

Limestone Light

Limestone Community High School

Bartonville, IL 61607

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November 25, 2003

Automotive class gets behind the wheel



Photo by Mrs. Jeri Look

Limestone students Jason Barton, Mat Routt, and Mike Brooks check out the Navy's stock car. The stock car, along with a simulator and simulated track, travels to various schools throughout the United States.

By Kenny Wolf

On Tuesday, November 4, industrial technology teacher Mr. Bob Privratsky and his automotive classes learned hands-on about stockcar engines when the Navy sponsored stockcar came to Limestone.

Privratsky developed this idea because he wanted "to give students an opportunity to see firsthand a professional stockcar."

The Navy car was transported along with a stock car

simulator that students were able to drive for three laps on the simulated track.

The simulator was the highlight of the visit for many. "The simulator allowed students to drive three laps of a Charlotte, North Carolina racetrack," said Privratsky.

The simulator featured motion and sound, and even the crashes seemed very realistic.

The car Privratsky and his classes saw was a replica of the car that competed in the Busch Grand Nationals. Mr. Casey Atwood, the car's usual

driver, didn't accompany the car on Tuesday. Instead, a technical representative from the racing team traveled with the car, which was scheduled to visit another school in Indiana the following morning.

.....
 "[I wanted] to give students an opportunity to see firsthand a professional stockcar."

-Mr. Bob Privratsky

Privratsky, who has close ties to the Navy, wanted the stockcar to visit Limestone because he knew that there was a major interest in stockcars here in Bartonville because of the Speedway on Farmington Road.

The Navy stockcar, one of the twenty-nine replicas of the original car, travels to various schools throughout the United States to demonstrate how the stockcar is designed and how they run.

& up coming

December 2003

- December 1
American Legion Oratorical Contest- Board Room (6:30 p.m.)
- December 3
Early Dismissal at 1:45 p.m.
Madrigal Dress Rehearsal
Pre-School Graduation
- December 4
Early Dismissal at 1:18 p.m.
Madrigal Dinner
- December 5
No School- Teacher's Institute
Madrigal Dinner
- December 6
Madrigal Dinner
- December 7
Madrigal Dinner
- December 8
Key Club Board meeting- Room 15 (7:00 p.m.)
- December 9
Madrigal performance at Faith Missionary Church (fifth hour)
- December 10
Femmes Unir- Library (7:00 p.m.)
- December 11
Senior Citizen's Christmas Dinner
Key Club Meeting- Snack Bar (7:00 p.m.)
- December 12
Femmes Unir- set up
Subway "Restaurant Day"
- December 13
Femmes Unir luncheon with a Madrigal performance
- December 14
Limestone Christmas Party
Madrigal performance- Mt. Hawley Country Club
- December 15
Band Boosters- Library (7:00 p.m.)
LAFA meeting- Board Room (7:00 p.m.)
- December 16
Board of Education meeting- Board Room (7:00 p.m.)
- December 17
Early Dismissal at 11:15 a.m.
School Improvement Day
End of third six weeks
- December 18
Semester Exams
- December 19
Semester Exams
- December 20
Winter Break begins
- December 22
Key Club Holiday Party, TBA

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Staley runs to State

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Stop the restroom vandalism



This picture was taken from the inside of a stall in the girls' restroom in Science hall. The smudges are from paint that was used to cover obscene graffiti and bad language, some of which was directed towards LCHS students. As a direct result of the vandalism, the restroom was locked and restroom passes were revoked. If vandalism is to continue to occur in any restrooms, all restroom passes will end, and students will only be able to use the restrooms during the passing periods when teachers are available to supervise.

Please!! No more homework!!

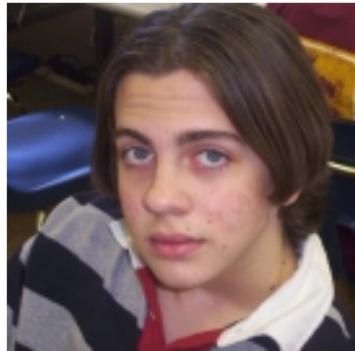
Junior year is hard. Yeah, it is. It is a fact of life that a vast majority of high-schoolers have to deal with. For example, the night before I wrote this article, I had to do more than fifty notecards, finish the final draft of an outline, read four pages in the book, complete a pre-calculus assignment, study for the test, study for a history test, and write a paper for photography, which is quite a workload. Add to that a play practice from 3-5, and it's one stressful night. I admit, some of that was my own nature; I procrastinate. Even so, that's a lot that has to be done in one night.

Luckily, today I've got most of it done. I didn't have time for the notecards, which I don't really use when I write a paper anyway, so I finished them in fourth through sixth periods. Add to that the fact that I had to study for the history test during first period, which I am sure teacher's do not appreciate.

I know I am not the only student who is overwhelmed. Homework, multiple tests to study for, and big projects that are due in two or more classes all at the same time is stressful. Is there anything the teachers can do to make our lives easier?

I know it would be difficult to orchestrate because there are several people in each department teaching the junior classes, but is it possible for the teachers to communicate and share their lesson plans?

For instance, maybe there could be a designated English



By A.J. Lund

day when the students in all English classes take their tests. The next day, history teachers can test their students, and the day after that, the math department gives their tests. This rotation would make it a lot easier for us, even if homework still piles up on most days of the week.

I believe that the well-rounded student not only earns good grades but also involves himself with extra-

curricular activities. By the time a student is in his junior year, he has more difficult classes and is involved with many more extracurriculars. Now that we have been here for two years and have grown accustomed to the Limestone environment, we naturally start becoming more involved. If this is the case, then why must junior year be so homework heavy when we have to start looking at colleges or potential work-places and study for all the standardized testing?

I'd say that I'm about average, Limestone-wise. I get decent grades, I have a few extracurriculars, and I almost never have any cash to spare. I know that the situation has to be worse for the all-star students because they have even more activities to work around, not to mention more accelerated classes and more pressure to get into a good school, or for the students who work full time after school while still managing to do homework and to study.

Personally, I would love to see this change a bit. I know it's unrealistic, but we have a tough year ahead of us and lots of planning to do. Can't we just have a break now and then?!

Opinion Poll

What is your favorite side dish for Thanksgiving dinner?

"Sweet Potato Pie because it's sweet, and I like pie."
-Freshman Derrell Bunigan

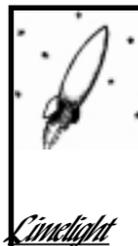


"Scalloped oysters (oyster dressing) because I grew up on it."
-Mr. Derek Richards, Band teacher

"Stuffing, My dad always cooked it for me!"
-Freshman Liz Williams



"Rhubarb Pie. It's saucy."
-Sophomore Jared Vogel



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Supporting Players uses drama to teach social issues to students

By Mallory Fawcett

The Student Prevention Team now educates students about social issues through a more "realistic" venue: Supporting Players.

Supporting Players, which consists of 27 LCHS students, uses drama to make people think about the dangers of suicide, depression, and bullying, among other social issues.

The supporting players travels to the area grade schools and perform audience-appropriate short skits that teach various social issues. After each skit, the audience is allowed to ask each performer (in character still) questions about the play. Once those questions are answered, the performers change out of character, and then the audience can ask them how they, as normal

teenagers, feel about the issues they discussed.

Playing a character that is unlike their real personalities can be very difficult for the supporting players. "It is very hard for me to be depressed (in the skits) and to have no self-esteem. I usually tell people what I think and stand-up for what I believe in," said sophomore Amanda Miklavic, who joined the Supporting Players because she saw them perform at Oak Grove West and thought it would be fun.

"I just act like I normally do. I don't really do anything different than I did before joining Student Prevention," Miklavic added.

The Supporting Players staff was taught how to perform by the Minnesota-based Cornerstone Production Company. The staff met at Alpha Park

Library for two days so the select group of SPT staff could learn the skits and how to perform them. "This group has done an amazing job! They are serious about performing and teaching others about real issues that face students today," said Mrs. Stephanie Decker, Student Prevention Coordinator.

Decker really enjoys working with students. She said "I take educating the students on drug and alcohol use very seriously. The SPT is a great group of students who work hard every week. I believe that knowing others who stay away from risky behaviors and learning about how to stay safe and strong is one of the most important arts at SPT, but also knowing how much fun we have is too."

Key Club celebrates Key Club Week

By Danielle Richmond

Key Club celebrated its annual Key Club Week November 3rd - 7th.

Key Club, led by Key Club student chairpersons sophomore Jennie Gilles and senior Alicia Smith and advisors Mrs. Amy George and Mrs. Kathy Burke, showed their Key Club Rocket spirit by proudly sporting fantastically designed Key Club tee shirts on Monday, November 3.

On Tuesday, November 4, the Key Club honored its members by decorating their lockers with streamers and colorful computerized signs.

On Thursday, November 6, the Key Clubbers showed Rocket pride by donating to charity by bringing in canned and boxed food to help feed those in need.

On the last day of Key Club week, Friday, November 7, Key Club wrapped up the end of a great week by thanking others who have supported and helped their program. They wrote thank-you cards to parents and guardians, thanking them for supporting their children and fellow Key Club members.

George is enthusiastic about having a great year. She said, "This year, Key Club has been expanded to include several new members, for which I am truly grateful. Because of this, I feel that Key Club is going to have yet another super year- for we have more helping hands to do favors for the good of others."

If any student is interested in joining Key Club, see Mrs. George or Mrs. Burke in Room 15 in the math hall.

NewsNotes

Students of the month recognized

Tech-Prep Student of the Month

Senior Adam Medina was selected as the tech-prep student of the month for October.

For his outstanding achievements, Medina will be awarded a savings bond, and his picture will be featured in the *Limestone Independent News*.

Tech-Prep Student of the Month

Senior Timber Clemons was selected as the tech-prep student of the month for November.

For her outstanding achievements, Clemons will be awarded a savings bond, and her picture will be featured in the *Limestone Independent News*.

Academic Students of the Month

Seniors Wade Dooley and Rachel Williams were named November's academic students of the month based on their academic achievements.

For their efforts in the classroom, Dooley and Williams will be awarded a savings bond, and their pictures will be featured in the *Limestone Independent News*.

Snowball to be held January 23 and 24

Snowball, the high school version of Snowflake and Snowflurry, is going to be held January 23 and 24.

If anyone is interested in taking part in this fun two-day event, please contact Mrs. Stephanie Decker, Prevention Coordinator, in her office in Room 14.

There will be a lot of fun activities that weekend. We will play games, sing songs, have food, and learn about drugs. There will be a lot of anti-drug message workshops, but there will also be other ones as well.

Rhetorical Rockets talking success at season tournaments

Speech team members were early risers Saturday, November 8th when they met at 6:45 a.m. to travel to a meet at Woodruff High School.

Although it was an early morning, they placed second overall in the large school division. "It was so exciting to see how our team has progressed since the beginning of the year," said sophomore Colleen Swanson. "I am looking forward to the rest of the season."

Key Club hosts coffee house

On Friday, November 14 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m., Key Club held its annual coffee house in the LCHS Snack Bar.

Although the evening was fun, Key Club donated the money made from the food sold that night to support the cystic fibrotic foundation.

Classes send Christmas cards to military

Mrs. Billie Madison, Special Ed teacher, and her English students are finding the holiday spirit by writing and sending Christmas cards and letters to military personnel.

There are 98 total soldiers in the Peoria area, all of which are stationed at the 106th Aviation located on Airport Road across from the CITGO gas station.

Madison's students will be sending cards to all of these and to the people that others know. Two of these 98 soldiers are Limestone graduates, Kevin George and Mark Rosenak.

The purpose of the cards and letters is to let the soldiers "feel good."

If you know someone who is stationed overseas for the holidays, turn in the addresses to Madison in Room 11. The class is also accepting donations of Christmas cards, stickers, and stamps.

LCHS recognizes honor students

Limestone honor students were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements on October 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Limestone students with a GPA of 3.6 or higher were given medals from the National Honor Society.

The following students were honored:

Sophomores

Kolton Abbott, Jessica Bamber, Amanda Barnabe, Amy Barnabe, Matt Bazhenow, Kayla Beckman, Jessica Bingham, Laura Blahnik, Dana Blase, Nick Bock, Jesse Burns, Devon Camp, Breanna Closen, Kaylee Dieckow, Andy Grace, Jenny Harper, Josh Haun, Ellen Heien, Samantha Heuermann, Kyle Hovey, Jessica Jenks, Katie Johnson, Lindsey Johnson, Holly Kettle, Brandy Kuna, Tricia Lofthouse, Aaron Lucas, Whitney Maher, Sarah Mason, Randall Matarelli, J.T. Meier, Amanda Miklavic, Erika Neal, Danny Otten, Sarah Rentsch, Nick Ricca, Kalie Robison, Laini Scofield, David Sellers, Melissa Sholl, Andrew Smith, Ryan Smith, Clay Staley, Jenna Stephens, Justin Stoller, Colleen Swanson, Emily Varichak, Kari Wallace, Megan Wendland, Brandon Wikoff, Danielle Wood

Juniors

Rachel Anderson, Nathan Applegren, Emily Ayres, Rachael Barlow, Barb Berg, Kim Brooks, Jessica Brosmer, Sahra Campen, Keith Corpus, Allison Cranford, Brittany Crichton, Lisa Faulkner, Tyler Flessner, Christine Grosse, Nathan Heiser, Andrea Hess, Ashton Hirst, Jessica Howle, Kayla Innis, Courtney Jackson, Sara Ketcherside, Kayleigh Kluesner, Stefani Keoppel, Andrew Lund, Robert Markle, Adam Monroe, Alex Motsinger, Joseph Mott, Lindsey Otten, Ashley

Pumphrey, Matt Reynolds, Amanda Ross, Brian Scheffler, Ashley Schneider, Lacey Seibel, Joe Seiler, Zach Stein, Stephanie Taylor, Tara Turner, Richard Velde, Bill Zilch

Seniors

Katy Atwell, Brooke Barnabe, Leslie Bazhenow, Amy Borland, Beth Brodt, Jeremy Carter, Timber Clemmons, Megan Daxenbichler, Elizabeth Diaz, Michael Ding, Wade Dooley, Paige Ensinger, Michael Flatt, Jennifer Griffin, Courtney Hampton, Gil Harmon, Adam Heien, Kelsy Jones, Melissa Jones, Benjamin Koll, Ryan Linsley, Kristin Lofthouse, Courtney Lowe, Mike Lucas, Ryan Lucas, Dane Marcussen, Shane McSimov, Kiley Moore, Christina Moran, Tyler Mullen Scott Mullvain, Jessica Nelson, Tara Neltner, Adam Niedermeier, Ryan Oedewaldt, Chelsey Otten, Robert Pierce, Amanda Purdum, Derrick Rasbury, Ashley Risius, Eric Roberts, Tiffany Robertson, Matt Rupert, Holly Sanders, James Sellers, Emily Shaw, Gary Shields, Christopher Simmons, Jennifer Sprowls, Kirsten Stoens, Michelle Stoller, Nicholas Swanson, Sara Swanson, Dianna Taylor, Robby Terlesky, Brice Turner, Nicole Turner, Danny Vernon, Rachel Williams, Joshua Wright

To do or not to do... Everyone Makes Mistakes...

English 1 classes listen to teens share their personal stories about mistakes

By Megan Wendland

Limestone, along with Mr. Clint LaFary and Miss Kris Tinnon, welcomed three special guests on Thursday, October 9, 2003. Ms. Erin Duffy, Stephanie Way, and Jonnie Tredway came to Bartonville from Bureau Valley Alternative School to warn teens in English 1 about the dangers of drug use and getting caught up with the wrong people. The students all listened as Tredway told his unforgettable story and said, "I know things can get bad, but they will get better."

Tredway, who had never really had a normal life, has been kicked out of Bureau Valley three times since he started there in sixth grade. The way people are brought up often influences the way they choose to live.

He was born in the "middle of the hood" in East Lansing, Michigan. Then his family moved to a "better" neighborhood where Tredway didn't fit in. He was repeatedly arrested for robbery and selling drugs. He spent a total of nine months in Saint Charles, a juvenile prison. He also spent five months at Harrisburg locked in a room for twenty-three hours a day. Things got so bad that he actually counted the tiles on the walls and the holes in the ceiling. Tredway said, "You think it's never going to happen to you, but it will catch up with you."

Tredway didn't change his ways and continued to party. His parents were never really there for him. "They weren't parents," he said. Once, after a night of rough partying, thirteen-year-old Tredway and

his two fourteen year old brothers returned home to a house without parents. They had packed up and left.

With nothing to live for anymore, he began using heroin. It took him three weeks in bed to fully recover from the withdrawal. He said, "It's a sick like you've never felt before."

After his incidents with heroin, he began to use drugs like acid and ecstasy. Tredway and his brothers went to a party one night, and he took forty hits of acid by himself. He commented that it was the scariest thing he had ever been through. "I couldn't tell strangers from my own brothers," he said. He was at the highest peak of his intoxication for three days and was high for three weeks. He still sees objects that aren't there as a result. Also, the ecstasy left a hole in his brain that may never heal up.

By the time he was about fourteen, Tredway had been to every jail around his home. He had acquired thirteen felonies, and only four will be erased when he turns eighteen due to their severity. He had lost everything because he made the decision to use drugs.

Tredway was offered the chance to turn his life around after he met a girl who introduced him to her parents. Her parents were so generous that they let him stay at their home. They also tracked down his parents and took custody of him. He had found a place to settle down. He said, "No matter how long it rains for, the sun will shine eventually."

He met Duffy when he started at Bureau Valley, and

they couldn't stand each other. Eventually, though, she helped him through a fight and realized what a great kid he was. "She's got a place in my heart. She's a part of me until I die. Ms. Duffy, Mr. LaFary, and my guardians helped change me, but I couldn't do it for anyone else. I had to do it for myself," said Tredway. LaFary helped him to see that there were other things to do besides drugs and partying. "There's a lot of teachers who get in your business because they care," he said.

Once, some of the new kids at Bureau Valley decided to get back at Tredway for being mean to them. He and LaFary had been on a bike ride and went home. The new kids put oregano in LaFary's glove compartment and the police came and found it. Tredway, who had no idea it was a trick, wasn't going to let him take the blame. He told the cops it was his and planned to go back to Saint Charles for LaFary. "Some things are worth fighting for, but you've got to pick your battles wisely," he said. He thought that if LaFary made a difference in his life, he could do it for other kids. Tredway was called down to the office and told it was a trick, though, and he got to stay at school. It just shows that even though problems came up in Tredway's life, he still had the compassion to help out someone who helped him. "If somebody does something for me, then I'm going to do something for them," he said.

Tredway really has turned his life around. He goes to school every day, whereas he used to go only two to three

days a month. He is in his second year of high school and will graduate this year at age seventeen. He has carried a 3.5 GPA since he started high school at Bureau Valley. Tredway still parties sometimes but says he tries his best to stay away from the drugs. He can't turn his back on the friends that were there when he had no one else. Now his friends come to him for advice.

Way, who is also seventeen, was born in Oregon and moved to Illinois about a year ago. She moved in with her mother because she wanted to make a change in her life.

One of Way's biggest mistakes happened one night at a party. She heard a girl disrespecting one of her guy friends and got into a fight with her. After that, she thought everything was settled. However, the girl confronted her at school, and Way maced her. She was charged with battery for her acts.

At fifteen, Way was living by herself. She had been living with her grandparents, but after all her trouble, they kicked her out. "I broke their hearts when I stole stuff," she said. All she cared about was partying and the next time she could get high. Way went to school most of her freshman year. Then, she went two weeks of her sophomore year and dropped out. She decided to make things like drugs a bigger priority than school. She thought that nothing mattered but getting high and being with her friends.

She decided when she moved to Illinois that she was going to be different and

become a better person. She didn't want to have to struggle anymore. She said, "Keep trying. Not every problem is the end of the world."

Now, Way likes to go to school every day. The atmosphere at school makes her more ambitious. She doesn't associate with anyone who does drugs. She has a job and tries to keep herself busy with positive activities, such as running and shopping. Way also preaches to her little sisters about life choices because she doesn't want them to make the same mistakes as she did.

These two teens now have something to live for. They like the fact that they can work for things and see progress. Tredway and Way never planned for tomorrow because they didn't know if there would be a tomorrow. Now, they look forward to every day of their lives.

Success stories like these are the greatest. If more people could come around and make something of their lives, it would be amazing. Just because people may have a problem doesn't mean they just need to quit trying. "No matter what the situation is, don't give up," said Tredway. Way said, "Everyone makes mistakes sometime in their life."

Just remember that. Everyone does make mistakes, and those mistakes can either ruin a person or make them stronger. That person has to be the one to decide what happens.

Teen Perspective



Ciara Lawson, senior:
"The care and devotion that some teenagers do have versus the teachers that don't."



David Sellers, sophomore:
"My peers!"



Caroline Miller, sophomore:
My family affects my decision making.



Vanessa Hearn, senior:
"The care of my parents and friends and teachers. And seeing the effects of bad choices by other people."

What factors affect your decision making process?

... that is the question

Steps for Decision Making



1. Stop, Relax, and Think!

2. Define the problem. Try saying it in one sentence. Remember to include your role.



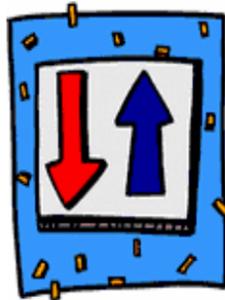
3. Think of a list of ideas. Don't worry about which will work and which won't. Just come up with a long list.

4. Narrow down the list. Ask yourself which ideas make sense.



5. Think of the positive and negative parts of each idea. Try to think of each part and how it might work.

6. Choose the best idea. Ask yourself which idea makes the most sense and feels the most comfortable to you.



7. Make a plan and try it! Think the plan through. Ask yourself: Who can help me with this problem? What do I need to do? Where do I begin? When will I work on this problem?

Courtesy of www.faculty.ssfs.org/~jenniferc/parenting

Effective Decision Making: Key to Success



By Casey Verkler

Decisions, decisions, decisions...

These are something we all may try to avoid as much as possible because they can be so darn difficult to make. However, that may not always be the case, for some decisions are easy. For example, it sure is easy to say "No, thank you" when mom tries to pawn off week old leftovers for dinner. Now, that isn't a decision we spend a lot of time thinking about. Most of us just pass the bowl as fast as we can.

Do you realize that we are where we are in life because of the choices we have made? Every minute of every day we make choices, and our lives are the sum total of those choices. One choice leads to the next until it snowballs into a whole history of choices that all affect our life in one way or another. This process is how we create our future.

We do have the power to create our lives by the choices we make. Every day we choose what to wear, what attitude we will go through our day with, how much or how little work we will accomplish, and whether or not we will be living that day in the past, in the present, or in the future.

People tend to waste enormous quantities of time living in the past. They live with pain and anger from past actions that were done to them or by them. Anger is dangerous to a mind when making decisions.

Anger poisons our minds with depression and fear, causes damage to our relationships, and gives us a low self-esteem. It harms our spirits because we cannot grow and reach our full potential when we are unforgiving of ourselves as well as others.

Forgiving does not mean that we should ignore or forget what was done to us nor does it mean that we forget the actions we took which we now regret. It simply means that we gather the knowledge from those experiences and come to peace

with the past so that we can move on.

Even if you have made poor decisions in the past, it is never too late to change in order to make the next decision you are faced with, a positive one. Poor choices in life are merely a result of poor judgment. A few steps, courtesy of the NCAA, will assist you while making good, responsible decisions.

*First, you have to make sure that the decision is based upon accurate, current information. Otherwise, your choice on the matter will be irrelevant.

*Second, you must be fully aware that the importance of the responsibilities associated with the decision are clear, and you must have a positive sense of your physical, mental, social, financial, and legal well being.

*Finally, you must take into consideration the needs of others, now as well as in the future.

Peer pressure is something that everyone will have to deal with at one point in time or another. Whether it be intentional or not, peer pressure will take its toll on your decision making process. Peer pressure is often associated with drugs and alcohol usage, but it can also appear in many innocent, decision making situations, such as deciding whether or not to join an organization or to play a particular sport.

However, peer pressure doesn't always have to be a bad concept. Peer pressure plays a big role in determining who you are and how you dress, talk, and act. It is always good to listen to other's opinions, especially to those you love and trust, but you have to make sure you're not being closed minded to a different perspective of life and people.

With all that in mind, make effective choices in your day-to-day life. You'll really appreciate the outcome of the decision in which you used your best judgment on.

"The mind gives us thousands of ways to say no, but there's only one way to say yes, and that's from the heart."

- Anonymous

"There is no such thing as a free ticket; every decision has both opportunity and cost."

- Anonymous

"A man's judgement is best when he can forget himself and any reputation he may have acquired and can concentrate wholly on making the right decisions."

- Raymond Spruance

"Nothing is more difficult, and therefore more precious, than being able to decide."

- Napoleon Bonaparte

"Life is no more than a product of one's own decision making."

- Les Brown

Up Close and Personal

featuring
Lacey Gonzales

By Megan Wendland

Do you believe that your talents can take you anywhere in the world you want to go? Do you think that if you express yourself, life can take you anywhere?

Freshman Lacey Gonzales has had the opportunity to live the dreams of many people. She travels the world doing what she loves best. Gonzales plays the violin with the SIVE Suzuki Stings tour group, which is directed by her aunt.

Gonzales began playing the violin when she was just eight years old. Her Aunt Allison, who has played the violin her whole life, encouraged her to begin playing. Allison is now a violin teacher.

Gonzales really enjoys playing. "It's interesting, and it is very different from what everyone else does. It's unique," she said. She can play all sorts of different

things. "[I play] any piece my aunt picks out for me when I visit her in Saint Louis."

The group Gonzales tours with began traveling last summer. "I don't play then; I only help out, but I know all the music," she said. She has been to both London and Scotland with the tour group. "We also played a recital in Saint Louis for Vice President Dick Cheney."

Traveling to different places has changed Gonzales's life in many ways. "I realized that the world is so different in

other places. It really opens your eyes to want to experience more," she said. "I've learned to be more sophisticated, and that can take you a long way."



Her family is always there to help in any way when she needs them. However, Gonzales said,

"Most of the time, I try to figure it out on my own."

Next summer, Gonzales will venture to France to play her violin. Although she has this talent, she said she doesn't want to continue with a

career in music. She would rather be an actress.

Gonzales also enjoys anything else that has to do with music. She plays sports, too.

Gonzales expresses her talent for everyone in a wonderful form, by bringing music into the world. She said, "I'm not that great at it, but I think people should see that I actually have some talent."

Everyone, no matter who they are, should face the world with the talent they have. "Show them what you got. There's no reason to hide it," said Gonzales. She's right! Show others what you can do. You will never truly know what you are capable of doing until you attempt at reaching your biggest goals and facing your worst fears.

Class gets in holiday spirit by helping TAPS

By Aaron Ogle

Recently, one of Limestone's newest teachers, Mrs. Sharon Mower, has been doing something special. Mower and her students, who initiated the project, have been helping the Tazwell Animal Protection Service (TAPS).

Mower's classes are collecting shredded paper to be used as animal cage lining. Mower said, "This is a student generated project to help animals in need." She hopes that this project will create a better awareness of animals in need and to help motivate students.

The class was visited by Mrs. Trish, the director of TAPS. She spoke to them about the animals and the supplies they need. It is not surprising that Mower is involved in this project. As one of nine kids growing up, she and her siblings had many pets, including dogs, cats, turtles, rabbits, birds, hamsters, horses, snakes, fish, and whatever else they could find. Her love of animals continues today with her three dogs, two cats, two birds, two horses, fish, and a snail.

Mower's students are being rewarded for their efforts by having an animal named after them.

TAPS is a non-profit organization, so your donated items and volunteer work is greatly appreciated.

Any students wishing to volunteer at TAPS can get an application from Mower in Room 1.

TAPS Wish List

- Canned cat and dog food
- Dry kitten and puppy food
- Laundry detergent
- Dog and cat toys
- Leashes and collars
- Antibacterial soap
- Latex soap
- Giant O-Cello sponges
- Clay cat litter
- Bleach
- Kitten formula
- Old towels, bath mats, and blankets
- Latex gloves
- Shredded paper

**the items in bold are greatly needed for the pets

Career Corner

Pizza Hut offers rewarding job experience and competitive salary

By Kenny Wolf

If you are like most Limestone students, then you have probably been to Pizza Hut before. While you were there, did you ever consider what it would be like to be responsible for everything that went on there?

This month, I interviewed Lisa Devall, an assistant manager at Pizza Hut on Garfield in Bartonville. Devall has been an assistant manager at Pizza Hut for about a year now, and it didn't sound to me like she was going to be looking for another job anytime soon.

Even though most people stereotype fast food workers as young, uneducated losers, there are many people that make a very good living from working their way up the "fast food ladder."

When I asked Devall what her main duties were at the restaurant, she told me that her everyday duties included "managing inventory, sales numbers, and delivery time." Basically, it is Devall's job to make sure that Pizza Hut doesn't run out of pepperoni, file bankruptcy, or deliver your pizza late!

Devall started as a part-time pizza deliverer just for a second job and a little more money. When she got laid off from her regular full-time job, she began delivering pizzas full-time. Soon after that, she was offered a position as a shift manager. From there, it was only a matter of time until she obtained her current position as assistant manager.

Devall said that working your way up the ladder and getting the experience is the most beneficial way of getting a managerial position. "Sometimes we hire inexperienced managers, but usually [managers] have to work up the ladder." Prospective managers can only be hired if they have had experience in a fast food management position in the past.

When I asked Devall what employees were generally paid, I cringed before I found out about the additional benefits and raises. "Most cooks, drivers, and dishwashers start out at minimum wage. Starting shift managers could expect to make between six and seven dollars an hour. Assistant manager and

manager positions are salary wages and can be started at whatever they want to give us."

Even though these wages wouldn't buy a mansion on a thousand acres, it is a competitive salary with a very nice incentive and bonus package. Pizza Hut offers a raise every six months and a very nice benefit package. Benefits, which are given to all Pizza Hut employees not just the managers, include insurance, paid vacation, flexible scheduling, competitive wages, and a free meal every day you work four or more hours. I am pretty sure that the latter perk is my favorite. For employees over the age of 21, there is a 401K plan provided. These benefits compensate for the hourly wages.

Devall has had no secondary schooling, she has only a high school degree. "Experience is much more important than college in this line of work," says Devall.

Devall's favorite part of the job is the teamwork she witnesses and takes part in with the other employees.



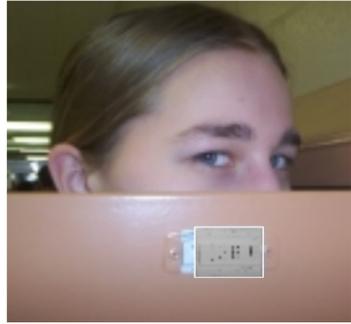
In the Spotlight with Katy Atwell

By Jerry Turpin

For nearly four years now, senior Katy Atwell has been involved in the theater department here at Limestone. With all of the experience she gathered here and the connections that she needed, she found herself a job at the Apollo theater.

In September of 2002, former Limestone student Jarrod Bainter told Atwell that the theater was looking for somebody to work for the opening show *I Do! I Do!* and told her to ask Andrew Driscoll, the theater's owner. Needing a job, she went down to the theater that same night and has been working there ever since.

The only thing that Atwell advises somebody wanting to



work at the Apollo to do is to know what you are doing. "It can be very frustrating if we get someone new that we have to teach everything to. Try to get some outside experience," said Atwell.

Theater takes a lot of responsibility, and you need to have an understanding of how a theater works and be available for all performances and rehearsals. Other requirements depend on the positions that are available.

Although each show has its good and bad points, Atwell's

favorite show thus far has been *Songs for a New World*. She said, "This was the first show that I actually got to watch every night. The people were excellent, and the show itself was a favorite of mine before it even came to the Apollo."

While at the Apollo, Atwell has been involved in the shows *I Do! I Do!*; *The Glass Menagerie*; *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*; *Proof*; *Songs for a New World*; and *The Last 5 Years*.

Atwell's dedication and experience in the technical side of theatrical arts has helped her land a job working at Peoria's very own professional theater. If you want to work at the Apollo yourself, her only advice to you is to learn as much about the theater as you can. "The more you know, the more you can do."

Fools entertains fools like me

By Ian Henderson

"WOW, those lights were so COOL! I can't wait to see what they'll do next year!" Those are just some of the massive raves I heard leaving the 7:30 performance of *Fools* on Saturday, November 7.

I was originally there to help out with the tickets, but I decided to stay and watch. I figured it would be entertaining, and boy, was I right. I knew after the first five minutes that this was going to be great! The comic timing was exquisite, and I heard every line crisp, clean, and clear. It was as if I were standing right next to the performers. I don't think there was more than three minutes between the outbursts of laughter.

I must say, I was very pleased with the overall performance, which was directed by Mr. Kris Adams. The first act alone was worth the price of the ticket. Senior Kiley Moore, who played Sophia Zubritsky, had all the cuteness of a lost kindergartener. Senior Zack Guiliano, who played Leon

Tolchinsky, had no trouble finding energy and was quite believable as the school master.

Senior Melissa McCoy played Snetsky, the sheep loser. She had an abundance of energy herself and was as funny as a confused eighth grader in a science class. I know now that if senior Sara Swanson, who played Lenya Zubritsky, and senior Brian Beach, who played Dr. Zubritsky, are anything like their characters, I wouldn't leave them with a dead gold fish, let alone another human being.

The second act was just as good as the first, if not better. In my opinion, freshman Wes Urish as the Magistrate was exceptionally funny in the wedding scene, and I don't know anybody else that can walk hunched over the way he was let alone act.

Senior Holly Sanders, the postWOMAN Mishkin; sophomore Wesley McKinney, the butcher Slovtich; and junior Tara Turner, the vender Yenchna; had a numerous amount of funny lines to offer from the peanut gallery.

All in all, I found no problem; the play was absolutely exceptional. Junior Joe Seiler did a wonderful job with the lights, and Jerry Turpin's art design for the tickets and publicity posters were great.

I loved the set! The wallpaper that went as far the the characters could reach was a great example of the town's stupidity. Come on! How hard is it to figure out how to stand on a ladder to finish the rest of the wall?!

Mr. Wagner, along with the cast and crew, did a superb job on creating the atmosphere.

I feel sorry for anyone that didn't get to see the play. You missed a GREAT ONE!

Attention All Writers

Have you ever wanted to see your name in print? Have you ever wanted to brag that you had one of your creations printed in a newspaper? Now is your chance to be published!

Submit an original poem or short story to Mrs. Oleson in Room 31 or in the folder outside room 212. Articles must be school appropriate and must be the original work of the student.

Writer's Block

Featuring Craig Kowalski



Freshman Craig Kowalski enjoys writing many different genres of literature. He began writing poems and stories when he was in the fifth grade. He is inspired by people, especially those he reads about in books.

Pre-Test Day

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You're gonna pass,
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But wait!
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I can't remember!
Did I review with a buddy?
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I couldn't do it. I didn't get it!
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Sports Shorts

By Aaron Smith and Matt Wilson

Rockets fall short in play-offs

"We showed a lot of heart. There are not many teams who would have battled like we did," said head football coach Loren Peacock about the play-off game against the Canton Little Giants, which ended the 2003 football season.

The Rockets played a great game against Canton but lost 38-20, leaving Canton with a record of 10-0. The Rockets had a regular season record of 5 wins and 4 losses. All of the Rockets' losses came from teams that made it to the play-offs. "We played very good at times and showed some promise, but at other times we were real inconsistent," said Peacock.

Leading the team in receptions this year were senior Jacob Fouts and senior Jimmy Pennell. Senior Nick Grey and junior Austin Rager led the team in rushing yards, and senior Josh Rebbec and Grey led the team in tackles. Congratulations Rockets for making it to the play-offs this season.

Williams signs with Wisconsin

On Wednesday, November 12, 2003, senior DeAaron Williams signed with the University of Wisconsin. Williams was offered a full ride to attend the defending Big 10 Champions school.

Williams hopes to make it to the State tournament before he leaves Limestone. He said, "I think we've got the best Sectional in the state, hands down." In March, Williams wants to be holding a state championship trophy.

Staley advances to coveted State Finals

By Aaron Smith

Cross country runner, sophomore Clay Staley, placed 186th out of 251 competitors with a time of 16 minutes and 12 seconds at the Illinois State Finals at Detweiller Park on Saturday, November 8. Staley advanced to State after placing 11th at Sectionals with a time of 15 minutes and 43 seconds.

Staley has been running cross country since seventh grade. "My mom made me join the team to get into shape for basketball," said Staley.

Going to State isn't something new for Staley, who went to State in track his 7th grade year, where he ran the 400 meter dash and the 1600 meter run. He then went to State in cross country his 8th grade year, where he ran the 800 meter run and the 1600 meter run. He finished 18th in the state.

Staley has made it to State because of hard work and determination. He practices seven days a week, jogging two to three miles on Saturday and Sunday. He also

runs in many off-season races and plans to run in the Iowa History Farm Run, the Jingle Bell Run, the Marquette Trail Run, and the Footlocker Regional in Wisconsin.

During the off-season, Staley plays basketball, trains, and stays in shape for the upcoming cross country



season.

Staley's hard work also led him to beat the old Alpha Park course record with a time of 16 minutes and 19 seconds and to achieve the goals that he set for himself this year, such as going to State as a sophomore and

beating alum Robert Emmons's time.

Some of Staley's goals for the future are to go to State in cross country and track the next two years and to get his three mile time down in the 14 minute range before he graduates.

The night before a meet, Staley eats the right foods and makes sure he gets plenty of sleep. "I watch running movies and go to bed before nine o'clock," said Staley.

The morning of a race, he eats a healthy breakfast so that he will have plenty of energy for the race. Staley also likes to read before he runs so that he can relax.

Staley says, "When I run, I think about catching up to the people in front of me and staying in front of the people behind me."

Staley is a great young athlete, and with his hard work and determination, he will achieve many of the goals he sets for himself.

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Fall Sports: Mid-Illini All-Conference

First Team

Football: Jimmy Pennell
Football: Josh Rebbec
Football: Jacob Fouts
Cross Country: Clay Staley
Volleyball: Ashton Swearingen
Soccer: James Bartell
Golf: Travis Dixon

Second Team

Football: Jake Payne
Football: Richard Steckens
Football: Nick Grey
Football: Austin Rager
Volleyball: Stephanie Redmon
Soccer: Kyle Holmes

Special Mention

Football: Ryan Lucas
Football: Brice Turner