

# TOM-TOM

## LHS: News at a Glance

by Kristen Peterson  
*News Writer*

- On Tuesday, Apr. 6, the LHS Cafeteria launched their “computerized” version of payment. Students must enter their unique PIN number to pay, and their account gets charged. This method eliminates the use of actual money to pay for lunches.
- On Saturday, Apr. 17, Inkspot, the LHS student-run magazine, held a “free-writing” workshop at the Lemont Public Writing. The event went from noon to 2 p.m. Attendees were assisted in turning their thoughts into poetry and other forms of creative writing.
- At the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)’s first state competition, held March 26-27 in Decatur, IL, LHS won titles in three categories and collected eight top four finishes.
- The swim team is holding a "Pool vs. School" fundraiser at the new Park District pool on May 7th. It is a \$3 admission to watch the events. If you would rather participate than watch, you can sign up to compete in events such as inner tube toss or a race. Signups are in Ms. Boyd's room (W202) or Mrs. Duggan's room (W319).
- On the 15th and 16th of April, seniors Mark Kaminski and Kathy Sitko, and junior Zymante Petruseviciute competed in the 2010 Mock Architectural Firm Competition at the Congress Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Chicago. Competing against students from nine different states, they presented their ideas for a new skyscraper to a panel of judges.
- On Monday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Foreign Language Club will be holding their last event of the year, the Foreign Film and Food Fest. Sandwiches and pasta salad will be served for dinner as students enjoy the French film “Les Choristes” (The Chorus).

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# News 2

## LET THE Magic BEGIN!

by Andrea Earnest  
News Editor

Are you one of the kids that cried when you never received your Hogwarts letter for your 11<sup>th</sup> birthday? Did you look forward to turning 17 just so you could legally practice magic? If you did any of these things, it's

"There are just so many different things that they've got planned for this world."



*Photo courtesy of Google*

time for you to escape the confines of the Muggle world at last.

The Harry Potter Theme Park will be opening June 18<sup>th</sup> at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida.

Junior Jimmy Myers said, "I don't know anyone who isn't excited about [the theme park]. If you like the books or movies, this is the perfect chance to actually see this world."

The theme park includes a full-scale replica of the Hogwarts castle, where young witches and wizards go to learn magic. The castle allows wizard wannabes to participate in Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey where guests can interact with some of the magical creatures Hogwarts has to offer.

Guests will also visit Dumbledore's office, the Defense Against the Dark Arts Classroom, the Gryffindor Common Room, and the Room of Requirement. The attraction features state-of-the-art technology (and maybe even a little magic) to create a unique experience.

Daniel Radcliffe, who plays Harry Potter in the movies, said in an interview on Universal's website, "People will actually get to walk around all these places that they've seen in the films."

There are also three roller coasters included in the theme park. The Dragon Challenge takes you back to the events of Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (the fourth movie/book). Adventurers will have the choice to climb aboard either the Chinese Fireball or the Hungarian Horntail. The Dragon Challenge is actually two separate roller coasters with each dragon as a completely different ride.

The third roller coaster is called the Flight of the Hippogriff. Guest will follow Hagrid's instructions on how to properly approach a hippogriff. If successful, guests will take a training flight on the magical family ride.



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## **“Let the Magic Begin!” cont. from page 2**

The last feature of the Harry Potter theme park is the village of Hogsmeade. In the books and movies, students of Hogwarts are allowed weekend visits to the wizarding town. Hogsmeade is home to many businesses including Honeydukes, The Three Broomsticks, Ollivander's, the Owl Post, Dervish and Bange's, and Zonko's joke shop.

Senior Emily Lyons is excited for this feature especially and said, “It's going to be super fantastic and I'm really excited to wander around Hogsmeade. I'm just glad I finally get the chance to be a real wizard.”

Guests are allowed to wander the village and buy from the stores in Hogsmeade. School uniforms, wands and plenty of candy is available. All products are those that are seen in the Harry Potter books and movies. Once guests have bought their share, they can stop by the Three Broomsticks and enjoy a Butterbeer or two.

Emma Watson, who plays Hermione Granger in the movies, said to Universal Studios, “Everything about [the theme park] will be magical. There are just so many different things that they've got planned for this world.”

Book your flight to Florida, LHS! It's time to travel to Hogwarts and discover your inner magic! Tickets are available now at [www.universalorlando.com/harrypotter](http://www.universalorlando.com/harrypotter).



*Photo courtesy of Google*

## **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part One**

by Kristen Peterson  
*News writer*

November 19 is an exciting day for Harry Potter fans all over the United States. The first part of the seventh and final movie chronicling Potter's life will be released.

In “Deathly Hallows”, Harry must collect all of the Horcruxes that the evil Lord Voldemort has created. Harry, along with his two best friends Ron and Hermione, set off on a journey to destroy the Horcruxes and ultimately, Voldemort.

Since Harry, Ron and Hermione won't be returning to Hogwarts in this movie, Daniel Radcliffe, who has played Potter in every movie, hopes that fans will be able to adjust.

“People have been so used to seeing Harry Potter at Hogwarts and we're just not there for the first part of the film,” says Radcliffe in an interview for Extra. “That seems to have really freshened things up, and hopefully will get people seeing the films with fresh eyes again, because it's just a totally different look when you're not just sat in the same room the whole time.”

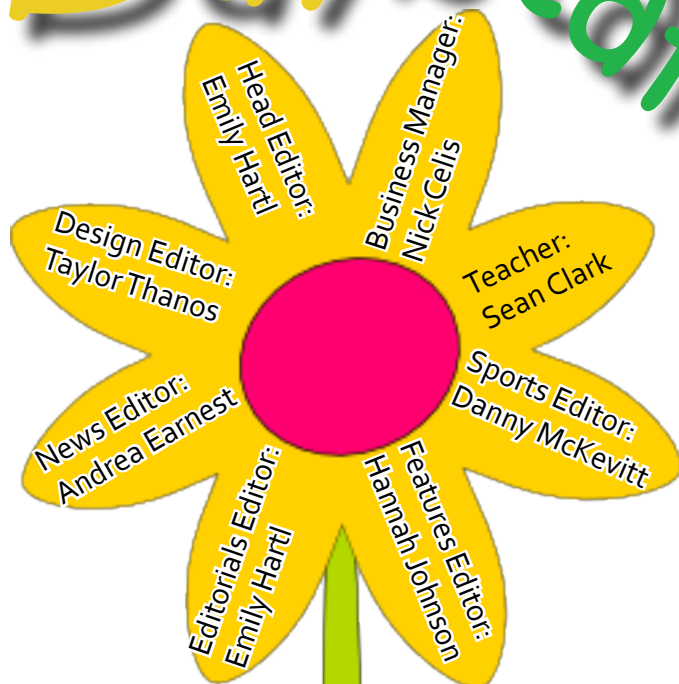
But why cut the book into two movies?

“*Deathly Hallows* is so rich, the story is so dense and there is so much that is resolved that, after discussing it with J.K Rowling, we came to the conclusion that two parts were needed.” says Producer David Heyman.

“I'm definitely excited for this movie!” says junior Kotryna Strazdaite, “Especially to see how it will turn out and if it'll match up with the different characters and adventures from the book.”

With part two set to be released in July of 2011, Potter fans will have to wait an extra eight months to see Harry's fate unfold on the big screen.

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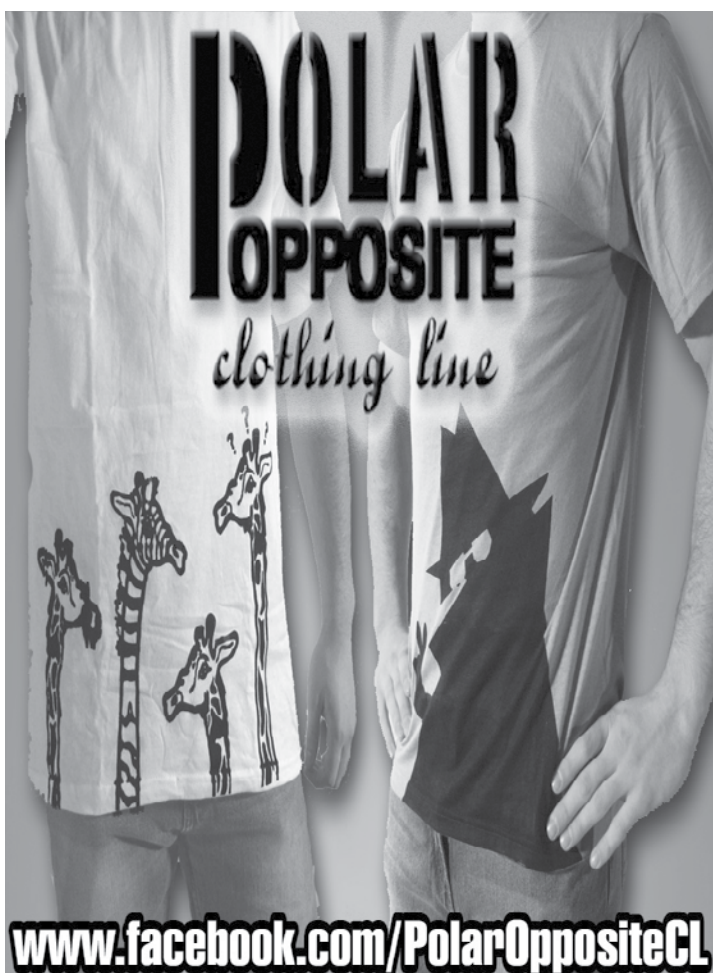
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# Editorials 5

## “I am not edible”

### Reasons to keep animals far, far away from your diet

by Emily Hartl  
Head Editor

Every morning for breakfast I eat a Kashi granola bar and either an apple or a banana. Every day for lunch I eat either an apple, some mandarin orange slices, a salad, or baby carrots with hummus, and usually some Baked Lays. Every night for dinner I eat some type of steamed or sautéed vegetables and either whole wheat pasta, oatmeal or Special K cereal with soy milk.



*Photo courtesy of Google*

embarrassingly, I’ve had people ask me, “So, can you eat, like, peanut butter and stuff? What about bread?”

I’d like to respond with this: can you, like, read a food label? Peanut butter comes from peanuts, not the insides of a cow or the organs of a pig. Wheat bread is made from—yes, you guessed it—wheat. Wheat is a plant. Chickens cannot produce it, nor can sheep or any other animal from which you would consider eating a part of the body.

Also, embarrassingly, I am pitied by these individuals who ask me such philosophical questions. They sympathize because I don’t eat pizza or ice cream or steak or cupcakes. Apparently, these items are the equivalent of fine cuisine and people who don’t consume them are really missing out.

Please tell me, food philosophers, when was the last time you saw a head of lettuce? Your grocery-related tunnel vision is going to hurt you in the end, not to mention the environment and thousands of innocent, loveable animals with no malicious agenda.

Every single day, I consume exactly zero dead animals, and zero food items containing ingredients that came from animals. In fact I avoid animal products like the plague: I eat nothing with milk, eggs, cheese, butter, or meat.

I am an omnivore. I am a vegan. I am a particularly hungry individual most of the time, but I am probably eating much healthier than you right now, and here’s why.

First of all, upon learning that I am a vegan, most people ask, “So...what *do* you eat?” As in, they wonder what other food groups exist besides poultry and dairy.

It appears to me that many of my peers have forgotten the existence of fruits and vegetables. In addition to that,

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## “I am not edible” cont. from page 4

People have also raised questions regarding my vitamin and nutrient intake. How do I get protein? Am I anemic because of iron deficiency? If I don't drink milk, where does my calcium come from?



*Photo courtesy of Google*

sectional Adventist study showing that non-vegans had an average Body Mass Index (BMI) of 28.8, whereas vegans averaged a 23.6 BMI.

People have asked me, “Why can't you just be a vegetarian? Animals don't die to make milk or butter.”

Valid point. However, animals that aren't slaughtered for food still suffer immensely. In fact, animals often die before they can be used, due to cramped conditions, extreme temperatures, diseases spread by overcrowding, or being eaten by fellow animals out of starvation.

And—with all traumatic farm animal experiences accounted for—what have the animals done to you? What atrocious act of humanity have piggies and baby chicks committed that deems them deserving of slaughter?

Even if you cannot, or don't want to, be a vegan, just take a day, or even one meal, to practice a compassionate animal-friendly diet. Save a piglet, eat a carrot.

Once again, reading the occasional food label would prevent these upsettingly common questions. I eat a nearly inordinate amount of all-natural peanut butter, among other things, for protein. I am not anemic; I'm not even close actually.

While animal-derived iron is easier to break down and digest, I have no problem with taking a supplement and eating some extra broccoli and spinach. In fact, spinach has the same amount of iron per serving as lean beef, with only a tenth of the calories.

I also take a calcium supplement, because dairy, contrary to the obvious popular belief, is not the only source of calcium in the world.

According to [veganhealth.org](http://veganhealth.org), there have been five studies in the past 30 years examining cholesterol levels of vegans versus non-vegans. Collectively the studies showed that the average cholesterol level of a Western vegan is about 40 points lower than that of a non-vegan.

Additionally, the website cites an Oxford study on vegan blood pressure levels. In men, non-vegans had nine percent higher blood pressure than vegans, and female non-vegans had four percent higher blood pressure than vegans.

The most striking evidence, however, is a cross-



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## Lifestyles of the Rich and the Famous

by Annie Fox  
*Guest Editor*

Celebrities stumble and tumble drunkenly to escape the mobs of paparazzi. A vulture-esque paparazzi snaps a shot, the writer slaps a caption on it entailing the mayhem that ensued, the picture is sent to press. Americans log onto their computers, buy a magazine, or read Perez's tweets, pouring over the stories of these pathetic people: payday for the paparazzi.

Somebody goes to rehab, somebody admits to allegations of sex addiction, another sports a house arrest anklet



*Photo courtesy of Google*

stylishly with their gladiator sandals that are so in this season. By the time they lay their eyes on the headlines, they are fiending for details, foaming at the mouth with the juicy details.

Is there some mysterious man waiting at the gates of Hollywood with drugs on a silver platter tricking celebrities into picking their poison? Why are we so quick to dismiss this fatal flaw?

### A Timeline of Drug Related Deaths

Drug abuse is seen as the culprit in the tragic deaths of many famous people. Addiction doesn't discriminate; it has ruined, and in some cases, ended the lives of comedians, celebrities, writers, athletes and musicians. The American population has lost musical geniuses, lyrical poets, gods or goddesses of the playing field and even The King and more recently The King of Pop.

Wikipedia compiled a list of well known people that were killed because of their addiction. The list dates back to the times of Sigmund Freud, but has an unbelievable 221 names, most of which have not yet been forgotten.

Whether it was a suicide or an accidental overdose, it is evident that it could happen to anyone. We haven't forgotten these names; their legacies live on. But when we look back, do we pity them and romanticize their deaths? Clicking our tongues we say, "Poor so-and-so, he died so young. They say it was the drugs that did it... what a shame."

We are quick to place the blame on the drugs, instead of the abuser that chose day in and day out to insert illicit substances into his or her body for the sake of getting a good high. Whether it was a coping mechanism or a love for partying, drug abuse is not honorable, despite what the media and general public claims.



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- John Belushi was only 33 when he died from “speed balling.” It was the combination of heroin and cocaine overdose that proved fatal for Belushi at a young age in the midst of his career. Chris Farley followed shortly after, and turned from a comedic genius to another statistic of drug abuse.
- Heath Ledger died from a combined overdose of prescription drugs, including oxycodone, hydrocodone and temazepam. What those drugs do independently, you would have to ask a pharmacist; what they do when combined was evident when Ledger was found dead at only 28 years old. His remarkable depiction of the Joker in *The Dark Knight* is not yet forgotten.
- America was shaken by the death of Adam Goldstein, more widely known as DJ AM. A history of abusing prescriptions and hard drugs led to the day he took his final dose of cocaine, Levamisole, oxycodone, hydrocodone, Ativan, Klonopin and Xanax.
- Brittany Murphy and Corey Haim are more recent “victims.” In the case of Murphy, 32, it is questionable if it was drug abuse; reports state that “all drugs were legal.”
- Musical genius and rock and roll god Jimi Hendrix died at only 27 years old when he choked on his own vomit after drinking too much and taking barbiturates, an anti-depressant that also works as a sedative.
- Among other rockers that lost the battle to drug and alcohol abuse, we have Janis Joplin, Keith Moon from *The Who*, Jim Morrison from *The Doors* and Sid Vicious from *The Sex Pistols*.

Celebrities shake the media with stories of scandal and addiction, and when their deaths hit the press it’s a whirlwind of chaos. Just look at the deaths of Anna Nicole Smith and Michael Jackson. The paparazzi swarm and the families mourn on national television; we sit at home and engulf ourselves in the madness by our own free will.

### The Death of the King of Pop

I can clearly remember the day Michael Jackson died. It was June 25, 2009. It’s sort of like if you ask your older relatives where they were when JFK was assassinated. They’ll think for a moment and tell you the story as if it was yesterday.

I heard the news about MJ in a text message. I turned on the TV, I sat up and my eyes widened.

The next day I was driving with my long time friend Jennifer Doornbos and listening to Kiss FM. Listeners called in weeping. They played song clips from every era of his career and the radio DJs spouted stories of dancing around to Jackson 5 or the first time they heard *Thriller*. We cried and we danced and we were swept up in the emotion of the demise of The King of Pop.

The pandemonium surrounding Michael’s death started immediately, every night on the news, Blanket was on TV crying or Latoya or Janet was trying to get through a mass of photographers, covering their eyes through the disarray of bright flashes and violent screams.

In June, the one year anniversary will come and the commotion will resurface. Homicide or suicide? Who is to blame? Conspiracy theories brought to the light and more drama for the Jacksons, which I’m sure they don’t mind.

The death of Michael Jackson was a tragedy. Although his life was controversial, his talent was not, and the fact that the media turned his death from tragedy to circus speaks negatively of our society.

### America’s Addiction to Addicts

Most recently, the death of Corey Haim, 80’s child star turned troubled-semi-washed-up-has-been, sparked emotion in the world of VH1 Celebri-doctor Drew Pinsky, who made claims that he “could have saved [Haim].”



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## “Lifestyle” cont. from page

A large part of the American population has become infatuated with the idea of rehabilitation and sobriety, thanks to mastermind Dr. Drew. You know him from his show, or shows: *Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew*, *Sex Rehab with Dr. Drew*, *Celebrity Rehab Presents Sober House*, and *Sex...With Mom and Dad*. Quality television. When I say a “large part of the population,” I mean that the premiere of *Celebrity Rehab* had 3.1 million viewers tune in to witness the train wreck.

Don’t get me wrong, it’s not that I doubt Dr. Drew’s commitment to getting celebrities back on their feet. It’s just that the cynic in me has a feeling Dr. Drew is laughing all the way to the bank. The American public plops down on couches across the country to watch Dennis Rodman throw a temper tantrum while wearing a heinous Ed Hardy shirt, and Dr. Drew and the producers at VH1 exchange a high five and call it a day.

The show may have positive outcomes for many but I find it hard to believe these D-List celebrities are left not only craving their DOC, but also the attention from the media. By feeding their addiction to a somewhat celebrity status, we send the message that their behavior is entertaining to us, socially acceptable and even admirable, as opposed to pathetic or sad.

### Where Did We Go Wrong?

Since the beginning of the mass media, we have idolized athletes, musicians and celebrities. We romanticize a day in the life of a media superstar. We make sex, drugs and the world’s attention out to be something like a fantasy, but where does the combination lead these fallen heroes? The options are grim: sex rehab, a Dr. Drew show, a real rehab facility, six feet under?

When we give this attention and unconditional support to drug addicted celebrities, we are no longer idolizing their talents but supporting their habit.

It’s human nature to put our heroes on a pedestal, but when we continue to support a way of life we do not condone for ourselves or our friends, what message do we send? The heroes we choose and the behavior we condone says a lot about who we become.

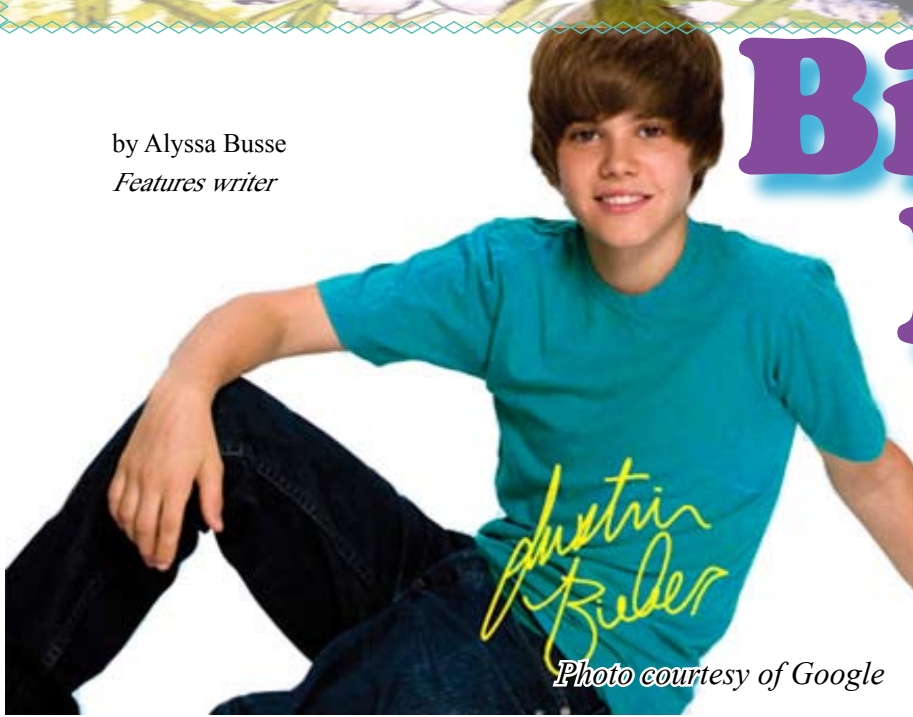


*Photo courtesy of Google*

# Features

by Alyssa Busse  
*Features writer*

## Bieber Fever



*Photo courtesy of Google*

“If there’s another look right in my eyes, my first love broke my heart for the first time,” who would break Justin Bieber’s heart? At just 16 years old, it seems that Justin Bieber has effortlessly become one of the most listened to pop singers.

Although this teen has just come up on the celebrity radar, his singing career began way before his ‘One Time’ single.

Growing up in Stratford, Ontario, Bieber was not an ordinary kid. At a young age he taught himself four instruments including the piano, guitar, drums. “I only started singing 3 years ago” Bieber told reporters for Lets Sing It website, “I entered a local singing competition called Stratford Idol. The other people in the competition had been taking singing lessons and had vocal coaches. I wasn’t taking it too seriously at the time, I would just sing around the house. I was only 12 and I got second place.”

In 2007, Bieber posted a series of videos on YouTube, hoping to broadcast his music. His re-makes of songs from artists like Ne-Yo, Stevie Wonder, and Usher attracted more than 10,000,000 viewers.

At just 13, seven months after his posted videos, Bieber was discovered by marketing executive Scooter Braun and brought to Atlanta to meet with other executives. They were immediately impressed with his professional attitude and musical as well as vocal talent. Bieber was then introduced to one of his musical icons, Usher.

Excitedly meeting Usher, Bieber said, “Hey Usher, I love your songs, do you want me to sing you one?” Usher looked down at the aspiring pre-teen, “No little buddy, just come inside, it’s cold out.”

Since his first emergence into the music industry, Bieber has been extremely successful. In October of 2008, Bieber signed on with Island Records. His first hit single ‘One Time’ was produced by Tricky Stewart, who also produced Rihanna’s ‘Umbrella’ and Beyonce’s ‘Single Ladies.’

Following the debut of his album ‘My World’, Bieber stated, “‘I’m looking forward to influencing others in a positive way, my message is you can do anything if you just put your mind to it. I grew up below the poverty line; I didn’t have as much as other people did. I think it made me stronger as a person it built my character. Now I have a 4.0 grade point average and I want to go to college and just become a better person.”



*Photo courtesy of Google*



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# sports 12

by Bryan Clark  
*Sports writer*



## BOYS TENNIS



The Lemont boys tennis team had great success last year; the question they are asking themselves this year is “can we do it again?”

Last year the boys finished off their season going 13 - 4. One of this year’s captains, senior Nick Drez, has high hopes for the season. “This year we have a lot of depth on the squad, since my freshmen year on the team. DeGuzman’s dream was to have a lineup where everyone has sectional experience” States Drez. “This year, it finally happened. I think that all of us will do well at sectionals.”

The last few years of tennis success have not been just because of pure talent. Coaches Jon DeGuzman and Scott Collins have worked their players hard this year. Drez states, “Coaching wise... I guess it’s alright. I’m completely kidding; we couldn’t be more fortunate having Collins and DeGuzman as our coaches. They are great guys.”

Drez isn’t the only one looking to have a good season; DeGuzman states “I believe from previous success in our lineup that we definitely have a shot at the sectional title. We have the guys to do it, but more important than the title, I want as many players as possible to make it down to state.”

The boys tennis team, with skill and some more hard work, has the opportunity to be very successful in this year’s sectional competition. For more information where the boys are headed click here: <http://www.ihsa.org/activity/tnb/index.htm>.



# sports 13

by Danny McKeivitt  
*Sports Editor*



## Athlete of the Week

Senior Kyle Cyr has been having an exceptional season so far. Last season, Cyr lead the team in batting average (.467), homeruns (5) and RBI's (31). As an all conference selection, he also helped lead the team to a 13-3 record in SSC play and win the SSC Blue title. He also signed a letter of intent with Palm Beach Atlantic University for next year.

**Tom-Tom:** What's your take on the season so far?

**Kyle Cyr:** I feel that we are on the right track so far but we need to see some improvement in our consistency. If we can do that then I think we will be alright.

**TT:** What is your favorite song to listen to before a game?

**KC:** Go Getter by Lil Wayne.

**TT:** Would you rather go in a hot tub filled with jellow or red Gatorade?

**KC:** I'd rather go in the one with yellow Gatorade.

**TT:** What game are you looking forward to the most?

**KC:** I am really looking forward to reuniting with Joliet Catholic in the playoffs.

**TT:** Who's the toughest pitcher that you have faced this season and why?

**KC:** It has to be this guy that we faced from Glenbard South. He was a bigger kid and he had a good fastball with two off-speed pitches and he kept nailing the strike zone.

**TT:** What has been your favorite game to play in this season?

**KC:** My favorite game so far has to be against Andrean. They were a pretty good team and we just kept battling back and forth with them... but we ended up coming out on top in extra innings.