

The Blue Devil's Advocate

Winter warm up

By: **Natasha Woodruff**
Coordinating Editor

Winter or spring?

This winter has been more like spring, and it is showing no sign of stopping. As a result of this warm weather, snow accumulation has been far below average in much of Michigan.

Annually, Michigan has at least 30 or more inches of snow according to the Michigan Almanac. However this winter we have had only a few inches accumulate and they have melted within a couple days due to the warm temperature.

Is all this warm weather good?

We did not have a white Christmas, or a snowy New Year, but is the snow that important? We haven't been able to go sledding, make any snowmen or have any snow days. But is having a warm winter really so bad?

The warm winter we are having could be a good thing for many spring sports. If mild weather continues then the spring seasons will be much nicer than last year.

There is no waiting for snow to melt, so soccer fields and tennis courts can be used. There is no

waiting for the weather to get nice; spring sports can get outside right away. The sports hopefully will be able to jump right in and start practicing on the fields and courts that they will be using all season.

When it is nice outside, people are happier. It reminds them that spring and summer are getting nearer and school is that much closer to being done. People are in better moods and more eager to do things when it is sunny and nice outside.

Nicer weather helps puts people in better moods, and who wants it to be cold and snowy when spring is so close anyways? When weather is warmer, people want to be outside; they go out and have fun when it is sunny and nice, not when it is cold and icy or even slushy and muddy.

When it's sunny and warm, days seem to fly by and end faster. Whereas when it's cold and snowy, days seem to drag on forever, and it takes years to pass just one hour.

People who once loved winter are suddenly changing their opinion. Now, because winter had been so mild some snow lovers are unhappy. There have not had any snow days and it is already mid-February. There has not been any snow accumulation to go sledding or have any winter time fun. So the die hard winter fanatics have been let down this winter.

Many people don't like the warm winter because of

allergies, too. There have been days where the high is in the upper 40s, with abundant sunshine, and the next day it is cloudy in the lower 20s with a 29% chance of snow. All of the pollen in the air and uncertainty in the temperature have made winter-lovers suddenly join the anti-winter-this-year party. People are now realizing that the weather really is unpredictable.

The weather controls what we can do and when we can do it, and people need to realize that if we have a warm winter, there is really nothing we can do to change that. The only thing we can do is make the best of every situation and enjoy what we are given.

If that means soaking up the sun in the middle of January and February, then we should do it. We should take advantage of the sunshine, because not every winter will be as nice as this one.

People need to stop trying to control the weather and enjoy what weather we have, even if it is unusually warm in the middle of February. And next year? Who knows...

You can untag a photo, but not your reputation

By: **Samantha Schafer**
Opinion Editor

This is going to be an article about Facebook. Eventually, I promise.

crickets... *check watch*

My alter-ego is supposed to be here... But she's late.

Very late. *checks watch again*

I have nobody to argue with. That makes me sad.

taps foot Maybe I should go Facebook her... *checks Facebook*

She isn't there. *taps foot more fiercely* Fine! *flails arms* Let's get started without her.

There is a big controversy surrounding teenagers and Facebook—

*I'm here! I'm here! *huffs and puffs as if she were running**

You're here! Where have you been?

I was at my yoga class.

You went to a yoga class before you were supposed to argue with somebody?

*What's wrong with that! What are you trying to say? *smoke comes out of her ears**

I don't think they're working.

What gives you the right to—

Okay, as I was saying. Students are spending too much time on Facebook.

No we're not! I only log on a few times a day.

Yeah, they're definitely not working. Students are also posting inappropriate statuses and photos.

**glaring* Most of them are inside jokes! It's not my fault that other people don't understand them.*

And students aren't interacting traditionally.

Who cares? We're just going with the times.

Okay, since you have so much to say, why don't you tell us what you think about Facebook.

I think I will. Well, Facebook is a place where

the whole world can go to be connected. Say you know somebody who lives in London or Nigeria or wherever, but you're here in Richmond. How are you going to talk to that person? Facebook

Couldn't you just call them? You know, on that ancient device called a phone?

And how much would that cost? Facebook is free.

Touche. I'll give you that, but what about the things that teens post?

What about it? We aren't doing anything wrong.

I never said we were. All I meant was that grandma isn't the only person who might be shocked by some pictures.

My grandma isn't on Facebook. I don't need to worry about that.

Well, my grandma is on Facebook. I don't want her or anyone else thinking less of me because I act a certain way online. I might be talking to you, but my 800-something other friends don't understand you and me.

I don't care what those other people think of me. I don't need them to tell me who I am.

Again, I never said that. I'm just saying that image is important. The things you do on Facebook don't change who you are. However, they change the way other people see you. Think about all those things on your Facebook page that might be sketchy. Anybody can see that: your principal, employers, colleges.

They can't see that! My page is private.

But is it?

What's that supposed to mean?

I'm being mysterious so you really have to think about how you would feel if this happened.

Well, it worked. I think I'm going to go delete a few things.

leaves to go delete sketchy photos

Okay, I'm back.

Feeling better?

Yes. Now Grandma can move into the 21 century.

Make that 801-something friends.

Now I don't have to worry about my image. I'm a Facebook nun.

Do you really have 801 friends?

Yeah. Why?

Do you actually talk to that many people?

Umm, no...?

Then why are you friends with them?

I don't know. They sent a request, so I accepted it.

Alright, so let's see your friends list. *Logs onto their Facebook* Do you know John Doe?

No... Wait! I met him on vacation last year. He lives in, like, Vancouver.

Miami.

Whatever.

Your argument earlier was that Facebook is a good means for communication. Do you ever talk to Mr. Doe?

Why would I? I don't really know him.

So why is he your friend?

Because it's Facebook! Facebook friends and real friends are different.

So teens are losing their ability to interact traditionally?

Yes! I mean, no. I mean... it's different.

WHY!

Facebook isn't real. Okay! You're right. Facebook is bad for teens.

That's not true, either.

Make up your mind!

My mind is made up. You were right when you said that Facebook is a nice, inexpensive way to communicate. But it is not a good way to communicate with your friends. You can see them seven hours a day, five days a week. You don't need Facebook when you can talk to them at lunch or between classes.

So Facebook is both good and bad?

Yes. You just have to be careful.

Careful of what exactly?

The photos and statuses that you post.



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Editorials

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Black belt

By: Hunter Tousignant
Staff Writer

"I wonder if I should give this a try," I said eight years ago as I passed TNT Martial Arts in Romeo Michigan on a bright sunny day in May of 2004.

As I walked into TNT Martial Arts on my first day, I had a lot of mixed emotions. One was feeling nervous about how all this was going to play out.

But as the years went by, I went through all the karate testings for each specific belt or ranking and in 2009, I reached one of the top belts: the red stripe. At that moment, I knew I was just a year away from testing for my Black Belt.

A lot of things raced through my mind as I went through the beginning and middle of the 2010 year.

One of those things was planning on what I was going to do for my testing. The second issue was what I had to do to prepare for this great achievement.

There were a lot of techniques I had to memorize like "Palm Heel Strike," "Leopards Paw" and "Suto Strike". I memorized these by going to class every week to review and, of course, learn new moves or techniques. There were also 12 forms I had to memorize as well. Forms are demonstrating different moves that represent your belt level.

The months quickly went by as I practiced and trained for this challenge.

Finally, I made up my mind to test for my black belt on the night of September 25, 2010.

As the day flew by, I didn't know what to do with myself. I was shaking and over thinking on what I had to set my mind to. But as I stepped into that dojo, a whole other emo-

tion took over my body. I still was nervous, but I was very confident and more focused than ever on that one belt that I had been chasing for eight years.

After I stretched and got myself pumped up, I knew it was time for my test. As I bowed to my fellow students and to 10 of my Black Belt instructors, the testing was underway.

As I got started doing combinations down the floor, my butterflies went away, and I felt more relaxed as I did more techniques. After the different styles of techniques I demonstrated, I did two different kinds of weapons. One was the Kamas, a wooden stick with a sharp blade on the top. Another choice I picked for my weapons forms was the Bo, a long staff that is usually about six feet tall and is used to demonstrate different blocks and different strikes.

Then it came to one-steps and takedowns. One-steps are learning how to counter your partner's punch and displaying different blocks and counter attacks. Takedowns are like one-steps, but it is not just a block and a counter strike back; it is a way to control or disarm your opponent.

On this section, I thought I did pretty well. I had all 12 takedowns down cold, but I was struggling with my one-steps because there are so many of them and the more tired you get the less you can think of many different techniques and blocks to demonstrate. I still completed the sets.

Finally, the last stage was sparring and sparring is a form of training that is kind of free-style and a contact segment between your partners.

By now, I was worn out and tired, but I had a feeling that I should keep going. As I went through the rough sparring stage against five other Black Belts, there were a lot of hard

hits, and it was a major struggle keeping my hands up.

As the sparring came to an end, I felt like I was going to fall over, but I kept myself up and running because my heart, said, "Keep on going and don't stop."

Then it came time to do board breaking. I used the rest of my strength to break five boards and wrestled with my top instructor to break the final board.

Just as I broke the final board, the testing was completed. After an hour-and-a-half of stamina and hard work, I accomplished my dream.

Finally, it was time for the ceremony. "Hunter Tousignant, Black Belt," said my master instructors, Sir and Ma'am (Mr. and Mrs. Troia). As I heard my name, emotions of joy and accomplishment came over me.

After I earned my Black Belt on that September night, I realized my time with the Martial Arts helped me out with several of things. It helped me with discipline, confidence on what I know and what I have learned and of course my future.

Now, I help teach others to stay with the martial arts and assist them on their paths. I have become a leader.

Looking back at that day in May of 2004, as I looked at the dojo. I couldn't have imagined all the great accomplishments and paths I would complete through my many years with the Martial Arts.

Top 10 Commercials of 2011

1. Volkswagen: The Force
2. Chrysler: Imported from Detroit
3. Motorola: Xoom
4. Volkswagen: Beetle
5. Cars.com: Car talk
6. Chrysler: Man's last stand
7. Bridgestone: Carma
8. Best Buy: Bieber 6G fever
9. Pepsi Max: I want her Pepsi Max
10. Brisk: Eminem: that's why I don't do commercials

Source: textweb.com



Commercials score a touchdown

By: Emily Swantek
Staff Writer

Do people watch the SuperBowl for the game or for the commercials?

Personally, I enjoy watching football, but during the SuperBowl, I also watch commercials.

There are comical ones, inspirational ones and ones that wasted \$2 million on airing, Go Daddy, for example.

Let's take a recap on some of them from this year.

The M&M's commercial was probably the best this year. For those of you who missed it because you were doing last minute homework, or stuffing your face, I recommend YouTubing it. Let's just say it involves the song

"Sexy and I Know it" by LMFAO.

Both Doritos commercials were pretty funny as usual, whether it was the stealthy baby who stole the bag from the mischievous child, or the dog that bribes the man with the bag of Doritos.

Chevy got pretty creative this year. The 2012 apocalypse was pretty cool, until they slammed Ford at the end. If you're going to put down another car company, make sure it's foreign.

And Chrysler's Halftime America commercial hit home with us Michiganders.

We have experienced first-hand the effects of the recession with the automobile industry. Clint Eastwood was right: we pulled through the first half because we are a tough nation, but we still need to get through the second half.

Every year there are always companies that you always wonder, why would they pay millions of dollars to air a lousy commercial?

The company that comes to my mind is GoDaddy.com. They never make sense and are usually very scandalous, not to mention the Superbowl is watched by viewers of all ages.

This year's commercials seemed to have a provocative theme within them, between GoDaddy.com, M&M, and Kim Kardashian in Sketchers Shape-ups Shoes.

Sure it's funny for us, but step into a parent's shoes.

Picture a family consisting of a mother and father with- let's say- kids in second and fourth grade. The M&M commercial comes on and they hear the song start playing. The next day, they start singing the song and "wiggling."

They don't know what the song means. They just know that it's funny to see M&Ms dancing "naked."

Is this the message we want to send to future generations?

Now I'm not saying that the SuperBowl commercials are bad and should be banned, and the world is going to end. But a company can make a commercial humorous without being provocative.

Hopefully that happens next year.

Total Refrigeration LLC

Heating and cooling

Jerry Schafer

sales, service and installation

24 hour service/ free estimates

RichmondMi48062

810-305-1025

jerryschafer@comcast.net

Entertainment



Fashion Buzz! Get in style for Spring!

By Lizzie Urban
Staff Writer

Fashion changes from time to time. The latest fashion trends can go in and out within a few months. Some stay for awhile, and others storm back from decades before.

At RHS, some students are very into the newest fashion ideas before anyone else is. They take the new trends and put their own spin on them.

Katie Radziwon, junior, said, "Colorful is the way to go. I want to stick out, especially in my colorful tights."

Other students take a quieter approach. Breanna Farnam, sophomore, said, "Pastels are pretty, because they have subtle elegance. Lace is nice because it has regality."

Color has a big influence on many designs, and how to match things. Bold colors have become a major influence on a lot of different styles.

"Brown, army green, navy blue, and a crème color always look good by themselves, or matched together. I like to do light pink with brown," said Courtney Russell, junior

Floral print has been growing in style for awhile and is still going strong. Dresses, skirts, pants, shirts and even shoes have blossomed

with the growing fashion design.

Faux leather has returned in forms of jackets, boots and belts.

"My leather jacket is my signature. I love to wear it with almost everything. It's part of my rockabilly style. I get so many of my clothes from Kohl's. It's my favorite store," said Radziwon.

Bird designs have flown into the industry, taking a perch on clothing and also jewelry.

Other designs keep strong through the years. "I like flowers and stripes. I like to wear lace," said Russell. "I think everyone should have tall leather boots. Brown leather boots are my favorite piece."

Jeans are always in fashion, but the actual cut changes. Other styles can include the color, fit and even texture of the pants

"Everyone needs a pair of All-American blue jeans," said Farnam.

Online shopping has hit the market and brought a new way of shopping to the business. Stores like Forever 21, Deb, Kohl's, JC Penny and others have online shopping options that bring shopping into your home. But for one student, going to the store is still a thing to do.

"I like to shop at Forever 21 because they have actually nice items and they are affordable," said Farnam.

RHS's favorite Apps

By Hannah Townsend
News Editor

Smartphones and iPods are popping up everywhere.

And what makes those the best is their apps. With the ability to stay entertained, connect with friends and save money, RHS students have made the most of their smartphone apps.

The newest craze sweeping the school is the game Temple Run.

After costing around 99 cents, the app is currently free in the Apple App Store.

Junior Alexis Fraley, whose favorite app is that, said, "Temple Run is running through the jungle, not trying to get eaten by monkeys or falling off the ledge."

Freshman Brad Pedri said Temple Run is also his favorite because it is fun. His high score is around 13 million points, and he says the key doing well is to just play a lot.

Pedri said, "I used to play Temple Run a few times a day. Now I play it about once a week."

A favorite for smartphones and iPods is the game Angry Birds.

The objective of Angry Birds is to sling-shot cartoon birds through the air to knock green, egg-stealing birds off of a structure.

Over 200 million copies of the app have been downloaded according to statspotting.com, and there are other versions designed for smartphones.

Senior Melinda Colombo, owner of an Ally smartphone from Verizon, said, "It's addicting. Once you start, you have to get to the next level."

Words with Friends, an app similar to the board game Scrabble, is another popular app.

Senior Travis Toia, who considers himself good at the game, said the game is one of his favorites and he plays everyday. He says he plays Words with Friends against everyone and has won over 100 games.

He has a strategy for winning. Toia said, "I go for the triple words."

So far, he has received benefits from the game.

Good Stuff! Key Club steps up High Schoolers make over 100 dolls for children who are severely ill. RMS collaborates and takes pride.

By: Jacob Marlow
Staff Writer

Many children at the Children's Hospital are going to be receiving a nice gift.

Maybe it is not the most expensive gift, but it a gift worth giving.

Those children will be receiving hand-made cloth dolls from Key Club members and RMS students in Builders Club.

"The idea came from Dr. Hiller, the former curriculum director at RHS," said Mr. Murphy, who is the adviser of Key Club.

Mr. Murphy went on to say they are going on their fifth year of making these dolls.

"This year is a special year to make these dolls because we have different color fabrics to use other than the plain old white that we used in the previous years," said Mr. Murphy.

Since there are many sick children at Children's Hospital, many dolls must be made.

It takes about five to ten minutes to cut out the dolls and pin the fabric onto the paper dolls.

Jake Mathis, freshman, said the club has made up to 100 dolls since they've began in mid-January.

As long as they get made and delivered to the hospital, everyone will be happy.

Adam Mayes, sophomore, a two-year Key Clubber, said, "I like the idea of making the dolls because it puts a little comfort into their life and also gives them something to play with."

Key Clubbers are not the only ones working on the dolls.

The RMS Builders Club helped stuff the dolls with cotton.

With nine Key Clubbers and around 15 Builders Club members, it took one day after school to stuff over 100 dolls.

After the dolls were stuffed, they were given to a group of women who sew them shut and sew the clothes onto the dolls as well.

From start to finish it takes about three to four months for all the dolls to be finished and sent over to Children's Hospital.

The dolls are going to be used by the doctors to show children where their illness is located and where their potential life-saving surgery will happen.

Top iPhone Apps of 2011

1. Angry Birds
2. Fruit Ninja
3. Angry Birds Seasons
4. Cut the Rope
5. Tiny Wings

Source: iTunes Rewind in 2011

Top 5 Downloads

1. "Set fire to the rain," Adele
2. "Stronger (What doesn't Kill you)" by Kelly Clarkson
3. "We found love," Rihanna featuring Calvin Harris
4. "Good feeling" by Flo Rida
5. "Turn me on" by David Guetta featuring Nikki Minaj

Source: www.musicstop.org

Features

February 23, 2012



Entertainment

Get your math on

New calculators hope to add up to improve results

By: Krystal Geisler
Staff Writer

Black and yellow, black and yellow, black and yellow hits the desks of math students all throughout RHS. For the first time RHS has sets of graphing calculators for the use of students during class. Once students get into math classes such as Algebra, Trigonometry, and Calculus a graphing calculator is required and not all students and their families have the money to spend \$100 or more on a calculator.

This past school year is the first year that the school administration decided to purchase sets of graphing calculators for the use of students in advanced math classes.

Math teachers who teach advanced math classes share the 109 calculators that were purchased.

The sharing is possible because of different classes during different hours.

"It's something that we needed to do for many years. We need to provide the opportunity for students," said Principal Mr. Olsen. He added that RHS un-



Ashley Barrett uses one of the new calculators.

derperforms on standardized tests in the math department, and he is hoping these new calculators will help. Students are happy with the new calculators. "The new calculators have really helped my scores increase because there are some problems that I can only do with a scientific calculator," said senior Kim Boyd.

The teachers are able display on projectors a big calculator showing exactly what they are doing and how to do it.

"It's more helpful because you are more likely to know what you are doing and more likely to remember how to do it when you can practice on the same calculator that the teacher is showing you on," said Boyd.

Senior Luke Malburg agreed, "It is really a good resource that has helped my grades and makes me understand better."

Sophomore Nick Ottenbacher is in geometry, and he said he uses the class calculator every day in class. "It

makes work in class a lot easier because I have a calculator to use, but it makes homework much harder because I don't have a calculator to use at home," said Ottenbacher.

He added that his grades have increased to A's from B's last year.

The new calculators not only help the students and the way that they perform, but also help the teachers.

"Now that everyone has the same calculator, it makes activities easier," said Mr. Germain.

Mrs. Vanham agreed, "The calculators allow us to approach lessons in various manners, making it easier to reach more students. Some students understand better by looking at the graphical representation of a function, while others learn better by looking at the equation of the function. With the calculators, both learning styles can now be addressed," said Mrs. Vanham.

She also said she uses the calculator projection all the time, and it helps lead students through examples. The graphing calculators were about \$12,000, and that money came out of the yearly school budget bonds; they were bought from the Texas Instrument company all at once.

"Everyone has an opportunity to use and learn how to use them," said Mr. Olsen. He added that RHS has needed the calculators to help in the future to increase math scores.

Mrs. Vanham believes they help. "I believe they have helped. This is the first year that my Algebra 1 students have not shied away from equations with fractions in them. They also have been able to check their personal graph of a line against the calculator," said Mrs. Vanham.

Mrs. Vanham is hoping the calculators will help students on the ACT because now every student will have access to a scientific calculator to increase scores.

Everyone is hoping that this addition will help the school get test scores where they need to be, while helping students along the way.

Social Media: Does it change how we interact?!

By: Brett Brincefield
Staff Writer

People in today's society spend more time on the Internet than anywhere else. But where do most spend their time on the Internet though? The answer is on social media pages.

Social media is one of many ways that people interact and get to know and meet people all over the world. For some, it's for educational or business related purposes; others prefer to use it as a source of relaxation and socializing.

Jennifer Lafata, freshman, uses Facebook, Form Spring and Tumblr. She mainly uses these social media sites for talking to friends and other people.

"Tumblr is a blogging and picture site. You can look up pictures and quotes and if you like them, you can reblog them," she said. Her favorite quote she said was, "The world was a canvas."

One of her friends reblogged it, and so did she. To her it was referring to art and that you can think of anything in the world.

"Form Spring is a question site, and usually I just follow friends from Facebook," she added. Some questions

"Tumblr is a blogging and picture site. You can look up pic-

tures and quotes and if you like them, you can reblog them."
- Jennifer LaFata

she said that she was asked were: Are you in a relationship and Do I like tattoos?

Dionte Hampton likes to use Youtube to make videos of game plays. He usually makes game plays of Battlefield 2 and 3, Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3 and some Nintendo 64 games. "I usually make walkthroughs and game plays of online gaming matches of up to 12 people," he said.

Haley Johnson only uses Facebook, but unlike most people, she mainly just makes status updates.

Johnson usually makes silly updates. She doesn't like to put anything too personal. One of her random updates was, "Ouch... that's hot!!!" This refers to Alajiah Bashi telling her a curling iron was not on, but was when she grabbed it.

Johnson also feels the Facebook changes are annoying, but might be for the best. Charlie Urban uses Facebook, MySpace, Youtube, Twitter and Stumble Upon. For

Charlie, he uses these sites in order to message friends, gather info on artists and musicians. He follows artists such as My Chemical Romance, AFI, Smashing Pumpkins and their lead singer Billy Corgan. Artists would be

Alec Parde, whose art consists of water col-

normally discuss music and talk about humor or the internet.

Mr. Rineer uses Twitter to follow authors and former professors.

An author Mr. Rineer follows is Neil Gaimen who has 20 novels out and is a graphic novelist.

One of his former professors was a food critic and doesn't tweet anymore.

He was inspired by Professor Schimmer to experiment with social media.

He also goes on Goodreads.com, which is a social media site for book lovers to discuss different books they like.

Mrs. Michon has a Facebook account that she uses for more personal reasons.

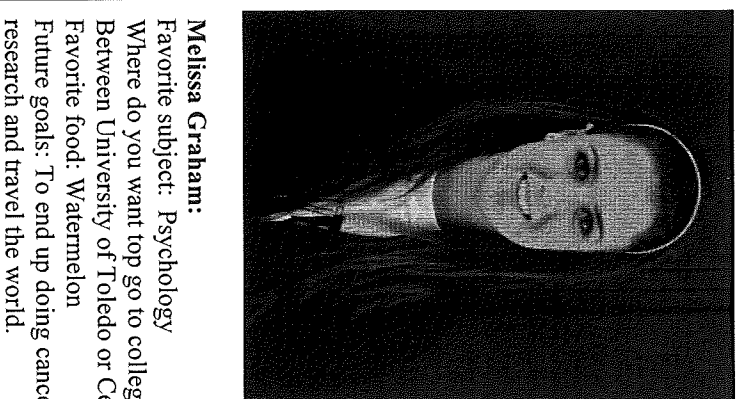
She also happens to use Skype as a business tool and has used it during school for conferences or talking to parents outside of Richmond.

She usually sends pictures of places she's been like for New Years or other holidays.

She also just uses it to talk to her niece in Savannah, Georgia.

Skype for Mrs. Michon is usually used to talk to parents who are wondering how their kids grades or progress is, most of these parents, are usually parents who are in the military and not in Richmond at the time being.

She has even talked to people in Lansing who deal with the educational laws or people who work in the Grant Department.



Student of the Month

Melissa Graham:

Favorite subject: Psychology

Where do you want top go to college?:

Between University of Toledo or Central

Favorite food: Watermelon

Future goals: To end up doing cancer research and travel the world.



Luke Malburg:

Favorite Subject: Yearbook

Where do you want to go to college?:

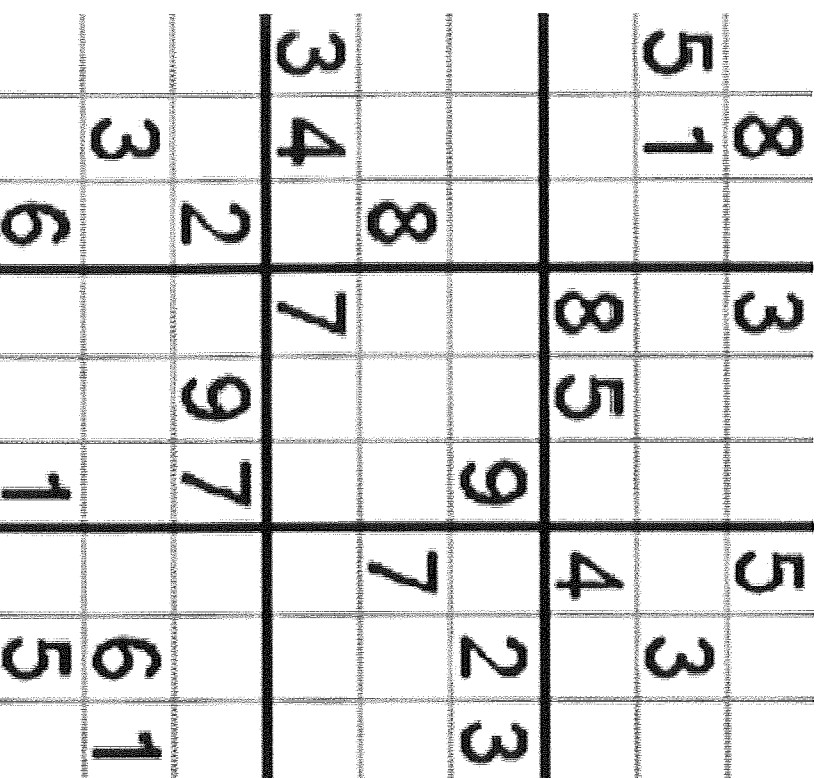
MSU

Favorite food?: airheads


Future goals?: To be in a movie



Puzzles!



H P W I P G K I S S
 C U O R Z S R W N D
 R B B I D H H E L D
 A I N S F A M O E A
 M N I H Q M G U A N
 R O A S P R I N G U
 D S R E V O L C X H
 L E P R A C H A U N
 Y K C U L K H P X I
 I K A R N F P H A F

- | | | |
|---------|------------|---|
| Clovers | Kiss | Shamrock |
| Irish | March | |
| Lucky | Rainbow |  |
| Pub | Green | |
| Spring | Leprechaun | |
| Gold | Mug | |

HOROSCOPES

By: Jessica Billrey and Lizzie Urban

AQUARIUS: January 21 - February 19

You've been staying home a lot and renting romantic comedies. Don't make it another lonely day, call up some friends to join you, you're not the only one bored and by themselves.

Your Romantic Movie: *The Vow*, never lose hope.

PISCES: February 20 - March 20

Asking someone to be yours is nerve-racking. While hoping they say yes, stay busy by planning your perfect date. Your hard work will pay off in the end.

Your Romantic Movie: *The Notebook*, keep memories close.

ARIES: March 21 - April 20

This week you'll find a new activity you can't stay away from. But don't forget to pay attention to the new special someone in your life.

Your Romantic Movie: *Dear John*, send a letter.

TAURUS: April 21 - May 21

You've got a new relationship but you've been ignoring your other friends. Make sure to spend quality time with all of them.

Your Romantic Movie: *Up*, find your co-pilot.

GEMINI: May 22 - June 21

Trying to find a date may be a struggle, but you will be surprised at how many people want you for theirs. Your ambition has gotten you far lately, keep it up. Something good is coming your way.

Your Romantic Movie: *The Last Song*, everything happens for a reason.

CANCER: June 22 - July 23

The things that happen today are what create your future. Regretting the past won't change today, so live for now and have fun. You're young, enjoy every moment and take every opportunity you can.

Your romantic movie: *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*, be a lover not a fighter.

LEO: July 24 - August 23

Take a break from the search of a special someone. Come back to more practical things and set aside time to focus on other areas in your life.

Your Romantic Movie: *Breaking Dawn*: you can hear the bells.

VIRGO: August 24 - September 23

You've had your eye on someone for quite awhile. It looks like the finally might be taking a hint. Take a chance and talk to them more.

Your Romantic Movie: *Leap Year*, jump on it.

LIBRA: September 24 - October 23

Although you've been lucky enough to avoid the drama that comes with any relationship, it looks like it's time to put yourself out there. You'll be surprised about what happens.

Your Romantic Movie: *Music and Lyrics*, write about it.

SCORPIO: October 24 - November 22

When you look back on your choices this year, don't regret anything. Apologize to anyone you might have hurt and take the time to mend any broken friendships. You'll want to share some exciting news with this person too.

Your Romantic Movie: *27 Dresses*, try on a few more.

SAGITTARIUS: November 23 - December 21

Your love life may be rocky now, but give it time and everything will fall into place. A good luck streak will come your way and you'll be on cloud 9. Being patients is the key.

Your romantic movie: *Something Borrowed*, always say how you feel.

CAPRICORN: December 22 - January 20

Friends mean the world to you, and you have needed them more than ever lately. While they give you advice on your love life, you still wondering what else you can do to make it work. Playing hard to get is the best solution. In the end everything will be okay, if it's not okay, then it's not the end.

Your romantic movie: *Just Go With It*, it's never too late for something new.

Class Spotlight



Living in the world of technology

By **Samantha Schafer**
Staff Writer

"Technology is kind of what the world is about right now, and if you don't keep up, you're going to fall behind," Sarah Moon, a senior at RHS, said.

Moon is taking a class called MOUS I, a class committed to teaching students about new technology. They learn about topics such as Microsoft programs, virtual business management and world technology.

Moon already had a basic understanding of some programs, but she said the class has improved her knowledge.

Currently, the class is learning about Microsoft PowerPoint. This program is designed to make constructing a presentation quicker, easier and more effective. They are learning from a specific book for the program that provides them with directions for assignments. Moon said she thinks learning about this program will help her with presentations when she is in college.

She said the programs she is learning now will help her compose formal documents like essays or resumes. "It's going to help me with college because I'm going to be doing a lot of papers," Moon said.

The class stays up-to-date with Course Cast. Course Cast (coursecast.course.com) is a technology-based website that shows the most modern technology. "I think my favorite part is reading articles on Course Cast because it's all real world stuff," Moon said.

Moon read a specific article about how Apple Industries affect our economy. "You can apply it to life rather than figuring out in a bad way, like getting a bad product," Moon said.

In the recent semester, Moon and her classmates also learned about virtual business management.

"It was a game that we played where we owned a business. We got to choose employees, what products to sell and how to make them work together so the business was successful," Moon said.

Moon's business was a supermarket.

The class also studied hazards in the work place and effective ways to safely overcome obstacles they present. One obstacle might be employees. "We learned that you have to keep your employees happy while managing the market. Without employees, you don't really have a business," Moon said. Moon learned that she had to regulate her employees better after a previous assignment where she hired too many employees. Unfortunately, Moon's business went under.

In the upcoming semester, MOUS I students will be learning about another Microsoft program called Excel as well as doing other group projects.

Moon said, "I would definitely recommend MOUS I to anyone looking for something that will help them later in life."

Student takes step in the right direction for business future

By: **Katie Szczesniak**
Staff Writer

Watching clips of *The Apprentice* in class seems like a questionable activity to some teachers, but not for business teacher Mr. Brown.

Info videos and watching the Apprentice are some of the activities that Mr. Brown uses to help demonstrate marketing techniques. Those activities give students a visual concept on how marketing works.

Junior Kyle Soldan is currently enrolled in the business class marketing, taught by Mr. Brown.

When Soldan graduates, he plans to go into the accounting business.

"This class makes me better aware of how the business world actually works," said Soldan.

In marketing class, students learn a wide variety of things that help prepare them for their futures in the business world.

"Students learn a variety a basic business knowledge," said Mr. Brown.

Some of the basic business knowledge students learn consist of pricing, advertising, proper etiquette and attire and much more.

"This class benefits students wanting to go into business in college because they get prior knowledge on the material," said Mr. Brown.

Soldan said the most important thing he has learned is that the market is bigger than he actually thought and that starting a business is harder than he originally thought.

Soldan thinks this class will benefit him because the new concepts should help him in college and he wants to start an accounting business in the future, therefore this class gives him prior knowledge on how to start a business.

The most challenging part of marketing class for Soldan is keeping his grade up, but he does enjoy the class. Soldan's favorite part of the class is the teacher.

Marketing is helping prepare students for their future after high school.

Health occupations class at Pankow helps RHS junior prepare for future

By **Natasha Woodruff**
Staff Writer

Deciding what career to pursue has led Kelli Gusumano to Pankow and their health and occupations class that they offer.

Kelli Gusumano, junior, currently attends Pankow, a learning center where students can learn specific skills and take classes that pertain to specific careers.

Gusumano is taking a health occupations class that she attends for two hours every day.

"We learn different medical terminology along with anatomy," Gusumano said. "We work on packets every chapter too."

Gusumano is considering pursuing a career in the medical field; the class helps her to get ready for the future.

"I am thinking about being a nurse, but I'm not sure yet," Gusumano said. "I like to help people, and I like to help make people better. So I wanted to see what the medical field was like, and see if I wanted to go into that kind of career."

This class provides her with a better understanding of the medical field and hands on experience in the medical field.

"We learn a lot about terminology and take a lot of notes, along with a lot of hands-on stuff that prepares us for the real medical field," said Gusumano.

"We usually make flash cards for our vocab words. One of the words that I have learned is melano, which means black," said Gusumano. A typical day in the health occupations class consists of reviewing the lesson from the day before and doing class work, which usually consists of weighing and measuring people, along with taking their blood pressure, and checking their ears. They also learn how to help people in and out of bed if they need assistance, along with how to move the bed around.

"The class isn't small, it's about 25 kids, but I can get individual help if needed," said Gusumano. We also have to study a lot of what we learn, but I barley every get homework.

"Pankow can be hard," Gusumano said, "but I am glad that I am taking a class there, it is preparing me for a real career in the medical field."

Hallman learns about medicine

By: **Jessica Bilibrey**
Staff Writer

Amanda Hallmann, senior at RHS, attends Pankow each day, for a medical assisting class. She leaves everyday after first hour and stays there for two hours.

Though Hallmann does not plan on going into the medical field, she took the class for the experience, to learn the basics in case they are needed in the future.

She wanted to take medical assisting to see

what it was all about and what happened in the medical field, to see if that may be something she'd like to do in the future.

If not, then she can take what she learned and use it in life.

"We do a lot of hands-on activities," said Hallmann. For Hallmann the class is fun and easy to understand. She enjoys learning what nurses and doctors do everyday to help others.

"We learned how to wrap an injury properly and how to make a cast for a broken bone, we learned what happens in surgery and we also learned how to insert an I.V.," said Hallmann.

Though Hallmann is not a big fan of blood, she enjoyed learning the basics needed for medical assisting. By furthering her education at Pankow, she now has a back-up plan if she ever wanted to go into the medical field.

"In case of an emergency or if I get in a situation I'll have and idea on how to assess the situation," said Hallmann.

"Even though I'm not a big fan of blood and injuries, I still liked experiencing everything," she added.

"I'm really glad I chose to take the class; it's fun and I'll need to know these things for the future," said Hallmann.

If you want to enter the medical field some day, then the class can be helpful.

By learning the basics, the experience will help learners with college classes.

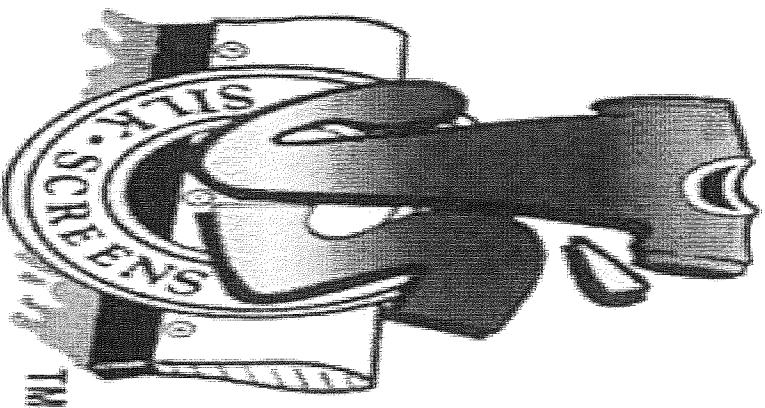
By going to Pankow, it's just the first step to having a great career.

No matter what Hallmann chooses as her future career, she will always have the things she learned in medical assisting.

Class Spotlight

February 23, 2012

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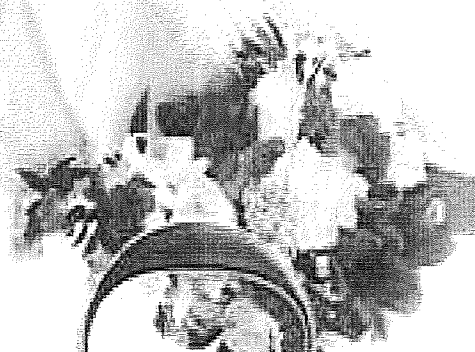
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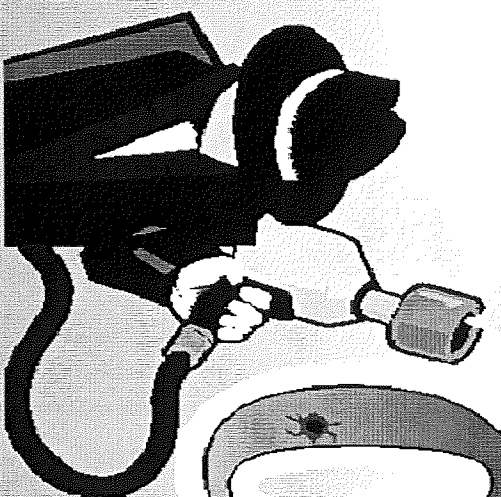
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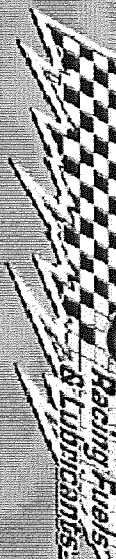
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