

Limelight

Limestone Community High School

Bartonville, IL 61607

Volume 48, Issue 4

VISIT US ON THE WEB -> <http://207.63.34.3/limelight/test.htm> E-MAIL us -> limelight@limestone.k12.il.us

LCHS Rockets got spirit

2001 winter activities assembly recognizes student involvement

By Tara Turner

This year's winter activities assembly was held on Friday, November 30th. Many students involved in winter activities were honored and recognized.

The volleyball team was presented with the unity award for their outstanding academic achievement during their season.

Others who were recognized include: the wrestling team, the speech team, scholastic bowl team, and the madrigal performers.

The special Olympics basketball team was also recognized and greeted with Josh Levi doing his patented "big wiggle."

The cheerleaders and the basketball team were acknowledged and stated that this year's season would be dedicated to Schuyler Lopez because basketball was a very big part of his life.

The "balls of fire" thrown to the crowd by the cheerleaders during their dance, contained season tickets for the basketball games.



At left, members of the senior class spell out ROCKETS, helping to cheer on LCHS at the assembly.

At right, the basketball cheerleaders cheer for the basketball team starters.



At left, senior Joe Dicce and freshman Andrew Capati fight for the last chair in a musical chairs game. Each of the losers had to kiss a pig.

Poor test scores disappoint

Administration, faculty vow to make needed changes

By Chad Day

In October, Limestone Community High School, along with other area schools, took part in the PSAE tests.

Unfortunately the school's entire average was 48, a bleak comparison to other schools, who scored in the 70's.

Limestone's score was the third worst, only scoring higher than Peoria's Manual and Central.

While some students will want to blame their teachers, most students think the scores were significantly lower because the students themselves simply did not try. "It doesn't matter to us, so we don't care," stated senior Jeff Markle.

Students do not think that the teachers or the school itself should be punished for its low scores. They also believe the administration should understand that the students' academic abilities were not the case, but it was the lack of motivation that caused the poor test results.

Whether it be the teachers' faults or the students' faults, Limestone still needs to work harder to better future tests.

Finding the root of the problem may be the hardest task in this battle to save Limestone from failure during the next test.

IF YOU TAKE A LOOK INSIDE, YOU WILL FIND. . .

students' favorite part of the holidays on opinion page 2.

suggestions for holiday gifts under \$20 on pages 4 and 5.

the top ten CD's according to certain staff members on entertainment page 7.

the all-conference selections for fall sports teams on sports page 8.

As I See It

By Christina Holt

As I see it, standardized test scores mean nothing. When the results from last year's state testing were released, it seemed like everyone got caught up in the numbers, constantly comparing and analyzing the scores with other schools. Our school performed rather poorly on the tests, with only 48 percent of students meeting or exceeding state requirements.

I do not think that the tests really represent the students' abilities. Many students do not care about these tests and do not really try to do their best. It is not that students need more homework or better teachers, they just need to be less apathetic. I think that Limestone is doing a better job at educating the students than the tests imply.

Besides, just because our test scores are low, it does not mean that our students are less able to become productive members of society. The tests do not show how creative a person is, how nice a person is, or how happy a person is.

I have learned the importance of prioritizing. I have spent a lot of time focusing more on extra-curricular activities than my studies, and my studies have suffered. I think that if Limestone really wants to improve its programs, it needs to prioritize. We dedicate a lot of time to our sports. America

in general spends more time on sports after school than other countries. Sports are important, but if Limestone wants to improve, it is going to have to place a little less importance on the game and more emphasis on studies. We are going to have to decide if school is more important or if sports are number one.

Sometimes I think that our competitive spirit from sports sticks with us, and we feel the need to outdo other schools. We do not have to figure it all out alone. Seeing what other schools have done and showing them what we have done allows us to learn from each other's mistakes and find out what has worked well. We could all do better on the tests if we could all work together.

Since we scored low on the tests, we might get more money from the state to improve our programs.

I think that the studies make us look like we are all doing a horrible job educating our students, which is not the case. We could make improvements, but school is not a factory where we mass produce good students who perform well academically on tests; it is an experience. It must provide an opportunity for discovery. Even if the academic performance of students does improve, does that mean that they are better off in life?

MIKE NELSON'S TOP TEN WORST GIFTS EVER GIVEN

10. Vanilla Ice's Greatest Hits CD

- "Yikes!!!!"

9. Soap

- "Maybe they are trying to tell you something."

8. Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen Movie

- "No human deserves to be exposed to these."

7. Oprah Book Club membership

- "Riiightt..."

6. Aaron Carter CD

- "Guess what Aaron? I am not going to 'Come and Get it'."

5. Chicago Bulls Tickets

- "They aren't that bad..really..."

4. Body By Jake Ab and Back Plus

- "It is as bad as it sounds..."

3. A date with Joe Bennett

- "Just learn to get to know the guy."

2. Razor-edged Boomerang

- "Ouch"

1. Bow and arrow on a string

- "Who knows?"

Opinion Poll

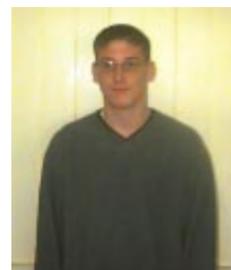
What is your favorite part of the holiday season?



"Spending time with family."
-Senior Kelly Bazhenow



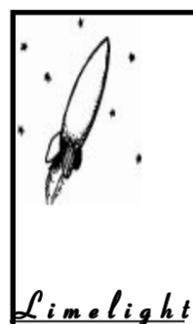
"Christmas cookies."
-Junior Shannon Pumphrey



"Kissing under the mistletoe."
-Senior Matt Hermann



"Chestnuts roasting."
-Sophomore Sean Newby



The Limelight is the student newspaper of Limestone Community High School. It is published monthly by journalism and media methods students. The *Limelight* is a member of the Quill and Scroll, National Scholastic Press Association, and Illinois High School Scholastic Press Association. Students are responsible for the content of the *Limelight*. Views represented do not necessarily represent, in part or in whole, those of the Limestone Community High School administration or faculty. Editorial policy is determined by the Editorial Board of the *Limelight*, and views expressed in editorials are those of the majority of the editorial board. Columns that carry bylines are the opinion of the author and do not necessarily represent that of the *Limelight*. The paper is distributed free to students and staff. Subscriptions are available by mail anywhere in the US for \$5 per school year. Address: Limestone Community High School, 4201 S. Airport Rd., Bartonville, IL 61607. Telephone: (309) 697-6271, ext. 106. Reach us on the Internet at: <http://limestone.k12.il.us>. Email: limelight@limestone.k12.il.us. Printed by P & P Press, Peoria, IL.

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Advisor: Roni Oleson



RANT/RAVE: *What You're Missing*

Letters to the Editor

By Chad Wys

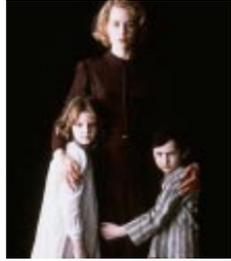
The majority of society tends to follow the leader and stray away from that less traveled road in easily influenced situations. I am informing *that* percentile of the population that *you are* missing out on some of the highest points of life. The greatest, unsung aspects of the world around us, whether in film, music, print, television, or even at the local museum, go little noticed and are often received with a limited audience. Now that I have thrown that off my chest, I will let you in on some of the things I have come across that I know few readers may have encountered.

Inside the scope of movies, we have a broad, highly competitive industry. Many films fair well thanks to big budget *trailors*-never mind the script or the acting. "Pearl Harbor" was considered a flop at the hand of critics because of the lack of ingenuity and balmy love-story-meets-die-hard editing. However, the film made back its entire filming budget and then a hefty sum to top out at over \$200 million. Still a flop? Thanks to the big names and the big T.V. spots, audiences poured in. Speaking of audiences pouring in, lets go to the opposite end of the spectrum: have you seen "Joy Ride"? Chances are not, even though it was quite possibly one of the most entertaining films I have ever seen, not to mention in the terms of modern cinema. That film came and went little attended at theaters and

fashioned poor box office with-drawals. It was subsequently preceived with dark shadows looming over it in the minds of potential consumers. This type of cat and mouse game between movie studios and the audiences occurs *far too often*; chasing at us with fancy posters and trailers.

"The Others" was a substantial sleeper hit of 2001 which struck the right chord with surprised opening-weekend crowds spreading the truth by mouth: that "the movie was actually very good."

Music is another head of the corporate and hype monster that is growing year after year in leaps and gigantic bounds. I have heaps of fine CD's and MP3's which few people have, but many should. My #1 album pick, among the some-odd thousand I have heard from, purchased, and encountered in my musical life-time, has sold very few copies, hasn't spawned any radio-accepted hits or immediately recognizable tracks, hasn't found its way into many teen's vocabulary, and hasn't been pushed for success by it's record company.



The Chemical Brother's, "Surren-

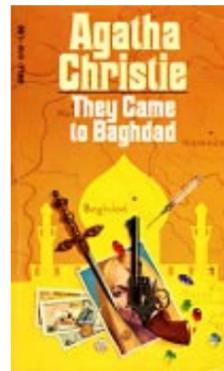


der;" is one of the finest, most unfrequented albums of my time. Take a listen, quite a few people don't know what they're missing. Have you heard The Strokes or Ash (alternative), Sara Evans or The Mavericks (country), the Basement Jaxx or Modjo (techno), or Enya and her pre-sensation-alized "Only Time" stage few people have heard from the early to mid 90's (new age)? Most likely no, and I can't blame you for that; but, I can blame you for not trying to look for the "little guy" at least once in a while.

The subject of books is not quite as monstrously commercialized as

film and music, however, is not exempt either. In my 18 years on this planet, and the 8 years I have continued to read novels and such, I have come to prefer obscure, vintage literature. For example, one of the finest, most mind bending books I have read was written in the early 1950's by mystery novelest Agatha Christie. "They Came To Baghdad," truly is a timeless book, perhaps more relevant today than ever before. Though Christie is the best selling novel writer of modern day, few have heard of this book. It is rarely printed and extremely scarce - again, I can not blame you for not finding it. However, to drive home my point, you *must* look for great things.

They won't always be brought to you in a T.V. commercial in the middle of Will & Grace (another example; a great show often overshadowed by the sensational "Survivor"), brought to you in a cinematic coming attraction, or brought to your attention in a banner ad as you're browsing the Internet. Sometimes you need to browes for something great. That *something* could change your life, or add more *life* to your dull, corporate existence.



Limelight Editorial Policy

The *Limelight* is the student newspaper at Limestone Community High school. It is a laboratory for journalism students designed to serve the total school community.

As a liberator, the newspaper provides staff members with independent writing opportunities and individual evaluation. Writing is based on a wide variety of research for a broad and often critical audience. The experience demands responsibility and cooperation.

Business skills are learned through the needs to sell advertising and to remain financially solvent.

While the newspaper is responsible to the Board and subject to state and federal laws, contents reflecting student thinking is not necessarily in agreement with administrative policy. An understanding of administrative policy should be reflected in articles relating to it.

The primary audience for the newspaper is the student body at Limestone Community High school. However, the staff recognizes that the paper is read by and must speak to the faculty, to the administrators, to the parents, and to the community as a whole.

The first function of the newspaper in serving the audience is to accurately and factually report significant aspects of school life and subjects of interest and concern to the readers. Due to the fact that straight news stories are based on fact and should be unbiased, they may not be signed.

The *Limelight* should stimulate thinking and provide leadership for the school. As an independent observer, the newspaper should use its unique access to a new and broad perspective to lead the school community toward constructive accomplishment.

Editorial comments reflect

the thinking of the editorial board and are not signed. Reviewnd opinion columns by individuals must carry by-lines.

The *Limelight* provides its readers with a public forum; students, faculty, administrators, parents, and others in the school community are encouraged to react to material printed through signed letters or articles. Names will sometimes be withheld from publication for a good cause.

Outside contributors are subject to the usual restrictions of libel, defamation, slander, and obscenity and must conform to newspaper policy. The newspaper need not agree with or endorse the contents of outside contributions.

Contributions may be rejected if considered unsuitable. Any questions to this policy should be directed towards the newspaper advisor and/or the editors.

The Limelight wishes everyone a safe and happy winter break! We will see everyone Monday, January 7, 2001.

Dear Editor,

I have read through the *Limelight* recently. I am very disappointed in the level of journalism apparent in the *Limelight*. I used to think that the horrid stories were the result of inept writers. Although this is still a large contributor, I have discovered another problem. Censorship.

I have been privileged to see an advance copy of the paper. I read one article that was coherent, intelligent, and well-written. Then I saw the edited copy. It was slashed and destroyed. It now made no sense. All of the humor and insight that was present before now lay in a heap on the cutting room floor. I do not know if this heavy hand of editing is brought on by the faculty advisor to the paper or not. But my guess is that this lies under the fault of our administration. Everyone says they would like the paper to be better. To do that, there would have to be something interesting to read in it. Am I the only one suprised that this hypocrisy remains? *Limelight* stories should be about "subjects of interest." Student opinions should be broadcasted in the student newspaper. The beginning of reform in the paper must begin with greater student involvement.

Perhaps the "powers that be" feel that people might be offended by what students have to say. But, at least for now, it does not really matter. Why? *Because no one reads the paper!* This problem must be solved.

Sincerely,

Doug Small

Letters to the Editor

Readers are encouraged to submit letters to the Editor. All letters must be signed by the writer (however they may be printed anonymously if requested) and turned in no later than the 15th of the month. The *Limelight* Editor reserves the right to reject letters which may be viewed as controversial or are in conflict with the *Limelight's* Editorial Policy. Submissions may be turned into Room 6, or they can be emailed at: limelight@limestone.k12.il.us.

'TIS THE

Do you and your family put up a real or a fake Christmas tree?

100 Limestone students were asked this question

54% REAL

46% FAKE

The Time for Giving is Now

By Tara Turner

Have you ever thought, "Why should I give to a charity?" The truth is most teenagers would not even consider giving up one of their presents this season.

As commercials of all the unfortunate people in the world are covering the television lately, you cannot help but feel a little guilty. There are numerous charities in the Peoria area. Since September 11th, many charities have been desperate. People should not forget about the many September 11th funds but also remember the many charities that existed before.

The charities, which are listed to the right, help by giving unfortunate people clothes, money, or anything else that they might be needing.

Some people believe that the country we live in is pretty close to perfect, which is not true. The United States does have starving people on the streets, just as other countries do. As much as we try to deny it the United States still needs help. So, this holiday season give up a little for the great causes in our area.

CHARITIES

Goodwill

Salvation Army

Journal Star

Children's Fund

American Cancer

Society American Red Cross

Southside Mission

St. Jude Children's Fund American Cancer Society

Haiti Rescue Mission

Rescue Ministries

American Lung Association

Top

10

HOLIDAY MOVIES

1. *A Christmas Story*
2. *It's a Wonderful Life*
3. *Charlie Brown's Christmas*
4. *The Santa Clause*
5. *A Christmas Carol*
6. *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer*
7. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*
8. *Frosty the Snowman*
9. *Miracle on 34th Street (old and new)*
10. *The Nightmare Before Christmas*

The true meaning of...

By Holly Sanders

The winter holidays are very dear to us. Nearly every family in America practices some type of winter tradition. Very few, however, understand the reasons behind ideas such as Christmas trees and mistletoe. For those of you who have ever wondered where our festive, holiday traditions came from, here are some answers.

* **HOLLY** - For several centuries, the deep green and bright red colors of this plant have represented rebirth and new life during the bleak winter seasons. The ancient Delts were likely the first to hang holly boughs over doorways, as they believed that the thorn's tips of a holly's leaves caught fairies before the could enter the home and cause mischief within the household.

* **MISTLETOE** - The concept of kissing under mistletoe originated from a myth about the Norse god Balder. Balder was most loved of all the gods, and his mother Frigga, goddess of love and beauty, ensured his safety by preventing Balder from harm by any object. However, Loki, god of mischief, discovered that Balder could be killed with an arrow made of mistletoe. Upon his death, Frigga's bitter tears became the tiny, white berries found on the plant. After Balder was returned to life, Frigga became so happy that she reversed the plant's reputation, making it a symbol of love. She then promised to bestow a kiss upon anyone who passes under it.

* **CHRISTMAS TREES** - Though many beliefs on the actual origin of the Christmas tree exist, the tradition of decorating the tree began in the 17th century. While composing a sermon during a walk home one evening, Martin Luther, founder of Lutheranism, suddenly stopped and stared in awe at what he saw: a cluster of trees amidst a starry sky. Luther was so moved by the beauty he saw, that he wished to recreate the scene for his family. Once home, Luther wired the family tree with beautifully lit candles. Eventually, candles became electric lights, and in some countries, other forms of ornament were added.

* **BELLS** - Though often associated with the merry greeting of the holidays, bells were actually used in ancient times predating Christmas. It is believed that pagans of the old religion thought that during the winter season, as the earth became cold and the sun began to fade, evil spirits were very powerful. The most common way of driving them out was to make a lot of noise. Because of the beautiful sounds they made, bells were often the most used of noise makers. Later, other populations adopted this tradition by welcoming the holidays with the charming ringing of large bells.

OPINION POLL

What is the worst present that you have ever received?



"Some superhero underwear," says senior James Catalan.

"A box of socks," says freshman Deanna Dejaynes.



"Rainbow Bright curtains," says sophomore Joe Perez.

"A money sock," says math teacher Jim Ryder.



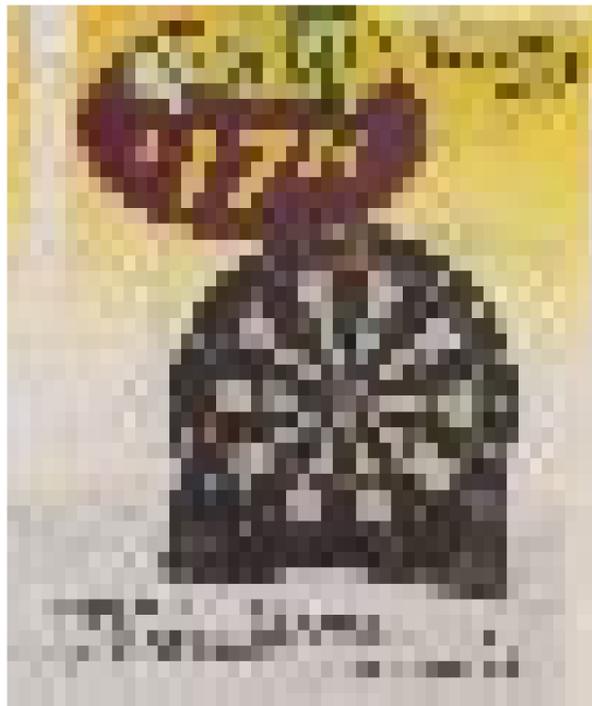
"My grandma gave me this ugly sweater and its arms were too small," says Junior Kendra Nolte.

SEASON

Holiday Gifts under \$20



For Parents



For Him



For Her

Job of the Month

"Being A Forensic Scientist"

By Liz Brignall

Have you ever played a mystery game, such as *Clue*? If you have, did you enjoy using techniques to help solve the crime? If you are interested in applying scientific methods to solving investigations, you should consider choosing an occupation as a forensic scientist.

A forensic scientist must obtain a bachelor's degree in chemistry, biology, or forensic science, but there are six different areas of expertise a forensic scientist may be specialized in.

A forensic scientist must be able to apply the knowledge of pharmacology and toxicology to analyze the human tissue and fluids for evidence of alcohol or drugs.

To examine DNA or fingerprints evident in a crime scene, physics and biology must be applied. Forensic scientists also need to specialize in document to analyze handwriting or typewriter identification, and an exper-

tise in firearms allows the ability to identify guns or bullets. Good communication skills, a good moral character, the ability to remain unbiased in court examinations, logical thinking, observation skills, teamwork, and motivation are a few personal goals that contribute to a good forensic scientist.

Forensic scientists use many different procedures to analyze and examine physical evidence that may contribute to crime scenes. Numerous distinct tasks may be performed by a forensic scientist, such as examining paints, cosmetics, glass, or gunshot residues; testifying in court on scientific reports that may have been written; or enhancing audio recordings.

Every case is different and unique. There are many opportunities to work together, and if the case requires a forensic scientist to travel, the expenses will be covered. This field is very interesting, and the result of the case is very rewarding.

Exam Schedule

Thursday Exams-

1st hour- 7:45a.m.-8:10a.m.

2nd hour-9:15a.m.-10:45a.m.

3rd hour-10:50a.m.-12:15p.m.

4th hour-12:20p.m.-1:00p.m.(one half)

Friday Exams-

4th hour-7:45a.m.-8:30a.m.(one half)

5th hour-8:35a.m.-10:05a.m.

6th hour-10:10a.m.-11:30a.m.

7th hour-11:35a.m.-1:00p.m.

Madrigal 2001-2002

Madrigal Singers

Jerrold Bainter	Nicole Zook
Edward Carrillo	Samantha Gevas
Derik Marcussen	Jessica Powell
PJ Odewalt	Erin Holley
Matthew Davis	Laura Rasbury
Brian Bristol	Jayma VonBehren
Mike McLaughlin	Rebecca Mooney
Antonio Pagan	Jill Rebmann

Director

Mike Morris

Lord and Lady

Kris Adams Ginger Adams

Lord Chamberlain

Gerald Perschnick

Madrigal Brass

Mary Roberts Ashley Salm
Sara Swanson David DeFrance
Lisa Gillespie Zac Guiliano

Madrigal Recorders

Megan Murray Kathleen Atwell
Angela Rendleman Lisa Faulkner

What You Think

"Should Limestone have Madrigals without Mr. Morriss?"

"The best tribute we could give to show our appreciation to the work that he has put in for this school for more than 30 years is to keep his favorite even going in his honor."

-Derik Marcussen

"It is something that the community looks forward to, and most of the kids take part in. Why would we want to take that tradition away?"

-Jayma VonBehren

"Yes, because there are enough people that are involved in it to keep it going the same, and it brings good publicity to the school."

-Billi Sue Wiebler

"Only if they find a teacher that can fulfill the qualifications that are needed, to remain the same as Mr. Morris has had."

-Zach Stein

All Around the World

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Santa's on his way!

It's that time of year again. Time to buy your presents, bake your cookies, and hang your stockings up on the mantle. Also, let us not forget that it is time for the jolly man we know and love to come through that chimney roof.

Around the world, children of the globe are awaiting the day that Saint Nicholas will enter their humble homes and find the cookies and milk that they have placed for him. Christmas is the event that is known all around the world, whether parts of the world celebrate Christmas or another holiday.

Did you ever think of the other traditions that are carried out around the world? There are many different names and meanings that Saint Nicholas and the holidays have acquired in their days. These are just a few.

In **Costa Rica** and in parts of **Mexico**, the gift bearer is *el Nino Jesus*, "the infant Jesus." In **Brazil** and **Peru**, he is called *Papa Noel*, which means "Father Christmas."

In the **United States** and **Canada**, his name is *Santa Claus*, the name we all know and love. In **China** he is called *Shengdan Laoren*. In **England**, his name is *Father Christmas*, where he has a longer coat and a longer beard.

In **France**, he's known as *Pere Noel*. In **Germany**, children get gifts from *Chritindi*, meaning the Christ child. In **Puerto Rico**, children receive gifts from the *Three Kings* on January 6th.

In **Italy**, *Babbo Natale*, which means "Father Christmas," is Santa around the world celebrates a holiday around this time of year.

In **Spain** children leave their shoes under the Christmas tree the night of January 5th, and presents from the *Three Kings* appear the next morning. The character of *Santa Claus* is called *Papa Noel* and some children receive presents both days on December 24th (from Papa Noel) and on January 6th (from Three Kings).

In **Morocco** he is known as *Black Peter*. In **Japan**, he is known as *Santa*. Children

often called him "*Santa ojisan*," which means "Uncle Santa." In **Sweden**, *Jultomten* visits the evening before Christmas day, pulling a big bag of julklafter (christmas presents) in the deep snow.

In **Norway**, *Pa Norsk Julenissen* arrives on the evening of the twenty-fourth. In the **Netherlands**, he is called *Kerstman*. In **Finland**, he is called *Joulupukki*. In **Denmark**, he is called *Sinster Klaas*. He rides a white horse, leaving gifts in wooden shoes.

In **Russia** he is called *Grandfather Frost*, that means "ded moroz." In all of the countries he is called *Kris Kringle*; this comes from the German term "the Christ kind." Everyone celebrates a holiday around this time of the year.

By Tara Turner and Katie Sheldon

L A I D L A W

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Albums worth your time and money

The top ten elite, must-have albums of 2001; with input from Chad Day, Chad Wys, & Zach Nelson

Chad Day's Top 10

- 10) **American Pie 2 (Soundtrack)** by Various Artists
- 9) **On The Line (Soundtrack)** by Various Artists
- 8) **Silverside Up** by Nickelback
- 7) **Volume 6** by Punk-O-Rama
- 6) **Celebrity** by N'Sync
- 5) **The Spirit Room** by Michelle Branch
- 4) **Morning View** by Incubus
- 3) **International Superhits** by Green Day
- 2) **Take Off Your Pants and Jacket** by Blink 182
- 1) **All About the Girls** by New Found Glory

My top five albums are comprised of a few different styles of music. New Found Glory's album *It's All About the Girl* is a mix of punk and pop and is very energetic and well written. Blink 182's *Take Off Your Pants & Jacket* is the band's sixth album and it's very easy to listen to the whole album straight through. The Green Day *International Superhits* record was just really cool to have because all of Green Days hits were on one CD instead of four. My fourth choice was Incubus, *Morning View*. With its rock guitar riffs and excellent lyrics, Incubus is a band with a sound of its own. Finally, my number five was Michelle Branch's album titled the *Spirit Room*. It was slightly different from what I am used to, but the pop rock sound and her hypnotic voice drew me in.

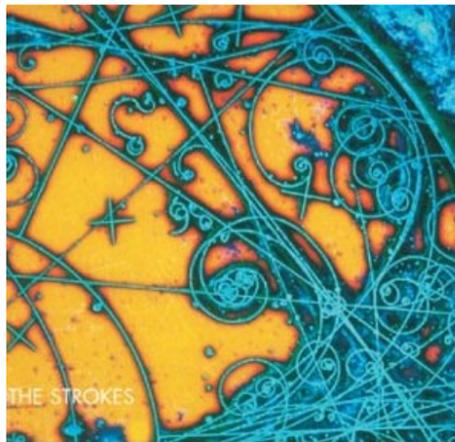


New Found Glory makes the grade with glorious "Girls."

Chad Wys's Top 10

- 10) **Solid Bronze: Greatest Hits** by The Beautiful South
- 9) **Get Ready** by New Order
- 8) **L'Amour Toujours** by Gigi D'Agostino
- 7) **White Lilies Island** by Natalie Imbruglia
- 6) **The Invisible Band** by Travis
- 5) **Love, Sensuality, & Devotion: The Greatest Hits** by Enigma
- 4) **Modjo** by Modjo
- 3) **Rooty** by Basement Jaxx
- 2) **Discovery** by Daft Punk
- 1) **Is This It** by The Strokes

I tend not to follow the crowd when purchasing new music for my top album collection. What I buy, in my highest opinion, is what I would want with me if I were stranded on a desert island for the rest of my life. The new band, The Strokes, broke onto the radio and into many listeners' ears in Europe, proving an American, retro-grunge, pop band can cross over the Atlantic and deliver a collection even stronger than back home. They have made a new genre of music come alive with addicting melodies and muffled lyrics. Daft Punk struck gold with their second album; nearly every track is worth your listen and radio friendly. Basements Jaxx also struck a pleasing chord with their second attempt. Although not holding quite as strong as their 2000 release, *Rooty* proves their talent apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Modjo and Enigma round out my top five with their latest and greatest.

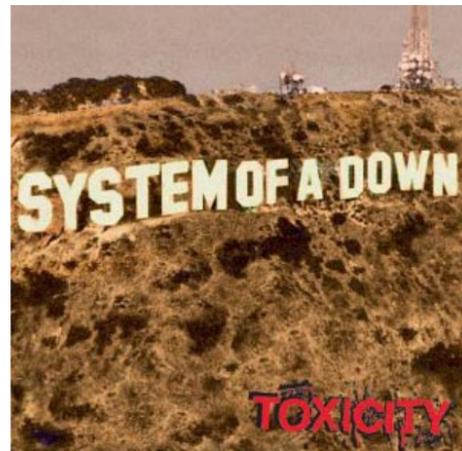


The Strokes smash into the scene with "This" one.

Zach Nelson's Top 10

- 10) **Orphan** by Darwin's Waiting Room
- 9) **Animosity** by Sevendust
- 8) **Break The Cycle** by Staind
- 7) **Perfect Self** by Stereomud
- 6) **The Beginning of All Things To End** by Mudvayne
- 5) **Morning View** by Incubus
- 4) **Darker Side of Nonsense** by Dry Kill Logic
- 3) **Laterlus** by Tool
- 2) **(New) Release** by Primer 55
- 1) **Toxicity** by System of a Down

Why pick System of a Down's sophomore release *Toxicity* for number one? Listen and you'll know why. Not very many bands top their debut album, but System of a Down has succeeded without a doubt. I can honestly say I like every song on this CD. Primer 55 turned a total 180 on the out-look of their music; I would say I like this CD better than their first. Tool certainly didn't disappoint anyone with their long-awaited release *Laterlus*. Dry Kill Logic's debut album has enough music to satisfy any metal fan. *Morning View* by Incubus is their most melodic album to date. Slipknot's *Iowa* and *Hidden Stash 2* by Kottonmouth Kings were decent but not enough to make the list. Overall 2001 was a good year in music; hopefully 2002 brings much more.



System of a Down sets the pace in the big "City."

tastebudz In Living Sound: Primer 55

with Christina Holt & Liz Brignall

"Serious salad, awesome ribs, and great service," says Jerry, the manager of Ruby Tuesday, explaining the reasons why Ruby Tuesday is the restaurant to visit. Ruby Tuesdays recently opened on December 3 in the Westlake Plaza across from the mall. It is a casual restaurant similar to Applebee's or TGI Fridays, but what sets Ruby Tuesday apart from these restaurants is their serious salad bar.

The decor is sports bar-like. We particularly noticed the Manual Rams boys basketball team championship sign.

We were seated at a miniature sized table and handed gigantic menus, which made it difficult to handle the menus. The tiny space would not be comfortable to a claustrophobic person. We were seated in a non-smoking section, but due to the closeness of the tables, we could smell smoke from the smoking section.

We both ordered strawberry lemonade, complete with actual strawberries. It was bittersweet

and seedy. Christina received her drink much later than Liz. The waitress asked us if we wanted refills, but she did not inform us that the refills would not be free until after Liz said yes to another one.

Liz ordered chicken fajitas. They were very, very spicy and tasted almost like they were Cajun-style (\$9.99). Christina got the veggie burger. It tasted like a hamburger but was a lot more spicy and less juicy (\$5.99).

For dessert, Liz ordered a hot fudge sundae, and Christina got a blondie. They were kind enough to put the ice cream on the side for her.

Ruby Tuesday is open Friday and Saturday until 12:00 a.m. and weeknights until 11:00 p.m. We liked Ruby Tuesdays, but our main complaint was that the prices were very high. Christina's total bill was \$13.87 and Liz's bill was \$18.57. However, we will return soon because we thought the waiters were very good looking.

By Zach Nelson

It's not everyday you can pay to watch a signed band for only \$5 in a small venue; so when I heard Primer 55 was coming to Peoria to play an all-ages-welcome show at S.O.P.'s, I told myself I had to go.

The show was December 1 at 6 p.m. I showed up a little bit early because I figured the place would be packed. To my surprise the place probably only held 75 - 100 people.

Tripod, a local metal act, was the first to play. They were

on stage for a little over half an hour. They played all their songs from their CD *Freeballin*. After a slight intermission, Primer 55 took the stage.

For a small crowd that wasn't very energetic, Primer still put on a good show. They played songs like "Lessons," "Set It Off," "This Life," "Super Freak," "Tricycle," and "Loose."

They even took a couple of minutes to show off their love for music by playing cover songs by bands like Boston, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and even Afroman.

During the middle of the show, a couple of the boys in blue tried to come in and tell S.O.P.'s it was time for Primer to quit playing. After a little negotiation, they were allowed to finish their set.

Overall, this was a great experience being able to watch such talented musicians right in front of you at a small venue for only a couple of bucks.

**-CHECK OUT PRIMER MUSIC!-
Introduction To Mayhem & (New) Release**

Music Notes

By Zach Nelson

George Harrison, guitarist of the distinguished rock band The Beatles, has died at age 58 from cancer. "We will miss George for his sense of love, his sense of music, and his sense of laughter," says Ringo Starr, drummer of The Beatles.

Beyonce Knowles will be starring in the latest sequel to the movie *Austin Powers*, which will hit theaters July 26 of 2002. Britney Spears is said

to play a small role in the comedy as well. Bassist and frontman of the former group Kiss, Gene Simmons, is currently in the works of making a Broadway musical about Kiss. Music festival Lollapalooza will return this coming summer with acts like Jane's Addiction, Tool, and many others. Rap/metal band (Hed) Planet Earth is in the studio doing their final touches on their third and

upcoming album *Maya*. Release date is looking towards spring of 2002. Jennifer Lopez, Kid Rock, and Ja Rule will be flying overseas to entertain in part of a MTV holiday television special, which will be aired on January 1. Rock group U2 will perform at the Super Bowl half-time show.

UPCOMING SHOWS
Slayer-February 1-Madison Theater (\$22)

Limestone Boy's Basketball



**Mid-Illini
All-Conference
Selections**

Varsity Football

First Team Offense

Senior Dan Corpus, quarterback
Senior Ben Curless, wide receiver
Senior Aaron Holley, tailback
Senior Brian Snyder, tight end

First Team Defense

Senior Joe Dicce, Linebacker
Senior Chad Wenzel, Defensive line

Second Team Offense

Senior Matt Briggs

Special Mention

Senior Wayne Eubanks
Senior Jim Catalan
Senior Nate Clark
Junior Eric Applegreen

Cross Country

First Team

Senior Robert Emmons

Second Team

Senior Amanda Stear

Soccer

Second Team

Junior Ryan Skaggs

Volleyball

Second Team

Senior Audra Swearingen

Special Mention

Junior Alicia Thomason

Girl's Tennis

Second Team

Senior Christina Holt

**Is LCHS
losing its
true spirit?**

By Mike Nelson

Sports in general have certainly changed over the last few years. Many students at Limestone are athletes in many LCHS sports. The major concept of this idea is that he or she is a "student-athlete." Notice that it does not say "athlete-student."

It is no secret that athletes at Limestone practically "walk on air." The major athletes are allowed certain privileges that are otherwise denied to other Limestone students. Now, I honestly cannot blame any of the student-athletes completely for this situation. A lot of the blame has to go to teachers that allow certain slack in areas due to the fact that they are great athletic achievers. It is the student's job to get an education first, then be an athlete second.

Fan participation has also changed. Sure, the gym was filled with Limestone students that were totally into whatever Limestone sports were doing. Here is a situation that everyone should think about. How about we hold the assembly after school or during some other time than school.

I would venture to say that less than 10% of the original crowd would show up. Why? It is simple. The students love getting out of class. I am not going to lie and say that I do not enjoy getting out of class, but there should still be limits. The assembly was held for the right reasons, but the enthusiasm was for the wrong reasons.

It was also a bit sad to watch a spectator throw a ball at a cheerleader who was doing a high risk stunt. It may have seemed funny at the time, but what if it had hit her?

Upcoming Games

Thursday Dec.27 Pekin Tourn. at Pekin

Friday Dec. 28 Pekin Tourn. at Pekin

Saturday Dec. 29 Pekin Tourn. at Pekin

Friday Jan. 4 IVC 7:30 pm at Limestone

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