

# Tom-Tom

## Seniors: Need \$ For College?

by Morgan McPartland  
Head Editor

Seniors, did you think you were finished filling out tedious college applications? Well, you're partially right.

LHS' Class of 2012 can now complete the Local Scholarship Application, which is available on the home page of the LHS website. While it's not a detailed 10-page application, it's equally important because it gives current seniors the opportunity to apply for over 20 scholarships with only one application.

Students can submit applications until April 2 and LHS encourages all current seniors to take a few minutes to make a submission.

Since it's such a short application, students cannot begin the application and return to it later; it must be completed in one sitting. The application will only take about ten minutes to fill out, and there are no essays.

Although students will only fill out one generic application, it will be distributed to a variety of local businesses, making students eligible for multiple scholarships. An average of about \$200,000 is annually awarded through this scholarship program, and according to LHS guidance counselor Stephanie Bushnell, "everyone has a shot at getting one."

Bushnell is the scholarship coordinator for LHS and she believes the local application is probably going to be the easiest scholarship application that a student could fill out. "LHS students should take advantage of this application because it's definitely worth it. This is free money that can help relieve some of the financial burden of the high cost of college," she said.

All scholarships will be awarded at the Senior Honors Night on Monday, May 21 in the PAC. Contact the guidance department with any questions regarding the local scholarships.

## In This Issue

**P.3 That Doggie In the Window**

**P.5 More Than Disney**

**P.6 The Return of the South Side  
Irish Parade**

**P.7 Kids In The Street**

**P.8 The Half-Hearted Helper**

**P.9 Not So Great Expectations**

**P.10 Lin-Sanity No More**

**P.11 Cricket Spotlight & Sahil  
Rana**

**P.12 Baseball Previews**

**P.14 Horoscopes**

Look for this link on the LHS  
Homepage!



## Students and Faculty:

Although the Student Handbook indicates a vacation day on Friday, Apr. 20, this day will be a B attendance day for LHS. There IS school on Friday, Apr. 20.



# Tom-Tom Staff

## Head Editor

Mary McKevitt

## Features Writers

Alyssa Cinatl

Michael Joseph Gaytan

Sam Moffett

## Editorials

## Editor/Writer

Maribeth VanHecke

## Sports Writers

Tom Folliard

Paul Grossi

Ethan Parafink

## Sports Editor

Ian Stratta

## News Writers

Ashlee Berner

Shannon Ehle

Nicole McKevitt

Will Vanderbilt

## News Editor

Mary McKevitt

## Design Editor

Mary McKevitt

## Design Assistants

Charmaine Balisalisa

Haley Haase

## Supervisor

Sean Clark

## Photo Editor

Ashley Murphy



# THAT DOGGIE IN THE WINDOW

by Laura Harding  
Guest Editorialist

There is no denying the cuteness of a playful puppy. It can be hard to resist big brown eyes peering up at you from a pet-store window. However, the dollars you shell out for Buddy or Lady are minimal in comparison to the cost of supplying society with its high demand for purebred pups.

Many of those “doggies in the window” came from puppy mills.

## WHAT IS A PUPPY MILL?

Puppy mills began taking off after World War II. After seasons of failing crops, farmers turned to puppy breeding as a quick “cash crop.” By adapting their equipment, novice breeders started mass-producing puppies and selling them to pet stores.

While countless stray dogs roam the streets, breeding dogs are forced to produce litter after litter of new puppies, many of which will join the strays.

Puppy mills are essentially dog-breeding factories. The conditions within mills are unsanitary and cramped.

In many cases, breeding dogs are contained in cages and stacked one on top of the other. Grated cage-floors allow for minimal waste clean-up on the behalf of the breeder.

Female dogs are bred at least twice a year until they are seen as unusable. When this point is reached, they are either killed or sold to another deal to see if “one more litter” can be produced.

## DISADVANTAGES OF PUPPY MILLS

Puppies coming from puppy mills are often purchased with problems such as disease or behavioral issues. Poor breeding conditions, lack of socialization and inbreeding attribute to such difficulties.

Because regular veterinary checkups are usually overlooked, many dogs suffer from fleas, heartworm, kennel cough and digestive problems.

Many dogs are prone to hereditary conditions including heart and kidney disease, blood disorders and epilepsy as well. Due to inbreeding, puppy mill dogs are also subjected to behavioral and mental issues.

## PUPPIES VS. DOGS, PUREBRED VS. MUTT

The battle between new and old has plagued society for generations. Consumers fuel the fire by trading in their old, unwanted products for the “2.0” version.

Sadly, the search for the latest and greatest controls the pet industry as well. Hopeful pet owners don’t just want a cute, energetic puppy; they want a purebred pedigree complete with a certificate of authentication.

Society has, in essence, turned “man’s best friend” into nothing more than an asset. While friendly, playful mutts sit patiently in animal shelters across the country, puppy mill pups are scooped up one after another only to be replaced by more.

## HOLLYWOOD’S INFLUENCE

While puppy mills build their profit on supplying the demand of society, Hollywood aids in leading the consumer to the demand.

Hollywood dogs making their debut on the big screen peak society’s interest, increasing the popularity of a certain breed. Movies like 101 Dalmations, My Dog Skip, Beethoven and Air Bud build the breed’s reputation, causing puppy mills to respond by kicking up production.

While owners line up to take home their very own Beethoven, many find their expectation cut short due to the inevitable problems stemming from purchasing a puppy mill dog. In turn, animal shelters are found with an influx of the given breed.

*Continued on page 4*





Continued from page 3

## THE OVERPOPULATION OF MAN’S BEST FRIEND

Each year, approximately seven million stray, abandoned or lost animals are taken in by animal shelters across the United States, according to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). Three to four million dogs and cats must be euthanized by animal shelters each year due to overpopulation. Because consumers purchase their pets from breeders and pet stores, puppy mills are encouraged to produce more, eliminating an end to the problem. There are countless homeless animals awaiting a caring family. There is absolutely no need to produce more animals that will ultimately endure the same fate.

**SOLUTION: ADOPT!**

Although a purebred pedigree attracts hopeful owners, much more than a sheet of paper defines the relationship between owner and pet. In order to discourage puppy mills, adopt your new friend from an animal shelter. Not only is adopting a shelter dog inexpensive, shelter dogs don’t have problems that puppy mill dogs are subjected to. Although you may not be able to teach an old dog new tricks, giving a slightly more “experienced” dog a second chance at a loving home is equally as satisfying as bringing home a young pup. Although puppy mills have been fueled by society’s demand for cute, the mass-production of puppies and the exploitation of breeder dogs is anything but cute.

## LOOKING TO ADOPT A FURRY FRIEND?

Check out these shelter dogs at the West Suburban Humane Society (WSHS):

**Simba:** Trust me; my bark is bigger than my bite. I’m a very protective dog and though I may be a bit stubborn, I’m always loyal to my owner. I do like to be the only baby in the house though. I know all of my obedience commands and I come with a free training session!

**Description:** American Staffordshire Terrier, 10 months, male



**Boo Boo:** I may not be the youngest of the bunch, but you’d never know it! I have tons of energy and I LOVE walking in circles. I’m not very big, but I’ve got quite the bark. I’d love to be taken home by a nice couple without other pets or kids, especially if it means lots of walks.

**Description:** Jack Russell Terrier, 9 years old, female



## MORE THAN DISNEY

by Sarah Newton  
News writer

Going on spring break to Florida brings about the typical thoughts of Mickey Mouse and Disney princesses. Few know of the amazing wonders lying in the quaint towns just outside of hectic Orlando.

### Blue Spring State Park

During the winters when the ocean waters are too cold for the manatees, they travel up stream to the hot spring in Blue Spring State Park. The 133 acre park also has the original house along with a history of Blue Spring and swimming in the hot spring. The cool water is a perfect way to end a few hours at Blue Spring State Park

### Citrus Tower

If you are ever driving through Clermont, be sure to take a stop at the highest point in Florida, the Citrus Tower. Travel 22 stories high to look over 8 counties and on a clear day see all the way to Disney. Once up at the top, be sure to make a wish and listen to a coin drop down to ground level. Tickets are \$4 a person. Judy Purdy said “Even though ticket prices were only a dollar when I came here 20 years ago, I still take my grandchildren to experience the view.”

### St. Augustine

This charming city was first settled by Juan Ponce de Leon during his search for the Fountain of Youth. The rich history along with modern stores is the perfect place to spend a weekend. From Flagler College to the Presbyterian Church and the back to the original Spanish Fort, this city is filled with fun for all age groups and types. Walk through Ripley’s Believe It or Not or tour the Chocolate Factory, just make sure to purchase trolley tickets, good for three days. The rides inform you of all the dirty secrets that lie in the streets of St. Augustine.

### Clearwater Beach

Spending the day at the beach is one of the most relaxing parts of a vacation. Whether it is the Ocean or Gulf Coast, a day with the sun and sand is a perfect break from the stresses of everyday life. Most think of Cocoa Beach but Clearwater is equally as beautiful with great shops right around the corner. Be sure to bring lots of sunscreen to avoid being fried by the Florida sun

### Capone’s

Missing Chicago? Don’t worry, just visit Capone’s for an Italian dinner and a humorous show. The wait staff remains in character during the 1920’s style show that has everything from singing to standup. The sarcastic humor is appropriate for all ages. Tickets are \$27 for an endless buffet and an unlimited assortment of drinks.

Don’t be afraid to explore when you take your break. The greatest memories are created by doing things outside the typical vacation box.







# The Return of the SOUTH SIDE IRISH PARADE

by Ashley Murphy  
Features writer

Sadness reigned over all of the south side of Chicago for the past two years, but this year Chicago is making a comeback. The South Side Irish Parade returns this year with full force, but what were the reasons they discontinued the parade? What changes will be made?

In 2009, the South Side Irish Parade made its last appearance, until now. In the past, residents complained about fighting along the parade route, public intoxication, vomiting and urinating on local lawns and inappropriate public displays of affection. This year, though, “Organizers plan a one-year trial of a new parade with a zero-tolerance policy on alcohol,” said CBS.

The South Side Irish Parade started in 1979, with a group of Beverly and West Morgan Park residents gathering up groups of people and kids to march through the area. Over the years, the parade morphed into a huge gathering where thousands of people came from all over the Chicago-land area to participate. Traditions were lost and disorderly conduct replaced it.

At the parade in 2009, there were a total of 54 arrests. One of those included an assault on an officer. In 2010, the parade was replaced with a mini festival including soda bread contests, festivals of art and various types of traditional entertainment.

According to the Chicago Tribune, the Emanuel administration has sent a letter to parade organizers, asking for additional details about security plans for the parade and calling for a public meeting to discuss the parade, but will these security plans succeed?

This year’s parade was different. In the past, it was estimated 300,000 attended the parade. This year, only 150,000 attended. This year, the parade was family-friendly and fun for all ages. Police reported zero arrests compared to the 54 arrests in 2009.

Parade organizers paid \$80,000 to hire a private security firm, which deployed yellow-jacketed staff along side streets leading to Western Avenue to check for illicit beverages.

Resident of the Morgan Park and Beverly area stated, “The parade was the way it should be. It wasn’t crazy like it was in the past. Instead of the party going on in the streets, many residents were having house parties instead.”

Indeed this year was much safer but is the amount of money spent to keep the neighborhood safe worth keeping the parade an ongoing tradition?

As many residents say around the neighborhood, “Keep the tradition coming on.”



Photo courtesy of Google

# KIDS IN THE STREET

by Sam Moffett  
Features writer

After their last album was released in 2008, the world seemed to have forgotten about The All-American Rejects. Let’s face it; they’re only a one-hit-wonder band, topping charts with popular songs such as “Move Along” and “Gives You Hell.”

The Rejects are determined to top charts once again with the release of their new album Kids in the Street.

In an interview with Billboard Magazine, lead singer Tyson Ritter said, “[Kids in the Street] is about a guy losing his way and finding it through reflection and self-realization.” The songs do reflect a man’s life very well, talking about touring around the world and falling in love. But, this album seems lackluster to the previous albums the band had released before. The songs are well written and well preformed, but the overall sound leaves something to be desired. Their song “Beekeepers Daughter” is a prime example. The songs starts out strong with some good sounding guitar and good starting lyrics, but the loses its jam along the way with whiny vocals from Ritter. Their earlier work used to pump up the listener, make them jam out; their new songs are very mellow in deliverance, a new change for the band.

Kids in the Street is a decent album and is worth checking out if you have the time.



Photo courtesy of Google





# The Half-Hearted Helper

by Maribeth Van Hecke  
*Editorials Editor*

I might just be sick of hearing the “Oh no, I have to go to [insert organization here]. I really don’t want to go...” But if you don’t want to do something, why are you doing it?

Half-hearted volunteering fulfills nothing. In fact, it just makes us all uncomfortable. But when you open your mind and help someone when it isn’t assigned, you will find it counts even more.

Senior Ashley Barajaz says that she likes volunteering because you get to help people and it “makes you feel good about yourself.”

Volunteerism can help a community economically and socially, and even raises confidence levels in the volunteer.

But really, if you’re going to volunteer you should do it because you want to. Not because something is making you. When your whole heart is in something, you get a more fulfilling result.

Sometimes the “required hours” aspect of volunteer organizations can get in the way with the work that has to be done. It could be more beneficial if we set goals for ourselves, rather than set regulations.

National Honors Society (NHS) Sponsor Marek Dron comments that required hours aren’t any different than the expected grade point average to obtain or the school’s “behavior policy [that] is expected to be met.”

Barajaz also disagrees that counting hours has a negative effect, “I volunteer more than the hours required, so it’s less stressful.”

Senior Andrea Pehr comments, “It’s a good idea but I think we should do a reflection on the hours.”

Volunteering is a good thing in any situation, but doing so because you want to puts that much more back into the community and your heart. Just stop complaining about it, it’s a good thing. As Barajaz says, volunteering ultimately “revives your faith in humanity.”

# Not So Great Expectations

by Ethan Parafink  
*Sports Editor*

The Chicago Cubs have not won the World Series in 103 years. This is certain.

What is not certain is that the drought will continue, but it seems very likely as the Cubs begin a new era and try to rebuild.

As many fans know, the Cubs retooled the entire front office this offseason, signing Jed Hoyer as general manager and former Red Sox GM Theo Epstein as President of Baseball Operations. The team also has a brand-new coaching staff led by first year manager Dale Sveum.

Many consider Epstein to be one of the greatest minds in baseball, as he led Boston to two World Series titles, but he hasn’t yet made any major moves for the Cubs.

His biggest and possibly best move was trading problematic pitcher Carlos Zambrano to the Miami Marlins. Other than this, his moves include signing outfielder David DeJesus, third baseman Ian Stewart and 19 year old Cuban pitcher Gerardo Concepcion.

Not the type of high profile signings and trades many expected when Epstein took over, but the idea is clear: it is time to rebuild.

The Cubs have some very good young players, most notably All-Star shortstop Starlin Castro, but also some highly ranked minor leaguers like outfielder Brett Jackson and newly acquired first baseman Anthony Rizzo. While no one from the team has officially said it is rebuilding, all signs point to it.

Sveum still believes his team is a legitimate postseason contender, or at least that is what he is saying. However, it will be tough to make a run with the team’s current talent level.

There is hope, though, as many Cubs players are having great springs, including outfielder Alfonso Soriano, who has four home runs. Soriano is one of the oldest players on the team and his huge contract makes him virtually untradeable.

He will be probably around for a couple more years, but the rest of the team is moving in a new direction, emphasizing young talent.

Opening Day always brings about hope for a successful year, but many fans are tempering their expectations this year and already looking forward to next year.

*Photo courtesy of Google*





# 10 Lin-Sanity NO More

by Tom Folliard  
*Sports writer*

Feb. 4: Amar'e Stoudemire and Carmelo Anthony are both out with injuries as the Knicks playoff hopes dwindle.

Enter Jeremy Lin. Jeremy who? Well if you don't live under a rock and have turned on ESPN or any other sports station in the past month that is just about the only topic of conversation. The Asian-Sensation, Lin-Sanity, Linsational and Linderella are just a few of the recent headlines around the nation.

Back to Feb. 4. The Knicks were at home against a struggling Nets team looking for a much needed win. In the first quarter, Knicks head coach Mike D'Antoni pointed to Lin on the bench to check in and the magic began. He ended the game with 25 points, seven assists and five rebounds. Lucky? Well the world certainly thought so.

Two days later, the Knicks were hosting the Utah Jazz with a big buzz coming off the prior victory. As Jeremy Lin's name was announced with the starting lineup, the crowd in Madison Square Garden erupted.

Lin played like a veteran. He stayed poised and confident throughout the game as he ended with 28 points and eight assists.

By this time, the sports world could not stop talking about Lin. In a normal one hour episode of SportsCenter, some form of his name was said an average of 54 times. This was just what the Knicks needed - another player that could contribute to the offense of Anthony and Stoudemire.

Five days later, the Knicks were playing in Minnesota against the Timberwolves. As far as Lin was concerned, this was a home game. Every person in the stadium, whether a Knicks or Timberwolves fan, went wild every time he scored.

With five seconds left, the Knicks were down by one. Lin had the ball as he watched the time tick away. With one second left, he pulled up for a three-pointer and got nothing but net.

"Jaw-dropping," said senior Michael Walus. "Just ten days ago not a single person knew this guy's name and now the whole world is his fan."

After the Jeremy Lin high that most of the world was on dwindled down, he became just another average point guard. Teams started to get scouting reports on his game and his stats have not been the same since.

Behind the points and highlights, Lin was turning the ball over a previous unheard of amount. In eight of his first nine games he had at least seven turnovers. He now has the NBA record for the most turnovers in a players first seven starts with 45.

Lin has been learning his role on the team. Anthony and Stoudemire like working with him, but with them being back on the court he is not the best player anymore. The sync these three were supposed to have is just not working right now. The Knicks have lost six straight and their playoff hopes have gone right back down the drain.

Some body needs to step it up. Lin is not that guy. He is a role player and a streaky shooter. Lin is there to help support the game of Anthony and Stoudemire, not to lead the team. Sports networks seem to overhype athletes way too much lately, as they have done with Tim Tebow and now Lin.

Nothing against Jeremy Lin, he just is not the Mr. Lincredible the Knicks or the world thought he was.



*Photo courtesy of Google*



# 11 CRICKET SPOTLIGHT: Sahil Rana

by Ian Stratta  
*Sports writer*

Ever heard of Sachin Tendulkar? What about Brian Lara? Kapil Dev?

The men above are three of the greatest cricketers in the world; however, most Americans would not know these men while they are household names almost anywhere else on the planet.

Lemont senior Sahil Rana has been a dedicated cricket fan and player for about 13 years now.

As Rana attempts to bring some diversity to America's general sports (for example baseball, football and basketball), I sat down with him to talk about the sport itself.

**Tom Tom:** What does cricket mean to you?

**Sahil Rana:** Cricket is fun; it is a sport where I can express my individuality and my talents. Cricket is a way for me to communicate and connect with others who I may never meet in my lifetime otherwise.

**TT:** What are some things you know about cricket that others may not know?

**SR:** Well cricket happens to be a sport that was invented in England, not India. Cricket happens to be played in almost 75% of the world, including some main countries like India, Australia, New Zealand, England and Canada. Also, there are three types of matches: a One Day match, a Five Day test series, and a 20 over match.

**TT:** Who are some people you look up to in the world of cricket?

**SR:** I look up to a few people or even try to imitate some people like Australian Batsman Ricky Ponting, Indian Batsman Sachin Tendulkar and a very famous Sri Lankan Bowler named Muttiah Muralitharan.

**TT:** Who got you started playing the sport?

**SR:** When I was young, my grandfather brought me a cricket bat from India, and I began playing with my uncle and father. I guess the person who got me started was my father, because he was a huge enthusiast of the game. He got me started by having me sit with him and watch matches.

Although the cricket fan is a dying breed in the United States, Rana is one of the few remaining; and who knows, he could be the one to bring the art of cricket to American soil.



*Photo by Tony Hamilton*





# Baseball preview



by Paul Grossi  
*Sports writer*

With tryouts over and another season approaching, the baseball team has been practicing for about three weeks now. The varsity team, led by head coach Joe Rodeghero, was very successful last year, winning big games and making it to the play-offs with a conference record of 13-2 and 24-8 overall.

The last couple of years, the baseball team under Rodeghero has been very successful and it should be again this year. The lineup for this year's team is pretty good, and one particular player that sticks out to Rodeghero is senior Giovanni Schmitt.

The team is filled with many talented players like Schmitt and one player has already sign with a university, senior Tyler Jay. He is a left-handed pitcher who has committed to play baseball at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

Jay is now the fourth Lemont player in the past two years to earn an NCAA Division I scholarship. Jay has done very well while playing on the team. In his two varsity seasons he has posted a 9-3 record with 2 saves over 74.2 innings.

On top of that he had 102 strikeouts and has an ERA of 2.91. Jay has done well on the mound, but also has shown strength in batting.

The baseball team, just like any team, loses great players, but the team shows that it can win without that "great player". Players begin to pick it up and practice hard and now that the season is on the way, some of the players that were previously on the bottom of the list are making an impression on Rodeghero.

The team has put a lot of time in and will play this Saturday for its first game.

*Photo courtesy of Google*

## NEW TOM-TOM FEATURE



## FIND TOM-TOM

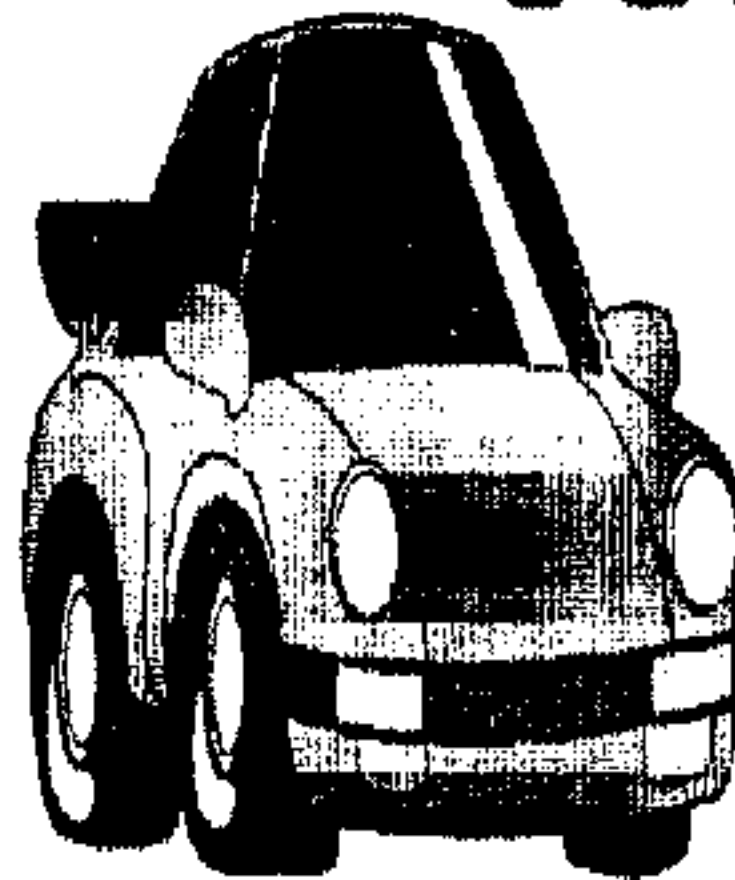
*the thumb monkey*

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.

*Drawing by Charmaine Balalisa*

# A-Orland Driving School



## \$75 off coupon

## (708) 460-6622

offer only good towards our 42 hour program  
must be presented by the first day of your class  
Not good with other offers EXPIRES 05/31/2012



# HOROSCOPES

## Aries

Mar 21 - Apr 20

The middle portion of the week is filled with great energy, and you may find that it's a good time to explore new options. That could mean new ways of meeting people or new activities to try with your mate.

## Taurus

Apr 21 - May 21

You are thinking about long-term commitments on Monday -- even if you just started dating, or are very single! There's nothing wrong with thinking about it, and if the circumstances are right, you may want to open negotiations.

## Gemini

May 22 - Jun 21

Communication is a little spotty this weekend, because nobody seems to know exactly what they want to say. You can cut through it on Sunday, probably.

## Cancer

Jun 22 - Jul 22

You don't feel like being pushed early this week, and your great energy backs you up. That may be interpreted as indecisiveness, though, so watch out!

## Leo

Jul 23 - Aug 21

Your ego may get in the way of your love life somewhat as the week begins, but you can counteract that possibility by keeping your feelings at the forefront and not trying to cover up anything -- no matter how embarrassing it may be.

## Virgo

Aug 22 - Sep 23

Things start to click on Friday, and you can feel your good energy flooding back into you and helping you aim in a new, more ambitious, direction.

## Libra

Sep 23 - Oct 23

You need to stick to business early this week -- in fact, you may want to defer the romance 'til Tuesday. That doesn't mean you can't fantasize or pore over the personals on your downtime, though!

## Scorpio

Oct 24 - Nov 22

Your personal energy is incredible on Monday, and you should be able to attract a new sweetie or convince your current flame to do almost anything within reason. Live large!

## Sagittarius

Nov 23 - Dec 22

Positive emotions flood your mind mid-week, and it's the best time to make your move or take things to a new level with your current sweetheart. Your energy is perfect for making things happen.

## Capricorn

Dec 23 - Jan 20

You need to organize your thoughts and feelings before interacting with anyone you have any romantic feelings for today -- otherwise, you're sure to trip over your words and maybe blurt out the opposite of what you mean.

## Aquarius

Jan 21 - Feb 19

Life starts to get really confusing this weekend, and that goes doubly for your romantic side. See if you can get a clue from sweetie or your new crush, but you may need to wait.

## Pisces

Feb 20 - Mar 20

You can't make heads or tails of your sweetie's words on Monday -- or figure out what your new crush is up to -- but it doesn't affect your feelings one way or the other. It's a good time to cruise.