

VanHove Rides the Tide Back to MSU

By: **Haleigh Beedon**
Features Co-Editor

Ever since Freshman Year, when she started exploring college options, senior Olivia VanHove, has wanted to see what is outside the glorious town of Richmond.

VanHove is trying to decide on the best college in order to fulfill her dreams of becoming a physician's assistant.

Despite the six schools she was accepted into, two very specific schools stuck out to VanHove: Michigan State University and the University of Alabama.

At first, VanHove was dead set on going to the University of Alabama.

She thought leaving the state would be a good opportunity for her. A new experience would be a good change in her life, so she was dead set on leaving Michigan.

Then, her dreams were fulfilled and everything changed.

VanHove's dream of being accepted into Michigan State University came true.

"It was really exciting to get that letter because I've always wanted to go there," VanHove said. "But, it was also very stressful because I knew I had to make a decision."

Ever since fourth grade, she has been a diehard Spartans fan and always dreamed of going to school because she looked up to her sister, Katie. Her sister is 10 years older than VanHove, and she wanted to follow in her footsteps and attend

MSU.

VanHove had a personal conflict: What school would she attend?

"This decision was the hardest one I've ever had to make," VanHove said. "I keep making pros and cons lists to help."

A benefit of her staying in Michigan is that she'll be able to come home more often, her friends could visit her, and she's closer to things that are familiar to her.

It would be easier for her to stay home, also, because she wouldn't have to entirely fend for herself in a completely new place. She'll be closer to her family than if she moved down south.

VanHove's mom also helped persuade her. Her mom loves MSU and it would be easier to let her leave for MSU rather than moving to a different state.

Being closer to home and being able to come back is one thing that drew VanHove to MSU even more. Alabama has a great program that VanHove is interested in, but so does MSU.

Physician assistant programs are better at bigger universities. For about two years, this is the career VanHove has been interested in.

VanHove said, "Ever since Mrs. Aronson got sick I've wanted to do this because they can make or break your experience in a hospital."

Also, VanHove wants to become a physician's assistant because she wants the opportunity to help people.

There are some school activities VanHove wants to be involved in.

She really wants to be a part of a sorority. She

thinks that joining a sorority will be a good way to get more involved and be able to have different opportunities and experienced.

"I think it's going to be a good chance to make friends," VanHove said.

Just like here at RHS, VanHove wants to work with the coach of either the basketball or football teams and be the team's right hand man.

VanHove started off by first helping the former basketball coach, Coach Barnes, so when the new coach, Coach Presnell, started, he asked the guys who would be good to help. They all recommended VanHove.

At MSU, VanHove plans on emailing the athletic board and seeing how she can get involved.

She hopes she'll be able to give other coaches the same help she did to Coach Presnell here at RHS.

"I enjoy helping people because I know it creates more stress for them and it gives me something to do," VanHove said.

In less than six months, VanHove will be out on her own starting her new life as a college student.

"I'm most excited about being able to start growing up and becoming more responsible," VanHove said. "I can't wait to make new friends and have memories that I won't forget."

Becoming a Teacher: Ms. Ladd's Story

By: **Ana Kinkela**
Staff Writer

Teaching, it is a job that requires a lot of guts and commitment. It's a fearsome journey

through self-exploration, and a test of one's own dreams. It's not always easy to make it through the trials required to attain the job.

And for this aspiring teacher, the journey to teaching was one giant sprint.

After five years at Baker College, Amanda Ladd has begun student teaching kids at RHS.

Ladd's journey on becoming an English teacher began 13 years ago, when she was asked to be a coach. At first, Ladd had no interest in working with kids. But then she realized after becoming a coach she wanted to.

It was a decision she made that would change her life. Because of that, she now has goals and ambitions as a teacher. Ladd wants to be a great teacher for her students, and has one very important goal.

"I hope over all, my students learn to be thinkers, and learn the understanding for what they're doing," Ladd said. Like a life lesson, something that can and will follow them throughout life, Ladd has had lots of help throughout becoming a teacher. Her father Mark Ladd is a teacher himself at RHS. Miss Ladd's mother, Mary, has helped her tremendously in more of a personal level, by influenc-

ing her with being a mother to a little boy, which has helped in the long run with high school students and working with them as well.

Miss Ladd's love for students and hoping to leave a mark on them, with learning, makes her one ambitious teacher we have on our hands.

"Learning the knowledge and, hopefully teaching the students that, and them gaining the information they need for their next step," Miss Ladd said.

Her father Mr. Ladd is a great advocate for her, giving her ideas and tools she should use in the classroom to better herself and to help her students as well.

"I've worked with him a lot. I don't mind it/ I like working with him; we have lots of fun, and he's there

for me to pick information from when I need it," Ladd said. Ladd decided to teach at RHS because she didn't live too far, and she coaches here, so she thought, why not join them with their academics. She is very happy to be teaching us RHS kids.

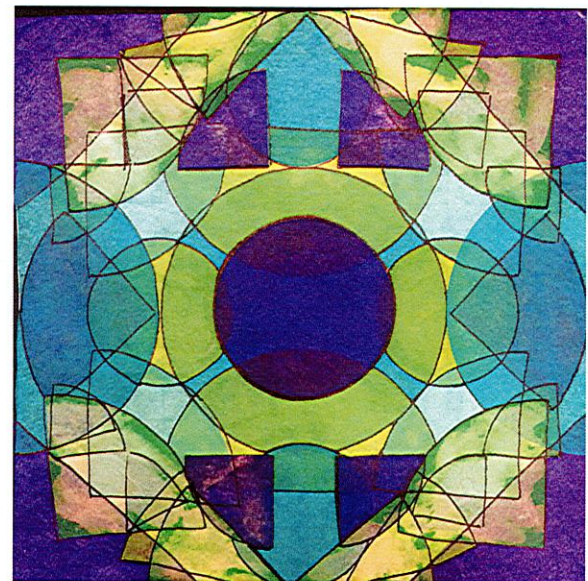
"Oh yes, I like our kids here. They are a lot of fun to teach in class and they teach me a lot as well," Ladd said.

Sadly Ladd won't stay with us forever. Her last day is May 13, and she will hopefully get a job at another amazing school after student teaching here.

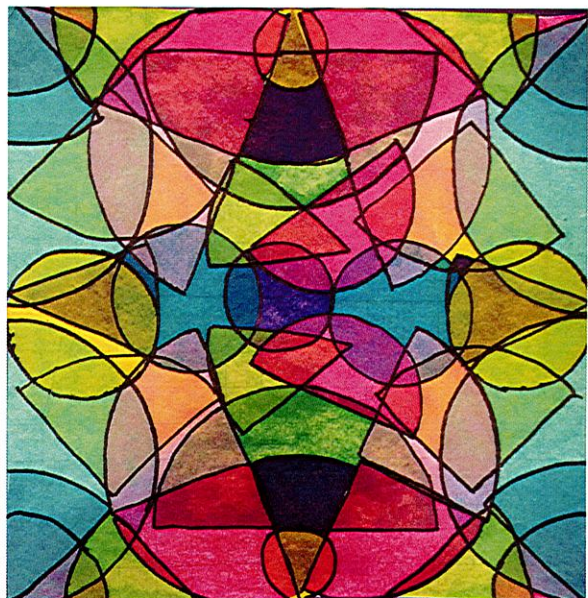
She has definitely put an impact on her kids here at RHS, making our English education hours a lot more fun.

"Learning the knowledge and, hopefully teaching the students that, and them gaining the information they need for their next step," - Ms. Ladd

Art of the Month



Picture by Anna Maxwell



Picture by Megan Showers