



by Laura Harding
News writer

Each year approximately 160,000 children are diagnosed with cancer worldwide. For those undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments, the majority will lose their hair. One organization has taken a stand against the number one disease killer amongst children in the U.S. and Canada.

The St. Baldrick's Foundation has been shaving volunteers' heads and collecting donations for children with cancer since 2000. On Mar. 17, John Bender, Tim Kenney and Edna McDonnell turned their reinsurance company's St. Patrick's Day party into a head-shaving party to help children with cancer.

While the 20 "shavees" at the party planned to raise "\$17,000 on the 17," the end result totaled over \$100,000. Since then, over 180,000 volunteers have shaved their heads and St. Baldrick's donates more to childhood cancer research than any other foundation except the U.S government.

The Lemont Lion's Club has participated in St. Baldrick's for the last two years. According to club member Marty Cassidy, "The website is very helpful, they send you all the materials you need and basically you just go bother your friends [to shave their heads]."

The Lion's club encouraged around eight members to participate last year as well as six members the first year. They raised approximately \$13,000 during their fundraiser last year.

According to Cassidy, the venue they hosted their fundraiser at for the past two years (... This Must Be the Place) closed. They hope to participate in the fire department's St. Baldrick's event this year.

Last year alone, over 11,000 participants shaved their heads for the foundation, of which approximately 45% were women.

While St. Baldrick's was founded on St. Patrick's Day, shavees can participate and donations are welcome throughout the year.

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• TAKE IT
• ALL AWAY.

by Sam Moffett
Features writer

Photo courtesy of Google

“Have you ever wondered why we were put here?”

Her question caught Halberstram off guard. He had been so engrossed in his cat doodle that he had completely forgotten about his estranged granddaughter. He glanced up and turned to a new page in his notebook. Serena Parker brushed her bangs away from her face, her eyes tracing the patterns in the carpet. She had been visiting him frequently, confiding in him when no one else would listen.

She had been acting more quiet than usual; hence Halberstram’s bored attitude and constant doodling. She looked like a waif against the ebony leather of the couch, her reed-thin appearance frightening him. Ever since Sonny disappeared, Serena didn’t eat or sleep due to her constant wondering. *Where did she go? Is she okay? Is she dead?*

“Wonder what?” Halberstram replied as Serena flopped onto her back, her arm draped over her eyes.

“I’ve just been wondering how come we’re stuck here? Like, why do I have to live in this vermin-filled city where the only thing I do is watch the rain fall? I mean,” she lifted her arm in order to look at him. “Don’t you ever get annoyed with all this rain and crime? That’s all that happens here - it rains for a week and then an old lady gets shot in the park.” She sighed, “Misery.”

“Well, if you hate it so much why don’t you just move away?” Halberstram said.

“God, if I could I would, but I can’t. I barely have enough money to pay the rent, let alone buy groceries. I’m lucky that Antoine slides me food that customers don’t eat. Also, I can’t leave until I find Sonny.”

Halberstram rubbed his long fingers against his withered temples, a habit he had when he was getting agitated. “Serena, it’s been two months. The only thing we know is that she left work late.” Serena sat up and glared at him. “Maybe she found someone new.”

“She couldn’t have done that!” Serena barked, “Danny wouldn’t allow it.”

“Well maybe she ran away with another man in order to defy him. Ever think of that?”

Serena stood up. “You’re supposed to be helping me, not smart mouthing me. You’re starting to sound like Crowe.”

“Maybe that’s not a bad thing. I’m just telling you the facts.”

“Facts!” She scoffed, “You don’t know jack about her or anything else for that matter. The only good thing you do is sketch cats!”

“You’re overreacting Serena. After what she did to you I’m surprise you even care about her. She’s just another nobody.”

SLAP. As Serena drew her hand back, tear started to fill her eyes.



“Some help you are,” she spat as she left the room, hurriedly going down the steps and into the Chicago drizzle. *I hate him...* she thought bitterly as she strode down the slippery sidewalk. *Why did I ever go to him for advice? He never helps me financially or with anything else.* She wondered why he was being so cruel but couldn’t think of a logical answer.

Serena stopped mid-thought as she remembered Franny. She began to hurry down the sidewalk towards the telegram station in order to get her message before it closed. Franny was just about to flip the ‘open’ card to ‘closed’ when Serena smacked herself against the window.

“My word, you all ‘bout scared me to death.” Franny was the late night worker at the telegram station, the only Irish immigrant working there. She was almost as old as Dr. Halberstram, but unlike Serena’s grandfather she still had life to her despite her age. “Here fir the gram?” Serena nodded and followed the small woman to the desk. Fanny went through a pile of papers until she found the right one and handed it to an impatient Serena.

As she read it, Franny spoke, “I don’t have any idea what it means, though. What does it mean?”

A smile spread across Serena’s face, “What it means is that it’s happening. It’s finally going to happen.”



Continued in Issue 24



By Ashley Murphy
Features writer

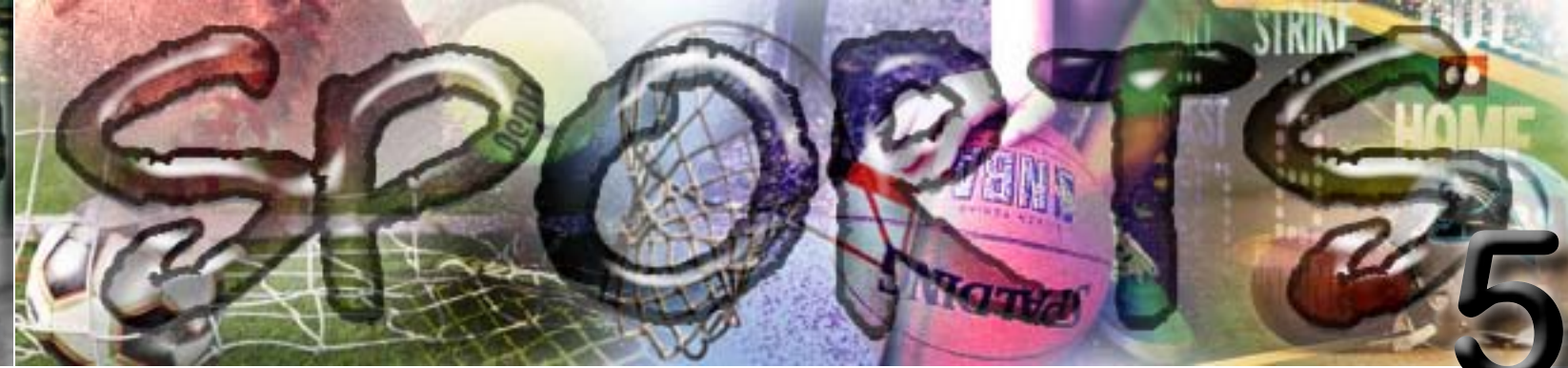
They come in different colors, patterns, and fabrics to satisfy anyone’s needs. Scarves, not only for warmth, but for trend, have been the fashion accessory of the season.

First, it was the brown clogs. Shortly after, leggings and yogas got progressively popular. Then came the Uggs. Although majority of the girls at Lemont High School own a pair of Uggs, scarves became the new trend. LHS sophomore, Lauriel Lyz is a fan of scarves., “Scarves always add color and life into your outfits. They’re comfortable and fun to wear. You don’t have to only wear them when you’re cold. I love them,” said Lyz.

The fantastic thing about scarves is that they are not just a girly accessory. Men can wear them also. The look is a little different, but a scarf definitely makes a guy look sharp and put together. Fashion advice columnist Mimi, from style.la-mimi.com said, “We are witnessing a major fashion revolution where men are knotting, wrapping, twisting and looping their scarves. Let’s face it; men don’t have many accessories to play with. So why not use scarves to add an instant interest and color to your outfit?”

There are so many styles for scarves. For example, winter scarves, thin scarves, circle scarves, wool scarves and long scarves are just a few to choose from. Just like Uggs and yoga pants, scarves are most likely to stay a popular trend for a while.

Looking for an accessory to complete your look? Grab the stylish scarf you have been eyeing at the store. Scarves are a fantastic accessory for any outfit anywhere at any time.



Lemont Varsity Cheerleaders

finish **THIRD** at state

by Ian Stratta
Sports editor



After three straight years of dominating the state competition, the Lemont varsity cheerleaders finally ended their three-year streak of first place finishes.

The team finished third in the state competition. Arlington Heights (St. Viator) won the event with a score of 89.04. Oak Forest finished second with a score of 88.28, just one tenth of a point above the Indians (88.18).

Head coach Brittany Glowa commented, “This year was a success. We had a new team, a very young team, and our goal was to hit a perfect routine with no deductions at State, and that’s exactly what we did on the final day.” She went on to say, “Everyone was extremely

happy that we at least placed on the podium. It was hard on some of the returning members who have previously won a championship; for some it was once, others twice, and for our senior Nicole May it was three.”

Assistant Principle in charge of extra-curricular athletics and activities John Young stated, “[State] was a tremendous success because it’s extremely difficult for any team to take home a trophy, especially at the varsity level.”

The varsity cheerleaders have averaged a score of 90.94 in the last three state competitions; each competition has seen Lemont finish first by a wide margin with the average difference between first and second being about 1.95 points.

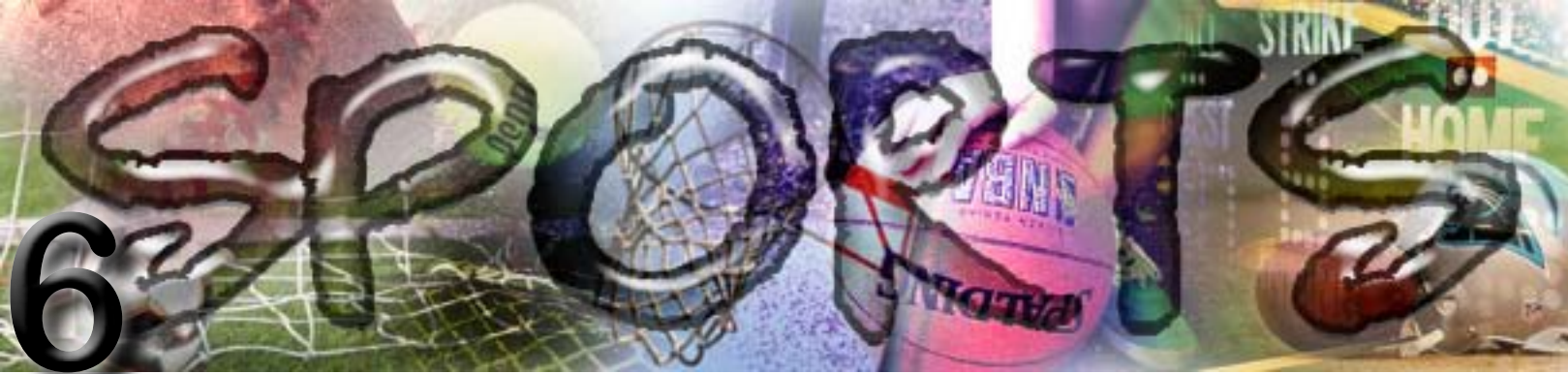
However, the gap between Lemont and second place has gotten progressively smaller. Three years ago, Lemont dominated by scoring 4.3 points above anyone else; two years ago the girls scored 1.48 points above second; and last year, Lemont was just eight hundredths of a point above second.

Senior Alex Lyewski added, “We got third in state and are the only team in the state of Illinois that has brought home a trophy for the past seven years and all of the years that cheerleading has had an IHSA state series. That, to me, is a successful season and I am so proud of all the girls for all we accomplished this year.”

Young was extremely impressed by the girls’ performance and finished off by saying, “I am so proud of the seniors, Nicole May and Alex Lyewski, for working so hard for the last four years with nothing but class and dignity.”



Photo by Brittany Glowa



A BIG WIN for a talented team

by Paul Grossi
Sports writer

On Feb. 4, 2012, the Super Bowl was the most watched television show of the year, bringing in 111.3 million viewers.

Whether you were cheering for the New England Patriots or the New York Giants, it was a thrilling game to watch and one that came down to the final drive. Some big plays and big drives opened the game to the Giants in the final minutes of the fourth quarter. Eli Manning and his team were down once again in the fourth quarter, but they came back by making incredible plays to eventually win the Super Bowl.

Manning, who stayed calm for most of the game, threw an incredible pass to wide receiver Mario Manningham in the fourth quarter. Manningham was doubled covered and was close to the sideline as he made the catch.

He managed to keep two feet in bounds and keep control of the ball as he was knocked over. The catch was challenged by Patriots head coach Bill Belichick.

The referees took some time reviewing the play, and eventually they came to a decision ruling that the player caught the ball in bounds. The catch set up the Giants in good field position with the ball near mid field. Some later drives in the fourth quarter had the Giants eventually in the red zone. As Manning handed off the ball to Ahmad Bradshaw, the Patriots opened up a big gap for Bradshaw to score so that they could get possession of the ball.

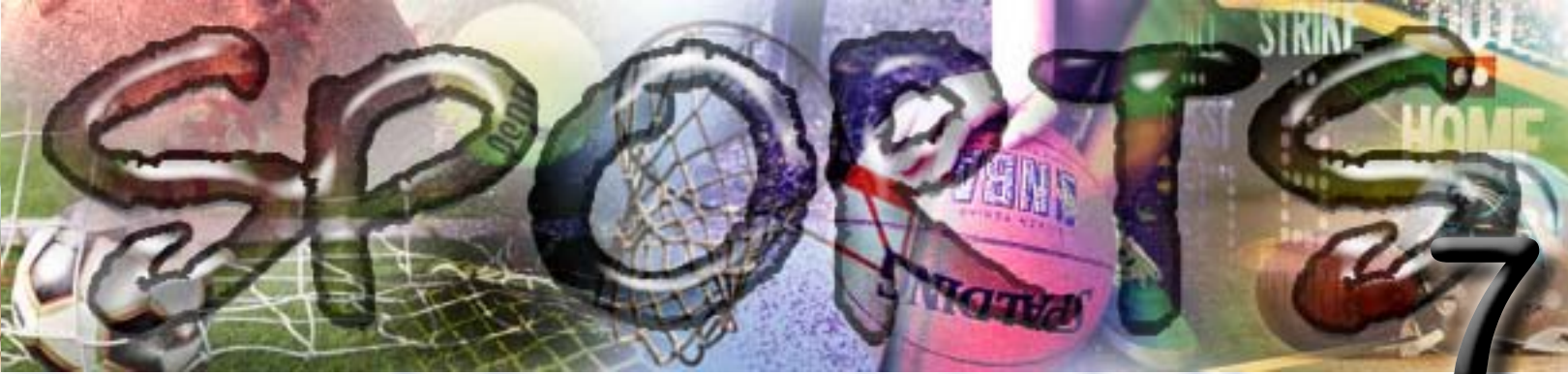
Bradshaw at first was going to go straight in to the end zone but then started to regret his decision. He ended up falling in, giving the Patriots the ball with 59 seconds left. Tom Brady was doing his job as always, making big passes and going 27-41, throwing for 276 yards and two touchdowns in the game. But his teammates could not pull in catches and the defense lacked in completing tackles.

Manning was named MVP, going 30-41, throwing for 296 yards and one touchdown. He won a brand new Corvette, and won in his brother's stadium. The excitement continued for the MVP, as he traveled to Disney World and then the next day headed back to New York for the parade.

The Giants won the game 21-17 in thrilling action, and this Super Bowl will certainly be one for the record books.



Photo courtesy of Google



Record Seven Medalists at Wrestling State Finals

by Ethan Parafink
Sports writer

A school-record ten Lemont wrestlers competed in 2012 IHSA Class 2A State Finals, held Feb. 16-18, at the University of Illinois' Assembly Hall, as seven of them finished with medals.

Seniors Jake Kaminsky and Eric Kirkman finished as runner-ups in the 152 and 170 pound classes, respectively; while senior John Tomala earned third at 195 pounds. Seniors Glenn Malecki and Mark Kirkman finished fourth at 132 and 160 pounds, respectively; and senior Jake Latanski came in fifth in the 126 pound class, as did junior Chris Giatras in the 182 pound class.

These seven were joined by senior Bobby Bromberek in the 138 pound class, junior Mike Devitt at 220 pounds, and freshman Jimmy Brennan at 145 pounds. They qualified for state after placing in the top four of their weight class at the Class 2A Lemont Sectional on Feb. 10.

Kaminsky (43-4), a Regional and Sectional champion, came up just short of an undefeated postseason run, losing 2-1 in a tightly contested title match against Austin Culton of Sycamore.

Eric Kirkman (42-7), a Sectional runner-up, came up short in the title match against Marian Catholic's Nathan Jackson, losing by fall at the 3:29 mark.

Tomala (41-6) lost his first round match to eventual state runner-up Joey Valdivia of Grayslake Central, but bounced back, winning three straight matches in the wrestlebacks. In the third-place match, he defeated Sycamore's Jake Davis with a 6-2 decision.

Mark Kirkman (36-10) won in the preliminary round, but lost in the quarterfinals to eventual state runner-up Austin Armetta of Mahomet-Seymour. Kirkman was dominant in the wrestlebacks, winning once by major decision and twice by fall, but lost 5-3 in overtime to Brett O'Kane of Richmond-Burton in the third-place match.

Malecki (34-10), in his second straight state finals appearance, lost in the quarterfinals against eventual state champion Zane Richards of Carbondale. Malecki came back with three straight wins in the wrestlebacks before dropping a 5-2 decision against Fenton's Ray Bunker in the third-place match.

Latanski (40-10) won his first round match, lost in the quarterfinals, and won his first two matches in the wrestlebacks. He fell short in the semifinal wrestlebacks, but topped Chicago Bowen's Rudolph Johnson by a 9-5 score in the fifth-place match, earning his second state medal. Latanski came in fourth in the 103 pound class as a sophomore in 2010.

Giatras (40-6), who won his sectional title, took fifth in the 182-pound class after winning three of five bouts. In the semifinals, he lost 3-2 to eventual state runner-up Stephon Rudicil of Bloomington, but came back to pin Morris' Nik Countryman at the 1:51 mark in the fifth-place match. This was Giatras' second straight state appearance.

The other state participants: Bromberek (21-7) came up short in the preliminary round, Devitt (31-15) lost his first two matches and Brennan (32-17) also lost a pair of matches.

Previous to the competition, head coach John St. Clair was excited about the opportunity to have ten wrestlers go to state. "It's really cool because it's something that's never been done before", said St. Clair. The opportunity certainly was not wasted as the team had an outstanding showing, only trailing Montini Catholic in Class 2A medalists.

The team, led by eight seniors, certainly does not lack in leadership or experience, but St. Clair said the team has greatly improved since last year, leading to the record state showing. "They've gotten stronger and put in a lot of work in the weight room in the offseason," said St. Clair.

The wrestling team will have more work to do this offseason, as it replaces its eight seniors and attempts to continue the recent success of the program.

Photo courtesy of Google



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NEW TOM-TOM FEATURE



Drawing by Charmaine Balisalisa

FIND TOM-TOM

the thumb monkey

Be the first Tom-Tom reader to email Mr. Clark, with the page number and location, of our new mascot: Tom-Tom! He will be hiding in every issue, send emails to SEANC@lemont.k12.il.us to win a prize! GOOD LUCK!

[RULES] The following may not participate in the search: all the members of the Tom-Tom staff and their family members. The winner of an issue may not participate in "Find Tom-Tom" in the next two issues. Be very specific in terms of location of the thumb monkey.

Athletic Performance of the Week

Boys Basketball:

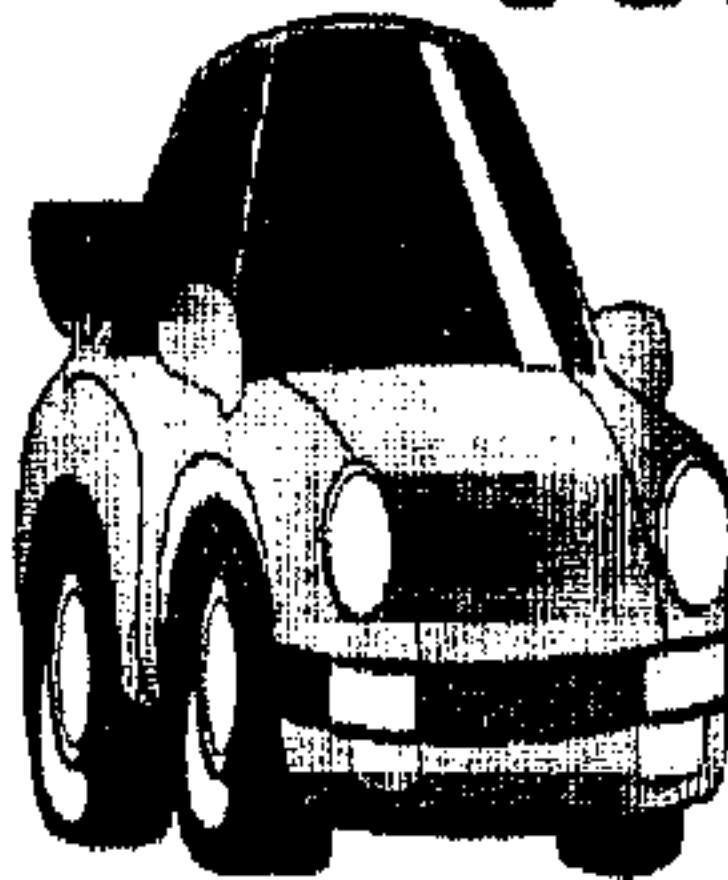
Joe Hehir

Scored 12 points against TF North on Feb. 10 and 21 points against TF South on Feb. 14.



Photo by Tony Hamilton

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HOROSCOPES

Aries

Mar 21 - Apr 20

You're not entirely sure what you want to do with your love life early this week -- but you know that something needs to change! Sometimes that initial feeling of discomfort is all you need to get started in the right direction again.

Taurus

Apr 21 - May 21

Continue with the cautious behavior midweek, as most people are more sensitive to slights. Finally, your good energy starts to kick in on Friday, and you should be sure of yourself and others through the weekend.

Gemini

May 22 - Jun 21

Be sure to listen up over the weekend, as someone is trying to send you a romantic message, but doesn't quite know how to spit it out.

Cancer

Jun 22 - Jul 22

Your social energy is not quite working for you this week, but if you stay on top of it, you might be able to find some satisfaction. Your alarm bells are ringing early on, so make sure that you're totally comfortable with the new phase of your relationship.

Leo

Jul 23 - Aug 21

Monday and Tuesday need creative answers to small problems, and your quick mind can keep them coming -- impressing the person you most want to impress! Of course, it all adds up to something even bigger than romance, but you're happy with what you get.

Virgo

Aug 22 - Sep 23

For much of this week, you can get by with a display of patience. Early on, you can expect changes to your plans or new possibilities to come your way, and if you open yourself up to them, you make a seriously positive impression.

Libra

Sep 23 - Oct 23

Don't let your expectations get the better of you on Wednesday or Thursday, though, as you may need to slow down more than you'd like. Things pick up and slow down on their own cycles sometimes!

Scorpio

Oct 24 - Nov 22

Make a radical change in your approach to love on Monday -- it should shake things up for the better! If you're currently involved, that may necessitate some negotiation, but you can take care of that without giving up too much.

Sagittarius

Nov 23 - Dec 22

The middle of the week is a great time to expand even further, though you may not be exactly sure what's going on while you do so. Let your sweetie or your muse lead the way. The weekend is all about feeling good.

Capricorn

Dec 23 - Jan 20

You're ready for a change early this week, but nothing so huge that you don't recognize your life any more! If you're in a long-term relationship, it's all about negotiation, but otherwise you should go for as much as you can get away with.

Aquarius

Jan 21 - Feb 19

Your personal energy is so strong on Monday and Tuesday that you can get in almost anyone's good graces. Make up with your partner, say hello to that stone hottie or ring up that ex you've always wondered about.

Pisces

Feb 20 - Mar 20

Are you being too hard on yourself? The first part of the week forces you to answer that question, and if you're thinking about it too hard, your date or partner should answer it for you pretty quickly. Try to ease up!

Photos and Horoscopes courtesy of
Seventeen Magazine