes for a better overall experience in the theaters.

Special effects are truly amazing in the film. Whether it's one of Freddy's victims floating in mid-air or Krueger bursting through a mirror to grab one of his victims, the special effects are nearly flawless.

Only one thing leaves wishing in the new re-imagining, surprise. It becomes a little too easy to predict when someone is about to "fall asleep" which in Freddy's world is a fatal mistake. Every time someone is about to come face-to-face with Freddy they go to the same place, a dark and fiery boiler room, and Freddy's always right there to greet them with open hands.

The one thing left to desire outside of this movie is a strong competitor in the disappointing world of horror films today. Especially with the last couple of years being a slew of cheap horror remakes such as *Friday the 13th* and *Rob Zombie's Halloween* and *Halloween 2* taking over box offices, *A Nightmare on Elm Street* clearly stands above the rest. A truly compelling story, overall good acting, and the most terrifying Freddy to date, *A Nightmare on Elm Street* is completely worth the ticket price. It might

FORGOTTEN SANDS



Ryan Steele
Staff Writer

Fans of the *Prince of Persia* Series will be pleased to know that their next purchase is approaching quickly. On May 18th, *Prince of Persia: The Forgotten Sands* releases bringing fans back to the universe they know and love. The previous game in the series was a complete disappointment to any fan. Ushering in a new prince, new art scheme, and almost no combat just didn't seem to sit well with the long time fans. Go figure.

But *The Forgotten Sands* brings us back to the old school prince, the original art scheme of the series, and almost too many enemies to count. *Prince of Persia: The Forgotten Sands* picks up where the *Sands of Time* trilogy left off, the prince still in possession of the dagger containing the sands of time and on his way to his brother's kingdom. Upon arrival, the prince quickly realizes that his brother has made a grave mistake that could cost him his entire kingdom. With the prince obtaining new abilities such as being able to harness the powers of earth, fire, water, and air along with his standard abilities of controlling time, he must use everything at his disposal to defeat the threat at hand and save what's left of the kingdom. If you're a long time fan looking to get back into the series after the last disappointment or a brand new fan just looking for a new series to play, watch for *Prince of Persia: The Forgotten Sands* on May 18th.

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ARE YOU GONNA CLUE ME IN HERE, EMMA?

HIS NAME IS SATOR, DR. SATOR.

HE'S HEAD OF THE GENETIX GENETIC RESEARCH LABS NEARBY.

WHAT'S HE HAVE AGAINST US?

WELL, HE ESTABLISHED LONG DAW SPACE INDUSTRIES.

WE WERE HIS INSPIRATION FOR GENE MANIPULATION.

WELL?

IT WON'T BE EASY, MAYBE NOT.

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9. _____, being of sound
mind and body, and this being my last year at
Lone Oak High School, hereby bequeath:

Wendy Marie Anderson- Sleepovers & driving lessons to Laken, baby bop & loud music to Tay Croft, Watts & Watwood to Callie, luncheons & heart to heart talks to Madi, Jamesy-poo & Lifeskills to Kylie, MDO fun to NatNat, my love for Gap & Old Navy to Jackie, a pool table to Tina, my bag to Audrey, the game room to Ashlyn & Em, tye-dyed stuff to TayMo, fast car rides to Shannon, and everything else to my favorite freshie ever, Haley Boyd.

Roberto Arreaza- my tiny brain to Nikolas, my laziness to Ricky, the armband to Parker, story telling to Matt Dolan, my speed to Lance and JJB, a teepee to Keziah, a goal (into an opponent's net) to Scelzi, a stronger head to Longworth, more art talent to Spencer, my apologies (for everything) to Neal, slacking off at track to Craig, a handshake to Dickson, love to Dustin, a hug to Teddy, and last but not least, I give Mmuso his freedom.

Ashlee Bennett- I give my brother Ryan the permission to be finally called Bennett :) and my parking spot.

Carson Beyer- First I leave my hands to Felix and my defensive position to Jared, two words... Steak Dinner!! To Jack Courts, I leave Carson Isenberg to hold those extra points and field goals, good luck, Jack. I leave my insane dunks in warm-ups to Jack Coleman and my rap music to Taylor. Last but not least, I leave my obedient lunch schedule and my love for the wonderful guidance counselors to Callie.

Leigh Ann Blackburn- To Kayla & Kaitlyn I leave our trips to Los every week and all the adventures we have. All the jokes that are said during trips & at Living Water, To Audra the ability to deal with the crazy things, To Christina our long talks about everything, To Rebecca The joy of being Ms. White's Aide & the ability to yell at Living Water during practice when no one is listening!

Michelle Bloom- my amazing ring jumps and bubbly personality to every member on the dance team; and to my sister Samantha I leave my backpack carrying skills and my ability to ward off senioritis longer than most--good luck!

Nicole Bowman- Lezley Peck, I finally give you my comfy rolling chair in peer tutoring, so now we don't have to argue over it every other gold day. hahā. Brittany Clark, I give you the ability to actually think that your hair is brown..but we all know its red. hehe. To Jessica Marberry, I give you the ability to keep rocking out that long blue hair.

Natalie Brelsford- Nolan a stressless senior year, Gary Houdini the Crooked Pole, Ricky the Bible study and all the good times we've had (I'm taking them with me, too!), Leslie an intimidating "grr!" and viking hats, Alec random punches and emo computer screens, and Alexis a wonderful and new experience in Paducah filled with great memories and even better friends.

Hyssa Brickeen- To Mrs. Carter I leave Taylor squared, to Natalie Tavernero I leave my donk, to Kylie Tillett I leave my Jetta, to Shannon Bowman I leave H&H, to Ashlyn and Tina I leave long nights in the game room, and to Audrey Midkiff I leave the motor boat, to Boyd pretzels and gummies.

Katie Clayton- Big Victor to my best girl Brooke, Panera, PedEggs, and Pedro to my lovely partner Ky-Ky, all the curse words my dreams can come up with to Coach Poore, the Royal Battle for the Rommelmans to the Tripod, many more fun-filled prom nights to Dane, common sense to next year's seniors, and amazing food to the tennis team.

Danielle Compton- My ability to scare people to KARA PETERSON (God Bless her she's just too nice), My German knowledge to BRIAN PFEIFFER, My good grades to AYMEE KNIGHT, Blonde moments to GARY SCOURICK, Many giggles to ELIZABETH CONKWRIGHT, Amazing memories from Germany to AMY REINEKING. THE LEGEND OF ONE AMAZING MRS. WEAR TO ALL!

Tre Coneal- my seat in Mrs. Mornar's algebra class to Tre White, my headphones and my 215lb max in weightlifting class to Khalil White, my Macbook to Mr. Jett, my red Nike's to Romelo Coneal, my basketball skills to Timothy Bryan, and finally my Spanish skills to Andrew Olberding.

Michael Edwards- All my skills to Austin Drake, talks with Coach Miller to Eric Winn.

Shelby Finley- My parking spot to my brother, my cheerleading times to Joshlyn Boyd, My morning grapes to Kasie Overby, Leave the crew memories to Sarah Schnur, Dinner and blasting speakers before football games to Hayes Cranor and Lizzie Brown, and my floral prints to Dane Meyers.

Alexa Fondaw- all my Journey and Aerosmith knowledge and love of Ithop chocolate chip pancakes to Dylan Clayton, I copy everything Abigail Dollins and Caitlyn Aitken say. I leave my awesome German skills to Gary Scourick, and to Nathan Dollins, I leave my awesome cat dissection skills, the ability to be a morning person, and all the butterflies. To Alex Neihoff, I leave my knowledge of the circle of 5th and Xavier the cat.

Kyle Fouse- to Mmuso, hopefully some new friends next year. To JJB, I leave my starting position and expectations, to Teddy, I leave handshakes in the halls, to Anderson I give my extroversion, to Parker, I leave the title Sorensen, to Keziah, I leave an open side door, to Eric Scelzi I leave a clean sheet home victory to Heath... oh wait... and to Neal Clark, I leave some skin color. My brother gets nothing.

Molly Green- Kylie Tillett those random Jerry Springer fights, to Natalie a gallon of water and a tan, Andrew Harlan the white minivan, Shannon an industrial, Audrey Midkiff I leave Daniel, Adam Sims those great hellos in the morning, Dana Wilson and Shelby Kester a future date, and to Taylor Croft, I leave love from girlfriend number two!

Kelsey Greene- my work ethic to Kendall, art and lunch memories to Haley Kauffman, the 4x8 team to Shelby Schaefer, the dreams of becoming a monty to Courtney Grewelle, wall-sits to Ricky Grewelle (you'da best!), Whoppers to Nicole Walker and Andrew Stricklin, Chimichangas to Alec Wines, England to Matt Price (I don't want it), all my love to Brandy Miller and Courtney Golden, and tons of cookies and ice cream to Rashmitha.

Charis Gurrola- Spenser Price my senioritis, don't take this lightly, it causes symptoms to Dementia and Cabin Fever. As well as this, I give Elizabeth Conkwright my club under the condition that she changes its name to "The Writers Circle" due to this being a more accurate title. You worked hard. Take care of it for me :).

Lexi Gurrola- Qui Qui -all the warheads in the world, Nolan Brelsford- awkward conversations in the library, Gary Scourick and Kendra Sanders- I leave all my Tom's shoes, Ricky Grewelle- I leave random shout-outs, and to dearest Hunter- I leave my parking spot and everything else, Alyssa said you can have Bert.

Ray Guthrie- Conrad Gholson: The scrabble drill and blood 44 drill, Paxton Harned: Skipping weight lifting, Jake Lawson: Skipping weight lifting, Jackie Ponting: John Wall, Natalie Tavernaro: My yearbook folder, Andrew Harlan: Planting amazing flowers, Audrey Midkiff: Daycare, Mark Stacey: The most loveable man in the world award, Felix Colon: Being spectacular, Carson Isenberg: Cool-Breezing, Jay Cain: Jay-Ray moments.

Katie Hagan- Kylie Tillett all of Holden's baby Gap shorts. To Haley Dallas, my parking spot, (maybe you will need it by your senior year). To Jacob I leave my sparkling personality and being a diva. Audra Davis, I leave you Harry Potter stuff and being a princess. To Dakota, I leave you my doorknob and alarm clock if there ever comes a time that you are without one again.

Ashley Harris- the "aide chair" in Mrs. Morris's room to Maegan Alexander; Mrs. Morris gets my thinking fingers; to Lucas.. my name tag; and to Savannah.. all of me and Sierra's stuff.

Drew Harrison- for Andrew Harlan and Lance Derezza a 7 killstreak, to Austin Drake my gym dance skills, to Mario Z. all the elephants and oil in DER fatherland, Ian Harris-GOD, Mark Stacey my video recorder, to Dane Myers BB and Josh Dixon RICHe., to Tanner Parker all the immature sayings and awkward noises that everyone wants to hear, to Eric Winn, Levi Garrett, and for Chasity McIntyre the rest of my life with her.

Seth Helton- To Jon Lynn a nice vacuum to start a family with; to Mmuso a concussion and clean room; to Lil Dole I sadly leave you an empty hole in your heart that will never be filled; to Dustin I leave big brownie; and finally, to Natalie King, I leave everything: the proms, bike rides in the rain, beignets, kisses while waiting on a red light, and more love than will fit in 75 words or less.

Mandy Jackson- Rebecca Housman to Stamp, Morgan Clark to all craziness, Keziah Jones to art bonding, my little brother to all freshman cliché's and Alexis Ludovissie to the best road trips.

Nicole Jackson- All my happiness to Kara Petterson, disco stick to Emily Williamson, fun times to Chelsea Thompson and Ashlee M.

Olivia Jarrett- Rebecca Housman-Pie Day, Madison Jarrett- Mom and Dad, Korrina Davidson- the ability to walk unreasonably close to famous people and laugh uncontrollably, Alaina Ramage- the ability to have your cell phone float randomly and knock down doors instead of unlocking them.

Sylvia Joiner- Arionna Johnson, Joeshawna Starks, Tameka Brown, Tasha Maxie, and Alexis Rouse all of my smiles, happiness and laughter walking through the halls of LOHS with the "Silly Rabbits."

Kaitlyn Kaufman- Joshy: A room full of eleven hot girls; Cody: A silly band, because I keep forgetting; Haley: The desire to say "hi" to me FIRST; Teddy: The image of me waving; and Cameron: A hug on every Purple Day.

Kyle Kauffmann- The most amazing last semester to Jennifer Van Wyck, I leave my ninja skills to Dustin Fouse, I leave the many years of social depravedness due to a job at SuperValu to Jack Piefer and Chip Meyers. I leave everything else to who ever wants it.

TK Kemper- the power of the grizzly to Eric Winn (PGP's), the polo swag and the how many sheep game to Cullen Pope, Travis Porter and choir lessons to Josh Dickson, every flavor of sunflower seeds for baseball games to Seth English, the ninja chop game to Austin Drake, Coach Alderdice impressions to Colby Griggs.

Kenny Lang- cup of chopped nuts to Ricky Ball, a dead otter to Tyler Clemons, jar of Grey Poupon to Mr. Pitman, all of my unfinished homework to Mrs. Morris, my Mastodon cd to Mr. Ray, absolutely nothing to Mikel Bray, a little Hank The 3rd to Austin Neihoff, bandwidth and 35 Plato hours and a cheeseburger in paradise to Mr. Pope, Mittens to Ashlee Cogan, crowd surfing in the lobby to Mrs. Sprunger, and never ending ISD to all of the underclassmen that cut in the lunch line.

9. _____, being of sound mind and body, and this being my last year at Lone Oak High School, hereby bequeath:

Amber Langston- All hilarious conversations at the art table to Anna Sohl and Jessica Pendergrass, A pretty flower to Anthony Caturano, "Hey girl, excuse me." to Kelsey Tucker, Some patches for Gary Scourick's jeans, Kicks in the head during trips to Nashville for Hunter Gurrola.

Brooke Loe- I leave my locker for my Best Friend Chelsea Cathey. I want to leave all my sweetness and hugs here at Lone Oak High school with Brenda Metzger and Melanie Jarvis, my two favorite People at Lone Oak High School!!

Rachel Lundberg- To Spenser, a jar of jam and a bowl of frosting; to Kylie, a map of the world; to Erica, a Jeep with no doors; to Dakota, a Mumble-English dictionary; to Brooke, a provocative dance; to Alec, a sexy tiger-man; to Haley, a live rickroll; to Platypus, that thing I sentcha.

Chris Martin- Kahlil White- my knowledge in music producing, Tre White- life's knowledge, Kelsey Toney- my goofiness.

Taylor Masse- A purple pillow to Laken, a shower and all my food to Lance, Audrey's couch to John, near death experiences to Audrey Midkiff, trips to IHop with dots to Natalie, stranger's bathrooms to Christina, my life story to Haley, mailbox hitting to Craig, a ten o'clock bedtime & drive-bys to Eric, chat roulette to Parker, macaroni & Margaret Anna and all of my clothes to Jordan Potter.

Audrey May- Danceoffs, dougies, & tigerstripes to Taylor, Prom 2010 to Austin, princess cups to Christina, my tan to Audrey, rearview mirrors to Shannon, gameroom memories to Ashlyn, purple lunch love to Shelby, luck at finding rides home & Carebears to Haley, spot 232 & six girls... or maybe just two, to Jantzen, AP Lit skills to Kylie, shotput bonding to NatAttack, aliens & my kindness to Lance, & finally I leave mini trucks, Captain America, Chong's, the queen, & everything else to Bailey, my favoritest ginger.

Blake McKinney- Everything to my favorite brother, he's a little strange and little crazy but he's my family all the same, to the best freshman player on the basketball team...Joeshawn.

Shane Miller- Sean Fitch, a barrel of Fubats; Wade Dyson, a shield against The Game; Eric Whitaker, a giant X to put on anyone of his choosing; and Maddison Jarett, a cool-o-meter.

Stephen Miller- the Bees Knees business to Craig and Lance, all of my hurdling skills and speed to my apprentice Craig Green, and rock, paper, scissors skills to Lance to win himself some dinner.

Creston Musgraves- to Blake Bagby I live all the protein shakes that GNC has in stock.....lol, to Kyle Sutton I leave hopes and dreams of being big, To Jacob Somero I leave the right to go to the bathroom whenever he needs during Mr. Jarvis's class, To Ryan Steele I leave the knowledge to remember to get his bb gun out of his Jeep.

Amber Petterson- My parking space to my sister Kara, the ability to stay awake in class to Ashlee C., and my thanks to all the teachers who got me this far.

Jason Phelps- I leave Mr. Jarvis the court yard full of fresh grass. I leave Wade Dyson the privilege to make goat noises in Mr. Jarvis's class. and finally i leave James Ray Ligon common sense.

Patsy Pierce- my 'curfew' to Lindy Mason & Carson Oakley, the ability to receive 3 tickets before turning 18 to Alexa Cornwell, adventures in Reidland as well as trips to Los to Tay Gow, nights that somehow end up at Walmart to Emily Feldner, some delicious mac n' cheese to Sydne Skipworth, dances on the wall & nights in the rain to Morganne Bigenho, & the ability to keep grades up without doing anything to Shelly Baird.

Jacob Porter- a BabyRuth to Jason Smith, a bamboo forest to Zane Smithson, a bottle on the night stand to Brent Mitchel, Left side to Jay Cain, something awesome to Victoria Sikes, and a big bear hug to Ronell Jarvis.

Jordan Price- a promotion to "hero squad" to my brother Carson, nerf gun fights to Brennan, Bruce the shark to Gary, Arrested Development to Sanjana, a calendar to Spenser, an infinite supply of stamps to Ruth, an Editor-in-Chief as good as me to the 2010-2011 newspaper staff, and a wonderful high school experience to all!

Alyssa Roach- Dylan Clayton my parking spot, a bad romance, the ability to jump start a car, and talking in song lyrics. Jordan Potter many mixed CDs and a jaguar. Sarah Wilkerson secretive stories and motherly advice. Nolan Brelford Disney coloring sheets. Gary Scourick pickup lines. Everything else I leave to Lexi Shelton.

Katelyn Ramey- I leave the dance team some of my dancing abilities and Andrew Stricklin snack foods.

Nick Roberts- I give Ryan Steele and Peter Eddings the crazy times in the parking lot, Mr. Jarvis I give you my hate for the Steelers, GO COWBOYS! To Mr. Ray I give my congrats for bringing the band to its best.

Allisin Sikes- a pack of bacon to Rachel Willingham, all my advice on guys to Olivia Travis, my confidence to Lindsey McManus, and my attitude to Kayla Ballew and Brittany McKendree.

Megan Sin- Payton - everything, my blackberry and ;lajsdlkfja;dlkfjq;lkejqf, Kester - all my dresses and love, Harlan - the mirror, Ian - Xbox time, Eric - a ride home and phone to text at night, Mmuso - brownies, Paxton - kitty ears, Shelby J - my hair, car, and a ditch, Tori - a couch and peanut butter, and Kelsey Collins - hahahaha.

Lyndsey Speer- My unit to Tayler DJ, Madison, and Natalie; the parking spot next to Ray to Macey "Ratface" Smith; The Betty Spaghetti show to Emily, Macey, and Taylor, my perro to Madison, and all my love to MACEY and MADISON.

Matt Starks- My touchdowns and yards to my little cousins Joe and Joeshawn Starks, and I leave the weight room to Jack Coorts and Jay Cain a.k.a. IHOP.

Lauren Stone- nothing but well wishes, infinite love, and all the wisdom I can give to the following people: Katy Miller, Maria Miller, Erin Traughber, Clemons, Zak King, Ricky Ball, the entire Chamber Choir, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Carter, and Mr. Pitman.

Allison Stricklin- All my stuff to Tyler Jones, parking spot, truck, Ryan Hibner and all my earthly possessions. To my ag boys, all my love and all our memories. To my ag girls, Harli, Megan and Maddie, my love and good times. And to everyone else I forgot, fight for the left overs ;) I'm out!!!

Erica Tran- my password to my amazing Facebook account to Nathan Mckendree so he can update my status daily after I'm 'dead' to freak people out, my bathing suit from Venture River to Brittany Mckendree, my Nike shoes from track to Kendall Greene, and all the candy I own to Haley Kauffman.

Jesse Turner- My parking spot to Dean Canestrini, "Goomba" and my sick driving skills to Alex Neihoff, the pitchers' mound and Lucy to Lucas Englert, "I love gold" to Tanner Parker, and a slap in the face for Seth English.

Nathaniel Vowell- the art of shredding to Samantha B, the ability to Run To The Hills to Mr. Jarvis, the power of rock to Mr. Ray, my beard to Braden T, and my guidance and parking spot to my little brother. I leave behind the power of the rhyme to Mr. P-I-T to the M-A-N, and I leave behind a pillow to Jared Smith.

Chris Wadlington- gametime and a "ten" to Austin Mckinney; new carpet, "onsoouugh," and good times at the Ryman and in the 98 to Andrew Harlan; 18 years of age and "onsoouugh" to Jacob Somero; 5 hours with the light on in my car to Devin Hunt; and silky golden underwear to Craig Green.

Cody Waggoner- Everything I've ever accomplished to Jacob Somero.

Ollivia Wallace- "The Revolution," "Good Morning Buttercup," and Ecuador to Nicole Walker. Love and life-changing experiences to Erin Traughber. Deep conversations over lunch to Christina Swadley. Everything else, including my ridiculous parking space and old school '95 Oldsmobile, goes to my genius and countercultural brother, Tyler Wallace.

Rebecca Walter- Sarah Byassee: bumpin' playlists, drives to Metro, single burger shots, haters, the color orange, and my heart. Haley West: Zodiac books, Sweetarts and milkshakes. Rachel Sloan: my parking spot and Lady Gaga. Dustin Fouse: green stop lights. Erika Edwards and Jordyn Peifer- The Thrifty Inn. Mackenzie Lance - rhyming poems Victoria Sikes - haikus.

Katie Yates- log fights and mothers who dress like their daughters to Haley Dallas, medication to Dakota Durrett, braids to Kylie Tillet, Laffy Taffy time to the tennis team, fps intenseness to Sanjana Pampati, love of physics to Mason English, being nasty to Haley West, all my love to Rashmita Edem, and erasers to Cody Longworth.

The Power of Porter

Kyle Fouse
Staff Writer

Giant **Jacob Porter** is among Lone Oak High School's most prominent figures. With many achievements and honors about which to boast and a heart muscle making up half his total strength, Mr. Porter is deserving of the respect of his peers and the recognition of Junior Rotarian.

Let's start with a small list of his honors and achievements: 2 trips to the state football championship game, 2nd team All-State, AP Scholar, a cumulative GPA of 3.8 and a commitment to Hanover College after he graduates to play football (and learn, too).

Jacob is as impressive in his demeanor as he is in stature. Describing Jacob is an exercise in juxtaposition: full-tilt, conditioned; hard-working, easy-going; powerful, gentle; burly, kind. Teachers such as our very own **Mrs. Carter** describe Jacob as a pleasure to have in and out of class. He has been an active member of the community with the Math Club. When approached about her peer and best friend Jacob, **Megan Sin** had this to say, "He is larger than life itself, which isn't an understatement."

Indeed, his presence is so profound and large, that even now he mandates that his article be in a larger font than that of any other article. If you so happen to see Jacob in the hallway, believe me you will, be sure to congratulate him for his achievements in and out of these hallowed walls.



Hard Working Harris!

Sanjana Pampati
Asst. Editor

To say this month's junior rotarian is your average high school senior is a severe understatement. If you've ever met **Ashley Harris**, you know exactly what I'm talking about. As **Alexa Fondaw (12)** summarizes, "(Ashley) is really dedicated always putting a 110% and never giving up!"

Ashley has been an honor student since she was a wee freshmen. She's a member of the FCCLA, the Friends of Rachel Club, and the Pep Club. For FCCLA, she recently competed in the state competition and placed an impressive 3rd in Entrepreneurship. She's the secretary of the Friends of Rachel Club. Also make sure to thank Ashley for making the football posters around the school, as a dedicated member of the Pep Club.

Ashley is also an accomplished dancer. She enjoys hip-hop, jazz, ballet, tap, and many other forms of dance. She's been a member of our school's talented dance team for three years. She's a member of the prestigious UDA All-American Dance Team, as well. She's also a member of the gifted and talented dance program. Be sure to catch her dance performance at the GT showcase!

Ashley plans on going to Southeast Missouri State University and majoring in Mass Communications & Public Relations. She hopes to work in public relations in either the music or fashion industry. **Mrs. Morris** says, "Ashley is extremely hardworking, easy to get along with, and always has her head on straight."



MYSTERY STARS

Megan Ross
Photographer

- This senior is tall, and I mean gigantic tall, hovering at 6'5". He's really friendly and sweet when he wants to be. He's got a great sense of humor, even though it's sometimes perverse humor. He serves as vice-president of the Book Club and plays sax in the marching band.
- This junior can always be found with a sketchbook and pencil in hand. Typically, he's drawing some kind of superhero, be it Superman or Batman. He works at Popeye's, and apparently, he beat boxes. His favorite band is Duran Duran.
- Feeling down? Need Advice? This sophomore is the one to go to. You'll always find him with a Bible in hand. He's got a big appetite, a deep interest in sports, and a giving heart. He is a great person to hang out with despite his obsession with shorts.
- No matter what, you will always see this freshman carrying around Hello Kitty stickers or Pokémon cards. She can speak Japanese fluently and she loves the band Escape the Fate. You'll always remember her style once you see it, it's cutesy and girly. Also, once you hear her voice, you'll never forget it. Oh, she hates spiders.

SEE PAGE 2 FOR ANSWERS.

| Sanjana Pampati Asst. Editor | Mr. Reid | Emma Sims (9) | Bailey Orr (10) | Andrew Stricklin (11) | Megan Sin (12) |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Free Association | | | | | |
| Tea Party | Boston | dumb | cookies | T-pain | Boston |
| Anatidaephobia | massive amounts of rats | hmm | Arachnophobia | fear of Natalie Tavernaro | fear of bones |
| anything | cheap | I dunno | grass | lil Wayne | anything? |
| astrology | 6.02 X 10 ²³ | stars | planets | cupcake | stars |
| The Oak "K" | Roy Rogers | newspaper | news | not OK | Sanjana's my favorite |

Purple Flashback

Name these LOHS staff members.



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H

See page 2 for answers.



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BASEBALL

Kendra Sanders
Photographer

The driven, young LOHS baseball team has proven themselves time and time again this season. The baseball team took their winning record down to Florida this spring break to face state-ranked competition. They came out of Fort Walton with 3 wins and two losses which proved just how much talent this team holds.

Three seniors (**Michael Edwards, Jesse Turner, Drew Harrison**), three juniors (**Josh Dixon, Alex Neihoff, Eric Winn**), one sophomore (**Jack Coleman**), and two freshmen (**Sam Goode, Lucas Englert**) make up the thriving LOHS starting baseball team. The team has put the hours of hard work in with few days off and their record of 16 wins and 5 losses shows the

benefit of this sustained effort. There's no doubt this team makes it all look easy with their calm, collected, confident, and determined demeanor. The district fears Lone Oak.

With the season closing, the team starts to look forward to the district and regional tournaments. "The region is wide open," explains **Coach Sims**. The team is considered highly competitive for the regional title and are more than capable to bring it home.

Looking beyond this season, senior **Drew Harrison**, has signed with Mid-Continent University for a baseball scholarship. He signed with an 85% scholarship and is expected to be there for 4 years. "I'm excited to be signed as a varsity player!" explained Drew when asked about his scholarship.

Be sure to come out for the next home game on Tuesday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. when the Purple Flash will be facing Carlisle!

SOFTBALL

Cody Waggoner
Sports Editor

The Lone Oak Lady Flash softball team has been outstanding this season. Despite being in a district with powerhouse softball schools, Reidland and Heath, the Lady Flash have managed to have a winning record of 19-11.

The team's record is a testament of how committed and dedicated the girls are to doing their best no matter what the situation. Coach Scheer echoed this sentiment in a statement about the team saying, "We (the coaching staff) knew that we were a talented group; it was a matter of just convincing the girls. It's amazing how we can mix the girls around on the field and still get the results we are looking for. It really says something about how hard our girls work at every position. I can't wait to see how the rest of the season plays out for us."

The season is now coming down the home stretch as the team finishes up playing their final regular season games and is looking to hit their stride going into districts. Coach Scheer says in order to do this "pitchers **Tiffany Brown (11)** and **Ashley Shever (11)** need to step up their play." On May 24, the Lady Flash play Reidland in the first round of the district tournament.

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Atomics vs. Black and Bluegrass

Ruth Wooten
Business Manager

On April 10th, the Radioactive City Roller Girls met the Black and Bluegrass Roller Girls for a bout on the evening of Malice In Wonderland. The Black and Bluegrass traveled from Lexington, Kentucky to battle against the Atomics. This bout was a vengeful one for the Atomics; the Black and Bluegrass were the very first opponent the Atomics faced in their debut season. In that opening bout, the Atomics were defeated by the mocking Bluegrass. You could say that this rematch was the exit exam for all of the hard work the Radioactive City Roller Girls have put into their sport.

With a halftime score of Atomics: 70 - Black and Bluegrass: 13, it appeared that RCRG was going to pass with flying colors. For the remainder of the bout, the

Atomics dominated the track, winning jam after jam. "Two-Gun Matilda" one of the elite jammers of RCRG displayed her amazing gift of speed throughout the bout. She whipped through the pack so quickly, you didn't even know she was on the track. The Night of Malice in Wonderland ended, RCRG- 160 to BBRG- 43. The Atomics had viciously triumphed over their earliest opponent who had laughed at the Atomics' once unseasoned skating.

If you missed Malice in Wonderland, do not fret. There are other opportunities for you to witness this sport of both brawl and beauty. On May 22nd, the Atomics have an away bout at Memorial Colosseum in Evansville, Indiana versus the Demolition City Roller Girls. Doors open at 5:30 pm and the bout begins at 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. The Atomics will have a few more bouts throughout the summer, make sure you check out their website <http://www.radioactiveverp.com/> if you want to check out what RCRG is all about.

WORLD CLASS WORLD CUP

Cody Waggoner
Sports Editor

The summer of 2010 is near and that means the largest single sport, sporting event in the world is getting ever closer. South Africa 2010 is the setting for the World Cup, the world soccer championship. This international competition, in this sport, is unlike any other international competition in that it's the world's largest supported sport and unlike the U.S. basketball team, the stars always want to play on the national team to help their team to world Cup glory.

There are 32 countries competing in this summer's World Cup. Each team is in a four team group labelled with a letter, letters A through H. The top two teams of each group make it into the elimination rounds of the final sixteen teams. An interesting caveat related to the Cup being played in South Africa is that four of the top five teams in the world are European countries, but no European team has ever won anywhere outside of Europe.

Group previews are as follows:

Group A

Members: South Africa (Host), Mexico, Uruguay, France

Analysis: France is the heavy favorite in this group as they contain world class talent like Thierry Henry and Franck Ribéry. Mexico and Uruguay promises to be a close race as Uruguay ranks just behind Mexico in world rankings, 17 and 18 respectively with a slight edge going to Uruguay's proven history (two World Cup championships). Although South Africa isn't in the top fifty in world ranking, they are on home soil and proved in the Confederations Cup last year they can hang with top ranked team Brazil.

Group B

Members: Argentina, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Greece

Analysis: Argentina is the favorite in this one being the highest ranked and most decorated team of the group but both Nigeria and Greece fall in the top twenty in world rankings and should be candidates for upsets while the Republic of Korea should bottom out the group.

Group C

Members: England, United States, Algeria, Slovenia

Analysis: England is the favorite in this group and, although they seem to struggle with composure, should pass through group stages with relative ease based on talent alone. Algeria and Slovenia, although not high profile teams, could upset the U.S. in the number two spot as the U.S. often struggles to put up goals, especially when they have big expectations.

Group D

Members: Germany, Australia, Serbia, Ghana

Analysis: Germany is the clear cut favorite in this group. While Australia and Serbia are only a few spots away from each other in world ranking (Australia, tied 20 and Serbia, 23), Ghana has proven to be competitive. Led by strong willed midfielder, Michael Essien, Ghana will be a contender.

Group E

Members: Netherlands, Denmark, Japan, Cameroon

Analysis: Netherlands is the favorite with the most top flight talent followed by Cameroon with top flight striker, Samuel Eto'o and Arsenal Midfielder, Alexandre Song. Denmark and Japan should compete in their matches but bottom out the the group in the end.

Group F

Members: Italy, Paraguay, New Zealand, Slovakia

Analysis: Italy, reigning World Cup champions, are the favorites in this group followed by Paraguay. Although Paraguay is ranked noticeably higher than Slovakia, they are still close enough where an upset isn't unexpected and New Zealand should bottom out the group as the only team in the group not to be in the top 50 in the world.

Group G

Members: Brazil, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Portugal, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

Analysis: Although Brazil is the number one ranked team in the world, Portugal has the fire power to win the group. Although upset is unlikely, and almost out of the question for Korea DPR, the Ivory Coast definitely has the ability to pull one out. Behind the play of dominant striker Didier Drogba, defender Emmanuel Eboué, and brothers Yaya and Kolo Touré, the Ivory Coast shows upset potential.

Group H

Members: Spain, Switzerland, Honduras, Chile

Analysis: Spain is the clear favorite in this group although they have never won the World Cup and are not playing in Europe (Remember European teams don't win outside of Europe), Chile should be the next best thing out of this group with Honduras and Switzerland just hoping to hit a stride and win an upset.

NFL DRAFT

Kelsey Smith
News Editor

The 2010 NFL Draft was held from April 22nd to 24th and though always exciting, this year was particularly shocking as the predictions of fans and analysts alike were thrown off kilter.

A big surprise in the first round was that only two quarterbacks were taken off the board. And perhaps an even bigger surprise was that Tim Tebow was one of them. Tebow was the 25th pick, selected by the Denver Broncos. The other quarterback, Sam Bradford, was drafted, predictably, by the St. Louis Rams as the number one overall pick. Other notables chosen in the first round: Ndamukong Suh (2nd overall, Detroit Lions), Eric Berry (5th overall, Kansas City Chiefs), C.J. Spiller (9th overall, Buffalo Bills), Earl Thomas (14th overall, Seattle Sea Hawks), and Dez Bryant (24th overall, Dallas Cowboys).

In the second round, quarterback Jimmy Clausen was finally drafted by the Carolina Panthers (selected mid-second round, Clausen was projected to go early in the first), along with his number one receiver at Notre Dame, Golden Tate (Seattle Sea Hawks). One of last year's Heisman candidates, Toby Gerhart, was also selected in the second round by the Minnesota Vikings.

The third round saw the last of the big names go as Texas teammates Colt McCoy (winner of the Maxwell, Walter Camp, Davey O'Brien, and Johnny Unitas awards) and Jordan Shipley were drafted by the Browns and Bengals, respectively.

To see these players in action, be sure to catch the league's preseason games, starting August 8th or tune into the 91st season of the National Football League kicking off on September 9th.

Should They Stay or Should They Go?

Zachary Boyarski
Guest Writer

Winning a national championship or getting money? That's the question many college basketball players across the country are facing. Among those players still pondering this weighty decision are The University of Kentucky's Eric Bledsoe and Daniel Orton. Wildcat stars John Wall, DeMarcus "Boogie" Cousins, and Patrick Patterson have already declared for the draft and stated that they will leave their names in the draft and not come back to school for another year.

The main reason Bledsoe, Orton, and other players might leave early is that there is a strong possibility of a lockout in the National Basketball Association in the year 2011. In other words, the players would go on strike because the players' union and the owners could not reach a labor agreement deal. If this were to happen, the season would be disrupted and the draft could be cancelled. While the lockout is uncertain, if it comes to fruition, the young player's chances and dreams of playing professional basketball would be diminished.

The deadline to enter the NBA draft is the 25th of April; the deadline to withdraw from the draft is May 8th. The annual draft will be held in New York City at the world famous Madison Square Garden on June 24th. These dates are very important across the college basketball scene. Why? Because it will set the stage for how good next year's

college basketball teams will be. It will also decide whether or not the 'Cats can make another run in the NCAA tournament next year. If either Orton or Bledsoe were to return to school, many believe Big Blue will once again be a premier team. The 'Cats were knocked out of the Elite 8 this year in Syracuse, New York by West Virginia after a fantastic 35-2 season.

Now the focus for Kentucky fans becomes recruiting next year's stars. Kentucky has already signed some of the top high school recruits in the nation. The top recruit being point guard, Brandon Knight, who is currently holding a 4.3 GPA in high school. Another is the Turkish superstar center, Enes Kanter. Experts say this could be another possible Wall and Cousins duo match made in heaven. The other Big Blue recruits are shooting guard, Doron Lamb and Stacey Poole, who could play shooting guard or small forward. Coach Calipari is sure to pick up a couple of more players this spring. One of which is highly-touted power forward, Terrence Jones, who is currently having a tough time choosing between Washington University and THE University of Kentucky.

For Big Blue Nation, the NCAA basketball and recruiting seasons end leaving many questions. Which players will forego their final years of eligibility to chase their dreams and play professionally? Will the NBA players' union and the owners reach a labor agreement? Will the 'Cats get the big time players needed to make another run in the tournament next year? We know one thing for sure--the 2010-2011 basketball season will be a crazy one and will hopefully keep us all on our toes.



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