

SAT: Changes impacting sophomores and freshmen

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in rather than changed unexpectedly.

It turns out that the switch from the ACT could not be grandfathered in, due to the lengths of the contracts between the College Board (publisher of the SAT) and the State of Michigan.

However, the new SAT will not be as different from the ACT as it used to be. Standardized testing is similar all around.

Dr. Gullen said, "The test isn't what's important. It's the knowledge and skills that these tests measure that is important. If we focus on student achievement, the test scores should take care of themselves!"

Devils and Arrows Collide at Assembly Dual

By: Emma Gillem
Staff Writer

As the middle of the year approaches, the Richmond Wrestling team wants to show the school what they are all about.

On Friday, January 30, RHS hosted a wrestling Assembly Dual, featuring New Lothrop and Lowell High School.

This event was set up by the high school wrestling coach, Coach Day, and other coaches because of the programs they coach and are are very successful.

It was a showcase for the wrestling team to show what they can do in front of the entire school.

The high school wrestling team got to show their skills to their peers at 2 during 6th hour, while the school

was on an activity schedule.

They wrestled against two other very good teams, Lowell who is ranked top 20 in the nation and also the returning Division 2 state

champs of 2014, and New Lothrop, who are the returning Division 4 State Champs of 2014.

It was not just the wrestlers who were featured during the event.

Anthony Hinajosa, a 215-pound senior wrestler, sang the National Anthem before the meet starts, and the Richmond cheerleaders followed by coming out and doing a routine right before the meet.

Also, before the wrestling meet, Mrs. Michon, the Richmond high school principal, had given recognition to kids whose writings were published in 'The Voice'. We the People, Scholastic Art Awards re-

cipients, and DECA which is for Mr. Brown's business team.

"This is very good for our entire school because the media had covered the school's new bond," Mr. Benoit, the high school Athletic Director, said. "It was better for the community, which is very important."

The Television broadcast network, State Champs, which covers high school sports programs, videotaped the wrestling meet live.

With the first time Richmond has hosted this, it made the school come together.

Mr. Benoit expressed this event as an all-star event. "It was a big event that I am glad that the entire school got to witness," he said.

With our school having to make as
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In Landmark Case, We the People Place Third at States

By: Beau Brockett, Jr.
Features Co-Editor

Grace Daniel stepped through the doors of the menacing committee room. "It all just came to life," she said. They were in Lansing. About to compete. This is it.

With the State Capitol Building and mid-morning sun blazing down on her through the windows, Ashley Reece felt the heat. She gazed at the vacant chairs they would soon be sitting on. Their desks would loom over their judges. And their audience: peers and parents.

That January morning was their declaration of dedication, paid off not on the court or field, but in a discussion of the Constitution and all its contents and connections.

We the People is a national competition for all high school students. In Richmond, it is part of the AP Government class, run by longtime teacher, Dr. Ladd. Merging daily lessons of court cases, politics and governmental theories and literature with essay building and essay ques-

tions, the group is given a detailed understanding of the historical document, from Articles to Amendments to interpretations.

Typically, a minimal team of 18 is the norm, with individuals divided into six units of three. Each unit has a generalized topic over one aspect of the Constitution and is assigned three essay topics. When competing, two of them are chosen to be read to a panel and then questions are given based on the writing.

This year, however, posed a challenge. Richmond went in with only a team of 11...

...and came out with a third place finish in the State Finals against top-tier, veteran schools.

To recuperate for low numbers, each student was placed into two units – twice the workload. But We the People is not a number's game.

It's one of intellect. With four fourth place finishes and two second place finishes in each unit division, Richmond was the one to say, 'Checkmate.'

A representative of each group has

given the rundown of their amazing semester.

Unit One:

Emily Fitzsimons, Natalie Wieber, Stephanie Woodruff

"As a whole, we were pretty

strong," said Stephanie Woodruff.

Her group's success laid in hammering practice simulations. Meeting every week to pose questions to each other, Unit One found that

their incorporation of governmental terms, court cases and modern examples was their strongest asset – notably, Classical Republicanism is

dead – in order to set themselves up for expert answers. Despite the stress, Woodruff

would definitely recommend We the People to anyone. "It may seem

scary, but it's not, though," she said. "You may feel a lot of pressure, but

it's worth it."

Aside from knowing the gears of government, the Constitution and rights inside out, she left the class with another real world application: confident, fluent public speaking.

Unit Two:

Trevor Barrett, Emily Fitzsimons, Stephanie Woodruff

Four months of dedication, motivation and teamwork can leave a lasting imprint. For Trevor Barrett, it was bittersweet. "Third place is something to be proud of," he said. "We did well as a unit. We were satisfied with how we did."

To think that in the beginning, the subjects "were like a foreign language," to Barrett.

However, with the guidance of Dr. Ladd and We the People alumni Matthew Bauman and Katie Townsend, his group was able to master the prompts with essay critiques, research and questioning.

through their questions were based off essays read, Barrett and his team never knew what to expect.

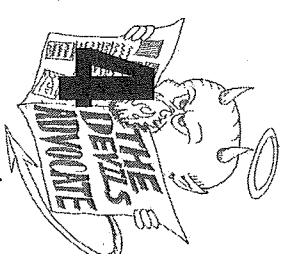
It was the harmony of differing viewpoints and specializations that he believed waltzed Unit Two into a second place win in their unit.
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On This Day

The first doughnut machine was made in Idaho on this day in 1926.

On Feb. 6, 1895, George Herman 'Babe' Ruth, baseball's great star, was born.

Since 2003, the first Friday of February has been designated National Wear Red Day by the American Heart Association.



We the People

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Unit Three:

Trevor Barrett, Sarah McNichol, Nick Thomas

In the four months prior to that January day, procrastination would have been too tempting for most students. Members like Sarah McNichol, however, put forth full commitment throughout.

"All the research we did really helped out," she said. The historical, modern and constitutional examples they found and used made the interaction with the judges very conversational and allowed for them to answer questions thoroughly. It paid off. The trio took fourth place in their unit.

Like Woodruff, the experience went far beyond the grade or the class. "It really helps for the future when we need to do public speaking," she said.

Unit Four:

Grace Daniel, Sarah McNichol, Emma Perry, Nick Thomas, Natalie Wieber

As reality set in for Grace Daniel, stepping through the committee room, so did her worry towards the judges.

It was anxiety that spurred from numerous practice sessions with Ladd, Bauman and Townsend. It came from weeks constructing the perfect speech. All in preparation for one moment.

It all led to success. Her unit found special strength within the essays, she said. Both were complimented on by every judge.

They did have an Achilles Heel, however: bringing in examples.

From the ups and downs, joys and pains, the junior had this to say: "Be confident with what you have to say when speaking because that's where you'll do your best."

Unit Five:

Grace Daniel, Hannah Dullea Paige Koehn, Emma Perry, Ashley Reece

Taking third in the state with only 11 students astounded Emma Perry. If Richmond was to have normal numbers, she said, they would have placed even higher. Each student could have focused exclusively on one unit.

Perry gives all units' speeches credit for the group's success, capturing the panels' attentions. Aside from "memorizing court cases and connecting," the frantic day went well.

Her team found effectiveness in Ashley Reece starting off the answers and rest following suit. The toughest aspect was thinking on the fly. For that, the judges were especially nerve-wracking. "It was intimidating watching the others go," she said.

Unit Six

Hannah Dullea, Paige Koehn, Ashley Reece

The recurrent theme seems to center on judges. As Ashley Reece puts it, they were either stiff and hard to talk to or (usually the older ones) were nice and made for better conversation.

Despite the sometimes tough crowd and their own nervous adrenaline (they were the first to go), Unit

Six was able to run the discussion smoothly with many modern examples, which fit perfectly with their topic. Unlike other units, hers did not split up jobs, but rather learned and worked collaboratively.

Her biggest regret was a lack of team interaction. "Maybe if we had argued [with each other] more," she said. "They seemed to like that." Recalling the room with its giant

windows casting the Capitol building on its empty chairs, Reece recommends the opportunity to anyone. "It's a different form of competition," she said. "It's a chance to show your knowledge. You have to show you actually know your stuff. It's a better application, I think."

Former Blue Devil Coaching Devils, Teaching Tigers

By: Katie Brown
Staff Writer

From the halls at Richmond High School to the buildings at Oakland University and now on to Armada High School, Chris Schroudt has kept education alive for himself and now many others.

Graduating from RHS in 2009, Schroudt started attending OU in the fall of 2009 and will graduate in May, 2015.

Schroudt, majoring in Education and History, is finishing his student teaching portion at AHS. Teaching 9th grade history and 11th grade world history, Schroudt is learning the ways of the classroom very quickly.

"I had a good idea that I wanted to be a teacher, but college verified it for me," Schroudt said. In high school, Schroudt's favorite subjects

were World History with Mr. Murphy and U.S History with Dr. Ladd and said that his love for those subjects has not changed.

When Schroudt graduates, he is not quite sure what grade or age level he wants to teach because he

"I had a good idea that I wanted to be a teacher, but college verified it for me."

- Chris Schroudt

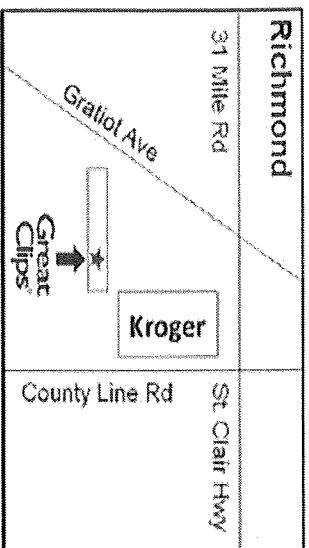
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