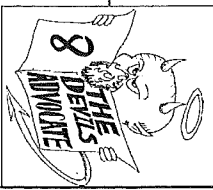


IN OUR OPINION



THE BLUE DEVIL'S

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Staff Editorial: Practice makes perfect

The ACT can be a scary test for many juniors and upcoming underclassmen. It's an event that could ultimately determine your future. A serious subject, the ACT is not only academically defining, but stressful as well.

For those who have yet to take it, practice is crucial. Students may not realize it, but the timed-tests and ACT prep they take as freshmen, sophomores and juniors can actually be beneficial to their ACT score.

Repetition is a strategy practiced for years. The more you do something, the better at it you will be.

When your teacher tells you that they have ACT prep planned for next week, your first reaction may be, "No! I hate doing those things!"

But, instead of dreading those scantron sheets, students should be grateful for them.

Think about it. Would you rather get all these practice tests and timed readings, or go into the ACT completely blind?

It's a question you shouldn't have to think twice about.

Teachers here at RHS have been on the ball with ACT prep since September.

Pre and post-tests have been crafted for students to analyze, prepare and succeed; the same action plan is needed for the ACT.

Along with these tests, teachers have also implemented various ACT timed-tests. These tests are laid out in the same format as the ACT.

Students who generally dislike the "bubble sheets" are growing accustomed to them.

The more they fill in the bubbles, the more ACT practice they receive.

The more ACT practice they receive, the better the scores.

The better the scores, the wider range of scholarship and college opportunities.

Strive to succeed now, so you can be successful later.

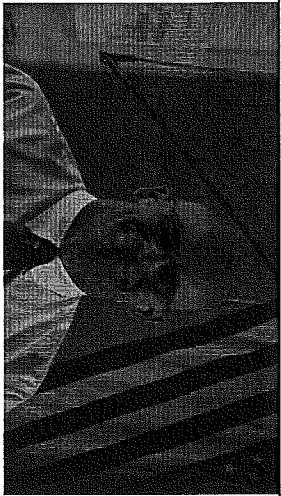
The ACT prep we, as students, may be taking for granted, is actually worth our time.

For this preparation is not only for the ACT, but for our college years to come.

Question of the Month

If you were going to be on Fear Factor, who would choose as your partner and why?

Staff



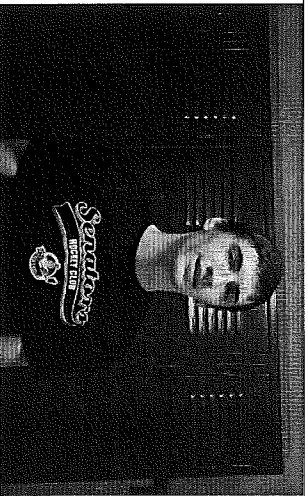
Mr. Ladd picked Mr. Murphy as his partner because "Murphy's a madman and will do anything!"

Senior



Rochelle Raska chose Sarah Moon. She said, "We do everything together and we aren't afraid of anything!"

Junior



Mathew Salankiewicz went with Chuck Norris because he'd never get scared.

Sophomore



Austin Harvey said he'd pick Charlie Sheen because he is immortal.

Freshman



Melissa Leduc chose Jill Schrade as her partner because she isn't afraid to do stuff.

Year twenty twelve on top!

By: Jessica Bibrey
Staff Writer

The 2011-2012 school years have made history on the athletic field.

Wrestling has earned another state title this year for the third time in a row. Not only are they State Champs, but RHS wrestlers are district, regional and BWAC champions. By working hard every day, cutting weight and practicing their tails off, in they end, they got what they went after and claimed the third state championship in a row for RHS. They made history.

They'll always have the feeling and memories of their victory.

The cheer team also achieved a lot this year. The team won the Division Three State Championship. Not only have they won a state championship, they've also won District, Regional's and BWAC titles. Their two months of training and dedication allowed them to go undefeated during the entire season. RHS couldn't be more proud of all the athletic teams.

Bowling, boys and girls, have also done remarkably well during the 2011-2012 school year. Though neither teams won a state title, the girls' team got runner up, so close to winning the title.

Both teams still won other titles such as district, BWAC and collected many other wins. Bowling has come a long way over the years; they can only get better from here.

With the seniors on wrestling, cheer and bowling, they'll always have the memories of competing to be state champs. Winning a state title just shows how far the teams have come, keeping each athlete focused and dedicated on the big win.

It's hard for the seniors to compete their last year of high school at RHS, but they all went out gloriously. The memories will never fade and only more will be created on their journey through life.

Art, theater, band and choir are more activities that have done outstanding this

year.

Mrs. Cole's drawings and photo students have been doing outstanding work, winning medals and awards in the process.

Theater delighted audiences with West Side Story. With all of the astonishing plays performed at the high school and AUD, Mr. Applegate and theater students deserve more than applause. The next play being performed by RHS students is called *You Can't Take It with You*, an old comedy film. If you have not seen a school play or a play at the AUD, you're missing out.

Band, one of the many talents at RHS, has gone above and beyond this year as well. With festival Friday the 16th, I know they'll get a great score.

RHS choir and coral, has been working hard, singing till they lose their voices. Choirs festival was Wednesday, March 14, chorale got a great score and are now on their way to States.

I've heard them all sing before and no doubt about it coral and concert choir will score a 1 this year's festival.

In a few weeks, tennis and baseball will begin. With great athletes' on both teams, I can see them winning game after game, making it all the way to the top.

The hard work and dedication preformed by RHS students has been more than amazing this year. Everything that has been accomplished by everyone this year will not only be remembered, but has a great impact on the Richmond School District.

A lot of the accomplishment comes from the support for the teams. It encourages them up even more, which leads to a great victory in the end.

You can most definitely say that RHS is one of the top schools in our area.

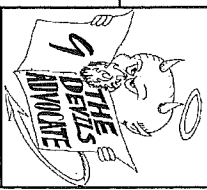
Mission Statement
Richmond High School's student newspaper, The Blue Devil's Advocate, strives to serve the student body and provide a public forum to make their ideas heard to the school and community. Our goal is to provide both accurate and balanced stories in order to enlighten understanding, entertain, and inform.

Letters

Guest editorials/letters are welcomed from any reader who has an opinion to express and should be given to the editor two weeks in advance of the publication date to be considered. Letters to the Editor should not exceed 250 words in length and must be signed by the author, although the author's name can be withheld upon request. Email us at: mmurphy@richmond.k12.nj.us Please include your name and grade level.

The Blue Devil's Advocate

KONY 2012



By: Katie Szczeniak
Staff Writer

"Nothing is more powerful than an idea. Whose time has come. Whose time is now."

Our time is now.
Today, there are more than 750 million people on Facebook, which is more than the entire human population 200 years ago.

Our media connection is changing how the world works today. The media is effecting Africa greatly by spreading the word of injustice happening in some countries, helping change the continent for the better.

Joseph Kony is a Ugandan guerrilla group leader who kidnaps children and forces them to join his rebel army, otherwise known as the LRA.

For the past 26 years, Kony has abducted children and forces young girls to be sex slaves while boys become a part of his rebel army.

How "Kony 2012" started

Years ago, a man named Jason Russell made one promise to a little boy named Jacob living in Uganda, Africa.

The promise he made to Jacob was to stop Joseph Kony.

Jacob was a part of that army. When Jacob's older brother tried to escape, Kony's militia killed him right in front of Jacob.

Kony's rebel army is now over 30,000 kidnapped children strong.

He makes the children of the rebel army mutilate people's faces and kill their parents.

Kony has no reason for an army; he only does this to maintain power. He strips children from their childhood.

He is the most wanted criminal in the world for his crimes against humanity.

Jason Russell made the video "Kony 2012" to educate the world about this issue. By informing the world, he hoped it would quickly lead to his arrest.

"We believe where you live, shouldn't determine whether you live," said Russell.

In 2003, Russell and a few friends went to the White House to inform congressmen and put a stop to this injustice. But the government said there was

no way the US would get involved in any conflict unless our national security or financial interests are not at stake.

Invisible Children, Inc.

However, Russell wasn't going to take no for an answer. He created the Invisible Children, Inc., a group of people supporting the demise of Joseph Kony.

Their dream: Kony's arrest for the entire world to see and all the abducted children to be returned home. The group wanted to spread the word of Kony's inhumanity so everyone can band together to stop him.

People of Invisible Children, Inc. went to Uganda to improve what they could without government aid. They built schools, created jobs and built a radio network to prevent villages from being attacked by the rebels.

The group was funded this by young people who donated a few dollars each month.

"They proved that a bunch of littles can make a big difference," said Russell.

In 2011, Russell went back to the White House, but this time, thousands of others went with him. They met with congressmen and senators of both the Republican and Democratic Parties.

Then in October of 2011, President Obama sent troops over to central Africa to remove Kony from the battlefield and put a stop to the LRA.

"It was the first time in history, that the US took that kind of action because the people demanded it. Not for self defense, but because it was right," said Russell.

Now with the United States' troops in central Africa, Kony has changed his tactics, making it harder to capture him.

Invisible Children, Inc. made it their mission to spread the infamy of Kony by making his name everywhere since a lot of people don't know who he is.

"Their plan is to make Kony a household name, not to celebrate him, but bring his crimes to light," said Russell.

The group has reached out to 20 of the most influential celebrities like Oprah, Rihanna, George Clooney, Ryan Seacrest and others to spread the word.

They also reached out to 12 policymakers to make Kony world news. The website makes it easy for people to communicate with these 12 individuals.

Their goal: to change conversation of our culture and to make people ask who Joseph Kony is?

However, if the government doesn't believe that peo-

ple care about arresting Kony, they will withdraw the troops.

Thousands of posters, stickers, yard signs and more have been put up in major cities all around the world. Invisible Children, Inc. encourages people to buy t-shirts, bracelets and actions kits off of their website.

Responses

Once "Kony 2012" hit the Internet on March 5, millions of people saw it. Within four days, 58 million people watched the half-hour video.

People began commenting on whether or not they believed in the video or not.

Some people believe the video is made to put a voice to the issue and will lead to Kony's capture. People were supporting what they had seen on the half-hour video on the Internet.

Others think that "Kony 2012" is a scam for money and the video was blowing events out of proportion.

But in this instance, this half-hour video uses the media for good. "Kony 2012" has the ability to change lives and change the world.

This video is actually helping humans, compared to other viral videos highlighting unnecessary things.

"We have reached a crucial time in history, where what we do or don't do right now will affect every generation to come. Arresting Joseph Kony will prove that the world we live in has new rules," said Russell.

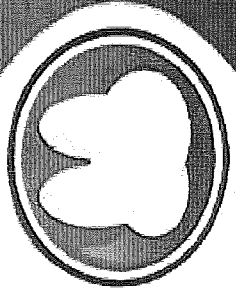
The world is changing as we know it, and this year, the media has the power to make a positive difference.

If thousands of children were abducted and forced to kill in the United States, it would be all over the news.

In the United States, we have many freedoms. So what would we do if these freedoms were stripped from us?

Russell said, "We are not just studying human history, we are shaping."

It is our duty now to act in order to make a change in history. Our time is now.



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COMICS!



Opinion

March 19, 2012

Entertainment



Threeppeat continued from pg. 6

The seniors played a big role. 2011 we were back-to-back so it was also exciting. By 2012, we knew we were the best team from day one and we had become so close with the seniors and their families. After we won, I was relieved."

Henke said, "The first State Title was my favorite because it came down to the last match, which was Casey Martin and all he had to do was not get pinned. He did just that and we won by 1 point in 2010 when I was a freshman."

Ireland also liked the first one because they won the seniors their first state title when he was a Freshman.

As a sophomore, Burg said he liked both. "I liked 2011 because it was my first one, but I also liked this years because I was more involved."

What's to come next year?

Next year, we are losing a great group of kids, but a lot of the upcoming freshmen want to get that ring.

"I will do everything in my power to help, but the rest is up to them," said Day.

Henke said that next year he wants to be a leader and clinch another state title.

Ireland had some words of wisdom to the upcoming freshmen. He said, "no matter how hard it gets you can't give up because all the hard work truly pays off in the end."

Russell occupied with people's health

By Regan Blissett

As first hour ends at RHS at 8:40, Courtney Russell, junior, gets ready to experience new medical concepts and meet new people at Pankow Vocational Center.

"I want to go into pediatric nursing. I thought it would be a good experience," said Russell. She has been planning her future for a while. Last year, Russell signed up for Pankow's Health Occupation Class.

"I like Pankow because you meet new people and the class is a lot of fun," said Russell.

She wanted to take the class because she wants to work with children who are sick.

"I want to make kids happy and get them better. I like kids," said Russell. She went on to say she thinks the medical field would be fun, and it would give her a good feeling to help kids get better.

While taking a Health Occupation class, students learn a lot of medical terms.

"The teacher always gives us a worksheet to study med-terms. Then she goes up in front of the class and holds up flash cards. Then we say out loud what the answers are," said Russell.

Russell continued saying how her teacher, Mrs. King, is really smart and she is good teaching students the materials they need to know.

Her challenges she faces during the class are memorizing med-terms and the tests. Hands-on activities help Russell learn the best.

Melinda Colombo assists with medicine

By Lizzie Urban

This year, Melinda Colombo, senior at Richmond High School, chose to get ahead for college plans.

Colombo attends Fredrick V. Pankow center to learn about medical assisting, where she studies interesting parts of being a nurse in a hospital. It looks good on Colombo's resume for college applications.

According to the class's website, students work hands-on with not just medical work, but they get to learn about office work. This includes tasks like filing documents or scheduling appointments for patients that go to the offices.

"We learn about medical terminology and physiology. We learn about procedures like CPR," said Colombo, who plans on going into pediatrics or becoming a nurse practitioner, which means a nurse who is more skilled in their branch of nursing.

"I like learning the medical terminology. It's like learning a second language. It helps get to the bottom of the patients problems. Then we can treat them," she said.

Medical ethics is introduced to students as well. This is important when dealing with situations that test morals of medical professionals. It keeps people from making risky decisions that are not in best interest of the patient.

Robbins learns skills to thrill

By: Jake McKiernan

Every morning, Richmond High School student, Logan Robbins, along with many other students, gets on the bus that takes him to his second and third hour class, AIS.

Once there, Robbins learns how to perform difficult tasks such as operate and maintain heavy machinery from his instructor. This includes things such as working with the transmissions, axles and hydraulics of the machines.

"It's really not that tough," said Robbins. "As long as you pay attention and remain interested, you will do well. At the same time, if you are not interested then you most likely won't do well in the program"

Robbins is extremely interested in working with machines. Especially the Bulldozers, load-

"Everyone has their own ethics and morals. When you bring that into medical issues, I try not to let my opinions and my beliefs are get in the way so I don't offend anyone," she said.

Small procedures are taught as well. These include the following: taking vital signs, drawing blood, sterilizing equipment, setting up and assisting examinations and minor surgical procedures, performing CPR and first aid, and doing EKGs, as was said on the class website.

Although she enjoys learning about those techniques, some other things stick out to her.

"Labs that we do are fun. We get to learn about how to make patient charts and how to take throat cultures. It's really interesting to learn about the background of testing blood glucose levels and the uses of urine testing," she said.

After she finishes her program at Pankow, she will go onto an internship at a medical facility, working 60 hours a week.

Before she goes into a formal nursing program, Colombo plans on getting her basics done first. "I wanted to get my foot in the door for nursing," she said.

Colombo recommends getting involved with a program like this or similar ones.

She said, "It's a lot of fun, and you get to learn a lot. Plus, it gives you an edge when colleges look at you."

ers, and other machinery that they work with.

In fact, Robbins enrolled in the program to prepare for what he hopes will be his future occupation.

"After high school I would like to become a mechanic or something similar, so AIS seemed like a good choice for my future," said Robbins. Robbins enjoys working with heavy machines, so he felt that a job as a mechanic would be a perfect fit for him. Robbins's instructor, Mr. Rick Alberty, has taught members of the program well.

"Rick is a really cool guy. He has been in the business a long time, so he knows what he is doing," said Robbins.

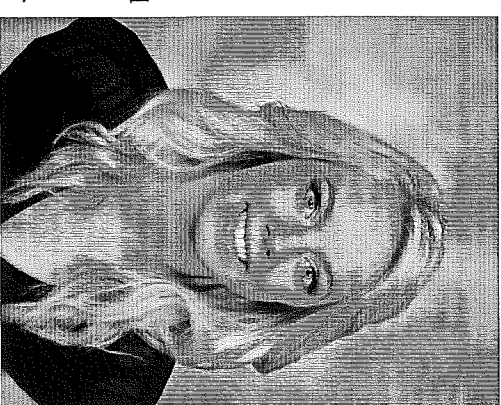
Robbins continues to go to AIS every day and learn more and more about what will hopefully be his way of making a living in the future.

She likes

to take blood pressure and use a stetho-

scope to listen to the heart.

It is important to find blood pressure because she can find out if people



have problems with their heart.

"It was intense because you are listening to the heart beat fast and then it decreases. To use a stethoscope you put it in your ears and then you put it on the person's back and tell them to breathe in and out. It was exciting because we can hear the heart more clearly," said Russell. Students in the class practice on each other.

She has also learned how to transport people on stretchers.

"It gets you to feel how the equipments work," said Russell.

She is currently looking forward to applying to colleges. Her top choices are The University of South Carolina and Central Michigan University.

Klienhans dives into AIS

By: Hunter Tounignant

AIS is a class that deals with heavy equipment and rebuilding. Many students take this class their sophomore and junior years. Jacob Klienhans, sophomore, is one of those students.

Klienhans said, "I like the class because it gets me out of school for two hours and I am doing something I love."

In the warmer months of AIS, the class works on Driving 650 Dozers, load-alls and excavators. In the winter time the AIS team learns more on how the machines run like the engines and transmissions. Klienhans said, "I have operated on PC 400's, and drove wheel loaders so far."

The AIS leader is Rick. Klienhans said, "He is cool, and he is good on instructing us. Also he tells us the steps on how to work on the equipment."

The reason why so many RHS students sign up to be in AIS is because they have many different interests in the class. Klienhans said, "My interest in the class is working on many different tools and it is a more active class rather than just always sitting down all day in class."

RHS students wish that they can carry on this AIS class in their senior year. Klienhans said, "Well I'm only a sophomore this year so I got one more year but that will be my last."

Features

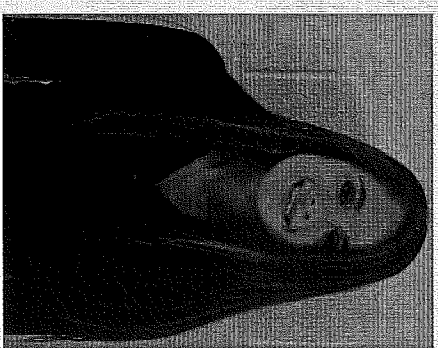
im lovin' it

March 19, 2012

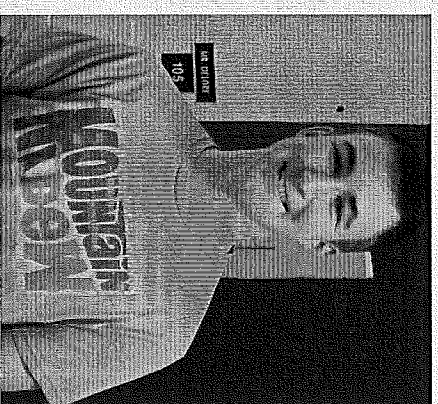
Entertainment



Student of the Month



Anabella Ottenbacher:
 Favorite subject: Economy with Delore
 Favorite food: Jimmy Johns
 Future goal: I want to go to MSU
 Favorite song: Woman like you by Lee
 Bryce



Nick Milot:
 Favorite Subject: AIS
 Favorite food: Stir-fry
 Future goal: To become a heavy equipment mechanic
 Favorite Song: Red solo cup by Toby Keith

Concerts heating up

By: Anabella Ottenbacher
 News Editor

"Please don't stop the music... One last song!" This is what the vast majority of RHS students, as well as some teachers, think when they're attending concerts.

Many students have attended concerts recently. Although we all know summer is the prime time for them, some RHS students have gotten their concert attendances started early.

Whether it's country, rap or good ol' rock-and-roll, the RHS students have been attending them all.

To kick it off with the rap genre, senior Jemma Brickel attended the Mac Miller concert in September. The concert was held at the Fillmore in Detroit. "They were standing room only tickets, so we were pretty close to the stage," said Brickel.

"The atmosphere was crazy. Everyone was young and there were a lot of up-and-coming rappers there. Mac Miller wasn't really big yet, so he was really down to earth and sweet," Brickel commented. Brickel attended the concert with a large group of friends, both alumni of RHS and current RHS students.

So why Mac Miller? "Because I'm obsessed with him! I love his songs, and we had been waiting to see him, so when we saw he was coming somewhere close, we were excited," said Brickel. She added that her favorite songs played were "Knock, Knock" or "Donald Trump."

Mac Miller wasn't the only rapper performing for RHS students: Wiz Khalifa was another. Sophomore Callie Kitowski attended the concert, along with fellow sophomores Kayla Rostron and Payton Dickson.

"The crowd was all young people, so it was super crazy and fun," said Kitowski. Kitowski attended the concert at the Fillmore in Detroit. "We were really close to the stage, probably 5 feet away since it was standing room only," she said.

"I was really excited to see him because I know a lot of his songs, and he was a really good entertainer. He got the crowd involved," said Kitowski. Although Kitowski had fun throughout the entire concert, she stressed how much she really loved the ending, with his performance of "Taylor Gang".

"Everyone had their hands up!" said Kitowski. While many people love rap music, some like the

good old twang of country music. Students, like sophomore, Emily Swantek enjoy attending country music concerts. Swantek attended her first ever concert on February 25, and it was a Lady Antebellum concert.

Swantek attended the concert along with her mom, aunt and friend, fellow RHS sophomore, Katie Szczesniak. "It was so much fun! There was never a dull moment, everything was upbeat and fun. We never sat down!" said Swantek. Swantek received the tickets as a Christmas present, and had been anticipating all the fun she was going to have for nearly two months.

"The best part was the end. They walked off and acted like they were going to end the show. Then, they came out and sang 'Need You Now,'" said Swantek.

Swantek wasn't the only one jamming out to country in February. Junior Taylor Job did as well. Job attended the 'Tan Man Jam' concert, which is sponsored by the Detroit county station 99.5. The concert consisted of 10 country music artists, including Sara Evans.

Job attended the concert on February 15 at the Royal Oak Music Theatre. "It was my first concert, and it was great because we sat front and center in the fourth row," said Job. Job continued to add that met and greeted a lot of the stars before hand and got all of their autographs.

"The two best parts were when one of the performers came and sat right next to us for the second half and when Sara Evans sang," said Job. "It was a lot of fun because the place we were at was smaller, so we really got to interact with the performers and it wasn't crowded seating."

Most students prefer rap or country, but what about the teachers? What performers do they like to listen to? Well, Mr. Schleder, Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Wolfe, rocked out to Van Halen, at the Palace, on February 20.

"The best part was Eddie Van Halen's guitar solo, and the best song for me was 'Ain't Talkin' About Love,'" said Mr. Schleder. He continued to add that they were up in the 'nose bleeds' or very last row. However he stressed that they still had a really fun time.

"It was really packed with a bunch of old people that liked the '80's," said Schleder, "I wanted to go and see them because I never had before and who knows how much longer they'll be touring. Plus, the original singer David Lee Roth was singing with them at the time, so that was a bonus."

Whether you prefer country, rock or rap, there is a concert around here for you. RHS students and teachers have begun the concert season early, and will, more than likely, keep it going throughout the entire summer.

Richmond's got talent!

By: Anna Fraser
 Opinion Editor

Sure, America's got talent. But did you know our small little town does, too?

Singing, dancing, skits, forensic scenes, bands, a preview of the Richmond Aud's *The Secret Garden*, and a magic show. Yes, Richmond's got talent.

You may have heard about the talent show that RHS puts on every year, but this year, the city of Richmond sparked a new tradition.

On February 24 and 25, the Richmond Community Theater held the First Annual Community "Follies" Talent Show.

Mr. Applegate, Artistic Director of the RCT, said that because there are no shows from November to March, they wanted to do something.

"People might forget we're here," he said. He said the RCT wanted to remind the community that they have a great venue on their hands, and would like to see more events take advantage of it.

The talent show was their first step in that direction. Now, you must be wondering, "How much did it cost to see such fine entertainment?"

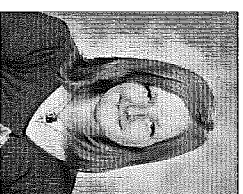
And guess what? It was free. Yes.

Free!

"Having groups come from all over was a reward to community theater, and we wanted to give back to the community," Applegate said.

Rolling in a full house both nights, the talent show was a big hit.

"I was very pleased to see the turn-out. It was good to see," Applegate said.



A few hundred dollars

were made from donations that were taken in exchange for concessions offered at the intermissions.

There was only one rehearsal for the two-and-a-half hour talent show, where all the acts came to practice all together for the first time.

It was casual and a little chaotic. Mr. Applegate explained how everyone there was ready to take care of business. Quickly arranging the program was a little tricky but everything worked out in time.

Five RHS students took the stage with various acts.

Freshmen Alex Newman, Joe Gusamano and Max Leesch performed musically; Newman sang "Someone Like You" by Adele, and Gusamano and Leesch's played and sang in

their band.

Lauren Macauley, a senior, decided to partner up with her older brother, Nicholas.

They sang "Sound of Silence" by Simon and Garfunkel as an acapella piece.

"I loved being with people from the community and getting the chance to do something with my brother," said Macauley.

Mrs. Applegate, director of the upcoming show *The Secret Garden* at The Aud, arranged for some cast members to perform a scene to get some publicity.

Sophomore Rosie Urban is one of those cast members.

The five minute scene she and two other cast members performed consisted of two songs and dialogue. She plays Ben Weatherstaff in *The Secret Garden*, and said, "It was definitely good rehearsal to perform in front of an audience."

Mr. Applegate said it was cool to work with people that he might not normally get to work with.

Bringing the community together, the RCT plans on doing next year's talent show later in the spring. Find the RCT on Facebook for more details on their upcoming events.

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Spring Break

Artist Showcase

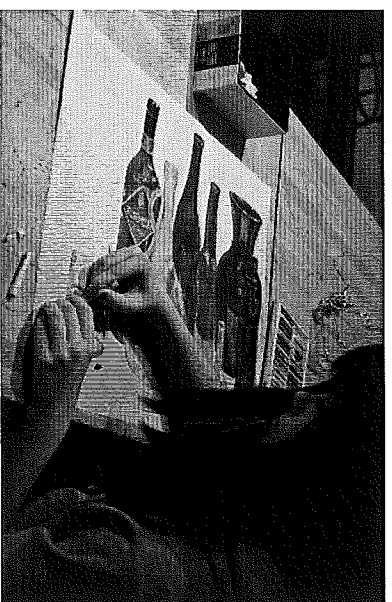
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 R H O R X D I S E R L B U G D
 G N I N N A T A T P C F S U N
 I F W Z R S N X E E F B D C X
 U A M B E A C H E S R T N H P

Word bank!

beaches, fun, Panama, Florida, cruises, ocean, swimming, friends, Easter, eggs, bathing suits, tanning, sun, sand, trips, warm weather, sunburn, spring, flowers.



Kelsey Kasom, Photo courtesy of RHS yearbook



Jennifer Clotfelter, Photo courtesy of RHS yearbook

HOROSCOPES

HOROSCOPES

By: Jessica Bilbrey and Lizzie Urban

AQUARIUS: January 21 - February 19

Whether you're Irish or not, luck is definitely on your side this month. You'll be receiving a lot of good news left and right. With your luck so high, something you've wanted to happen will happen for you this month, but it will come when you least expect it.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 98.58%

PISCES: February 20 - March 20

Things will be rocky for you this month, but you know how to handle situations when they're thrown your way. Your luck this month will be like a teeter-totter, but don't let that affect your everyday routine. Good things happen to good people; something good should come your way!
 How lucky you'll be this month: 65.55%

ARIES: March 21 - April 20

While you're very outgoing, take the time to hold back on trusting people as much. You don't want to walk straight into the lion's den, because you heard a kitten meowing. Get to know people better before you tell them something important.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 77.584%

Taurus: April 21 - May 21

Take a chance on a new activity soon. You've been striding down the same road every day for weeks, without much change. Begin a new routine for a change in your attitude and life. Don't plan out everything in advance; leave some things to chance.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 92.235%

GEMINI: May 22 - June 21

You have found the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow! You are luckier than ever this month and you are even sharing it with others. This month you will come into some money, but spend it wisely. You never know when you'll need the extra cash from an outside activity.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 100%

CANCER: June 22 - July 23

Though you may not have the best of luck this month, you're keeping your head held high. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger, so keep on living life and good things will come your way. If you receive bad news this month, don't let it bring you down. In the end, everything's okay. If it's not okay, then it's not the end.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 28.76%

LEO: July 24 - August 23

Start off your week by hanging out with some new friends. You're in need of a break from your old ones, and the distance will help your relationship become stronger and more worthwhile. Even while you can handle being alone, you prefer to be around people.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 76.22222222%

VIRGO: August 24 - September 23

This month you are feeling crazy! But don't get to crazy. Focus on your family and your friends. You've been ignoring the people that love you the most.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 58.99999%

LIBRA: September 24 - October 23

You worry about others gives off a trusting personality, but you forget to focus on yourself sometimes. Let go of other people's problems, and look at your own for awhile, so you can get yourself sorted out.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 64.4845745%

SCORPIO: October 24 - November 22

Your self-confidence radiates off of you and others are drawn to it. But other people find it intimidating and your controlling attitude sometimes scare away potential new friends. Sit back for a while and relax when it comes to the next time you go out.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 98.123345%

SAGITTARIUS: November 23 - December 21

Family ties are everything. March is the month when you'll receive great news within the family. Even if you're not 100 percent Irish, you still have at least one percent in you, which means some luck with be coming your way. Hearing the great news inspired you to reach out to an old friend, and it's time to bring back old memories.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 89.95%

CAPRICORN: December 22 - January 20

The beginning of March will be a little rocky for you, but towards the end of it, a flare of good luck will come at you when you least expect it. Add a little twist to your everyday routine, change it good. With hard work, dedication and patience, you will have nothing but good luck the last two weeks of the month.
 How lucky you'll be this month: 75.24%

Entertainment



GTL for life

Richmond gets the bronze

By: Regan Blissett

Turn up the heat! Summer is on its way and people want to look good. And one thing people do to make this happen is tanning. People of all ages go tanning for many reasons. They tan if they are going somewhere special, like a school dance, spring break, vacation or just wanting darker skin. For some students, tanning is a part of an everyday lifestyle.

Kaela Renner, freshman, is a frequent tanner. "It makes you cuter and makes you feel better about yourself," said Renner.

She goes tanning every other day for 20 minutes in a level one bed. She spends around \$72 a month, buying an unlimited tanning package and lotion. "Everyone looks better tan," said Renner. She tans almost all year round except for the summer. Not only does she go to Tropical Tan in Richmond, but she uses self-tanner too.

"We use bronzing lotion and we spray tan out of the bottle to make us look even darker," said Renner. She continued to say she loves being orange and is not scared of getting skin cancer. However, her only complaint of going tanning is getting burnt.

Renner also added, "GTL for life." Most people like Kaela go tanning to look good, but wrestlers at RHS find it beneficial during their wrestling season.

Nick Olko tans to kill ringworm during the season.

"It kills stuff on your skin like bacteria," said Olko.

Olko actually owns a tanning bed in his own home. His family of four uses it constantly.

ake McKiernan is another wrestler that went tanning. Just like Olko, he also tanned to get rid of ring worm.

"It gets rid of all skin diseases. UV rays kill bacteria," said McKiernan. He added he also went because he did not want to have nasty thighs.

However, an unfortunate event caused him to stop tanning. "I didn't tan this year. I didn't feel like it. I broke my leg and would have a weird tan line," said McKiernan.

Megan Russell, assistant manager of Tropical Tan and RHS Class of 2010 alumnus, has been working there for almost two years.

"During busy season, which is March through June, we tan between 260-350 [customers]. During slow season, which is July through February, it's between 80-200," said Russell.

Russell also added, "Tanning can be very controversial. When people abuse it such as going every day for 20 minutes or tanning at two salons in one day, then I don't agree with it and believe it can lead to many serious issues. On the other hand, many young people and even adults will tan to get rid of acne or have other skin issues. Those people will only tan a couple times a week and only go for the max 15 minutes."

Tanning also can become very expensive.

Paige McClosky, junior, said she spends about \$100 a year on tanning.

"People could spend between the low \$22 per month or up to over \$200 on our level 5 month plus lotion and eyewear," said Russell.

Since President Obama signed a bill taxing tanning, Russell said it doesn't stop people from tanning, but people have complained about it.

"We're mad that Obama put a tax on tanning!" said Renner.

On March 23, 2010 Obama put a 10% tax law on tanning. Dr. Ladd, teacher at RHS, said the notion falls under health care because we all know indoor tanning is bad.

"There are a lot of taxes on bad things. It's called a sin tax," said Dr. Ladd. He continued to say they have the same tax for other bad things like alcohol and cigarettes.

"They won't make it illegal because there's too much money to make from it," said Dr. Ladd. He added that the law is saying tanning is bad, and people shouldn't do it.

Mr. Roodbeen agreed with Dr. Ladd about how tanning is bad.

"Tanning is very similar to standing in direct sunlight that's even more powerful. Basically one, it can lead to skin cancer, and two, UV rays harm your skin cells. This can lead to leathery or hardened skin," said Mr. Roodbeen.

He added that he will never go tanning. "I don't believe in paying money to get a different skin color, and I don't want to do intentional harm to my body with no benefits. Over exposure to UV rays can lead to melanoma," said Roodbeen.

He continued to say, "I believe people should stop. It's my belief some exposure to sun is good for you. I don't believe them when they say they are tanning for Spring Break to get a good base. Tanning for Spring Break is ridiculous and unnecessary to have a base heading down south."

Brett Brincefield, sophomore, disagrees with tanning also.

Brincefield said, "You should stay your natural skin tone. Don't even bother joining the crowd. Be yourself. Otherwise you're just another wannabe. You have to be comfortable with what you look like."

Spring Break baby!

By: Krystal Geisler
Feature Editor

The countdown to Spring Break 2012 is on! Some students are looking forward to leaving Michigan to hit sunny Florida beaches, while others are cruising around to tropical islands to different parts in the world.

The 2012 senior class planned a class trip to Panama City Beach Florida. The seniors will depart March 30 on a bus and will drive 21 straight hours to Panama City. "I'm probably going to just sleep the whole time on the bus," said senior Megan Banas.

The seniors and their parents have been planning the trip since January and it has cost them \$600 each already. The students still need to bring their own money for food, shopping and souvenirs.

The seniors will stay at the Summit, condos located right on the Gulf of Mexico.

"I am the most excited to soak up the sun with my best friends," said Banas. She added that she is very excited and this trip is going to be awesome and a great way for everyone to be together and have the time of their lives.

"I'm just going to go with the flow and hangout on the beach," said senior Alex Morang. He added that this trip will be different than previous ones because all the seniors will be together having fun.

"It's a good way to say goodbye," said Morang. Seniors Jessica Murphy and Angela Szaba went on an early Spring Break cruise on a Norwegian Cruise Line to Roatan, Belize, Costa Maya and Cozumel, which are all areas in or around Mexico. They went in the beginning of February with Murphy's family.

"Swimming with the dolphins was very cool and different," said Murphy. She also enjoyed the Mayan ruins in Mexico which are structures that the Mayans made over hundreds of years ago and are still here

today to see. There was a temple that the Mayans built that was Murphy's favorite.

"The food on the cruise was so good," said Murphy. She also said the weather was awesome and as they went down south more she could tell that the temperature got warmer.

Junior Kaitlin Naber is going on a cruise during the week of Spring Break. She is going with her mom, aunt, cousins and their friends from Dakota High School. They are going on Carnival Dream cruise to Belize, Cozumel, Honduras and

Managua Bay. "I'm the most excited to swim with the dolphins and to soak up the sun," said Naber.

Junior Joanna Fenwick is excited to go on her Spring Break trip to Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee with her best friend Paige McClosky and her family. They are staying in a hotel in Alabama on Orange Beach, which is right on the water.

"I am excited for the whole trip, but mostly to go parasailing, deep sea fishing and just enjoying the hot weather with Paige and her family," said Fenwick. She hasn't been on a vacation for Spring Break since she has been in sixth grade, so she is pumped to get out of Michigan to enjoy break.

"I have never been to Alabama, and I am just waiting to make more memories with my best friend," said Fenwick. Sophomore Haley Schweiger is going to Florida with Shelby Tschigfrey and her family for Spring Break. "I'm excited to swim with the dolphins, lay out on the beach and to go to Universal Studios," said Schweiger.

She has not been to Florida in three years, so she is ready to get to the warm weather and experience new things.

"The place that we are going is new to me, and I am just hoping that Shelby and I have a great time and make new memories that we will remember forever," said Schweiger.

Top 5 vacation spots for Spring Break

- Cancun, Mexico
- Panama City, Florida
- Miami and South Beach, Florida
- Europe
- Bahamas

Would you rather?

Would you rather fight with a grizzly bear or swim with hungry sharks?

Jamie Zyla said she would rather swim with hungry sharks because they probably wouldn't hurt her.

Would you rather go a whole day with no food or with no phone?

Madison Rycerz said she would rather go without food.

Would you rather be a professional singer or dancer?

David Schroudt said he would rather sing because he enjoys it.

Would you rather have it be winter or summer gear pound?

Mr. Roodbeen said he would rather have it winter because he likes winter activities better.

Features

March 19, 2012



Irish Traditions

By: **Natasha Woodruff**
Coordinating Editor

Ready to find the pot of gold at the end of the hallway?

As St. Patrick's Day draws near, Irish traditions are emerging everywhere.

St. Patrick's Day originally started as a feast day to honor the death of St. Patrick, the Catholic saint believed to have brought Christianity to Ireland. It traditionally involved going to an Irish mass in the morning and spending the day eating traditional Irish food such as corned beef and cabbage and dancing.

Some of the most common traditions in the U.S. are wearing green all day and pinching people who don't. Images of shamrocks, leprechauns, pots of gold and rainbows are also everywhere on March 17.

As it turns out, wearing green is not a tradition found in Ireland. It is largely practiced only in the United States, because green is considered an unlucky color to Irish because it was the color of the flag they had when they were not a free nation. The tradition of pinching people if they don't wear green is also an American tradition started by school children.

America, along with several other countries, have parades and festivals during St. Patrick's Day. The tradition of parades started in the 1700s and is now a very popular practice, usually having thousands of patrons attend across the globe.

Detroit is one of the major cities in the United States that has an annual St. Patrick's Day parade. This year will be the 54th annual Detroit

the United Irish Societies. Close to 30,000 people turn out to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and participate in festivities.

Alexa Perry, sophomore, is Irish and has some traditions that her family does every year. "Every year I wear green on St. Patrick's Day," said Perry. "And every year my cousins throw a party."

Although Perry's family doesn't practice any formal Irish traditions, Perry said her grandmother, who is 100% Irish, celebrates St. Patrick's Day with more practices from Ireland.

"St. Patrick's Day is one of my favorite times of the year because I get to spend time with my family," said Perry.

RHS has some traditions as well. During St. Patrick's Day, Mr. Brown sponsors the Lucky Charms Cereal Challenge before school starts to see who can eat a bowl of Lucky Charms the fastest.

Last year's winner was Lucas Moon, sophomore. "It was really fun and Lucky Charms are my second favorite cereal, so it was worth it," Moon said. Moon said his strategy in the contest was to eat all the cereal first, and then drink the milk. "I might do it again this year," Moon said, "if I get 60 likes on Facebook."

There is also the school-wide scavenger hunt, put on by Student Government. Different images, such as pots of

parade that, thanks to sponsors at really into it. They run around the school looking for them," said

Jolene Ureel, senior. "They usually win a bucket of candy or a gift card if they find the picture."

Richmond has also started the tradition of the Shamrock Sale. All third hour classes are asked to sell shamrocks for \$1. The money classes collect from the shamrock sale goes toward finding a cure for multiple sclerosis, or MS.

The class that sells the most shamrocks is given an ice cream party to celebrate their achievement.

"St. Patrick's Day is one of my favorite times of the year because I get to spend time with my family," said Perry

Iskra said, "None of us knew anything, but came a long way with our mentors on the Armada Academy team."

They provided RHS with invaluable support and mentoring. Jacob Matthes, freshman and business manager, said, "Mike Graham is a God-send. We wouldn't be where we are now without him."

"As the business director on the other team, it's my job to spread the word. It's nice to know that they have a successful team now," Graham said.

FIRST Robotics is the company that organizes the program. Graham and Matthes have one major thing in common: they are both business managers. The business manager is the person

in charge of gathering financial and community support. This is done through contacting sponsors and the team's internet presence.

The team has a Facebook fan page (@devilrobotsteam140) where they post statuses and photos of the team's progress. Matthes also sends out a newsletter to Richmond supporters. During the team's build season, in January and February, the letter goes out weekly, but during the off season, it goes out monthly. Interested persons can sign up to receive the newsletter by e-mailing him at matthesjacob@yahoo.com.

There will be two competitions this month. The first will be on March 20 at North Valley High School. The second will be on March 24 at Troy.

Iskra said, "You need to play the game, and you need to play the best." All seven members of the team—Logan Iskra, Blake Iskra, Brandon

ROBOTICS cont. from pg.1

"You take parts—computer parts, metal, a lot of wire. You start by building a frame and then you put in the motor and the electronics."

They have six weeks to build their robot, starting in January and ending February 20.

Logan Iskra, junior programmer and driver, said, "We usually make an agenda about what we need to have done by the regulations. We start with the necessary, then we put on the extras that will greatly help in the competition."

The team has an account through an online company recommended to them by Fighting Pi.

"We have purchased some motors, sprockets, chains, pool noodle [for a part of the bumper], wood. Mostly all of the electronics are already supplied," said Mr. Roodbeen.

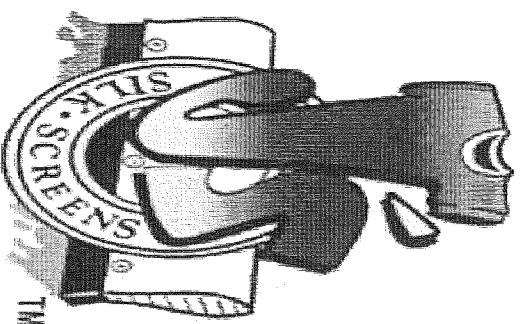
Some team's robots are worth up to \$70,000 with sponsors. The Richmond team's robot cost \$300.

"You need to play the game, and you need to play the best," said Iskra

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Varsity Jacks
Richmond ■ Memphis ■ Anchor Bay

Pots, Ryan Cass, Robert Hill, Tyler Hoag and Jacob Matthes—and Mr. Roodbeen built their robot to play a game.

"You have to shoot a foam basketball into one of four basketball nets to get points. There is a bridge in the middle. We are going to be a defensive robot—block people from scoring," said Mr. Roodbeen.

Because this is the team's first year, they didn't have the abilities to add offensive features.

The robot doesn't have a mind of its own, so they have a driver. The driver, Logan Iskra, uses a drive station, similar to a joystick operated videogame controller, to guide the robot around the arena.

Graham said, "We have taught them a lot about the robots and a lot about business. They are really far ahead of the other rookies."