



Will Vanderbilt  
News Writer

If a team's honorability is based off of wins to losses or the strength of the team mates' relationships, then the most honorable team is Mathletes.

According to the club's sponsor, Mrs. Erin Hitchcock, Mathletes is, "a group of people who like to do math problems".

This season's first conference was September 14; they won the conference. The first day of the state wide competition is May 5.

The district in which mathletes competes is SICA I-IV. There are over 250 schools that participate in this district.

Marjorie Dallmann, club member, says "My favorite part is probably competitions and hanging out with people".

The overall standing of the club is 2 wins to 0 losses, putting them in the number one spot in the district.

"We go to contests and solve math problems; it sounds crazy but it's a lot of fun", said Hitchcock.

Photos courtesy of Google

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## TEEN TRICK OR TREATING?

by Shannon Ehle  
*News writer*

Halloween may be originally designed for children, but as time goes by it is becoming quite clear that teenagers are not willing to let go of the fun-filled holiday. Though their costumes may be a little less enthusiastic and their parents a lot less involved, the holiday remains the same in most regards.

Most importantly, the rules are still the same. While one may think the rules for a five year old and a 16 year old would be different, Halloween curfew remains the same for everyone.

The Police Department does not feel that safety guidelines should be altered because of age.

The trick or treating hours for the Village of Lemont are 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. However, this does not necessarily mean the fun must come to an end promptly at 6:30 p.m. The regular weekday curfew remains; 13-16 year olds must be in by 11 p.m.

When collecting cauldrons of candy this Halloween, keep safety in mind.

## FLC Paying a Fee for Not Using the School

by Ashlee Berner  
*News Writer*

All students that plan on joining a club or sport for the high school now have to pay a fee to do so. Foreign language club students are very upset about having to pay a fee for being in this club.

Justin Brady stated, "I feel it [the fee] is disappointing, but FLC is a good club that is worth the money." Paying fees for extracurricular activities is a method that was set so that the school has extra money to keep the school open and running for things like heat, air conditioning, and lighting.

Kathy Balnius, junior, "It's stupid because we don't even use the school to hold any events. So why should we help pay to keep the school lit and heated when we don't use it? If we were using the money to pay for the busses that would be one thing, but we get none of the money."

The club goes on field trips to other places and only uses the busses for transportation, given by the school. But the club has been paying a fee for the busses since last year. When asked if she is still going to join the club, Balnius said, "Yes, because I did it the last two years, and I know I'd be missing out on a lot, but I feel bad making my parents pay more. Especially since I play sports so I can't go to every single event."

Leader of the club, Kelly Ercoli, says, "I think it makes it harder for students to afford to participate. Two years ago, I had to start adding the cost of buses to our trips; this year, it's the \$25 activity fee." Since there is a fee, the attendance totals have not been the same, Ercoli says, "Last year, we had 487 members, but this year, only 333 people joined."

Students have been wondering why they have to pay fees for this club. Tom Tren-grove, principal of LHS, said that, "The fee partially offsets the costs of the organizations, including the cost of sponsorship. The fees are not anyone's favorite partial remedy, but at this point, they are necessary." Sandy Doebert also said, "A few years ago we began having the non-competitive clubs like Foreign Language Club pay for their own transportation to events as a first step in trying to contain some of those costs."

Students might not like that they now have to pay for Foreign Language Club, but it does help the school financially, and won't stop LHS students from joining.





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## Sign Language Club

By Marisa Mars  
News Writer

Sign Language Club is one of Lemont's most multifaceted clubs. Students in this club can expect to learn how to communicate, have friendly conversations, and learn about deaf culture through various field trips, according to sponsor Judy Gray.

The club is already off to a good start this year, and according to Gray, attendance tends to increase towards the end of the year as well. This year there will be new experiences and new members. Tommy Glynn, senior, is a member of Sign Language Club. He said he "enjoys meeting new people" through the experiences the club has to offer.

Not only is Sign Language Club an opportunity for students to learn more about sign language, but many have actually been inspired by the experience. Gray said some former members have "become interpreters or are involved in the sign language field."

The club is looking forward to a good year and a lot of school involvement. They meet on Wednesday mornings twice a month at 8:00 a.m. in room N239.



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## LHS RECIEVES 2011 REPORT CARD DATA

Nicole McKevitt  
News Writer

The Illinois State Board of Education has provided LHS our 2011 Report Card data. It features interesting data regarding our ACT and PSAE scores, AYP information, and other Report Card facts.

LHS District 210 administrators presented the information to the District 210 Board of Education at its meeting on Tuesday, October 11th. The LHS Report Card is now posted on the school's Web site.

For the third straight year, LHS celebrates a new record- setting average on the ACT. Our 2011 composite ACT score was a 23.0, the best in school history. For the fifth time in the last six years, the LHS average ACT scores improved from previous classes. The English subset was a (22.9), Mathematics (23.0), Science (22.8), and the Reading subset (22.7) was the second- best in school history.

The LHS PSAE percentages have continued to be significantly above the state average. The Class of 2012 had 71.8% of the students who met or exceeded standards on the 2011 PSAE compared to the Class of 2011's 69.2% in the previous spring. Both of these scores are much higher than the state average of 50.5%.

Twelve LHS students earned Prairie State Scholar accolades in 2011, marking the second straight year that at least 10 Lemont students earned that distinction. Prairie State Scholar honors are given to students who score in the "Exceeds" level on the Reading, Mathematics, Science and Writing portions of the PSAE.

LHS Director of School and Community Relations' Tony Hamilton believes that, "The improvement [of scores] is a product of the hard work put forth on a daily basis by our students, faculty and staff."

Despite this good news, LHS ended up falling short of making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the "No Child Left Behind" act which mandates that all students - regardless of ability, special education needs or familiarity with the English language - meet or exceed state standards by 2014. AYP scores include the graduation and attendance rate, a percentage of students that are administered to the PSAE, performance by all juniors on the PSAE, and the performance by each subgroup of students on both the Reading and Mathematics subtests of the PSAE. LHS did not make the mark because the benchmark in the Reading and Mathematics subsets increased to 85% this year.

Hamilton also states that, "Regardless of the obstacles, we will continue to be highly attentive to the learning needs of each of our students."

Other data highlights included in the 2011 Illinois School Report Card are that 90 % of LHS faculty own a master's degree (compared to 60.4% of teachers across the state), and the faculty had an average of 14.4 years of teaching experience (compared to an average of 13.2 years of experience for teachers statewide).

For more information, go to our school's website [lhs210.net](http://lhs210.net) to see some more of our school's 2011 Report Card data.

REPORT CARD				
ACT SUBSETS	2011	2012	2013	2014
English	22.9			
Mathematics	23.0			
Science	22.8			
Reading	22.7			
Student: <u>Lemont High School</u> Grade: <u>11</u> Year: <u>2011</u>				





# Fans **Warmly** Welcome New **COLDPLAY** Album

by Alyssa Cinatl  
Features writer

Have you seen the countdown clock on iTunes? It's awaiting the release of Coldplay's new CD *Mylo Xyloto*.

The band Coldplay, best known for their biggest hit *Viva La Vida*, will be releasing their fifth album, *Mylo Xyloto*, with Capitol Records on Oct. 24. Their current single, *Paradise*, will be featured on the CD along with 13 new songs. You can pre-order the album on iTunes and receive a free download of *Paradise*.

Many speculated what the meaning of "Mylo xyloto" was. It is pronounced as my-lo zy-letoe. The band said that it wasn't actually translated into anything, it's simply two made up words.

Coldplay believes this upcoming CD could be their final album. Chris Martin, the 34 year old lead

singer thinks they may not have enough energy to compete with younger artists. He stated, "Now we have Justin Bieber and Adele to compete with and they're a lot younger. We have to have the energy to put as much effort into our work as they do. If it's over, it's over and I can live with that. The most important thing always is to proceed as if every album is the last and not expect anything more."

Rihanna will be featured on the new CD. She is singing a duet with Chris Martin for their song *Princess of China*. Martin adds, "She [Rihanna] has such an amazing voice and it's so different to mine. When the vocal happened I thought 'Wow, you sound different' but I think that's also because she was singing a different song to what we are used to hearing from her and it is written by a bloke from Devon."

The CD will be available in digital, CD, Pop-Up and vinyl formats. The vinyl edition will include a 12x36 poster. The Pop-Up album includes a 12x12 book with graffiti pop-up artwork like the one on the cover of the album. Both vinyl and CD format includes photos and excerpts from a studio diary and notebooks.

Lemont High School's junior Sara Diaz opinionates, "I personally do not like them [Coldplay], it's not the kind of music that I listen to."

But fans of Coldplay look forward to the release of what seems like a final Coldplay album.



Photo courtesy of Google

# SCREAM

by Sam Moffett  
Features writer

## FOR THE FOURTH TIME



Photo Courtesy of Google

"What's your favorite scary movie?"

An iconic quote from a classic movie. Renowned horror movie director Wes Craven redefined the genre with his 1996 blockbuster hit, *Scream*. The movie makes its own twists and turns on classic horror clichés and "whodunit" mysteries to create a rollercoaster ride of thrills and chills. As time went on, the sequel hit the theatres and also became a hit, but then the series lost its freshness after the third movie was released. Now eleven years later, the fourth chapter hits theatres. *Scream* had become a high rating horror film, but is the fourth installment of the withered franchise a success or a failure?

In *Scream 4*, the plot takes place on the fifteenth anniversary of the first Woodsboro murders – the events of the first movie. Three actors from the first movie reprise their roles to help stop the bloody reign of the legendary

"Ghostface" killer.

The plot for the movie is very well developed and surprisingly clever with a lot of pop culture references. The characters are all relatable and witty but some lack deliverance in their lines. Some of the acting was lack-luster and cheesy. The movie mixes the original actors with the rising stars of today's media; stars such as Emma Roberts and Hayden Panettiere, a smart move to help liven the movie up with fresh performances from the younger cast.

When horror movies come to mind, nudity and gore are always tagging along with it. The fourth installment had no nudity whatsoever, a nice change from the hard-core nude scenes that overshadow the scares. There is also no extreme violence, but the movie presents the right amount of blood and the littlest touch of guts to satisfy slasher fans.

The "Ghostface" killer is what really ties the movie together. Along with his bloodstained legacy the killer brings the intimidation and tension that a good villain should bring. His phone calls are always chilling and his cynical humor gives the fans a few laughs while they wait for the kill.

But is *Scream 4* for everyone? It can be. For slasher movie fans it will be a very entertaining movie with clever kills and a memorable villain. Some people might not appreciate the blood and jokes but checking it out won't kill you.

**Total Recall:** *Scream 4* breaks itself away from the dying franchise with a mix of ups and downs.

**Average rating:** 6 ½ out of 10.





## Tip off to come for College Basketball

by Paul grossi  
*Sports writer*

Players, coaches and fans get ready for another exciting season of basketball teams to regroup after what was a great last year of basketball. Both new and returning players hope that their team will come out on top.

Teams have an event called Midnight Madness, an event that kicks off college basketball. Here the players show their fans and others a preview of what their team will look like. It allows fans to get to know the players on many of the teams in the NCAA and to see the players show off in a slam dunk contest, three point contest and other small events.

It all might seem fun but the players were back to work as the season is right around the corner. Coaches want to ensure that their teams are ready for the 2011-12 season. Pre ranks came out and some teams that most people have never heard of made the list of the Top 25.

Some teams used to being on top might not be there this year. Kentucky, St. Johns, and Georgetown are some of the teams that will probably not be on the ranking sheet. With young members it will be a tough task to pull out big wins when needed and to have a good overall record.

With only a couple more weeks to the start, many fans can't wait to see the exciting matchups. Teams prepare for what's going to be a great but challenging season. Teams will be trying to get a good rank and hopefully make it all the way to the championship game. Making it into the bracket is a big accomplishment for some teams though. Starting November 10-11 the seasons will begin and you should watch, as maybe your favorite team will be on top.

## Purtle leads Lemont to THIRD PLACE finish at state finals

by Ian Stratta  
*Sports editor*

Lemont's boys golf team, with five state finals appearances in as many years, has never had this much success, literally.

The team's third place finish, led by senior Shane Purtle, at the state finals this season is their best ever. Their previous best state finish was fifth in 2009.

Purtle had a stellar performance at state this year. According to lhs210.net, Purtle was in a three-way tie for first place following a first round score of +1 (72) which tied him with the likes of Althoff Catholic's Austin VonAlst and Marian's Luke Waggoner. He ended up scoring +8 (79) in the second and final round which kept him to a third place finish.

Marion High School's Jaret Brewer finished first after a one-hole playoff with Waggoner after a two-way tie for first place.

Purtle commented, "I can't complain with a team third place and an individual third place finish even though things didn't end the greatest. After one day we had hoped for better results but it was the best finish in school history regardless. Personally I knew it was a solid end to an unbelievable career."

Junior Joe Paloian performed very well as he shot an 81 on the first day and 79 the second day. According to head coach Mark Hollatz, "about 90%" of the rest of the field shot worse on the second day because of the heavy wind. Paloian was one of the few that improved on the second day. Other impressive performances included senior Kevin Kling (79 and 83) and senior Brian McMahon (86) who only competed on the second day.

With Purtle's strong play, the team, as a whole, finished third as well with the score of +72, just two over second place Marmion Academy (+70). Althoff Catholic had by far the best score of the 2A state finals with a score of +56.

Coach Hollatz said, even though it is so tough to improve much after so much practice, it was Purtle's "consistency" that improved the most since the last season.

Last season the boys golf team finished seventh with a total score of 666. When taking into account the loss of prominent seniors from last year and the horrific wind during the second round, the team's 640 score and third place finish seems even more impressive.

Purtle says that he might golf at college, though he is not yet sure where his talents will take him.

## Fall BALLIN'

by Tom Folliard  
*Sports writer*

The LHS boys basketball team is looking for its first winning season in over five years. This may be on the horizon as the boys prepare for the upcoming season.

"We all know to be good you can't wait for tryouts to start practicing and playing. All the hard work you put in during the offseason is really what will pay off for you and the team during the season," said senior Joe O'Brien.

Currently the team is playing in a fall league. Their record stands at 7-3, something Lemont is not used to lately.

On Oct. 16, the boys beat Lincoln Way East 41-28. "Every game we play, I feel like we are the better team. That is not something I've felt since freshman year," said senior Matt Lipowski.

Last year the team ended the season with a record of 8-19. The turnaround season could have very well taken place last year, but the team could not pull it together going into the second half of the season.

The team has seven returning players and three returning starters: seniors Matt Lipowski, Joe O'Brien and Paulius Otruskevicius.

They also now have junior transfer Juozas Balciunas. He may be the final piece to the puzzle Lemont needs for the much-needed turnaround season. Even though this is his first year at LHS, he can push the team forward.

Head coach Rick Runaas is entering his third year as Lemont's head coach. He is used to a winning atmosphere in his past as head coach at T.F. North. This year may show just what Runaas can do with an experienced team.

The boys kick off their season with an away game against Lincoln Way North on Nov. 29. This will be the boys' first chance to display what they are going to bring to the table this year.

Last year Otruskevicius played a key role on both defense and offense for Lemont. However, during a game his right foot underwent a stress fracture, which made him miss a large part of the season. He was not happy with the way the season turned out, especially after the high expectations they had.

"This year will be different. With the team we have to work with here, we have a great chance to make changes and put Lemont basketball back on the map," said Otruskevicius.

As the season creeps closer the hype about Lemont's possibility for a big year is growing. The team needs to keep their confidence level up as the season rolls on to give Lemont a fighting chance in the South Suburban Conference.

## Girls X-C conference champs try for regional win

by Emily Lejman  
*Sports writer*

After the Lemont girls cross country team won conference last Saturday on Oct. 15, they set their sights on a regional victory.

At the conference meet, top runner for Lemont, junior Amanda Ruban ended up getting a 20:19.75 for the 3 mile placing sixth for her run. Senior Mary McKevitt followed quickly behind placing seventh with a time of 20:35.07. Senior Amber Trick finished in the top ten along with freshmen Holly Lemming and Victoria Salazar who finished second in the race overall. Senior Brittney Klosak and junior Wendy Mazur also ran in the conference meet.

Before the regional meet, Ruban talked about her regional goal saying, "My individual goal would be to get a PR in the low 19s". "Our team goal," Ruban said, "is to be able to advance our top seven varsity runners to sectionals by placing in one of the top seven spots".

The team competed in regionals this past Saturday finishing in second place qualifying for sectionals. Three girls managed to finish in the top ten for Lemont. Amanda Ruban finished in eighth place with a time of 19:48. Victoria Salazar got ninth place with 19:50 as her time and Nicole Balinski got 10th finishing with 19:55 as her time.

The girls cross country team will compete on Oct. 29 with hopes of advancing to state.





# 10 Pom-Pom for the Tom-Tom

by Effie Tounas  
*Sports writer*

The Lemont High School Poms team is full of life and dedication as the girls take on the 2011-2012 season. As the fall season comes to an end, the girls continue to prepare themselves for the winter season of competitions.

Senior captains Caroline Jachec and Maribeth Van Hecke prepare the team for their five upcoming competitions in the winter season, beginning with the first on Dec. 11. The dancers must organize routines for the two different categories they compete in: open pom and open dance.

Last year's Poms varsity team was able to bring themselves to the state competition as the girls placed fifth in the open pom category.

Several sophomores have stepped up to the varsity level this season and have "made a lot of gains" as Coach Stephenie Campanile stated. "They are great girls working hard to keep making improvements, and they work hard to get the two routines ready for competition," Campanile also said of this year's team.

"We get along well and share a bond. We're also excited about our competition season," said junior dancers Lisa Melville and Dianne Etrata. Senior captain Jachec also commented that they have "improved a lot individually, which is most important."

Lemont's Poms team will continue to perform new routines at the varsity football games on Friday nights. Winter season will not only consist of their competitions, but they will also be dancing at the varsity basketball games.

## Girls Golf Finishes Strong Season with Help of Lejman

by Eric Gruber  
*Sports writer*

After a conference championship, the Lemont girls golf team looks to continue the success in the state playoffs.

On Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at regionals, they finished first with a winning score of 337 breaking the school record.

Senior Emily Lejman, who won conference with a score of 83, shot a 79 at the regional tournament. At the sectional tournament Lejman led the way with a 78, sophomore Bridget Lynn shot an 87, senior Kara Gikas shot an 89, freshman Laura Ringo shot a 99, junior Nadya Cortes shot a 101, and junior Nicole Fardig shot a 107.

Despite the pressures of a big tournament Lejman said, "I wasn't really nervous; I felt very confident and excited for my round. When I chipped in for birdie on the fourth hole, which got me back to even par, that really got my confidence up."

At the sectional tournament, at Old Oak, the Lemont girls golf team finished sixth out of 12 teams and were only six strokes away from making it to the state championship.

The course played very difficult for the players at sectionals on Monday October 10<sup>th</sup>. Lejman said, "The greens were very fast and hard to control."

Last weekend Lejman competed individually down at the state championship in Decatur at Hickory Point. She shot a 91 on the first day and came back with a strong 82 on the final day to finish tied for 58<sup>th</sup>.

"The course was more on the easier side; the only thing that was difficult for me was the yardage because most of the holes were farther than I usually play and the greens were extremely fast," said Lejman.

Lejman's goal of making it down state was fulfilled and a great way to finish her spectacular Lemont golf career.

by Ethan Parafink  
*Sports writer*



Admitting he was somewhat surprised by the offer from GM Ken Williams, Ventura knows he has a large role to fill, but is confident. "I don't want to just think I'm taking the job just to take it because it's offered," Ventura said at his introductory news conference. "I want to do a good job and I want to have all those things that kind of go through that. I feel confident that I can do it."

Meanwhile, on the North Side, the Cubs have also been busy as they agreed in principle with one of the biggest names of GMs in Epstein. According to Cubs.com, the deal is to be five years and worth \$15 million to \$18 million, but it still has not been officially finalized.

The reason is that, like the White Sox and Guillen, the Red Sox are seeking compensation for Epstein, who was still under contract for this season, and the Cubs clearly don't want to give up any of their big name prospects. But even if it takes a prospect or two, getting Epstein would be a welcome addition in Chicago.

Epstein became GM of the Red Sox in 2002 and put together the team that won the World Series in 2004, turning around a dismal franchise and ending its 86 year championship drought. Boston won again in 2007 and the team reached the playoffs in six out of his nine seasons as GM.

However, after signing a bunch of huge contracts before this season, Boston blew a nine game lead in the American League Wild Card race and missed the playoffs. Both Epstein and manager Terry Francona were under much scrutiny after the terrible finish and Francona was let go two days after the season ended.

Fans in Chicago will most likely welcome Epstein, as he tries to turn around a Cubs team that finished 5<sup>th</sup> place in the National League Central for the second straight year. Both he and Ventura will have a lot of work to do for their teams.

## Cubs and Sox land new management

Both the Chicago Cubs and Chicago White Sox have already gotten some new faces this offseason, with the Cubs signing Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein as the president of baseball operations and bringing in Jed Hoyer, who worked under Epstein in Boston, to be his GM. Meanwhile, the White Sox named Robin Ventura as their new manager.

A former Sox player, Ventura replaces manager Ozzie Guillen, who was traded to the Florida Marlins for prospects. The Sox received two of the Marlins top five prospects in exchange for letting Ozzie Guillen out of his contract to manage Florida. Guillen, also a former player of the Sox, had been manager for the Sox since 2004, and ended an 88 year drought with the 2005 World Series victory.

Ventura began his career with the Sox and played on the team from 1989 to 1998 winning five Gold Glove awards and making one All Star Game in that span. He retired in 2006 after playing with four other teams.







## 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](mailto: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



## *Athletic Performance of the Week*



Girls Swimming:

**Carmen Burke**

Burke dove her first time last week at the shepard meet coming in second. She dove six different dives for a score that shattered our previous school record for diving previously set by Monica Strube. Strube's record was a 133 and Burke scored a 155. She is looking forward to breaking the school record for 11 dives which has not been broken since 2003.



Photo by Tony Hamilton