

TOM-TOM

Issue 31
April 20, 2012

HOSA National Championships

by: Marisa Mars
News writer

Three Lemont High School students finished in the top ten at state for this year's HOSA competition. HOSA is the Health Occupations Students of America. The State Leadership Conference was held this year from March 14-16.

HOSA is a national organization that "promotes career opportunities in the health care industry and works to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people," Tony Hamilton, Communications Director said. He added that it uniquely recognizes, promotes, and motivates students enrolled in Health Science Education courses.

Robert Parson finished second in "Extemporaneous Speaking," fifth in "Nursing

Assistant" and he and Miksys finished eighth in the team "Public Service Announcement" competition.

Because of his finish in the top three, Parson will be moving forward to compete in the HOSA National Leadership Conference at Disney this summer.

Senior Shauna Miksys and Junior Lanea Malak both finished in the top ten in their categories.

Lemont wishes Parson the best of luck at state this summer and congratulates Malak and Miksys.



In This Issue

p. 3-5 How Youtube Shaped Music

Today

p. 6 Silence is Golden

p.7 Right-Click Synonym Creates

Great Writing; Play Outside!

p.8-9 Find Him and Kill Him?

p.10 Tom-Tom Talks: Spring Fever

Edition

p.11 Around the World

p.12 Cubs Off-Season Aquisitions

p.13 Nhl Playoffs

p.14 Mustangs Stampede Indians in

First Loss

p.15-17 The White Mamba; Lemont

Tennis to Sweep Argo

TOM-TOM STAFF

HEAD EDITOR

Morgan McPartland

EDITORIALS EDITOR

Morgan McPartland

FEATURES EDITOR

Mallory Christine

SPORTS EDITOR

Ryan Peraino

DESIGN EDITOR

Rachel Hunter

NEWS EDITOR

Morgan McPartland

SUPERVISOR

Sean Clark

PHOTO EDITORS

Michael Gaytan
Maddy George

EDITORIALS WRITERS

Joshua Shubert
Cara Dohse
Ryan Kahle

FEATURES WRITERS

Luke Whittingham
Sonia Vavra
Maddy George
Michael Gaytan

SPORTS WRITERS

John Fiori
Adrian Kalata
Kurran Buck
Eric Gruber
Effie Tounas

NEWS WRITERS

Scott Salvatore
Marisa Mars
Nicole McKevitt

DESIGN ASSISTANT

Alexis Caspers



How You Shaped Music Today

by Morgan McPartland
Head Editor

Justin Bieber, Soulja Boy, Carly Rae Jepsen and Charice. What do all these artists have in common? They definitely don't sing in the same genres as each other, and their ages range from 18 years old to 26 years old. However, no matter their ages, all four of these artists (among hundreds of others) started on the same video-sharing website: YouTube.

History of YouTube

Although it's only been a short seven years since YouTube was created by three coworkers, this site has immensely changed video, music and advertisement industries across the globe. PayPal workers Chad Hurley, Steven Chen (a graduate from U of I) and Jawed Karim decided they wanted to create a video-sharing website on February 14, 2005. The very next day, the three men registered youtube.com without knowing just how impactful the website would become.

Within months, 20-second videos became globally viewed and major companies began realizing the potential benefit of YouTube, leading them to upload advertisements and endorsements for their products onto the website or simply invest.

YouTube officially debuted on December 15, 2005, and according to www.fastcompany.com, it was one

of the fastest growing websites during the summer of 2006, surpassing even MySpace's growth rate. After not even one full year of success, Google bought YouTube for \$1.65 billion.

Why is it so Special?

Since it debuted in 2005, YouTube has been a main source of entertainment, business and music for many individuals. With its easy, free access, anyone on the web can view (almost) any video on YouTube 24/7. Plus, any person who so desires can create a YouTube account to upload his/her own videos, view other videos or simply create a "Favorites" playlist.

However, according to Citi analyst Mark Mahaney, YouTube is not yet proven to be profitable. Even though YouTube passed 1 billion video views per day in late 2009 and earned an estimated revenue of \$240 million that year alone, the site spent more than roughly \$700 million storing and serving all those popular videos.

One would think that Google of all companies would be able to make an investment like YouTube instantly lucrative, but the owners haven't quite figured out a way to do that just yet.

What It's Done for Music

For music fanatics, YouTube is a glorious portal into an almost limitless

array of music; from live performances to unreleased hits, site users can listen to almost anything for free. Generational limitations don't exist as they do on the radio or on iTunes, and music is way easier to share with friends.

Now, for music groups and individual artists, YouTube is perhaps the most promotional tool ever. "As an artist, I can have my music available to the entire world for free, with the click of the mouse. And with YouTube, I can upload a video to accompany my song, giving viewers a visual of my performance to boost the impact," said former LHS student Steven Grand.

It has expanded every band's audience simply by being a global website; undiscovered bands from small towns are now able to gain fans from other states and even countries on the other side of the world.

"Obviously, I believe YouTube is an advantage for any aspiring artist. All in all, it comes down to the artist to take his music that next step, and showcase it to the world," said former LHS student Quinn Mandell. Mandell has been pursuing music since a very young age, but once he reached college he began taking it more seriously.

Now, he writes, sings and even records his own music, along with

continued on page 4



continued from page 3
handling the responsibilities of being a full-time college student. Currently, Mandell's YouTube page is in the design stage and will soon be up and running.

On the other hand, Grand has been taking full advantage of all YouTube has to offer. "My videos have been viewed over 60,000 [times], and I've only just begun," he said. Check out Grand's YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/SteveStarchild>.

Disadvantages

Yes, YouTube is arguably one of the best inventions in recent years for the music industry. It's free, simply navigated, well-known and promotional for bands looking to make a name for themselves. But aside from all that, is there a downside to YouTube's easy access?

Music journalist Luke Lewis (NME Music Magazine) believes that although YouTube has vastly increased the audience for music videos, it has consequentially driven the quality down. Since any person can upload a song or video to the site, songs like "Friday" by Rebecca Black are able to achieve 167 million views – and that's just as of June 2011 before the official video was removed from YouTube.

Grand believes YouTube is a major disadvantage for people with "connections" and those that rely on the old system where it's all about whom you know or whom you can impress. "People only have time for what is remarkable, even if it is remarkably bad, like Rebecca Black's 'Friday.' The video was so unusually cheesy and awful that it ignited when it hit YouTube," said Grand.

On the other hand, Mandell disagrees with Lewis. "I don't believe YouTube necessarily did anything to the quality of music. Instead, I think it made music genres more expansive. You are able to browse new covers, varieties and genres of songs and music uploaded each and every day," he said.

Besides the possibility that it decreased the quality of songs people listen to nowadays, You-

Tube has made breaking the law even easier – through pirating music, of course (see sidebar).

Who Started on YouTube?

As mentioned above, many artists (young and old alike) have risen on the charts simply because of one or two YouTube videos. Justin Bieber's mom uploaded home videos of her son, only 12 years old at the time, singing at local competitions in their hometown of Ontario, Canada.

Before long, music promoter Scooter Braun discovered the multiple videos of Bieber singing and flew him out to Atlanta to record. After that, Braun and pop sensation Usher signed Bieber to Island Records and the rest is history.

Similar to Bieber, young Greyson Chance simply uploaded a video of him singing Lady Gaga's "Paparazzi" and was immediately recognized for his amazing talent. Ellen DeGeneres stumbled across the talented sixth-grader and immediately flew him out to perform twice on her show. Soon after, DeGeneres signed Chance to her new recording label, entitled eleveneleven.

In a slightly different genre, rapper Soulja Boy Tell 'Em got his start

continued on page 5



photo courtesy of Google, edited by Michael Gaytan



continued from page 4

on YouTube as well. In 2004, he created a YouTube page for his music and an Atlanta producer took notice of his star potential. Three years later, he released the well-known rap song "Crank That," which impressively gave him a Grammy nomination.

The infamous Oprah Winfrey discovered singer Charice Pempengo through YouTube, and most recently, 26 year old Carly Rae Jepsen posted her hit single "Call Me Maybe" on the site and instantly became a star.

At the end of the day, the many advantages of YouTube might make up for the few disadvantages critics believe it has. Either way, YouTube has drastically changed and shaped the music industry; who knows what new development will impact the music industry next.

Hop in Your Ships Fellow Swashbucklers! Music on Youtube Leads to Piracy.

by Ryan Kahle
Editorialist

They are like, my favorite band! What do you mean, 'did I get their new album?' Buy it? Why would I do that, when I can just download everything they've ever produced in the span of their career for free?

These days, things are different. There is a generation that has grown up with near-unrestricted internet access. The viral video giant YouTube provides access to an unprecedented amount of media; many popular songs achieve their popularity on the video site.

YouTube promotes a casual listenership among this new, morally-lacking generation. Causal listenership leads directly to casual piracy. New teens and pre-teens listen to a song, like it, and download the artist's entire discography. This lack of fiscal support angers some artists.

Music used to be a much more wholesome system. Fans followed artists, bought albums and showed friends the music. The friends may then buy their own album if they wanted to listen. Artist support has dropped thanks in part to this casual listenership.

Some artists are not bothered by this; casual listenership



is still listenership to these artists. They want to get their music out by any means. The most revenue for bands comes from touring, from playing shows: the only people that come to concerts are individuals that have been listening to the music.

"YouTube promotes a casual listenership among this new, morally-lacking generation."



Silence Is Golden

by Cara Dohse
Editorialist

The most intense scene of The Hunger Games was happening right in front of my eyes when ignorant teenagers in the movie theater decided to start talking. As my brother and I were walking out of the movie he turned to me and said, “Why can’t people be quiet?”

At the AMC Movie Theater in Wodridge, Illinois, movie tickets per person cost up to \$10. A large bucket of popcorn costs over \$6, not including a beverage or any other snacks. Your trip to the movies on a Friday night builds up to be \$15 to \$20 per person. For

such an expensive night out shouldn’t it be enjoyed without any disturbances?

Being quiet is another aspect of respect for others in public areas, especially a movie theater. Going to the movies is a treat for people; being able to watch a brand new movie on the big screen. Junior Kate Washagan says, “I’m trying to watch the movie and people are distracting because they are talking. If you paid the money for it then just watch the movie and be quiet.”

Hearing others around you with their own gossip and unneeded talking be-

comes a disturbance to you and everyone around you. Talking also affects the experience of going to the movies. “What upsets me the most is when people verbally repeat what just happened in the movie” says sophomore Jonathan Stutz.

When the crying baby comes on through the loud speakers at the movie theater next time; that should be the time to quiet down, sit back, and watch the movie in silence. It’s expensive to be there and people deserve to watch the movie in silence. Remember: silence truly is golden.



photo courtesy of Google, edited by Michael Gaytan



Right-Click Synonym Creates Amazing Writing!

by Ryan Kahle
Editorialist

Words are powerful. They can create and destroy, cause success or failure. When used correctly, there is nothing that trumps a developed vocabulary.

Unfortunately, some are taking advantage of this power.

Academically speaking, those who employ a higher lexile score tend to have a firmer grasp on the topic they choose to explore. This is not always true, however.

Speaking from experience, it is possible to ‘earn’ an A grade solely from using elevated diction. This unsavory way of writing carried me through my freshman and sophomore years, receiving top grades on essays filled with fluff and swirling vernacular.

Even honors grading is affected by those able to employ a vichyssoise of verbiage; however, it is the lower levels of English instruction that fall prey

to this flourishing of vernacular.

Students able to dumbfound their instructors with savagely beautiful turns of phrase do not always deserve fantastic grades. If one is under the auspices of an individual with a degree in a certain field, one would think that this educated being would be able to peer through the fog and filler and divine true meaning.

Still, students get away with inflated diction almost every day.

Go Play Outside!

By: Nicole McKevitt
Editorials Editor

Reflecting on my own childhood, my most memorable moments were spent outside. Playing “Monkey on the Woodchips” with my siblings, riding my bike all over my neighborhood, playing with my skip it, or even catching “rolley polleys” on the side walk truly gave me the best childhood I could ever ask for, and it makes me sad that children who are growing up in this generation won’t have the same experiences that I had.

Technology has had a huge impact on children this decade because game systems like XBOX and Nintendo are highly addictive pastimes. Game systems like Wii may encourage exercise, but they aren’t as

nearly as fun as the activities kids could be playing outside.

Playing outside can help broaden a child’s imagination, and it can also help kids become more

“The way things are going, our future generations will be hiring people to do their exercise for them.”

creative. It is rare to find little girls playing games like “House” or “School” these days because our generation is so geared towards advancing our technology.

Not only does playing outside help build imaginations, but it is also a great way for kids to exercise and to get some fresh air. Surveys show that parents with children between the ages of 5 and 10 say that 58 percent of children spend less than four days a week playing outside because parents find it more convenient to spend time in front of a television or computer. Obesity and diabetes are coming to an all-time high.

Children today should play outside because it gave me memories of a lifetime. I am so close with my siblings because we always spent time together outside. I am really concerned about the future generations of kids. The way things are going, our future generations will be hiring people to do their exercise for them.

photo courtesy of Google



Find Him and Kill Him?

by Luke Whittingham
Features writer

Since its founding in 1492, Abercrombie, hermit crabs, hoop skirts, Cole Porter, and feathered hair have all been American fads, but recently human life has been added to the list. Kony 2012 was created to raise awareness. However, the world has perceived it as another, “short lived,” viral video.

What is Kony 2012?

Kony 2012 is an independent short film created by Invisible Children Inc., a non-profit organization. The film is used to create global awareness about the International Criminal Court fugitive and Ugandan war criminal, Joseph Kony. The ultimate goal is to capture Joseph Kony, which will slowly cause a collapse of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA), the rebel group he heads. The film introduces a young Ugandan boy, Jacob, who has been affected by the LRA and its brutal actions first-hand. Jacob’s brother was killed by the rebel group, and Jacob lives in constant fear of being captured by the group as well. If captured, he will be forced to serve in Kony’s child army as a soldier and will be forced to kill innocent Ugandans and add to the millions of lives already taken by the LRA. The film and organization works to eliminate the terrors faced by Ugandan and Democratic Republic of the Congo civilians.

Why react now?

The organizations founder, Jason Russell, promised Jacob he would take action when he met Jacob ten years ago during a mission trip in college. The horrors taking place in Uganda and other parts of East Africa continue to rise each year. Russell previously tried to make short films to raise awareness, but failed. He finally released Kony 2012 on March 5, 2012 thinking it would just be another small film supporting the beliefs of his small organization. However, his film was an immediate success with the public and had 86 million viewers twenty-five days later. But

why did the public react to this film and not the others?

Reaching the Public

Facebook. One word that changed the life of Jason Russell and his small organization, Invisible Children Inc. Russell has been trying to change the lives of the Ugandan people because of his promise to one little boy ten years ago. The release of Kony 2012 went viral, spreading all over Facebook and Youtube. By the end of March, Kony 2012 could have been seen and heard in any part of the world. The super-highway of digital communication had united the world for one cause . . . for the time being.

An Odd Turn of Events

A month after the video’s release, Jason Russell was arrested for public intoxication and nudity. Russell was found on an Los Angeles sidewalk talking to himself with his pants down. Russell and his family attempted to defend his actions by claiming it was “stress from the overwhelming responses to the video.” The news spread within a day and Kony 2012 began to evolve into “an arena for public criticism.”



Photo courtesy of Google

“Find Him” continued on page

“Find Him” continued from page

The World Reacts

Shortly after Russell’s arrest the world began to view the cause negatively. The organization had not changed its policies, but the face of the cause had tainted the Kony 2012 name. The world’s youth and largest supporters of the cause began to shift their opinions. “I purchased an action kit from the website,” said Seattle public high school senior Maggie Quinn “now, I am no longer attending the “Cover the Night” event in downtown Seattle after the recent events.” “Cover the Night,” an event where participants decorate major cities around the world to continue spreading awareness, lost nearly half of its participants a week after Russell’s arrest according to Invisible Children Inc. “I’m all for helping people,” said University of Liverpool Sophomore Cian O’Neal “but now I switched my opinion [of Kony 2012] after the circulating rumors.” Other supporters are just confused as the conflicting viewpoints circulate around the world. “I was disgusted,” says Lemont High School Senior Gabriela Alvarez, “the US had always said they would never let something like the Holocaust ever happen again.” However, the end of the film shows President Obama deploring 100 American troops to aid the Ugandan army with their attempts to capture the notorious war lord. Very few still support the organization and even fewer are actually taking action.

Let Me Help You . . . Become an Internet Celebrity

According to the Kony 2012 video, before its debut, only 1% of the world knew who Joseph Kony was. Today, according to a recent article by the Sydney Morning Herald, more than 87% of the world is aware of Joseph Kony and the horrors he imposes on East Africa. As public knowledge of Kony’s existence grew, support to eliminate him rapidly decreased. But, the most wanted man in the world is still good for one thing, in the public eye . . . publicity. According to a recent article in the Seattle Times, Russians have been using the cause as a source of income, selling fake posters and t-shirt sales that they only benefit from. Twitter, Tumblr, and other popular social media sites have used the cause to process comical cartoons or videos about the children enlisted in the LRA. But how do the Ugandans feel, after all they are the “flavor of the month.”



Photo courtesy of Google

Ugandan Reaction

Leaving Uganda scarred and harmed, Joseph Kony has fled to neighboring countries out of fear. Having little Internet access, Uganda has been one of the last countries to view the video. Therefore, a charity recently held a public screening of the video in a remote village called Lira. The Ugandans were supportive of the countries that supported their cause, but were offended. They wondered why people were wearing t-shirts with the face of the man that had killed their families and friends on it. They believed it mocked their suffering, but Invisible Children justified that their method was extremely affective. Seeking help to destroy a constant fear in their lives, the Ugandans are stuck in the middle of a widespread Internet phenomenon.

Setting out with good intentions, Invisible Children Inc. has created a profitable charity. Giving less than 30% of the money they earn to the cause, the charity has truly taken advantage of a country and its people. Has making a promise to a young boy to fix his life and the life of his country turned into a profitable game? When will action begin and when will Kony actually be stopped? Americans and the rest of the world continue to open their wallets to a cause that only has “30%” of its original values. A fad has truly been crated out of human lives.



10

Tom-Tom Talks

by Sonia Vavra
Features writer

Spring Fever Edition

Spring Break is over and there are still about six weeks left until school lets out. The Spring Fever sets in and the student and faculty of LHS are definitely feeling ill.

This week's question: If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be and what would you be doing?



"Narnia." –*Jim Scott, freshman*



"Tanning on the beach in Mexico!" –*Lexie Burton, junior*



"Japan at an anime convention." –*Anthony Shaw, senior*



"I'd be here, because I chose to be here! I wouldn't be anywhere else!" –*Patte Doornbos, Science teacher*



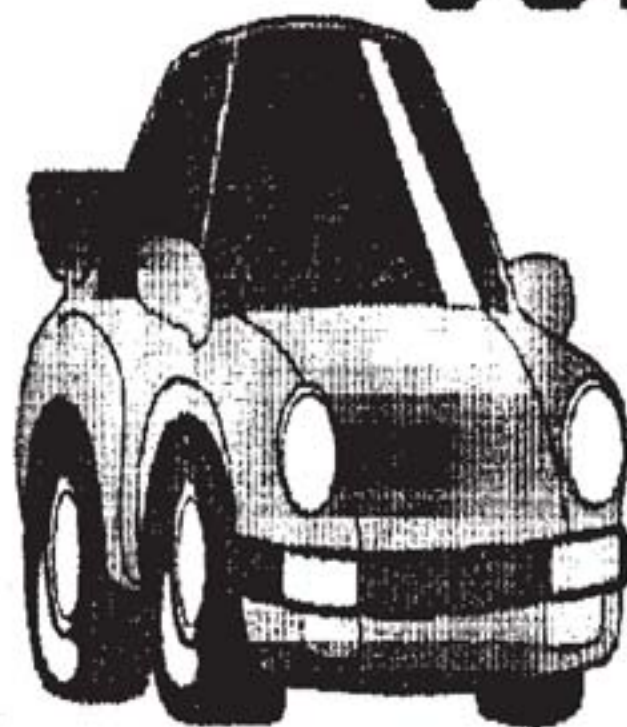
"In the Dominican Republic, sitting on the beach." –*Darren Lynch, Social studies teacher*



"Scuba diving in the Tobago Cays in the Grenadines." –*Laina Wing, Art teacher*

Photos by Michael Gaytan

A-Orland Driving School



**\$75 off
coupon**

(708) 460-6622

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



Around the World

by Eric Gruber
Sports writer

Do we have an Olympian here at Lemont? Junior Juozas Balciunas looks like he could be with his playing experience with the Lithuanian national team. Balciunas was in China for three weeks for the U-19 FIBA tournament.

The four teams that participated in the tournament were Lithuania, USA, China and Australia. Some of the most talented, young players in the world played in this tournament and one of our very own here at Lemont.

Lemont coach Rick Runaas is honored to coach such a great player. “With Juozas playing at that level it gives the school a higher profile and attracts the best players from Lemont. A couple years ago the top players in Lemont were looking elsewhere and now this may bring them all to Lemont instead of other schools.”

A trip like this to a country across the world can be a lot to take in and Balciunas made the most of it. “The most memorable part was seeing the country, the culture and how people live there,” he said.

Basketball in different countries is definitely different than the style of play here. “The game is more set out there and not as fast here. The speed of the game is just at a different level,” said Balciunas.

There are many great athletes that play high school, college and even professional sports, but there are only a handful of people that get to play in the FIBA World Basketball Championship. “There wasn’t a big difference in the level of competition. The game is competitive anywhere you play,” said Balciunas.

Being in a country that is about ten hours away for an extended period of time will have many challenges. “The hardest part of the trip was flying from one country to another and adjusting to all the time differences, and the food of course was very different than here.



Juozas Balciunas drives to the basket

Even though there were some challenges the people were really nice and friendly out there,” said Balciunas.

This trip was an experience that very few people get to enjoy in their life. “Overall, it was a lot of fun and the most exciting thing I have ever done,” he said.

The future is very bright for Balciunas, with him experiencing playing overseas at a high level of competition at such a young age. “I expect him to get better and improve each year and really evaluate his weaknesses. He will have a big target on his back next year and will really need to improve anything he really struggles at. Other than that I’m really excited to coach him another year,” said Runaas.

Students at Lemont: you may want to get his autograph while you have the chance.

Photo courtesy of Google

Cubs OFF-SEASON ACQUISITIONS

by John Fiori
Sports writer

With a brighter future in-store for the Chicago Cubs with their newly acquired managerial staff, their 103-year championship drought doesn’t seem to so impossible to break in the near future.

Theo Epstein brings a new style of recruiting into the Windy City. Former Cubs GM Jim Hendry has brought in players that were big named, but past their prime players. Epstein likes the younger, bright future players. Just look at the Cubs off-season, every acquisition is under the age of 27.

This off-season reflects a rebuilding stage for the Cubs. Starting with the managerial staff, the cubs acquired long time GM for the Boston Red Sox Theo Epstein for a whopping 18.5 million over the next five years. We all know him as the man who broke the curse for the Red Sox by bringing in young talent.

Epstein is hired to lead baseball operations at Wrigley giving him the role of signing players.

With Epstein’s role as it is, the Cubs were in need of a general manager. That’s when rumors filled the air with speculations of the cubs bringing in Epstein’s long time staff member Jed Hoyer. Eventually, singing him to a deal worth 15 million over a 4 year span.

The Cubs were done there with the managerial staff. Firing long time coach Mike Quade after a 71-91 season after his first year as head coach.

It didn’t end there with long time Cubs GM Jim Hendry ending his nine year tenure with the cubs. He took the Cubs to three playoff runs and one conference championship in that span.

The Cubs revamped not just their staff, but their lineup by adding key players to their shaky pitching staff such as Travis Wood. Wood had a tremendous 2010 season posting 3.51 era in 102 innings. Adding a lefty to the lineup gives balance to righties Ryan Dempster and Jeff Samardzija.

The Cubs finished 30th in defense last season scoring



Photo courtesy of Google

the lowest total of .978 fielding percentage. Fitting in a player like the prime aged David Dejesus helps the defense aspect. Only allowing 20 errors in a 12 year career and posting a .986 fielding percentage.

Not only does he give a fielding gain, but a quality hitter to the lineup. Batting a career batting average of .284 in 11 years with the Kansas City Royals and Oakland A’s.

Dejesus had a tremendous 2010 season getting on base 112 times out of the 354 at bats.

The Cubs have a lot of room for improvement, but with their average of 28.9 lowest in the MLB they have a lot of time to do it. We have seen a lot of moving around in the Windy city; only time will tell if it turns out for the best.



NHL Playoffs

by Kurran Buck
Sports writer

The Blackhawks, along with the rest of the National Hockey League (NHL), finished their season on Saturday, April 7. That means that it's playoff time and many teams are trying hard to prepare for their current matchups, which will begin April 12. Whether this preparation will be worth their time will be remain to be seen.

"I think it will be New York Rangers vs. the Detroit Redwings in the Stanley Cup Final," said current Lemont Trojans player Mike Cronin. This is the expected answer from any hockey fan that has paid any attention to the game as of late. Of course, there are teams that with their regular season success, like the Rangers or the Vancouver Canucks, may not need to change many things for the playoffs.

That is, if some sixth or eighth seed doesn't surprise them early, say in the first or second round. Kyle Millinowisch, senior at LHS and also a Lemont Trojans player may surprise you with his prediction for what can happen in these playoffs. "I think that it will be a Hawks vs. Flyers rematch in the final," said Millinowisch.

But what do the Hawks need to do to go far this year? "We need to sharpen our defense and our play at goalie. We also need to get our guys back and healthy," suggested art teacher and die-hard Hawks fan Ryan Hennebry. Players such as captain Jonathan Toews and forward Dave Bolland have returned and will need to perform as well as they are able to.

If you were to look at these playoffs conference vs. conference, the Eastern Conference has only a select few teams that look like they could make a run at the final. But if you look at the Western Conference, really any team could make a run. Most of the teams in the West have had a winning streak or two going into these playoffs. This can only mean that whatever we see coming from that side in the playoffs is guaranteed to be exciting.

This year's playoffs are guaranteed to be as exciting as any we have seen before. Who comes out on top will be have to be the best strategizing team out there, and beat out the hype.



Photo courtesy of Google

MUSTANGS STAMPEDE INDIANS IN FIRST LOSS

by Ryan Peraino
Sports writer

One goal was all it took to ruin an undefeated season. On Wednesday, April 11, the girls soccer team (5-1-2) lost to the Downers Grove South Mustangs (6-0-2) 1-0.

The first half went scoreless but much of the play was on Lemont's side of the field. Lemont sophomore keeper Kelly Fritz made four saves to keep the game scoreless.

The second half was much like the first half in that most of the play was on Lemont's half. With 34 minutes to go in the game Downers was dangerous off a corner kick. A Downers forward headed the ball beating Fritz but junior Nicole McKevitt was standing on the goal line to head the ball away and keep the score even.

Twenty minutes later, the Mustangs were able to clear the clean sheet as a cross from senior midfielder Flo Beshiri found senior forward Sarrah Ludwig for the goal. That goal ended up being the deciding factor. "That goal Sarrah scored was just amazing," said senior captain Sydney Goushas. "Every chance she gets she buries."

Because the game was on turf, the ball bounced a lot and chances were limited. The girls played a much-improved game against a quality opponent.

"That was the hardest we've played all year long, against the best team on our schedule," said coach Rick Prangen.

There still is concern about the team's lack of finishing in the final third of the field. The team is very sound on defense and in the midfield but they can't get their offense going.

This could be attributed to the new formation that they're playing this year (4-3-3) instead of their traditional 3-4-3.

"On the plus, we're defending quite well and transition to the midfield well in this formation. That being said, we are having a lack of offensive production. We get to the final 3rd of the field and lack that additional pass or we look for someone else to finish," said Prangen

The team better start scoring goals against quality opponents (only one goal in three big games this year) if they want to repeat the success they had last year in the state tournament. Especially since this year, IHSA lowered the



Toni Polino running

Photo by Brittany Glowa

enrollment for class 2a so Lincoln Way North will most likely be in the girls' sectional.

"We should be a competitive team come state tournament time but last year has nothing to do with this year," said Prangen.

The last time the team made it to state in 2009, the next year they lost in the Sectional Semifinals; a very disappointing finish for this talented program.

"Repeating is always harder than attaining," said Goushas.

There is still a lot of season to be played and the team is hoping that their solid performance against DGS will kick-start a series of well-played games.

Injury Update

Starting senior defender Meg Leibforth hyper extended her MCL on a slide tackle from Beshiri late in the game. Leibforth did not return to the game. She will be out 2-3 weeks but will be rehabbing to try to come back sooner. Senior Amber Trick will miss the rest of the season due to hip surgery.



The White Mamba

by Adrian Kalata
Sports writer

He is the second most popular player on the Chicago Bulls following Derrick Rose. He owns more NBA Championship rings than LeBron James. His name comes before Brian Urlacher when searched in Google. In his career, he has an average of 3.1 points per game for an average 13 minutes per game; yet he has still earned himself the nickname “The White Mamba.” His jersey number reflects Michael Jordan’s and Derrick Rose’s combined: he is #24 Brian Scalabrine.

Brian Scalabrine left the University of Southern California and got drafted in 2001 as the 34th overall pick in the second round. He has played on the New Jersey Nets, Boston Celtics and currently resides with the Chicago Bulls as a power forward. Despite limited playing time, Scalabrine has earned a strong fan base and is a popular target for media.

So How’d He Get to Chicago?

In 1998, Scalabrine transferred from Highline Community College to the University of Southern California. On his first year on the USC Trojans Men’s basketball team, Scalabrine started in all 28 games and led in scoring (14.6 points), rebounding (6.4), and field goals (53.1%). He was awarded the 1999 Pac-10 Newcomer of the Year and an All-Pac-10 honorable mention.

During his second season, he received the Sporting News All-American honorable mention and All-Pac-10 and National Association of Basketball Coaches All-District 15 first team honor. Once again, Scalabrine finished strong with the Trojans as leading scorer (17.8 ppg) and field goal shooter (53.1%).

In the 2001 NBA Draft, the Nets selected Scalabrine as the 34th overall pick in the second round. In late September 2001, Scalabrine tore his fifth metatarsal bone during workouts and was forced to sit out during



Photo courtesy of Google

the first 10 days of the Nets training camp.

Scalabrine debuted into the NBA on Jan. 31, 2002 against the Milwaukee Bucks. In his rookie year, Scalabrine averaged 2.1 points, 1.8 rebounds and 0.8 assists per game. During his four years with the New Jersey Nets, Scalabrine recorded a career high 29 points and 45 minutes in a single game.

On August 2, 2005, Scalabrine signed a five-year contract with the Boston Celtics that, over the next five years,

“White Mamba” continued on page

“White Mamba” continued from page

would be worth \$15 million. For the next several years, Scalabrine’s role decreased. He went from having little time on the court to no time.

In the 2007-08 season, Scalabrine started in nine games (out of 48 that season) and averaged 10.7 minutes. Although not playing in the 2008 playoffs, Scalabrine recorded six rebounds and a season high 29 minutes of the last game of the season. Scalabrine received his first championship ring that year after the Celtics beat the Lakers in six games.

Chicago Welcomes Scalabrine

Scalabrine officially signed with the Chicago Bulls on Sept. 21, 2010 on a non-guaranteed contract. Despite scoring only twenty points and only 88 minutes total, Scalabrine earned \$1,229,255 in his first year. Although he didn’t play often, Scalabrine became a player-coach. Scalabrine helped the other players understand coach Tom Thibodeau’s system. He was an essential player off the court with his strong work ethic and attitude.

In the current season, Scalabrine’s salary dropped to \$854,389. For spending most of his time on the bench, Scalabrine earns nearly a million dollars a year. However, even Lemont’s basketball coach, Rick Runaas, said that [Scalabrine’s] a valuable asset. “He’s a big man that can shoot on the perimeter. He works hard all the time and he doesn’t complain.” he said.

With the time he did get on the court, Scalabrine earned the nickname “White Mamba” from his cult-like fans. Junior Imer Elezovski got the privilege to go to a game where Scalabrine played for a few minutes. He said that “I had never heard the United Center be that loud. The amount of passion and support they show for Scalabrine is awesome and just makes the game that much more fun. I almost lost my voice from screaming ‘Sca-la-bri-nie!’”

Scalabrine has become arguably the second most popular Bulls player (after Point guard Derrick Rose). Scalabrine has become a popular source for media; anywhere from t-shirts to online memes to television time. There are a couple reasons why Scalabrine might receive all this publicity, but I believe coach Runaas put it best: “A lot of basketball fans can somewhat identify with him. He’s not the most athletic guy in the world and he looks a little goofy.”



Photo courtesy of Google

Source for Memes

Although fairly new, online memes have quickly dominated much of the time teenagers spend online. By dictionary, online memes can be any picture/video spread throughout the internet. But ask any teenager, and they will tell you that they are images with funny pop culture captions. There is already a select few image templates that have dominated the world of memes, including scumbag Steve, philosoraptor, and the most interesting man in the world. On the list is Brian Scalabrine, who has numerous memes dealing from his NBA championship ring to his timeout high fives.

Many of the memes on the internet with Scalabrine have to do with his NBA championship ring. A popular athlete to poke fun at is Miami Heat’s forward LeBron James, who currently has zero championships. In one meme, the caption reads “Hey LeBron, U MAD?” with an image of Scalabrine flashing his 2008 ring.

Another popular subject is Scalabrine and his halftime high fives to the players. Junior Christian Mrowca laughed when he said, “I spend hours on the computer just reading meme after meme of Brian Scalabrine. They crack me up every time.” His great team effort and support provides an easy target to an athlete who spends most of the time watching the game.

Scalabrine’s popularity has almost gotten his face on

“White Mamba” continued on page



“White Mamba” continued from page

t-shirts. Many online stores now carry “White Mamba” apparel for his fans (even I ordered myself one). A couple years ago, no one knew who Brian Scalabrine was. And now on the Bulls, he has become legendary.

It is no longer uncommon to walk into a Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant on game day and see a Scalabrine hoodie or t-shirt. Sophomore Jonathan Dzielski admitted that he “ordered a sweatshirt the same day he saw one. I prefer a Scalabrine shirt over Rose’s any day.” He has become an iconic image for the Chicago Bulls team over the past few years.

Although his contract is not guaranteed, the Chicago Bulls will most likely let him stick around not only because of the publicity he brings, but because he is a valuable player to the Bulls. Scalabrine is the type of player that will laugh right along with you no matter how much fun you poke at him. CSN Chicago’s Stacey King put it best: Brian Scalabrine is The Man, The Myth, The Legend.



Photo courtesy of Google

Lemont Tennis to Sweep Argo

by Effie Tounas
Sports writer

For the first time, in a long time, this year’s Lemont boys’ tennis team has remained undefeated. With a record of 11-0, the boys went into Thursday’s match, April 10, with a hope to sweep the opposing team, Argo.

In order to *sweep* a team in tennis, a team must win 5 of the 5 matches played against the opposing team. Last year’s 2011 season, Argo had swept Lemont, thus winning all the matches. With new members added to the team, though, Lemont showed good odds going into the match.

Lemont’s new freshman, Nick Urban, had won all his singles so far into the season and appeared to be a good asset to the team. His teammates coaxed the player as being “one of the best.”

With much pressure added to the players, the boys did their best and were able to sweep Argo, thus winning all 5 of the played matches. With a record of 12-0, they remained undefeated going into their next game on April 17 against Eisenhower, and still managed to remain “untouched.”

With a new record of 13-0, Lemont’s next match is on April 19 at home against Hillcrest. The boys are just a few matches away from the playoff season.



Photo by Brittany Glowa