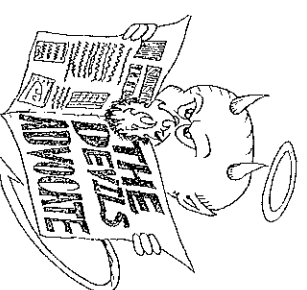


The BLUE DEVILS

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Super Camp for Superintendent

By: Nick Thomas
Sports Editor

"My goal is to give all Richmond students a leg up on other students," said superintendent of Richmond Community Schools (RCS), Brian Walmsley.

Recently, Mr. Walmsley attended a boot camp, at Parris Island, South Carolina. Yes, that is the Marines Corp Recruit Depot.

However this was not a normal boot camp; this was a leadership camp Mr. Walmsley attended.

"The primary focus was to help educators who attended to have a better understanding of the military, people paying for college and careers in the military," said Walmsley.

Walmsley added, "They gave us a better understanding of boot camp, how you do things as a team and how you work as a whole to achieve success."

Walmsley understands very well what it's like to be a leader and lead a team.

"We learned at this camp that the military is all about the team. Their focus is on the common goal, whether it's secure a city or provide

aid, and I need to make sure everyone on staff at our schools is focused on our common goal," said Walmsley.

Walmsley said he, as a leader, needs to work on getting his messages across to other staff members more clearly. "As a leader I need to reflect our common goal. I have to work on being clear so we can achieve that goal," he said.

While at this military camp, not only did superintendent Walmsley learn many new skills and leadership abilities, but he also got a new understanding of what the military is like.

"What really stuck with me is that we have a stereotype of what the forces are like. My vision was not even close. They look for highly-educated problem solvers. That changed my view point of who they want in the military. They don't let just anyone join; they look for certain people," said Walmsley.

Many kids look to join the armed forces when they graduate high school. But not everyone really understands what the armed forces are like. As Mr. Walmsley mentioned, we all have a stereotype of what the forces are like.

"I want students to know this is an option. I want our staff to know about the options in the military as well so they can give our students information, some kids are on the fence about whether or not to joining the forces, and I want to be able to give them information to help make their decision," said Walmsley.

Walmsley has already requested spots for next year's camp for other teachers and staff members to go on this same retreat next year. The more staff that attends this camp from RCS, the more information about the military and armed forces out students will be able to receive, as well as the more leadership skills the staff at RCS will develop.

Along with learning about the military and armed forces and new leadership skills, the main goal of this leadership camp is to help benefit students at RCS.

"We need to build a team to achieve the mission to get kids to be as successful as possible. I want kids to know there's more to the armed forces than just the battle field. College is expensive and they can help with that. They also have majors for people who like to play

the piano and many other things. I didn't know that and I want our students to know that," said Walmsley.

Not only does superintendent Walmsley want to provide students with more insight on the military, but he has many other plans in store for RCS and the students in the future.

"I want to improve our CTE programs. I want students to know why they have to learn the material they are learning," said Walmsley.

Walmsley added, "We have a plan for a mass science center and performing arts academy. We want kids to start in elementary school and grow up through middle school and high school with the mass science center, with the performing arts academy; we want to bring more of a production aspect to it"

This is Mr. Walmsley's second year as RCS superintendent, and with many changes made, there are still more to come to meet his goals and visions. Walmsley said, "I want students to experience a career they love to do here at Richmond Schools."

Bye Bye Birdie!

By Lauren Duche
Opinions co-editor

The time is 1958 the young heart-throb, Conrad Birdie, steals the hearts of everyone in Sweet Apple, Ohio.

Fast-forward 50 years and the story lives on.

The students of RHS are putting on the production of Bye Bye Birdie this spring after months of preparation, stress, and hard work.

"We started preparing for the show back in December a little bit after we had 'A Night of Comedy.' We practice every day for several hours a night not including the time we've had to take outside of rehearsal to run our lines," said Junior Daniel Seguin.

Seguin has been in 26 shows and has had to take on multiple different personas but this role -- by far -- has been the most difficult.

As the play approaches, the cast is taking on even more rehearsal time. Seguin said, "The week of the show is the most stressful. We run through and really nit-pick everything so we can go out and perform to the best of our ability. All in all though, I think we're really prepared."

That preparation has helped him get into his character. "I'm not anything like Conrad

Birdie. He's suave and I'm about as smooth as sandpaper, so trying to encapsulate this character has definitely been challenging," he said.

Much like Seguin, senior Cecily McPherson has been in 9 shows, and even though she hasn't had as much experience as the other members, she performs like a seasoned veteran. She said, "In the show I play an old woman. With that being said, it's sometimes hard to take on the character of someone so much older than me, but I do enjoy it. It's very intriguing to me that I'm able to become a totally different person. The fact that I'm able to be someone totally different, even if only for a few minutes, is amazing to me and I think that's why enjoy acting so much."

Sophomore Clayton Maksymuk, has been involved in theater for a while as well. Maksymuk has been in 17 shows not including this production and his hard work is beginning to pay off. Maksymuk plays Albert, one of the leads in this production.



Stephanie Graham, senior, and Clayton Maksymuk, sophomore, perform Sunday May 1st in the auditorium. (photo courtesy of RHS yearbook.)

"This part is a lot different from everything else I've done. I have never gotten a part this big and the fact that I have a part as big as this in a high school show as a sophomore is a really cool experience for me," he said.

Not all of the kids in this produc-

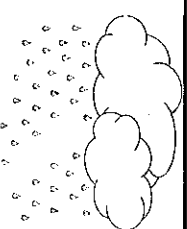
tion are as experienced as the rest of the cast.

"To the freshman and the kids newer to theater, stick with it. You won't always get the lead role but if you work hard and stick to it, you'll go far," Maksymuk said.

Through it all, Maksymuk never gave up on himself or on the program.

Through thick and thin, the theater kids have stuck together through it all. "We all have to stick together. It's like in athletics, you're only as strong as your weakest link and that really resonates with theater. We're more than just a cast; we're one big family," she said.

Today's Forecast
Mostly Cloudy
High: 59
Low: 45



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A long trip to paradise

By: Ana Kinkela
Staff Writer

On the Golf Shores of Alabama, Mr. Bourdeau, his wife Krista, and their three amazing children, Brook 7, Morgan 4, and Brett 2, had a relaxing spring break. They had heard about this place for a few years now, and decided to start planning their getaway in January.

All of them were very excited to just take a break and relax completely. They had gotten on the road Friday. Driving all night for 15 hours through mostly great weather and a blizzard.

"The blizzard was horrible, and hard to drive through." Bourdeau had said. Yet he didn't let it ruin his excitement for their trip. They only stopped twice. Ac-

ording to Bourdeau, the drive there was quite exhausting. But night was also the best time for him to drive because his kids were asleep – most of the time at least.

"Brook and Morgan were great on the drive there; but Brett kept screaming 'no'." Bourdeau said. Bourdeau made a quick stop on their way to "paradise" at his brother's house. Giving him an opportunity to catch up, and watch his oldest nephew play baseball for the first time. While there, he also had the chance to see his niece play lacrosse and his other nephew play guitar. They stayed there for the whole day. Having a great time and eating really good BBQ.

"I loved watching my nephews and niece. It's nice to spend a lot of time with my family," Bourdeau said.

After all the fun and spending time with his brother's family, it was time to get back on the road to Alabama.

Once they got to their destination, they checked into a beautiful hotel. Their room was on the first floor, providing them with a pool side view and a short walk to the beach.

"We pretty much just sat by the pool every day. It was nice to watch my kids have fun, while Krista and I relaxed," Bourdeau said. They thought they would go to a water park or something, but they ended up spending time and making memories in the hot stooked un by the water.

Bourdeau's favorite time during his spring break was watching his family have fun and just being able to be with them.

"Spending a lot of time with

them was absolutely amazing," said Bourdeau. He definitely loves his family a lot, and would give anything just to see them smile.

"Yes, very excited for my kids. Oh my, they had the time of their lives, it was so nice to see."

Bourdeau said. Reply all Watching his kids most of the time may seem like something you wouldn't enjoy, but to Mr.

Bourdeau it's one of his favorite things. It was nice for him to be able to just be with his kids, and loving wife, taking in their surroundings as they could in the water. Mr. Bourdeau and his family had one amazing trip; he had said he would love to go back. The view from everywhere you was incredible. There wasn't one dull moment during their vacation to Alabama.

The Artists of Richmond Unite for a Night

By: Hailey Reed
Staff Writer

Enrichmond takes a night to appreciate all the arts at Richmond.

On April 15th, at 6pm, all different forms of art decorated the school.

With performances prepared, the night was ready to begin.

Noah Schroeder, an eleventh grade theatre student, was excited to have a day dedicated to the arts.

"A day where we all could celebrate all parts of art, theatre, and choir. I really did love seeing all the art work out," said Schroeder.

Artwork from the middle school and high school hung up around the hallways.

Alexis Henderson, a sophomore art student, got to see her artwork hanging up for everyone to admire.

"I like that they gave the whole art area a shot to do something and show off their talents," said Henderson.

Many forms of art were prepared to showcase for the night. The jazz band, chorale, and the cast of Bye Bye Bridie all had performances planned.

Each performance only sang/played one to a couple songs.

"The jazz band was pretty good. Trying a new type of

able to compare and contrast the arrangement of the human organs to the pig."

Although there have been several different viewpoints of the dissection, I believe everyone can agree that it has been the most interesting thing we have done all year.

"I enjoy watching the students' reactions to the whole process," Mr. Schleder said. "Some students get really into it and others don't like it at all."

The process started Monday, April 25 when we were put into groups of 3-5 people and got our fetal pig, in which we were able to name it whatever we wanted to as long as it was school appropriate.

From there, we had to put our gloves and safety goggles on, which we proceeded to do every day during the dissection, and had to start by cutting into the pig's mouth and determining the hard and soft pallet, then finding the epiglottis in the

music form that kids aren't use to. It was a pretty unique form of art," said Henderson.

Not only was there the jazz band, but band solos too.

Catlin Weishaar had a flute solo prepared, yet was a little nervous to perform.

"Everyone was nervous doing their solos. Yet, the coolest part was playing for the people. It was really fun," said Weishaar.

Then the girl's chorale started to perform. Jennifer Niebuera, a chorale junior, loved singing with her friends.

"We sang, 'Raining Men' and the 'Friends' theme song. We were singing 'Friends' with friends!" said Niebuera

laughing.

After the performances, there was a magician doing card tricks.

"There was a magician; that was pretty cool," said Schroeder.

The magician was an additional art form for the night. Briana Maloney's favorite part was the magician.

"He took off his shoe. He made my friend sign a card and it showed up in his shoe. His personality was really funny," said Maloney.

All the performances ended around 9. People left with inspiration to try more forms of art. All in all, the night was a success.

Operation Pork Chop

By Emma Gillem
News co-editor

"Mr. Schleder's anatomy class dissect a fetal pig in hopes to learn about the digestive system."

Although the science halls may smell, that isn't stopping Richmond's high school science teacher Mr. Schleder, has gone through the class's last dissection of the year. For the past week, both Anatomy classes have been dissecting a fetal pig, which just so happens to be Mr. Schleder's favorite dissection of the year.

In my opinion, it's a neat dissection. I have never done any type of dissection that actually resembles what we have in our bodies.

"Believe it or not, the internal organs of the pig are arranged more like a human than any other animal," Mr. Schleder said. "After going through most of the major organ system in the body the students are

back of the throat.

Each group was also given a pipe to drain all of the fluid out of the fetal pig.

After that, each group was in charge of cutting open the abdominal and thoracic cavity of the fetal pig and identify all of the structures.

Some of the several structures that were found was the heart, stomach, gall bladder, small and large intestine, liver, spleen, kidneys, pancreas, and a few more.

However, in order to identify the structures, whoever is cutting the pig needs to make a very careful dissection or it could make it more difficult to label the parts.

"It takes a lot of work and patience to properly tease away the connective tissue to expose the organs they are looking for," Mr. Schleder said.

For all of Mr. Schleder's classes, they can use not only the previous dissections along with this one, but

also the class in general to be very beneficial in the student's futures.

"There are a lot of careers that require one or more classes in human anatomy and physiology," Mr. Schleder said.

"Even if you don't plan to have a career in the medical field we all deal with our body and any problems with it on a daily basis so therefore every student should take anatomy!"

This is my second year taking one of Mr. Schleders classes, and he is one of my favorite teachers. He always finds a way to make teaching fun which makes it a more fun class.