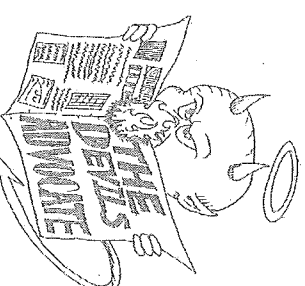




The BLUE DEVILS

Advocate



Richmond High School
35320 Division Road
Richmond, MI 48062

Volume 10, Issue 5

April 4, 2014

In time of great sadness Richmond community helping loved one

Adults and students combine efforts to help Mrs. Aronson

By: Samantha Schaefer
Opinion Editor

Faith, hope and love. When it comes to Mrs. Aronson, our beloved new art director at RHS, these are words that we have come to think of more often.

After it was announced that Mrs. Aronson was diagnosed with cancer, all of Richmond – from the narrow halls of Will L. Lee Elementary to her new home at RHS – has felt sadness that someone so young and bright must fight such an intense battle.

This sadness has come from our love for her and our hope she will have the strength to fight hard to ultimately triumph over her disease. For most RHS students, she has followed us through our adolescence.

She taught us to mix paint and make our own colors in elementary school art class. In middle school, she taught us

about what makes up a human being in health class.

When she was at RHS, she cultivated and shaped developing artists, and she encouraged and believed in those whose strengths lie elsewhere.

She has touched us all with the smile she wore every day and her ability to make everyone feel special in her presence. Now, it's time for us to show her how much she means to us.

The first fundraiser at RHS came from the staff. Spanish teacher Mrs. Smallwood gathered money from members of the staff and purchased gift cards to help with Mrs. Aronson's many



Students work on a project in Mrs. Aronson's Basic Design class. (Photo courtesy RHS Yearbook)

expenses. Mrs. Smallwood also involved students.

Shortly after news of Mrs. Aronson's illness was announced, Mrs. Smallwood put a poster board sized Get-Well-Soon card in the Media Center. Ms. Denapole, a Media Center

RHS students honored for academics

By: Peter Owen
Advertising/News Editor

Richmond's National Honor Society recently welcomed new members to its club on the weekend of March 23.

Mr. Rineer, NHS advisor, was pleased with the amount of inductees this year. 35 new members were added to NHS. Every year, there is a ceremony for the inductees and all NHS members are required to go.

The ceremony took place in the auditorium which lasted about an hour. Current members of NHS helped set up by decorating.

Candles were lit at the front with white linen underneath. At the start of the ceremony, the President of NHS and senior Coleen Gaffney gave a speech to her fellow NHS members.

Gaffney said, "I gave a short speech reflecting on the past year and all the member's accomplishments. I also thanked Mr. Rineer for his guidance, wished the future officers luck and gave a short intro into the induction ceremony."

Leaders are important in NHS for guidance. Members need someone to come to for advice and carry on the tradition.

those who don't follow the rules," said Bendit.

Overall, the ceremony went just as planned and was a success. Mr. Rineer said, "It was an opportunity to reflect, remind, and recognize."

Family members came to support the students being inducted. "It was nice to see family there to support their children. You could really sense the pride from the parents," said Mr. Rineer.

Inductees are extremely excited to join NHS. They cannot wait to help out the community in any way possible while making their own college transcript look that much better. Sophomore inductee Sarah McNichol said, "It is nice to be inducted to the NHS. I can't wait to start fundraising and helping others just like the upperclassmen did and is still doing."

In order to get in to NHS, students must have a GPA of 3.5. Mr. Rineer said, "The cool thing with NHS is you start with a scholarship which involves a 3.5 GPA to be invited. You don't apply, you get invited. You are selected, not a try-out."

Once students are in, they still need to meet certain qualifications in order to stay in the program.

How are you a leader? Do you show character in class? How do you apply your time? These are some of the questions that are asked for all members in NHS. "Upholding those three pillars requires a great amount of commitment. It is commendable," said Mr. Rineer.

NHS does whatever it can to help out the community. "We commit to tutoring programs, Salvation Army bell ringing, and help programs that support low income families," said Mr. Rineer.

"Basically, NHS asks you to be the best you can be," said Mr. Rineer.

Once students are in, they still need to meet certain qualifications in order to stay in the program.

Today's Forecast

Cloudy and Rain
High: 60°
Low: 29°



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Walls and Dolls

By: Amanda Vinson
Features Editor

From the window to the wall, Key Club has RHS inspiration flowing. Key Club members have started painting inspirational quotes on the walls of the school, with hopes to brighten up the school with encouragement.

They are planning on putting up six or seven quotes all around the school. "We already have three quotes up, and we are working on a fourth. We are putting them in locations that are visible to students, staff, and the public as well," said Mr. Murphy, advisor of Key Club. Key Club is hoping to have all of the quotes painted by the end of April. "The whole process is going quicker than I thought. The students are working very hard on it," Murphy said.

John Betcher, a senior who originally came up with the idea, said, "The walls in our school are way

too blank and bland, and we are always looking for new ideas to improve the school."

Key Club members felt the walls needed something new for people to look at. "The walls are really boring. We wanted to liven them up a bit," said Ashley Reece, sophomore. She has come to school early in the mornings to help with the tracing and painting of the quotes.

With students taking charge and working hard, Mr. Murphy is very satisfied. "It is great to see students taking initiative and coming up with ideas to make a positive difference in our school," he said.

The purpose for the quotes is to promote positive, constructive thought among students and staff. "It's great that we are able to be a part of what's going on in our school," said Reece. She is a very active participant in Key Club undertakings.

By Mrs. Volpe's room, they are using a quote from Abraham Lincoln: "The best way to predict the future is to create it." They found the quotes on

quote.com. "John Betcher and I looked through options for ones that were inspirational and educationally based," said Mr. Murphy. "We

hope that students are able to think about what the quote says and that it resonates with them. Maybe it changes their perception or maybe it reinforces a belief that they have. Either way, we hope that students carry these quotes with them."

Like Lincoln, quotes from US and worldwide figures were used for this project. "We looked for quotes from well-known, wise people. We are hoping these quotes will be respected and catch people's attention," said Betcher.

Quotes by inventor Thomas Edison and author Robert Louis Stevenson have been used, and quotes by Martin Luther King, Jr. and John F. Kennedy are planned to be used as well.

"These people have some credibility to offer, and they often offer very good words of wisdom," Murphy added.

Key Club has been busy not only with painting but with making dolls

for the Children's Hospital. This is a project they have been participating in for several years, and they have made over 100 dolls.

Cutting, flipping, stuffing, sewing. A lot of work and help from the whole community goes into making these dolls.

"The dolls are used as a model to show kids how their surgery will work," said Reece. After, children get to keep the dolls.

"It makes the kids feel more comfortable and less scared for what they're going to get done," Reece said. Reece explained that helping others brings a special satisfaction to the Key Club. "It makes us feel awesome. We really enjoy helping out, not just in our own community but in others too," she said.

The club tries their best to support the community and have an impact on society. They always do anything they can do to help. Murphy said, "We want to have a positive influence in the world. It is important to reach out and help those going through a tough time."

Marketing for the future

By: Xavier Nuckles
Editorial Editor

Looking to prepare yourself for the marketing world?

DECA, or the Distributive Education Clubs of America, is something you may want to try out at RHS. RHS students such as Gino Mini, Dylan Allor, Matthew Bauman and Andrew Graham are already participating.

DECA is a marketing competition; students have to present an idea to a small board such as a food or sports idea.

The catch is, that the idea is random and the student does not know what it is going to be.

Matthew Bauman said, "There's really no way to know what you're going to be talking about, and you have to prepare for this."

Some of the students enjoyed this sort of pressure.

Mini said, "My favorite part was going in front of the judges. I did well and it was better to do it in front of someone you don't know to get the experience."

The students take tests to prepare. They have two role-play scenarios to present to the board, and 10 minutes to make a presentation.

The students also have to take a test which is a part of the competition. The test is online and is taken before the competition. It consists of 100 questions.

Bauman said, "The test was very broad for districts, while the state test was very specific."

The top 8 players in the district competition go to the state competition.

Mini said, "I took 9th which was kind of disappointing but the judges

rated me the third or fourth best presentation out of everyone."

The competition also makes students take a test to show their knowledge of marketing, and useful skills.

The club is available in many high schools and colleges across America.

Bauman said, "You get a good experience; it teaches you to give really good presentations to businesses professionals."

The students from Richmond enjoy the competition as well.

Senior Gino Mini said, "The competition is pretty sweet. I got to meet a lot of people, and there's free food."

The competition takes place in downtown Detroit. Around 3000 people attended the District competition.

The students all do this with the

help of Mr. Brown, the marketing/business teacher.

Since the topic is unknown there is a little stress that is being put on students who are competing.

Bauman said, "The first presentation is stressful, but when you get to the second you feel calm and focused and ready to go. I had to prepare a business financing idea to the judges. The competition does really prepare you for the real world."

At one of the competitions at Lake Orion, RHS was one of the smaller schools.

Senior Gino Mini said, "It's pretty cool to be competing from a small school; you get to see what D1 schools are like, and how the bigger schools operate."

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H & H Student Driving School — 2014

At Richmond High School
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State Bonded, Fully Licensed and Insured

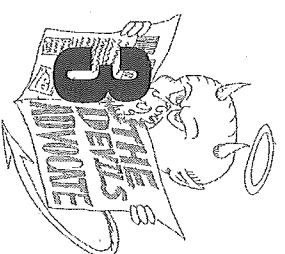
Segment 1 -- \$279.00

- Must be 14 years & 8 months of age on first day of class
- Parental permission and original birth certificate
- \$100 deposit on day 1 of class

Segment 2 -- \$30

- Must possess a valid Level 1 Learner's License for 90 days
- Parental permission (Signed Permission of 30 Hours Practice Driving)
- Driving permit

Classes held spring, summer, and fall. See Mr. R. Herdman for details on upcoming classes.



Follow the leader

By Beth Beindit
Staff Writer

They were on stage, but none of them are actors.

Emma Caperton, Jessica Niebauer, Ashley Reece, Cate Reynolds, Carolyn Schweiger, Jonah Vandenburg, all Student Government members, got the opportunity to partake in a leadership conference put on by Jostens at Avondale High School.

RHS uses Jostens as their sole supplier of class rings. In addition, RHS works with them to create their yearbook.

The conference included schools all around the area such as Goodrich, Grand Blank, Port Huron, Port Huron North and, of course, Avondale.

Mrs. Smallwood, Student Government advisor, first found out about the conference from an email from Mrs. Michon.

The two decided on taking six members of the Student Government—two from each grade level except the seniors, since they're graduating this year.

When they first arrived, students were split up into groups and worked with other schools in team building exercises.

Teachers at the conference, meanwhile, talked about education and their hopes for it, whether it be leadership or just in general.

Mrs. Smallwood was really intrigued by one of Jostens programs—"C 2 G" or Commitment to Graduate. She said one school rolled out a red carpet for the first day of school and when students entered the school, they got to walk down the red carpet like celebrities.

The teachers were on the sides, taking pictures, and cheering. "I think it's a great way to pump up the kids about school," said Mrs. Smallwood.

Carolyn Schweiger, junior, also

went to the conference on March 24. She said at the start of the conference, all the students went onto the stage, and the instructor stood on a chair, telling everyone to find a partner from a different school.

"He did this to help open up the students—to get them out of their comfort zone and to talk to others," said Schweiger.

There were 10 groups and each

"Richmond is a sports heavy town and I'm not saying that's a bad thing, I just think other things should be recognized too."

- Mrs. Smallwood

group was assigned a number. There were people from different schools in each group so students were exposed to a variety of people.

Schweiger added, "Some of the kids were really nice and welcomed you. They were open-minded and wanted to hear your ideas, but some of the other kids had an attitude at the beginning; however, it did change towards the end and they were more friendly."

Each group began by talking about themselves so they got to know people in hopes of making everyone comfortable.

"I said 'if you really knew me you would know this: I have a really big family in Richmond,'" she said.

Some of the others laughed and said their family is big too.

In addition to sharing facts about themselves, each student had to talk about a serious issue that's going on in their life.

Carolyn decided to talk about Samantha Ward, who passed away

earlier this year.

"I talked about her because it made me realize life's short and it's been difficult dealing with her death but my friends are supportive of my family and me," said Schweiger.

Later, they got back in their school groups and got the opportunity to go onstage and talk about the school regarding Student Government.

Schweiger said they talked about ideas that they've came up with to express leadership skills. They discussed organizations like Hunt for the Cure and Pining Down Autism.

"Hearing what the other schools had to say gave us different viewpoints / ideas that we hopefully can introduce to RHS," said Schweiger.

Towards the end, groups participated in problem-solving activities. The task was as follows:

Participants had to construct a newspaper bridge that could sustain five bricks yet had only two minutes to discuss what they would do without touching supplies.

They were given six minutes to build the bridge and if they talked during the construction they got supplies taken away.

Freshman Emma Caperton also partook in this skill-building conference.

Caperton said the experience taught her how to get out of her comfort zone and presented her with ideas like student involvement that will help the school.

"I liked the fact that it wasn't a lecture. We got to actually learn by ourselves," said Caperton.

All in all, she enjoyed the conference because it pushed her out of her box.

Mrs. Smallwood thought the conference was a great opportunity to get together with other schools to work on leadership skills, which is the main foundation for Student Government.

She said, "I liked that the students felt they came away with some valuable information."

Mrs. Smallwood believes this conference will have positive effects not only on Student Government, but the entire school.

According to Mrs. Smallwood, the conference wasn't as big as it was supposed to be because some schools cancelled last minute. She said she wants to put some new ideas into play like student recognition.

"Richmond is a sports heavy town and I'm not saying that's a bad thing; I just think other things should be recognized too," said Mrs. Smallwood. Having students recognized for other achievements like academics helps motivate them to realize what they're doing is an accomplishment they should be proud of.

She hopes these fresh new ideas

will bring motivation and encouragement to students because small ideas can go a long way. That was not the only thing taken from the event.

Caperton said, "We learned how to put yourself more out there and this is important because if you're not out there, you'll just stay in the background."

Aronson

Continued from page 1

Staff and organized clubs aren't the only people who want to help.

Sophomore Olivia VanHove has taken fundraising into her own hands.

With the joint effort of her mother, VanHove came up with the idea to buy and sell awareness bracelets to raise money for Mrs. Aronson.

VanHove said, "I was really upset. I cried. I was afraid for her and I felt like we needed to help her."

She ordered a total of 400 bracelets and, at \$2 apiece, if she sells all of them she will raise \$800 "to help pay for her treatments or to help with her daughter or anything else she needs," VanHove said.

Students have been reacting very well.

"I've been surprised by everyone. I sold about 80 in one day. When I tell people that they are for Mrs. Aronson, they are more willing to buy them. They are on sale now; you just have to find me," VanHove said.

VanHove's bracelets are also available at Will L. Lee and RMS through Ms. Walters and Ms. Graham.

Will L. Lee is also doing fundraisers for Mrs. Aronson.

Ms. Hall, a second grade teacher and friend of Mrs. Aronson's, said, "Our incredible staff has pulled together to raise funds by doing Casual for Cash days. This is where, for a cash donation, we are allowed to wear jeans that day. We are holding these days every non-pay day until the end of the school year."

Elementary school students are also helping.

K-Kids, a youth chapter of Kiwanis Club, is hosting a fundraiser to help Mrs. Aronson with her medical bills and will be making Get-Well cards with jokes in them. The theme is "laughter is the best medicine".

There is also a collection jar in the office for students to independently donate.

"Her situation has hit home for many of the students and as a result, we are seeing large donations and gift cards being dropped in our collection jar," Mrs. Hall said.

With this, we send our faith in her strength, our hope for her recovery and our love for her.

Mrs. Smallwood said it best: "We are giving our support; that's all we can do."

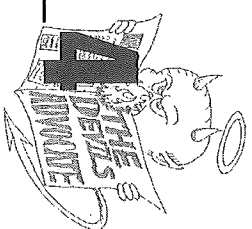
On This Day

1841- President William Henry Harrison died of pneumonia one month after his inauguration, becoming the first U.S. president to die in office.

1915- Muddy Waters, American blues musician, was born. Following his death on April 30, 1983, his obituary appeared in The Times.

1968- civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., 39, was shot to death in Memphis, Tenn.

2003- Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs became the 18th major league baseball player to hit 500 career home runs.



Lady Devils volley back into their season

By: Jacob Thomas
News Editor

The Richmond girls' varsity tennis team is back in action as the spring sports seasons quickly approaches. The team is looking to improve off a successful season last year.

Coach Pearson is expecting good things from a team that returns eight members from a year ago.

"I expect us to finish in the top three in the league this year. Armada and Yale will be tough again like last year. They both have returners on their teams that made it to states," said Pearson.

Although returning eight members, the Blue Devils lost some key parts of their success from last year to graduation.

"We lost our first, second and third singles players from a year ago and our first doubles team. Our doubles team will be strong because most of our seniors are on doubles. Kaitlin Niebauer will be the one senior on the singles lineup," said Pearson.

A set lineup has not been determined yet due to the inability of practicing outdoors.

"I don't really have a clue for who will play where or a lineup yet. Practicing indoors has been bad because there are no lines in the gym and the atmosphere is different. It's going to be tougher this year because we don't have a set lineup. Last year we already had our first through third singles players set. Someone is going to have to step up," said Pearson.

Coach Pearson is very pleased, however, with the team's chemistry thus far.

"Overall it is a good group of

girls. The new girls are going to be helpful to us and we should have a lot of talent. Their play is going to take care of their action on the court," said Pearson.

The team returns four seniors from last year after coming off a loss to Armada in the BWAC finals.

One of these seniors, Natasha Woodruff, is looking to improve upon last season's finish.

"This will be my fourth year playing tennis. I am a doubles player but I have played both singles and doubles in the past. I like doubles more because there is more strategy involved when you play with a partner. You need to have good chemistry," said Woodruff.

Woodruff enjoys many aspects of tennis but one she enjoys the most is the laid back approach of tennis compared to other sports.

"I think it's really laid back compared to most sports. You get to enjoy being outdoors. I like how there isn't a clock or time limit. You just get to play at your own pace," said Woodruff.

Woodruff and the rest of the team have their minds set on one goal: a BWAC championship.

"As a team, our goal is to win the BWAC this year. Last year, we lost to Armada in the BWAC. Individually I would like to earn all Maccomb for a second straight year," said Woodruff.

Woodruff's doubles partner Katie Szczesniak is also looking forward to her senior season of tennis.

Szczesniak is looking to build off of a successful season last year with her partner.

"We had a winning record last season. I am hoping to earn All-BWAC and All-Maccomb again this

year. I really enjoy playing together with Natasha because she is my best friend and we have good chemistry together when we play," said Szczesniak.

With such a young team, Szczesniak is looking to provide leadership to others.

"We have a good team but this should be a building year as well. Being a senior on the team is different because I have to help take charge and lead the team along with the other three seniors," said Szczesniak.

Senior and doubles player Callie Kitowski said the key to the team's success is going to be teamwork and experience.

"We just need to try to win as many matches as we can. We need to work together. We have a good doubles lineup and good singles players. I like how tennis is different from other sports because it's more individual," said Kitowski. Kitowski likes the added pressure of being a leader on the team now as a senior.

"I like being a senior because I am a leader at practice and a lot of the team looks up to me. I like being looked up to and helping others on the team," said Kitowski.

Although this is Kitowski's last season playing tennis, it is something she will carry into her future as well.

"I enjoy playing the sport and being outdoors and it is a sport I will always be able to play after high school," said Kitowski.

Overall, it should be an exciting and competitive year for the girls' varsity tennis team.

Back in the swing of things

By: Nick Thomas
Staff Writer

After winning the BWAC conference last year, winning districts and regionals and losing in the class B state championship last year, the Richmond boys varsity baseball team is getting back to work. Last year the Blue Devils went 9-1 in the regular season and won an outright BWAC conference championship. After the regular season ended last year the Blue Devils went into the postseason and amped up their play. After mercying Clintondale by more than 20 runs in the first game of districts, the Blue Devils went on a magical run from there only to be shut out three to zero in the state championship game.

"Win the state championship," said Nick Ottenbacher. That's the goal for this year, and the Blue Devils certainly have the talent and ability to accomplish that goal.

How will the Blue Devils replace their senior ace, Mitchell Ward, from last year who seemingly led the Blue Devils into the state championship with his phenomenal pitching, hitting, and fielding at first base last year?

Zach Leach said, "Jake Schmidt will have to step at first base; he will have to step his game up. We have great pitchers, but Dillon McInerney will be our ace pitcher this year."

The Blue Devils also lost two other seniors last year, Pierce Treend and Owen Kratt. Pierce was an outfielder for the Blue Devils, and Kratt was an infielder. Treend and Kratt were also a big part of the Blue Devils post season run last year, so the blue devils will need to find a way to replace them as well.

"We got lots of guys competing for a spot," said Nick Ottenbacher, an outfielder and backup catcher.

Although the Blue Devils got to the state championship game last year, it can be helpful for this season, and harmful at the same time.

"We know what it takes to get to the state championship, but we can't go onto every game thinking about that and being overly confident," said Austin Harvey, the third baseman.

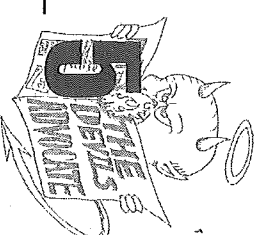
Although the Blue Devils can't go into every game thinking about winning a state championship, many of the players think they have unfinished business.

"I think we were the better team, but we had a bad day in a big situation," said Zach Leach, a pitcher and outfielder.

So the Blue Devils now will be looking to prove themselves as the

Richmond Varsity Baseball Schedule

Tuesday Apr. 08 @ Detroit City High School (Spring Break Tournament at Kyte Monroe) Detroit City High School 3:45PM	Jefferson WS/HS 11:30AM
Tuesday Apr. 08 @ Port Huron Northern (Spring Break Tournament at Kyte Monroe) Port Huron Northern 6:00PM	Tuesday May. 06 @ Almont High School (DH) Almont High School 4:00PM
Thursday Apr. 10 @ Dakota High School (Spring Break Tournament at Kyte Monroe) Dakota High School 11:00AM	Thursday May. 08 Oxford High School (DH) Richmond HS 4:00PM
Thursday Apr. 10 @ Warren Mott H.S. (Spring Break Tournament at Kyte Monroe) Warren Mott H.S. 1:15PM	Saturday May. 17 @ Stoney Creek High School (DH) Stoney Creek High School 11:00AM
Tuesday Apr. 15 Yale Public Schools (DH) Richmond HS 4:00PM	Monday May. 19 Marysville High School Richmond HS 4:00PM
Saturday Apr. 19 @ Marine City High School Marine City High School 10:00AM	Tuesday May. 20 @ Capac High School (DH) Capac High School 4:00PM
Saturday Apr. 19 @ St. Clair High School St. Clair High School 12:00PM	Friday May. 23 Mott HS (Waterford) Richmond HS 4:00PM
Thursday Apr. 24 Crosswell-Lexington Community Schools (DH) Richmond HS 4:00PM	Friday May. 23 Eisenhower High School Richmond HS 6:15PM
Tuesday Apr. 29 @ Inlay City High School (DH) Inlay City High School 4:00PM	Saturday May. 24 Cabrini High School (12th Annual Bue Water Diamond Classic) Richmond HS 10:30AM
Saturday May. 03 @ Tecumseh High School Tecumseh High School 10:00AM	Saturday May. 24 Seaholm High School Richmond HS 1:00PM
Saturday May. 03 @ Jefferson WS/HS (@ Tecumseh HS)	Saturday May. 31 @ Armada High School (Districts) Armada High School 10:00AM



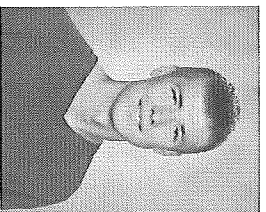
Baseball

Baseball
continued from page 4:

This, however, will be delayed because of weather issues. We are now approaching April and there is still snow falling from the sky. So this has prevented the baseball team from outdoor practice. The Blue Devils have already had to cancel some games this year due to the weather.

The team has done as much as they can with the indoor practices.

“We have done as much live pitching and hitting as we can; and we’ve tried to get the feeling of game situations,” said Nick Ottenbacher.



Ottenbacher

The Blue Devils also have an edge over opponents in the coaching position.

The Blue Devils coach, Scott Evans, played college baseball for Eastern Michigan.

“A lot of our plays are from what he learned in college; our practices are similar to college practices because we do most of what he did in practice in college,” said Zach Leach.

With the experience of having played in a state championship game, and having a coach who played college baseball, the Blue Devils should be looking at a great season ahead.

Girls Varsity

Soccer Preview

Seniors looking to lead team

By: **Stephanie Zube**
Features Co-Editor

The 2014 girls varsity soccer team kicks off their season with new teammates and a new attitude.

Last year, the girls soccer team had a strong season with a lot of talent that helped take the girls far. The team became BWAC champs and advanced to the district finals but lost at double overtime.

The team is coached by Tony Kunce and is led by three senior captains, Alyssa Barton, Heather Brucci and Casey Malburg.

Barton, center, Brucci, also a center and Malburg, defense, are ready for their last year of playing girls soccer at the high school and are excited to finally have the opportunity to lead the team.

“It’s a lot of work but it’s a great feeling to have people look up to me. It makes me work harder as well,” said Brucci.

Barton agreed. “There is a lot of responsibility but it’s something I’ve been waiting for since my freshman year,” said Barton.

Alongside Brucci and Barton, Malburg also likes seeing her teammates improve and the satisfaction they get after a goal or good play.

The girls have been playing soccer since the ages of 3 and 5 and all three have been playing in the high school since their freshman year. Jordyn Osterland, sophomore, is in

her second year of girls varsity soccer playing defense and is looking forward to another season.

“My experience on varsity has been great! It’s a lot of fun, and you get to meet a lot of new people of all grades. It’s different from last year because of old seniors and new freshman. We lost around 7 seniors so that’s 7 new shoes to fill,” said Osterland.

She added, “I’m looking forward to playing with the new girls and having a successful year.”

During their offseason, the girls have been preparing immensely. With camps, classes and indoor practices, girls have been improving for their upcoming season.

“To prepare during the offseason I ran and took sports tech,” said Malburg.

Brucci, Barton, and Osterland have been getting ready for the season as well. Barton organized offseason conditions and indoor games. Both Brucci and Osterland attended camps and played indoor games at the gym.

The girls team has recently been practicing inside the gym because of the constant cold weather.

The gym practices come with both advantages and disadvantages for the girls.

“It’s very hard practicing in the gym, but it teaches good ball control due to the speed it rolls. One obstacle is shooting; the ceilings are not very high and there are no nets, which makes shooting drills difficult,” said Osterland.

Brucci had a similar opinion as Osterland.

“It’s hot, but it gives us better footwork, and controls our touches. I would rather be outside because it is

a really tight space when doing scrimmages and drills,” said Brucci.

There are also a few competitive games that the girls are looking forward to this season.

“I’m looking forward to our rival game against Armada, and our last chance at winning a district championship,” said Barton.

With all the girls dedication, they are bound to have another successful season.

“I think the season will go very good. I think we have the potential to make it to regionals, hopefully even states. I think we will also get BWAC champs again, I’m hoping,” said Osterland.

The seniors will miss the high school sport and their teammates but they are making every moment count by working hard and doing their best.

The team’s first game is on April 14 against Imlay city.

New beginnings

By: **Jonah VandenBussche**
Staff Writer

New beginnings, same routine. A senior from RHS will begin a new future at Davenport University doing the one thing that she loves, cheerleading.

Davenport is a Division Three school, but the cheer team is in Division Two.

Carissa Rumpus has attended RHS for four years and has cheered on the Varsity cheerleading squad for the time being.

“My cheerleading career that I have been doing for the past four years have made me the person and the cheerleader that I am today,” said Rumpus.

While on the RHS cheer team, Rumpus won two state titles, back to back.

However, she does not plan on stopping cheering just because she is graduating.

She has been accepted to Davenport University and has also made the collegiate cheerleading team.

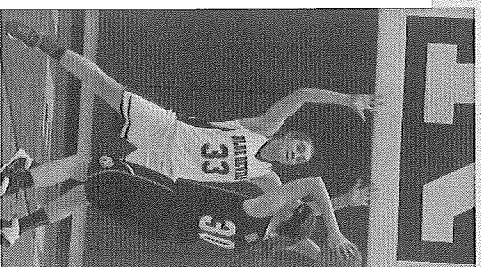
Davenport is located in Grand Rapids, Michigan and the season will begin in the fall.

During the season, Rumpus will be majoring in the medical field and also work for Michigan Spirit Cheerleading, a clinic that goes around Michigan teaching kids to have not only skills, but also passion for the sport that they do.

Cheer

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Carlie Thueme



Nickname: Carlton

Age: 17

Grade: 11th

Sport(s): Basketball & Softball

Favorite pump up song: Cop Car by Keith Urban

Favorite Food: Ice Cream

Favorite class: Ag. Science at Pankow

Future Goals: Get a full ride scholarship for either basketball or softball.



Dillon McInerney

Nickname: Dilly

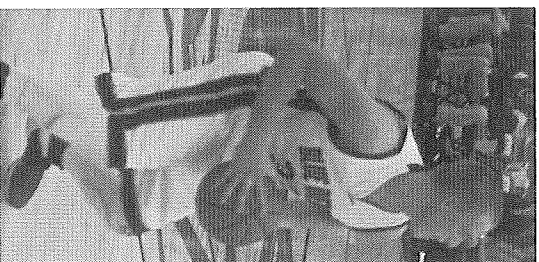
Age: 16

Grade: Junior

Sport(s): Basketball & Baseball

Favorite pump up song: Type of Way

Favorite food: Pb&J



Favorite class:
Spanish

Future goals: To succeed in high school sports then pursue college athletics.