Letters to the Editor:

Student Shares Opinion About Comparing Norrix to Galesburg

Dear Editor,
I was really interested by the article "Breaking Barriers with Galesburg-Agusta." It was cool to be able to compare our school to another, smaller school. It's a shame though, that the G-A students think we are such a violent school. Maybe if they came here for a day they would change their opinion. This article sort of gave me a better appreciation for Loy Norrix, even though both schools have their pros and cons. But this really just goes to show that others judge us based only on what they have heard or read.

Sophomore
Ava Drillock

Students Take Different Sides About Teenage Pregnancy

Dear Editor,
I really enjoyed reading the front page article about teenage pregnancies. The angle of the article was very well written. Many people think of teenage pregnancies as life ruiners, when they really are not. It shows how well my fellow students can cope with such a big change. Hopefully this article lets people know that you can still get a good education and live a good life, even with the difficulties of being a teen parent. Good article.

Sophomore
Katie Wehling

Dear Editor,
I thought the article about teen moms was good, however I think it just focused on negative things. I am a teen mom and I don't feel that way at all. I just don't want Loy Norrix students viewing teen moms in a bad way. I am going to college, and I don't view any child as a set back. If anything, he pushes me forward. I'm not saying it's okay to be a teen mom but I think that the positive side of parenting should be shown too.

Senior
Anya Dompier

Students Offer Ideas To Improve "Knight Life"

Dear Editor,
I would like you guys to write something about putting [students] in hall sweep instead of [administrators] just giving us a pass to class. People are losing a lot of class time for no reason and this is why a lot of people are falling behind. Also, the reports that the teachers are writing need to be looked over, because the things people are doing are not as serious as the things we need to stand up for. We need to be in class.

Junior
Anthony Brooks

Dear Editor,
Hello, my name is Rocio Hernandez and I'm a student at Loy Norrix High School. I'm writing you because I want you guys to know that I love "Knight Life," and that I wish I could become part of the staff.
The only thing that I don't like is that I never hear about the bilingual program we have at Loy Norrix and a lot of people don't know that we have bilingual teachers in this building. That is sad because those teachers work hard to teach their students another language, and that other language is English.
I hope you guys consider my point and I hope that you guys will write something about our bilingual students in our school.

Junior
Rocio Hernandez

Dear Editor,
I think you should put more school spirit into the school's newspaper. Also put the top vacation spots for spring break. Even though spring break is a long way away, that should be put in there. I really like the newspaper and can't really find anything to add to it. All the staff and or students that work on "Knight Life", keep up the work.

Junior
Tonal Simmons

Dear Photo Editor, Angelo Murray,
I think that the pictures are good and the pictures on the front page are eye catching. I think that all the pictures throughout should be in color as well. I think that it might grab more people's attention if they were.

Sophomore
Xi'ange Shannon

Dear Editor,
After taking the time to read your newspaper, I really enjoyed a few of the stories. I liked the HTC smartphone article and the 2008 presidential election article. I think your paper is good but more conservative, maybe because of the journalism standards. I think you need stories that would get students talking, not yawning. Overall, the paper is good, but as soon as I was done, I forgot about it.

Junior
Tendai Chaponda

Students Comment On the Sports Section

Dear Editor,
You did a good job on this issue. I really liked the whole sports section, it was very fun to read. So whoever did the sports section did a great job, but next time the paper should compare colleges and how 12th graders look to go to the next level.

Junior
Leo Gray

Dear Editor,
The article I chose to read was the article written on Janell "Nelly" Smith, a student/athlete here at Loy Norrix High School written by Maggie Sikkema, titled "LN Has Much To Look Forward in Women's Basketball." It's pretty good and I enjoyed reading it for many reasons, one being that it profiled a student in this school who in my eyes really deserves it. I think "Knight Life" should profile and write about more athletes and students that are doing well in something as a sign of recognition for their honors. I like that Maggie thought of this idea to profile Nelly and talk about her in a good way. I do think sports should be talked about more in "Knight Life," and I feel this would be a great way to do so by writing about our very own students or just athletes, period. I hope I can read more about other people in the future.

Junior
Stephon Pawloski

Student Speaks About Holiday Greediness

Dear Editor,
I was reading the article about the greediness of the holiday season, and I couldn't agree more. I'm always excited about the holiday season because I love being with my family, but my whole heart goes out to all those who have nothing, who don't have the basic needs to survive, or don't even have a family.
Every year, my mom always says, "I need a Christmas list from you." If only I could write my list like this: "Everyone have a home, every child have a family, everyone have a friend, and no more war, hate or discrimination," and get those gifts, instead of that new CD or that awesome telescope. But I know just writing those things down isn't going to make all those things happen, and that's just it.
Americans are always so focused on themselves, focused on "what I think and what I want is all that matters." If only more people knew exactly what is going on in the world or even next door, and actually took time to care about them and if everyone just gave a little bit of money or a simple gift, or even a few hours of their time to those who need it. Instead of just saying, "oh I'll think about it or I'll get to it," and actually get up and do it, then maybe this world could be just a little bit better.

Senior
Brittanie Hulet

Students Applaud Recent Issue of "Knight Life"

Dear Editor,
I was very impressed with the most recent issue of "Knight Life." The article about teen mothers in the school was very well written. The photo was so cute on the cover. The staff editorial was great as well. I really appreciate the diverse types of articles used from school and the community. Great job.

Senior
Laura Karrer

Dear Editor,
The school newspaper was very good this time. It had a variety of articles that you could read from, they were all exciting and not boring. The topics were very detailed and well explained and the headlines for the articles were also good. My favorite article in this issue of "Knight Life" was the [article about the] student athlete who won the Shupan Award.

Junior
Deshawn O'Large

Student Argues Against Student Segregation

Dear Editor,
I did not agree with the "At Opposite Sides of the Cafeteria" article. I do no think race is a big factor, let alone a factor at all in determining who we sit by at lunch or in choosing our friends. We look for people with similar interests and mentality as us. I think that it is stereotyping our school to just look at the tables and by our looks judge who we are and aren't friends with. There are three lunches and chances are you won't have all of your friends in one lunch period. I think that this article did not have enough background research to justify what is actually happening in our cafeteria.

Sophomore
Chelsea Glasheen

Students Defend Veteran Cheerleaders

Dear Editor,
In the last newspaper you did an article on freshmen cheerleaders who are new to the squad. I think if you want to get more information on the cheerleaders you should go to girls that have more experience, and have been through the ups and downs of the squad here at Loy Norrix, cheerleaders who have been working hard to get where they are now.

Senior
Marla Bowser

Dear Editor,
I think that the article about the twin cheerleaders should've been about the team as a whole. They just got here and are still learning the ropes to sideline cheer. The team together is working really hard and increasing our efforts so that we may become a better team. That's what the meaning of team is, working together toward success. It's not about individuals, it's about the team. We are definitely trying to help boost school spirit. Marla Bowser has been cheering since freshman year, and has won UCA (Universal Cheerleading Association) All-Star twice, I've won it as well. We all achieve a lot when we encourage each other. I would like to see an article about the team's improvement, and school spirit as well.

Junior
Ashley Davis

Student Gamer Gives Opinion About Video Game Section

Dear Editor,
I would like to comment on the article 'Oblivion: Game of the Year.' I was very pleased to read this article, as I had received Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion (the discussed game) for my birthday, not even two weeks prior to the release of your article. I have been playing video games since my cousin introduced me to Mario when I was three and know my way around the block.
With all due respect, I think the article didn't work to its full capacity on capturing the true spirit of the game. The fact that you can do nearly anything at any time (from exploring ruins to robbing an armor shop) was not mentioned. Also, it may have been possible to explain some of the game's deep culture of the different races or factions. Given the fact that the article was limited to five paragraphs, it still probably would have been possible to give the reader a more vivid view of 'Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion.' I'd bet that you'd have wanted more room to better explain the game, as I would if I were in the same situation.
Either way, I still found the article very enjoyable and I thank you for choosing to write about the game you did. Good luck closing shut the jaws of oblivion, you'll need it!

Junior
Evan Wenger,

Teacher Thanks Students for Participation in Food Drive

Dear Editor,
It has been almost a month since the Loy Norrix Food Drive organized by Elizabeth Washington and Sveri Stromsta May's U.S. 4th block History class ended. This year, Loy Norrix collected 6,297 items of food. This is only 936 items away from the most ever collected in 1998 which was 7,236. The competition aspect is meant to make it fun and to DRIVE UP THE NUMBERS so that more families can recieve a holiday food basket. A heart felt thanks needs to be extended to Burger King on Stadium Drive for providing 125 Whopper/Chicken Sandwich Value Meals.
A special thanks comes provided by local businesses. A special thanks goes to Bravo's, Francois and the Olive Garden for their kind donation to these teachers.
Through the last few years of Food Drive Managers and their assistants (this years were Kyla Bailey and Tiffany Rich) it has become apparent that there were individuals that were trying their best and needed to have these efforts acknowledged. To thank them for their efforts, the following local businesses wanted to help encourage them. These businesses are: The Rave Motion Pictures, Bilbo's Pizza in a Pan and Barnes and Nobel Bookstore.

Sincerely,
Sveri Stromsta May and
Elizabeth Washington

If Norrix Were a Reality Show

Renee Macdonald
Angelo Murray
Layout Editor
Photo Editor

Cut from commercial. The camera zooms in onto the turqoise and brick builiding we know as Loy Norrix High School. Big bold letters appear on the television screen: "High School Life."
What if LN were a series of reality shows? "Who's the most BLUE?" Competitions to see who's BLUE-est would be held every fourth block, drama would rise exponentially in every class. The anticipation towards the fouth block games would make everyone immensly tense. Fights would break out, alliances would be made, just like every other reality show out there.
The show would start off with David LaPrarie introducing himself as the host, spelling out the rules. Each student has to get at least a 2.0 average and be the BLUE-est person they can be. Various tests and quizzes to see who's at the top of the BLUE pyramid would be given every fourth block. The rest of the day, contestants (students) would be constantly on camera. At the end of each week, viewers could vote for who they think is the BLUE-est. The BLUE-est candidate each week would recieve a blue slip to be used later in the show for various prizes, such as free fries from the snack line, or to be excused from a fourth block game for a "study period," a time to relax and sit back comfortably while other non-BLUE students work.
The LN sports programs would have their own series: "Survival of the Fittest." Each sports team would be competing against the other, working to see which team is the best. Unnacceptable grades from any one team would mean instant disqualification. It would be the real way to see which sports team at Loy Norrix are the best of the best out of all the sports.
Another series would consist of the exectutive boards of each class attempting to put together the best dance. Extra points would be given for unique or funny dances, such as the Napoleon Dynamite dance. Viewers would vote for their favorite dance, and the winners would receive a month's worth of free fries from the snack line!
LN would take a whole new twist on the popular CBS show "Survivor." Students in hall sweep with no books, no food, and no windows have to make it through a whole week with each other with nothing but their homework to do! Blood pressures would rise when one student brings in a bag of Hot Cheetos against the rules. The one who survives the longest would receive ten BLUE tickets and a one-way trip to class.
Even that kid in the corner that no one really knows will get his own show. MTV's "Made" done LN style. Little Jimmy wishes to become Prom King, Samantha wants to get a lead in the next school play, and Ralphy yearns to be a part of National Honors Society. Watch as these students make or break their goals with hard training from their hand picked coaches.

"Who's the most BLUE?" Competitions to see who's BLUE-est would be held every fourth block, drama would rise exponentially in every class... Fights would break out, alliances would be made, just like every other reality show out there.

Last but not least, there would be "LN Idol", with Marie Kerstetter, Cece Weeks, and Doug Blickle as the judges. Beware! These judges are not easy! Each week a new kind of music would be covered and performed in Kasdorf Auditorium. Viewers would vote for their favorite performer each week. The winner would get to perform the opening song to Broadway Fantasy and a recording session.
While that is all fine and dandy, eventually we as viewers do have to come back to real life, and work out our grades as best we can while struggling with loads of after school activities. Life is not a reality show. But wouldn't it be nice if it were?

Babies!Babies!Babies!

Young Jamie Spears Joins Hollywood Baby Trend

Rachel Stuut
Copy Editor

With so many stars pregnant you begin to lose count. From movie stars to music artists pregnancy seems to be the newest trend.
Movie stars such as Matthew Mcconaughey with girlfriend Camila Alves as well as Halle Berry with boyfriend Gabriel Aubry. Even Naomi Watts and Salma Hayek are pregnant or have recently had children. Plenty of singers are pregnant such as Jennifer Lopez and Christina Aguilera. Everyone seems to be pregnant.
The one pregnancy that we didn't see coming was Jamie Lynne Spears. Being only sixteen she is the youngest out of all the pregnant stars. The supposed father is her longtime boyfriend Casey Aldridge. There have been rumors that Spears had been dating someone else. Spears is more than 12 weeks along and is keeping the child. With Spears working on her show "Zoey 101" she ended the series with her character going off to London.
Nickelodeon released a statement saying:
"We respect Jamie Lynn's decision to take responsibility in this sensitive and personal situation. We know this is a very difficult time for her and her family, and our primary concern right now is for Jamie Lynn's well being."
I think Spears is handling her pregnancy well. I'm also glad that she is taking responsibilty for her actions. The one thing that I don't agree with is what the representative at Nickelodeon said about the child. The child shouldn't be considered a "difficult time," the child should be considered a blessing. A magical gift from the stork, regardless of her age.
Many of the stars' crazed fans idolize celebrities so much they would feel it neccessary to copy them. Some fans may see how beautiful the stars are and think "I could do that too." For Spears, she needs to worry that her fans of "Zoey 101" might start the trend too. Then we will have tons of teens running around pregnant and thinking "Oh I'm just like Jamie I'm so cool." They need to realize that it's a child, not a fashion statement. They need to realize the seriousness of raising a child.