

Half Way Across The World

By: Hailey Dziegelewski
News Co-Editor

Brunswick, Germany.
Also known as home to sophomore Maxime Tschuader, this city of 250,000 is separated from her by an entire ocean.

When joining a foreign exchange foundation called Aspect, Tschuader had no idea she would end up enrolled in small-town Richmond.

"My foundation picked where I would go for the next 10 months. I didn't have a choice," said Tschuader.

For students of RHS, this meant a new student and friend that could be welcomed into the community. But for Tschuader, it was a nerve-wracking, stressful experience that caused her to adjust to a completely new culture.

Tschuader is currently living with a family that lives in Richmond. The family includes two kids that are both homeschooled, a mom and a dad.

She quickly realized that by even living with a new family not everything changed, especially not the delicious food.

In Germany, they also have fast food such as McDonalds, Pizza Hut, Starbucks, Subway and Burger King. However, those franchises are not as popular there as they are in America.

"Americans tend to eat healthier while Germans eat mostly home-cooked meals but still like the fast food occasionally," said Tschuader.

The food difference was the easy change according to Tschuader. The new school, friends and American accent are more complicated for her.

In Germany, there are between 20-30 people in each class. The teachers travel from room to room instead of the students changing classes. The professors decide what classes each student will take instead of the students picking them so they are challenged and in the right class for their level.

They go to school for 13 years instead of 12 and their graduating class consists of around 20 people. Like American college schedules, German students aren't enrolled in the same classes every day; they switch daily as well as the times.

Tschuader said that the education here is quite easy for her; however, she struggles with it because it is hard

for her to understand the American slang.

"I learned Britain English, so it is strange to hear the way American's pronounce their words," said Tschuader.

"They carry out their vowels and the "r's" at the end of words," Tschuader believes her English has gotten better since she has arrived here and she is able to communicate with the friends she's made more fluently.

"I've made tons of friends here, some of them are Lexie Sharpe, Karissa Brunsman, Tasha Olko, Morgan Gaigalas and Lauren Molnar," said Tschuader. Those girls have helped her greatly with becoming more comfortable to the change. They've included her in hangouts on the weekends and football games. Tschuader is hoping to keep in touch with them even when she goes home.

Her absolute best friend, or as she calls her "soul mate," is her 19-year-old sister, Jill Tschuader. She misses her very much and wishes she could be here to share this experience with her.

"We text and talk on the phone at least once a week," said Tschuader. She talks to her parents briefly as

they told her if she doesn't call them a lot then that's how they'll know that she is doing well. But if she does, then they'll assume something's wrong.

"I try not to talk to them as much because it makes me home sick when I do," said Tschuader.

Aside from missing home, Tschuader is happy to be here and is very proud to be able to say that she has finally learned where every single state is thanks to RHS. She has learned so much in such a short time, simple things like dollars instead of euro, miles instead of kilometers, and even how much each coin is worth.

"You can't learn the American way of life' from Germany. You have to be here in the US and live here to know how everything works," said Tschuader.

Before coming to Michigan, she visited New York with her regular family and she was mostly surprised by one quality all Americans seem to carry with them: friendliness.

"I think what I like the most about America is that everyone is so nice, not just in Richmond but in other states too," said Tschuader.

Lights, Camera, Comedy.

By: Ana Kinkela
Staff Writer

RHS drama club will be nothing but laughs in their fall performances.

The new Director, Mr. Finlay, has put together two comedies that will run on Thursday, November 5; Friday, Nov. 6; and Saturday, Nov. 7. From 2p.m. to 7p.m. Each day a different cast will be on stage.

"Basically this is a repertory theater piece of a comedy nature depicting bad auditions and hilarious news reports," said Mr. Finlay.

Junior Autumn Brincefield plays the casting director in Bad Auditions.

"Bad Auditions for Bad Actors is about a casting director that is trying to find actors to play Ro-

meo and Juliet, but they are all terrible," said Brincefield.

Brincefield is excited but a little nervous for the plays, hoping everything comes together and that everyone enjoys it.

The second play is Action News with 100% More Action.

This hilarious performance involves two newscasters hosting a news show with insane segments and hilarious moments. Junior Noah Schroeder has a significant role in this play. He is Jim, Don and Jeremiah in Action News.

Schroeder has been working very diligently since rehearsals started. He has put in countless hours of rehearsing and helping others rehearse.

These aspiring actors and actresses are all working very hard at rehearsals to get the production done in time.

"Behind the curtain, rehearsals are crazy hectic, but we always get stuff

done," said sophomore Joey Auito.

Through thick and thin, these performers stick together

"We are like a giant family, working as a team all working very well together to make sure the fall plays are as best as ever," he said.

Sophomore Dakota Stewart said, "It was nerve-wracking and strange at first, having a new director. We didn't know how he was going to do things, but I really like him; he interacts with us very well."

Even though this is Mr. Finlay's first time directing a Richmond production, this isn't his first time taking the stage.

He has directed 12 plays in the past, so putting this play together was easy.

"We did this as a group. It was a community effort, and very dramatically. Everyone has an opinion and it's valued," said Mr. Finlay.

Getting the play together may seem hard after figuring out what they should have done, but for the theater team, it was nothing.

Mr. Finlay believes that studying the material, delegating authority and allowing students to focus on their strengths helps keep the play organized.

Mr. Finlay said that doing it this way makes the plays fun. Everyone is very excited for this fall performances. The actors, stage crew and everyone else involved may be rushing to get things done, but they don't mind.

"We aren't as much nervous to perform, just hoping everyone laughs and enjoys it," said senior Hannah Budd.

The show is just around the corner and the actors and actresses are very excited to get back on this year, and do what they do best.

On This Day

1913 - Mohandas K. Gandhi was arrested as he led a march of Indian miners in South Africa.

2001 - Disney's "Mickey's Magical Christmas - Snowed In at the House Of Mouse" was released on video and DVD.

Disney movies, music and books

Walter Perry Johnson Birthday 1887 - Baseball player and manager

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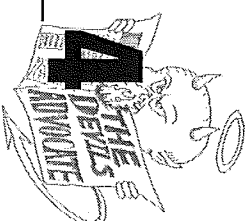
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On the Road Again: Football Sets Sights on Ford Field

By: Brendan Hart
Sports Co-Editor

When you lose your leading receiver, rusher and tackler to graduation, most would assume that the Blue Devil football squad would take at least a step or two backwards this season.

This is not to mention missing one of your head coaches during the offseason while he battles cancer.

Instead of making excuses, the team is using these setbacks as motivation.

“Coach Kocher is without a doubt our number one motivation for this season, not last year’s loss to [Lansing] Sexton or the fact that this is my senior year and quite possibly my last season of organized football ever,” said senior quarterback Trevor Barrett.

Barrett himself has dealt with setbacks. He missed the last four and a half games of the regular season when he injured his knee during Richmond’s game against Armada, his former school.

“Suffering an injury is never a good feeling but I knew we were in good hands with Anthony for the rest of Armada and then Chase going forward.

Chase Churchill, sophomore, was then handed the reins of Richmond’s power offense. Churchill never expected to start or even be pulled up to varsity.

“I never expected to be called up to varsity,” said Churchill. “I knew it was his [Barrett’s] team.”

In Churchill’s four games he has thrown for 566 yards and 6 touchdowns.

No one should forget who is all responsible for giving both quarterbacks time to find their above average wide outs. Led by returning starter Andrew Reed, the offensive line has restocked this season with senior, Chad Kavanagh, finally

getting his chance to shine, as well as tight end converted linemen senior Kyle Logghe and juniors Gus Aiken and Jake Collins.

“Last year I was the only junior so I kind of felt like an outsider on the line, this year we have two juniors so were better-knit together and have better chemistry,” said Reed the leader of the offensive line or what he refers to as warriors.

Along with the O-line, the receiving pool available to both Barrett and Churchill has been replenished with a multitude of explosive playmakers

Richmond’s new receivers include Anthony Tavano and Matt Skoryanc. Senior tight end Spencer Trapiss. Skoryanc, a senior has provided on both sides of the ball starting at cornerback as well.

“I’m just happy that I get a chance to play this season, and hopefully make a difference,” said Skoryanc who was behind many seniors on the depth chart last season.

Unlike last year Richmond’s run game is a committee of backs with seniors Andrew Hamel and Stefan Fenwick and junior D’Sean Hamilton splitting reps in the backfield. The three have combined for over 1,700 yards and 26 touchdowns.

One difference between this year’s team from last is that the Blue Devils are no longer blowing teams out like last season. However, points have been a rarity for the Blue Devils’ opponents this season, thanks to another solid defense put together led by senior safety

Matt Poppe.

“Poppe brings a certain swagger onto the field whenever he’s on it,” said Trevor Barrett.

“The experts say that defense wins championships, since I want to win, that’s what I do, I play D,” said Poppe.

Poppe has also backed up his swagger with seven interceptions this season. Skoryanc has also added three.

“The experts say that defense wins championships, since I want to win that’s what I do, I play D,” said Poppe.

You can’t talk about the secondary if you don’t at least mention the men forcing opponents into questionable passes, with junior Brandon Furtaw and senior Jake Stewart rushing from the defensive tackle positions along with support from senior defensive ends Logghe and Kavanagh.

To compliment the D-line Richmond’s linebacking corps has been more than adequate with seniors Joe Ottenbacher, Hamel and Trapiss along with Hamilton.

In order to do what no Richmond team has ever done before all of these individuals are going to have to become a true team.

Richmond who finished 8-1 in the regular season defeated Cros Lex in their first playoff game will host Notre Dame Prep this Friday in hopes of winning their district for the second consecutive year.

“Winning has and always will be the goal, no matter what. We don’t care about individual awards on this team,” said Barrett.

Town Comes Together to Support Coach’s Battle Against Cancer

By: Daniel Seguin
Staff Writer

The phrase “Kocher Strong” has been ringing through the halls of RHS for the past few weeks. This has been in support of the varsity football co-head coach, John Kocher, who had been diagnosed with cancer.

James Bishop, also a co-head coach, gathered the team into the locker room and broke the news to them during the summer workouts. Trevor Barrett, senior captain, recalls the event: “We were all in shock. We had no idea of the news we were going to receive.”

After the news broke that Coach Kocher had cancer, the community sprang into action. It came together to show support and solidarity for him.

One example of this was the selling of wristbands that say “Kocher Strong.”

Spencer Trapiss, senior, originally had the idea to sell the bands. “A Times Herald reporter asked me if a band that I was wearing said ‘Kocher Strong’ on it. That gave me the idea,” Trapiss said. After that, Trapiss sprang into action.

“I went online and ordered the bands and within a month they were here,” he said. All of the proceeds went to Coach Kocher and his family.

The cheerleaders also sold wristbands. Junior Abby Jeroue’s parents ordered their batch.

Jessica Hatcher, senior, said, “We actually had no idea that the football players did it too; it was a complete coincidence.”

Also, two varsity football games were dedicated to him.

The first was on Friday, September 25, against Almont. The theme for this game was a “white out” and students were asked to wear white. “Kocher Strong” t-shirts were also sold.

The following Friday, October 2, was against Armada, which has traditionally been the Rivals Against Cancer game.

Both Almont and Armada helped raise support Coach Kocher, putting rivalries aside.

Coach Kocher said, “It was overwhelming to see the Richmond support, but also the Blue Water Area Conference’s support.”

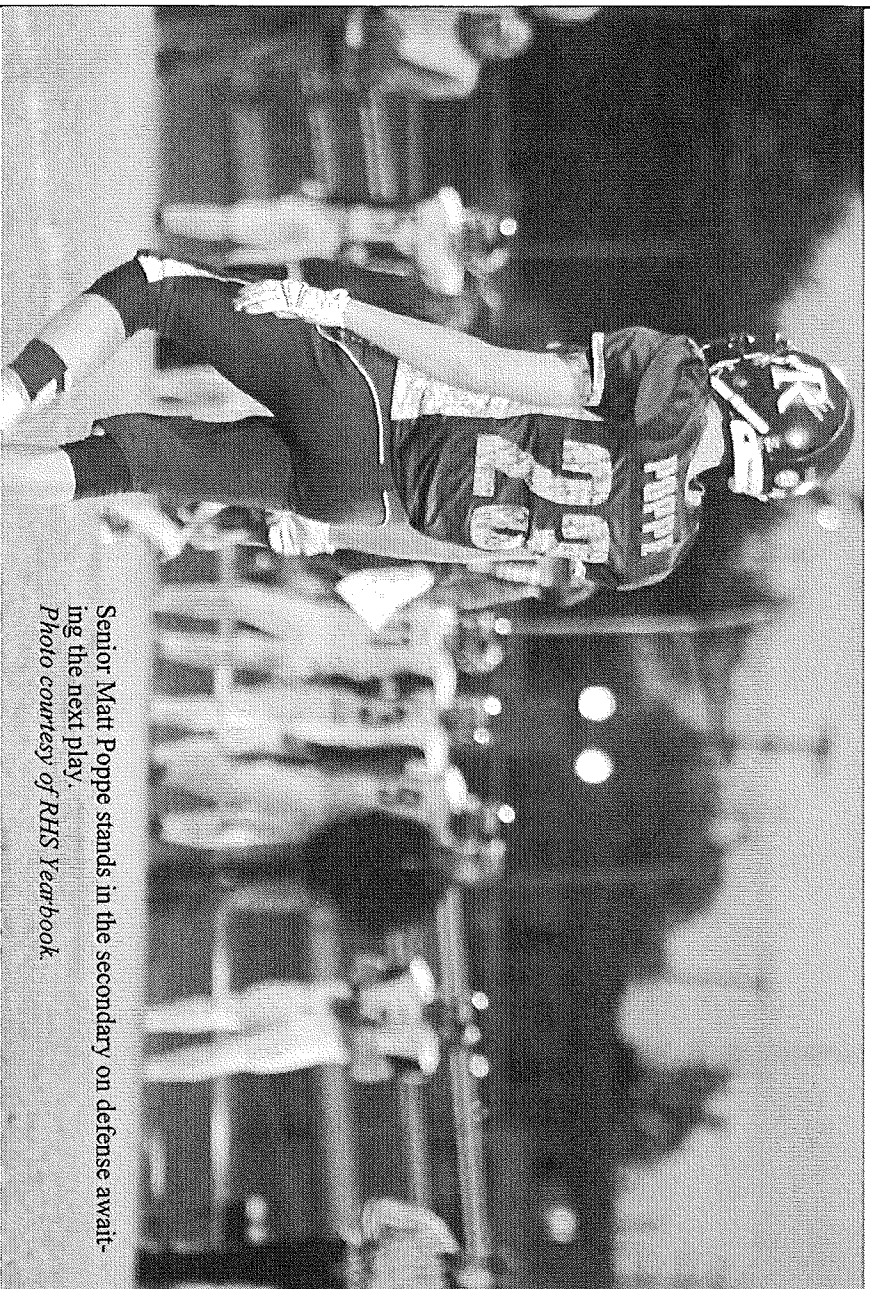
Lauren Duche, a junior cheerleader, said, “We figured that the ‘Rivals’ game and Kocher Strong go hand in hand.”

Students were asked to wear their shirts advertising the game and white accessories.

“We wanted to support Coach Kocher while also holding true to the traditions of the game,” said Duche.

The support did not go unnoticed. Barrett said, “It’s really amazing to see how strong our community is. Even people who don’t play football, who didn’t know who Coach Kocher was are coming together to show support, and it’s just incredible.”

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Senior Matt Poppe stands in the secondary on defense awaiting the next play.
Photo courtesy of RHS Yearbook.