

Chat

with Kat

By Katie Sheldon

My family and I were sitting at the dinner table on Thanksgiving, and the past year flooded my mind. All of my trials, tribulations, successes, and good times filled my thoughts. I began thinking about all of the things in my life that I really am thankful for and found that there were many things to add to my list. The following are what I am most thankful for:

1) I am thankful for my life. I have the opportunity to wake up every morning, take a breath of fresh air, and live my life to the fullest. I am so thankful that I can hear, see, smell, and taste! People take advantage of those privileges so often that sometimes it is hard for people to realize what it would be like without them.

Your life may be busy, boring, maybe even dull, but it is your life. Your life is the one thing that you never have to share or give up to anyone. You control your life and the decisions that you make. Because you make so many decisions in your life, sometimes you are unaware of

it. I am thankful that I made the decision to eliminate my shyness and make friends.

2) I am thankful for the friends that I have in my life. They are always there when I need them and understand what I am going through. In my life I have so many good friends and best friends that sometimes it is hard to split up my time.

My best friends understand that I need to spend time with my other friends, and I am thankful that they have that understanding. When I am under a lot of pressure, my best friends are always there telling me that I can do anything that I want to do. This is something that I am truly thankful for because without them, I would not believe in myself. My friends believe in me and I believe in them. My friends that I have are not just friends, they are family.

3) My family is probably the most important part of my life that I am thankful for. They are so supportive of everything that I do. They are always

there telling me that I can achieve the impossible. My step-family is combined of step-brothers and step-sisters and half-brothers and half-sisters.

The other part of my family that I am thankful for is that there is no age discrimination in the family. I can still carry on a conversation with my twenty-seven year old brother even though I am twelve years younger than him. I think that is so cool because my family and I get along so well. Not only do my immediate family and I get along well, but my in-laws are very special and mesh with the rest of us. I am thankful for every single item that composes my life.

This season, I am thankful for my life, my family, and my friends. The reason I am thankful for my family and friends is because they make up my entire life. 'Tis the season for all of us to give thanks to everything that we have. It is important for us to remember that we are lucky to have so many wonderful people in our lives.

PUSHING *the* LIMITS

By Chad Day

Have you ever felt overwhelmed by your daily life? Do you feel like your parents give you all of the responsibilities of adults but none of the privileges they receive? Many teens get up in the morning and are not looking forward to the day. The reason for this is stress.

Once they wake up, some teens find themselves on a tight schedule. They get up, go to school, get home, and then do as much homework as possible before they have to go to work. After work is over, they come home and finish the rest of their homework.

It is a repetitious routine that can be too much for teens. The pressure of balancing school, work, friends, and family wears out some people.

One way to deal with the immense stress of teen life is to literally make a schedule.

Teens should plan their day, but in that plan, they need to include a little time for themselves. They should put some time aside to do something they enjoy, like reading a book, playing a video game, or spending time with their friends.

Stress troubles us all at some point or another and dealing with it negatively can be very unhealthy. If a teen feels totally overwhelmed by stress and it consumes his life, he should talk to someone as soon as possible. It may be hard at first, but it will turn out for the best in the end.

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.

OPINION POLL

What is your holiday wish?

By Joe Bennett



"Every episode of Dawson's Creek on tape without commercials and extra footage."
-Senior Amy Lane



"I would like to get a life."
-Senior Brad Monk



"A pony."
-Junior Jon Van



"A date with Joe Bennett."
-Junior Jayma VonBehren



"I have a sincere desire to rule the world, but if that is not possible, I would like a Gamecube and a Mario game so my wife will leave me alone."
-Mr. Shane Hill, Social Studies



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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As I see it. . . Daddy should not go through what Grandpa did

By Christina Holt

The attacks on September 11 have been compared to the attack on Pearl Harbor. After the 60th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor, I was thinking about the effects it had on my family and wondering what effects the September 11 attacks will have.

On December 7, 1941, my Grandma Milly was a young mother in the maternity ward of a central Illinois hospital after the birth of her son when she heard the news of the Japanese attack

on Pearl Harbor. She never figured that it would affect her family because she and Grandpa lived their quiet life in a small town with their son. In March of 1943, Grandma gave birth to their second son. Life was good, and the war going on did not affect them personally until September of 1943. It was then that my grandpa was recalled into the Army.

"He shouldn't have even had to go," Grandma Milly said. "He had already done his time in the Army, and besides, he only had

one lung. "But if you were walking and breathing, the Army would take you," Grandma said.

While Grandpa was gone, Grandma kept busy with her two young sons. She was a full-time housewife and mother.

She would write to Grandpa even though she would only get letters every two weeks or so. She remembered in one of the letters he wrote, "Thou shall not kill, but God sent me here so I do it."

It was a lonely time for her. Then, one day, she received a box from Grandpa. In the box, was a Purple Heart, the award given to soldiers wounded in battle. With the Purple Heart was a handwritten letter from Grandpa saying that he had been wounded, but he was okay. It comforted Grandma that the letter was in Grandpa's own handwriting. That reassured her that he was okay.

Later he would tell her the awful tale of what happened to

him that earned him the Purple Heart. He and his Army buddy had just finished digging their foxhole. There was a mail call, and Grandpa and his buddy had settled into the foxhole to read their treasured letters from home. Grandpa's buddy was a father of four and had received pictures of his little ones. He was sharing them with Grandpa. "When Grandpa went to hand the pictures back to his friend," Grandma's voice quivered, "all of a sudden his buddy's head was laying outside the foxhole."

Grandma said he went berserk and jumped out the foxhole firing his bazooka as fast as he could. It was then, outside the "protection" of the foxhole that my grandpa was wounded.

He was sent to a hospital in Florence, Italy, where they patched him up and then sent him back into the war zone. It was not long before Grandpa was back at that hospital in Florence with more wounds. He was awarded another Purple Heart, but this time he refused it. He said that it would not even buy him a cup of coffee.

The war ended in 1945, but I do not think that it ever ended for Grandpa. Grandma said he was never really the same after the war. "He was just an empty shell behind those once warm brown eyes," Grandma said.

What he had witnessed in the war would haunt him for the rest of his life. He went on to try to work to provide for his family and live a normal life, but the effects of the war

weighed heavily on him.

The physical effects were evident from the scars where they patched up his wounds. The medics at the Italian hospital did not get all of the shrapnel out of his skin, and sometimes fragments of the shrapnel would work their way to just beneath the surface of his skin. They looked like little BB's, and my Grandma said he would sit and pick at them with a pocket knife.

The psychological effects of the war came to the surface, too. Once, during a typical Midwestern thunderstorm, Grandma and Grandpa were awakened by a rather loud clap of thunder. Grandpa darted out of their bed, hurried to their son's room, snatched up the two boys, one under each arm, and carried them outside into the storm. It was not until he got outside into the rain that Grandpa snapped out of it and realized that he was not helping his army buddies through grenades and gunfire but that he was carrying his two precious sons. Grandma put the boys back to bed and tried to comfort her husband,

wishing she could put to rest all of the horrors that Grandpa was reliving from the war.

Grandpa became a chain smoker and an alcoholic until his death in 1985.

I think that the total wounded and casualty reports from World War II cannot be accurate. Those who died in the war left behind countless friends and family members who were wounded by their losses, and those who survived the war, like in my family, had loved ones who hurt to see them in such pain. I think war, like in my grandpa's case, sometimes kills even those who survive it.

I hope that no more of our military has to travel to the Middle East to fight, but I do not think that this will happen. I hope that our military members in Afghanistan soon come home safely and that history does not repeat itself. I do not want my dad to have to endure the conditions that my grandpa did.

.....
**Grandpa said,
 "Thou shall not
 kill, but God sent
 me here so I do it."**

Correction...

On the Opinion page in the October 2001 issue of the *Limelight*, the letter to the editor on patriotism was submitted by LCHS senior Doug Small.

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.

What's Up With That?

Hardees's has a new sandwich called the six dollar burger. It costs \$3.95. Who are the ad wizards that came up with this one? How can it be called the six dollar burger when its regular price is \$3.95? Also, who is willing to pay almost four dollars for a single sandwich at Hardee's? What's up with that?

Is it just me or is it about time for Weird Al to release another album?

What is the deal with movie theaters? Do they want your arm as well as your leg? Admission to a movie is approximately seven dollars, which is not that bad. It is the prices of the refreshments that are horrendous. A soda is about twelve dollars while popcorn will set you back around nineteen. Personally, I just give the Rebel Yell and bring my own refreshments. I do realize that most people are not as rebellious as me and are stuck paying the inflated prices. What's up with that?

What's up with people who do

not use cruise control on the highway? They speed past you on the highway only to later be right in front of you doing fifty forcing you to pass them.

Why are most supermarkets requiring a "savers" card? I am absolutely against these cards. I never have or will use these cards. Their sole purpose is to track your purchases to possibly incriminate you in the future. What's up with that?

What is the deal with gas prices? They recently hit lows of under a dollar. This caused people to complain when prices once again hit \$1.20 per gallon. This is odd because just a few months ago people would have rejoiced if prices were anywhere near \$1.20. What's up with that?

Why are people referring to the current year as two-thousand and one? It should be said as twenty-oh-one. We never called it nineteen-hundred ninety-nine. I am simply asking for consistency when referring to the year.

By Joe Bennett

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T H E C o n t r o l

By Chad Wys

Being overweight is something people of all ages, in the United States are all too *familiar* with. Far too *often* we try and fail because all too *often* people are attempting to succeed by discovering the quickest, easiest, and most effortless way of reaching their goal. Fad diets and any weight loss plans involving cutting all of one specific nutrient out in order to achieve long-lasting weight loss effects are typically deficient and unfulfilling. Though I hate to say it, and I wish it weren't so, proper, healthy weight loss involves good old fashion cutting back your portions, eating healthy foods, and physical movement.

How do I know this? I've been



there, I am there, and I will always be dealing with the effects of a weight issue. I had been overweight my entire life, and *yes*, I had tried nearly *everything* there was to try. My trials ranged from only drinking

Slim Fast shakes, attending and following the Weight Watchers program, and even starving myself; all of which failed me immensely. I had succeeded *temporarily* with all the aforementioned weight loss methods; however, I ultimately faced more devastating results than before I had begun my weight war. I lost an admirable 38 pounds when I reluctantly joined Weight Watchers with my mother in mid 1997. I was pleased with myself, however, I had never gone across what I call the *dark bridge*: I had never entered the proper state of mind I needed to reach my ultimate goal. Though I had success losing the 38 pounds, it took very little to get turned back around, far from ever fully making my way past that *dark bridge* to the other side of self-control.

After gaining back that 38 pounds, and 40 more on top of that, I found it necessary to return to Weight Watchers. I had done so much in that short time of *temporary* success, that I found it in my mind to try again. I tried and I failed. This was an upset that did more to me and my will power than I could have imagined. Set aside the fact that I did not lose any more weight, I lost all hope, and with that loss, I gained. My lack of mindset was what lay between me and completing my

trek across that *dark bridge* with *control* just beyond.

Mindset is the most powerful tool in every life obstacle. With your mind you are able to go far beyond any imagination. This is no wonder that your mind is the *key* to any bit of *proper* weight loss. Though up to this time in my life I had temporarily lost weight, I had never *truly* lost an ounce; it was simply an illusion.

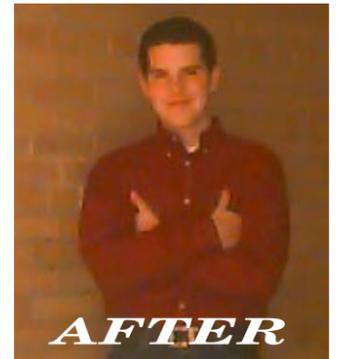
Because I was steadily approaching my senior year of the high-school-high-light-of-my-life and missing out on any enjoyment I should gain in my early years, I decided it time to pass that *dark bridge*. That was it! That was the key! "*I decided it was time.*" Now *was* the time; not tomorrow, not when I was thirty, but *now*. That was all I needed, and I *did* pass over that *dark bridge* of unclear thinking, and I grabbed onto self-control with every ounce of passion I could muster, and I succeeded.

I joined Weight Watchers a third time with some members of my family in April 2001. Not only was I one of the only males in the group (with weekly exceptions every now and then of a husband or two attending with a wife), I was the youngest. I grew embarrassed, and even now I am slightly embarrassed that I had to resort to "club meetings" to accomplish my goal; to the contrary, that is just what pushed me past and over

my "bridge" of doubt, at times of hardship. However, I am able to speak out-loud now for the first time because I *did* it. In passing my *dark bridge* to full self-control, I was able to grasp the mindset I so needed to become a success. The program set in motion at Weight Watchers was a key and important part of achieving my goal.

Joining this club did not ensure weight loss. It was simply a means to extend my self-control and to allow me the healthy ideas needed to succeed in reaching the conclusion of all my effort. It is not as easy as paying each week and attending the meetings, it takes your mind. It takes passing over your own *dark bridge* before anything will set you off. The program is based on a point system. A person is allotted so many points per day according to their weight. Depending on whatever food we eat, we must examine every available nutrition label and calculate how many points that particular food is. One must simply eat within the means of the program and stay true to himself while doing so.

As I see it, beyond the *dark bridge* I have passed is a cliff, a cliff to a straight fall back to where I was before: the mouth of the *dark bridge*. Every time you are placed back at this beginning, the bridge becomes



steeper and longer. I am standing just atop this cliff; I mustn't fall over. I need to keep that control I have tightly wound within my mind to keep myself at bay. Letting go of that control and letting myself be defeated once again is my biggest fear; and my biggest fear is something I will try every day of my life never to manifest itself.

I began my war at 6 feet 2 inches, 289 pounds, and I now approach the end of my rope. I have lost more than 100 pounds at the time of writing these words and weigh 189 pounds. I am able to wear a 32-34 pant size, when before I was wearing as large as a 42 waist. If you take any thoughts from my life-long example, let it be two words: *mind* and *control*. Without the state of mind to *need* weight loss, you *won't* get the **control**.

★ Opinion Poll ★

Do you prefer brains over beauty?



"Brains because I have enough beauty for the both of us," says Senior Jessica Spuler.



"Beauty is only skin deep," says business teacher Jill Warren.

"I think of brains because when you have brains, you are more beautiful on the inside," says Sophomore Lesile Bazhenow.



"Brains over beauty because I'm annoyed by stupidity," says Senior Richard Carrillo.

"Beauty because without that, there is no attraction, and I would never talk to them," says Senior Ryan Garcia.



LOOK

How many times a day do you look in the mirror?

This poll is out of the 100 Limestone students asked this question.

41% 0-9 times

21%

38%



Clothes Make the Man...and Woman

By Mike Nelson

They say that clothes make the man, but they may also make the woman. Clothing is a very important part of regular social life. There is a large difference between men and women's clothing.

The size of the selection is a huge difference between men and women. Women have so many more options than guys. Guys have the option of jeans, cargo, or khaki pants. The fad that is in would be the baggy kind of pants. It appears that the "preppy" look is in with a nice pair of boots to top it off. The whole "feel" of the male outfit is to be comfortable yet stylish.

With women, it is different. They have many more options than men. They can wear many kinds of outfits. Their options range from dresses to short pants to sweatpants, as has been the style in the past few years. Women have an extreme freedom to wear what they want to show their features that they choose to put forward.

Although women have more options than men, it is

the women that are judged by their clothes. You do not usually see guys commenting on how the other guy's thighs look in those jeans. I think that more options for women were created because they depend more on their clothing. Clothes on guys have more of a utility use. Women's clothes are made for style because they are judged more on what they are wearing.

I think it is a fair trade off. No one really cares what guys wear as long as it is not too extreme.

Women's clothes mean so much in their world. I am glad to be a guy, a guy that can get up in the morning and just worry about what kind of shirt I am going to wear because I have two different kinds of jeans, khakis, and cargo pants that I can wear and it will not even matter which I decide to wear for school. I feel sorry for women because they have to deal with clashing colors, out-of-style fades, and fashion "no-no's" that I am glad do not exist in a guy's clothing world.



6:30 A.M.- Woke up and hit the snooze button

6:39 A.M.- Got up and got dressed

6:45 A.M.- Ate breakfast

6:55 A.M.- Brushed teeth and combed hair

7:02 A.M. til 7:20 A.M.- Lounged around until I left for school

Total getting ready time-32 minutes



6:00 A.M.- I got up and got in shower

6:30 A.M.- Got out of the shower and brushed my teeth

6:33 A.M.- Picked out an outfit and got dressed

6:45 A.M.- Combed, blow-dried, and curled my hair

7:00 A.M.- Put on my make-up

7:10 A.M.- Put on socks and shoes and gathered my books

7:15 A.M.- Left for school

Total getting ready time- 1 hour 15 minutes

DANGER:

Losing Weight the "EASY" Way

ANOREXIA

May cause dry, pale, pasty flaking skin

May cause internal organs to become shriveled and shut down

Bones may weaken and become deformed

Fine, downy hair may begin to grow on parts of the body

May causes chronic constipation, alternating with diarrhea

May cause dehydration

BULIMIA

May cause teeth to slowly become discolored and rot away

Hair may become fine and fall out easily

Causes gastrointestinal problems

May cause swollen glands, puffiness in the cheeks, or broken blood vessels under the eyes

May cause salivary-gland inflammation and swelling (a "chipmunk face")

DIET PILLS

When medicine is eliminated from the body, it may cause depression and/or anxiety

May cause severe or mild acne

May cause erratic behavior

May cause sleeplessness or irritability

May cause high blood pressure, rapid heart rate, dizziness, or even heart attacks at young age

CRASH DIETS

May cause extreme fatigue or weakness in muscles

Almost *always* gain weight back on these types of diets

A continuation of these diets may make it harder to lose weight and to keep it off

May cause fatal malnutrition

May cause extreme stomach cramping and nausea

***The *Limelight* does not promote any of the above actions.**

Teens Beating Bartonville Boredom

By Christina Holt

It has been referred to by some as an epidemic in the quiet town of Bartonville. Teens in the area are experiencing boredom—to extreme degrees.

“Bartonville is not boring if you like gas stations and fast food, but if you like anything else, it is just boring,” said senior Brandon Bronson.

Our brains need challenges to be stimulated, which sometimes can lead to trouble. Boredom can lead to experimenting with drugs and alcohol according to some psychologists. After a while, the brain gets used to the excitement of alcohol and craves it.

To spark your creativity, here are some ideas for some good clean fun around Bartonville.

WHAT YOU THINK

Jenna Meischner, “I love to hang out with my best friends Mandy and Kelli and cause trouble.”

Angie Kominski, “I work eight hour days.”

Bridget Heitman, “I work and do stuff with my friends.”

Ashley Salm, “I do homework, but if I have time hang out at home and watch movies or hang out with friends.”

BOREDOM RELIEF

1. Play video games
2. Go out to eat
3. Visit dance clubs
4. Volunteer.
5. Taste test fast food
6. Have a food fight
7. Hang with friends
8. Go to a school basketball game and cheer on your Limestone Rockets

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Job of the Month

featuring....

The Career of a Super Model

You see spotlights, the flashing cameras, and the publicist waiting to see when you will make your next wrong move. What are you?

You are a model. Being a model sounds like an easy, glamorous job, but there is so much more than we know about this job.

There are three different types of fields that future models can practice when they are interested in modeling. There is print, runway, and on-off screen print.

The first of these three categories is print modeling. Print modeling is open to any model of any gender, age, size, height, and color. Print work appears in magazines and ads that people model for.

Models in print have to have the “look” that the company is searching for. An agency or company chooses many different types of looks; it just depends on society and the trend.

There are many different agencies that accept many different types of people, not just one type that can model. A model must be perfect from head to toe, but he/she can look like the average person.

The agencies are also concerned in much more than just print work. They hire all different types of models in all types of modeling fields.

Runway models must be at least 5’7” and slender. Sometimes the rules can be bent; however, it is very uncommon. These models work at the Broadway fashion shows and at the high designer fashion shows.

A runway model can be small town or big town and can be any age as long as he/she meets the above regulations. Many little girls dream of walking down that long aisle one day, (no, not the wedding aisle) but it is the hardest field to be chosen for.

The third type of modeling is on-off screen print. This is

all of the television and radio commercials that the public hears or sees.

If models are lucky enough to work in on-off screen print, they can be continually paid for the commercials regardless of the month, year, day, or hour.

On-Off screen is the easiest type of modeling because models can cut and edit the commercials and ads, making the model appear “perfect.” The truth is that models do not really look that good. A picture and a commercial are visually airbrushed into a perfect picture.

There are many different ways of getting paid in the modeling field. Models can get paid at a flat rate regardless how long or how hard they work. Another method is to pay models an hourly rate. These two types of payment are the most common.

The last way to get paid is by flat salary, and this method is typically used for on-off screen and commercials. Whenever the model’s commercial is aired, he/she receives a certain amount of money.

Making sure that the model gets paid is very important when working in the modeling field. Many different advertisers try to shortchange the models, so it is very important for them to know the warning signs by researching previous cases and jobs, which takes a lot of extra time.

However, because a model’s life is hectic between shoots, many models hire agents, personnel responsible for making sure the models are paid and treated fairly, to take care of their planning and finances.

A model has to pay taxes for all of the money that he/she makes, but he/she can get deductions for almost all of his/her expense. Once a model has been in the field a while, it is recommended that

he/she join the modeling union to make sure that he/she is paid fairly and treated properly.

There are many perks to being a model as well as drawbacks. Models’ lives are never really their own. The public and media usually know every move that they make and are usually there documenting it.

Relationships and modeling are difficult to balance because the media interferes and causes problems not common among the average citizen. Tabloids are also a major inconvenience in a model’s life because they exploit and print lies, creating a false image.

Being a model is fun, but it means hard work and dedication. Models have to be ready to give up their privacy, personal space, and shyness.

Modeling requires being perfect from head to toe and having complete self-confidence. Personality and character get the jobs.

Tips for starting career:

* Believe in yourself, the first step to success is believing you can.

* Hire a photographer to take your pictures.

* Once the pictures are taken, send them into your local agencies.

* Once you have worked a few minor jobs, send the pictures into a printer to form a composite.

-composite is a card of all of your information that you send to agents to get them to sign you.

Information given by Jessica Welu, Barbizon model

By Katie Sheldon

What: Madrigals
When: Dec. 6-9
Why: To view the various talents of the cast and to offer support to the LCHS Fine Arts Department



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Review of *The Hanged Man* by Francesca Lia Block

Book Central

with Colleen Johnson

CD master

Listening to Sevendust's amazing *Animosity*
With Zach Nelson

Angst, frustration, love, and growing up all play an active role in the lives of an average teenager. Likewise, those very emotions create the atmosphere in Francesca Lia Block's *The Hanged Man*. Block takes a more poetic approach to explaining this brooding and sometimes dark tale.

The story is about Laurel, a seventeen-year-old girl dealing with the memories of a painful childhood. Scarred from her past, her mental stability is called into question. She struggles to release herself from the trauma and attempts to understand her past experiences. This story narrates the path Laurel takes to confront her past and grasp control of her life. It tells of her downfalls as well as triumphs.

This book tells the story of a girl struggling with her inner emotions. In reality, these emotions are sometimes overlooked and not dealt with openly. Block uses poetry to tell this tale and turns the harsh realities into more subtle truths. It is very easy to follow. Once I started reading, it was hard to put down. It is easy



to get swept in by the lyrical rhythms and the way Block puts heavy emphasis on intricate description. Because of the book's poetic basis, it is obviously not your average novel. It's meanings and themes can be interpreted in a multitude of ways.

Francesca Lia Block is most

famous for her books in the Weestzie Bat series. She tends to take modern day occurrences and makes them seem like a fantasy or fairy-tale like story. One of her latest books, *The Rose and Beast*, is a compilation of actual fairy tales with a modern and abstract twist. *The Hanged Man* is abstract and poetic but also shows a darker side to Block's work.

I highly recommend this book; however, if the mere thought of reading poems turns you off, you probably will not like it.

I have also read other books by this author. All were good but not quite as well written as this one. The honest reason I checked this book out is because I thought it had an interesting cover. Upon reading it, I soon realized that the story was even more compelling than the cover.

"See I'm not what you, think I'm the one who'll, be what you never, thought would be nothin and now!" screams the chorus from the first single "Praise" off the latest CD from Sevendust.

This album has been greatly awaited since their last release *Home*. It shouldn't come as any let down with the band's usual crunchy power riffs, off-time double bass beats, and harmony to screaming lyrics. Aaron Lewis of Staind steps up to the mic to do backing vocals on the chorus of the eighth track "Follow."

"Angel's Son" is a song that was written in memory of James Lynn Strait, the lead singer of the band Snot, who was killed in a car accident. The song was originally released on the CD *Strait Up*, which was a whole compilation dedicated to James Lynn featuring many different metal stars.

When Sevendust moved the song to their album, they made a couple changes by making the first part of the song all acoustic guitars and vocals and the second half with all instruments playing out.

On the *Strait Up* CD, guitar parts are played by Mike Doling, who now currently plays for Soulfly. A couple of my favorite songs are "T.O.A.B," "Dead Set," and "Trust."

In the last couple months, Sevendust has been on the road headlining their tour with opening acts Fuel and Non-Point. Sevendust will be passing through Peoria in mid December to play a show at the Madison Theater.

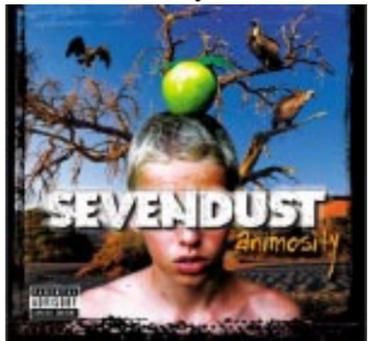
Sevendust has played numerous shows in the Peoria area the last couple years, and I've never been disappointed any of the times I've seen them.

All together Sevendust has put out another great album. It would fit well with any hard rock/metal fans music collection.

See Sevendust Live!!
Madison Theater - Dec. 13 - (\$21)
Tickets On Sale Now!!!

More Sevendust Music!!
Sevendust (self-titled)

Home
****WARNING: this CD is labeled with Parental Advisory. Be advised.****



a Hit or a Miss?

Are Greatest Hits compilations as power-packed as they should be...

By Chad Day

Whenever a best of or greatest hits album is released, there is one question that comes to everyone's mind... will it live up to its name? Many people also ask themselves why they should buy this CD when they already have all the songs? Are greatest hits albums really worth it?

Over the years best of albums have been released but were utter disappointments. Some artists today are trying to change that. Recent artists to release greatest hits albums are: Silverchair, Beatles, BeeGees, Backstreet Boys, and Green Day. Their albums have featured their most memorable songs from the beginning of their career to the present day, such as Green Day's *International Superhits*, which has the first song ever released and the last one. It features every released song from all four of

their platinum and multi-platinum records. Not one song was left out.

On the other hand, the Beatles *One* album features all of the Beatles number one hits. Earlier, before *One*, the Anthology featured certain tracks from all of the Beatles' old albums.

Some problems with some greatest hits albums are missing hits. For instance, on the Silverchair's *Best Of* album, the song "Suicidal Dreams," which was proclaimed one of the band's best, was missing. Where was it?

If music lovers really want to know if the greatest hits albums are worth it, they should ask themselves if they love the band enough. If they enjoy collecting their favorite bands' albums, they should definitely buy their greatest hits to complete their collection.

reel talk

with MIKE NELSON

Warner Brothers put out its next big movie with the release of *Thirteen Ghosts*. This is a state-of-the-art remake of the classic William Castle horror film about a family that inherits a spectacular old house from an eccentric uncle. There is just one problem: the house seems to have a dangerous agenda all its own.

Trapped in their new home by strangely shifting walls, the family

hunter who is attempting to right his past wrongs. There are also many other actors that fill in this great film.

Thirteen Ghosts uses great special effects that are a large portion of the scare factor. This movie was great because it did not follow the "scary movie" style that has been going on for the past few years. I was glad that WB steered away from the overdone "slasher" films that have been called "scary movies" in the recent past. The ghosts were done great and looked very life-like. The suspense was very high at certain points during the movie, and the action never stopped.

Overall, Director Steve Beck does a marvelous job in his first directional seat as he creates a dark, haunting environment for *Thirteen Ghosts*.

As the movie begins, viewers are thrown right in the middle of the plot but are soon taken by the story and caught up in this intriguing storyline.

The rest of the movie flows smoothly and the ending is a good closing.

Thirteen Ghosts is a great film that brings the scare back into the scary movies. With great acting, special effects, and storyline plot, this movie is a definite must see.



encounters powerful and vengeful entities that threaten to annihilate anyone in their path. Soon the family is joined by an offbeat ghost hunter who is determined to free the spirits imprisoned in the house.

and *Stark Raving Mad*, the recently short-lived sitcom. The beautiful bombshell Shannon Elizabeth stars as Tony's daughter. They are accompanied by Matthew Lillard, who plays Rafkin, the unstable ghost

Wrestling Mania

Limestone's season begins with young, but strong, team

Upcoming Schedule

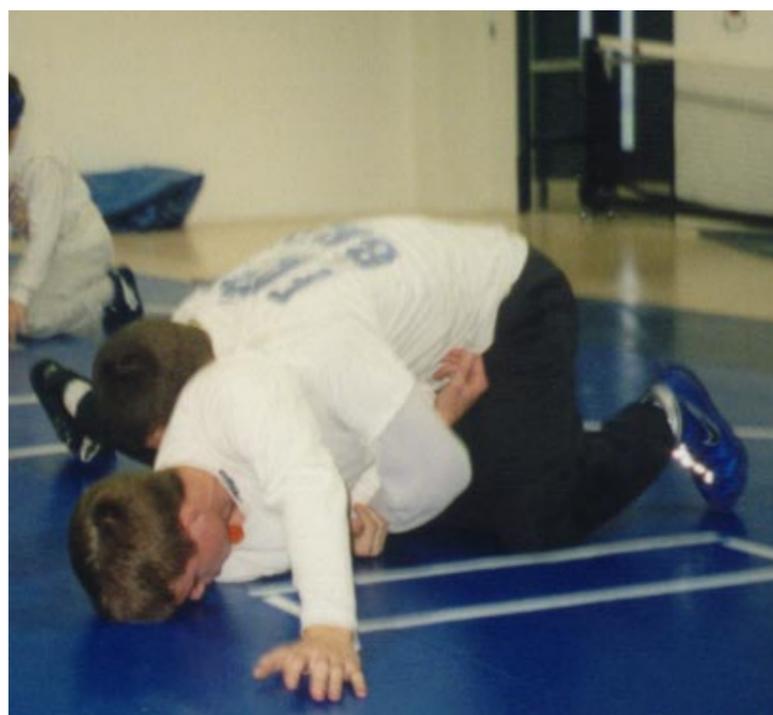
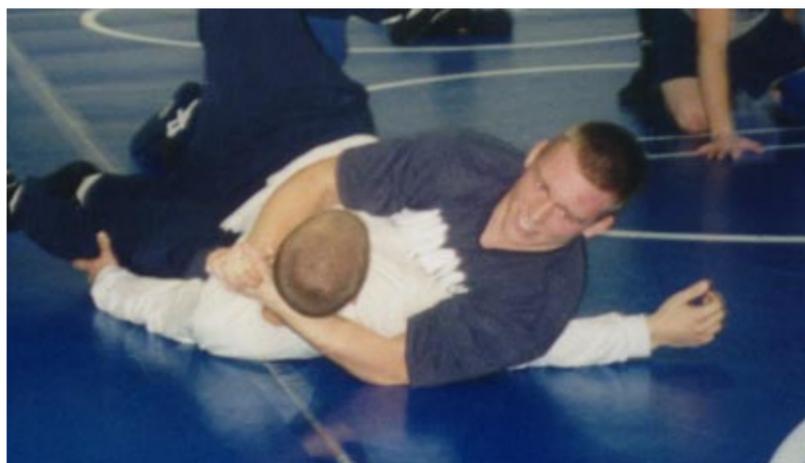
Thurs. Dec. 5 vs. Canton and East Peoria
5:00 pm at Canton

Sat. Dec. 8 vs. Ottawa (Fresh/Soph) Inv.
9:00 am at Ottawa

Tue. Dec. 13 vs. IVC & Metamora 5:00 pm
at Limestone

"We are pretty thin as far as a line up goes, but the guys we have are pretty good." Fresh/soph coach Jim Ryder

"This is the youngest team we've ever had. We have gotten second in conference the past two years. It is going to be difficult to do that again this year." Varsity Coach Dean Magro



WWF: Is man's soap opera in trouble?

By Michael Nelson

After being one of the hottest sports entertainment franchises for the last three years, professional wrestling is finally showing signs of slowing. It appears as if ratings and fan interests have hit their peak as the numbers have begun to fall.

The World Wrestling Federation has been the hottest federation since back in 1999 as it became as popular as ever. Their ratings on the USA networks were consistently in the 6.0 range, which equals about 8 million viewers. Wherever the WWF went on to perform their shows, there were sellout crowds. Pay-per-view buy rates were at an all-time high.

After being beat in the ratings by their rival WCW Company, the WWF had

decided to go towards a new direction in sports entertainment. Thus began the new WWF "attitude" phase that was directed toward the more mature audiences. If people were to turn on a random episode of *WWF Monday Night: Raw is War*, it would not be a unusual occurrence to see Stone Cold throwing up obscene gestures, people drinking beers, fireballs shooting from the ceiling, and even someone hanging from a symbol high above the ring. Although these were extreme actions and storylines, the public reacted as the new craze for professional wrestling began as ratings and company income began to pick up.

The World Wrestling Federation also used their popularity to push into new areas of entertainment. The WWF pushed two biographies from Mankind and

another biography of the Rock to number one of the New York Times best sellers list. They also started their own music label, Smackdown Record, and released two music CD's that made their way into the top 30 on the Billboards Music Charts.

As the WWF entered 2000, the flow continued as one of the most popular superstars, The Rock, hosted *Saturday Night Live*, and the show reached its highest ratings of the season.

Their new show on Thursday nights, *WWF Smackdown*, had consistently reached 5.0 ratings on network television, which was astounding considering that the show was going head-to-head with NBC's *Friends*.

A few months into 2001, the WWF seemed to be in a change. They had been with USA networks since 1993 but signed a new contract with

the changing TNN. They also cut their deal with Direct TV and will show no more pay-per-views on their systems. Within a month of moving to TNN, the ratings began to drop around 4.0 on Mondays, and the WWF began to panic. Vince McMahon, the third generation owner of the WWF, saw his new extreme XFL football league fail and cost his company fifty million dollars.

For once, the pay-per-view arenas were not completely filled with fans. It looked as if the WWF had reached its peak.

At press time of this edition of "Limelight," the WWF had just come off a very successful pay-per-view and a great "Invasion" angle that included their once rival company WCW.

They also just released the new *Smackdown 3: Just Bring It* video game that is already a

top seller among video games.

They have gone back to the drawing board and have come up with new ideas to try and boost their ratings back to where they used to be. They are beginning to shock again with new, more outrageous angles.

The ratings have started to slowly increase, but it is hard to tell what will happen in the upcoming months. With returning stars, like Stone Cold Steve Austin and Ric Flair, the WWF is beginning to develop a new fresh feel to their product.

In 2002, the Rock is also set to star in a major motion picture, *The Scorpion King*, which is a spin off the Rock's character in *The Mummy Returns*.

Only time will tell before we can see what the WWF can do with what appears to be their second wind in the sports entertainment world.