

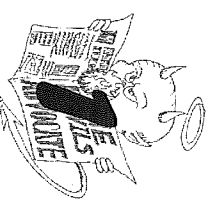
The BLUE DEVILS

Track and Golf preview:

see page 5

Advocate

Richmond High School
35320 Division Road
Richmond, MI 48062



Volume 8, Issue 8

May 3, 2012

Robots are taking over the world

RHS's robotics team qualifies for world championship

By **Lizzie Urban**
Staff Writer

A new sport has been introduced in the RHS this year, and it is not a common one.

In fact it is not a physical test. Robotics has been a challenge of the mind.

At the start of the school year, RHS was introduced to FIRST Robotics. FIRST stands for, "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology."

"I've always been known to be the smart kid and do stuff centered for the mind and this looked really cool," said Jacob Mathes, freshman and business manager.

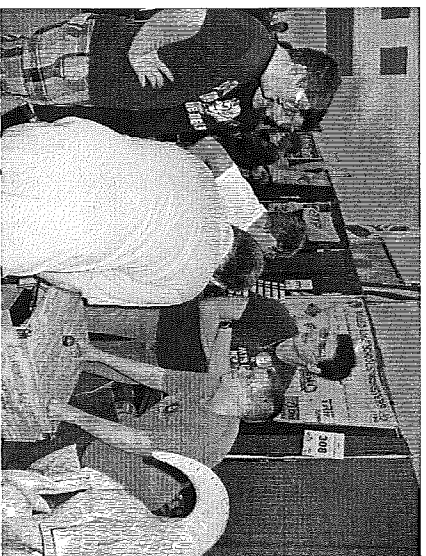
With the help of passionate people, this team has reached great heights, including qualifying for world level out of 193 schools in Michigan.

Mr. Roodbeen, Robotics mentor and RHS science teacher, became involved

seeing a presentation made by the Academy's team, "The Fighting Pi" at a staff meeting.

From there, he volunteered to be the coach of the team.

Mr. Roodbeen had goals for the team, "First and foremost, to get a robot up and running and to be as competitive as we can be," said Mr. Roodbeen.



RHS's robotics team works on their robot
Courtesy of RHS Yearbook

The team made many goals for this year; many of them were sur-

passed as they qualified for Worlds.

Mathes and Brandon Potts, freshman, made a business presentation to a group of judges, winning The

Rookie All-State Award, at a district level.

The Rookie All-State Award is an award given to a team new in the

organization that shows the most potential, and has the greatest understanding of the program and its purpose.

"I was actually surprised that we made it as far as we did. Obviously the team put in a lot of effort to get this far. I'm proud of what we accomplished as a rookie team," said Mr. Roodbeen.

From there, the team went up against 64 teams at state level, where they continued to apply hard work and dedication, traits that are needed to make it to Worlds.

"Only 18 qualify for worlds and out of that were two rookie teams, and Richmond won the highest award. That's very impressive," said Michael Graham, senior. **ROBOTICS cont. on pg. 3**

High tech with hybrid classes

RHS introduces hybrid classes in 2012-2013 school year

By: **Samantha Schafer**
Opinion Editor

Timeline:

Student 1: I'm totally taking the hybrid classes next year!!! ;)

27 people like this.

Comments:

Student 2: Richmond is going to have hybrid classes next year? Yes, we will.

And this is what it will look like. At least on some days.

Ms. Till, future hybrid class teacher and school counselor, said, "A hybrid class is basically a class where you come in one to two days a week, depending on your teacher, and then the rest of the time you are online."

Mrs. Gabridge, future hybrid class teacher, said, "It's a new approach to learning that, I think, can help improve critical thinking, as well as technology skills."

There will be a variety of these classes students can take.

Incoming freshmen will have the opportunity to take English 9 and Earth Science; sophomores can take English 10, US History, and Accounting; juniors English 11 and Accounting; and seniors English 11, English 12, and Accounting. But how did these choices get

here? Why are we doing this now? Simple: Conferences and Fraser High School.

Mrs. Gabridge said, "Mr. Olsen brought the idea up when we (Mr. Applegate, Mr. Lamont, Mrs. Woodruff and I) were traveling to the Macul conference, a technology conference in Grand Rapids. He said he had seen a presentation about them from Fraser High School, and he wondered if we could start something at RHS."

Mrs. Gabridge continued, "With that idea in mind, I went to all of the seminars at the conference that were geared towards electronic classrooms, so I could bring as many ideas back to Richmond as I could. The group of teachers who went to Macul then spent the two days discussing the idea of the hybrid class and what we could do with it at RHS."

Teachers had an idea, but they still needed a game plan.

"It's pretty overwhelming the amount of time that will be spent [preparing]. Fraser teachers tell us it's going to take about 80 hours to set up a class electronically. Mrs. Woodruff, Ms. Till, Mr. Applegate and I will be working diligently throughout the summer to plan."

HYBRID cont. on pg. 3

The decision is made

The 2012 Miss Richmond is crowned

By: **John Gaffney**
Sports Editor

Five young women from RHS

competed for the prestigious title of Miss Richmond just weekends ago.

The five

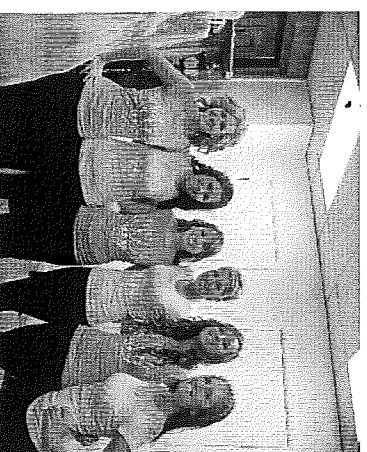
competitors were Caitlyn Gordon, Alex Pinsky, Sarah Brown, Jennifer Williams, Jamie Zyla, and Hannah Rygwelski.

Of these five, three were honored: Gordon, Brown, and Pinsky.

Gordon, a junior, was awarded the title of Miss Richmond while seniors, Pinsky and Brown were awarded Court status.

Gordon said it was a great feeling to win. "It was a legit Miss America win. My hands covered my mouth and I started crying," she said. "I was so happy."

Williams, a fellow competitor said, "I was really proud of Caitlyn, Alex and Sarah for all the hard work they put in. I couldn't have picked a

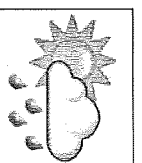


Miss Richmond Contenders
Photo courtesy of RHS Yearbook

Sarah Brown. "We practiced the dance for the opening night every day, too."

"The first night was really nerve-wracking," said Williams, "We had no idea what to expect but as soon as we got started I had a lot of fun."

Williams said that the most nerve-wracking part for her was the on-stage interviews. "I was really worried about making sure **PAGEANT cont. on pg. 3**

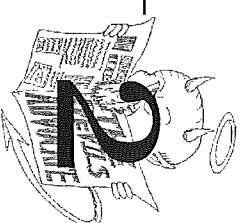


Today's Forecast
High: 81 Low: 63
Isolated T-storms,
Chance of Rain 30%

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Check out this year's RHS Top
Ten bios on page 14



Bringing the oldies back

RHS choir and band celebrates the Beatles and Grease

By: Katie Szeszaniak
Staff Writer

For this year's Spring Concert, choir and band are bringing The Oldies back.

The choir will be singing songs by the Beatles, while band will be playing a Grease medley and a variety of other songs.

Band Concert

The band concert will be held on May 16 in the High School auditorium at 7:00.

Star Tracks, Disney blockbusters and a Night in Tunisia are some pieces the band will be playing.

"We chose this music because it's very fun," said Band Director, Mrs. May.

The band will also be playing songs such as "Cherish" by The Association and "We Didn't Start the Fire" by Billy Joel.

Sophomore Dionte Hampton likes the Star Tracks songs because it is a mixture of 70's and 80's songs.

Mrs. May's most looking forward to the band playing the Grease medley because she says it is her favorite.

The songs from Grease that will be played consist of "Summer Nights", "We Go Together", "Beauty School Drop Out", "Born to Hand Jive", and "Grease Lightning".

"I'm really happy to be playing that song because the tuba has melody in Summer Nights," said Jacob Matthes, freshman tuba player.

For the concert, the band will be wearing dress clothes rather than their traditional band uniform.

For seniors like Raeshelle Leonard, this will be her last high school band concert.

"I really am going to miss the people that I am in band with.

They're really cool people. They know how to perform well and are there to play," said Leonard.

The band will be playing at the high school graduation on June 1.

They will be playing a Grease medley per request by the seniors.

Choir Concert

The choir concert will be held May 10 in the High School auditorium at 7:00.

Both the choir and chorale will be singing some of the Beatles most classic songs.

Choir Director Mr. Osadchuk chose the theme for this year but says he cannot take full credit because last year students came up with many ideas including this one.

Junior Jordan Vandembussche said, "I'm really excited to sing the Beatles because it's nice to do a concert that is something the parents and the kids can enjoy."

The choir will be singing "Eleanor Rigby", "A Little Help from My Friends", and "Blackbird", while the chorale will be singing "Here Comes the Sun" and "Yesterday".

"Hey Jude" and "Imagine" will be sung by both the choir and chorale. Chorale member junior Julie

McCouston likes the concert theme because it is very different from anything they've ever done.

This is the last concert of the year, meaning the last concert for the seniors.

Brooke McInerney, senior, said, "It's sad because I'm going to miss everyone but I'm glad to be graduating."

The Beatles seems to be a very popular theme for many.

Sophomore Anna LaTore said, "I love the Beatles. I think it's was a fantastic idea because everyone is a Beatles fan and has a strong connection to their music."

For the concert, the choir and chorale will be wearing jeans and a Beatles t-shirt.

"It's always fun to get out of the normal uniform," said McCouston.

The concert will be free to anyone who wants to come.

Mr. Osadchuk said, "You will need to bring yourself, a few friends, and be ready to listen to some great music."

RHS becomes state champs again

RHS choir students compete in solo and ensemble state festival

By: Emily Swantek
Staff writer

Richmond High School is fortunate enough to come home with a few state winners from the annual solo and ensemble.

Junior Julie McCouston was one of these students that attended.

"Solo and Ensemble is a self competition to see where you are on a performance level," said McCouston.

Anybody can attend this competition; there are different stages. If a person gets a one or two, they go to states. Your only competition is yourself.

McCouston said, "I like competing against myself because I know the competition. Competing against

other people is nerve-wracking because I don't know who I'm going up against. It's unpredictable."

McCouston received a one for her solo and a two for her trio with seniors Jessica Murphy and Brooke McInerney.

For her solo, she sang "Green Dog" and "Se tu Mami Sospire". "I had to practice a lot and got help from my vocal instructor and Mr. O," said McCouston.

Her goals for next year are to get a one overall. "It's going to be my senior year and I want to go all out," said McCouston.

Senior Brooke McInerney performed a trio with two of her classmates. "We sang 'Over the Sea to Sky' and 'Scarbofair' and got a

two overall," said McInerney.

This was her first time going to States. She said, "It was nerve-wracking, but fun because I got to sing with my friends."

She went on to say her favorite part of the experience was singing with her friends.

Sophomore Anna Fraser came home with a two overall.

"I sang 'Seben Crudele' for my Italian piece and 'Homeward Bound' for my English piece," said Fraser.

She added she was really anxious to perform. "I have been preparing and practicing since January," said Fraser.

Singing in a room the size of a standard classroom with just the judges and the accompanist can

make a person uneasy. Fraser said,

"At first, I get anxious to perform because only the judge's opinion matters and there are certain rules you have to follow, but once I'm in there, I become a performer and not just a tenth grader at Richmond High School."

Fraser's goal for next year is to earn a one at States.

Singing the songs isn't the only thing that these ladies were judged on. Fraser said they get judged on their posture, attire, presentation, and if they memorized their song.

McCouston said, "They also judge on your voice and how well you sing the song. If you can't memorize your song, you won't perform well."

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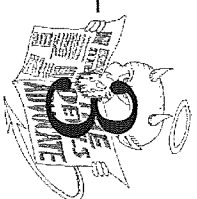
Segment 2 -- \$30

- Must possess a valid Level 1 Learner's License for 90 days
- Parental permission (Signed Permission of 30 Hours practice Driving)
- Driving Permit

Classes held spring, summer, and fall. See Mr. R. Hamblin for details on upcoming classes.

The Blue Devil's Advocate

May 3, 2012



PAGEANT cont. from pg. 1
that my points came across how I wanted them to. Other than that, being on stage didn't bother me," she said.

Each of the competitors in the pageant had a different reason for wanting to be a part of the pageant. "To be honest, I did the pageant because my mom and dad and aunts and uncles thought I would make a good queen. I guess they were right!" Caitlyn said.

"I thought it would be a really fun chance to represent our town this summer in all the parades and fairs this summer. Especially Good Old Days," said Sarah.

Williams agreed with Brown that it would be a fun and unique experience.

"Other than that, my grandma Walsh really was the one who motivated me to do it," said Williams.

Court member Alex Pinsky said that the pageant was a lot of fun and she was happy with how she performed.

"It was a great competition and all of the girls were so nice. It was a ton of fun," said Pinsky.

"Now comes the parades and all of the events that we have to be a part of. We get to meet the singer that they bring in to the Armada Fair," said Pinsky.

"There is so much that I have to do now that I won," said Caitlyn. "I didn't even realize that there was as much responsibility along with the title."

Some of her responsibilities include judging the car show at the Good Old Day's festival, presiding over the Demolition Derby as well as riding in the many parades over the summer.

The girls all agree that the pageant was a great experience and was a lot of fun, and everything during the pageant went well. "I am so proud of how we all did, it was a great time," said Williams.

ROBOTICS cont. from pg. 1
Academy's team, The Fighting Pi, is a mentor to RHS's team. He is a big supporter of the entire program. RHS team members appreciated the help.

"It's nice to see that teams that aren't new still help the rookies. Without the Fighting Pi, we'd have nothing," said Mathes.

The entire process was very challenging.

A challenge was presented to the members of RHS's team. They had just six weeks to figure out the design of the robot and build it to meet the requirements of this year's challenge of building a robot that could shoot basketballs. Teams could have their robot balance on a bridge for extra points, as well.

Within that time, each team member played an important role. Community involvement was a major aspect to the team's success.

Each week, Mathes, as the business manager, had to send out a newsletter. The team reached out to organizations like The Lions Club, for support. They had many presentations throughout the

community to promote their team.

Potts, the building captain, had to work hard with the materials all FIRST teams are supplied with from the organization. From there, the team is allowed to buy other materials if they pay for them.

"My goal was to get a greater understanding of how to build custom parts in robots," said Potts.

One major asset to the team has been Potts' father, Robert Potts.

"Shout out to Robert Potts, a parent mentor. He was the greatest help in building season and we wouldn't be where we are without him," said Potts.

Once they qualified for Worlds, the team, and Mr. Roodbeen, took a trip to St. Louis, Missouri to participate and compete against teams from countries like China and Israel. The team placed at 16 out of 100 in their division. 402 teams competed at Worlds.

"Even though we didn't win the rookie-all state award again, we were ranked fourth in the rookies out of 62 teams," said Mathes. "It made me feel accomplished and

hybrid class] in the morning and sophomores and freshmen in the afternoon. We are doing this because most juniors and seniors have transportation," Ms. Till said. Many questions have been asked about these classes lately, and they were answered on Thursday, April 26 at the RHS Open House.

"Mr. Gabridge and I, along with Mr. Olsen and Mrs. Woodruff, opened the floor for Question and Answers," said Ms. Till.

After everyone's questions were answered, they showed a movie explaining hybrid classes.

That night, ten people signed up. The next day, seven more people signed up.

As of April 30, 89 students were enrolled in hybrid classes. There are a total of 210 places, so there is still room for more interested students.

"You can definitely get in if you want to," said Ms. Till.

Despite the school's efforts to inform students, some students might have slight misconceptions of

invincible."

As a mentor, Graham has a different way to look at the success.

"It taught me what my mentors at the academy feel like because I'm a mentor here. I saw how hard the kids worked all season, and how far they've come. I'm very proud of them," said Graham.

RHS kept "Blue Devils" for their team name, but that may change.

Mathes said, "It may or may not change in the future. Most likely it won't though. The big problem is that we're planning on getting a build space in Chesterfield and we're going to partner with local schools like New Haven and Anchor Bay. I don't know how they would react to being the Blue Devils."

The team is happy with how they ended the year and hope to repeat their success for years after this.

"With the robot's performance, the business success, winning the Rookie All-State Award, winning at States, and going to Worlds, we feel like we are on top," said Potts.

hybrid classes.

Mr. Applegate said, "I'm sure a lot of students will sign up thinking it will be easier and 'Oh, I can sleep in!'. These students will have a rude awakening to just how demanding these classes will be."

One thing that makes hybrid classes different from a regular class is that students must maintain at least 75%, which has the potential of being a great motivator.

Timeline:

Student1: Check it out! It's the video from the hybrid class presentation.

<http://portal.sliderocket.com/BRVLX/RHS-Hybrid-Classes-open-house>

89 people like this.

Comments:

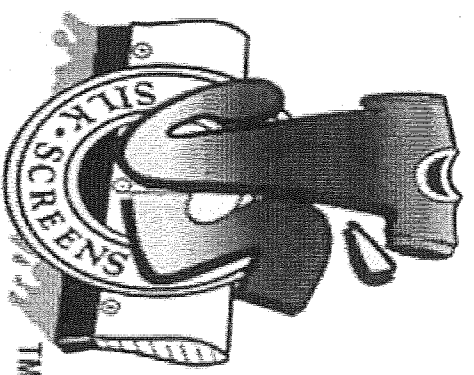
Student2: That is awesome!

Maybe I'll sign up too.

On This Day

- 1802— Washington, D.C. was incorporated as a city
- 1888— Thomas Edison organized the Edison Phonograph Works
- 1937- Margaret Mitchell won a Pulitzer Prize for "Gone With the Wind."
- 1952— The first plane landed on the geographic North Pole.
- 1971— National Public Radio broadcasted for the first time.

<http://on-this-day.com/onthisday/thedays/alldays/may03.htm>



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The Blue Devil's Advocate

May 3, 2012



Go blood or go home

RHS hopes for continued success with their blood drive

By: Hannah Townsend
News Editor

Millions of people are in need of blood and RHS is going to help. On May 7, Student Government is hosting a blood drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross.

This is the second time this year RHS is having a blood drive. In the fall, RHS had a blood drive, and it was a success. The school had a goal of 31 pints and they achieved it.

Senior Nicole Daniel, co-president of Student Government, said, "It was a success. We had a lot of people sign up to do it, and almost all of them were useable."

Dr. Ladd, Student Government advisor, said, "We have met our goal twice a year, every five years."

RHS is hoping for continued success this time. The goal for this is also 31 pints, and Student Government plans to sign up 35-40 potential donors beforehand.

Daniel understands the importance

of having a blood drive.

She said, "It helps saves lives. One pint can save up to three people's lives."

She and the other co-president of Student Government, senior Jolene Ureel, will work all day during the drive.

Daniel said, "I run the check-in station and make sure everything runs smoothly for the nurses, and also I pass out the time cards for people to come for their appointment."

Junior Jordan VandenBusche is also working at the event all day.

VandenBusche said, "This is my second year. I helped with the spring one last year, but this time I'm taking a bigger part."

On the day of the blood drive, he said he will get packs ready, make sure people do not pass out, give people food when they arrive and check people in.

VandenBusche has not just helped run the blood drive, he has also given blood before.

He said, "I gave blood in the fall.

It wasn't bad; everyone makes a big deal about passing out, but I didn't feel anything."

Junior Anna Smith is also going to try to give blood.

Smith said, "I tried to give blood last time, but I failed the tests, so this will hopefully be my first time giving blood."

Even though she said she is not a fan of needles, she is working through her fear.

She said, "I know there are a lot of people who need it, and I don't need it, so I will give it away."

If other students want to donate blood, sign-up sheets are in the office. Students who are 16 need a parent signature to donate blood, while students who are 17 or older do not.

On the day people give blood, nurses will give students mini-physicals. If a student passes the tests, they then give

blood. Each student usually gives around one pint and a few small vials of blood. After that, the blood is transported back to the Red Cross center where the blood is separated into three components: red blood cells, platelets and plasma.

The ability for blood to be separated into three parts is especially helpful because it means one person can save up to three people with one blood donation.

For people donating blood, Daniel has some advice.

She said, "People should definitely eat breakfast and drink a lot of water—stay hydrated."

Blood Statistics

- Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.
- The blood type most often requested by hospitals is Type O.
- A single car accident victim can require as many as 100 pints of blood.
- Share of the U.S. population eligible to give blood: Less than 38 percent.

Source: <http://www.redcrossblood.org/learn-about-blood/blood-facts-and-statistics>

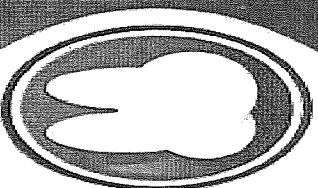


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The Blue Devil's Advocate

May 3, 2012



Honors Leaves Lansing and Comes to Richmond RHS athletes get state recognition

By: Mitchell Smith
Staff Writer

Bus rides, Sparty, and a little bit of honor came home from East Lansing after the two Division III State Championships

teams got recognized for their great accomplishments in winning a State Championship.

Kelsey Kasom, senior cheerleader, said she was so excited and had a great time. "We visited the different branches of the Capitol building. I got to see a good family friend of mine and our State Representative Andrea LaFontaine. We even got to visit MSU, but one of the best parts of the day was hearing our name announced as Division III State Champions."

Kasom said winning this award made her feel honored. "To be honored by anyone is very exhilarating." Kasom said to receive that plaque that her team got for winning States was huge and they even got their own individual awards. "It feels good to be recognized as a team and as an individual."

"Knowing this will be the last time I will receive this award is very bittersweet. You are getting recognized for something you worked very hard for," Kasom said.

Melissa Graham, senior, said to be recognized the team and even though they never even met them before. "The best part of going was being with my team again. It was nice to be there because it was a nice way to close out our season," Graham said. Graham said getting the individual

awards was awesome because it really reminded her of all the hard work she put into the season. It's also something she can keep and remember forever.

"This being the last year to receive this award is definitely bittersweet. It's the best possible ending for the team, and it's a great way to end my senior year," Graham said.

Greg Sebastian, senior, said he was happy to be on the bus ride to Lansing again. He was happy, even though going there for the third time in a row was kind of boring to him because they did the same thing every time.

"The best part is definitely this little sub shop I don't remember the name of but they have literally had the best subs ever," Sebastian said. "To get the plaque is interesting because how many high school athletic teams gets to go to the Capitol and get recognized by the state?"

Sebastian said it is definitely not the last time he wants to be there. He wants to go back and win it as a coach.

Austin Vannatter, freshman said it was a good experience and it was fun because he has never had a chance to do this before. "It was a good time. Plus not everyone gets awarded by the state," Vannatter said. "My favorite part was the bus ride because I was excited to go down and see the

Eric Boyd, senior, said it was awesome to go back and be recognized by the Senate. He said it was even better to go to the top of the Capitol building and eat pizza with all his good friends. He also enjoyed taking pictures at MSU with Sparty.

"To be congratulated by the State for the third year in a row was awesome because not every kid gets recognized by the State," Boyd said.

Boyd said he felt honored to be once again recognized by the State and get the plaque to bring back home. He said it really hits home when he received that prestigious award. He understood the cheerleaders' had mixed emotions

"It's definitely bittersweet knowing this will be the last time I ever receive this award. It's awesome knowing we ended on this high note, but it stinks because we can't come back to RHS and win it again," said Boyd.

Joshua "Danger" Younk, senior, said it was awesome to return to Lansing to receive the award from the Senate, and they got a tour of the Capitol and got to see where the Senate has meetings.

"It's still an honor to get recognized by the Senate. You feel like an important piece of the great jigsaw puzzle. You're representing your school," Younk said.

He added, "I think it's thrilling knowing this is the last year. I closed this chapter of my life on a good note. It's nice to know I'm a State Champ for RHS."



Donovan Cmarik

Nickname: Donny
Age: 14
Grade: 9
Sport(s): Football, Baseball, Basketball
Favorite pump up song: "Heart of a champion" by Nelly
Favorite Movie: Project X
Favorite Food: Hamburger
Favorite class: Health with Ms. Dunslyager
Future Goals: Go to college

Star Athletes



Hailey Holdwick

Nickname: Lil' H
Age: 14
Grade: 9
Sport(s): Softball, Volleyball
Favorite pump up song: "Talk that Talk" by Rihanna
Favorite food: Steak

Favorite class: Spanish 2 with Mrs. Dolland
Future goals: Become a college athlete at MSU.

Buzzer beats the Red Wings

By: Jessica Bilbrey
Staff Writer

It was a rough end to the 2012 playoff season for the Detroit Red Wings.

The Red Wings played a regular good season, making it into the playoffs this year. After having a rough first playoff game, the team came back and won game two.

After losing game three, four and five, the Wings were out of the playoffs, losing their chance to win the Stanley Cup. Though they played a great game in the first half of game four, it wasn't quite good enough to win it all.

"They didn't stick to their strategies," said Steven Romatz, who is a hockey fan. "They needed to dump the puck more in on Nashville's goalie and play more defense."

The Red Wings started off good at the beginning of the season, with a winning streak and making it to the playoffs to face the Nashville Predators. It all went down hill for the Wings from there.

"They didn't play their best, they didn't give enough effort. They weren't how they used to be when they had their winning streak," said Hunter Tousignant.

"I was disappointed. I don't think they played up to their potential," said Mr. Roodbeen.

According to Mr. Roodbeen, the Wings would have made it to the conference finals if they would have played more effectively during the first round.

The team had plenty of chances to make it to the conference finals but ended up losing after game five in the playoffs.

"I think they got outplayed. It could just be their age showing; there are quite a few older players on the team," said Mr. Roodbeen.

It's been three years since they had a shot at the Stanley cup, this making it the team's fourth year not making it.

The Nashville Predators played a good series, but the Red Wings could have won easily by making better plays and having better defense.

"I don't think the Predators will have a chance at the Stanley Cup because there's obviously better teams out there," said Mr. Roodbeen.

"The Predators don't have the man power, they don't have the star power to carry the team," said Romatz.

Though there are many talented teams out there who have a chance at the Stanley cup, only time will tell who wins it all and goes home with the cup.

"I believe that LA has a strong chance because their capabilities and their offense and defense," said Romatz.

Tousignant thinks it is wide open. "Every team that makes the playoffs has a shot at the cup," said Tousignant.

Next season, the Red Wings will play once again, doing their best to make it to the Stanley Cup playoffs.

While losing and gaining players, the Red Wings will step up their game and make it next year.

Continued on page 6

The Blue Devil's Advocate

Unexpected scouting for Baumgarten OCC dishes out a full ride

By: Adam Boyd
Sports Editor

For some student athletes, all they dream about is being a college or professional athlete. This dream started in eighth grade for senior Rachel Baumgarten. Baumgarten received a full ride scholarship to play basketball at Oakland Community College and received 30 credit hours a year.

Baumgarten has played basketball for 10 years and plays a three, four, or a five, a three being off-guard, a four being a post, and a five which is a power forward.

"I had planned on going to Ferris State University before Coach Allen, one of the coaches at OCC, called me and told me what I had received," she said.

Baumgarten explained how sad she was after her last game because she realized that her high school career was over.

She said, "I was very sad for a couple of days after basketball season because I realized it was over. But after about a week, Coach Pearson gave me a business card from Oakland Community College. I called them and they told me they saw how

I played and told me to try out for the team and to come to open gyms."

In many athletes' careers, there comes a time and a feeling that they feel like they are going through many challenges. For Baumgarten, this feeling came to her during junior year.

"It came to me at the beginning of junior year, we had a rough start to the season and we had a lot of team issues at the time. But we ended up pulling our act together and ending the season on a win streak," said Baumgarten.

Despite all the setbacks, there are always those great accomplishments that offset the bad ones. For Baumgarten, it was receiving her scholarship.

She said, "Words cannot even start to describe the feelings I had when I received the call from Coach Allen."

Along with the feeling of despair, there's also that great dream. For some they want to be a college or professional athlete. Most have that dream early on during the fourth or fifth grade. "I never really wanted to be a college athlete until eighth grade.

Underclassmen vs. Upperclassmen Aftershawe 2012 heats up

By: Hunter Tousignant
Staff Writer

Aftershawe is powering out another competitive day on Wednesday, May 2.

The boys of the freshmen class, sophomore class, junior class and senior class will all compete against each other to be crowned champions of Aftershawe 2012.

Aftershawe is a guy's game of volleyball that is equivalent to Powder Puff.

Last year, the seniors beat the sophomores, and the juniors beat the freshmen. Then the seniors faced and defeated the juniors, and then went on to face the staff.

But the winning stopped there. Dr. Ladd, said, "The staff pummeled the seniors."

Aftershawe is being held in the gym and starts at 6:00. Boys and coaches who want to attend the event have to sign up in the library.

Nicole Daniel, senior, said, "Aftershawe is a fun event and it is great to watch all the guys play and give all of them an opportunity to play a sport they don't usually get to play."

Aftershawe will be one of the last events for seniors.

Eric Boyd, senior, said, "Since this is my last year and this will be one of my last events, I will just have to destroy and dominate every team!"

This year, Aftershawe will start out with the seniors taking on the sophomores and the juniors facing the freshmen. After those matches are settled, the two winners will have the

I never really thought about it until then," said Baumgarten.

With a dream, most people have a mentor. For Baumgarten, it was her mom.

She said, "She was always there for me. She was always coaching me and she always wanted me to be the best I could be. My parents were also my biggest supporters. They came to every game I ever had. I don't know where I would be without them."

With experience comes skill. "Since second grade I became a better dribbler. I enhanced my shot and I just got a lot better at the game of basketball."

Baumgarten believes that her knowledge of the game is her best aspect of the game. "I just know where to be and what to do. I just understand the game of basketball," she said.

Oakland Community College expects great things from Baumgarten.

She also thinks she is going to perform very well. "The coaches expect great things out of me. Through working with the coaches, I plan to work on my game because they are more experienced coaches and that will benefit me the most," she added.

She plans on having a successful basketball career at Oakland Community College. "I want to get all of my

RHS running and swinging Golf and track teams come tearing in

By: Brett Brincefield
Staff Writer

Golf aims to hit the Ball

Golf Team aims to hit the ball into the hole once again and they are also aiming to hopefully surpass their previous season's game.

"Last year at BWAC, we tied for fourth out of eight. We lost to Utica Ford, but we did beat Marine City," said Jacob Folske.

Folske, sophomore, has been in golf for four years now. He started back in sixth grade, but didn't join an official team until high school. He said, "I quit baseball and thought I'd try golf. It's fun, exciting, but frustrating. There are 12 or 13 games per year. We're a good team, but not the best."

During practice, they play nine holes or go to the driving range. He added, "We have played four games so far."

They meet each team in the conference and the team with the lowest score wins.

Folske aims to have an average in the low-to-mid-40s. As for the team, he hopes they have an average of around 120.

"There isn't much conditioning, 'tis golf,'" Folske added. He also said golfers need to get beyond the frustration. He does this by focusing on one golf hole at a time and if he has one bad hole he just throws it out and continues on to the next.

Keenan McCloskey, junior, is experiencing his first year of golf. He was interested in trying it because he and Justin Nowak, a varsity golf teammate, golf together every so often. He said, "It's fun, so that's all that mat-



gen-ed classes out of the way at Oakland so I can transfer to Ferris. There I wish to study to become a physical therapist," she said.

Mr. Pearson, Baumgarten's varsity basketball coach, said, "Her work ethic cannot be beat."

"I don't know much about Oakland Community College but I do know that she loves basketball and she will work hard no matter what. There is no doubt in my mind that she will perform well," he added.

Red Wings continued from page 5

Next year's season the Wings need less injuries and hopefully find some free agents that will benefit the team for next years hockey season.

"I know for sure they'll make it to the Stanley Cup next year, but it just depends on how good they do in the playoffs," said Tousignant.

Red Wing fans haven't lost their faith in their team, even though they didn't make it all the way to the Stanley Cup finals. With a positive attitude, there's always next year, many fans believe.

ters."

He feels he needs to work on his putting and hopes to have an average of 45 and to win at least two tournaments.

He said there are different clubs for different distances. "A seven-iron will hit a golf ball about 160 yards and each hole is different. A par three could be 50 yards, while a par four could be 400 yards out." The Golf team's current record is one to one, as they have only played two tournament matches.

Track Tears the Field

As there is a month left of Track, the Track team looks to finish off with a successful year! Starting in March, the track team will continue to run and work hard for the remainder of the season. Even ask Coach Ladd.

Coach Ladd has been a track coach for 16 years. He said the team spends a lot of time in the weight room and practicing more technique work, rather than running.

"It has been proven that it helps reduce injury and I try to make the team as well as it can be."

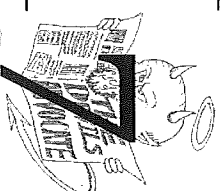
The team practices for about an hour- and-a-half to two hours per day.

Dr. Ladd said they have better jumpers than in previous years. He feels the team isn't as fast as it needs to be, but knows they are making progress.

They have beaten Capac and have six or seven meets left along with BWAC and States, which are the first week of June.

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In Our Opinion



Blue Devil's Advocate

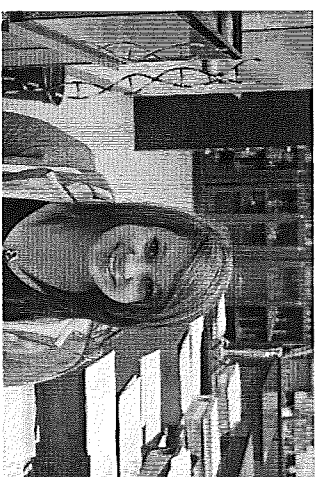
Question of the Month
What game show would you be on and why?

Staff



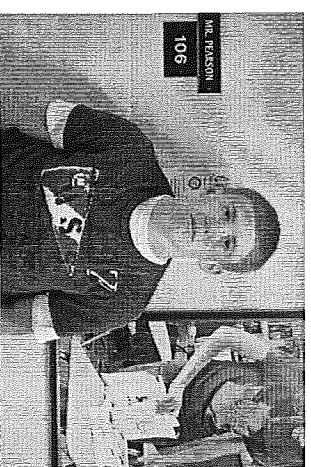
Ms. Till picked "Wheel of Fortune" because she is good with words.

Senior



Katy Martin would be on "The Price Is Right" because she could win stuff.

Junior



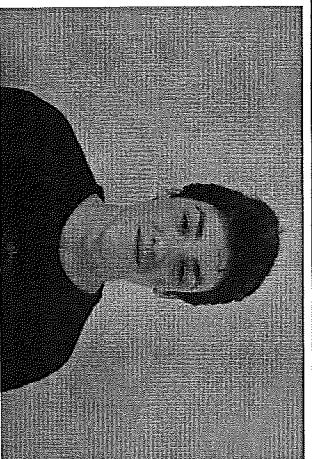
Scott Bishop also said "The Price Is Right" because you can win money.

Sophomore



Breanna Farnam would go on "Family Feud" because her family would win.

Freshman



Dylan Allor chose "Jeopardy" because he has a lot of "Jeopardy" knowledge.

Staff Editorial: Smart steps before Prom

With Prom right around the corner our SADD group here at RHS really has an impact on how students act and make decisions on Prom night.

One of the main things our school has been doing for 10 years now is the Mock Accident. The Mock Accident is a live demonstration planned out and played to show what can happen if a student drinks and drives. The school officials get Richmond Police and an ambulance to help with the demonstration. They will put a wrecked car in the front of the school to show an accident has occurred.

The SADD group will pick three seniors to participate in the mock accident. They will have to lay in the smashed car and pretend to be either dead or unconscious. The ambulance and police will then cut the roof off the top of the car and rescue the students as if it was a real accident.

All juniors and seniors went to the mock accident this Wednesday and got to see the disaster and what can really happen if poor decisions are made. The goal is to influence students not to drink and drive and to make safe, responsible decisions on prom night. With students seeing a visual on what is done and how the acting students look it shows them how dangerous and serious the situation is.

Another important tradition the school does to show how serious drunk driving is is the Grim Reaper. Someone in the school will dress up in a black costume representing the death monster known as the Grim Reaper.

During school the Grim Reaper will walk around school and just tap people on the shoulder, which means that that person has just died. If you were one of the people who has gotten killed by the grim reaper, you will then have to wear a sign that says "I have been killed by a drunk driver."

Doing this helps students realize how serious drunk driving is and that lives can be taken away very quickly when poor decisions are made. The Grim Reaper is put in place to demonstrate the statistics of how many people die from the hands of drunk drivers.

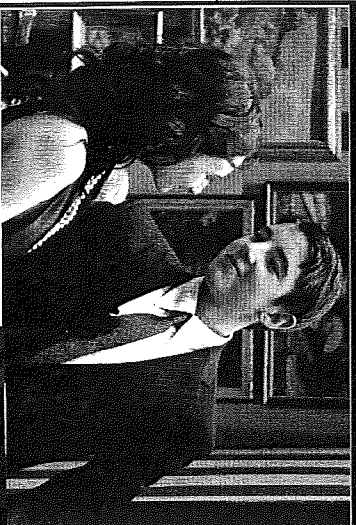
What would happen if our school didn't take their time and effort to do these sorts of things before Prom?

Students wouldn't get the visuals to see how accidents and deaths can happen due to making poor decisions. Therefore, students would not be aware of the consequences to their actions.

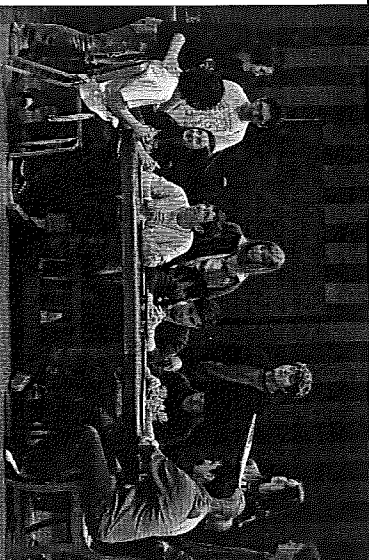
In the past SADD has done things like putting notes on car windows, and in the parking lot the day of Prom. This year they will put signs all over the school walls and lockers with quotes and poems stating not to drive drunk or ride with a drunk driver. Doing the signs was a very good idea because it was another thing that was put out to the students to not drink and drive.

The things that our school does to help prevent drunk driving is very beneficial to the students. Ask yourself: how would students act if our students and faculty did not take time out of their week to plan these traditions?

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU... BUT WE HAVE THE PIGS!



Regan Blissett and Chris Keher playing Alice Sycamore and Tony Kirby.
 From RHS Yearbook



The cast chilling out on stage at a prop table out of costume.
 From RHS Yearbook



Joshua Kohn and Krystal Nowak playing Donald and Rheba.
 From RHS Yearbook

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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: kshagena@richmond.k12.mi.us. Include your name, address, and grade level.

Opinion

May 3, 2012