

# Limelight

Limestone Community High School

Bartonville, Illinois 61607

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December 17, 2004

## Madrigal celebrates 31 years



*Lord and Lady, Alex Motsinger and Shayanna Jacobs, enter the Great Hall to kick off the 2004 Madrigal dinner festivities. Madrigal ran from Thursday, December 9 to Sunday, December 12.*

## Village of Bartonville passes ordinance

### Stiffer penalties for underage tobacco users

**By Megan Wendland**

On November 11, 2004, Bartonville Mayor Marcia L. Markwalder, along with the Village Board of Trustees, passed Ordinance 1407, a law prohibiting the sale to, purchase by, and possession or consumption of tobacco products by minors in the Village of Bartonville.

The ordinance contains five sections, which depict exactly what is expected from the people of the village.

Section 1 defines a tobacco product. This is defined as being any substance containing tobacco leaf, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, or dipping tobacco.

Section 2 states the prohibitions. It is now unlawful in Bartonville for anyone to sell, offer to sell,

or deliver any tobacco product to anyone under the age of 18. It is unlawful for anyone under 18 to buy tobacco products, especially under a false name or identification. It is also unlawful for anyone under 18 to have or use any tobacco product.

Section 3 is an exception to the rule. It states that under the supervision of a parent or legal guardian, that minors are allowed to have and consume tobacco products, as long as it is in the parent or guardian's home.

Section 4 states the penalty that will be assessed if one has violated Section 2. If a person sells or gives a minor tobacco, he will be fined \$150.00 for the first offense and \$750.00 for each offense after that, within one year of the first

offense. If a person under the age of 18 purchases tobacco or are found with tobacco, he will be assessed a \$25.00 fine for the first offense, \$50.00 for the second offense, and \$100.00, when two or more offenses have occurred within the last year.

Section 5 states that the ordinance went into action after its passage on November 11, 2004.

Superintendent Bill Beach believes kids need to understand that they will not be allowed to smoke within the school without facing both disciplinary actions from the administration as well as criminal consequences with the Bartonville Police Department.

Beach stated, "I spoke with Chief Fengel about how to enforce the law. Any kids

caught will be referred to the Bartonville Police Department. It is imperative that kids understand that smoking is against city law."

Many people do not realize the toll that tobacco can take on their lives. Over time, it can be just as damaging and deadly as any other drug.

Beach said, "A lot of people do not equate tobacco use with drug use. It takes a terrific toll, as far as medical expense and disease, for kids who choose to begin smoking."

This habit is a problem at LCHS. It is the hope of everyone involved that it will decrease the number of minors who begin smoking. Beach said, "Hopefully this will stop this chain and get kids away from tobacco use because it really is just devastating."

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**& up  
coming  
January 2005**

January 3  
No school  
January 4  
School resumes  
Musical auditions: Rm. 79, Auditorium (3:00 p.m.)  
January 5  
Musical auditions: Rm. 79, Auditorium (3:00 p.m.)  
IMSA class: Library (4:00pm)  
January 6  
Musical auditions: Rm. 79, Auditorium (3:00 p.m.)  
Key Club meeting: Rm. 15 (7:15 a.m.)  
January 8  
IMSA field trip: Challenger Museum, Bloomington (TBA)  
January 10  
Key Club board meeting: Rm. 15 (3:00 p.m.)  
January 11  
Board of Education meeting: Board Room (7:00 p.m.)  
January 12  
Curriculum committee meeting: Library (2:50 p.m.)  
Talent Show auditions: Auditorium (3:00 p.m.)  
IMSA class: Library (4:00pm)  
Femmes Unir: Library (6:00 p.m.)  
January 13  
Key Club meeting: Snack Bar (7:00 p.m.)  
January 17  
No School: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
January 18  
Pre-registration in classes  
Key Club board meeting: Rm. 15 (7:15 a.m.)  
Speech team Mid-Illini tournament (TBA)  
January 19  
Pre-registration in classes  
IMSA class: Library (4:00pm)  
January 20  
Pre-registration in classes  
Key Club meeting: Rm. 15 (7:15 a.m.)  
January 22  
Wrestling team Mid-Illini tournament: LCHS (9:00am)  
January 23  
Talent Show dress rehearsal: Auditorium (2:00 p.m.)  
January 25  
Board of Education meeting: Board Room (7:00 p.m.)  
January 26  
IMSA class: Library (4:00pm)  
Talent Show: Auditorium (7:00 p.m.)

## “Just Friends?”

### Male/female platonic friendships are possible

By Danielle Richmond

High school is rough. If there's one thing that I've learned in my two and a half years as a high school student, it's that. It's not so much the work that I'm talking about here. It's the social pressure.

You would think that once you reach this particular age, people would start to realize that the novelty of 6<sup>th</sup> grade had worn off. But they don't. People are acting the same as always, clinging to the same old ideas and ways of seeing things.

I'm not talking about everyone, just some people. Believe it or not, there are some people out there that still have not grown up even though they are now in high school. They, in all of their immature, sixth grade ways, have more fun bugging other people for their ideals and beliefs instead of letting them do what they want to do without half the world harassing them.

Now, there are lots of little sixth grade social jabs floating around out there (for example, “only nerds do this...,” “you can't wear that...,” and/or “you can't say this...”), but the one that irks me the most is how people define friendship..

According to the friendship law when I was in sixth

grade, girls could only hang out with girls, and guys could only hang out with guys. If you broke that law, you either had cooties, or you had to put up with loud choruses of “You have a – friend, you have a – friend!” wherever you went. How mature!!

Do you know what the sad thing is? Some people are still like that. They see a guy and a girl hanging out together, and they immediately assume that they are “going out” or “like” each other. And, of course, they just *have* to voice the idea. They *have* to know for sure. Who cares if you make them mad or embarrass them? At least now you know the “truth.” And who cares if you cause a big scene by telling everyone things that may or may not be true? Everyone else's business is so much more interesting than your own. I'm sorry, but some people just need to get a life.

I'm sure that everyone has his own opinions and reasons for having them. I expect that most are very different from each other's. There is nothing wrong with that; it is to be expected, and I respect that. However, I *don't* respect people being nosy and voicing rude comments just to get the pleasure of seeing

someone blush or get ticked off.

Personally, I see nothing wrong with having both guys and girls as friends. I'm a girl, and most of my friends are guys. I don't really know why, but I just have a tendency to get along better with guys than I do with most girls. Now this doesn't mean that my “romantic interests” are “different” or “curved.” It also doesn't mean that I “like” all (or any) of my guy friends. It just means that I have learned to enjoy myself without constantly thinking of or referring to everyone else's gender. The way I see things, I figure that it is better to judge someone by who he is rather than what is under his clothes.

If I want to be friends with a guy, then so be it. That is my choice. I can't even *begin* to express how mad I get when the same person, over and over, comes up to me and one of my friends and asks, “Are you two going out?” I don't mind natural curiosity once or twice. But the same question over and over and over, asked by the same people? That's just annoying.

So cut the lights, folks. The sixth grade previews are over..... and the real show is just beginning.

Welcome to high school.

## Opinion Poll

Do you think it is possible for males and females to be “just friends?”  
Why or why not?

“Yes. It is like having a sister-brother relationship, nothing more.”

-Mario McCart, freshman



“Yes. Just because you are friends with a girl doesn't mean you have to go out with her.”

- Ben Bodiford, junior



“Yes, because then you don't have all the drama.”

- Julie Browder, senior



## From the editors' desk...

with Casey Verkler

With Christmas on the way, many of us may find ourselves in the mall pumping more of our money into the economy while we search for the perfect present for our friends and family. It is easy to get caught in the mess of delayed service at nearly ever public place.

While I shopped last weekend, I witnessed the stressed citizens of Peoria, ramming their packed carts down the crowded aisle of the

department store. Never did I hear an “excuse me” or see a smile. I witnessed shoppers piling all their goods onto the counter and sighing in disbelief when the final total of their shopping expedition was revealed. At this sight, I questioned myself as to why people go through all of the stress of buying presents and still don't feel complete. They spend the season in stores and in kitchens

trying to out do their Christmas last year.

This season brings out the best or, in some cases, the worst in people. Remember that during this season, the true value of Christmas is not the gifts under the tree or the extravagant Christmas party. Aside of any religious beliefs, Christmas is the time for family and reflection of the year.

“Yes. It is beneficial. Young people need to find out what the other gender is all about.”

-Mr. Steve Hagenbruch,  
Dean of Students



### Limelight



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## Business Law class travels to Federal Courthouse



**Left: Senior Lisa Faulkner, an attorney for the plaintiff, cross examines senior Adam Monroe, a railroad safety expert for the defendant. Right: Senior Leslie McElhiney, an attorney, shows the jury a piece of evidence in her case.**

On December 3, business teacher Jill Warren's 3rd and 4th hour Business Law classes took a field trip to the Federal Court House in downtown Peoria. The purpose of these mock trial was to teach the Warren's Business Law students the procedures of a real life trial. Actually being able to try their cases in a realistic court setting further enhanced the experience. Students were required to wear professional dress that their roles would wear in the real situation.

In the first case, the plaintiff's attorneys proved negligence of a railroad company that led to a teenager's death. The second case was a child custody case in which the plaintiff's attorneys proved that it would be in the best interest of the child to be raised by her father. In the third case presented that day, the classes went to trial against each other regarding the child custody case. Warren's 4th hour class won the trial with their representation of the plaintiff.

## News Notes

### Students of the month recognized

#### Academic Student of the Month

Senior Sahra Campen was named December's Academic Student of the Month based on her academic achievements.

For her effort in the classroom, Campen will be awarded a savings bond, and her picture will be featured in the *Limestone Independent News*.

#### Tech-Prep Student of the Month

Senior Adam Monroe has been selected as the Tech-Prep Student of the Month for December.

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

### College bound seniors, parents attend meeting

College bound seniors and their parents attended the annual Financial Aid Night on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Parents were provided with critical information to help with filing for financial aid.

### Creative fashions class earns 16 awards

Family and consumer science teacher Karol Gibb's Creative Fashions class was recognized at the Salvation Army Recognition Tea on December 1 for their outstanding work in designing and making doll clothing.

The class designed and made doll clothing for the dolls and bears for the annual Salvation Army toy giveaway to the Peoria area's needy children.

Competing against students from IVC and Morton, LCHS received sixteen awards. They are as follows:

#### Doll Category

Night time wear-  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Cassie Vilarreal  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Jasmine Hines  
Historical wear-  
Honorable Mention: Sarah Renssch  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Sharese Williams  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Emilia Gomez  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Krystal Bridegman  
Formal/part/holiday wear-  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Danielle Randle  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Jenny Harper  
Storybook wear-  
Honorable Mention: Amanda Pisgalia  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Jennifer Jones (Alice in Wonderland)

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Carly Garcia (Cinderella)

1<sup>st</sup> place Holly Bauer: (Minnie Mouse)

Best of Show for all Dolls Entered: Krystal Bridegman  
**Bear Category**

Formal/holiday/party wear-  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Allie Bazzell  
Sportswear-

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Jessica Bamber  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Kraig Krause

Gibb picked up the dolls and bears at the beginning of July, and the students began designing and making the outfits during class.

The clothing for the dolls and bears had to be finished before Thanksgiving so that Gibb could make sure the toys were at the Salvation Army to be judged before December 1.

Between 900 and 1000 bears and dolls were finished for the Salvation Army.

### LCHS preschoolers receive certificates

The LCHS preschool program, led by family and consumer science teacher Bev McNeeley, received their certificates on Wednesday, December 8 in the LCHS library.

The twelve preschool students were recognized for successfully completing the fall semester.

The preschool program is taught during the Child/Adult Care Lab 1,2 and 3,4. McNeeley has approximately 60 students involved in the preschool.

### LCHS hosts annual Senior Citizen Christmas Party

The annual Senior Citizen Christmas Party was held on Thursday, December 16 in the cafeteria and auditorium.

Approximately 450 senior citizens from the Limestone community attended the holiday event.

The Christmas Party is hosted by family and consumer science teacher Bev McNeeley's Elder Care class.

The senior citizens were served turkey dinners by family and consumer science teacher Kitty Bozarth's foods classes. The meals were prepared by the Mrs. Jenny Pruitt and the LCHS cafeteria.

After dinner, the LCHS jazz band, concert choir, and Madrigal singers entertained the crowd.

The event was a success, and everyone involved had a wonderful time.

### 1st semester final exam hours scheduled

The exam hours for first semester are as follows:

#### **Monday, December 20**

1st hour: 7:45am-9:10am  
2nd hour: 9:15am-10:45am  
3rd hour: 10:50am-12:15pm  
4th hour: 12:20pm-1:00pm\*\*

#### **Tuesday, December 21**

4th hour: 7:45am-8:30am  
5th hour: 8:35am-10:05am  
6th hour: 10:10am-11:30am  
7th hour: 11:35am-1:00pm\*\*

\*\* The fourth hour exam will be taken in two separate halves.

Busses will be running on exam days.

### AIP qualifications for first semester final exams

AIP students must meet the following criteria:

1. No more than three absences from your class
2. No more than three tardies to your class
3. No suspensions or truancies
4. No more than six accumulated tardies
5. Must be passing your class for the semester
6. Must be present all day on Friday, December 17.

# Student-built rocket returns to Limestone after 45 years

By Casey Verkler

Back in 1959, a student by the name of Donald Felten was enrolled as a freshman at LCHS. Felten was involved in choir, junior varsity band, and the Youth for Christ Club. Felten showed a strong interest in physical science and was interested in the art of rocketry. In 1959, Felten learned of the upcoming science fair, hosted by the Peoria Academy of Science and Peoria Engineering Council. Inspired by his early interest in rocketry, Felten decided to build and enter a rocket into the Peoria County Science Fair.

Felten worked to design the rocket and prepare it for its spectacular but short-lived flight. Felten collected a variety of articles about rocketry. In an article from an unknown source, the author explained how the design and construction of the missile, its launching apparatus, and instrumentation play vital roles in the outcome of the experiment. Felten took this advice, and with the help of his father, Henry Felten, he started the construction of the Photuris missile, most likely named after a genus of fireflies.

The Photuris missile was constructed of steel and aluminum tubing and after completion measured a total of 6 feet 7 inches. The rocket weighed a hefty 9 pounds 6 ounces when empty, and 15 pounds 14 ounces when loaded. Felten constructed the launching platform out of steel tubing and strap steel. It stood at 12 feet tall with a weight of about 60 pounds.

The experiment was designed so that upon

ignition, the battery power began to start the fuel burning. Inside the missile, a tube held a retaining ring, which holds a brass burst diaphragm against the convergent-divergent nozzle. The convergent-divergent nozzle then breaks, causing the missile to soar into space.

With the help of an engineer, Felten calculated the rocket's expectations. At the point of maximum thrust, the rocket was expected to soar at a rate of about 300 to 325 feet per second and 169 feet per second during the preceding gliding period. Gasses escaped from the convergent-divergent nozzle into the air. At around 110 feet, the rocket would have burnt all of the fuel. The rocket was expected to climb a total of 1800 feet in a mere 10 seconds.

After completion of the construction of the rocket, Felten was ready to compete in the Peoria County Student Science Fair, which was to be held on the weekend of April 4, 1959 at Bradley Field House. On the morning of April 4, Felten and his parents transported his Photuris missile to Peoria and began setting up a display that Felten would present before the launching of his rocket.

While setting up, Felten realized that he did not have any batteries that would be needed to launch the rocket. Upon leaving the contest in a conquest for batteries, Felten was involved in a tragic automobile accident that claimed his life.

Felten was unable to present his hard work or launch his rocket at the science fair that weekend. Felten's parents gathered their son's project and brought it back to their home on Airport Road, where it hung on their garage ceiling for 45 years.

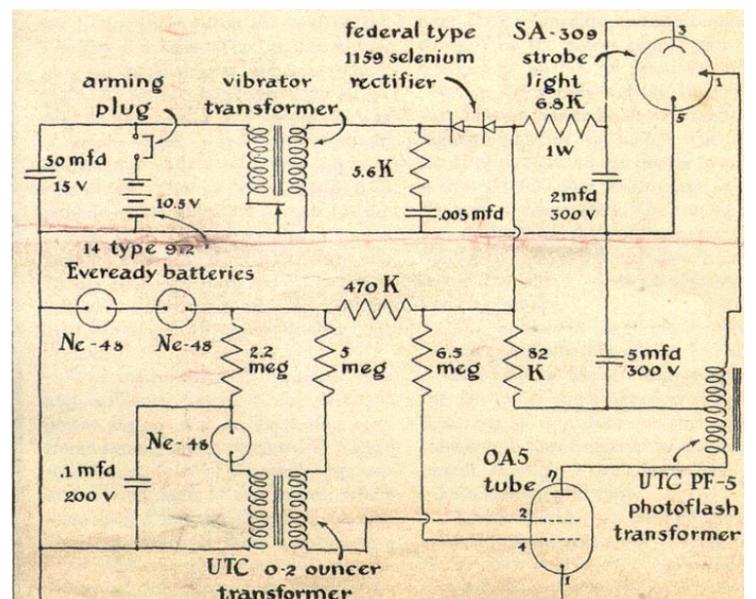
The Felten family traveled to Bartonville with hopes of selling the Felten's home. Upon arrival, the family noticed that the never-before-launched rocket Donald Felten made back in 1959 still hung from the garage ceiling after all these years.

Felten's aunt, Mrs. Jane Gilyani of Milwaukee, learned of science teacher Rocky Mathewson and his rocket experiment project he assigns at the end of his Modern Physical Science classes. She contacted Mathewson and asked if he or Limestone would like to have the rocket experiment that her nephew created a long time ago. Not knowing the size of the rocket, Mathewson said he would be honored to facilitate the rocket's return to Limestone.

On the day of the rocket's delivery, Mathewson was surprised at the overwhelming size of Felten's experiment. In order to fit the rocket into Mathewson's room, Felten's family had to disassemble part of the rocket. The rocket will stay in Mathewson's room until he can find a more appropriate setting for the experiment.



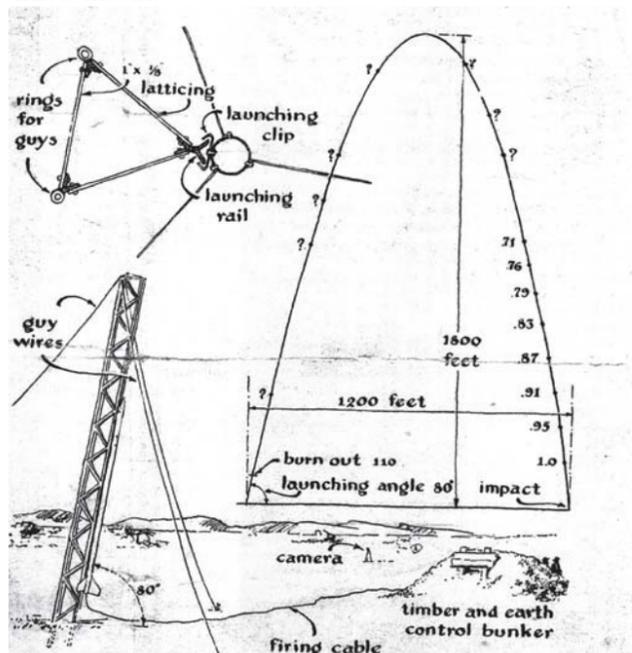
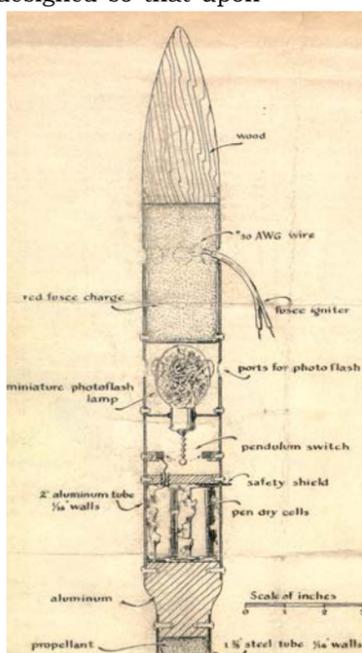
Donald Felten's rocket hangs in Mr. Rocky Mathewson's classroom. The rocket returned to LCHS after 45 years.



Felten used this blueprint to help him design his rocket.

***I feel that this project was worthwhile because this nation of ours is in need of engineers in order to keep pace with the Russians, and because the experience of constructing (the rocket) has given me an invaluable education in this field of endeavor.***

***-Donald Felten***



Felten used these diagrams from an unknown source to design and construct his Photuris missile for the Peoria County Science Fair.

# Still Cheering:

Football cheerleaders keep spirits up after abrupt end to great season



By Megan Wendland

Imagine you are on a sports team, one that you take pride in competing in, showing off your talent, and having fun with the friends you have made throughout the season. You have just finished an awesome six months of exhilarating camps and Friday night football games under the lights, pepping up the crowd in the bitter cold. The months ahead will be filled with hard work and long weekends, traveling to competitions as an exhibition sport. All of a sudden, an announcement comes through. Your team had been prohibited from competing because it does not fit in the guidelines of the Illinois High School Association's rules. Suddenly, all of the work you have done, along with the hours you have spent fundraising to get to travel to competitions, seems worthless.

The 2004-2005 football cheerleaders faced this situation when they were told that they could not participate in the competitions they had attended in previous years. Although they are not on the roster as a winter sport, the football cheerleaders have always had a "winter season" in which they competed in Chicago at the Midwest Challenge, at ISU in Normal for the COA Competition, and at the Tri-Valley Competition in Pekin.

Coach Mrs. Kitty Bozarth said, "The IHSA has always preached student participation, and by taking us out, they were going against everything they supported. We knew we couldn't place for awards. We just went for the fun and experience."

Among raising money for other things throughout the

year, the cheerleaders had raised a great deal for the hotel in Chicago that they would have to stay at during the competition. They did various fundraisers, such as a car wash and scarf and blanket sales. They had dedicated their time and work to a cause that they felt very passionately about, and it was being taken away from them because they were not basketball cheerleaders.

.....  
**"Yeah. We had a great season even though it was cut short. My senior year couldn't have been much better than it was."**

**-Senior captain Brenna Pardieck**  
 .....

Superintendent Mr. Bill Beach said, "In their bylaws, they laid out what the team would be. It stated that they must be basketball cheerleaders. No other group in the school district would be allowed to compete."

Beach and school board president Mr. Vernon Woosley traveled to a school board convention in Chicago. They spoke to the IHSA about the problem the football cheerleaders were facing.

Beach said, "It is a poor application of the bylaw. It is restricting kids who want to be involved in activities."

Upon their complaint, Beach and Woosley were instructed to have Bozarth contact the head of the IHSA in the area, which is the cheerleading coach at Washington High School.

Bozarth said, "I am currently writing the IHSA advisory committee to allow the squads that are not rostered as a winter sport to do exhibition competitions."

Beach commented, "Hopefully the committee will make changes to allow the other squads to go out and perform."

When Bozarth told the cheerleaders, it was a shock to them. Their season was not supposed to end until after competition in February.

She said, "When I initially told them, they were upset. But then, I tried to put a positive spin on things. We could either walk away and be bitter and angry, or we could do something good with the money."

Bozarth threw out a bunch of ideas to the girls about what could be done with the money. She proposed a party, buying sweatshirts for themselves, and the last option was for them to adopt a family. Immediately, they couldn't wait to get started on the project.

.....  
**"I believe that everything happens for a reason. Maybe we weren't supposed to compete this year so that we could help this family. People get so wrapped up in [the material things] too much and lose focus of what's important in life."**  
**-Coach Kitty Bozarth**  
 .....

She commented, "They said without hesitation they wanted to adopt a family."

Senior captain Brenna Pardieck said, "I felt upset that it all happened the way it did. After we decided what

we were doing with the money, it filled the space that was left."

One of the main reasons Bozarth pushed the idea of adopting a family is because she wanted the squad to have something to hold onto. She knew that by buying a sweatshirt or throwing a party, they would have nothing to look back on with pride. They wouldn't have a good feeling when they thought about why they had gotten to have a party or why they were wearing their new cheerleading sweatshirt.

When they had decided what they wanted to do, Bozarth contacted Mrs. Lynn Montgomery in the guidance office. She has ties to the Salvation Army and came up with a family for the cheerleaders to sponsor. They requested a family with small children that they could deliver the presents to. Montgomery came up with a single mother with a daughter and two little boys.

Bozarth said, "They can't wait to do it. They'll always have the memory of getting to bring Christmas to this family. This mom and her three kids wouldn't have had a Christmas without our help. The squad just needed to refocus; they needed to be reminded that there is more out there than just cheerleading. I believe that everything happens for a reason. Maybe we weren't supposed to compete this year so that we could help this family. People get so wrapped up in [the material things] too much and lose focus of what's important in life."

The squad decided to take the money to Walmart to gather up all of the gifts that are on the Christmas lists of the children. They shopped on December 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., wrapped

presents at school in Bozarth's room from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and delivered the gifts to the happy family's house in Bellevue at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

What Bozarth is most proud of is the attitude of the squad. She said, "I'm not going to lie. I was mad. Our season was not supposed to end until February." It is understandable that the squad was upset, but they pulled together, fought their anger, and came up with a plan that they will remember for the rest of their lives.

.....  
**"The IHSA has always preached student participation, and by taking us out, they were going against everything they supported. We knew we couldn't place for awards. We just went for the fun and experience."**  
**-Coach Kitty Bozarth**  
 .....

Overall, the squad has had an amazing year, and they are going out on a high note. They are making the best out of a depressing situation. It takes a mature group of athletes to handle the situation the way they have, and they deserve nothing but respect. In recognition of their good spirits, Bozarth ordered t-shirts for the squad, as well as the family, that have the words "Spreading a little holiday Cheer" printed on them. She wants the squad to be recognized for taking a bad situation and making it completely positive.

Pardieck said, "Yeah. We had a great season even though it was cut short. My senior year couldn't have been much better."

## Career Corner

Featuring Mrs. Stephanie Decker

By Kayla Carlson

After hearing the announcements on Rocket One about Snowball and the other student prevention activities, I decided to see what SPT was all about.

Mrs. Stephanie Decker, the Student Prevention Coordinator, came to Limestone three years ago from. She says that when she first arrived, there was already a program in place, but the program only offered Snowball to the students.

After she decided to call it Student Prevention Team, Decker started to decide what changes to make. Instead of just the Snowball program, Decker wanted to offer more to Limestone area community. She wanted bigger and better activities, and she also hoped that more people would become involved in the program.

As the Student Prevention Coordinator, Decker is responsible for selecting and training the staffs, coordinating and organizing activities, and supervising the students at the activities. According to Decker, the most important aspect of her job, however, is helping people make the right choices and making them feel better about themselves.

Although there are many responsibilities with Decker's job, she still gets to have

fun. She said the most fun part of being involved with SPT is "getting to know the students, especially the new freshmen, and having Snowball." She also enjoys that they make her feel younger and one of "them".

Decker's main goal as coordinator is to send the message to younger students that not all high school students use drugs and that many want to help prevent their peers from doing drugs.

What Decker likes best about her job is being a guidance counselor, meeting new freshmen, and getting to know more people.

Since her arrival, many changes have been made: the program has expanded, there is a lot more training involved in becoming part of the SPT staff, and the program as a whole, in her opinion, has gotten a lot better in quality. Even after all of those changes, however, Decker would still like to see more involvement. She wants more people that can stand up and say "I do have a problem, and I want help!" instead of people hiding behind their problems and not coming for help.

"Helping people is my job, and I love it!" concluded Decker.

## Sophomore travels to Europe



Sophomore Tiffany Newtonson stands near the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Venice, Italy, which is among the many places she traveled this past summer.

By Rachael Randle

Have you ever sat in a history class and started thinking about how you would rather be anywhere but there? How amazing would it be to live your dream and travel to another country to explore its culture and people?

Sophomore Tiffany Newtonson was given that opportunity just this past summer. She was selected to be a student ambassador to Europe for three weeks.

While in Europe, Newtonson visited many famous historical places. She traveled to the City of Pompeii in Italy; the Acropolis in ancient Greece; the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France; the Coliseum in Rome, Italy; and the Palace of Versailles in Versailles, Italy.

Her travels opened her eyes to many interesting

aspects of foreign culture. One interesting problem she noticed in Europe is that they have a stray dog situation. On some street corners, she would see as many as five to six dogs lying around.

The towns in these countries were very small. Many of them do not have a lot of the objects that we rely on every day, such as televisions, computers, and cars.

In France, she and a girl named Abby, who she traveled with, were given the chance to stay with a native family for three days. Staying with them was difficult for her because they only spoke French. The woman could understand and say some English, as long as it was spoken slowly. The only way the girls managed to figure out that the boy's name was Alexandre is because they saw a box in

the house with his name on it.

Also, in Italy, they stayed in a convent with nuns who made them go to sleep at 10 so that the nuns were able to get their rest. The nuns in the convent would get them up between 6 and 8 each morning.

The Ambassadors is a group founded by Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower to spread the awareness of America's use of other countries to its youth. Thirty-seven students from Illinois, one from Washington, one from Oklahoma, and seven from New Jersey were allowed to take part in this adventure.

Newtonson was blessed with a once in a lifetime experience. She realizes not many teenagers get to travel abroad. She said she will remember this experience the rest of her life.

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# tastebudz

## Baker's Square, Shoppes of Grand Prairie

By Jake Stewart

Hello again, Limestone! This is Jake Stewart with another fun-filled adventure of Tastebudz with the *Limelight* staff.

This edition we decided to go to Baker's Square, right next to the Shoppes of Grand Prairie mall. Casey Verkler, Ben Verkler, Megan Wendland, Kayla Carlson, and I were the judges of this food establishment, and all five of us were anxious to see if their pies really do hold up to their reputation.

We got there right before 5:00 p.m., just barely missing the dinner crowd. We got seated and ordered our drinks with no problems. It was deciding what we wanted to eat that was the problem.

When it did come time to order our meals, Casey ordered the turkey dinner with mashed potatoes and "green" stuffing. She said it was "alright," but she wasn't too pleased with the price (\$9.99). She was impressed, however, with the service that she received.

Ben ordered the two

square meal, which featured eggs and bacon, a cinnamon roll, and a piece of apple pie. He said he liked the meal and that the pie, service, and price were good. Megan ordered the chicken cheddar melt (say that 5-times fast) with fries and a piece of Oreo pie (\$10.10). She thought her sandwich was good but nothing great considering the big advertisement for the meal.

Kayla ordered the honey mustard chicken with rice and a piece of apple pie (\$10.00). She liked the chicken but wasn't impressed with the rice. Her only complaint was that her

piece of pie had a piece of corn stuck in it.

I went for the home cooking and ordered the country fried steak and mashed potatoes with a piece of chocolate pie. I thought everything tasted good, and the price was great considering how much food came with my meal.

Our meals didn't satisfy our tastebuds enough to make us want to come back the next night again to eat. However, we all were impressed with the service and the prices. Keep in mind, they serve large portions and you may end up with a piece of corn in your apple pie.

## In December of 1964...

\*The varsity basketball team shot down the Kewanee Boilermakers in a 82-63 game for their fourth straight win.

\*The girls' home economics class planned a Christmas tea outing.

\*The *Limelight* qualified to be judged by the Newspaper Critical Service.

\*The Limestone Student Council hosted the annual Miss America Beauty Pageant, where the junior and senior guys competed in gowns, swim suits, and talents.

\*A Christmas Ball, sponsored by the House of Representatives, was held at LCHS on December 22<sup>nd</sup> in the gymnasium. The couples-only dance was decorated with candlelight and mistletoe.

# Jake's Top 5 Holiday Movies



#1 - National  
Lampoon's  
Christmas Vacation

#2 - A Muppet  
Christmas Carol



#3 - It's A Wonderful Life

#4 - A Christmas Story



#5 - A Charlie Brown  
Christmas



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## Coffey wins bowling tourney

By Hailey Adams

Winning a competition can be one thing, but winning a competition for something you've been doing since you were young can be special. In early November, senior Forrest Coffey did just that when he won first place in a bowling tournament at Bowl-Mor-Lanes in Peoria.

Coffey started bowling when he was eight years old, but it was only recently he actually entered a tournament to compete.

The tournament, which was his first competition, was open to all people of any age. Coffey entered the tournament with his girlfriend, sophomore Mandy Rohman.

For taking first place, Coffey received a \$300.00 cash prize. The other prizes were as follows: second

place- \$150.00; third place- \$75.00; fourth place- \$50.00; and fifth place- \$25.00.

Coffey bowls in a league called the Sunfun Mixers at Landmark Bowling, and he practices about one time a week.

Even though competitive bowling is challenging, there is still time for fun. Coffey said, "My favorite part about bowling is just having fun with it and throwing a lot of strikes." According to Coffey, the hardest part of bowling is probably bowling a 300 or adjusting to the different lane conditions, which isn't a problem for him. His weakness is keeping the ball in the pocket every time.

Coffey plans to continue competitive bowling. For the time being, he will keep practicing while he attends college after graduation.

## Freshman finds passion on



Photo courtesy of Heather McCasky  
**Freshman Heather McCasky performs in the World's competition in August 2004 in Blaine, Minnesota. World's was her first competition.**

By Dara Peacock

Freshman Heather McCasky has found a passion that takes her far away from the basketball courts and football fields and into... an ice rink.

McCasky started ice skating when she was about nine years old, although she had wanted to skate since she was four. She explained, "I remember watching Michelle Qwan in the Olympics and wishing I could look that beautiful and graceful on the ice. I also thought it would be so cool to skate in the Olympics for my country and have millions of people watching me and cheering me on."

McCasky's first competition wasn't until a year ago this October. For her first competition, she skated in World's, which, according to McCasky, is a large competition attended by many skaters of different abilities. McCasky said, "It was my first competition, so

I can't be too upset. I know I skated well, but it wasn't my best, and the other skaters skated better than me."

After the World's competition, McCasky competed in four other competitions, and she had reason to be proud. She received six first place awards and two second place awards.

McCasky's success, however, doesn't come without a price. She practices at Owens Center in Peoria every Tuesday night with her coach for an hour. Any free time she has, she spends in the rink. She said, "I think there's always room for improvement in anything someone does."

Because of all the time McCasky devotes to her skating, she openly admits that skating is much more than a hobby; it is a passion. She said, "A hobby is an interest, and skating isn't just an interest of mind."

So how does someone like McCasky keep her hopes up and her dreams going? The same way everybody does: by looking up to other people's accomplishments. "When I start thinking 'How could someone from Peoria go to the Olympics?', I think of Matt Savoie and how he's done so well. He's an inspiration to me to keep skating and believe in myself."

As for long term goals, McCasky says she'd love to find a career that deals with skating. She explained, "I'd have to work very hard. I could, however, be a coach. Once I get to a high enough level, I'll be able to teach group lessons."

McCasky is currently finishing a new program, which is for the next level up. She is also working on improving her programs from World's for future competitions she is entering.

## Sport Shorts

### Rockets shoot past Redbirds, win 60-54

By Ben Verkler

On Tuesday, December 7, The Rockets varsity basketball team had the home court advantage when they played the Metamora Redbirds. The Rockets won 60-54.

The game was a nailbiter. The Rockets would sweep ahead, and then the Redbirds would tie and then capture the lead. The game went back and forth this way until the Rockets gained control in the last quarter and came out with the win.

On Friday, December 3, Limestone battled it out with Woodruff High School at Woodruff. Unfortunately though, Limestone could not come out on top with a win and ended up losing to the Woodruff Rams with a final score of 43-32. In that game, Limestone had 24 rebounds and 8 assists.

### Wrestlers put headlock on rivals

By Aaron Smith

The Rocket wrestling team has been doing fairly well this year. The team has been very competitive on both varsity and freshman/sophomore levels.

The varsity's first match was on November 27 at Notre Dame. The team won 3 out of the 4 matches, beating Central, Manual, and Streator. The freshmen also did very well, placing seventh at the East Peoria tournament.

So far this season, the Rockets have lost both Mid-Illini matches. They lost to Canton and to Washington in two very exciting matches. They also lost to Orion and Kewanee, two strong and technical single A wrestling teams. Even with the losses, the team is still expecting many great things to happen this season.

### Diverse teams play well together, win against Pekin and Notre Dame

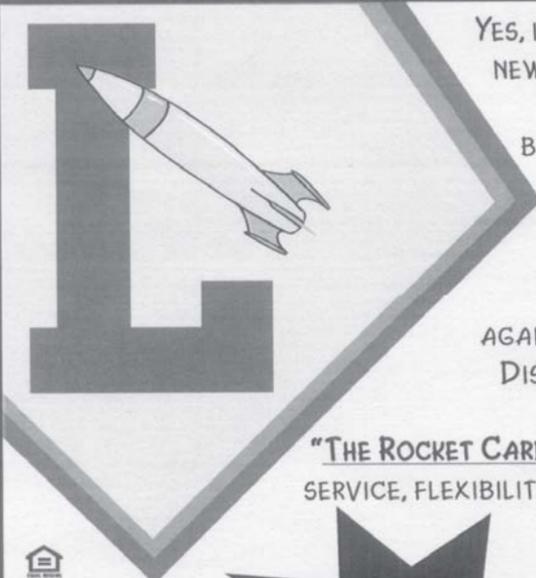
By Aaron Smith

The LCHS junior varsity hockey team, a diverse group of players who work well as a unit, won another game when they defeated Notre Dame 8-0 on Sunday, December 5.

Sophomore Drew Parkhurst, junior Jake Stewart, and sophomore Pat Knack scored two goals. Sophomore David McClure and junior Brian Farmer each scored one goal.

The varsity team defeated Pekin 2-1 in a tough game.

The varsity team will be off until January 9, but the junior varsity will play Bloomington/Normal on Dec.19 at 6:45 p.m. at Owens Center (Peoria).



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