

Richmond's Equestrian Team Rides To Success

By: Jenna Stafford
Features Co-Editor

Richmond High School's equestrian team galloped towards success this year.

The team's five members, consisting of three seniors, one sophomore and one freshman, led an awesome season with their four-legged friends.

The group met for a series of three shows at Goodells County Park.

Amanda Job and Ally Oddo, both seniors, have participated in equestrian team for the last four years.

"My favorite part is being able to compete against and recognize people from other schools," Job said.

Job and her horse, Champ, showed in jumping classes and equitation, a discipline that is judged completely on how the rider handles their horse. They took home four blue ribbons.

The season wasn't always easy, though. The team faced quite a few challenges. The first problem was that they didn't have a coach.

Equestrian team doesn't have practices quite like basketball or baseball. They each take lessons with different trainers and work by themselves.



CARLEY BARJAKTAROVICH

Favorite Teacher—Mr. Rineer
Age-16
Grade-11th
Sports—Basketball and Softball
Favorite Class—Yearbook
Future Goals—Play Softball in college and get a good education to set myself up for life to come
Favorite Athlete—Steph Curry

Rinehart's Return to Richmond

By: Brandon Furtaw
Sports Co-Editor

There's a new sheriff in town and his name is Mr. Rinehart.

Taking over for Mr. Bourdeau as Dean of Students and Athletic director, Rinehart seems to be taking everything in stride, and rightfully so. Rinehart, a 1998 graduate from RHS, came back to take an administrative position at the very school he learned at 18 years ago.

There's a saying about UofM graduates that they're 'Michigan men' or a 'Michigan man'; Rinehart could be considered a Richmond Man.

A three sport athlete for four years (football, basketball, and track,) Rinehart won All-County and All-League honors for those sports.

After high school Rinehart went on to Adrian College to run track and play football. One year later he transferred over to Wayne State to play football and pursue a masters' degree in educational leadership allowing him to hold an administrative position.

Following college Rinehart did not move right back home to R-town but instead moved to Chesterfield for eight or nine years while he was teaching in the South Lake School District.

While at South Lake Rinehart was a teacher, dean of students, and district wide athletic director. The enrollment at South

Lake (617) is fairly comparable to RHS' (562) except for the fact SLHS is a former Division One school with a Division Three population.

"Richmond is a smaller school and there are many more students who participate in extra-curricular activities," said Rinehart.

This means Freshman sports programs here at RHS and other sporting areas might suffer from a lack of participation.

While Richmond is a very close knit community mostly brought together by sports, the BWAC is a very close knit sports league. Most, if not all of us, have friends or know people from other BWAC schools and Rinehart is no different.

"A friend of mine told me about it [the AD position]. Another Athletic Director form a different school let me know it would be posted," said Rinehart.

As Richmond is his hometown, Rinehart knew what kind of community and caliber of student population he would be immersed in. And while many students just want to get out of Richmond, Rinehart came back to his roots.

When asked about what it's like to return Rinehart simply put, "It's surreal. Fun to be back but different in a roll of administrator than a student. Some things are the same but some are different. I am enjoying it a lot," he said.

There's always something that can be made better or added to create a better environment and Rinehart has plenty of ideas to do just that. While he has already updated our website, the classic infomercial saying, "but wait there's more," applies perfectly to Rinehart's plans for RHS.

"I want to build a leadership club and build more leaders in the building. The athletics here are already outstanding but maintaining that is the goal. Everything I'm apart of I want to make it better," said Rinehart.

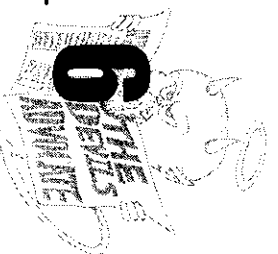
Richmond means something to everyone here, even if you do want to leave, most of the mantras family, tradition, and hard work are what describe Richmond. For Rinehart, Richmond means a lot, "It's my life. I grew up here. I believe in everything that Richmond is and does. I want students to have the same success that I did as a student here," he said.

SPORTS

CHASE CHURCHILL

Favorite Teacher—Mrs. Germain
Age-16
Grade-11th
Sports—Football, Basketball, and Baseball
Favorite Class—Psychology
Future Goals—Make all state honors academically and athletically
Favorite Athlete—Tom Brady





Stay together for the kids

By: Daniel Seguin
Web editor

*So here's your holiday
Hope you enjoyed this time
You gave it all away.*

Blink is back. The rock trio Blink-182 released a new album in August entitled *California*. It sounds like it came straight out of the '90; if this album was a person it would be walking around wearing slap bracelets and (other 90's trend).

The only real difference between this album and their other efforts is the absence of guitarist Tom Delonge. Alas, they couldn't stay together. For The Kids, Tom left the band officially, and for the last time, in December of 2015. He was promptly replaced by Matt Skiba of the Alkaline Trio.

Many people are upset with Tom over his leaving Blink. Now, Delonge did start the band, but clearly, he outgrew it. He is now publishing books. He is making music with Angels and Airwaves. He is emailing the Clinton campaign about extra-terrestrial information. He has just got other stuff to do. And that's okay.

He's 40 years old, and started Blink while he was in his twenties. People outgrow things. And while Mark Hoppus and Travis Barker are able to grow with Blink, Tom simply couldn't.

And that's understandable. Hoppus and Barker made him leave, but one can be led to believe he was about to anyway.

It's as the saying goes, sometimes it's harder to keep holding on than to let go.

They couldn't work as a band anymore. They just weren't working well together anymore. Delonge recorded his guitar parts for "Neighborhoods", their 2011 effort, from his home, sending them in on his own. They would then put them into the song. This method worked, but to me it felt less emotional. It didn't feel like anyone cared about the music that they were making. It was too generic to care about.

It sounded a bit more like Angels and Airwaves, and a bit less like Blink. That album was the last attempt. After they came out with the finished product, it was evident: Blink as we knew it was over.

The realization that a relationship is over – that this is it, there is no coming back from this – is a challenging one to come to. However, it is an important one.

Blink had their moment, and so will you in your relationship. Maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow, but someday, when all that's piled up becomes too heavy, when the burden is too much bare, then you'll know.

You will have your moment. The thing about Blink-182 that is really heartbreaking is that, in my opinion, none of them wanted to split up. I'm sure they wanted to stay together. That's why they tried. That's why they got back together in the first place.

Trying to recapture that old feeling. That feeling of youthful abandon. That feeling of feeding off each other so well. That feeling of knowing that they were all the right people at the right time, doing the right thing.

But, they had been separated since 2003 when they released *Neighborshoods*. Perhaps they all went too far into other directions. Perhaps it was already too late. But hey, there's no shame in trying.

Blink may seem like they found Matt rather quickly. But they already knew Matt well; they played similar music. His music style was much

more like theirs than Tom's was. Matt Skiba is the lead singer of The Alkaline Trio. Tom Delonge is the lead singer of Angels and Airwaves. The Alkaline Trio is very similar to Blink, Angels and Airwaves? Not so much. So, it makes sense. Matt fits right in.

I have no doubt in my mind that they miss it. That they miss all the good times. They miss the jokes, the games, and the music. They miss sharing a tour bus, and hotel rooms. And I'm sure that it's still weird with Matt. But, missing something doesn't mean you want it back. They weren't all good times. There were tumultuous times as well. And I'm sure they don't miss those. The relationship had gone sour. And it is okay to admit that and walk away, if it isn't doing anybody any good.

However you feel about Matt, don't stop listening to the old Blink-182. Don't stop listening to Tom. It is entirely acceptable to jam out to Enema of the State whenever you're feeling angry. You don't need to let Tom's leaving ruin Blink. Just remember all the good times you had with him. That we all had with him.

It's no one's fault that it had to end like this. We all wish that they could still at least be friends but sometimes that just isn't doable. So remember the past. Enjoy it. But move on.

Applying for your future

By: Jaret Gil
Opinion Co-editor

Today's the day! But not one of those days that you wake up early and jump out of bed like an excited little school boy. In fact, today proves you're not a school boy at all.

Today is college application day. You silently hope that everyone forgets and you can just go through your day. But you know that you'll have to do soon. Actually, today is the last day.

Soon the day has started and no one has said anything about application. *This is fine*, you think to yourself. *I'll be fine...*

Flash forward to 11:00 that night: there you are hunched over your computer like a mad man, applying to two colleges with 59 minutes left until deadline.

In a crazed and somewhat delusional state, you hurriedly pull together numbers and information you've never needed to know before (SAT score, ACT equivalent, social security number, and other seemingly useless information).

Finishing with just five minutes to spare, you look back on what you've just sent. Then, reading the small print, you realize that if you've screwed up any part of your application, you are not even looked at.

Almost \$100 worth of applications, and you might not even get looked at.

Not to mention the fact that no one really cares about who you are or where you came from.

No one cares if you're a nice kid. No one cares if you struggled for some reason or another. No one cares.

To them – whoever "they" may be – you're just a name on a sheet. Easily scratched out. Easily forgotten.

As someone who is applying to college, I can honestly say that this is the thought process. Everyone seems to paint this picture where kids apply last minute, and then stress about how unfair it is that they never get to meet with the people they are applying to.

But it doesn't always work that way. Applying to college is such a drawn out process. And with every-

thing being online, the application deadlines have somewhat vanished. It's almost December, but I know several people who haven't finished applying for the Fall semester – myself included. Instead of rushing to apply to a school, kids find themselves with ample time to really inspect each school.

Instead of stressing about application, seniors like Andrew Caporuscio spent the summer discovering their passions. Taking a trip down to Ohio, Caporuscio was able to fly a plane, fueling his pursuit of a degree in aviation. "I really just loved the feeling of being a thousand feet in the air," he said.

The big stressor about college isn't even application: it's the price tag that comes with an education. Students seem to actually push off application as a way to not think about the cost of college. Plus, the bigger the school, the bigger the price tag. Caporuscio recently got accepted to Western Michigan University, and he said, "I'm stressfully excited. And you know, I'm really crapping my pants about the money."

But, money isn't the only thing students stress about during college application. Student athletes like Lauren Duché have a surplus of opportunities with athletic scholarships. But in wake of these opportunities, Duché is faced with some hard decisions. "I feel like I've been ready [for college] since sophomore year," said Duché. "It's just most stressful trying to figure out where I'm going to go."

With options in state and out, figuring out the actual location is the hardest part of the process. The biggest thing students have to realize is that high school is a coming to an end. And, ultimately, it's up to each individual as far as where.

So as you sit back and start applying to colleges, remember that time is on your side -- if you plan things out.

Would you rather go through life unable to answer any questions or unable to ask any questions?