



GROUP INTERPRETATION

by Laura Harding
News writer

On Mar. 17, Lemont High School's Speech team advanced to the State competition for its Group Interpretation performance of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" by William Finn and Rachel Sheinkin.

Of the 14 members, seven received IHSA All-Sectional Honors for the performance: seniors Kevin Driscoll and Rhiannon Lindgren, junior Aubree Tally and sophomores Robert Rigler, Anne Marie Alwan, Ryan Luzzo and Sara Van Hecke.

On Mar. 23, the cast performed their G.I. skit at the Preliminary A competition, finishing second to Marian Catholic.

In the final round of the State competition on Mar. 24,

Lemont ranked fifth out of six finalist teams with 15 points

Lemont also earned the Sportsmanship Award.

Six cast members earned the All-State Cast award: seniors Kevin Driscoll and Rhiannon Lindgren, junior Aubree Tally and sophomores Robert Rigler, Anne Marie Alwan and Sara Van Hecke.

This is G.I.'s third appearance at the IHSA Group Interpretation State Finals, the first being in 2010, followed by their performance of "Bullets over Broadway" in 2011.



Photo by Aubree Tally

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LET'S MAKE KONY FAMOUS

Sarah Newton
News writer

After his presidency, Bill Clinton was asked what his biggest regret as president was. His answer: "Not doing more to stop the genocide in Rwanda." The lack of action during this time to stop human rights violations cost the lives of millions of Rwandan people.

During that time, Joseph Kony already had a well established army of child soldiers. In 1986, Kony started the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). For the past 26 years, Kony has been abducting children, making young boys mindlessly kill their parents and disfigure other children and making sex slaves of young girls.

Kony has done this under the radar for 26 years without resistance from any government outside of Africa. That is, until KONY 2012.

WHO IS JOSEPH KONY

In 2005, the International Crime Court (ICC) came out with a list of the world's worst criminals; Joseph Kony was number one. According to Luis Moreno Ocampo, Head Prosecutor for the ICC, Kony's crimes include "murder, sexual slavery, rape and abductions."

Kony has abducted over 30,000 children. According to KONY 2012 Part II, Kony's army consists of only 250 soldiers, yet he has displaced over 440,000 people in the past month alone.

What makes Kony so dangerous is that he has no reason for this army other than to stay in power and become more powerful. His absolute power corrupts absolutely.



Photos courtesy of Google

KONY 2012

March 5, 2012 marked the viral release of KONY 2012, a film aimed at stopping Kony and his crimes against humanity. Co-directors Jason Russell and Ben Kessey made the world aware of the Invisible Children suffering across central Africa. Russell and Kessey will remove this movie on Dec. 31, 2012 and encourages the capture of Kony by that time.

The goal of the movie is to make Kony famous, not because what he has done is to be celebrated. Rather, it is to let the world know he is the worst criminal alive.

The video does more than inform the viewer of the wrongs of Kony. It also encourages others to join the movement. When over 25 letters, emails and phone calls about the same issue are made to a Senator every day, the issue goes on the Congress's agenda.

This movement is not to raise money so a few can help. It is to make Joseph Kony and his crimes famous. The more people aware of his crimes will make his capture imminent.

2012 is not just the year in the organization is hoping to see Kony arrested. The movement has grown to include 20 culture makers ranging from George Clooney to Oprah Winfrey all the way to Tim Tebow. These well-known celebrities are using their voices to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

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There are 12 policy makers, including Bill Clinton, Condoleezza Rice and John Boehner, who have committed to the cause. These people have the actual authority to capture Joseph Kony. Together, the 32 people are making Kony famous and working towards his arrest.

CRITICISMS

Since the release of KONY 2012 in March, the organization has received an endless amount of support, but also some on-going criticism.

The major knock on this effort is the fact that only 30% of the money fundraised goes towards stopping Kony. Russell replied to this criticism with the “Three M’s”. The Movie, the Movement and the Mission each receive 1/3 of the money raised. Creating any movie is expensive, even a documentary, so production of the film did accrue some expenses. The movement is about spreading the word to different schools and communities, and doing so takes resources, as does the mission: supplying the necessary for mounting a political campaign.

“Our goals are different because we are not a one track approach, we are a three track approach,” stated Kessey. In response to their critics, the filmmakers have posted financial reports from the last five years on the KONY 2012 website.

But critics also believe the issues involved in KONY 2012 are more complex than the movie makes them out to be and any current efforts are “too little, too late.”

In a *Foreign Affairs* article, the magazine criticized the efforts of KONY 2012 and other similar organizations, stating “such organizations have manipulated facts for strategic purposes, exaggerating the scale of LRA abductions and murders and emphasizing the LRA’s use of innocent children as soldiers.”

In response, the KONY 2012 movement has released a new video on April 5 “KONY 2012 Part II”.

The new movie shows the progress that has already been made and the continuous efforts that still need to continue. KONY 2012 is not a passing fad. The American people cannot lose interest until Kony is arrested.

Since the release of the first movie, Kony has changed his tactics and become even harder to track down. The use of the 100 American advisors has been useful in helping Ugandan troops pursue Kony across the four countries he is currently terrorizing. The government will pull the 100 troops at any time if they feel the American people no longer see it as necessary.

COVER THE NIGHT

While most of the world is now familiar with the name Joseph Kony, KONY 2012 wants to continue to remind people of his crimes.

After sunset on April 20, the KONY 2012 movement is encouraging everyone to blanket the streets with Joseph Kony posters. On Saturday morning, the world will wake up to every corner demanding justice.

KONY 2012 wants to encourage everyone to participate but does not condone vandalism or trespassing. As the movie states, “We will be smart and we will be thorough.”

While social media has now proven that world problems are closer than ever, the movement does not start in Africa. It starts in our own neighborhoods. It starts with people demanding justice and making others aware of what is happening around the globe.

The efforts of Russell and Kessey embody a true grass-roots movement. “KONY 2012 shows the power of social media,” stated Rick Prangen, Human Rights and World Affairs teacher. “The average person can do it.”

Finally, to make a difference all that is needed is a Facebook page and a desire to see change. “The better world we want is coming; it is just waiting for us to stop at nothing,” KONY 2012.

Photo courtesy of Google

DON'T BE THE
“PROMZILLA”

by Maribeth Van Hecke
Editorials Editor

Many girls fantasize of the night almost as much as their wedding. They think their hair needs to be perfect, their dress beautiful and their skin tanned. But here is one little piece of advice: Prom is *just* one night.

Even though Prom is supposed to be an exciting night full of dancing, eating and friends, don’t expect it to be the best night of your life. It’s supposed to be fun, and although it will definitely be stressful, you can lessen your anxiety by not setting your expectations so high that you’ll be disappointed.

Senior Caroline Jachec’s advice for the evening is “take off [your] heels at the beginning of the dance, bring gum and [don’t] be afraid to get down on the dance floor.”

When you’re getting ready, also try to remember to keep your cool. Jachec reminds us not to be a “promzilla,” and not to “take [your pre-prom jitters] out on your mom.”

If you’re worried about the table situation, senior Olivia Latz says, “Don’t worry about [it] because you’re only [at your table] for 15 minutes.” You get there, you eat, you dance. You barely sit at the table.

Planning things for after or before prom can also be pretty tricky. Not everyone wants to do the same thing, and every one can’t always agree on everything. Keep it that way. It’s hard to do much in huge groups anyway. Maybe splitting up is the best way to go.

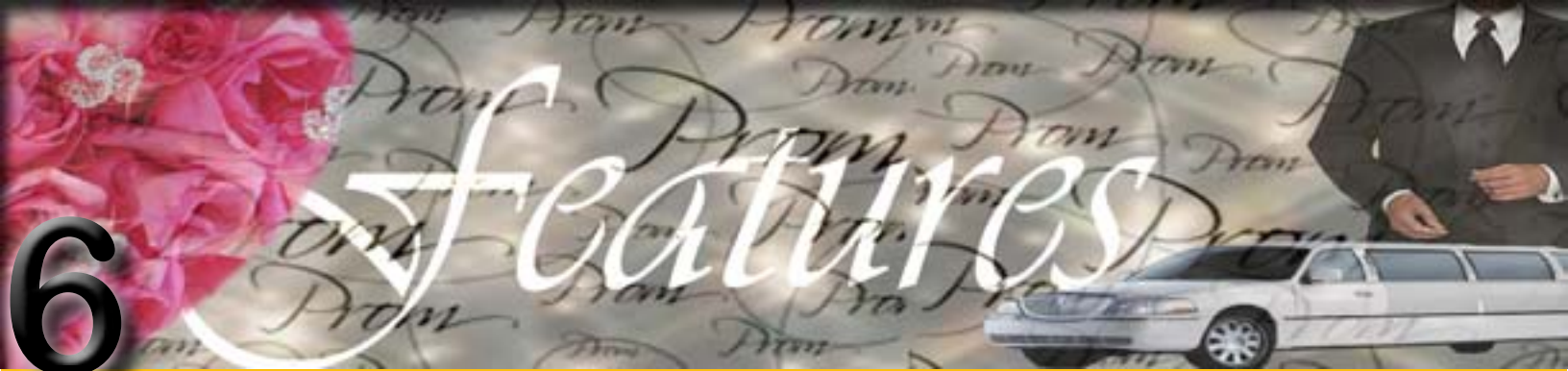
Don’t feel the pressure and definitely don’t do anything you don’t *want* to do, if you know what I mean. Take advantage of the fun night out, but don’t let the night take you away.

Really, the trick is to be prepared and be comfortable. Be excited, but forget the worry.

Stress is inevitable. But how *stress* you are is something you can control. If you relax and don’t approach Prom as a fantasy where your fairy godmother magically constructs your dress out of glitter and sends you off in a pumpkin, you won’t be disappointed when it doesn’t happen.



Photo courtesy of Google



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Features

MOTLEY HEROES

by Sam Moffett
Features writer

We all have a vision of a hero in our heads; some see macho men with the flowing capes, others see men in camouflage fighting in foreign countries. From Batman to a sergeant from Chicago, heroes come in all shapes and sizes and are heroes for different reasons.

Usually when people hear the word hero, they associate it with the word super. ‘Superheroes’ have been around for generations, the first being Mandrake the Magician. Surprised? Yes, the ‘Man of Steel’ came out four years after Mandrake the Magician hit the newspapers in 1934. Dressed in magicians silk, Mandrake used his illusions to trick and defeat his foes. That’s what all superheroes are now; clad in tights, going around fighting bad guys and saving the world, the end.

Well not anymore. Superheroes have just jumped out of the panels and stepped into reality, becoming Real-life Superheroes. Real-Life Superheroes are people engaged in activism and use the image of a superhero as their own image, developing pseudonyms and wearing custom-made outfits. Some hand out meals to the homeless, others aid in police patrols and neighborhood watch committees, or some just go down the old fashioned route of vigilantism.

Last year on Halloween federalwaymirror.com published an article about a superhero called Skyman (his real name being Skylar Davis). He says his experience of being homeless and on drugs inspired him to take action and help the homeless.

NBC News also ran an article about a superhero called The Viper who, when asked about his actions, replied that he was “just a guy trying to do what was right in tights”.

Militant figures are also common when thinking of the word hero. They jeopardize their lives to protect their countries, they go where no others dare to go and risk everything just for the people of the homeland. There is no argument that citizens in the military aren’t heroes because the people.

Would you let yourself be dropped into a war zone full of bullets and enemies? They would because they’re doing what they know is right and that is the true grit of being a hero: doing whatever it takes to do the right thing.

Not all heroes are like the ones from the comic books or on the field, a lot of heroes are just bystanders on the street who have the courage to take that one step and save the day. They’re they people who don’t think and just act, or ‘accidental heroes.’



Image by Charmaine Baisalis



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Features

For example, in 2007, Wesley Autrey, a native of New York City, jumped in front of a speeding subway train to save a stranger that had fallen on the tracks. The “Subway Superman” said, “I don’t feel like I did something spectacular; I just saw someone who needed help. I did what I felt was right.”

Autrey was given the Bronze Medallion and was a guest of President Bush at the State of the Union Address. Bush said, “He insists he’s not a hero. Wesley says, ‘We got guys and girls overseas dying for us to have our freedoms. We got to show each other some love.’ There is something wonderful about a country that produces a brave and humble man like Wesley Autrey.”

You don’t need to be clad in uniform or tights to be called a hero. You don’t have to throw yourself in front of speeding train or stop world hunger or wield a gun. The ‘unsung hero’ is the most common, but rarely mentioned, hero. The ‘unsung hero’ is a man or woman who gets up every morning and goes to work, a person who loves their family and is involved with their town. The ‘unsung hero’ is the person willing to take a chance; the small business owner, the person who decides to become his or her own boss. The person who tries be it successful or not. It can be anyone: moms and dads, aunts and uncles, brothers and sisters. Even you.

As the great Theodore Roosevelt once said:

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly. So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat. Nonsense.

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The Grey Area

by Tony Morelli
Features Writer

Alex Grey loves art the way a father loves his child. In a way the art is his children, he created it, loves it immensely, and does everything he can to support it.

He has been making art all of his life and now has his own gallery in New York, “The Chapel of Sacred Mirrors”. One of the most prominent points of his artwork is the detail that is put into the human anatomy. Alex Grey creates almost transparent portraits of humans, skin, veins, organs, and bones together in a flawless picture.

Alexs father was an artist, so as a child he was given a lot of encouragement by his dad to be an artist, when he was around 12 he realized that he wanted to be an artist. He said “My father was a graphic designer and artist. He encouraged my early drawing and guided my development until I became a rebellious teenager. He was probably my most important teacher; I can still remember the thrill I had while watching him draw. Now I get that same rush from doing it myself. The difference between me and most kids is that I just kept at it.”

In the 1970’s when Grey entered his twenties he started to take a part in performance art, an example of which would be performing satanic rituals. During this time Alex became interested in the polarities, or extreme opposites. For over a year Alex had half of his head shaved and the other half with really long locks of hair. After spending a year on polarities Alex realized that he wanted to blend opposites together, so he created an artist name of Alex Grey, grey being a mix of black and white, two opposites.

Perhaps the most important part of Grey’s artwork comes from his relationship with his wife, Allyson Grey. She and Grey both credit each other as their favorite artist, and it gives them both the drive to keep making more art. Together they have recently finished putting together the “Chapel of Sacred Mirrors” it consists of 19 paintings and two etched mirrors. In the same interview Grey describes its purpose.

He says “The Sacred Mirrors speak to our highest aspirations as a species: universal compassion, respect for all life, a deep appreciation of all cultures and wisdom traditions, awakened consciousness and a full flowering of our human potential. In a ‘chapel of beauty,’ they could contribute to the radical raising of awareness we need if we are to successfully navigate our way to a saner, more loving and life-affirming civilization.”

Photo courtesy of Google

SPOTLIGHT Kyle Griffin

by Tom Folliard
Sports writer

2.8 seconds. That is what separated senior Kyle Griffin from the state finals in the 2011 track season.

Starting as a sophomore, it has only taken Griffin two years to become the school’s top 400 meter runner. This year he is more determined than ever to reach the state finals with some of his teammates. Within Lemont’s first two meets, Griffin is only six seconds away from the state qualifying time of 50 seconds.

The Tom-Tom sat down with him to discuss his ongoing 2012 track season.

Tom-Tom: If you were a llama for a day, where would you get your haircut and why?

Kyle Griffin: I would get it at a barber shop. When I showed up I would be getting the dirtiest looks. It would be pretty funny to be able to see an animal getting their haircut with humans.

TT: What are your expectations for this year’s team?

KG: Personally, I would like to get my time down to below 50.0 seconds. As a team I would like to see us push ourselves harder and finish better than we did last year in the South Suburban Conference Tournament.

TT: How have you prepared yourself for this year that is different than what you did last year?

KG: Last year, I did close to nothing when preparing for the season, and I still had an above average year. This year I have been working out and running almost every day in preparation for this season, so the outcome should be much better.

TT: What teammate has pushed you to work your hardest this year?

KG: For me it was Jonathon Clark. Every day he shows up and runs his hardest. He is very supportive and just an overall good kid.

TT: Why did you get into track?

KG: I was looking for a new sport to play and during my sophomore year some of my friends convinced me to do track with them and I am really glad they did.

TT: What would be your ultimate achievement for the 2012 season?

KG: It would easily be to qualify for state. That is what I have had my hopes set on since the end of last year.

TT: Do you have any college plans with track?

KG: Sadly, no. I would prefer to go to a larger school and get away from home. If I did track in college, I would most likely only be going to a division three school and somewhere near home.

TT: Chad Ochocinco changed his name a few years back. If you could change your last name to anything you would like, what would it be?

KG: Gryffindor. A lot of my friends already call me that and I think it would be pretty cool and unique to have a last name like that.



Photo by Ashley Murphy



10 From fame to shame; the career of Tiger Woods

Paul Grossi
Sports writer

A car accident would change the career of Tiger Woods, a professional golfer who has won several tournaments and has put his name among some of the greatest to have played the game. But on Nov. 27, 2009, fans and people found out some information that would affect his career.

Before the accident, Woods was known for being a great golfer. He had made a big impression to the golf world at such a young age.

Tiger Woods was a great golfer when he was young and continued his success into his 20s and early 30s. When Woods was only six months old, he saw his father swinging a club and started to imitate it. Once he turned three, he was playing golf for the first time; he recorded a 48 on his first nine holes.

Eventually he was making big appearances and becoming popular at very a young age. He appeared on the *Golf Digest* magazine and on ABC's "That's Incredible". Three years later, Woods played at the Optimist International Junior Championship. Here, he won at the age of eight, nine, twelve, fourteen and fifteen. His career was rolling, and at the age of fifteen Woods became the youngest U.S. Junior Amateur Champion in golf history.

At the age of 13, he was voted the Southern California Amateur Player of the Year for the second consecutive year. The next year, he defended his title at the U.S. Junior National Championship. The same year, Woods played in his first PGA tour tournament at the Nissan Los Angeles Open. He began to win many majors, including the British Open and the Masters. He was on top of the PGA money list at the age of 21. He continued to win and stay on top of the leader boards and was gaining a lot of attention by many golf fans.

Woods' success was big and everything seemed to be going his way. However, in the early morning of Nov. 27, 2009, Woods was involved in a one-car accident; he had hit a fire hydrant and a tree while backing out of his home in Orlando. At first Woods was listed in "serious condition" but was later released from the hospital with some scratches to the face.

Just before the accident, Woods and his wife, Nordegren, had been talking. Nordegren had confronted her husband about reports that he had been with other women. There was some disagreement and Woods then left his house, which resulted in the accident.

Police came and realized that the window of Woods' car had been broken and there were big dents elsewhere to the car. The dents had come from his wife. She had been hitting the car with a golf club, and was angry about her husband leaving.

Following the accident, a number of ladies came out claiming to have romantic relationships with Woods. In December, following several allegations, Woods spoke, acknowledging that he was unfaithful to his wife and took an indefinite leave from golf so he could become a better father and husband.

His wife Nordegren truly did like her husband; she had been a supporter, going to his tournaments. She was very success-



Photo courtesy of Google



ful, too and didn't marry Woods because of his money. It is very shocking to see a great golfer like Woods do that to his wife and two young kids. Eventually, Nordegren and Woods divorced, one of the biggest divorce cases in history because of Woods' money. In the end, Nordegren gained custody of the kids, some of the properties and a lot of money.

Everyone began to grow hate for the man, but in early April 2010, Woods made his first return to professional golf. The return was big, as everyone was curious to know if the events have affected him. Woods played horrible on the opening holes. It was a Woods no one knew. Around the tenth hole Woods stopped playing and went into the clubhouse.

He came to find out he had a knee problem and was going need surgery, and would have to take some time off from the game once again. His return after knee surgery wasn't much anticipated; however there still were large groups of fans watching Woods.

For two years, and over 150 tournaments that he played, Woods won nothing. The book *The Big Miss* by Hank Haney explains Woods attitude as no longer wanting someone to help him, and if he did he asked. Haney explains how Woods was never a talkative person but at times would be funny, smile and would be enjoying himself.

But ever since the accident, he has changed, says Haney. If he had gone back to his old ways he might have actually been successful. Woods is a really hard competitor, and this year, at the Arnold Palmer Invitational, Woods played terrific and was on top of the leaderboard all four rounds. He won the tournament and won back a lot of fans. Several that were interviewed either said they didn't care, felt bad for the wife, don't even watch golf and some said that they felt bad for Woods.

His early career was amazing, but it didn't stop there as his success went on to make him a top player in the world. Some people may not like Woods but one thing is clear: he is one of the best golfers to ever play the game.



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

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.

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HOROSCOPES

Aries

Mar 21 - Apr 20

Whether you're looking for new romance or trying to make the most of the one you've got, look no further than the first few days of this week for excellent cosmic energy in the love department!

Taurus

Apr 21 - May 21

Warning: You may be a bit conflicted about a matter of the heart as the week begins. A hint from the stars: Set your pride or a desire for the upper hand aside, and listen to what your heart's truly saying.

Gemini

May 22 - Jun 21

You may be a bit of a know-it-all around Wednesday, Thursday and Friday -- that's good for work, but not so perfect for more amorous pursuits. Be sure to show as well as tell, and ask as well as spout off.

Cancer

Jun 22 - Jul 22

You wouldn't be out of place in the center of a stage during the first few days of this week -- your emotions are dramatic, you're not afraid to show them and you could (maybe, a little!) be accused of overacting.

Leo

Jul 23 - Aug 21

Thursday and Friday are more about planning than action; whether you've got a hot date or plan to stay in this weekend, put a little thought and preparation into it now. When Saturday and Sunday come, friendship and romance can entangle in a way that completely suits your friendly but romantic heart.

Virgo

Aug 22 - Sep 23

Looks like you've got a lot to juggle during the first few days of this week. If romance is one of the balls in the air, you'll need to be super-flexible and inventive to keep it there. If you do drop it, however, don't panic -- starting Wednesday evening things will fall into place.

Libra

Sep 23 - Oct 23

You'll definitely want to conserve some love power for this weekend, when super energy is coming straight from the stars to your big, bold, beautiful heart. Want to give and get attention? You've got it!

Scorpio

Oct 24 - Nov 22

Going with the flow a bit is helpful, but when it comes to matters of the heart, stop and make sure you're going in the direction of what (or whom) you truly want. When the weekend comes, you're much more grounded. Use this rock-steady time to lay (or reinforce) some sweet foundations!

Sagittarius

Nov 23 - Dec 22

There's a ton to do around Thursday and Friday. If you do make plans with friends or a date, set up a reminder and don't be late. Better yet, schedule such affairs for when the weekend comes.

Capricorn

Dec 23 - Jan 20

Starting later on Wednesday, a building phase in the love department is definitely favored. A plan you make now -- whether you're coupled up or on the market -- can really move you toward your heart's desires.

Aquarius

Jan 21 - Feb 19

Love takes work as the week begins, but that doesn't mean it won't be fun, too. Around Thursday and Friday, little clues have a big impact on the overall romantic picture. The more you notice now, the better off your love life will be.

Pisces

Feb 20 - Mar 20

Love may seem dramatic as the week begins, but get a hold of yourself and look at the reality of the situation. Then you'll be ready to deal with the stuff surrounding relationships that the stars push into the foreground starting later on Wednesday.