

Tom-Tom

Lemont High School

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LHS' Never Land

by Emma Houran
News writer

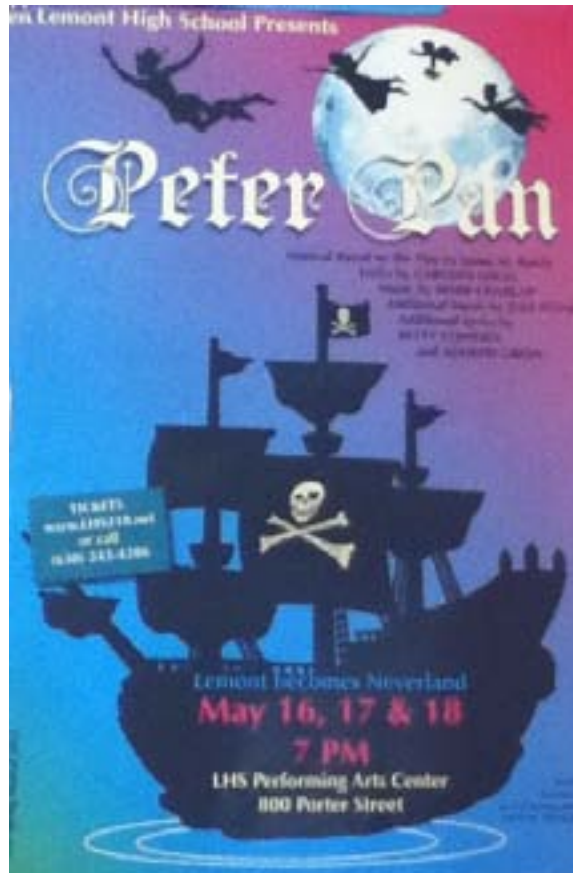
For most, Peter Pan, Wendy, the Lost Boys and Captain Hook were just a part of the early-childhood-two-dimensional-Disney-movie phase. Now, they're going to see these whimsical characters beyond 3-D – this is real life.

Having performed Chicago last year, Lemont High School's young actors and actresses are now performing a more kid-friendly show. A member of the Lost Boys, junior Margaret Rogers says, "It's kind of funny to perform a show such as Chicago one year and then perform a Disney show the next since they are on totally opposite sides of the theater world!" German teacher and Foreign Language Club sponsor Roy Nees seems to feel "our talent is able to switch well" from one end to the other.

As to how the production will compare to the various versions of the classic Disney movie, Rogers says the "show is actually a combination of all the different versions out there" as it "incorporates all these characters that are from different versions, so the show", besides the main characters like Wendy, Peter, Michael and John.

The LHS musical staff, along with the actors, is working hard to make sure rehearsals run smoothly, as Nees indicates the whole production is a lot more technical than last year's with all the rigging and multiple set changes. Rogers feels rehearsals have been going well so far and everyone should be well prepared for the big day Friday, May 17. "It's going to be great...The choreography, singing, and acting," says Nees.

This year's staff includes director Heather Hutchinson, David Lindley (producer), dance director Amanda Tangauy, backstage manager Roy Nees, music instructor and producer Terry Redford, and vocal director Dave Nommensen.



Poster advertising the spring musical "Peter Pan".

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LHSEF to support more than \$32,000 in grants in 2013-14

by Nicole McKeivitt
News Writer

HEAD EDITOR
Laura Harding

DESIGN EDITOR
Ashlee Berner

DESIGN ASSISTANTS
Jordan Gembara
Emma Houran
Marisa Mars

PHOTOGRAPHER
Alyssa Cinatl

NEWS EDITOR
Nicole McKeivitt

NEWS WRITER
Monique Devitt

EDITORIALS EDITOR
Laura Harding

EDITORIALISTS
Madelyn Kulis
Kayla Neetz

FEATURES EDITOR
Sonia Vavra

FEATURES WRITERS
Michelle Awad
Rachel Bogo
Shannon Burke
Bridget Lynn

SPORTS EDITOR
Adrian Kalata

SPORTS WRITERS
Kieran Ruane
Erika Truschke

COLUMNIST
Jonathon Clark

SUPERVISOR
Sean Clark

The Lemont High School Educational Foundation has committed to supporting 10 grants for more than \$32,000 for the 2013-14 school year. Grant proposals were submitted by faculty and staff, with the goal of enhancing educational opportunities

The Foundation is fully funding 10 Educational Foundation Grants for a total of \$32,396, with a requirement that the funds provided for the projects must be used during the 2013-14 school year. The total awarded represents the most the LHSEF has awarded in grants in one year since its inception in 2007.

Included among the 2013-14 Educational Foundation Grants are “An Evening Out,” “Beat the Spread Breakfast,” “Breakfast Buddies,” “Bullying Stops Here,” “Discipline Free Dance,” “Discovery Based Science Learning- Physics Approach,” “Picture This- Integration of Physics and Art,” “Pre-Prom Assembly,” “Self Defens,” and “We see College in YOUR Future- Year 6.”

Along with John Kennedy, Dean of Students Brent Gagnon proposed the “Discipline Free Dance” because he believe, “it has a tremendous, positive impact on our school’s spirit and atmosphere. The funds will be used for dance supplies, DJ, and most importantly, student prizes.

“The dance is a reward for those students who continually make LHS a great school because of their quality choices,” says Gagnon. “The dance provides all students at LHS the incentive to

make great decisions.”

Music Teacher Matt Doherty proposed grants for “Bullying Stops Here” to help raise awareness to parents, students, and teachers about different types of Bullying, especially Cyber Bullying, and how to find ways to reach more students in LHS to make a positive difference in LHS’ school culture

“Many high schoolers and adolescents are simply mean to each other. Whether it’s a disagreement on a view in class, a difference in lifestyle, or something as pedantic as a difference in taste in music, many people at this age choose to do everything in their power to justify the superiority of their position - even at the cost of others’ feelings,” says Doherty.

“There is a lot of power in our students,” Doherty continues. “Some choose to use it for making the world around them better, and some are ignorant to the effects of their actions. My goal in seeking (and thankfully receiving) these funds was to help our students see the long-term results of action and inaction in all of our social scenarios - especially those online.”

Principal Dr. Thomas Trengove’s proposal was for funding of the “Beat the Spread” breakfast, which encourages students to excel on their PSAE. “The program challenges students to do better on their PSAE score than was predicted for them relative to their PLAN score,” says Trengove. “In life, the truly successful people make a habit of exceeding expectations.

Science teacher Erin Boyd proposed the “Picture This” project and the “Discovery Based Science Learning” project.

In the “Picture This” project, “Students’ are surrounded by physics every day, but they don’t always realize it. They see physics happening around them all of the time and are completely unaware. ‘Picture This’ allows students to open their eyes and view the world through a different lens,” says Boyd. “The purpose of this cross-curricular project to help merge physics and art with the ever- changing world around us into a cohesive learning experience.”

In the “Discovery Based Science Learning” project, The Spark Learning System will “enhance and improve the laboratory experience of all science students. This system will prepare students for college level experimentation, including live data taking, and assist students with the skills needed in the science portion of the ACT and PSAE,” says Boyd.

The Education Foundation’s mission is to work with the community to make lasting improvements for LHS that will enhance the total educational experience for all of its students. Its desire is to fund and support programs and opportunities that aid students’ growth, both academically and as citizens of the Lemont community. In its six years of existence, the LHSEF has supported more than \$190,000 in grants to benefit Lemont High School.

Hot or Not?

by Madelyn Kulis
Editorialist

Throughout the decades trends have come and gone from beehives to leg warmers to full denim outfits. In 2013, it is no different with crazy trends and what the youth seems to find “cool”. Now is the time to decide whether it’s hot or not.

Tattoos

Lately more young celebrities are getting more tattoos, but whether they look good is questionable. Celebrities like Harry Styles, Chris Anderson, and Cher Lloyd have been seen showing off their ink. However Styles and Anderson might want to take a few tips from Lloyd because their tattoos are totally not. Anderson, a professional basketball player, has a colorful neck tattoo that is way too distracting. If you want a tattoo, make sure it’s something that means something to you and try not to pull a Mike Tyson.

If you get a tattoo done right like Cher Lloyd or even David Beckham, where they aren’t scattered then you could be in the clear.

Dip-Dye

Starting in 2012, girls have been dying the ends of their hair different bright colors. It’s definitely a trend that has passed over into 2013, and if done right, is completely hot. Dip dye is a great way to express yourself and even just have a little fun with your style. Kelly Ferguson, junior said about her dye, “On some days I really don’t feel like wearing an outfit that would show my sense of style of my personality. But because I have a big chunk of bright red hair, I feel like I always can show a bit of my personality and style no matter what.”

Leg-Warmers

Back in the 80’s leg-warmer’s were a big hit for winter or working out. Now they are coming back as a winter accessory but this is one trend that should have stayed dead. No matter if you are just showing the ends above your boots, we all know it’s a leg-warmer and frankly they don’t work.

Trends will come and go, but ultimately it’s up to you to decide what is hot or not.

Movie Mayhem

by Kayla Neetz
Editorialist

“Quick honey, put those snacks in your pockets!” I remember those words clearly. This is because as my mother and many others know you should never go to the movie theatre planning to buy food.

The last time I went to the movie theatre I bought a small soft-drink, a bag of popcorn, and a box of candy. My total was nearly \$15. For that price-based of peapod.com- I could have gone to the store and bought 3 liters of Pepsi, two boxes of microwave popcorn, and 3 boxes of candy.

It is no wonder everyone sneaks food in. Senior Brett Szulc said “The food prices are too high. I bring my own food.” What’s worse is that it is not just the food that is overpriced.

According to natoonline.org, the cost of a movie ticket in 2000 was \$5.39. Today the price of a movie ticket is \$11. Senior Hannah Richa, said “I don’t even go to the movie theatre anymore because they are so expensive.”

Between the \$11 ticket and \$15 spent on food you are \$26 poorer. At that point, it’s not even worth it anymore. It would have been better to wait a month and watch it at home. Then, not only are you richer but you also eliminate the possibility of getting stuck sitting by that one girl who doesn’t stop talking. Or worse . . . getting stuck sitting in front of the idiot who thinks it’s ok to put his feet on YOUR chair.

Although going to the movies used to be something to look forward to, this sadly is no longer the case. So instead, go get your snuggie, microwave your popcorn and tell your wallet to stop crying, because tonight you’re watching Netflix.

Rock Concert Etiquette

by Paige Buschman
Freelance Writer

Let me tell you something. Summer is going to be here in a month. That means that there are going to be a lot of outdoor concerts going on. That also means that there is a pretty high chance that one of them will interest you and maybe you'll even want to go to one. And if you go to one there's a pretty high chance that there will be people there who expect you to act a certain way. So here it is: your very own, all-inclusive guide on how to survive a rock concert.

1) Drink water before you leave. You are not going to want to pay for it when you get to the concert. You're there for the music so leaving mid-act isn't an option. Don't be that guy that passes out.

2) Travel light. Don't bring a lot of stuff or you're going to hate yourself. Think about it--you're going to be at this show for several hours not several days. Only bring what you need. It makes moving around a lot easier. Plus, you don't want to lose anything valuable. Wear pants with deep pockets if you MUST have things on your person.

3) Dress for success. Never ever wear flip flops. Ever. Combat boots or another laced shoe is probably your best bet no matter what. If it's winter,

decide how long you'll have to be outside. Find out if there is a coat check and how much it cost. If it's summer, decide how much clothing is too much (or too little). You don't want to be uncomfortable. I personally recommend a T-shirt and jeans/shorts for any show. If you have long hair, put it up. Trust me. Don't wear glasses if you can help it.

4) Get there on time. Unless you're really not concerned with seeing the earlier acts, getting to the show on time or even early can be beneficial. Standing in line can be extremely fun sometimes, and a good way to make friends. The earlier you arrive the better your standing spot will be. Also be aware that the closer to the middle and front of the stage you are the more people there will be. Everyone wants to be close.

5) Don't buy stuff at the show. This is partially in compliance with #2. Obviously you can buy what you want, but chances are the shirt you want is online for 5\$ less, even with shipping. You also probably don't want to be lugging it around with you constantly afraid you're going to lose it. Buy your merchandise online and save yourself money and hassle.

6) Be Friendly. Honestly, just use general manners while engaging in concert activities, and then you'll make friends. Concerts

are a great place to meet people because you already have one thing in common: love for a mutual band. People are concerts become families... be part of that.

7) Pace yourself. If you're going to a festival DO NOT go insane for the first side stage act you decide to see. Same goes for smaller shows. Save your energy for the band(s)/Song(s) you love the most so you can go all out for those specific parts. Otherwise you'll wear yourself out before the main act and that is NO FUN.

8) Know how to mosh. Know that even if you're not moshing people will be very close to you at most concerts, so if you're claustrophobic count rock shows out of your life right now. If you find yourself at a show where moshing is involved (which you will if you're cool) you need to know how to do it. I could write a whole other article on moshing etiquette, but there are some basics. Moshing is for fun not for hurting people. If you don't like moshing (for whatever reason), stay away from the pit. If someone falls, stop to help him up at all costs.

9) Know how to crowd surf. Much like the above point, don't do it if you don't really know how. It's not complicated just make sure you stay as board-like as possible. Don't do it if you don't like being touched in

strange areas, and don't do it if there aren't enough people to carry you, and do it at your own risk (it's your fault if you get dropped... just sayin').

10) Establish a meeting zone/ Know where you're parked. If you're going with other people make sure there is a set place to go if you lose each other. Festivals are big and smaller shows get crowded. Having a meeting place is so much easier than trying to locate people in the venue.

11) Have fun. I know it's cliché, but don't forget to get as much out of the concert as possible. A lot of teenagers like to think that concerts are just an expensive place to abuse substances and meet people, but it can end up being a spiritual experience if you get really into the music itself. The memory is what will last you, so make sure you have one.



Photo courtesy of Google

Prom Aftermath

by Rachel Bogo
Features writer

Last Sunday was the day all students prepared for and all parents dreaded.

Getting ready for prom is an event that requires months of preparation. Junior student Maddy Garvey says, "The worst part about getting ready for prom was taking a million pictures, and I think the money was spent well. I like the photo booth a lot and the red carpet."

Usatoday states, "this year, families with teens are expected to spend an average of \$1,078 on prom..." having that been in 2012, we can see how prom has changed over the years. Special Education teacher Stephanie Campanile says, "The biggest change is how serious and over the top asking people to prom has gotten... When I was in high school if you were dating someone, you just knew you were going together-no need to formally ask."

Girls tend to put the most effort into this occasion. They have to find the most perfect dress, shoes, jewelry, and then there's the extras: hair, makeup, and nails. Senior Greta Zilyte explains, "I think the money that girls spend on their dresses is ridiculous! Shoes, jewelry, hair, and makeup are also added expenses that make prom super expensive!"

However guys have a heavy list to check off as well. They have to get the tux, along with paying for both tickets, and then a limo. On top of that they have to have money on them for what's to come after the actual prom. Stephen Tuscher explains, "Guys mostly stress about how to ask their date. Other than that, the tickets and tux are the main things to worry about."

Out of all the events that we will go through as a person prom will be one that we will remember the most. No matter if it is a bad or good night it will be one we will tell our kids about when we are older.

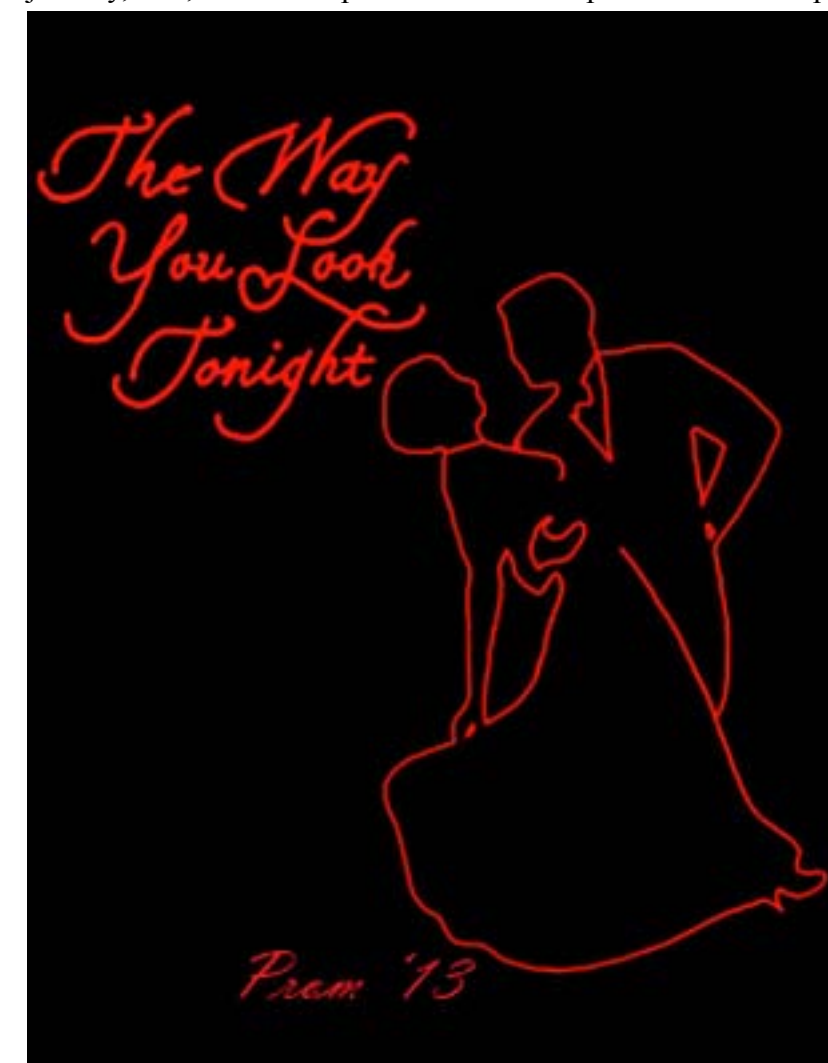


Photo by Jordan Gembara

Heart Breaking News

by Michelle Awad

Features writer

Everyone knows that heart break is awful, but it may be a surprise that the emotions associated with heart break can actually take a toll on the body.

However, some don't seem to buy it. Junior Robert Rigler says, "Well if the person who's heartbroken begins an eating disorder or self harm, then yes of course. But just having a 'broken heart' won't really give them real physical pain."

Junior Sara Van Hecke would beg to differ. "First of all, I think that when you feel sick in general, a lot of it is mental," she says. "If you feel sick in your mind and heart, you are more likely to physically feel sick. I believe feeling broken hearted can cause physical sickness because when faced with those emotions you are less likely to take care of yourself. When faced with a broken heart, I think it can eventually affect your whole body."

While referring to post heart break, author Jodi Picoult wrote, "Once you had put the pieces back together, even though you may look intact, you are never quite the same as you'd been before the fall."

According to a recent study done by the Los Angeles Times, Jodi Picoult is right. Heartbreak often causes physical symptoms. Simon Rego, director of psychology training at Montefiore Medical Center in New York, is quoted saying, "The human body has a built-in defense mechanism intended to respond to sudden jolts of stress to keep us alive."

Humans are born with inherent instincts. They choose whether to "fight or flight" when posed with a threat. These instincts were extremely helpful back when we had to decide whether or not to battle the saber-toothed tiger waiting for us outside or to "RUN, FOREST, RUN!"

However, as the threat of tigers outside of caves decreased, human instinct remained intact. Today, humans respond with "fight or flight" instincts to both physical and emotional threats.

Most of the time the first thing the body does when threatened is release adrenaline. This adrenaline surges through the body. Blood pressure rises, and breathing speeds up. Muscles contract, and the digestive system slows, causing cramping, constipation, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting.

"The experience of social rejection may actually have a bodily component to it," wrote Ethan Kross, a University of Michigan professor who has studied the effects of physical and emotional pain. "It is more than just a metaphorical feeling of pain around heartbreak."



Photo by Alyssa Cinatl

You've Got a Friend in Me

by Shannon Burke

Features writer

When a child is born he/she is born with a brain that is ready and eager to learn. Since we know this, we also know that what a young child sees is very influential on his or her behavior. The evidence is all around, such as when a father accidentally curses and the next day his 2 year old son is walking around saying that curse.

The behaviors children adopt are displayed for them by the people around them but also by those they see on screen. When children are young, parents monitor everything they see, in fear that their child might act a certain way after seeing bad behavior on TV. So why is it that movies created by Disney are universally seen as okay for young children to watch?

Disney movies are a huge part of childhood. Sophomore Helen Kolarik said "I watched tons of Disney movies when I was little. They are part of my childhood."

So many parents have their kids watch Disney movies because they teach good and valuable lessons. From Cinderella we can learn that dreams do come true, from Toy Story we can learn the value of friendship, from Mulan the importance of family, and from Lion King the importance of doing what is right

Mother Carolyn Bak said one example of a good lesson was in Toy Story 3 when "They were at the garbage dump and on their way to the incinerator. They held hands and were there for one another." Bak said that this helped teach her son to stick by his friends, even in tough times.

Another lesson can be pulled from Toy Story 3, according to Bak: "When they were, once again, at the garbage dump they helped Lotso, even though he has been mean to them." Bak says this helped to teach her son even if someone is mean to you sometimes you need to turn the other cheek to help them.

Bak's 6 year old son Connor said he has "helped [his friends] when someone was mean." Connor also shared that his favorite Disney movie is Toy Story. He likes that "The toys are all friends." Along with Toy Story Connor enjoys Peter Pan and The Lion King (although he thinks it's a little scary). Connor also surprisingly enjoys Cinderella on occasion.

The lessons Disney movies are able to portray in a fun and entertaining way for kids are very important. Parents value them because they can use them as tools to teach valuable lessons to their child in a way that the child can understand.

Disney movies teach good lessons—if a 6 year old can learn something important from them maybe the rest of the population can too.

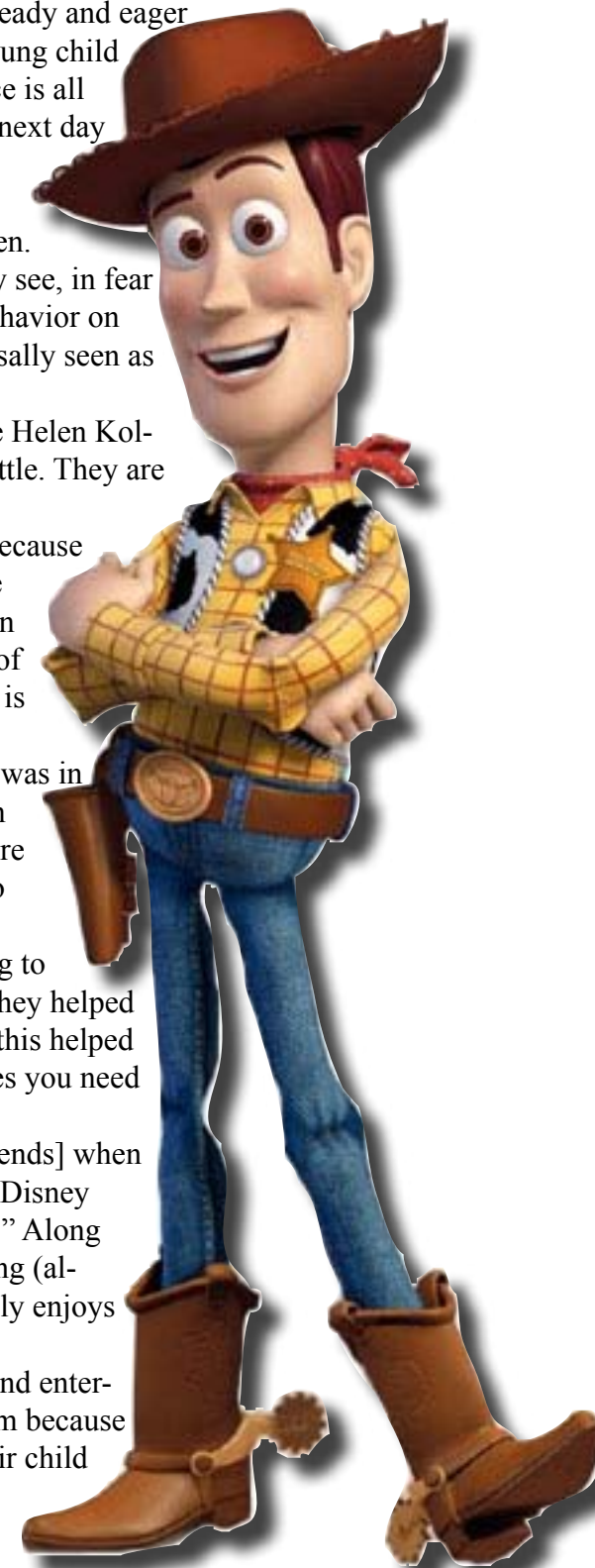


Photo courtesy of Google

Photo edited by Jordan Gembara

Bears Draft

by Kevin Dowiarz
Sports writer

With the 20th pick in this year's NFL Draft, the Bears have many possible players to choose from. The Bears are looking for a potential top tier player. But the question remains: will the Bears play it safe and draft a lineman, or will they take a chance and go after a skill player to make the difference this coming year?

The obvious answer to most Bears fans is to draft an offensive lineman, which would further revamp one of the leagues worst lines last year. Senior Matt Kaminski, a big Bears fan, said "obviously they couldn't go wrong with an offensive lineman. If they can get D.J. Fluker (OL-Alabama), he could help them out a lot". Fluker would be an excellent addition, as would Jonathon Cooper (OL-North Carolina), who is being overlooked by many draft experts.

Do the Bears really need another lineman? With new additions Jermon Bushman and Eben Britton, two proven linemen, the Bears should be able to look at other positions. Linebacker is an obvious choice. With the leaving of Brian Urlacher and Nick Roach, the Bears may be looking to pick up a Linebacker. Kaminski went on to say "I think for LB's, Alec Ogletree (LB-Georgia) is the guy to go with [for Linebackers]". Ogletree, a dominant player in the SEC, has all the tools to be great, but there are potential off the field issues.

Whoever the Bears go with, there are plenty of solid options. However, with the Offensive Line questionable at best, Fluker or Cooper are the best options for the Bears, who wish to protect Jay Cutler, the new face of the team with Urlacher's leaving.

College Football Playoff

by Cody Caballero
Sports writer

After the 2013 season, college football will part ways with the BCS (Bowl Championship Series) and will replace it with a four team playoff known as the College Football Playoff.

The first games for the College Football Championship will be held on Jan. 1 2015, and the games will be played at the Rose and Sugar bowls.

Once the playoff comes into effect the biggest change will be, four teams have a chance to compete for a national championship instead of just two when the BCS was used in college football.

Senior Connor O'Brien said "It's a step in the right direction for college football. Hopefully they can get a good reaction from the teams and fans and get the same reaction as the BCS."

When the playoff starts to progress the sites for the semifinals will change every year.

The Rose, Sugar, Orange, Cotton, Fiesta, and Peach (Chick Fil-A) will be the bowls that will rotate every year.

In an article posted on ESPN, the College football playoff has special game situations for the sites that don't host a semifinal. "When the Rose Bowl does not host a semifinal it will always be Big Ten vs. Pac-12 (Pacific-12). The Sugar Bowl, in years it doesn't host a semifinal, will always be SEC (South Eastern Conference) vs. Big 12. The Orange Bowl, in the years it does not host a semifinal, will always be ACC (Atlantic Coast Conference) vs. the highest ranked available team from the SEC, Big Ten or Notre Dame."

Many fans have been waiting for the NCAA to have a playoff for college football; this is the time to see if the wait was worth it.



This is what the college football playoff would have looked like if it went into effect last year.

Boston Strong

by Kieran Ruane
Sports writer

On Monday April 15th, two bombs were detonated near the finish line of the 2013 Boston marathon, killing three civilians and injuring more than 100. Since then the people of Boston have come together to support their fallen brothers and sisters, with a number of Boston sports team showing their support by hosting ceremonies in their honor.

Two days after the fatal bombs went off, the Boston Bruins held a ceremony before their game against the Buffalo Sabres. The American flag was carried out to center ice and all 20,000 fans sang the national anthem in unison. The Bruins were one of the first to use the term "Boston Strong". Since then it has been a rallying cry for the city.

Before the Red Sox's first home game after the tragedy, a ceremony was held including members of the Boston police department, and a speech from Red Sox hero David "Big Papi" Ortiz, who stated, "This is our [expletive] city. Nobody is going to dictate our freedom. Stay strong."

The words rang throughout the stadium, throughout the city, and throughout the nation.

At the beginning of their first round playoff matchup, the New York Knicks and the Boston Celtics held a ceremony in honor of the victims of the bombings. Usually meeting



Teams have rallied around Boston in the after math of the Boston marathon tragedy.

at center court as bitter rivals, the two teams joined together to show their support along with a service performed by both the Boston police department and the NYPD color guards.

"On behalf of the New York Knicks organization, we just want to let Boston know that we send our prayers to them," said Knicks forward Carmelo Anthony. "We as New Yorkers know what you guys are going through, so once again we want to send our condolences out to the city."

Boston forward Paul Pierce also added, "On behalf of the Celtics and the city of Boston, we'd like to thank you for your support and the support throughout the country during this tragic event. Boston will rise and run again."

The city itself knows how strong it

is, and it will continue to fight and recover, no matter the opposition. As the news develops and the story changes day by day, the rallying call throughout the city will always stay the same:

"We are one. We are strong. We are Boston. We are Boston strong."

"'Big Papi' Ortiz, who stated, 'This is our [expletive] city. Nobody is going to dictate our freedom. Stay strong.'"