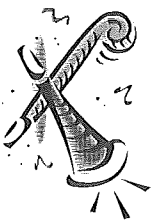
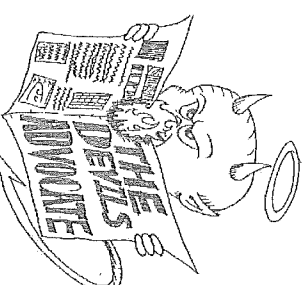


Check out how
other students view
New Years
Resolutions on
page
12



BLUE DEVILS

Advocate



Richmond High School
35320 Division Road
Richmond, MI 48062

Volume 9, Issue 3

December 14, 2012

Amnie at the Aud

By Regan Blisset
Features Editor

The sun will indeed come out tomorrow.

Especially, when The Richmond Aud Theatre presents the famous musical *Amnie* on December 14-16. Auditions for the play happened in September, after the first week of school started. 150 students from all over Macomb County auditioned.

Mike Lepior, a senior who has been in three plays, also auditioned.

"I had to pick a song, sing it in front of everyone and then do a cold reading with other people who auditioned," said Lepior.

There were so many students that auditioned, that afterwards, the directors divided them into two casts: a junior cast and an older cast, ranging from 50 to 60 people in each production.

Lepior takes on the role of Rooster Hannigan, a man obsessed with money in the older kids' *Amnie* production.

"It's about an orphan who lives in an orphanage, run by a nasty woman who's horrible to the orphans, who longs to find her parents," said Lepior.

The play is a musical, consisting of 15 songs.

Out of those 15 songs, Lepior has to sing three of them.

Lepior admitted he was not too nervous for the play or singing during the play.

"I feel confident on stage," said Lepior.

To portray his character, he focuses on what Rooster Hannigan is feeling and tries to forget the real



Lauren Lewallen, who plays "Amnie," is singing tomorrow with the dog Sandy, played by Benny Stein.

world.

Lepior takes his character and brings him to life by even growing out a mustache to fit his character.

He said, "All of the parts I've ever seen Rooster in, he has had a moustache."

Lepior is excited for the show and wishes his cast mates to "Break a leg".

Another cast mate that will be breaking a leg is Stephanie Graham, freshman.

Graham auditioned because she was hoping the play would be fun and she also wanted to have a good experience.

She was offered the role of Grace Farrell in the Junior cast.

"She is very professional, but at the same time very caring. She's like a mother figure to Amnie," said Graham about her character.

Graham continued to say, she is a mother figure because Amnie feels she can tell Grace anything. Grace does anything in her ability to make *Amnie* happy.

Graham was very excited to get the role of Grace Farrell because it was the part she wanted. She has a supporting actress role and has to practice extra hard.

Both productions practice three times a week for two to three hours each time.

She likes to be at play practice because it is fun to her. However, being with the younger children has taught her to deal with kids better and have better patience.

She and her cast are ready to perform in front of an audience.

Continued on page 2

'Tis the Season

By Caitlee Hawley, Kelsey Williams, and Shelby Stewart
Opinion Editor, Business Manager, News Editor

We all know what the first week of December means – Christmas carols. Blasting through stores, on every radio station, and scrawled all over Christmas cards, we hear them all month. This year however, there are plenty of opportunities to celebrate the holiday season with song.

Next Tuesday and Wednesday, the middle school, high school Concert

Choir and RHS Women's Chorale will celebrate the season with their Juletide Concert Series. People from all over the community are welcome to enjoy the concerts. Senior Caitlyn Gordon is a member of the RHS Chorale and will be participating in the concert next week.

"I love it when we sing 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,' it's my favorite song," Gordon said. "It'll be different performing without the band, because that is what we have always done, but I'm

Continued on page 3

excited for the opportunity for just the choir to show off how hard we have worked," she added.

The middle and high school bands had their Holiday Concert on Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st, followed by the Community Choir's *Everywhere, Christmas* show on the 7th and 9th.

Junior Anna Fraser was a member of the Community Choir and performed in the concert.

Continued on page 3

Giving back with the giving tree

Key Club gives back to the community with student involvement.

By: Jacob Marlow
Staff Writer

Christmas time is here, which means we hear the joys of magical music, see beautiful decorations, and visit with friends and family.

As many families have little worries about how much money they will spend during the holiday season, there are hundreds of thousands of people around Michigan that have been hit by the economic recession.

Although it's sad that Michiganers have to go through this, there is help.

The Key Club has been putting in time and money to help those families in need during the holiday season.

Continued on page 2

Deck the Walls

Spanish hallway begins to prepare for a new mural to be painted.

By: Hunter Barjaktarovich
Features Editor

For all who will be visiting or going to RHS, a new mural will be painted in the Spanish hallway.

The mural will be a mixture of Spanish and American culture. Heriberto Alfaro, a senior in Spanish 5, sketched the mural out on paper, and will help with drawing the mural on the wall. Alfaro is fluent in speaking Spanish, and believes it is good that the mural is being painted and to help show his culture.

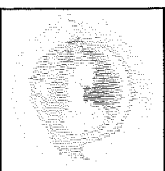
"It will show the Spanish culture and help to promote the Spanish classes," said Alfaro. Senora Dolland, the teacher of the Spanish class, agreed with Alfaro with the idea that it is good the mural is being painted.

"I don't think there is enough cultural awareness, and not just for Hispanic culture, but for all cultures," said Senora Dolland.

Continued on page 3

Today's Forecast
Partly Cloudy

High: 42°
Low: 32°



School News1-3
Editorials.....6-8
Question of the Week.....7
Local Features.....9-13

Sports Updates.....4-5
Star Athlete.....5
Student Star.....10
Book Reviews.....10

Show us your Stuff.....9
Horoscope.....11
Word Search11
Talent Spotlight.....9



Annie cont. from page 1:

When people come to see Annie, she hopes they will take away a good Christmas holiday spirit.

Not only are kids acting in Annie but Anna Fraser, junior, takes a different part in the play. Although usually people see Fraser on stage acting, for this play, she works behind the scenes as stage manager.

Fraser said, "Mr. O asked me because I have done shows before at The Aud before and have helped out in the past."

Fraser, along with junior Jordan Zachow, took over backstage to make sure everything runs as planned.

"I do set changes and manage the kids backstage when needed," said Fraser.

She not only manages one production, but both productions as well.

This is one of the first plays she is managing and not acting in.

"I didn't have time to be in the show, but I wanted to be a part of the production, and I enjoy seeing the end result," said Fraser.

She added she likes to see how different things are from behind the scenes. Fraser has gotten a different perspective on how shows come together by managing Annie.

The only difficulty she has is the scene changes. They have little time to move big sets.

However, they persevere and get it done in good time.

The director of Annie is RHS's choir director Mr. Osadchuk.

"Mrs. Applegate is the artistic director at the Aud and usually directs most of the plays there. She was actually planning on directing

Annie Jr., but due to a last minute scheduling conflict with her job, she was unable to. So that's where I come in," said Mr. Osadchuk.

This is one of the first shows he has directed. He has been a part of many shows throughout his career, but usually he has just been the music director or an actor on stage.

"If you are having fun on stage, then your audience will have a blast watching you!"
- Mr. Osadchuk

There are many duties that come with being a director of a play. I kind of see it similar to being a coach of a sports team. You are in charge of overseeing everything that goes on including acting, singing, blocking, scenery, costumes, scheduling, and even publicity and making sure it all runs smoothly," said Mr. Osadchuk.

The challenge he has had to face

Giving tree cont. from page 1:

The Key Club, which does a project every couple months, has been working on the Giving Tree.

Christian Fajila, sophomore and first-year Key Clubber, said, "The Giving Tree is a tree that provides gift ideas for the women and children in Turning Point."

Turning Point is a shelter that takes in hundreds of abused and troubled women and children around the area and gives them a bed to sleep in, food to eat and help to get their feet back on the ground.

Mr. Murphy, Key Club advisor, said he enjoys seeing students in Key Club working together to help people in their time in need.

The 50 students who participate in Key Club have done a lot while working on the tree including printing out the ornaments which contain gift ideas on them and

spreading the word about Tree's meaning.

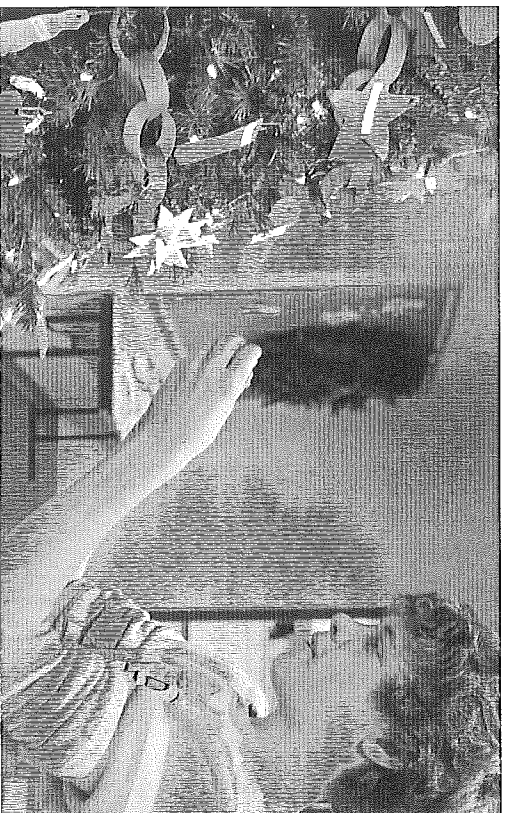
Sarah Verschuer, senior and four-year Key Clubber, said, "It's good to see everyone work together for a good cause like the Giving Tree, and shows the women and children that we actually care to improve their situations."

During the holidays, many of the

moms in the facilities don't have the money to supply gifts for their children on Christmas morning.

That's where the Giving Tree comes into play.

The many gifts ideas the tree will have are diapers, gloves, scarves, socks, infant or teen clothing, gift cards, pencil or pens and many other important gifts that the chil-



Junior Lucas Moon picks an ornament off of the giving tree. He plans on getting a gift card for Rite Aide because there are essential things that people need available at the store.

dren and mothers would be thankful to get.

Students are not the only people buying gifts for the tree. Mr. Murphy actually sends out a mass email to Richmond parents, the staff from the Lee, Middle and high school to promote everything.

Once the email is sent, many teachers and parents come into the library and grab a gift idea or ideas, and go to buy them.

Once everything is said and done, Mr. Murphy said that they receive so many gifts that it fills his car completely with boxes, that are then given to the Turning Point staff.

Key Clubbers take pride in what they have done.

"I enjoy helping people during the holidays because we are helping people who have basically nothing and I like the joy they get when they receive the gift," said Fajila.

H & H Student Driving School -- 2012

At Richmond High School
23 Years of Experience
State Bonded, Fully Licensed and Insured

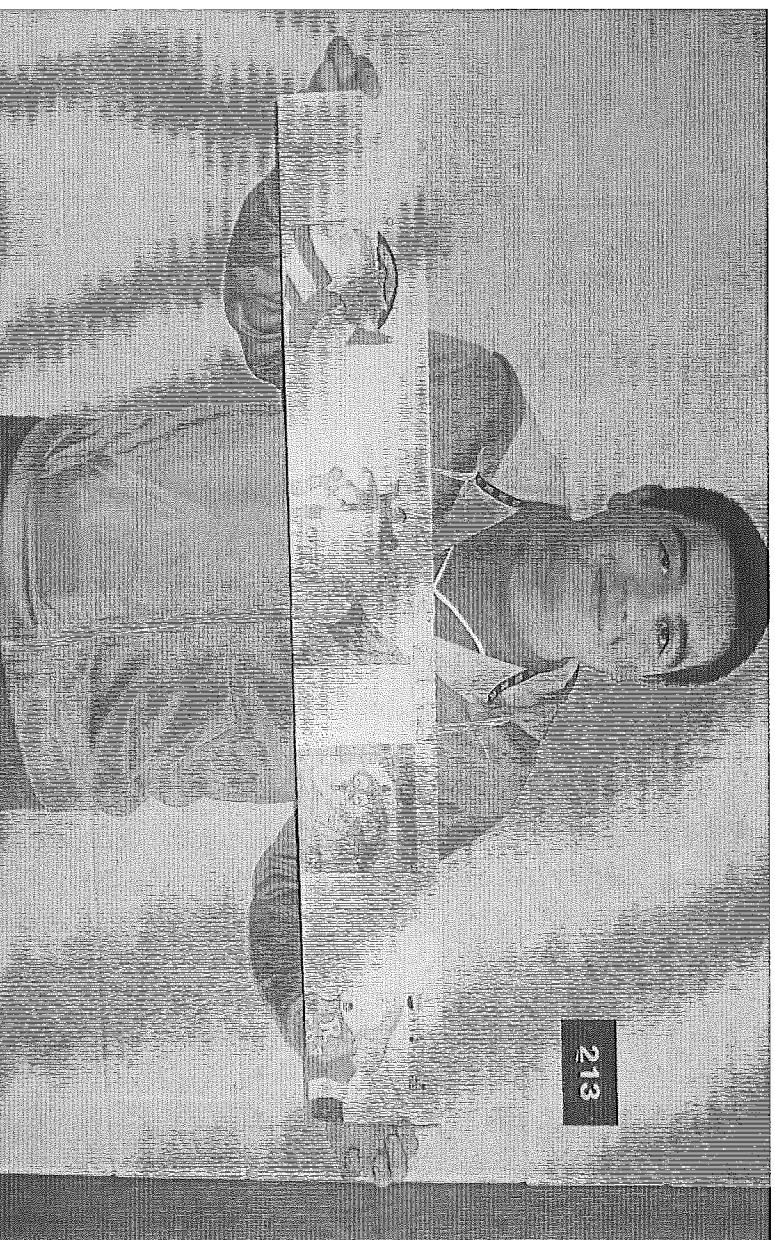
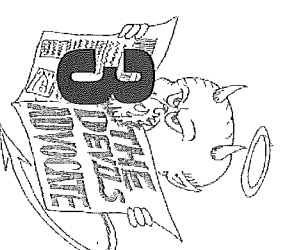
Segment 1 -- \$279.00

- 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. Hendlin for details on upcoming classes.



Senior Herberto Alfaro holds the design for the mural that will be painted in the Spanish hallway.

'Tis the season cont. from page 1:

"It is a lot different singing in Community Choir than in high school choir. I'm used to singing with all girls, but when you add the tenors and the basses it sounds a lot different. It was cool to have such a powerful sound," Fraser said.

This is the first year that the RHS music department has held separate concerts. In the past, the musicians from both schools have shared the stage. Mrs. May, band director, says this about the change:

"Four concerts in three days is a lot, especially for the younger kids. So this year, when Mr. O and I were looking at the schedule for this coming year we decided that we were going to have to split it," said Mrs. May.

Others, however, are disappointed about the separation. Kelsey Williams, a senior in Chorale, says that she was sad about the split because she feels like the joint concerts represented the diversity and unity of the music department.

Logan Iskra, Senior, said that he thought the concert was much shorter and it felt emptier without the choir performing as well.

"The concert went very well. It went a lot better than expected," said Iskra, "and my favorite song we played was Carol of the Bells because it was so well written.

Iskra also said that he would miss the people after he graduates and he will miss how much fun they all have performing.

Regardless of the change, students from both classes showed up to support each other. Students from the 130+ member choir came to

watch the band and participate in the holiday sing-along, a tradition from the joint performances that both classes decided to keep in their respective concerts.

"It's amazing to live in such a small town and have all these opportunities to be involved in so many great things, not only in choir but in theatre as well," Fraser said.

"Choir is a very rewarding thing to do. You get to see growth in yourself every day," Gordon said. "I am going to miss all of the girls in Chorale, we have become a family over the years."

You get to see growth in yourself every day, " in yourself every day, " - Caitlyn Gordon

Admission to the Juletide Concert is \$5 and tickets can be purchased at the door.

Mural cont. from page 1:

Alfaro is glad to be able to paint this mural. Not only is it a chance to raise cultural awareness, but also a time for him to do another thing he loves: art.

Alfaro took Basic Design his sophomore year and is now taking Drawing 2 and 3 his senior year.

"I enjoy everything in the class. There's not anything I like more than another," he said.

Alfaro's favorite part of the mural has a mixture of both of the Richmond or American culture and his Mexican culture in it.

"My favorite part is where there is Richmond clock and an Aztec temple with a sunset in the back. It shows both cultures in it," said Alfaro.

Senora Dolland came up with the whole idea behind the mural.

"I noticed the mural in the science hallway, and I used to do a mural in my room. I thought, why not do a mural of our own? It would be a good way to promote cultural awareness since we do have a small Hispanic population. It will bring the Richmond and Hispanic culture together," said Senora Dolland.

This idea of the two cultures coming together is going to be portrayed in the mural.

ing together is going to be portrayed in the mural.

"The reason that it is being done is to spread cultural awareness. This way everyone can see it and help it spread from there," said Alfaro.

He continued, "There is a white hand holding a tanned hand and next to it says "United" in both languages. It represents the two cultures coming together."

Senora Dolland said, "He (Alfaro) got the blended cultures, the culture of Richmond High School and the culture of his own background."

Along with Alfaro, the rest of his class and the Spanish 4 class will be working on the mural. They are both taught by Senora Dolland during 6th hour, and will be working on the mural.

"I know all of the students are excited for the painting," said Senora Dolland. She continued, "It is also a way to challenge the more advanced kids in the class and let them have some fun as well."

One of the excited students includes Stephanie Zube, sophomore in Spanish 4.

"I am excited to start painting. It should be fun," said Zube.

She too believes it is good the mural is being done.

"It is good because will show the different cultures and help people become more aware," said Zube.

Mrs. Cole, art teacher, will also be partly contributing to the drawing and painting of the mural.

"I am not sure how I will be helping yet. Later in the year some of my students will probably help paint too," said Mrs. Cole.

She continued, "I think that it's always good that students make a contribution to how the building looks. I think other students like to see their work as well. It makes a warmer atmosphere for the school with student work."

The mural will be painted in the Spanish hallway, or the 500 wing. It will painted on the large wall near Mr. Bloink's room, or room number 504.

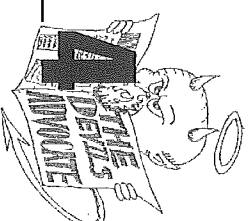
The mural will be funded by the school and partly by Senora Dolland.

See Your Face
Forever... and
Buy a Yearbook
Only

\$80

On This Day

December 14th, 1991—
University of Michigan football player Desmond Howard claims the Heisman Trophy for being the most outstanding player for the 1991 college football season.



The 'EAT' in team

RHS Sports teams get together for team dinners

A Heisman haircut

By: Olivia Kestler
Coordination Editor

There may be no 'I' in team, but there is an 'eat'.

Nothing bonds a team together like food and goofing off. For varsity sports players, team dinners provide the perfect opportunity.

Team dinners are typically at a team member's house hosted by their parent or parents.

Whether after practice or on the weekend, the players can take a break and get to know teammates and eat delicious food. While not always home-cooked, it is always ready and waiting for the team when they arrive.

"We normally have pizza and cheesy potatoes," said Leya Gonzalez, junior and a member of this year's cross country team. "Most of the team actually goes. We all try to make it," she said.

Her teammate Thomas Biafore, a sophomore, agreed.

"It's always really good, no matter what we're eating," he said. "It's always entertaining. There's never a dull moment."

Each team dinner is different. The food varies from a pizza order to a hot, home-cooked meal. Hosts make sure to cook extra to prepare for the team's large appetite.

"Our team eats a lot," said Biafore. "No one goes home hungry."

Members of the cross country team are not the only ones who enjoy sharing a meal with their fellow teammates.

Captain Gina Goeren of the varsity basketball team said team dinners were just planned out. A schedule is

"We're like a family. They bring us closer together."

- Thomas Biafore

passed out and teammates just pick a day.

"We actually get to bond and talk. It's a way to get away from practice," said Goeren.

It's like this for all teams.

"We grow closer," said Gonzalez. "It's bonding time with my teammates."

And she is not the only one to think so.

"We're like a family," said Biafore. "They bring us closer together."

Team dinners not only allow the team to bond, but a chance to relax with other people their age. Noelle Sheuer, a junior and a member of the bowling team, said the team is better off with team dinners than not.

"We bond more and our team becomes closer for matches," she said. "Everybody fits in, and we all do stuff together."

During a team dinner last year, the bowling team shared an unexpected experience.

"We had pop explode everywhere," said Sheuer. "It was not good."

Not every team has such an unfor-

gettable moment to remember, but each team enjoys the entertainment of team dinners throughout their sports season. Some teams are not as lucky.

The wrestling team has a large dinner with the entire team at the beginning of the season, but not during the season. Team members all have to maintain a certain weight class, which rules out consistent team dinners.

Each parent brings in a dish and the team and their parents all eat together after watching the state final match from the previous year and listening to guest speakers. Then they are all given the opportunity to eat much more than they will be able to during the sports season.

The team dinner is not the same for everyone, especially those who need to cut back and move down a weight class.

"It doesn't offer the people that cut much," said Adam Boyd, a sophomore and two-year wrestler. "A lot of people will just stay for the speakers and leave if they have to cut."

The entire team may not stay for the dinner, but the team is still able to come closer together as a team before training begins.

"It brings everyone together," said Boyd. "We're together a lot anyways, but it's a way to keep us closer."

Whether a team has only one team dinner or many throughout their season, they have the chance to bond and come together as a team outside of the sport, as teammates in the game and outside of it as well.

By: Jacob Thomas
Sports Editor

Gathering the attention of others is one of the aspects of laser lines.

Christian Chavez is now nationally-known for his support of Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel. Chavez decided to show his support by having a portrait of Heisman winner Johnny Manziel, otherwise known as Johnny Football, shaved with the Texas A&M logo in the back of his head. The act made the principal of Chavez's school to send him home.

Chavez's high school is located in Kerrville, Texas, the hometown of Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel. The story has been covered across the nation and by major news departments such as ABC and ESPN.

Advertisement for this haircut design idea began on a Facebook page of barber Rob Ferrel. Ferrel's offer included a haircut with a portrait of Heisman finalist Johnny Manziel. Seventeen year old Christian Chavez was the first to approach the barber for the haircut.

Chavez drove two hours from Kerrville to San Antonio, where the Ferrel's barber shop is located.

Ferrel has been locally known for haircuts such as the one of Johnny Manziel. He has previously given haircuts of San Antonio Spurs players during the NBA playoffs.

Principal Mrs. Michon enjoyed Chavez's unique haircut, and admired the ability of the barber.

"I actually think it's cool. It's unique, but I personally would not do it," said Mrs. Michon.

Mrs. Michon did not see a problem with Chavez's haircut in the school, but believed once the haircut becomes a distraction to others it must be removed.

"I would have no problem with it unless it was a distraction. If other kids were talking about it, or if it was distracting to others in a classroom, then I would have a problem with it," said Mrs. Michon.

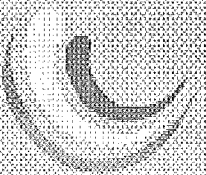
Chavez was removed from his school and was later sent home as a distraction. When asked why she believes students try to stick out and be different, Mrs. Michon responded by saying, "I think some of it is for attention, to be an individual or to show individualism.

People try to stick out from the norm of the school. To some it is a trend, and makes them feel accepted."

From a parenting perspective, Mrs. Michon said she wouldn't care if her kids had a haircut like Chavez's.

Chavez has a larger familiarity with Manziel than most people do. Chavez's brother played football with Manziel back in high school.

Christian Chavez once attended Tivy High School, the school his brother and Manziel attended, but has since transferred to Hill Country High. Chavez said he enjoyed the haircut, as well as his family, but would have it removed over the weekend to be able to go back to school.



Family Dentistry in Richmond!
Dr. Julie Cichoracki

Emergency Treatment
Teeth Whitening
Single Day Denture Repair

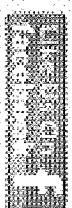
Dental Implants
Crowns • Bridges • Veneers
Preventive Dentistry

Julie Cichoracki, DDS
Daryl Perrino, DDS
Vincent Strockis, DDS

New Patients
Welcome

35000 Divison Rd.
Suite 4
Richmond, MI 48062

Mon-Thursdays
Kalamazoo

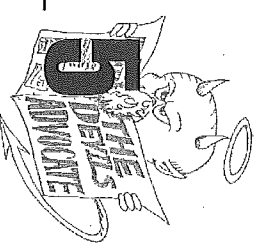


586-727-1100

Visit us online at www.fidulrichmond.com

The Blue Devil's Advocate

December 14, 2012



Tough schedule brings National attention

By: Logan Iskra
Opinion Editor

When the high school wrestling team received their schedule for this year, they knew they were in for a wild ride.

Wrestling Coach Brandon Day said that this schedule is "probably one of the toughest schedules in the nation."

Among the teams they must face are St. Edwards, Ohio, the number one ranked team in the nation, and The A ranking team St. Paris Graham, Ohio. They will wrestle St. Edwards twice and St. Paris Graham once.

Taking on wrestling teams of this caliber is an opportunity rarely given, especially to teams from a different state. Mr. Day is happy with this challenging new schedule.

"We want to make sure our students are great students and athletes, and the only way to do that is to challenge them," said Mr. Day. "I wouldn't

change a thing."

Mr. Day also said last year's schedule helped the wrestlers prepare. It taught them how to deal with adversity and gave them confidence that they could wrestle with anyone.

He believes that the team is up to the challenge this year. However, there are always changes to be made and challenges to overcome. To be state champions, like the Blue Devils, wrestlers must always strive to better themselves and their team.

Mr. Day said that in order to keep the state title, they will need to replace ten good seniors they lost and mature in several weight classes. Psychologically, Mr. Day said that the team will need to stay mentally tough and learn to deal with the increased adversity.

With a schedule like this, mental toughness is certainly needed. The wrestlers will be traveling as far from home as Canfield, Ohio to face these

teams on their home turf.

Facing the number one ranked team in the nation becomes even more difficult when they have the home field advantage. To reach their destination, the team will either use the Richmond Wrestling team van or the Foster Oil bus or both.

This was all made possible due to cooperation with the coaches of Medina and St. Paris Graham.

"We all have a great deal of respect for one another and have the same goals for our teams," said Mr. Day. Wrestler Jacob Gulette, senior, is excited to take on this new challenge.

"Our coaches worked to get the hardest schedules to prepare us," said Gulette. "We are going to have to work as hard as we can, every day, all year, but that is what we always do."

Matches of this level do not come around very often and present wrestlers with unique opportunities that

may otherwise not have been available for them. College scouts are likely to attend matches like those the wrestlers have scheduled.

"Our teams will get so many more kids on the radar. Our team will get scholarship money and we can send more people to college," said Gulette.

Win or lose in Ohio, this year will definitely be an unforgettable experience.

The wrestling team is thankful to the school for allowing them to take on these great teams. Mr. Day also wanted to inform the community that January 2 is Alumni Night.

RHS will be wrestling the Division 4 state champions, Hudson, and the Division 1 qualifiers, Temperance Bedford. All proceeds will go to the Richmond Lee School Special Education Fund.

Managing to help the team

By: Rosie Urban
Staff Writer

For every team here at RHS, there are plenty of people who do behind the scenes work that never get the recognition they deserve.

One of these positions is the team managers.

Team Managers are responsible for many things such as keeping track of different things throughout the game.

"Team managers are responsible for keeping track of stats, scores, where a person takes a shot from and whether or not they make it," said Melissa Resk, junior. "The sport that I am the team manager for is Girls

Basketball."

Being a team manager is sometimes very stressful and time consuming.

"We have to go to other schools to scout out the other teams," said Resk. "It's very time consuming, but worth it."

For Resk, being a team manager was not her first choice.

"I've been playing basketball for years," said Resk. "But, since I tore my ACL, I was unable to play this year, but I'm apart of the sport still."

For Boys Basketball, the team manager has a similar situation.

"I used to play, but in 10th grade I broke my leg," said Matt Salankiewicz, senior. "I just never got back into playing, but I still help out by being the

team manager."

The responsibilities for both girls and boys sports are similar, but have some differences.

"Basically, I set up the equipment for practice," said Salankiewicz. "I also run the clock."

Many always hear about the great achievements that the various sports teams accomplish, but people never hear about all the people who help them with it.

"I love the sport and I'm glad that I can still help," said Resk.

Team managers are an important part of most sports teams and help the teams with the different things they have to do.



Nicole Ward

Nickname: Cole

Age: 15

Grade: 10

Sport(s): Volleyball and Basketball
Favorite pump up song: Cruse By: Florida Georgia Line

Favorite Food: Chicken Fajitas

Favorite class: Biology honors with Mr. Roodbeen because he's a good teacher

Future Goals: Graduate, go to college, and enroll in med school.



Dan Fistler

Nickname: Fizzle

Age: 15

Grade: 10

Sport(s): Football, Basketball, Baseball
Favorite pump up song: We Ready For Ya'll By: Archie Eversole

Favorite food: Pancakes



Favorite class:

English with Mr. Murphy because he keeps us active.

Future goals:

Graduate, go to college, and get a good paying job.

Upcoming varsity sporting events

Varsity Wrestling

Saturday Dec. 15 @ Crosswell-Lexington

Friday Dec. 28 @ Medina HS

Saturday Dec. 29 @ Salem High School

Wednesday Jan. 02 Vs. Hudson Area High School

Girls Varsity Basketball

Saturday Dec. 15 @ Cardinal Mooney

Tuesday Dec. 18 @ Marine City

Friday Jan. 04 Vs. Inlay City

Tuesday Jan. 08 @ Algonac

Boys Varsity Basketball

Saturday Dec. 15 @ Cardinal Mooney

Tuesday Dec. 18 Vs. Marine City

Friday Dec. 21 Vs. Mt. Clemens

Friday Dec. 28 @ Armada

Friday Jan. 04 Vs. Inlay City

Tuesday Jan. 08 Vs. South Lake