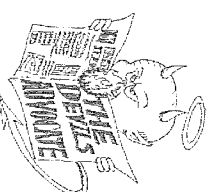


# The BLUE DEVILS

Advocate

Read about the weather!  
See Pg 11

Richmond High School  
35320 Division Road  
Richmond, MI 48062



## Volume 8, Issue 7

## April 16, 2012

### *You Can't Take it With You*, but RHS can show it to you

*RHS presents comedy about families and relationships*

**By: Samantha Schafer**  
Opinion Editor

What do you think of your family?  
Are they crazy?

Are they sophisticated?

Well, whatever they are, they probably aren't like the Sycamores and the Kirbys.

Alice Sycamore and Tony Kirby, played by sophomore Regan Blissett and freshman Chris Kehrer, have to deal with their own families in the spring play "You Can't Take It With You."

Alice and Tony are planning for their families to meet because they want to get married. However, Alice is very nervous because she and Tony have very different types of families.  
Tony's family is rich and corpo-

rate, whereas Alice's family is crazy and liberal.

Charlie Urban, a senior playing Martin Van derhof, Alice's eccentric grandfather, said,

"One of the families is upscale and the other is proper, and the other is laid back and about following their dreams. They aren't really about being functional, but about being happy."

With a little coaching from Alice, the Sycamores are ready to make a somewhat decent impression.  
Then the Kirbys arrive at the



*RHS play members rehearse a scene. Photo courtesy of RHS yearbook.*

Sycamore's early.

Blissett said, "They accidentally come on the wrong night because

Tony—the guy I'm in love with—

forgets what day the dinner is and eventually

is and eventually

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Lauren MacCauley, a senior play-

ing Penny Sycamore, Alice's mother, said, "It's probably about happiness and expression."  
However, Urban had a slightly different view.  
Urban said, "Money and keeping up appearances shouldn't rule your life, you should do what makes you happy."  
Even with these little differences, everyone agreed on one thing: the show makes them laugh.  
Blissett said, "I think it's hilarious. It's going to be a show everyone can enjoy."  
Mr. Applegate, the director of the show and Theater Arts teacher, also liked the humor.  
"It's hilarious, and it had a great ensemble cast. Everyone's part gets a laugh, and these characters

**PLAY cont. on pg. 4**

## Chorale is going for top score at States

*Chorale takes their musical talent to States*

**By: Hunter Tousignant**  
Staff Writer

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> the chorale will take all their hard work to States and try to get a top rating just like they did last year.

States is held at Rochester High School and it will be filled with the top choirs in the State of Michigan, one of which is Richmond High School, Chorale.

Mr. Osadchuk, the chorale instructor, said, "Now that we made it to States, there will be a lot of challenges that we need to overcome, like learning a new song for States, learning spring music for the Spring Concert coming up in May and competing at a higher level."

Some choirs that the chorale will be competing against are Chippewa High School, Avondale High School and Stoney Creek High School, which are the solid programs in the State.

As the date for States comes closer, the chorale needs to work on three songs, which are "Willow Willow", described as eerie, slower and

sad. Another piece is "Bel Piacere" which has the qualities of a fast, fun and bouncy tune. The final piece picked by Mr. Osadchuk is "Bright Morning Stars" which is acapella. It is slower, loud and has cool dynamics.  
Julie McCuiston, junior, said, "My favorite song is

*"Every time you take a choir to States, it is an honor, and, of course, it is another way to represent Richmond," said Mr. Osadchuk.*

Every team has their strengths and weaknesses; for chorale it is their sight singing. Kelsey Williams, junior, said, "We struggle with staying focused and sight singing, but we don't have to sight sing at States."

Sight Singing is the reading and performing of a piece of written music, specifically when the performer has not seen it before. The chorale also has positive things going into States.

Mr. Osadchuk, said, "The chorale does best at capturing the chorale blend of sounding all one sound." As States comes closer, Mr. Osadchuk is getting more and more

**CHORALE cont. on pg. 3**

## World History class celebrates Holi

*Mrs. Underwood takes students to a Hindu festival*

**By: Natasha Woodruff**  
Coordinating Editor

Happy Holi!

Mrs. Underwood's World History class dived into spring with the Hindu celebration of Holi.

The Hindu festival of Holi took place on March 8 this year; it varies between the month of March and the month of April. Holi is the festival of color to celebrate the coming of spring and to bless the harvest and fertility of the land. To celebrate, Mrs. Underwood's class participated in a multi-station activity on March 23.

One station was a painting station, where students paint themselves and their friends, very similar to the tradition known as "Holi Milan" or painting of the friends.

"The face painting was really fun. We got to paint our friends," said Chyanne Bastian. Other students agreed saying that the painting station was fun and messy.

Happy Holi cards were another station included in the celebration. "They are just like Christmas cards that you would send to friends or family, but instead of wishing them a Merry Christmas, you are wishing them a Happy Holi celebration," said Mrs. Underwood.

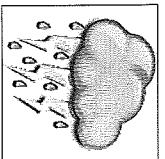
The students also read a packet about Holi, which explained when Holi is celebrated, why it is celebrated and what activities and traditions take place to celebrate Holi.  
"We got to learn about how the festival of colors is celebrated and what it means for the Hindu culture. Learning all the history behind the celebration was cool, too," Bastian said.

During Holi, one of the customs is to have public entertainment. So students watched the movie *Bride and Prejudice*, a Bollywood musical adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, to represent public entertainment.

Bollywood is the major film industry in India that is known for producing musical films that are very colorful and filled with singing and dancing.

"We did a lot of different things, made cards and ate," said freshman Haley Brown. "It was really fun."

For the students that did not participate in the class celebration of Holi, they watched a documentary called *The Day My God Died*. **HOLI cont. on pg. 3**



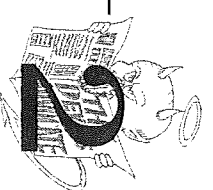
High: 61  
Low: 50  
Thunderstorms

Today's Forecast

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Check out the Student  
Alumnus Update on pg.  
14!!



## New members blossom into NHS

*NHS welcomes new members in Induction Ceremony*

**By Lizzie Urban**  
Staff Writer

Scholarship, Leadership, Character, and Service.

These words students hear all the time, but for NHS members, they are the pillars of the organization and ways to live by.

NHS, or the National Honor Society, is a nationally-recognized high school organization that commits time and energy to the community.

Founded in 1921, this organization recognizes thousands of students who have reached academic achievements.

Students that express the four pillars and meet the other requirements are invited in by the adviser. From there they have to keep their good grades, have a teacher write them a letter of recommendation and write

a paper explaining why they want to be involved.

This spring, 31 members were inducted into RHS's National Honor Society.

Three members, all juniors, had already been inducted this past fall. These inductees participated in a ceremony on

March 18, where the passing of the torch happened.

The passing of the torch is a candle lighting ceremony, symbolizing passing on the responsibility to the new officers.

Anna Smith, junior, became the new president after juniors in the group voted for her.

"I felt really proud because it's an honor just to be a member, but to be

president, I feel very, very honored," she said.

The ceremony began with a welcome speech made by senior Sarah Brown, this year's president.

"I welcomed everyone who came, and I thanked the new officers and new inductees," said

Brown. She also reminded the group of the four pillars and looked back on the events of

this past year. The advisor, Mr. Rineer, 11<sup>th</sup> grade English teachers, gets to see the growth of the group.

"I love the excitement of reflecting, reminding, and recognizing," said Mr. Rineer.

The group reflects and remembers the achievements of the past year. New inductees are also recognized for their accomplishments.

"It's an honor because we're recognized for our hard work," said Kaitlin Niebauer, sophomore inductee.

Leya Gonzalez, sophomore, said she will like getting to know new people.

"It made me feel proud. I get to be involved with a group that has such a good effect on the school and community," she said. "I like to be able to help the school."

The new president, Anna Smith, gave a closing speech.

"I felt proud to have this opportunity. I welcomed in the new members and I got to say goodbye to the old ones. I'm excited for what next year will be like," she said.

**NHS cont. on pg. 3**

## Outdoor skills, fundraising and leadership: Kehrer has it all

*Freshman Chris Kehrer takes on Eagle Scout project*

**By: Regan Blissett**

Feature Editor

Chris Kehrer isn't just selling popcorn; he's also making changes! Kehrer, freshman, has been in Boy Scouts for nine years.

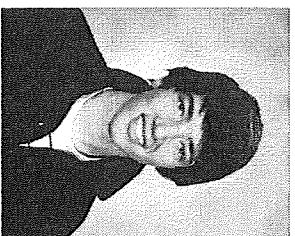
"I started off in Cub Scouts when I was in first grade. I just wanted to be a leader because I knew it would help me in the future and I wanted to learn outdoor skills," said Kehrer.

Boy Scouts do a lot of outdoor activities. He goes camping, fishing and white water rafting.

Kehrer said his favorite thing to do outdoors is mountain biking and climbing.

He also experienced canoeing, hiking, back country hiking, and learning survival skills. He gained a great respect and knowledge for the outdoors.

Boy Scouts has prepared him for the world. He has learned how to talk to peo-



*Photo courtesy of RHS yearbook*

ple and be prepared for anything.

"I've been to places all over the country. I've been to

six different states and I've met people from all over the world. I've met people from

Bangladesh, Hawaii, and became good friends with a Scout from California," said Kehrer.

Along the way, he has had to earn merit badges too. To advance in rank, he had to

earn merit badges. Some examples of merit badges scouts can earn include Emergency Preparedness, Personal Fitness, Climbing, Shotgun Rifle Shooting, Fire Safety and Personal Management.

For Chris, it takes about an hour to

get one. He now has 40 merit badges and has the most in his troop.

"You start off in fifth grade and progress through the ranks at your own pace by achieving the set of required tasks and skills and then

complete a board of review," said Kehrer.

"It was my goal when I first joined Scouts, and I

wanted to become only 4% obtain the rank of Eagle Scout," said Kehrer.

He continued to advance in ranking, he has had to go in a room full of committee members and they ask you necessary questions you need to know to achieve ranks.

The ranks go in order as Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First class, Star, Life and then Eagle Scout.

Chris is a Life Scout, but now his main goal is reaching the rank of Eagle Scout.

An Eagle Scout is the highest rank of scouting, like a black belt in karate.

"It was my goal when I first joined Scouts, and I wanted to become only 4% obtain the rank of Eagle Scout," said Kehrer.

To be an Eagle Scout, he is required to complete a service project that will help the community.

"The object or point of an Eagle Scout project is for the Scout to demonstrate leadership skills to other people to prepare them for the real world and the business world," said Kehrer.

"I wanted to do the biggest project I could find because I wanted to have an impact on the community," he said.

Chris is going above and beyond **KEHRER cont. on pg. 3**

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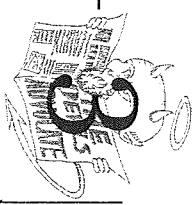
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# N

im lovin' it<sup>®</sup>



## HOLI cont. from pg. 1

"It is about prostitution of young girls in India and the horrible conditions that they are forced to live in," said Mrs. Underwood.

During the celebration of Holi, the weather is not the only thing that changes. The moods of the people change. The festival emphasizes brotherhood and unity between citizens.

Some customs that take place during Holi are the night before people celebrate in something known as the evening of bonfires. Indians burn leaves and twigs to symbolize the changing of seasons to welcome spring.

The following morning is known as "Dhuledi", the main festival of colors. The children and adults use paint traditionally made from flowers. They paint each other and fill balloons with paint and pop them all over the streets. Literally painting the town with vibrant colors of blue, orange, red, yellow, and purple.

"The most interesting thing that I learned was that the paint they have is actually a powder," said Bastian.

Students ate authentic Indian food, such as chicken curry and lamb vindaloo. The food was catered to them from an Indian restaurant in Sterling Heights.

"The food was really good. I liked the chicken," said Brown. The food was different than typical American food.

"I wasn't used to the tastes and flavors at first, but I really liked the dessert we had. It was like a doughnut with syrup," said Bastian.

The celebration had a good amount of students that participated.

"About 25% of my freshman attended," said Mrs. Underwood.

"We even had a reporter come to cover the celebration."

The celebration was a hit with students. "I would recommend that other students in World History go.

You get to learn about different religions, and it gave us the chance to understand another culture. It was really fun and I liked it a lot," said Brown.

## CHORALE cont. from pg. 1

excited. Mr. Osadchuk said, "Every time you take a choir to States, it is an honor, and, of course, it is another way to represent Richmond."

The chorale girls are also very excited. Jessica Murphy, senior, said, "I am very jolly about going to States. I have been to States three times and this will be my fourth. My favorite part about States is being with my best friends Brook McInerney and Julie McCuiston."

Williams said, "I am very excited about States because it is the third year in a row! My favorite part about States is the excitement and the atmosphere.

Stephanie Porter, sophomore, also agreed but added, "I am very excited. This will be my second time going to States. My favorite part about States is just being apart of the program and the atmosphere."

For States, the rules are way different from Festival. Mr. Osadchuk said, "You are now competing on a higher level and they have tougher judges from different states that come in and judge."

Williams said, "The difference between Festival and States is there is no sight reading and it is a lot more intimidating because we are going up against the best choirs in the state."

As different choirs go through the process of States, they will be categorized on numbers one through five, with one being the best and five being the worst.

Last year, the chorale got an excellence rating, which is a high two at states.

As the choir season is coming to a close, Mr. Osadchuk is very happy with the program. He said, "I am extremely happy with the program. It is always a growing process. But the choir always reaches my goals."

## NHS cont. from pg. 2

Brown liked the opportunity of being the president, too.

"It was a challenge, and it was something I've never done before," said Brown.

Mr. Rineer helps the group run smoothly. He said he is there to organize and oversee everything. He is also responsible to invite people in and make sure they are upholding requirements.

To be inducted into the NHS students must maintain a 3.5 GPA, and put in 20 hours of community

service.

"It makes me feel more responsible. I felt academically successful," said junior Brittany Stachkunis and a second year member.

Besides being acknowledged for their success, the entire group looks forward to the up-coming year.

"I expect to engage in more community service and get people to participate more. I help to organize different projects and help make sure all the members are getting in their hours," said Smith.

As a new member, Gonzalez had a different idea.

"I'll teach me to be a better leader and help me become more successful in school and out," said Gonzalez.

### Meet the new NHS officers:

President: Anna Smith  
 Vice President: Caitlyn Wright  
 Secretary: Victoria Breiling  
 Treasurer: Hannah Townsend  
 Historian: Lindsay O'Melita-Stikelather

## KEHRER cont. from pg. 2

"For my Eagle Scout project, I plan to construct a quarter-mile long walking Stations of the Cross path, through the nine acre wooded area behind St. Mary's Church in Armada for the parish families and other members of the community," said Kehrer.

To get this project started, he had to get it first approved by his Scout Master. Then he had to get approval from the beneficiary, put together a proposal consisting of the complete budget, complete timeline, graphics, blueprints, pictures of the area and approval from both his troop and through his district.

Overall, Kehrer did over two months in planning.

To start off the project, Chris has to clear a path in the woods and get all the timber hauled to a mill in

Memphis.

Once it has been milled, he has to construct 16 crosses, 15 benches, two ten-foot bridges and a 150-foot land bridge. He has to place boulders and all of the plaques that mention sponsors of his project in the path too.

This project will take three to four months because of its massiveness and the various steps to complete it. In order to do this project, Chris has to raise \$40,000 in sponsorships and donations from businesses and families.

"\$40,000 is what I have submitted in my Eagle Scout application, but a lot of my materials can be donated because it's a tax write-off," said Kehrer.

He continued to say he will mail a brochure through the church to all of the parish members and families

giving them levels of sponsorship.

The cross will cost \$1,500, the bench will be \$500 and one of three bridges will cost \$1,000.

"I plan the project, and then I lead the volunteers. I make sure they will do all of the necessary steps needed to complete the project. It is against the rules for me to work on the project because it strays away from the meaning of the project. The point of an Eagle Scout project is to demonstrate leadership," said Kehrer.

Chris is very excited to become an Eagle Scout because he said it will be the biggest accomplishment of his life. He will present his finished project this summer before the Archdiocese of Detroit and all the parish's members and families.

# On This Day

- In 1862 slavery was abolished in the District of Colombia.
- In 1900 the first book of stamps was issued.
- Vladimir Ilyich Lenin returned to Russia to start the Bolshevik Revolution after years of exile.
- In 1976 the Apollo 16 blasted off to the moon for its fifth manned moon landing.

Source: <http://on-this-day.com/onthisday/thedays/alldays/april6.htm>

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#Twitter Takeover

By: Anna Fraser

Opinion Editor

Quick! Look out! There's a little blue bird flying all over the place! When it first launched in July 2006, Twitter was instantly popular worldwide. It was a breakthrough that was competing with the already-popular Facebook, which launched two years earlier. The two social media websites seemed to be constantly contending with each other.

Society was broken up into users of Twitter and Facebook. However, in the past three years, Facebook has risen above the charts. Raking in more than 845 million users, and gaining thousands every day, it has swept old social media websites -- like MySpace -- under the mat and pushed Twitter out of the way. To some, the days of tweeting were long gone.

But recently, the bird has made a huge comeback. Is Twitter taking over Facebook? Lately more and more people have been making the

switch.

So what has drawn these new users in?

Maybe it is the hashtags, or the concept of "following" your favorite celebrities.

Whatever it is, it's working. Sophomore Emily Brown has had a Twitter account for almost two years. She said she used it regularly but it was not that interesting because no one else was doing the same.

At the beginning of the school year, Brown started using Twitter more than she ever had before.

It was not long before thousands started doing the same.

Suddenly, people found themselves scrolling down through the tweets on their homepage rather than looking at the statuses on their newsfeed.

Brown said, "It's better than Facebook without a doubt. It's the new thing; Facebook is old."

She said she tweets about 10 to 15 times a day, whereas Facebook users usually only post one

or two statuses a day.

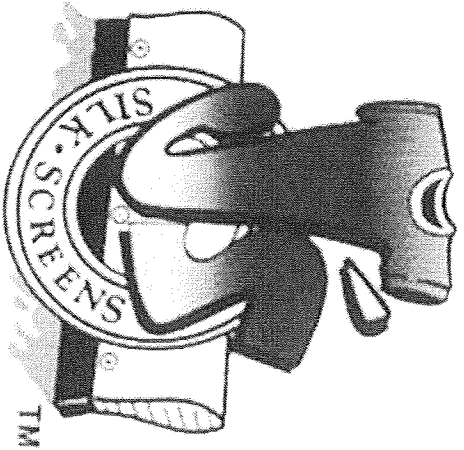
"You can update whenever you want. It's fun and easier than Facebook. There are no profiles or extra things so it's easier to update," said Brown. She also said she hasn't made a Facebook status in over a month.

Although Facebook seems to be dying down, there are still those who are against using Twitter.

Junior Caitlyn Gordon said, "I think Twitter is stupid. People are just jumping from one social media network to another. They're all trying to keep up with what's 'in' right now."

And what seems to be in right now are tweets and hashtags.

But whether it's the hashtags, the following, or the little blue bird that is pulling in more and more Twitter users, one thing is for sure: Twitter is taking over.



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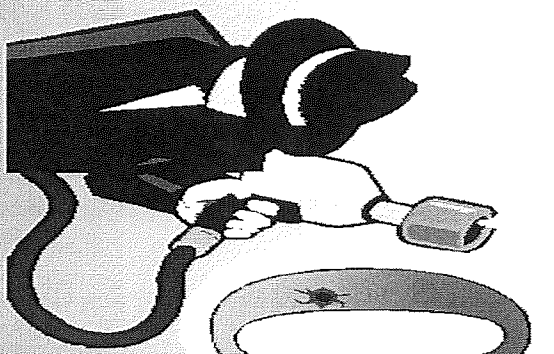
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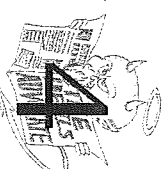
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The Blue Devil's Advocate



PLAY cont. from pg. 1

are a blast to portray," said Mr. Applegate. Even Keher said, "I think it's very funny and a lot of it's weird."

The cast enjoy laughing behind the scenes but they are also excited to see how the audience will react.

Blissett said, "I'm most excited to make people laugh. This is a really funny show, and I think people will enjoy it."

There are laughs, but there is also a message.

MacCauley said, "I want [the audience] to be relieved and content with what they saw. I want people to forget money and appreciate their families."

Not too long ago, auditions were held to determine the cast of "You Can't Take It With You".

Auditions started with a survey asking each interested actor simple questions. Blissett said the questions were thing like "your name" or "would you kiss on stage?". From there, it was time to act.

Or read.

Each potential cast member got a script and went up on the stage.

A few days later, the results were posted on Facebook.

"I was so happy. As soon as I saw [the results] I was freaking out. I have only had one major role part before. I was really happy with what I got. It was a good day," said Blissett. From that day, the cast has improved tremendously.

"The students are really creating excellent characters, and the show already has me laughing. We just need to keep working hard, and this should be a really great show," said Mr. Applegate.

As of the week before spring break, they have been practicing the play with reading from a script.

Mr. Applegate said, "That's where we need some work. With spring break falling where it does, we lose a whole week of rehearsal. So we have got to make sure we don't fall behind."

They have also begun blocking. Blocking is choreographing the actors' movements on stage as well as when and where they will enter the stage.

Blocking has become possible with the near completion of the construction of the stage.

Like most plays, there is a small cast.

Unlike most plays, one of the cast members isn't human. Actually, it isn't even a mammal. It's a live snake.

Freshman cast member Max Leesch offered his pet corn snake, Laertes, who is about 14 inches long, to play the part of Grandpa Martin Vanderhof's often frightening pet.

"He collects them. It also startles several visitors. This show has all sorts of crazy stuff on set, including a skull candy dish, a taxidermy lizard, a xylophone and a printing press," said Mr. Applegate.

Leesch said, "It will just be in a tank and periodically characters will put food in the tank."

Laertes will stay on stage during the whole show and will not be taken out of the tank.

The actors will not have any connect with it. The cast and crew—including Laertes—are looking forward to an opening night full of many laughs and much craziness.

On April 20 or 21 at 7:30 or April 22 at 2:00 you can see the show yourself. According to Mr. Applegate, tickets are \$5 for students, staff and seniors, and \$8 for adults. They went on sale April 10.

April 16, 2012

## Spring Sports come in swinging Baseball and softball looking toward great seasons

By: Anabella Ottenbacher  
News Editor

With the great success in winter sports at RHS this year, people are looking to the spring sports to finish the school year in the same fashion. The Varsity Baseball team is ready to accept the challenge.

While finishing up their 2010-2011 season with a record of 20-10 and being BWAC champs, the team is looking to improve and make themselves even better.

Veteran Mitchell Ward is expecting this year's team to be a step up from last year's. "I am hoping we will be able to win a lot of games, and just get along as a team." While chemistry among the athletes is important, understanding the coach is a whole different challenge.

This year's team won't just need to work on accepting new players and a new team, but they also have the challenge of accepting a new coach. This year's coach will be Richmond alumnus Scott Evans. "I think having a new coach will work out," said Ward.

He also continued to note the importance of team chemistry. Ward isn't the only one.

Senior Jeremy Schweiger is as well. "We had a lot of talent last year, but we didn't put it together. This year we have all the right pieces. Hopefully we will be able to achieve more," said Schweiger.

While Schweiger is a senior, and this season will mark his last at RHS, he is looking forward to the thrill of having a new coach. "He brings a lot of knowledge and experience to the team. He knows a lot about the game, and he'll be able to teach us," said Schweiger.

Schweiger hopes that this year's

team will bring forth better leadership, more talent and more experience. Ward agreed with Schweiger as well, adding that the team is more confident and has many more pitchers.

While the team consists of many veterans, there are also a few rookies joining the line-up. Dillon McInerney is among them. "I think this year's team will bring out a positive influence from the seniors and a good outcome in districts," said McInerney.

When asked if he thought Varsity baseball would be different than teams he has been on in the past, McInerney expressed that he thought it would be an advancement and a challenge. "I think having won a Little League State Championship will help with my confidence. When it gets intense, it will be easier for me under pressure, although high school States will be a lot harder," said McInerney.

Baseball isn't the only sport looking to improve from last season.

Softball is taking on the season with high hopes as well.

While the Varsity Softball team looks to improve their season from seasons in the past, the team is also looking to win a few major tournaments.

Senior Kim Boyd, who has been on the Varsity team for four years, said, "I am hoping that our team will win BWAC, and that we will be able to win Regionals since we are hosting the Regional Tournament."

Boyd continued to express her hopes for the team on a more personal note. "I just want everyone to try their best and to have a good

attitude," she said. Boyd added that this year's team is very similar to last year's, but she believes this year's team will sport a better attitude and have better team chemistry.

Junior Amanda Wolschleger agreed with Boyd and added, "We're going to be better this year because we have a lot of the same people and everyone has improved."

Wolschleger has high hopes for the team, noting that the team should be able to win the BWAC and be district champs.

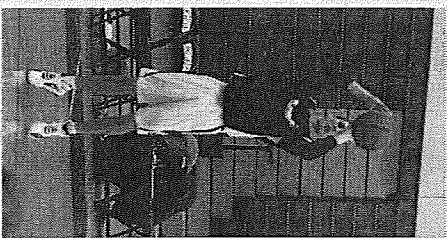
While Boyd is looking at the team from a senior point of view and Wolschleger as a junior, freshman Hailey Holdwick is looking at the team from a new perspective.

Holdwick is one of two freshmen in the Varsity line-up, with Liz Renner being the other.

Holdwick expressed the difference between her time spent on the Anchor Bay Travel Softball Team, and the time she will be spending on the Varsity Team. "Playing high school will be a lot more competitive than teams I've been on in the past," said Holdwick.

As most would think, being on a varsity team as a freshman would be scary and nerve-wracking, but Holdwick is looking forward to the season with excitement.

As the Richmond softball and baseball teams step onto the field this spring they will have a challenge ahead of them, with high expectations and a school awaiting success they are sure to have a memorable season.



**Dustin Leach**

Nickname: Speedy  
Age: 16  
Grade: 10  
Sport(s): Football, Baseball, Basketball  
Favorite pump up song: "We ready" by Archie Eversole  
Favorite Food: Pizza  
Favorite class: Strength and Conditioning  
Future Goals: Go to college, preferably MSU.

## SOFTBALL



**Noelle Scheuer**

Nickname: Wells  
Age: 15  
Grade: 10  
Sport(s): Softball, Bowling  
Favorite pump up song: loose Yourself  
Favorite food: Pancakes

Favorite class:  
Geometry  
Future goals: 1st Team All State for softball

## Tigers off to a roaring start



By Jake McKiernan  
Staff Writer

Buy yourself some peanuts and Crack-erjacks. Grab your cap and head to Co-merica because baseball season is underway.

The 2012 Major League Baseball season has started and fans everywhere are excited to see how their team will do in the regular season.

The Detroit Tigers are off to a roaring start this year, and fans are excited to see what they will do.

The Tigers' lineup looks as good as ever this year featuring returning starters such as Cy Young Award winner Justin Verlander, electric outfielder Austin Jackson and slugging infielder Miguel Cabrera.

The addition of hard-hitting First baseman Prince Fielder also strengthens the lineup.

The Tigers have been living up to expectations so far racking up a record of 24 wins, eight losses and 5 draws in Spring Training play.

Leading batters during spring play were outfielders Delmon Young with a .413 average and 19 runs batted in, and Brennan Boesch who boasts 11 runs scored with 6 home runs and 18 runs batted in.

"Brennan Boesch will benefit from Fielder and Cabrera. I expect him to have a big year," said former varsity baseball coach Mr. Bloink.

Getting it done on the mound for Detroit in Spring Training were Justin Verlander with twenty-three strikeouts and a 2.18 earned run average, and Doug Fister, who led the squad in wins in the spring.

Mr. Bloink said he expected to see Fister getting it done on the mound.

Unfortunately, Fister recently was added to the disabled list because of a left costochondral strain that occurred in last week's game against the Boston Red Sox. The Tigers opened up the regular season on April 5 with a 3-2 win against the Red Sox.

Most Tigers fans were very pleased with the outcome.

As of last Thursday the Tigers were 4-1 in the regular season earning victories over the Boston Red Sox in games two and three and over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in game 4. The team's only loss came from Tampa Bay on April 11.

Mitchell Smith, senior, attended game 3 on Easter Sunday, where the Tigers won after playing 11 innings.

"The game was awesome. Everyone there got really into it, especially when Cabrera and Fielder came up to bat," said Smith.

The Tigers won on a walk-off home run hit by catcher Alex Avila. Smith and senior Joshua Younk were 70 feet away from where the ball landed.

"Everyone went crazy. It was really exciting," said Smith.

Leading batters for the Tigers in the first weeks of play are Cabrera, with 3 home runs and 9 runs batted in, and Jackson with a .500 batting average and 10 hits. Leading pitchers are Verlander with a 2.20 earned run average and Duane Below with 2 wins.

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# The Blue Devil's Advocate

## Awards All Around

*Richmond athletics honored in many ways after the winter season*



**By: Katie Szczesniak**  
Staff Writer

BWAC champions, district champions, county champions, regional champions, three-peat state champions along with three individual state champions. After their most successful season yet, the Richmond wrestling team received numerous awards and recognitions.

### Wrestler of the Year

Judging by where Garrett Edwards started, you would never think he would end up a State Champion. Edwards, a senior, finished his eight year wrestling career on top.

Years ago, Edwards wrestled at Armada but transferred to Richmond his eighth grade year.

Since then, Edwards' skill has gone nowhere but up.

"I started off fatter than I am now. I used to drink a 2 liter pop a day. My parents even tried to put me on a diet," Edwards said, who wrestled in the 140-pound weight class.

This year was Edwards' third straight year wrestling at individual states. In his sophomore year, he did not place but last year, he took third

place.

"The past two years' experiences definitely helped me because I knew what to expect and when to warm up and things like that," said Edwards.

The individual state championship is held at the Palace of Auburn Hills each year.

Johnny Wiggers was Edwards' opponent for the individual state finals match.

Wiggers was undefeated going into the match. The match between the two went into a grueling double overtime. In the end, Edwards won with a 6-5 victory.

"At first, I was exhausted because I had never gone into double overtime and then it hit me that I was a state champion," said Edwards, who finished his season with a record of 50-6.

He topped off his four year high school career with a record of 162-31.

This past season, Edwards won the individual BWAC, district, regional and state title along with contributing to his team winning their third consecutive state cham-

piionship.

Edwards accomplished each of his goals for the season.

For his successful season, Edwards has received many prestigious awards.

He shared Wrestler of the Year for Macomb with senior Stephen Ireland and freshman Devin Skatzka, also individual state champions.

Edwards was awarded Athlete of the Month by the *Macomb Daily* and wrestler of the year by the *Times Herald*.

He has been contacted by several colleges, but is currently undecided on whether or not he wants to wrestle at college.

### Coach and Team of the Year

Edwards isn't the only one being honored for this year's achievements.

The Richmond wrestling coaching was awarded Coaching Staff of the Year by Macomb County awards banquet.

"We work extremely hard as a program, coaches, athletes and parents 12 months out of the year to accomplish our goals," said Co-Head coach Mr. Day, who teaches social studies and physical education at Richmond Middle School.

Mr. Day has been coaching wrestling for the past 10 years.

"We always try to add new techniques and training methods. We watch what is happening at the college level very closely and adjust what they are doing," said Mr. Day, "If you stay the same, you will fall behind in wrestling."

For the first time, the wrestling team competed at one of the nation's toughest tournaments in the country: the Medina Ohio Invitational.

The Blue Devils topped off their 2012 season with a record of 35-6.

The wrestling team also captured the BWAC, district, county, regional and their third consecutive state title.

Richmond is the first team in division three to achieve a three-peat for the state title.

The Blue Devils were also the first team in Macomb to have three individual state champions in one year.

With the team having such a successful season, they were also rewarded Team of the Year by the Macomb County banquet.

Mr. Day said, "Awards are nice, but the real reward comes from watching our kids accomplish their goals."

## Make it or break it?

*Richmond's girl's soccer and tennis teams have high expectations for the 2012 spring season.*

**By: Adam Boyd**  
Co-Sports Editor

As winter snow melts away, spring fills the air with all sorts of things to do. Something in everyone's busy schedule is spring sports.

Soccer and Tennis are starting to get into their seasons.

For some, soccer is their life; that is all they do. Freshman Annie Saelens is one of those student-athletes. Playing for nine years now, Saelens sees a very good outcome for the 2011-2012 Richmond girls varsity soccer team.

"There are a lot of good people on the team this year, and we play good together and that makes a solid team," Saelens said.

Just like many other athletes, Saelens wants to build and improve her soccer performance.

She said, "My main goals this year are to make the starting lineup and to score a lot of goals."

Senior Rochelle Raska also made the soccer team this year. Playing soccer for four years now, Raska decided not to play softball this year.

"I didn't want to play softball this year and because I played soccer before, I decided to try soccer to try to become a better player," said Raska.

She said, "This year, the tryouts were very long; I was nervous because there were a lot of good people. I turned out to do fine. When I started playing soccer, I had two people that really motivated me to keep playing. My cousin Julie McCuiston and my brother Chris Raska. Raska and Saelens both agree that the season is go-

ing to be both challenging, but at the same time it's going to be a fun season."

The soccer team's first game was April 12 against Crosswell-Lexington High school. The devils unfortunately lost in a shoot out after two overtimes.

Another sport for the spring is girls tennis. Senior Holly Uhl went out for tennis as a freshman because she did not play a spring sport. "I wanted to play tennis because I wanted to be a tri-season athlete for four years," said Uhl.

Uhl plays second singles and wishes to finish with the best record again and to win the Regional meet to qualify for States.

"We have a lot of returners this year, so we should have a good season," she said. The tennis team won their first competition on April 11. They beat Marine City 8-0.

The Tennis team also won their second meet 7-1 against Almont. This is Uhl's fourth year playing tennis. Uhl said, "A lot of my early inspiration from when I first started playing was from my mom and my sister."

This year Coach Pearson is happy with the start his team has right now. Coaching for six years now, Coach Pearson wants to make it back to the state finals.

He said, "We set the bar last year making the state finals, we should make it back to the finals and win the league again."

Uhl likes when the team plays games in practice. "Canoe is my

favorite," said Uhl.

Another four-year tennis player is senior Alex Pinsky, who plays second doubles. "I first started in the summer between eighth and ninth grade. I was really into volleyball and wanted Jessica Murphy to play with me but she wanted me to play tennis. So I tried it out that summer because we took lessons together and I started to become really passionate about it. I really enjoy playing it now. She was my main inspiration, and I continue to play now because of her," said Pinsky.

She said, "For this season, I really want to make it to States again because last year, we made it and being our first year, it was a really good feeling and an enjoyable experience."

This year, Uhl and Pinsky believe the team is strong and it will go far. Like Uhl, Pinsky likes the games at practice. She is a fan of killer volleys and perfect trees.

Freshman Jackie Olko played tennis for one reason. She said, "Tennis was something different; I wanted to try it out this year." This is Olko's first year playing tennis and plays doubles with Payton Dixon on the JV squad.

"This season, I want to focus on getting better. Like a lot of athletes, I want to be the best I can be and contribute all I can to help the team in any way I can," said Olko.

"I think we are going to have a good season. But we can prepare as best we can but practicing. This is why my favorite thing to do in practice is not play games for fun, but games like actual matches. It helps me get better and I enjoy playing tennis," said Olko.

## Schedule

Girls Varsity Soccer @ Montrose HS/MS	Monday 4/16
Girls Varsity Soccer @ Almont High School	Wednesday 4/18
Girls Varsity Soccer @ Armada High School	Monday 4/23
Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Capac High	6:00PM
Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Argonac HS	6:00PM
Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Goodrich	Monday 4/30
Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Goodrich	6:00PM

### Continued from pg. 5

The Tigers continue action today through Wednesday against the Kansas City Royals, and Thursday through Sunday against the Texas Rangers.

"The Tigers have all of the talent they need to have success this year," said Mr. Blotnik.

But he did also have a cautionary statement.

He said, "It's been proven in the past that money doesn't buy championships."



*The Blue Devils Advocate staff would like to congratulate all of the athletes on successful seasons. Go Blue Devils!*



Name: Tiannah Banks  
Grade: 10  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: First Team All-State  
"Feels good because I have never been an all-state athlete before," said Tiannah.



Name: Jessica Bishop  
Grade: 10  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: All-State Honorable Mention  
"I feel honored to be recognized as a sophomore along with all of the upperclassmen," said Jessica.



Name: Nick Bury  
Grade: 10  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: Third Place All-State 119 lbs.  
"It feels good. I feel very accomplished, and it will give me more confidence for next year," Nick said.



Name: Noelle Scheuer  
Grade: 10  
Sport: Bowling  
Award: Second Team All-State  
"It feels great to know that all the work during the season paid off!" Noelle said.



Name: Ashley Barrett  
Grade: 10  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: First Team All-State, All-State Academic  
"It's a great honor, and it gives me the drive to keep working hard," said Ashley.



Name: Alyssa Brickel  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: Second Team All-State  
"It feels like an honor to be able to achieve something that I have always wanted," said Alyssa



Name: Austin Catterra  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: Sixth Place All-State 125 lbs.  
"Either you're one of the best or you're left with the rest -JB," said Austin.



Name: Joanna Fenwick  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: First Team All-State  
"I'm very proud of myself because all my hard work paid off," Joanna said.



Name: Nathan Henke  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: Third Place All-State 135 lbs.  
"It's pretty exciting, and I feel accomplished," Nate said.



Name: Paige McCloskey  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: First Team All-State  
"I feel honored to be a part of the first team, it's a great accomplishment," Paige said.



Name: Courtney Russell  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: Second Team All-State  
"I really can't describe the feeling. It's great," said Courtney



Name: Chelsea Wolfe  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: First Team All-State  
"I feel really proud to be an All-State athlete," said Chelsea.



Name: Caitlyn Wright  
Grade: 11  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: All-State Honorable Mention  
"It's a great honor to be recognized individually for my achievements," Caitlyn said.



Name: Samantha Conner  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Bowling  
Award: Third Team All-State  
"It feels good to accomplish something I have been working toward for so long," said Sam.



Name: Garrett Edwards  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: State Champion 140 lbs.  
"Feels great to be All-State," Garrett said.



Name: John Gaffney  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: Seventh Place All-State 171 lbs, All-State Academic  
"It's a great feeling to know that the hard work I put in for four years was enough to make me All-State" John said.



Name: Melissa Graham  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: First Team All-State, All-State Academic  
"It's a great feeling to know that four years of hard work have paid off," Melissa said.



Name: Stephen Ireland  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: State Champion 119lbs.  
"It's makes me feel like I know I can accomplish anything I put the hard work into because I know it will pay off eventually," said Steve.



Name: Kelsey Kasom  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: All-State Honorable Mention  
"It feels better than the first time I watched Step Brothers. That's how good it feels" Kelsey said.



Name: Jonathan Kovalick  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Bowling  
Award: Third Team All-State  
"I feel pretty accomplished to be a three time all-state athlete, and it was an awesome run getting here," said Jonathan.



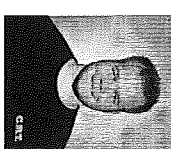
Name: Dustin Pitcel  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: Third Place All-State 125 lbs, All-State Academic  
"It's great to be recognized, but 1st place would have been much better than 3rd," said Dustin.



Name: Greg Sebastian  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: Third Place All-State 215 lbs, All-State Academic  
"It's a great feeling but I'm disappointed that its not 1st because that's what I was expecting all year," said Greg.



Name: Alana Timmenman  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: Second Team All-State  
"It feels pretty good because it was what I wanted to accomplish as a senior," said Alana.



Name: Josh Younk  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: Seventh Place All-State 285 lbs, All-State Academic  
"It's the most exhilarating experience that I have ever experienced," Josh said.



Name: Devin Skatzka  
Grade: 9  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: State Champion 135 lbs  
"Undescribable feeling, it's not as great as winning a team title, but it was still a good feeling especially as a freshman," said Devin



Name: Katie Townsend  
Grade: 9  
Sport: Cheerleading  
Award: All-State Academic  
"I'm proud of myself at how hard I worked. It's a pretty big accomplishment," Katie said.



Name: Beau Barton  
Grade: 12  
Sport: Wrestling  
Award: All-State Academic  
"It feels great to know I can mix school and a tough sport like wrestling and do well in both," Beau said.

**All-State Athletes**