

## Slinging clay birds

**By: Nick Thomas**  
Staff Writer

Kids and teens have many hobbies that interest them and they find entertaining.

A hobby that not every teen or kid has is shooting trap.

Dana Schornack of RHS shoots trap. Trap is shooting clay birds that are thrown out of a trap house.

The clay birds are usually launched away from the shooter.

When the clay birds are thrown out of the trap house, the shooter tries to shoot the clay bird.

Shooting trap is very popular around the world and is an Olympic

event.

There have been Olympic trap shooting games since 1900.

“I have been shooting trap for two years now,” said Schornack.

Schornack got involved in trap shooting because of her step dad. Schornack also competes in trap shooting.

“I enjoy the competition the most,” said Schornack.

Dana competes in team trap shooting.

In competition shooters are scored best out of fifty each day and total score is added up after each session.

“Practicing pushes me to get better,

and helps me with my hunting skills,” said Schornack.

Dana competes and practices shooting trap at the Richmond Sportsman Club.

“Shooting trap helps you with shooting skills. It can help you with aiming and hitting your target, which can help with hunting,” said Schornack.

Schornack also works at the Richmond Sportsman Club.

While working at the Richmond sportsman club she is a scorekeeper and fills the trap houses with the clay birds.

Schornack does all of her practicing and competing at the Richmond

Sportsman Club as well.

When practicing and competing, Schornack uses a Remington 870 shotgun.

When shooting trap you get twenty-five shots at twenty-five clay birds.

“I would recommend shooting trap to someone, it is really fun to get into and you meet a lot of new people,” said Schornack.

Many teens have a lot of hobbies that they find fun and interesting, and shooting trap is not a common one, but to some people it is very fun and entertaining.

## Four years strong

**By: Stephanie Zube**  
Features Co-Editor

Four-year varsity baseball and softball athletes are winding down their last season of high school sports.

Zach Leach, Ryan Boyd, Noelle Scheuer and Riley Thompson are all seniors who began and ended their high school career in the big leagues.

Each athlete had their own experience with lessons and memories they have undergone over the years. With the school year coming to an end, their varsity career is reflected on and admired.

The Boys Varsity Baseball team has two players, Leach and Boyd, who have stuck with the team since entering freshman year.

Leach pitches and plays right field, while Boyd plays shortstop.

They both have enjoyed their four year experience on varsity.

“It has been a great learning experience and has taught me a lot about the game,” said Leach with a .600 batting average.

Alongside Leach, Boyd also had a positive attitude toward his career.

“The experience has been exciting because I was able to spend all 4 years playing good competition,” said Boyd.

The same positive attitude was also evident on the Girls Varsity Softball team, with Scheuer and Thompson.

“Being on varsity has been a blast. I’ve enjoyed being able to contribute to the team,” said Scheuer in an email. Scheuer has a .600 batting average this year.

Scheuer is on the opposite end of the pitcher’s mound and catches, while sometimes playing 1st base as well.

Playing a varsity sport for four years can have its perks but it can also have its challenges. Receiving

new players and having to find the team chemistry all over again is one challenge that Leach faced. Boyd faced the challenge of having to adjust to new positions.

With unvarying practices for four years, Scheuer struggled with motivating herself to improve.

The challenges that the athletes faced were only a small part of their career and it did not stop the love that they had for the game all four years.

“Make every play like it is your last, because you never know when it will be,” said Boyd.

Playing a high school sport for four years comes with many great memories, especially for these athletes. From advancing to a state championship game, to winning districts, or even hitting a homerun to help give a lead, they are all memories that the athletes will never forget.

## Emma Caperton



**Nickname:** Em

**Age:** 15

**Grade:** Freshman

**Sport(s):** Volleyball & Softball

**Favorite pump up song:** Fly on the Wall

– Miley Cyrus

**Favorite Food:** Pizza

**Favorite class:** History– Dr. Ladd

**Future Goals:** Go to college for softball



**Varsity**

## Brandon VanGorp



**Nickname:** None

**Age:** 15

**Grade:** Freshman

**Sport(s):** Soccer, Basketball, & Baseball

**Favorite pump up song:** Eminem songs

**Favorite food:** Ribs

**Favorite class:**

Science

**Future goals:** Go to college and play professional soccer

“My favorite memory was hitting a homerun my sophomore year off of my good friend Erin Kownacki to give us the lead in the Armada vs Richmond game,” replied Scheuer. Not only have these athletes been represented as four year varsity players, but they have also been represented as role models and mentors for the younger players. Leading by example and teaching their teammates the features of the game has helped to build that character.

“For the younger teammates I have been helping to keep their mechanics in check in drill work and in game simulations mainly. Also, the mental aspect of the game is a big point teaching point,” said Leach. With a reputation as a four year varsity player there comes a desired legacy. Leach, Boyd and Scheuer all have a particular legacy in mind.

For Leach he wants to leave high school with his name hanging on a state title banner, a goal that they came very close to last season. For Boyd he wants to be remembered for all the hard work he put in during his career.

And Scheuer, she wants to be known as a great leader and one of the best hitters. To wrap up the season, the athletes compared their experience from freshman year to their last year.

“I know a lot more about the game and can help to lead younger players in the right direction,” said Leach. Scheuer did not notice much of a change besides in her voice.

“To be honest it doesn’t feel that much different. I’ve always done my best to be a leader on my team. However, freshman year I was less vocal because I was a freshman,” said Scheuer.

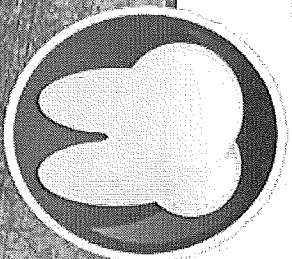
Boyd felt the pressure lift off with all the experience he gained throughout the years.

“There is a lot less pressure my senior year because of all the experience,” said Boyd.

From freshman year to senior year there have been challenges, memories and lessons for the athletes.



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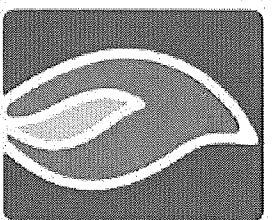
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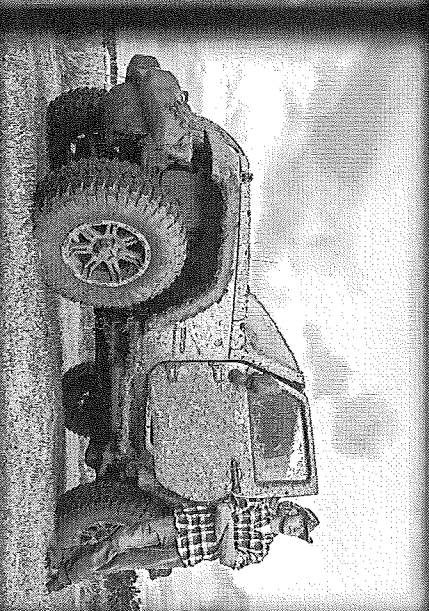
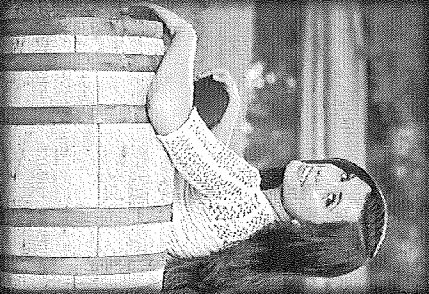
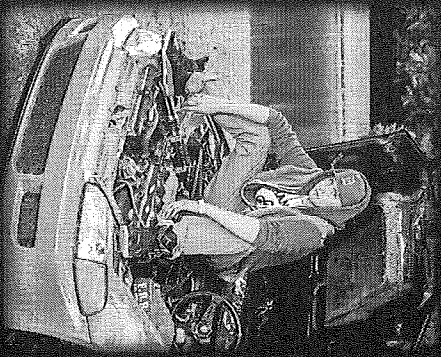
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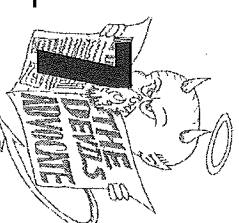
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**The Blue Devil's Advocate**

**May 22, 2014**



# In Our Opinion

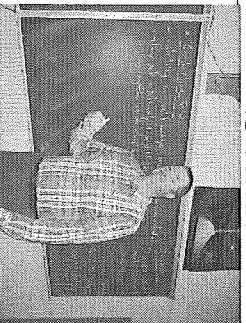


## Question of the Week

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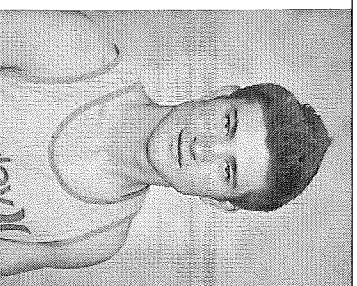
Since the school year is coming to an end, what are your plans for summer?

### Staff



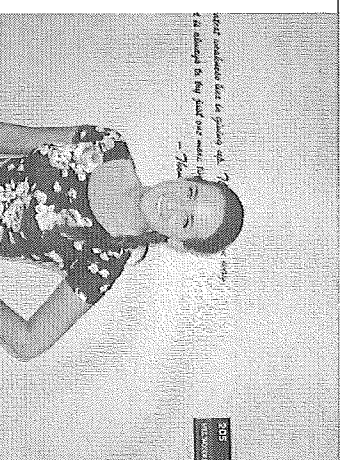
Mr. Rineer is looking forward to chilling out at his lake cottage, fishing and kayaking with his kids, as well as reinventing his teaching strategy.

### Senior



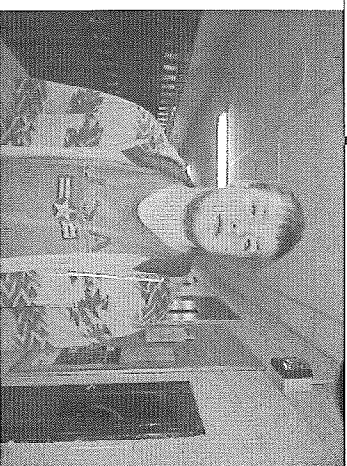
Nick Burg plans to start making the big bucks working with his dad.

### Junior



Kaela Renner is going to work toward her goal of buying a car.

### Sophomore



Austin Pack wants to catch up on sleep and hang out with his friends.

### Freshman



Kacie Conner plans to connect with nature by camping with her family.

## Staff Editorial: Super - intendent!

Ask any student what the job of the schools superintendent is, and you are likely to get one answer in particular: "To call snow days!"

While this is true, the duties of the superintendent stretch way beyond deciding when we'll get an unexpected sleep-in day. The superintendent manages the central staff, advises the school board, creates the budget, sets school district-wide goals and keeps the schools up-to-date on required content and efficient systems of handling issues—which is why Richmond is so excited to be gaining a new superintendent in Fall, 2014.

We hope the superintendent is very committed to his job. A good superintendent is someone who truly cares about students, parents, staff and the community.

We are very proud to have some of the best teaching staff around. We hope the superintendent works with the teachers and helps them grow and prosper, so that this does not change.

Since technology and government requirements are constantly changing, we need a superintendent that is able to keep up to date on things. While change is a good thing, Richmond needs someone

who is dedicated to enhancing the district while not altering the system too dramatically.

The new superintendent hopefully has a clear vision for the district. It is important to set goals so that everybody is on the same page of where the district is going. With this, we can figure out how to achieve our goals, and create a detailed plan.

We also hope he is able to keep everybody on task with achieving these goals, and is able to recognize and reward the district for hard work.

And hard work is just what happens in Richmond. We believe that our school district has many elements to be proud of. There have been many sports teams to compete in regional and state wide competitions. The theatre performances are top-notch, and the art students have won numerous awards for their work.

From the phenomenal art program with passionate students, to the multiple time state champion sports we want the community to know of our successes. We hope the new member of our district will be able to advertise all of the positive elements we have to offer at Richmond Community Schools.

### Endings force beginnings

By Lizzie Urban  
Features Editor

"These are the best years of your life," is a quote you hear often throughout high school by various people you will know. But I have to disagree there. I had an average high school experience. I was involved with a few clubs, I always had a close group of friends, and I got average grades.

I'm looking forward to the future. I have so many plans and goals to achieve that I don't want these years to have been the best years of my life. Because if that's true, I'm looking ahead to a sorry life.

I want my life to be big and full. I have so many interests and things I love that I can't imagine living the typical American life, in a suburb somewhere, working 9-5 and having 2.5 kids.

For as long as I can remember, I've loved doing anything that had to do with music, singing or acting. Some of my first memories are of my mother videotaping my brother, sister and me, as we were putting on skits or singing songs. If I had my way, I'd be in the entertainment industry for my professional life. I would love to do that. But as reality is a concept, it probably won't happen. But it's nice to dream about.

And if these were the best years of my life, I need something to dream about. There were times that I had experiences that made me feel happy and loving my life. Other times, I could say the exact opposite. The ups and downs of high school are not things I want to be seen as my best years.

Coming in as a freshman, I had this cliché idea of high school. After spending four years there, close to none of those expectations came true. That's not

a bad thing, but it makes me realize how you can't always expect the best things out of a situation, because you can get hurt.

Popular comedian, Amy Poehler said, "The goal is not to be perfect or be right because we're never either of those things all of the time."

This quote really makes a lot of sense to me. If your goal is to have everything be perfect, nothing ever will be. You have to learn to just enjoy what you're given or you won't be able to enjoy anything.

Truly, I'm glad to be leaving. I'm sure there will be things I will miss about school, but in the long run, I liked school for learning and the teachers, but aside from the curriculum and some of the clubs, I never much liked the rest of it. Getting up early, dealing with people who weren't always the nicest, finding out what people say about you behind your back etc. etc.

It's all so...high school. And I'm ready to leave that all behind. I have so many good memories of school, and I liked several parts of it. I made friends with some amazing people who I hope to always know. But life has a clock attached to it, and it's my turn to get on with my life, and for that I'm appreciative.

Thank you Richmond High School, to the teachers, the staff, and many of the students. You've taught me a lot about how life can work out and I'll bring those lessons on with me for the rest of my years.

And to the Class of 2014: "I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known." -Anonymous

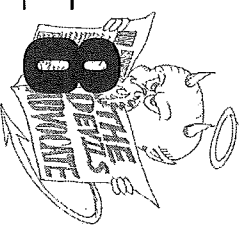
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**Mission Statement**  
Richmond High School's student newspaper, The Blue Devil's Advocate, strives to serve the student body and provide a public forum to make their ideas heard to the school and community. Our goal is to provide both accurate and balanced stories in order to heighten understanding, entertain, and inform.

**Letters**  
We invite readers to share their thoughts with us by writing to the Editor. See the drop off box in the library or you may email us at [inmuvrply@richmond.k12.mi.us](mailto:inmuvrply@richmond.k12.mi.us). Include your name, address, and grade level.



## Senior Specials

They know what they're talkin' about

**By: Samantha Schafer**  
Editorial Editor

People are going to tell you all through high school that everything is going to happen so fast. That you'll have four Homecomings, Christmas-es, Birthdays, Final Exams before you even know you're blinking.

And, if you're like me, you are going to smile and nod and pretend like you believe them because high school feels sooooo long while it's happening. Every test feels like the end of the world the night before it's given. Anticipation for Spring Break feels like it will drag out forever and ever and ever. Sometimes, on really bad days, even the lunch line feels like the biggest time-sucker in the whole world.

At the beginning of freshman year, when I was wandering alone in the hallway wondering where the 300 wing was (it's the main hall, to any freshmen who are wondering), I had all the time in the world.

I could do anything I wanted.

I could join Key Club (which I did).

I could try out for a sports team (which I didn't).

I could audition for drama (which I kind of did).

The possibilities for my life here at RHS were endless.

Now, when I look back at the last four years, I wonder about all of the opportunities I didn't take.

I wonder if my life would have been drastically changed if I had taken different classes or joined different clubs. Would I still have the friends that I have now? Would I still be the same person?

## Four Days Left

**By: Ryan Teltow**  
Editorial Editor

High school: I have four days left of my senior year and all I can say is where did the time go? I can still remember the first day of High school;

I was all sorts of nervous that whole summer for what high school was going to be like. Turns out half those crazy rumors you hear in middle school weren't even true about high school.

High school for me was crazy; I went into high school having a few good friends and I was more than happy with that. However being in high school opened up a ton of new opportunities for me to meet people. Through sports, clubs, the hallways, high school in general introduced me to so many great people.

I met my first group of friends and formed our first Group: the Lucky Sevens, to whom I owe countless memories too. After spending the past summers relaxing being carefree I was in for a whirl when it came for my first summer in high school. With high school came responsibility and what came with that was a job.

How else is a fifteen-year-old in high school supposed to afford a car? I mean that is one of the greatest memories I have of high school. Your first car, that six digit odometer, the vintage duct tape window: boy does a kid love their first car. At least I loved mine; with my car came freedom and boy was that taste of freedom powerful, almost too powerful. At times I found it hard to want to come home with there being so much to do with so little time in each day. Managing time was the next lesson taught to me by high school.

If it wasn't for managed time school could have been a lot more stressful than it was for me. Once I had my first job and had turned sixteen I felt like a

I don't have an answer to either of these questions, but I do have a suggestion for any underclassman who reads this: Do everything that you can.

Because you know another thing that people say that I've rolled my eyes at? You'll only regret the things you don't do.

It has taken me far too long to believe this. High school is a time for exploration. It's a time to try as many things as you can when you aren't spending thousands of dollars to do so.

If you think you're a jock, try taking art.

If you think you're artsy, try taking part in drama.

If you think you're a drama nerd, try taking a personal fitness class.

Get out of your comfort zone.

Talk to people you never thought you would.

Do something that surprises you more than anyone else.

I say this as someone who didn't and wishes very much that she had.

Regret is an awful thing to leave with, so I ask you to not be like me.

Make the most out of your four years.

But, more importantly, you should write down every cliché thing anyone has ever said to you, most likely it's an extremely profound life lesson and you would do well to take it to heart.

Little adult, it was awesome. Going to school, to work, from work to home I was on full time baby.

Next thing I knew it was ACT time: the first great feat of high school. I stressed, boy did I stress. I mean how could you not?

This was only the test you heard determined your future and if you failed it you would fail at life.

Well turns out it's as important as you were told... however not nearly as stressful as I had assumed. I finished my ACT well within the time limitations and not only did I finish it I finished it confidently. The trick is if you get some good sleep and walk through those doors confidently you'll leave the same.

Once the ACT was taken time flew, and I mean flew.

Next thing I knew I was counting down the days left of summer before I was one of "those kids"....a senior.

Senior year was awesome! I remember during Christmas break thinking that the same time it took for Christmas to get there was going to be the same amount of days left until my senior spring break. Boom! Right in my face Spring break popped up and passed faster than it came. Then came Prom.

My last formal dance with all these people I've grown up with since pre K. Prom was memorable to say the least, the way it should be, and spending time with all my friends was unforgettable. So prom passed and where does that leave us now?

Well my last week, my last weekend actually. In fact I'm sitting at my kitchen counter right now on my last Sunday night thinking how fast time flies by and putting my thoughts to words as I begin to summarize high school.

With it being my last weekend night before my last week I sit here and think about what high school means to me and it means a lot.

High school introduced me to a ton of great people who have taught me lessons I will never forget. Within such a short amount of time high school exposes kids to a whole new world they didn't even know existed and I think it's important at times to sit back and take a look at your life and the ones around you to further determine who you want to be and what your future will hold.

High school for me was the first step in my life in determining who I want to be and I thank everyone I've come to call my teachers and friends for that experience. In the end it's all about what you make it so why not take that extra minute and make it worth something to remember?

## Knowledge From Experience

**By: Jacob Thomas**  
News Editor

Senior year.

The year we have been looking to as students since we stepped foot into grade school.

For twelve years we walk the halls with different footsteps and diverse paths. Now the time is over.

It seems like yesterday I stepped into the school as a freshman with few to any worries.

Having attended Richmond Community Schools my entire life I have had the honor of being taught by some of the most exceptional teachers a student could ask for. Many of the teachers, especially at the high school, do not receive the credit they deserve so I am very thankful for all of them not just because of the way they teach, but for providing their own experiences to help us in the future.

I have had the opportunity to play three varsity sports in my time at RHS as well which has provided me with values and responsibilities many students will never experience.

I would recommend playing sports to anybody because the challenges you face are comparable to what you would face while working or raising a family.

You need to understand how to manage time, cope with failure, and work hard which are all necessities for an adult.

High school has been by far the most interesting part of my life thus far. High school does one thing more than anything else to people and that is change.

Friends change, interests change, and more importantly you change as a person over four years physically, mentally, and socially.

I am truly amazed at how much I have changed over four years and how others changed for both good and bad.

As we all go in our separate paths, the one thing I want is to see everybody in ten years at a class reunion. I really want to see how everybody turns out.

If I could have anything in this world I would want and older brother. Walking into the high school on the first day has to be the most out of place event I have been a part of. Not knowing half of the people in the school or where anything was in the school except the gymnasium was a struggle.

It would be really nice to have an older sibling that already experienced high school and college and could provide me with the knowledge needed to succeed. In a way I envy my youngest brother because he will watch three of his siblings graduate, go to college, and find jobs before he is even in high school. However, I do try my best to share experiences with my siblings so they are prepared for what lies ahead of them.

Another aspect school has taught me is to be at the top of the totem pole in the work force because senior year has been the best year and being on top is always the best.

The message I would send to incoming high school students is to enjoy the time and make the most of it because it seems like just yesterday it was my first day of school as a freshman.

Don't have any regrets and participate in as much as you can because once it is over there is no going back.

How fast high school has gone by has taught me that college will go by even faster and before I know it I will be an adult with a full-time job.

I will appreciate more than anything the memories that I have made in high school; especially in sports.

Hopefully I will keep in touch with the friends I have made and the teachers that I have developed close relationships with.

It has been a good run RHS. The future is in the palm of our hands and it is time to make the most of it.