



Brendan Hart Story

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College is looming.

Next fall I will be attending Valencia College in Osceola, Florida.

College is going to be an enormous challenge, and probably an expensive one too, so I know that I cannot mess up.

I have to be the best me I can be, the me I found in my years at Richmond.

As I end my high school career I leave giving one piece of advice that I find invaluable: Don't mess up freshman year.

This advice is something I will give to my younger siblings and classmates as well as use for myself.

Kaitlyn Miikien

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Ms. Lepak is another teacher I will always remember. Throughout my years at the RHS, she was someone who helped me at my best and my worst. Whenever I needed someone to talk to, she was there for me. More so than probably anyone in my life. It really means a lot to me to have had such an amazing counselor to support me. She always watched out for me and tried to do what was best for me. Ms. Lepak helped me survive high school tremendously. If I know of anyone that needs some help, I recommend them to talk to her.

Mrs. Smallwood was like a motherly figure to me as she is with every student she has. When I first had her, I was a very shy student. She understood that and really worked with me to help me in Spanish (as the class is very vocal and vibrant.) I had her again this year, and she was still just as awesome as I remembered. She even became teacher of the year. Mrs. Smallwood is hilarious, kind, and caring. With that being said, I definitely recommend students to take her class at least once. Mrs. Aronson. She was my first ever art teacher

in kindergarten. If it wasn't for her encouraging my future passion, I may not be the artist I am today. Her influence on the art room in the elementary, middle, and high school will forever be engraved with the students she has touched. Although I was never very close to her, she was still a person I will always remember.

Half way through my sophomore year, Mrs. Aronson tragically passed away, resulting in Mrs. Cole to step out of retirement to finish the rest of the semester. What Mrs. Aronson gave to me was the motivation I needed to make my artwork greater. And not just my artwork. But my own person. She saw the potential in me and begged me to let myself shine to all those who I shied away from.

Each one of the teachers I have had over the years has done something to change my life for the better. I wish I could have mentioned more memories, as this is a way of saying a final good bye to the RHS.

I have enjoyed writing for the Blue Devils' Advocate for the past two years. This has been a wonderful experience sharing my writing with the school. I thank everyone who has helped me along the way. Thank you.

Now picture America in 2016. The political parties are completely polarized. People are out of work, and all of a sudden it isn't okay to be racist, not even in subtle ways. There is a very strong us versus them mentality. But that's not all. A new threat looming on the horizon: ISIS.

Then a man tells us who to blame. Mexican immigrants. Muslims. People who are different in any way. This man calls for Muslims to identify themselves as such. He calls for them to be banned from entering the country.

Now, I know that comparing somebody to Hitler is an abhorrent thing to do. It's a huge claim. But, the parallel is there. Hitler played to the fears and frustrations of the German people. Trump is playing to the fears and frustrations of the American people.

Trump promises to "Make America Great Again". Well, I, for one, don't believe this country ever stopped being great. Have we seen better days? No doubt about it. But have we seen worse? Absolutely. Trump claims one of the reasons for America's loss of greatness is "political correctness". He's one to say that people are too quick to be offended nowadays. Let me clear something up. People have always been offended to the extent that they are today. We now live in a culture where it is okay to voice that offense. I do believe some people need to let things go, but there is a difference between somebody getting offended by a comedian's Twitter and people getting offended by a presidential candidate calling Mexicans rapists and killers. That isn't politically incorrect. That is immoral. Political correctness is about respect. Showing people basic respect that you yourself would want to be shown. People like Trump have perverted the term to make it about silencing their inner racist. No, it's not political correctness doing that. It's history.

Donald Trump wants to ban Muslims from entering the US. That is discrimination in its most atrocious form. What kind of a message will that send to Muslim children already in the US? That their religion is evil? That they aren't welcome in their home country? Also, there are over 1 billion Muslims in the world. One. Billion. That is a seventh of the population. You cannot possibly say that one billion people are terrorists. Every group has problem members. Every group has extremists.

Perhaps one of the worst aspects of this shell of a man is the fact that he condones violence at his rallies. "I will pay your legal fees", he says (nydailynews.com 2016). That is dangerous. That is not politics. And that's just at a rally. Can you imagine what would happen if he carried those sentiments to the White House? Onto the world stage?

We need a peacekeeper. People have been injured at his rallies. People have injured others citing him as inspiration outside of his rallies (thinkprogress.org 2016). And, no, just because a few have done this doesn't mean they all will.

Keep America Great

BY: Daniel Seguin
Staff Writer

There is a man running for president. This man is brash. Some believe this man to be racist. Some believe this man to be sexist. This man is manipulative. This man is fear-mongering. This man condones violence at his rallies. This man claimed Mexicans were "rapists and killers". This man is calling for a ban on Muslims entering the US. This man wants to build a wall across the US Mexican border. This man has said overtly sexual things about his own daughter. This man is the presumptive republican nominee for the presidential election. This man's name is Donald Trump.

Allow me to make one point clear. This is not an article about my political views. This is an article about what I view as a moral crisis in America.

To make my point, I am going to draw a parallel.

After the First World War, Germany was in disarray. Destroyed. Trying to rebuild themselves while, at the same time, paying their war debts. With no one to turn to, the German people were angry. They were frustrated with their government. Then, a man started speaking to them. He told them that the Jews were to blame for their problems. He promised to make Germany great again. They clung to this idea, desperate for some answer as to why their government had failed them. The man rose to power. This belief escalated, and pretty soon all Jews had to be identified. They were then corralled into ghettos. Then were then taken to death camps where over six million were killed.

Trump supporters aren't bad people as a whole. But Trump is a bad person. And he is their leader. That is dangerous.

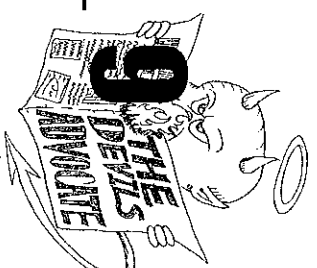
Donald Trump can be considered a racist. And if he is not a racist, then he uses racism to enhance his climb to power. David Duke, an ex-Grand Wizard of the KKK came out in support of him. When asked if he would disavow him and the KKK, he completely skirted the question. "I would have to look into it," he said, as if he had never heard of the KKK. Also, he was the guy who made Obama produce a birth certificate, with no proof or evidence that he was born in Kenya. American people who were confused at the premise of a black man leading the country asked for an answer, and Trump took it to an extreme.

Donald Trump can be considered a sexist. He continually says demeaning things to and about women. His Twitter account once retweeted someone who insinuated that Hillary Clinton shouldn't be president because her husband had an affair. He also once said that a female journalist who criticized him must have been on her period. "She had blood coming out of her eyes. Out of her- wherever," said Trump. Classy. Not only that, but he continually made overtly sexual comments about his own daughter. When asked how he would feel if she posed for Playboy, he responded, "I don't think Ivanka would do that, although she does have a very nice figure. I've said if Ivanka weren't my daughter, perhaps I'd be dating her." (mediatrac.com) I don't believe I need to comment on that, but just imagine if your friend's dad said that about her. Now imagine him running for president, and leading the polls.

Donald Trump wants to crack down on immigration. He wants to build a wall. A "great wall", as he has called it. He claims that he will make Mexico pay for it. But how? He has yet to offer up a plausible method of getting Mexico to foot the bill. Officials from Mexico, including former presidents, have said multiple times that they are not going to pay for the wall. In fact, President Felipe Calderon (Mexican president from 2006-2012) said that Mexico would not pay a "single cent for such a stupid wall" (cncb 2016). Not a single. Cent.

Trump promises to make America great again. But, if you truly believe that America needs to be made great again, don't vote for him. I know of at least one antestablishment candidate you could vote for who would be sure to shake things up. Trump is the result of growing racial tensions. Trump is the result of fear. Trump is the result of frustration. Trump is the symptom. Not the cure.

Features



Seniors Last Who-Ra

By: Christina Thomas
Advertising Editor

Tuxes. Dresses. Heels. Pictures. Prom.

One of the many last for the senior class.

The students of RHS got together for one last final dance of the school year at MacRay Harbor May 6th.

"It was a memorable night with all of my friends and it is something I won't forget from my senior year of high school," said senior prom queen Ashley Reece.

Reece and Stefan Fenwick represented prom king and queen for the senior class.

"I was very shocked to hear my name get called for king," said Fenwick. "I didn't think I was going to win at all."

Christina Thomas and Ryan Schrade won prom prince and princess for the junior class as well.

"I think Ashley was best fit for Queen because she is friends with everyone and is very school spirited," said junior Maddy Green.

At 6 pm MacRay Harbor was filled with gorgeous dresses and sharp looking tuxes.

"The setting of the whole place was outstanding," said Reece. "The view was right on the water and it just made prom

that much more special for everyone that went."

The prom banquet room had an overview of the St. Clair River.

"Not only was the view outstanding, but everyone got to watch the sun set on the river," said Reece.

Fettuccine alfredo, chicken, pork, potatoes, and vegetables were served for the Richmond students with ice cream following for dessert.

"My favorite part about the dinner was the alfredo," said Fenwick. "All the food was great and it was nice to eat dinner with all my friends."

Both Fenwick and Reece agree that prom was one for the books.

"My favorite part and probably the funniest part from the dance was slipping on the dance floor when I was trying to 'crank that soula' when the DJ played soula boy," said Reece.

From the struggles of getting ready, to pictures, and off to the dance, everyone seemed to have a great time and are thankful for the memories made.

Everyone who attended the dance received a light up cup as a souvenir from prom 2016.

"The cups are so cool," said Reece. "They are something that we can use and also be reminded of what a great night we

all had."

Along with the flashing cups the students all got a chance to go in the provided photo booth.

"Being able to capture a moment with all my friends was very cool," said Fenwick.

The photo booth contained many dress-up items for the students to wear in the pictures.

"There were things such as picture frames to put around your face, a feathery scarf, a top hat, a sword, and many other funny objects," said Reece.

Each member who went in the photo booth got to take home their own set of photos.

"The photo booth not only allowed many good laughs but also printed off a time that was a great memory that we can look back on," said Reece.

After the students chowed down their food and danced away their problems, prom soon came to end.

"I thought prom was a fantastic time for everyone," said Green. "I had fun with all my friends and it was a great time to spend with them before they graduate and to have that extra memory with all of us."

Prom. One last who-ra for the senior class. Next up: graduation.

Star Student of the Month



Keara Bruyneel

1. **Role Model:** Her cousin, Kenzie
2. **Greatest Accomplishment in High School:** Being runner up at states as a freshman
3. **Favorite After School Activity:** Hanging out with friends
4. **Favorite Year of High School:** Homecoming

Marcel Fenwick



1. **Role Model:** His Sisters
2. **Greatest Accomplishment in High School:** Staying on Honor Roll
3. **Favorite After School Activity:** Going Home
4. **Favorite Year of High School:** Playing Sports

CJ Geometrymore's

By: Brandon Furtaw
Assistant Sports Editor

According to Merriam Webster, Geometry is, "a branch of mathematics that deals with the measurement, properties, and relationships of points, lines, angles, surfaces, and solids; *broadly*: the study of properties of given elements that remain invariant under specified transformations."

Or more simply, geometry is what normal people use to find how big a triangle is with the Pythagorean Theorem. But, for students currently enrolled in a geometry class at RHS the annual field trip to CJ Barrymore's is fast approaching.

On Thursday May, 19th students in NHS and a geometry class will be going to the indoor/outdoor amusement park on Hall road.

This field trip is primarily for geometry students to learn more about reflections and how they are used in the real world. However, NHS also goes as a

"We are going to further our education on reflections. That's basically what mini golf is."
E. Wyatt

reward for their good grades and time spent academically. Freshman Ethan Wyatt had some juicy secrets as to what this field trip is about. "We are going to further our education on reflections. That's basically what mini golf is."

Not like that's the only thing geometry is good for. Other examples include the mirror in your bathroom, the reflection of a picture on a mountain off of a mildly romantic lake, and bounce passes in basketball.

Not only will this trip be full of education it will also be full of fun.

"I heard the roller coaster was really fun from the students last year, I'll have to try that out," said Wyatt.

Students are required to play one game of mini golf on the field trip for the educational aspect but after that students can enjoy the arcade, mini bowling, go-karts, or any other activity offered by CJ Barrymore's.

Sophomores Evelyn Swantek, Austin Sinda, and Brooke

Kazmierczak will be attending as a part of Mrs. Wolf's 6th hour class.

Both Swantek and Sinda are looking forward to racing go-karts and spending time with friends.

Kazmierczak and Wyatt will be loopin' it up at the roller coaster and winning tickets for cool prizes in the arcade.

Although this field trip is designed for educational purposes only Kazmierczak said that she would learn more on the field trip than in class.

"It's hands on learning instead of a worksheet or bookwork," said Kazmierczak.

Regardless of learning about reflections inside or outside of the classroom all the students interviewed agree they are looking forward to going because it's a free pass out of school, for what is sure to be a good day for sunshine, putt-putt, and reflections.

Features

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