

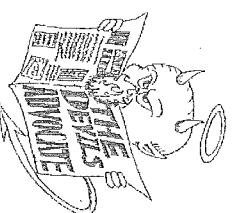
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The

BLUE DEVIL'S

Advocate



Richmond High School
35320 Division Road
Richmond, MI 48062

Volume 9, Issue 2

November 16, 2012

Presidential Election

Election storms through nation, RHS

Obama wins national election; Romney, Obama tie at RHS

By: Jacob Thomas
Sports Editor

President Obama won another election to remain in office. President Obama will receive a second term to continue to help the nation grow, and improve the economy. The president won both the electoral vote, 332-206, and the popular vote. The Democratic Party built momentum over a weakening Republican Party with a second straight win.

"The best is yet to come," said President Obama.

Both parties put up great campaigns. Mitt Romney's second run at becoming president of the United States ended after a 16 month long campaign that officially started when he announced in June, 2011 that he would be running to become the 45th president of the United States.

In what was expected to be a close race, ended up turning into a large margin of victory as swing states were being won for President Obama. The President won all of the swing states that Mitt Romney desperately needed. The major swing states Ohio, Florida and Virginia all were claimed by President Obama. The minority groups con-



Freshman Jenna Zyla votes as Dave Stafford makes sure the voting is done right.

tinue to build in the United States. President Obama carried the majority of women, African American and Hispanic voters in the United States. The election was not only held for the entire nation. RHS held its own election as well.

The presidential vote for RHS Obama and Mitt Romney. However, only a quarter of the school voted. Mrs. Underwood was the major contributor in setting up a school wide vote.

"Various people within the

school were interested in a school election. Mrs. Michon was interested. People who vote early in life are likely to vote as they get older," said Mrs. Underwood. The two major candidates, President Obama and Mitt Romney, were not the only options on the ballot in both the U.S. election, and the RHS election. The Green Tea Party, Libertarian and Constitution parties were all options as well.

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Vamonos! Let's go RHS Spanish, Biology, and AP Economics learn on the go

By: Lizzie Urban
News Editor

On October 31 of this school year, all Spanish classes were welcome to go on a field trip, where they would be exposed to a strong sense of Latin American culture.

First students were brought to Wayne State University Auditorium, where they saw a performance put on by a touring company.

There students watched a performance of Latin music and dance performance. Spanish teacher Señora Wolfe really enjoyed the performance. She said, "It was a very entertaining show, especially, since it nev-

er had a chance to get boring. Between dances the audience was entertained by being given short pop quizzes about Spanish words and geography or by being taught a Spanish song, for example, 'La Bamba' and Señora Dolland's favorite song 'Canta no llore.'"

From there, the company performed several dances from different Latin American countries.

Señora Wolfe said they performed a tango from Argentina, a cumbia from the Colombia, the salsa from Puerto Rico and Dominican Republic, and many more dances from several different countries, including traditional dances from Mexico, Peru, Colombia, and Bolivia.

"The most exciting part of the show included two men demonstrating

Argentinean cowboy tricks/dance called 'boleadores,' where they had ropes with balls on each end, that they sent spinning rhythmically and would have the ropes [going] at an extremely fast speed, zigzagging between each rope, without them falling or flying off the stage. It was stunning," said Señora Wolfe.

After the show, the students were taken to Mexican Town where they explored the area and ate lunch. They went to the different bakeries there. Souvenirs were also purchased during that time.

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Magic or science?

RHS Psychology observes a hypnotist in action

By: Adam Boyd
Sports Editor

Was I hypnotized? Or was I brain-washed?

Mr. Rineer, the RHS psychology teacher, said "I think the hypnotist does a really good job because he educates his audience while he performs."

Michael Brody, the stage hypnotist, has been coming to RHS for three years now.

"As cost goes the students pay so it's not really that much of an issue," said Mr. Rineer.

The unit that goes along with the hypnotist is the various states of consciousness. "Hypnosis is an artificial alteration of the three states we study," said Mr. Rineer.

Mr. Rineer is amazed every year with Brody's performance. He said, "It's hands-on education that is fun to learn. I like that he explains its significance and how it can help everyday people, their educational values that reinforces classroom lessons."

"The students' reaction every year is just amazement, awe, or genuine. There is a lot of skepticism and it turns into amazement," said Mr. Rineer. "The mind has the power to manipulate that which we think we know. The hypnotist showcases the power of suggestion and that we are creatures of influence."

Mr. Rineer said, "Hypnosis is done through deep relaxation and the willingness to let go. You have to want to be hypnotized. Because it is very hard to hypnotize a large number of individuals, only about 12-15 people are actually truly hypnotized."

Katie Garchow, senior, was one of the hypnotized people this year during Mr. Rineer's annual hypnotist event for his psychology class. Garchow said, "It felt more like I was brainwashed than hypnotized."

She added, "I don't remember what I did, but I was told that I ran around the auditorium and gave Mr. Rineer a hug. But what little bit I did get to watch, I had a lot of fun."

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Field trips continued from page 1

Inside of Señora Wolfe's classroom, Spanish 2 students are learning about leisure activities, like sports and dance.

She said, "We are always infusing culture into our lessons, and with as many Spanish speaking countries as there are, it's always hard to teach everything from every culture."

This show was a way to give students a taste of the majority of Spanish speaking countries and has since spawned several conversations and mini-lessons about the cultures and practices of people living in some countries whose dances we watched, she added.

Biology goes to Cranbrook

During a recent honors biology field trip to Cranbrook Institute of Science, the students participate in a program called, "Water Quality Monitoring on Cranbrook's Campus." There, students waded into the Rouge River and collected samples from the water.

This applied to the biology class because students were learning about how things mix together.

Mr. Roodbeen, biology teacher, said, "We were beginning to study ecology and the environment so this fit into the curriculum at the time."

Sophomore Alyssa Mlot really enjoyed the field trip. She said her favorite part was wading into the water, with the waders on.

Waders are high, waterproof boots usually consisting of pants with attached boots used for wading.

"I liked going in the water. It was a lot of fun, and we could see really well," said Mlot, while they collected the samples.

After the water was collected, students toured the museum. Back at school students tested the

"Students had to find and identify the different benthic invertebrates that they found," said Mr. Roodbeen, about testing the water.

They also recorded things about the surrounding area, weather conditions, flow rate of the river and river bank characteristics, he said.

Mlot said, "The most interesting part was testing the water. It was kind of cool to see how it worked."

Atlas Shrugged at Economics

Last year, Dr. Ladd's 10th and 11th grade AP Economics class read the book "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand.

This class is assigned to read the novel every year because of its economic standpoint.

"It's just a different perspective on things," said Dr. Ladd.

When the book became a movie in recent years, he and his class took advantage of the opportunity.

After watching Part One of the movie, titled, "Atlas Shrugged, Part One," last year in his class, the group traveled to the theatre to view the second installment of the film.

Anna Smith, senior, really enjoyed the movie. She said it helped her to better and more fully understand the book.

"It was really great. I liked the story a lot last year when we read it in class, but seeing the movie was different," she said.

According to an internet article on the book, it is a mystery story, but with obvious aspects of romance and science fiction.

"The book really had the reader asking why. I thought that was interesting," Smith said.

This year, 11th and 12th graders, who had been in Dr. Ladd's AP Economics class last year, were invited to go view the movie that visualized the book they read the previous year.

Each field trip was educational and out of the classroom, which was an opportunity for the teachers and the students.

Hypnotist continued from page 1

The hypnotist impacted Garchow in other ways.

"After witnessing what he was able to do, I realized how much more interesting psychology is because it helped me understand more about the different states of consciousness," said Garchow.

The event also changed her view on hypnosis.

"I actually wanted to be hypnotized because I was a skeptic. I didn't think that I could be hypnotized. It was a cool experience because it showed me that I could be hypnotized," she said.

Tyler Queen, senior, also attended the performance. She said, "It was a cool experience. It showed me how if you study certain fields of the mind you can manipulate them to perform various tasks."

Certain instances of the event are very memorable for Queen.

"My favorite part was either when the hypnotized people met their favorite celebrities, or when the performer manipulated the hypnotized sense of smell to whenever he turned around he smelt really bad to them.

"I like psychology more now because it shows what skills can be used against others." - T. Queen

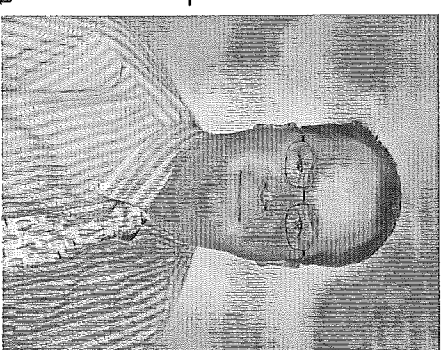
Their faces were just priceless," said Queen.

She said, "I like psychology more now because it shows what skills can be used against others." Queen was not hypnotized, but the experience left her more inter-

ested.

"I would like to be hypnotized because the things they did were interesting and I want to see if I can be hypnotized. [All together] though, my favorite part was everyone not knowing what they did at the end when they came out of the hypnosis," she said.

One of those was Jeff Sepienza.



Mr. Riner, Psychology Teacher

"At the time I couldn't have told you what happened but now I could tell you everything."

Sepienza did get to watch some part of the performance. "I got to watch Owen Kratt get hypnotized and that was cool, but I didn't get to watch much else," he said.

Alyssa Barton, junior, found the hypnotist very exciting. She said, "I thought it was very interesting because not only was it cool, but it showed how we can use the material that we are learning in class and apply it to real life. It definitely made me like psychology a lot more."

Barton's favorite part of the performance was when Courtney Russell met her favorite celebrity.

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H & H Student Driving School – 2008

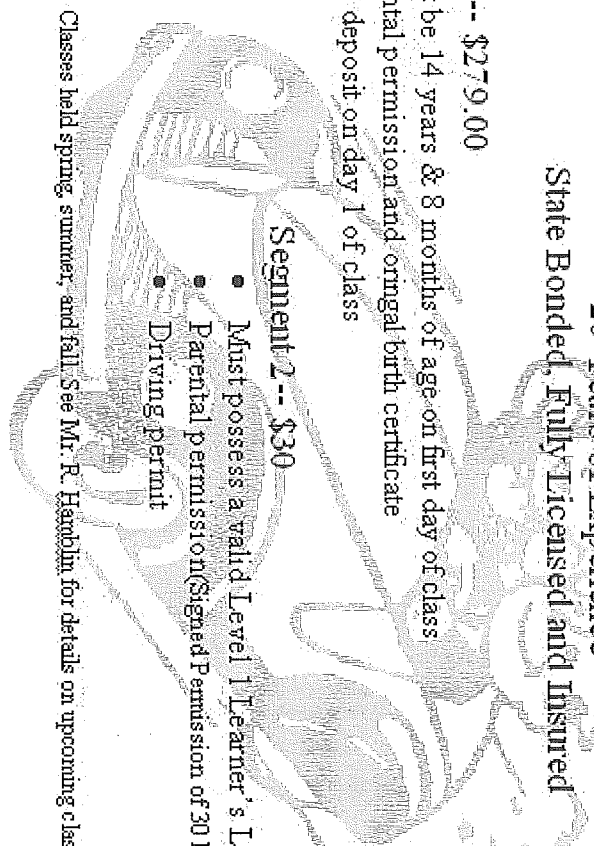
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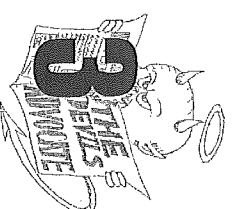
- Must be 14 years & 8 months of age on first day of class
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Segment 2 -- \$30

- Must possess a valid Level 1 Learner's License for 90 days
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- Driving permit



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



Receiving more for doing more

Lee school doing the little things to get more funding

By: Logan Iskra
Opinion Editor

The Lee School is one of the many schools that rely on state funding to operate. This money is enough to take care of the school's needs.

But what does it take to get to the next level of education? How will the school become a thriving educational environment?

The Lee school takes this matter into its own hands with programs like Box Tops for education, Campbell's Labels for Education, or Tyson Points.

Each class in the Lee School tries to collect as many box tops and Campbell's soup labels as possible and gives them to the school. These labels can then be exchanged for cash for the school at ten cents per label.

The school offers incentives for its students to take part in these fundraisers. Catilee Hawley, fundraising coordinator for the Lee School, works with the PTA to provide a bimonthly prize to the class that gets the most fundraising points, like new erasers. At the end of the year, the class with the most points overall wins the grand prize of an in-class pizza party.

"The prizes really work as an incentive for students to participate in helping their school," said

Hawley. "Small toys or class parties motivate them to bring in box tops."

Hawley is also in charge of creating collection sheets, sending letters and emails to parents, collecting and redeeming the labels, and creating fliers for the fundraisers.

Thanks to these things, student interest in these programs is usually high.

Mr. Benoit, the principal at the Lee School said that telling students and their parents what the money will be used for helps with participation.

More students will be interested if you tell them that the money will be used to buy new playground equipment, rather than just telling them that the school is having a fundraiser for the sake of making more money.

The most recent project using fundraising money was installing smart boards in every classroom to help provide an interactive learning experience.

Currently, there are smart boards in about 90% of the classrooms. Prior to this, the school purchased new playground equipment for students in the three to five-year-old age group.

This project took three years and cost about \$30,000. All of the money used to purchase this

equipment was gained through these fundraisers.

"The school should be a fun, safe place to play and learn," said Hawley.

Mr. Benoit believes these fundraisers are important to the school.

"Without them, I think it would be hard to meet the needs of the children," said Mr. Benoit. "In the world we live in, there have been a lot of cutbacks to funding. School is like a family. Sometimes, your income goes down. If the state cuts funding just because that's life, you need to find a second income."

Regardless of how many fundraisers a school has, or how pure their intentions are, fundraisers do not work without the support of the community.

"I've been in the business a long time and I've seen what fundraising can do. Our community is phenomenal at supporting our fundraisers," said Mr. Benoit. "We have a very giving community."

Anyone who wishes to make a donation of box tops or Campbell's labels may submit them to the High School Office. These will then be given directly to Fundraising Coordinator Catilee Hawley. All money earned through donations goes directly to the Lee School.

Hypnotist continued from page 3

"I actually wanted to be hypnotized, because I think it would be cool to say that I have been hypnotized before and it's just one of those things that would be a cool experience," said Barton. "I would go to see another hypnotist because it is entertaining and really funny most of the time. I would definitely recommend going to see a hypnotist to anyone that has the chance too."

According to Wikipedia.com, hypnosis by definition is a special psychological state with certain physiological attributes, resembling sleep only superficially and marked by a functioning of the individual at a level of awareness other than the ordinary conscious state.

The term "hypnosis" comes from the Greek word *hypnos* which means sleep. The words hypnosis and hypnotism both derive from the term neuro-hypnotism, or nervous sleep. This technique was developed by the Scottish surgeon James Braid around 1841. Braid based his practice on that developed by Franz Mesmer and his followers, but differed in his theory as to how the procedure worked.

The use of hypnotism can be used for therapeutic purposes and referred to as "hypnotherapy."

The RHS psychology students observed what is called "stage hypnosis" which is used as a form of entertainment for an audience.

"They are hypnotized for about 60-70 minutes but they think its seven to ten minutes. You lose track of time," said Mr. Rineer.

Election continued from page 1

RHS junior Clayton Rygwelski, one of the election managers, said, "It's interesting to see how many people vote and actually care about the election."

The intent to the school election was to help inform students, and help voting habits in the future.

Addison Andonoff, a junior, voted during the school election but had a different view on early voting being beneficial to teens.

"I don't think that voting as a teenager is beneficial for future voting. If people care, they will vote," Said Andonoff.

Some students in the school did not agree with either President Obama's or Mitt Romney's views.

Alesha Powers voted for the Libertarian party because she wants peace between both the Republican and Democrat parties.

"We've added more parties which could change the popular candidate," said Mrs. Underwood.

Mrs. Underwood explained that people are not paying as much attention to the races within the Senate and the House of Representatives. Democrats hold a majority now in the Senate, but the House of Representatives remains a mostly Republican.

When asked which candidate related to the people more, Mrs. Underwood responded,

"People look for characteristics they can identify with. Romney has come from a rich background."

The effects of Hurricane Sandy were thought to have changed the voter turnout for the states of the East Coast and New England.

However, the area received a heavy turnout.

"I feel bad for those people because they lose their opinion," said Mrs. Underwood.

One of the main problems continually seen in elections is the amount of voter turnout. This year's voter turnout was 119 million people, just over a third of the entire population.

"People who don't vote are doomed to live the life of a teenager. There is a duty as a citizen of this country to vote," said Mrs. Underwood.

RHS student John Betcher said, "Those people complain that things don't change but they need to vote if they want change."

Although the election is seen as a good time of the year to help citizens exercise their opinions, some see the election irritating as well.

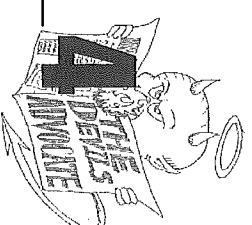
"There are too many commercials and ads. The television stations are making a boat load of money from the election," said Jennifer Merriman, a junior.

Television ads and slogans from both the major parties campaigning cause division between the country.

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Winter Sports Preview

By: Shelby Stewart
News Editor

Six teams, scores of students, and one school. The winter sports season is here again.

The season consists of wrestling, competitive cheerleading, boy's bowling, girl's bowling, boy's basketball, and girl's basketball.

Athletic Director Dr. Mulyaert said, "I feel all of our winter sports will be successful. The sports coaches have high expectations and we're excited for basketball to be in champion levels."

Dr. Mulyaert said that he hopes some teams repeat state titles. A challenging schedule will prepare the teams.

"We've tried to incorporate solid competitions. We don't play mediocre teams. We play state-wide and play stronger competition," said Dr. Mulyaert.

Going for the Fourth

For the past three years, the wrestling team has brought home a State Title. One wrestler, Jacob Gulette, senior, is excited for the 2012-2013 season and knows hard work is needed for another title.

"We work out after school for 3 to 3-and-a-half hours a day after school, every day," said Gulette. Gulette has been wrestling for five years and is excited for the chance to bring home another state title and have the chance to go up against national teams. He hopes the team will work hard and do what they are supposed to do.

A big part of the wrestling team is

the stat girls. There are eight stat girls total on the team this year. One stat girl is Kay Hafner, senior.

"We go to all the meets and take the scores for the wrestlers, and we call in the results to the newspaper," said Hafner.

Hafner has been a stat girl for four seasons.

"I'm excited to see how they will do. And states. Working towards another state title," said Hafner. "I expect that they'll work hard and they'll step up because we lost a lot of guys that graduated last year."

Mr. Day, wrestling coach, is excited to see some of the first-year people find success.

"I expect them to work hard, be academic All-state as a team again and to win the State Title again. I expect them to be good people in the classroom and at home. If we can be hard-working, good people, everything else will take care of itself," said Mr. Day.

There are 47 wrestlers on the team this year, and they are currently ranked second in the state.

"We have the talent to make another run at State Title. If we take care of business in the practice room and in the classroom, we will have a

shot in the end," said Mr. Day. "It's hard to improve on what we have done in the last couple of years, but I think we are more athletic in a few weights this season. The focus will be turning that athletic ability into toughness."

What no one thought they could

Last year, the RHS competitive cheer team brought home a State Championship Title. Mrs. Matthes, head coach, is looking forward to another season with the team.

"I am excited to get back to competing. Football season was great, especially with the success the boys had, but we are ready to get back on the mat," said Mrs. Matthes.

Mrs. Matthes said her favorite part of the season is watching the girls come together and be one team and watching them develop their skills, doing things no one thought they could do.

"I expect them to be who they are. This is a great group of athletes who have a lot of drive, heart and determination. I know that with that on our side, we can accomplish anything," said Mrs. Matthes. But her expectations don't reach titles and labels.

"I don't ever expect things like that. I do expect them to go after it. No one can take the title from last year away. It's ours! The goal is to become the first-ever Division III Back-to-Back Champions and keep that title, and we are going to give it our best shot, one meet at a time," said Mrs. Matthes.

Practices are difficult for all of the girls, just like they are for every other team. They tumble on Sunday nights and they practice Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

"While other sports lift weights for training, we lift people. That takes a lot of physical and mental training," said Mrs. Matthes.

The cheerleaders on the team are just as excited as their coach.

"I expect my team to have dedication and hard work," said Jessica Bishop, junior. "We have to be cleaner and more precise, and hopefully we also do better at our stunting."

Bishop said she expects another state title from her team as well, and she is excited to beat Armada's competitive cheer team.

"My favorite part is aweing people. When we go somewhere and they see us do stuff they never thought we could do, it's awesome," said Bishop.

Down the Court to BWAC

Another winter sport is boy's basketball. Mr. Barnes, Varsity basketball coach, said he was excited to see the kids to blend their personalities for the common good. He is expectant of the boys he will be coaching this upcoming season.

"Just to show up, work hard, and try to have fun. Be great teammates, be great people, and do what we're supposed to do in the classroom and community," said Mr. Barnes.

Try-outs for boy's basketball were November 12, and Mr. Barnes is anticipating for this to be a great season.

"Last year we were below .500 for the first time in 10 years, so I hope that we're better this season. The kids were good last year, but things don't always work out like you hope. I hope things work out better this season," said Mr. Barnes.

One of the Varsity boy's basketball players, Justin Weaver, senior, said his favorite part is game nights. He expects a lot of good things from his team this season.

"I think we have a chance to win districts and BWAC. I think we have a larger variety of skills throughout the team this year as well," said Weaver.

Shooting for Districts

Coach of the girl's basketball team, Mr. Pearson, said they lost a majority of the team last year when eight seniors graduated, but there are three girls returning.

"The returners, I expect big things from them. They've improved since they started, one of them sophomore year and two freshman year. They all have a chance to finish high," said Mr. Pearson.

Continued on page 5

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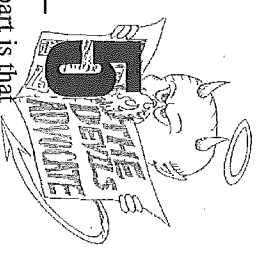
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Sports Continued from page 4

The girls played in a fall basketball league and quite a few of the girls played in a basketball summer camp. They played close to 30 games over the summer and they've been training a lot.

"I wish everyone this season the best of luck; wrestling, bowling, every team," said Mr. Pearson.

Junior Callendra Kitowski said her favorite part of the season is warming up, and she is excited because this is her first year on the Varsity team.

"I expect a really good season.

They want to win and they have to drive to do it," said Kitowski. "I think they will remember how other teams play and be ready when we face them."

They See Me Rollin'

The bowling team last year was close to bringing home a state title,

and they're ready to try again. Girls are excited for the bowling season.

Morgan Conner, junior, is just as excited.

"I am super excited for the team dinners.

They're going to be so much fun," said Conner for the season and more.

Conner said her favorite part of the bowling season is the excitement when winning a game. She said she expects a state title because she knows that they can do it.

"I expect us to get along and bond, and be number one. Work hard, play hard," said Conner.

One of the bowling coaches, Jim Gostovich, said that he is excited to

see the team blossom and become more complete players.

"I expect them to be very good this year. There are a lot of players with potential," said Mr. Gostovich.

Mr. Gostovich said

he hopes the team will make it to States this season, and the tournaments are his favorite part. He said the team will get better physically and fundamentally this year and they can apply those fundamentals to their skill level.

Being a senior on the boys bowling team means that you have a chance to be a team captain. That is what senior Matthew Gartner is most excited for this season.

Super Bowling

"It's my senior year, and I'm a captain this year so I'm excited," said Gartner.

events much more enjoyable for fans. Austin Altimore, junior, has been aware of the construction

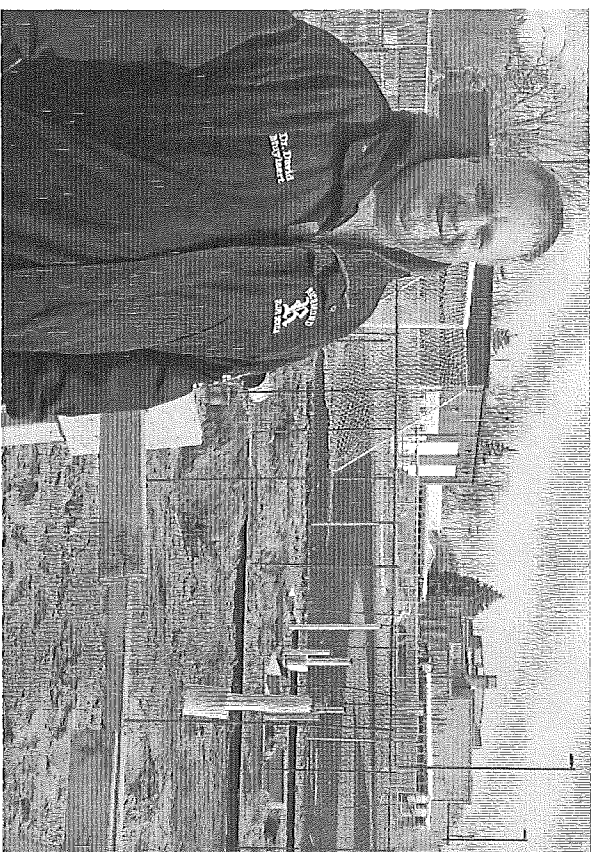
Stadium gets concession stand revamp

By: Kyle Soldan
News Editor

New computers. New doors.

And now, a new concession stand for the football stadium.

With football and other fall sports coming to a close, construction on a new concession stand at the football field over the next few months has begun. The construction will add bathrooms and a new entrance that is ex-



Dr. Myylaert looks upon the construction site for the new concession stand. (Photo courtesy of RHS Yearbook)

pected to be finished before spring sports begin next year.

Funding from the Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) has given the city of Richmond and the school district the opportunity to renovate the current concession area, which used to include a trailer and portable toilets. TIFA is considered for such projects as sidewalk construction and land improvement, most notably for renovations.

Dr. Myylaert, athletic director, said the construction will enhance the existing facilities and will benefit the district.

"It comes at no cost to the school district," Dr. Myylaert said.

Even though construction started recently, track, girls' soccer and other sport events are expected to be able to use the new facilities by next spring.

Dr. Olsen, superintendent, said the city will be using TIFA funds to build these facilities. A new front entrance, bathrooms, and

brick concession stand will be included in the \$349,000 project.

"It's a great project," Dr. Olsen said. "It's a real asset to the

school."

She added that the project comes at the right time. The original concession stand experienced long lines and needed fixing. Therefore, constructing a new stand will hopefully solve both problems.

Years of planning, including examining concession stands and facilities at other schools, led to the final design for the new entrance of the stadium.

The Voice reported that Lexington's Brown Builders and Contractors was awarded the winning bid to break ground on the project.

A brand new brick concession stand is to be built right next to the new entrance under the new design.

Workers have also been digging at the site to locate sewer lines in the area.

These lines will allow for bathrooms to be added for public use.

Dr. Olsen said the addition of these bathrooms will eliminate the need for portable ones, making

will make the place better going forward. People will not be able to rock the new bathrooms like they were able to with the portable ones.

Dr. Myylaert said by saying both the men's and women's bathrooms will have over a dozen toilets combined.

In order for all of this to take place, though, TIFA funds needed to be allocated by the school board and city council over the summer.

It was only recently decided that some of those TIFA funds would be used by the school to make these renovations to the stadium.

Colder weather is beginning to take its course, but workers are trying to get as much done as possible before winter starts to affect production.

It is expected that the renovations will be completed before spring but will be guaranteed ready by next school year.

Run With the Champs

By: Kelsey Williams
Business Manager

It's a grueling run: 14 miles to Armada and back.

Despite its difficulty, it's an annual event for the wrestlers that is expected every year as a part of the team's pre-season workout program. However, this year Coach Day decided to do things a little different.

"Coach Matthes and I had a brief conversation about getting our programs together for a fundraiser, so I developed the idea and she liked it," - Coach Day

The idea that Coach Day had was an event called 'Run With the Champs', where the public can pay \$20 to run, bike or walk to Armada with the RHS State Champions. Not only were the wrestlers running to Armada, the Cheer team also participated in the event.

"Coach Matthes and I had a brief conversation about getting our programs together for a fundraiser, so I developed the idea and she liked it," said Coach Day.

The cheer team was excited about the new event.

"Some of them heard about it at school before I could tell them about it, but I then told the team about the event. Once I was able to explain the event and how it will be done, they were very excited," said Cheer Coach Kelli Matthes.

Since the cheer team has never participated in the Armada run before, the team decided to bike the route instead.

"I'm glad we got to ride bikes instead of run because we knew it was going to be hard no matter what," said senior Alexis Verstraete, a dedicated two-year Cheer team member.

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