

With the crashin' waves we knew we'd go our separate ways



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So long class of 2012

New Year, New Yearbook

by Laura Harding
News editor

In the past, students and new alumni queued to receive yearbooks at the Homecoming football game in September. While many alumni enjoy returning to their alma mater to collect their yearbook and reconnect with schoolmates, many find themselves stuck at school and asking home-bound friends to grab their yearbook as well.

This year, Yearbook Club will be handing out yearbooks on the last day of school, May 25, at a "distribution party" in the Courtyard from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., according to club sponsor Brittany Glowa.

"We thought it would be nice to have our yearbooks at the end of the year so seniors could have it before they leave and the students could get their yearbooks signed," said Yearbook Club member Sarah Cash.

While end of the year events won't be included in the issue, themed "Everybody's Famous in this Small Town," supplement pages will be distributed to be included in the yearbook.

The supplement will include events such as Faculty Idol, Prom, Spring Musical and Graduation. Students can pick up the supplement at registration; alumni at Homecoming.

"I think students and staff are going to be pleasantly surprised when they see many of the new additions for this year," said Glowa.

In This Issue

P.3 Beat Bullying

P.4 Hole-In-The Wall
Restaurants

P.6 Dangerously De-
lightful Dexter

P.7 Forever Beautiful

P.8 Stratta's Sports Sec-
tion

P.8 NBA Playoffs

P.9 Stanley Cup Playoffs
Still Exciting

P.10 College Football To
Make Change For 2014
Season



The 2012 Yearbook Club

Photo courtesy of Brittany Glowa

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BEAT BULLYING

by Sarah Newton
News writer

There are four types of bullying: physical, social, emotional, and cyber. Each one is equally as harming and equally as difficult to stop. Over 1 million young persons will be bullied this week alone.

The Writing Center recently held an Anti-Bullying Writing Contest for those who sought a creative outlet and wanted to bring about Bullying Awareness.

Cathy Mayer helped to decide the winner and was looking for something that was "honest and inspiring, but still relatable to a large group of people."

That winning poem was written by Banis Padilia, entitled "Do You Know Me?" which can be found on the right hand side of the page. This inspiring poem encourages others to stop spreading rumors and to know who a person is before making rash judgments.

While Bullying Awareness week may be over, putting an end to bullying is a continuous goal for Lemont High School.



Do You Know Me?

By: Bansi Padalia

Do you know me?
You- With your fingers pointed
And your whispers in the hallway
Giggling and telling the story you
heard
From someone else who doesn't
know me

Do you know me?
Or anything that I've gone
through?
Or my real story?
Or how I became who I am?

Do you know me?
Of course you don't
You've never looked me in the eye
Yet you have the nerve to laugh
behind my back

Do you know me?
It's a stupid question
You'll never know me
Never think of me as anything
more than a lunch-time joke

So keep pointing fingers when I
walk by
And giggling while encircled by
your friends
And judging while you walk
around with your own imperfec-
tions
But remember, you don't know me



Hole-in-the-Wall Restaurants

by Maribeth Van Hecke
Editorials Editor

To me, there is something special about independently owned restaurants. Maybe it's the smile and the "what can I get you?" rather than the monotone "would you like fries with that?"

There are three things that make a good restaurant: good food, you've got no chance if you can't whip up something delicious; good experience, if people feel awkward, they're not going to come back; and that extra-special thing you can't get anywhere else.

Now, what qualifies something as good food? To me, it's fresh ingredients and yummy combinations. This doesn't mean everything needs to come from the farmers market, it just means everything shouldn't come from the freezer.

The dining experience is one of the reasons we go out. If we really wanted to, some of us could get away with faking a recipe from our favorite restaurant. But we wouldn't want to because we like dining out and hanging out at our favorite place, whether it is a cozy café, a friendly family restaurant or a hip bar & grill.

Other than taste and comfort, what is your favorite thing about your beloved restaurant? It's how you cannot seem to get the same thing anywhere else; it's the unique spirit. Maybe it's because you're convinced they have the best coffee or they put honey in everything from their pancakes to their waffles.

I have put together a list of my favorite independently owned "hole-in-the-wall" restaurants in the area. These are charming not only because of their delicious food and humble setup, but also for the friendly service and atmosphere fast food chains can't compete with.

1. The Vault: Downtown Lemont

Delicious food and reasonably priced items, The Vault excites your senses by embracing the real history of the building—a bank. The actual antique bank vault is open and is displayed behind a modern-style bar giving the customer the perfect taste of nostalgia from the past while setting a modern mood.

2. PC's Pancake Café: Lemont

I have convinced myself no one can get coffee like the Pancake Café's. Give me an egg with hash browns and some coffee, and I'm a happy camper. But there's a special way the Café puts a smile on my face in the morning.

3. Sweetwater deli: Downtown Lemont

Did you know you could get delicious gelato, a rich Italian ice cream, in Lemont? Sweetwater Deli's family-owned market brings us Italian treats, deli meats and cheeses, breads, produce as well as gelato. Sweetwater is the place to go if you're craving a sandwich or just need somewhere homey to go hang out or study.

4. 3 Corners Grille and Tap: Lemont

Delicious food and a perfect place to be if a game is on. 3 Corners has wonderful gourmet twists on our favorite "bar foods." It's easy to add sweet potato fries, tater tots or fruit to entrees and has some pretty serious appetizers.



5. The Borrowed Earth Café: Downtown Downers Grove

Vegan, all-organic raw food. Before it scares you away, I dare you to at least go try one of their smoothies. Although meals can get pretty expensive, the experience is one-of-a-kind and I'm sure you'll never get the chance to try Vegan-style lasagna, pizza or burgers without trying The Borrowed Earth.

6. It's Greek to Me: Orland Park

Get your craving for delicious Greek salad, Saganaki (flaming cheese), Tzatziki sauce or even for just some warm pita bread. This authentic Greek restaurant has lots of choices for the Greek, and those who wish to eat like them. Opa!

7. Ashbury Coffee House: Willow Springs

This incredibly cozy and hip(ster) coffee house is a perfect hang out to get coffees, smoothies or some sweet treats, with tons of sugary iced coffee creations for the friends who aren't too keen on the caffeine. They also have yummy lunch choices and exciting events, like open mic nights and weekend concerts, if you're there at the right time.

8. Kitaro: Lemont

Yes, it's sushi time. But if you're not into the whole "raw fish" idea, do not fret because Kitaro certainly has other yummy steakhouse creations for you. With a fancy modern appeal, Kitaro has a wonderful "take your time" kind of feel, allowing you to order as you go and eat as you please.

9. Mangia Mangia: Countryside

This wonderful Italian place's adorable setup gave me the chills when I walked in the first time. The fancy picnic table-like booths with a "little Italy" feel automatically put you in a cozy atmosphere. Although it's a bit of a drive, the authentic Italian pasta, fish and meat dishes will wow you.

10. Honey Field Pancake House & Restaurant: Lockport

One might get a little overwhelmed while reading the full menu. With tons of choices of eggs and even more choices of honey-filled pancakes and waffles, it's difficult to leave without a smile on your face.

I do have a bias against big chain restaurants. Part of it is the anti-big business in me, and the other half is my love for good food. But let's be honest, the assembly line is for cars, not for my lunch.



DANGEROUSLY DELIGHTFUL DEXTER

by Sam Moffett
Features writer

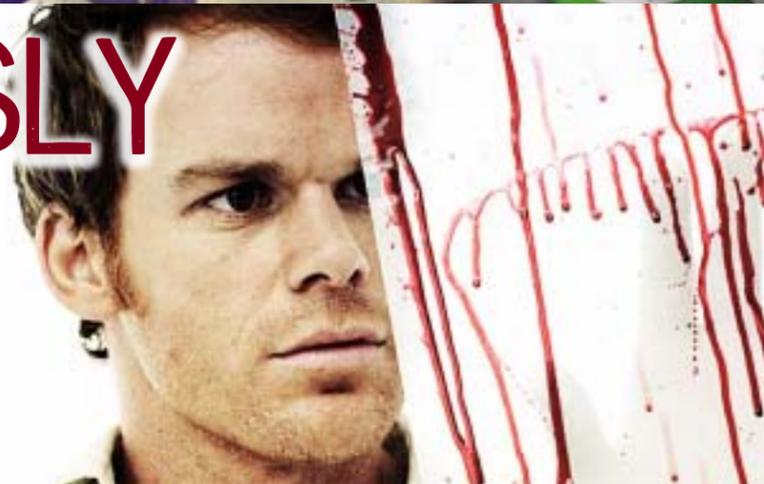


Photo courtesy of Google

We all know Dexter right? The little red haired genius with a laboratory behind his bookcase? But this isn't about Cartoon Networks eight year old super genius, this is about Dexter Morgan: family man, blood spatter analyst, serial killer.

In 2004 author Jeff Lindsay wrote *Darkly Dreaming Dexter*, a novel told from the point of view of Dexter Morgan, who works as a blood spatter analyst for the Miami-Metro Police Department by day. But by night he transform into the Bay Harbor Butcher, a mass murdering serial killer. The novel was a huge success and spawned the Dexter book series. In 2006, the Showtime network developed Jeff Lindsay's novels into the hit series *Dexter*.

Dexter is about the emotionally empty Dexter Morgan. When he was three years old, his mother was murdered right in front of him by drug traders. He was found and adopted by police officer Harry Morgan. As Dexter got older, Harry began to notice Dexter's sociopathic behavior and decides to help channel his violent tendencies to help the greater good: kill those that kill the innocent.

Using 'The Code of Harry,' Dexter creates a double-life for himself, appearing to be an average Joe you meet on the street, while underneath all

the fake smiles and false emotions lies a monster that viewers actually end up rooting for.

The performance from actor Michael C. Hall (who won a Golden Globe for his portrayal as Dexter) is astounding. For someone who does such horrible things you find yourself understanding his reasons and feeling emotionally attached to this character that is completely alienated from normalcy. You really feel for him and the struggles he goes through to maintain his 'disguise,' sometimes you'll even catch yourself biting your nails when the situations turn hairy.

Alongside Hall's award winning performance, the supporting cast is also quite remarkable. Erik King plays James Doakes, a fellow police officer who seems to be the only one to believe that there's a sinister side to Dexter. Jennifer Carpenter plays Dexter's foster sister Debra, a foul-mouthed crass police officer who desperately wants to work alongside her brother in the Homicide Division.

With strong writing, acting and directing, *Dexter* is a show that is definitely worth checking out. Going into its seventh season, Showtime's *Dexter* is heading on its way to be one of the best shows on television.

Show rating: 3 1/2 stars out of four.

FOREVER BEAUTIFUL

by Ashley Murphy
Features writer

Chin up girlfriend, you're beautiful. Why should girls put themselves through hell and back when it comes to self-esteem?

All girls can feel beautiful no matter what. Here's what to do.

BOYS

Avoid them during high school. Focus on what you do best. Learn and grow. In high school, boys tend to be on the immature side. In teen years, boys like to mess with girls minds and manipulate them.

Don't get me wrong, they're great friends and fun to hang around with, but be careful. Girls don't need a boy by their side to make them happy.

RUMORS/GOSSIP

In every high school, there is going to be gossip and rumors. It's important to live above them.

They say "sticks and stones may break your bones, but words will never hurt," but guess what, that is false. Every single girl has the ability to live above the rumors and gossip, no matter how hard it is?

STRESS

This is what every single high school student goes through. If you live through a stressful situation, you can rule the world. Dad doesn't let us go on a date with a boy we like, our teacher doesn't give the grade we want on our research paper and that mean girl in math class is wearing the same shirt. It happens, but if we take a deep breath and breathe slowly, we can do anything.

No matter what, every girl whether, a middle-aged mother or a boy-crazy teenager, should be able to say "I love myself" without feeling any regret. Without self-confidence and self-esteem, it wouldn't be possible to form a relationship and be a strong, independent woman. We are all beautiful and empowered women.

In the words of Audrey Hepburn, "Nothing is impossible. Even the word its self says I'm possible." Remember, be forever beautiful.



Photo courtesy of Google



by Ian Stratta
Sports writer

Stratta's Sports Section

In 2007 there was the infamous Spygate scandal by Bill Belichick and the New England Patriots. In 2005, there was the Minnesota Vikings boat party scandal. However, the NFL has not seen a scandal as hard-hitting (no pun intended) as this one.

News of a possible bounty program erupted onto the scene on Mar. 2 of this year when the NFL announced that it had evidence that "between 22 and 27 Saints players" and former Saints defensive coordinator Gregg Williams pooled their money to pay out performance bonuses according to ESPN.com.

Later on, more information about the bounty program came out that proved that the Saints were purposely attacking different players with the intent to injure them.

A recording of a pre-game speech by Williams revealed that he told the defense to attack certain individuals on the San Francisco 49ers.

The Huffington Post reported that Williams told his defense to "put a lick" on 49ers wide receiver Kyle Williams to see if he had any lingering effects from a concussion. Furthermore, the defensive coordinator reportedly reminded his players that receiver Michael Crabtree "becomes human when we . . . take out that outside ACL".

Considering the high number of ACL injuries this past NFL season, the type of injury might be a touchy subject among NFL officials. However, the notion of intentionally targeting the body part of an oft-injured player is unfathomable.

According to ESPN.com, Roger Goodell has already suspended Saints head coach Sean Payton for the entire upcoming NFL season as well as fined the team \$500,000. The length of the suspension for the aforementioned Williams has not been decided yet, but the league has stated he is suspended indefinitely.

Now the question has risen if Williams deserves a second chance to maintain his position in the league.

Williams stands for something that the NFL wants to avoid. His strategy to pump up his players before games is not acceptable.

I believe the Gregg Williams issue is bigger than the NFL altogether. With the recording evidence that shows he intended for his players to injure others, he should not only be banned from the sport, but also be sentenced to some jail time. There is no excuse for supporting the intentional attacking of another football player, another human being.

NBA Playoffs

by Tom Folliard
sports writer

Try to picture the Chicago Bulls winning any of their previous six NBA Championships without Michael Jordan. This year's team is trying to pull off a championship without its 'Michael Jordan,' Derrick Rose.

With less than 80 seconds to go in game one of the Bulls' first playoff series Rose tore his ACL (Anterior Cruciate Ligament). This turned the number one seed Bulls into looking like the 8 seed.

Everybody is counting them out, except the Bulls fans. They saw the team pull off a record of 18-9 without their superstar in the lineup and they believe they can do the same in the playoffs. "After round one is where the playoffs will get interesting for the Bulls. Without a superstar the rest of the teams will be a matchup nightmare for Chicago," said senior Mike Lambert.

The Bulls are not the only team missing their superstar; Orlando Magic's center, Dwight Howard, decided to get season-ending back surgery before the playoffs began. Boston Celtics are going to be missing Rajon Rondo to a suspension for making contact with an official. The New York Knicks are missing one of their biggest offensive threats, Jeremy Lin, and to top it off have to play the pre-season favorite, Miami Heat, in round one.

With all of this drama happening in the NBA just around the start of the playoffs the Miami Heat are looking like the favorite. Their health is at 100 percent and they have been on a winning tear as the regular season came to an end.

They currently lead the Knicks 3-0 in the best of 7 series and there is not a single person outside of New York who thinks the Knicks have a chance of a comeback. Speaking of comebacks, the Los Angeles Clippers rallied from a 27 point-deficit in their game one victory over the Memphis Grizzlies. The Clippers have taken a 3-1 series lead.

The Bulls could not pull off a game two victory even after leading at halftime. The absence of Derrick Rose really seemed to hurt them down the stretch in the fourth quarter. To make matters worse Joakim Noah is now out with a sprained ankle, causing the Bulls to be down three games to one.

With all of the early round one drama in the NBA Playoffs, nobody is looking like the clear favorite.



by Ethan Parafink
Sports Editor

Still exciting

Although many may have tuned out after the Chicago Blackhawks suffered a disappointing first round defeat by the Phoenix Coyotes, the Stanley Cup Playoffs are still going on and are exciting as ever.

There were many great series in just the first round alone with many being decided in Game 7 and many close overtime games. The Blackhawks and Phoenix Coyotes took five games to overtime before the Coyotes won 4-0 in Game 6 to win the series and crush Blackhawks fans hopes of returning to the Stanley Cup Finals.

The Boston Bruins and Washington Capitals battled to Game 7 of a tightly contested series, where the Capitals defeated the defending champs in an overtime thriller. The series between the Florida Panthers and New Jersey Devils, and the New York Rangers and Ottawa Senators series also went the distance of seven games.

Ongoing now are the conference semifinals where there are four more great series taking place. The Coyotes are in a tight series with the Nashville Predators, the Devils and Philadelphia Flyers seem pretty equally matched and the Capitals and New York Rangers are also in a close series. The only real runaway series was with the Los Angeles Kings and St. Louis Blues, where the Kings swept the Blues in an upset.

One of the biggest storylines of this postseason is the officiating, or lack thereof. Head of officiating, Brendan Shanahan, is one of the most criticized figures in the sport, but he has taken an aggressive role this postseason.

Shanahan handed out nine suspensions in the first round alone, including a 25 game ban for Coyotes winger Raffi Torres, who leveled the Blackhawks' Marian Hossa on a high-hit and left him unconscious. Hossa is still recovering from a severe concussion but hopes to be back in time for training camp next season.

Another storyline is the lack of the usual teams and talented stars in the later rounds. The Bruins, Pittsburgh Penguins, Detroit Red Wings and Vancouver Canucks all have talented teams expected to go far in the playoffs, but all failed to make it out of the first round.

That leaves some unexpected teams left as contenders and some of the lesser known players up for the Conn Smythe Trophy, awarded to the most outstanding player of the postseason. Kings goalie Jonathon Quick is one of the favorites to win due to his amazing play and save percentage so far, as he has led the eight-seeded Kings to the Conference Finals.

Although the hometown team is out of the playoffs, there is still a lot of great and exciting hockey left to play.



Photo courtesy of Google



College football to make change for 2014 season

Paul Grossi
Sports writer

Finally, the NCAA came out last week telling everyone about how there will for sure be a playoff system. However, it is still a mystery of how the teams will be picked, where the games will be held and when the playoffs will begin.

But it's still a step up from previous years. Many fans of college football didn't like the idea of bowl games. As the regular season came to an end for a college football team, it would look ahead to see if its record and excellence will qualify to play in one of the 64 bowl games the BCS has to offer. From emotions and talk, it seems that many people don't like the idea of bowl games.

First of all, over 130 teams have something to look for after the season and there are so many bowl games out there; who even watches them? Point proven: change is needed and will finally come true for the 2014 season.

However, the new playoff system would mean the elimination of bowl games, some not so important and some important, like the Rose Bowl.

The new playoff system is a mess, but according to ESPN.com, "Big Ten commissioner Jim Delany says a model being considered for a four-team college football playoff would give preference to conference champions ranked in the top six nationally."

Various models for a four-team playoff will be considered by conferences in the coming months. The main focus will be when and where will the games be held. And following that, the focus will be switched to finding out how teams will be selected.

Delaney suggested that if a team won its conference then the team would automatically qualify if ranked in the top six, according to ESPN.com.

One of the administrators that has been loyal to the BCS agrees that there needs to be a playoff change. He said "the four team playoff is good because it won't lesson the value of the regular season", according to tampabay.com.

It seems that the regular season will stay the same, according to some of the commissioners. There is still a lot to be discussed and decided but within 2 years, a playoff system will replace the bowl games.

NEW TOM-TOM FEATURE

FIND TOM-TOM

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 Balisalisa

