

Raised edge -- great idea!

What's INSIDE

Minority holiday ignored

Is Hannukah really playing second fiddle to "Christmas"?

DIVERSE P3



Living with separation

Living with one parent is no easy task, and trying to juggle between two is even harder. Students reveal their ordeals.

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Tattoos: Making a comeback

Students tell their tattoo experiences in *The Middle*.

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the review

James Whitcomb Riley High School

Issue 2, Volume 25/December 22, 1994

New Riley delayed

'Riley at Jackson' group files lawsuit to stop new development

MELISSA LODOEN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Last summer when the building project was approved by the tax board, a suit was filed against the present plan by remonstrators who want Riley to be built at the Jackson Middle School location.

"We filed a lawsuit against the present plan because the tax commissioners only approved the decision to build a new Riley and did not approve renovation of Jackson. We did not feel that the commissioners had the right to approve only part of the plan that was presented to them. The plan that was presented to them was to build a new Riley and to renovate Jackson," said Judith Overmyer, an active member of the remonstrators.

In October a hearing was held before the tax court judge. The plan was approved to build Riley at the current site but not to renovate Jackson during the construction of the new Riley.

"The tax commissioners changed the lease because they did not approve the renovation of Jackson. Indiana tax court judge, Thomas Fisher, said he would therefore require us to go through the approval process again," said Nancy King, president of the school board.

In November, Fisher's ruling prevented the school corporation from selling bonds for



LINE DRAWING BY GREINER, INC.

financing the construction of the proposed project.

"Fisher made the ruling before our attorneys could give their briefs," said King.

At the last board meeting the board discussed what the next step should be. One

option it has is to reaffirm its support for the decision to build the new Riley at its current spot. This would mean going through the approval process all over again.

Another option it has is making Jackson the south side high school and building a

middle school at the current Riley site. This is what the remonstrators would like to see happen.

"We feel that by building Riley at Jackson we would save money because we already own properties there. We could have a new Riley with all of the facilities of a full campus high school. We already have an auditorium, gymnasium, football field, and all of the necessary parking facilities without spending millions of dollars," said Overmyer.

However, the South Bend Community School Corporation has already spent \$3 million buying houses around the Riley area in preparation of building here.

According to Overmyer, the properties that have already been bought would not go to waste. The land will still be used if the remonstrators get their wish of locating Riley at Jackson. According to the remonstrators, the land would be used for the middle school that would be built at the current Riley location.

The school board filed a petition requesting Fisher for a re-hearing. They are waiting for his response.

"If he doesn't agree to have a re-hearing, he could take it (his rejection of his plans) to the Indiana Supreme court," said King. Rumors have been spread at Riley and through-

CONTINUED NEW RILEY P8/FLIP

SUPPORT GROUP

Students find help in group support

MELISSA LODOEN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Students suffering from the loss of a loved one or divorce in the family will soon have a support base at Riley.

Rainbows International is a program designed to help those who have lost someone due to death or divorce. The program is active in 46 states and nine foreign countries, and is being implemented at Riley.

It began eleven years ago in Shaumburg, Illinois, when Suzy Yehl Marta, was going through a divorce. Her three children were blaming themselves for the problems related to the divorce. She gave them coloring books, and they vented their feelings through them. She realized that other kids must be feeling the same way while their parents are going through a divorce, and had the idea to start *Rainbows*.

"In the book of *Genesis*, God promised that we would never be alone, and the rainbow was the sign that He'd always be there. By going through this program, you are reminded you are not alone," said Kathy Fean, registered director and coordinator of *Rainbows International* at *Catholic Charities*.

The colors of the rainbow are also significant to the origination of the name.

"The volunteers of *Rainbows International* are of all different backgrounds, races, and religions coming together

for one cause: to help those who struggle with the loss of a loved one," said Fean.

The program is divided into groups according to age: *Rainbows* for preschoolers to eighth graders, *Spectrum* for ninth to twelfth graders, *Kaleidoscope* for college students, and *Prism* for parents.

Each of the groups meets once a week for an hour with a trained adult. The adults are all volunteers, known as facilitators, who have gone through a four to six hour training session. Each one of these groups talks about the same topic each week, but at a different level.

"We talk about things that are on everyone's mind, things such as visitation rights and going to school functions with

only one parent, when it used to be two. We approach each level with a different angle appropriate to the age group," said Fean.

George McCullough, principal, expressed an interest in starting the program at Riley.

"I think starting the program here is a good idea because a lot of students are affected by divorce," he said.

There are steps to be taken before the program can go into effect.

A meeting was held on December 13 with Fean, McCullough, Melissa Lodoen, junior and student coordinator,

CONTINUED RAINBOWS P8/FLIP

SBCSC strives for safety in public school system

MELISSA LODOEN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Have you ever seen anyone stealing from lockers? Someone who was vandalizing cars in the parking lot? Someone who was selling drugs? Someone who talks about having a gun?

Now is your chance to catch this person.

On Monday, November 14, Riley put the *Student Crime Stoppers* into effect. Fliers were hung in every classroom to inform the students.

Two weeks after that, the whole school attended the *Crime Stopper* assembly. It also let

them know that they needed to contact authorities if they see a crime happening," said George McCullough, principal.

"We hope that by instilling this program students will be afraid to do things that other kids could call *Crime Stoppers* about," said Gwen Stines, Substance Abuse Pre-

"We hope that by instilling this program students will be afraid to do things that other kids could call about."

Gwen Stines /
Substance Abuse
Coordinator

vention Coordination for the South Bend Community School Corporation.

If you see a crime committed all you have to do is call 288-STOP and you can report the crime anonymously. You will then be given a tip number. Three weeks after you report the

CONTINUED CRIME P8/FLIP



good quote

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✓ FEE WAIVERS

Eligible seniors and juniors may receive one fee waiver for SAT I Reasoning Test. See your counselors to find out if you are eligible.

✓ YFU EXCHANGE

Take a new look at the world with Youth for Understanding International exchange. Choose a year, semester, summer or sports program in one of 30 countries. Call 1-800-TEENAGE for more information.

✓ BUSINESS OPENING

There is an opening in the business department as an aide. You can apply for this position through George McCullough, principal.

✓ MAGAZINE SALES

Magazines are being sold by the junior and senior classes in order to raise money for prom and after prom tickets. Magazines can be sold until closer to prom. If you sell ten magazines you will receive a prom ticket for two and an after prom ticket for one. If you sell 17 you will receive a prom ticket for two and after prom ticket for two. This year's after prom is a cruise, so sell those magazines and get a free ride.

✓ SCHOLARSHIPS

The Indiana Association of Orthodontists is offering a scholarship for college-bound Indiana high seniors. A total of \$4500 will be awarded through nine \$500 scholarships. Any college-bound Indiana high school senior who completes a one-page essay entitled: *The Benefits of a Healthy Smile*, then completes a single data page, submits them with a photograph is eligible for the scholarship.

Please contact your high school guidance counselor or a local orthodontist for an application.

✓ NEW MACHINING CLASS

Vocational Precision Machining is a new class that is being offered for the first time this year at Ivy Tech Technical College.

In this class the basic skills of knowledge and precision machining are taught to individuals who wish to get a head start on a career before graduation. The class, worth three credits, meets three hours a day and is two semesters long. If you are interested in vocational precision machining please visit the class.

✓ HEALTH CARE CAREER

Michiana Community Hospital invites you to spend a morning, afternoon, or evening in the area of your choice with their professional staff. Feel what it's like first hand in a teaching hospital. Pick up a brochure from Beth Horban in the guidance office.

AIDS PRESENTATION

Graphic slides open eyes

MELISSA HEDMAN
ADVANCED REPORTER

Don't let Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) make you blind: let education be your eyes.

December 1 was World AIDS Day and Wally Gartee, health educator, arranged an all school assembly to enlighten students at Riley about the positive and negative aspects of having sex.

"Sex is a good thing. I'm not here to tell you otherwise, but if you think that you can trust your life to a condom, you are wrong," said Michael Nicholas, director of education from the Public Health Department and main speaker in the assembly.

Maybe dead wrong. Twelve million people in the United States are infected by an STD each year, he said. There are 20-25 significant STDs, some fatal, a few relatively harmless, but all humiliating. According to Nicholas, if you get AIDS, which is ranked as being number six as the most communicable disease in Indiana during 1993, you will always die. There are no two ways about it, he said, AIDS is a life sentence.

"We (Christine Vanderheyden and he) came to Riley to help students understand the dangers involved in having sex. We want to educate them now so that maybe if they know what could happen and how to prevent it we won't have to treat them for an STD later. Condoms are one way to protect yourself, but they don't always work," said Nicholas.

According to Gartee, condoms are

proven to lessen your chance of getting a sexually transmitted disease, but at this time there is no surefire way to protect yourself except for abstinence.

"There is no safe sex only safer sex. The only completely safe sex is abstinence," said Gartee.

Christine Vanderheyden, health educator, said the assembly on sexually transmitted diseases, was intended to give students the straight facts, no bull. It brought up many questions in the minds of students.

"The information presented really made me think. I hope that everyone at least got one thing out of the assembly," said Karen Holder, sophomore.

According to George McCullough, principal, the assembly was important, and everyone needs to have the facts and consequences of their actions explained to them.

"That is one of the things that we hoped to accomplish, I feel that we succeeded," he said

Not everyone feels that way.

The students who sat through the assembly talking or laughing may never have to deal with any kind of sexual disease, but one out of every five people who lives in Indiana encounter some form of an STD at one time in their lives.

Heather Horvath, sophomore, feels that those students who couldn't listen to the important message that was presented, are probably the ones who needed to hear it the most.

The assembly was a shocker to some of the students and it opened some eyes mentally, but physically it closed some.

"Maybe laughing was their way of covering up what they were really so afraid of, maybe they didn't understand, or maybe they did understand, maybe what they

CONTINUED STD'S P8/FLIP

Here are some signs and symptoms that may mean you have an STD

Both men and women

- ❖ Sores, bumps or blisters near your sex organs or mouth
- ❖ Burning and pain when you urinate
- ❖ Swelling in the area around your sexual organs
- ❖ Rectal itching, pain, or discharge
- ❖ A swelling or redness in your throat
- ❖ Fever, chills, and aches

Women Only

- ❖ Unusual discharge or smell from your vagina
- ❖ Pain in your pelvic area - the area between your belly button and sex organs
- ❖ Burning or itching around vagina
- ❖ Bleeding from your vagina that is not your regular period
- ❖ Pain deep inside your vagina when you have sex

INFORMATION FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION (ASHA)

GRAPHIC BY SEAN HOVI

Quiz bowl team prepares for season

COLLEEN JURKAITES
STAFF REPORTER

"A wealth of knowledge, the ability to think on your feet, and a competitive spirit are what it takes to be a successful quiz bowl team member," said Joyce Garretson, the quiz bowl coach.

To become a part of the quiz bowl team you just need to show an interest. A student must like to answer trivia questions and be able to answer some of the questions correctly, she said.

Each team member, however, must contribute to the team's progress. Garretson said, "In order for a team to be successful it must be well balanced."

"A successful team should have an expert

in each of the categories, such as math, science, English, general knowledge, and sports," said Garretson.

Garretson said one of the jokes the team has is when they don't know an answer to a sports question they say Kurt Flood.

"To make a team balanced I ask teachers to recommend from their subject areas what categories students would be better in," Garretson said.

This year's varsity team has experts in most of the categories. Derek Carr, senior, excels in social studies, science, and geography. Another senior, Matt Andrysiak, succeeds in answering general knowledge questions. Jonathan Stankiewicz, junior, is an expert in math, sports, and English categories.

Success also

of their knowledge. Each junior varsity and varsity match has four rounds of fifteen questions, except for the third round. In this round the teams answer as many questions as they can in sixty seconds. The city wide high school quiz bowl team champion will then go on to the national competition.

"Riley has had a successful team in the past ten years," said George McCullough, principal.

According to McCullough quiz bowl is a learning experience that helps prepare the gifted students for the future.

"Their experience will be of a help to them. The more activities students are involved in, the more successful they will be in the future," said McCullough.

"Programs like quiz bowl help students become involved with their schools, which gives them a sense of pride. My favorite part about being on quiz bowl is seeing how much information I actually know. One of the rewards of being in a quiz bowl team is that you learn a lot of interesting trivia," said Liszewski.

Nick Schafer, freshman, thought of becoming a part of Riley's quiz bowl program when his English teacher mentioned that Garretson was looking for new recruits.

"I had been on a quiz bowl team in grade school, so I decided to try for Riley's team," said Schafer.

The program has been running smoothly so far, according to Garretson, but there is one thing she would like to change for the future.

"If I could change one thing about the program it would be to get a greater amount of student interest," said Garretson.

Garretson and team members are trying to

CONTINUED QUIZ BOWL P8/FLIP



NICK CHAMBERLAIN

QUIZ BOWL/ Left to Right: juniors, Pete Seak, Marc Chodock; sophomore, Andy Malec; freshman, Erica Costello; sophomore, Mary Wisnieski; senior, Matt Andrysiak; freshman, Nick Schaffer and senior, Derek Carr, ponder the questions as junior, Jonathan Stankiewicz asks them questions to prepare for the next quiz bowl match.

comes with practice. Sally Liszewski, junior, has been on the team since last year.

"The team practices about four times a week for about forty five minutes. We practice trivia questions and practice buzzing in to give our responses as we would in meets," said Liszewski.

Meets are held about once a week, Riley then faces off against other local high schools for a test

diverse ideas

James Whitcomb Riley High School

Issue 2, Volume 26/December 22, 1994

THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Are we overdoing the Christmas spirit?

Yes



BECKY BANKOFF
SPORTS EDITOR

For as long as I can remember, whenever winter time rolls around I have been surrounded by Christmas.

I saw Christmas lights and decorations, heard Christmas carols and Christmas greetings, and saw the endless reruns of *'It's a Wonderful Life'* and *'Miracle on Thirty Fourth Street.'* It is not that I don't like the Christmas holiday and season; I admire the traditions and all of the beauty involved, but enough is enough.

You may be thinking I have no Christmas spirit, and this is true, because I am Jewish.

As much as I admire the Christmas holiday, I cannot take part in it. Christmas is

the celebration of the birth of Jesus, a man Christians believe to be a Messiah.

In my religion, Judaism, Jesus isn't the son of God, nor the Messiah. For me to enjoy and celebrate Christmas to its fullest, I would have to believe in the birth of Jesus.

I can't do that and still consider myself truly Jewish.

Have you ever noticed that during the holiday season, the normal 'hellos' and 'good-byes' suddenly change to *'Merry Christmas.'* Why is this? I know people are just trying to be kind, but this offends me.

Only one-third of the world is Christian, making it the largest religion followed. However, I do not believe

"The community presumes everyone celebrates the season of Christmas; but this presumption devalues the religious beliefs of non-Christians."

Becky Bankoff / Junior

this allows for the other two-thirds, of us like the Hindus, Mormons, Muslims or agnostics to be excluded. As widespread and strong as the belief in Christianity is, twice as many people believe in something else.

When I was younger, I remember being confused.

Part of this had to do with the fact that I am from a religiously mixed background.

My mother used to be Methodist, although she eventually converted to Judaism when I was nine, and my father is Jewish.

Another reason I was confused was because of my community.

In school, I sang Christmas carols, made ornaments, ate candy canes, and went on a two week Christmas vacation.

All around the city of South Bend, I saw Christmas lights, trees, and decorations. The community presumes everyone celebrates the season of Christmas; but this presumption devalues the religious beliefs of non-Christians.

I feel everyone has a right to celebrate Christmas however they want on their own property and in their own churches, but it is going too far to decorate public places

like libraries, shopping centers, and hospitals. I realize that now the phrases *'seasons greetings'* and *'happy holidays'* are being used more frequently. I am glad to see this and it is a step in the right direction.

CONTINUED POINT P8/FLIP

No



AARON YOUNG
STAFF REPORTER

I have much respect for Jews. I know that they have had many hardships for thousands of years.

They have been persecuted throughout history by Persians, Assyrians, Romans, and most recently, the Nazis during World War II.

But in America, they are no longer persecuted.

They have the same rights as every other religious group.

I understand that during Christmas, Jews feel that it isn't right for Christians to decorate public places like malls, hospitals, libraries, and other places.

First of all, many hospitals are Christian run, like Saint Joseph's. Why wouldn't they decorate their halls?

Wouldn't a Jewish-run hospital put up decorations celebrating Hanukkah and the other Jewish holidays?

Secondly, many of the people who celebrate Christmas aren't even Christians. They only focus on the materialism of the holiday. The Christmas tree began as a Christian symbol, but now is usually not associated with the faith because of commercialization.

Another point the Jews need to realize is that America started as a Christian nation. Our forefathers arrived here to be able to worship *'Christ'* in any way that they wanted. Somehow, this seems to have been forgotten.

You will see more Christ-

"America started as a Christian nation. Somehow, this seems to have been forgotten."

Aaron Young / Sophomore

mas trees and hear *'Merry Christmas'* more often because there are more Christians in the world than any other religion.

According to the 1991 *World Book Encyclopedia*, Judaism comes in eighth in numbers.

The constitution grants freedom of religion and the freedom to express it freely,

without persecution.

Christians have the right to say *'Merry Christmas'* and celebrate the way they do. If Jews want to say *'Happy Hanukkah,'* they have every right to. It would not offend me, and I don't believe it would offend many other Christians.

They can set up menorahs the same way Christians and other people set up trees. I feel that if businesses want to set up Hanukkah decorations, they will.

If the Jewish students want to make a difference here at Riley, then they should talk to George McCullough, our principal.

If the Christian students will be allowed to set up a tree, then the Jewish students

should be able to set up decorations for Hanukkah. One reason that Christmas is emphasized here is, once again, commercialization. If Hanukkah were as

commercial as Christmas, then people would talk about it, too.

If Jews want to make a change, then they must exercise their constitutional rights to express their religious views rather than to attempt to prevent Christians from expressing theirs.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Stray bullets have no eyes

DAMIAN NEWHOUSE
GUEST REPORTER

I guess it didn't hit me that my hood was falling apart until my friend Delano Groves, who was only 17, got shot and killed. Or maybe you could say I knew it before then.

Growing up in the hood automatically puts you in their gang.

The little girls grow up to either be female gangsters or hookers, trying to make a living to support their drug habits and children. The young boys grow up wanting to be like the older hood mbers who have dropped out of school or are not doing anything with their lives after graduation.

In the hood, if you're not dealing, wearing

gold, or driving a nice car with booms, then you aren't anybody. The hood is not a place for little kids to grow up and play in. Columbus Coleman, a seven year old boy, was shot and killed in his yard because of someone carrying out a revenge scheme for dope.

If this isn't crazy, then what is? It is all I can do to try and

escape all of this unnecessary madness. In order to fight the temptation to

make easy money and tear apart families, I took it upon myself to get a legal job, bury myself in my schoolwork, music, and now wrestling.

I've decided to fight it because I've personally seen what it feels like to live on the edge from selling dope. My cousin lived high in the fast lane for awhile until his world collapsed. He started smoking up the crack that he was dealing. My brother also hit rock bottom when he started smoking it. He was constantly in and out of Charter hospital, then he started stealing from his own family in

order to support his habit. The law finally caught up with both of them and now they are serving time in the pen.

When my homies saw that I was finally getting busy on the right side of the law, they were envious. Then my homies became a thing of the past. I started hangin' with some fellas from another side of town who were doing right. When the hood found this out, they wanted my head on a platter. Literally! I was wanted, simply because I chose some low-key fellas as my friends. You can die for ditching your hood. Either be down or be dead.

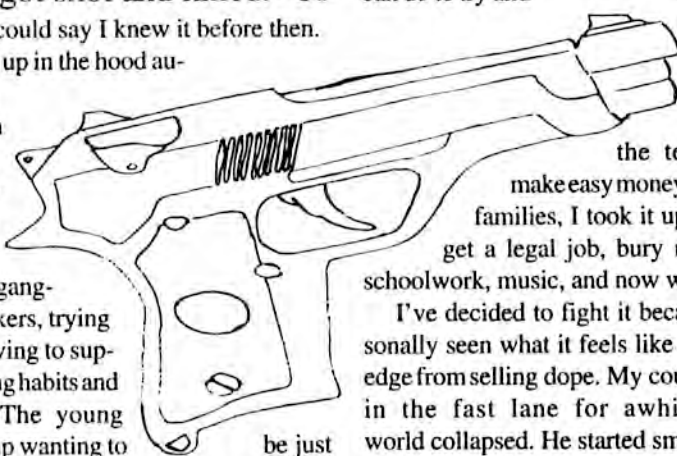
I don't want to be a victim of the hood. As you see, I'm still here, and I'm trying my hardest to stay out of the way of any bullets. Bullets don't have eyes; they don't care who they hit, whether it is the intended victim or an innocent bystander.

Nobody wants to see young people killing each other, but nobody seems to care that the young blacks in the hood are fighting some horrible odds. It seems the only way to clean up the hood would be taking half of its population to jail or drug-free clinics.

The only thing I can do is to stay out of trouble and the path of stray bullets. Delano and Columbus will never know what life really is, because they were victims of someone who only cared about himself. I don't want to be a victim; I want to graduate from high school, go on to college, and become somebody. I know the only way to survive the hood is to get out of the hood.

Editor's Note:

On Tuesday, November 8, 1994 Damian Newhouse, junior, and Aaron Marsh, sophomore, were shot. Newhouse was shot in both knees putting him in critical condition for a short period of time. He is now recovering and plans on returning to school next semester. Marsh has recovered and is back in school.



PERSONAL STORY

My parents' divorce ended my childhood

AUBREY EVANS
ADVANCED REPORTER

My parents never fought in front of me, my sister, or brother, so I couldn't understand why my dad was leaving.

One day he and my mom woke us up and told us to go sit on the couch. All he said was that he and my mom were separating and he was moving out that day. All I could do was cry. No less than five minutes later he told us to get in the car. He was taking us to where he was going to live.

No one ever explained to me why this was happening or told me that he or she still loved me or that it wasn't my fault. He just left and nothing else was said.

Once my dad left, my mom had to get a job, so she was always working. At one point she had three jobs. We didn't have any money to hire a baby-sitter so my sister and I had the responsibility of cleaning the house and cooking when we came home from school. I was only nine and I didn't know how to cook or clean. My brother was 16 so he went out and got a job to help with the bills.

Nothing was ever said about a divorce until almost two years later. My dad said he was moving to Kentucky and they were getting a divorce because he didn't want us to have to move to be near him. He made it seem like my fault, but I was more than willing to move if that was what it would take to keep them together.

I know that moving was not the real reason they were getting divorced. My mom told me a few years later that they were having problems and that she wanted to go to counseling, but my dad didn't want to. I asked her why they started to have such serious problems, and she just said that they were very young when they got married. Neither of them

had a chance to date anyone else or experience life. They ended up blaming each other for everything they missed in life, and divorce was the only solution for them. I couldn't believe the difference between divorce and separation.

When my parents were separated they would still talk and were friendly to each other, but once the divorce went through they hated each other. My dad always talked about what a "lying slut" my mom was and what a terrible mother she was, just because she had started to date.

All my mom talked about was how my dad had an affair and always was telling us to ask him when he was going to give her the support check. This still goes on even though they're both remarried.

Even now it makes me wonder why they would say such hateful things about each other in front of their own children.

Did they really hate each other that much to put us through that kind of pain?

When your parents get divorced you automatically take on the responsibility of an adult. Your childhood comes to a quick end. No one deserves to ever

go through that. I wouldn't wish it upon my worst enemy. I'm a very responsible and strong person because of this experience.

I have never really talked in-depth with my mom or my dad about the divorce. My mom said that there are a lot of things that went on between them, and it would be better if I didn't know, this is fine because I don't want to know.

I now live with my mom and stepdad, who is absolutely the greatest person in the world. I see my dad quite often, he comes into town about once a month and I usually spend a few weeks with him in the summer. I have forgiven them for everything that has happened, I could never love them any less because of the divorce. They still don't get along, but I don't expect them to. ■

"When your parents get divorced, you automatically take on the responsibility of an adult. Your childhood comes to a quick end."



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Top Responsibilities of Teens in Single Parent Homes

- 1 cleaning
- 2 taking care of younger siblings
- 3 cooking
- 4 doing the dishes
- 5 laundry
- 6 taking out the garbage
- 7 lawn care



out of 100 Riley Students

GRAPHIC BY SEAN HOYT

Divorce: Go

MELISSA LODOEN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Grief is a process that has many steps and I have been through all of them.

Grief is an expression of love when you lose a family member. I lost a family member due to divorce and went through the stages of grief: denial, bargaining, anger, depression, and acceptance.

The first stage happened as soon as my sister and I were told that my dad would no longer be living with us. I did not believe this was taking place. How could my dad be leaving? Why was he leaving? Where was he going? Since I couldn't answer any of these questions I felt it was best to pretend that it wasn't

happening. It was easy for me to deny that my dad was leaving and not coming back.

I decided to just pretend that he was at work. This was very easy because he had been at work when I came home from school and he had not come home until after I went to bed. I went to his apartment every other weekend, so it was only during the weekends I was with my mom that I was reminded of his absence.

As I grew older, I went to the next step of grief, the bargaining process. I wanted to keep spending time with my father, but it became harder because I was growing older. To me there were more important things than going to see my dad every other weekend.

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The grinch that stole my childhood

MONICA MOSS
VIEWPOINT EDITOR

It was the summer of my freshmen year when my parents split up.

I always knew in the back of my mind it would happen someday, but I was hoping it wouldn't happen until I was about 40 or 50 years old.

Kids can always sense when there is discord in the house; there's a tension they can feel.

I don't think there was an actual time when my parents sat me and my two sisters down and told us they were getting a divorce, we just figured out after the third week my dad was gone that he wasn't coming back.

One fight was when I was really little and my mom had just come home after work. My dad hadn't had a job for a while and it was getting really close to Christmas. They started to fight and went into the 'sewing room' where the presents were and shut the door.

The next thing I knew, my mom was throwing all the toys we were getting for Christmas at us saying, "Have a Merry Christmas girls, who cares, your dad sure doesn't love you." I don't think it fazed us too much, because we just sat down to play with our toys. We were too little to understand; my dad came out of the room and took them away.

Another time, on my tenth birthday, right after we had moved to South Bend, I woke up to find my parents fighting about something. I was crying and had been stressed out all day. My mom left for work sarcastically saying, 'Happy Birthday to you Monica, Happy Birthday to YOU.'

My dad who worked at night and slept during the day, was up all day cleaning the house and calling my mom at work. When it was time for my mom to get home, we left to visit my grandparents. I was worried that my dad was kidnapping us at first, 'but then I thought, no my dad wouldn't do that'.

We arrived at my grandparent's house a little calmer because of the drive up. When we got inside my grandparents had wrapped a gift for me. It was something I wanted, so I

was happier. Then all my best friends from Berrien jumped into the room. It was so great. They were all coming to my house to stay the night! When we got home things were better, but I was still stressed out because I didn't want my parents to fight.

They also had a fight on Christmas Eve in 1991. We were all sitting around decorating Christmas cookies and watching the classic, 'When The Grinch Stole Christmas.' My parents started fighting and my dad left. My mom threw his stuff out onto the snowy lawn and then called the police. All I remember about it was that after everything was over and stuff calmed down a little, I said, "I don't feel like decorating cookies anymore."

I also don't remember asking or even caring how my sisters felt. I never have talked to either parent about the divorce. My dad tried to talk to us once, but it didn't go anywhere. Our time with our dad was special.

I think I just went through this period of hate or intense dislike, because I was used to being 'mommy's little helper' and doing most of the housework since I was ten. She didn't have time to pay attention to all the things I did to help her because she had to take care of my little sister who was about two years old at the time of the divorce.

Now my mom and I just ignore each other or stay out of each other's way; that's when we get along. My dad and I are friends; we see him every Sunday.

Parents should be very open with their children. It is a lot easier for them when they know what's going on. Divorce is never easy, but it helps to be informed on what is final and what is not. I think parents need to be clear on what is happening in their lives and respect how the kids feel.

Just telling the children that the divorce is not their fault and leaving them alone is not enough, it won't make them feel better.

Parents need to understand that children can comprehend a lot more than they think. It doesn't help matters when parents slander each other in front of the children. It makes the child feel little and helpless.

ing through the stages of grief

friends. Before I knew it, I was scheduling my plans with my friends around the weekends that I was with my mom.

Sometimes I would ask my dad if I could have a friend spend the weekend at his house. He always would answer yes, so there weren't a lot of times that I would miss doing things with my friends. But the times I did, I was very angry.

This led to the next step of grieving, the anger. I felt it wasn't fair to me that I was having to sacrifice the fun times in my life because of something that wasn't even my fault.

I knew that I had to go to my dad's every other weekend no matter how I tried to get out of going.

I didn't know how to deal with my anger so I would just keep it inside.

Then I would lash out at everyone and everything, but mostly myself.

I would get very frustrated when things didn't go right I would go into a room and scream as loud as I could. When someone wanted to talk to me, I would lock the door and refuse to talk to anyone.

As I grew older, I grew farther away from my dad because I got more involved in school and even got a job. As I drew father away I became confused. I didn't know how to deal with the whole situation. This brought me into the next stage, depression.

It seemed like each time I would try everything to try to spend more time with my dad, nothing worked. Whenever he had a day off, I would have plans or my sister would have plans.

We tried to talk about why we were drifting apart and what we could do to spend more time together.

But this never helped, we would just begin tracing back to things that didn't even involve my sister and me.

He would talk about things that happened before we were born. Every attempt I made to improve things was a failure, at times I would give up trying. But it's hard to do when it means giving up on someone you love, so I would try something new. As I grew older I began to be able to talk to him, but still that didn't change the fact that we weren't spending much time together. I began to realize and accept the fact that things were never going to be the same.

Accepting the change is the last stage of grief. After trying counsel-

ling and long talks about what had happened, our family has decided that it is best to just forget what has happened and not try to go back and change things.

I'm also trying to accept the fact that we don't spend as much time with my dad as we did. We don't have the same relationship with each other as we did when my parents were married, when I was daddy's little girl. But as long as we can all find time to spend with each other, we can begin to build a new relationship.

It is not always easy to express your feelings in words, but I have found that it does help to try. My parents were suffering as well as my sister and me. They were not always there to be able to talk to, nor did I always want to talk about it to them. But I

could talk to my sister.

Most of the time I just pretended to be adjusted to the new situation. I was struggling inside, but I wanted to be the tough one, the one who didn't ever cry. However, I would just keep my emotions inside until I couldn't anymore.

But I did learn that grieving can be a positive experience that will provide a foundation for personal growth and strength. I became strong throughout the process of divorce. I was always trying to be the adult and trying to hold in my tears in when my sister would cry. I believe that I have had to mature very quickly in order to deal with these adult issues. I know that since I made it through this divorce, I can handle any situation that comes along in my life.

viewpoints

James Whitcomb Riley High School

Issue 2, Volume 26 / December 22, 1994

editorial

Don't get us wrong

Sexual harassment. Even though some people would like to believe that it doesn't exist, it does.

Nicci Koroch's November opinion column about sexual harassment attempted to expose some of the unfortunate incidences that happen in school.

But, to many teachers and faculty, the column seemed to stereotype and exaggerate it more than portray it.

Generalizing an entire gender is a big boo-boo, especially one that has thousands of differences.

Not all 'guys' are immature 'Neanderthals' with 'happy hands and nothing better to do than grab butts and show off their penises.' One should think twice before accusing a student body of 700 males.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying sexual harassment doesn't happen. I've seen it and masking the problem isn't the solution. Koroch suggested more teachers in the halls because 'guys are less likely to be so exhibitionistic and grabby if a few more teachers are around in the halls'.

Wow, that's a winner of a solution. 'If the school can't stop the problem, maybe the police should.' Double wow, that's even less likely to be effective.

What are they going to do, set up cameras and pass a new rule that guys can't wear pants with zippers anymore? There's really nothing you can do about it, except stand against it, fight it, and wait it out. 'Neanderthals' eventually grow up.

Now, while we are on the subject of generalizing, don't generalize *The Review*. We published an opinion, a point of view. What you are reading now is a point of view. If anyone in this school opposes or doubts what is published in *The Review*, please feel free to write a retort (just hit the power switch on your computer or gosh, we'll even let you use ours.)

The Review, by no means wanted to bring down the morale of the school, or make Riley look bad.

We are, to put it simply, a bulletin board of ideas, and a forum for all interests.

We challenge issues, and write the truth. Many high school papers don't. We will continue

We will continue to serve our readers as a forum for all opinion, and would appreciate your input to help us meet that goal. Write to us and deliver your letters or columns to room 301 or leave them in Marcia Kovas' box.

We hope to hear from you soon.

Letters to the editor

Prayer Group Helps People

Dear Editor,

I think that the prayer group meetings on Friday nights in room 231 after school are great. They bring people together in a fun and positive way. They also help by keeping us out of trouble and encouraging us to do good things.

Everybody is invited to these meetings, it doesn't matter what race you are or if you're tall or short. Everyone can come. We are available at school or anytime if anyone needs to talk about problems or something on their minds. We have a good time and do good things for the community. Prayer group on Friday nights is another building block for "unity" here.

Sincerely,
Mindy Moore
Freshman

Mindy Moore

No Room for Poms

Dear Editor,

The Riley poms are tired of being pushed around in this school. In order to be good we have to practice. After being pushed out of after-school gym time, we became used to the lobby. We made up for the lost gym time by holding early morning practices. This year our gym and lobby time was taken away because of additional classes and the concern for other students' welfare.

During first hour we have been given the wrestling room and the P.E. hallway. Compare that to the gym floor.

Other numerous attempts at compromise also were denied. We hope this will draw some attention to our problem. We would like to represent Riley in a positive manner.

Sincerely,
Beth Gordon
Valerie Martz

Beth Gordon
Valerie Martz

Glad Gum Chewer

Dear Editor,

I am so happy that we get to chew gum. Other schools don't allow it. Also people's breaths are kickin' when they talk, and it gives you something to do when you're bored.

The reason why I chew gum is because of the flavors, and I like to make bubbles.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Garcia
Stephanie Garcia

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the review

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ListenUp



We need to listen to the truth

MELISSA HEDMAN
ADVANCED REPORTER

Sexually transmitted diseases. They aren't thought of by very many people very often, but they are really serious.

After sitting through the recent assembly on sexually transmitted diseases, (STD's), I realized that many people don't really care about this epidemic that is killing the young and old of the world. During the assembly, there were some students laugh-

ing and talking, doing everything except listening. How could someone laugh at the awful truth of AIDS (acquired immune deficiencies syndrome.)

It is really scary to know that over 50,000 people in Indiana are infected with an STD. Some of them probably go to this school and laughed at the assembly. I hope that they know what they are getting into when they have sex, or at least know how to deal with whatever happens to them afterwards.

According to Wally Gartee, health educator, perhaps if we educate those who are having sex on the proper ways of protection, then they won't need to visit the health clinic to get treated for one of these diseases.

Gartee does not promote sex before marriage, but he feels that we can't 'bury our heads in the sand' to the fact that the youth of this world are having sex, and need to be taught that there are consequences for every behavior.

Gartee and our speakers were right, to a point, but they also failed to offer a sense of hope. For example, presently there is an experimental AIDS treatment that uses plasma transfusions to delay the onset of AIDS. This can also extend the lives of AIDS patients. Also, the speakers failed to explain that only one sixth of the STD diagnoses

were among teenagers.

Michael Nicholas, director of education from the Public Health Department in South Bend and speaker at the assembly, said that the lecture he gave us was in no way meant to be a shock tactic to scare you into not having sex. "Sex is a beautiful thing, when it is within a marriage," he said.

I for one was shocked. We received a good dose of information about what was wrong and bad with sex. What about the beautiful, loving, and giving part about sex? Maybe I live in my own world, but somewhere in that moment of heated passion, isn't there any true intimacy?

There was nothing wrong with the assembly. I appreciate our speakers caring enough to come and educate us about STD's.

In the future I hope that those of you who choose to have sex are aware of the consequences and are in some way protected or at least ready to deal with any of the awful things that could happen.

I also wish that those people who decide they need to tell us about sex will tell us everything that there is to know, not just what will scare us into doing, or not doing, what particular thing that person feels is right. ■

Hey You



Scrooge reflects

ERIN WIBBENS
STAFF REPORTER

Seasons Greetings! Once again the holiday season has rolled around. It's the time of year for joy, peace, love, gifts, and parties. So, enjoy the holidays and everything that comes with 'em like...

Grape Road is bumper to bumper traffic and some jerk in a red Toyota keeps honking his horn. There you sit grumpily, for what seems like an eternity waiting for the traffic light to change so that you can finally get into the mall parking lot, which is probably full anyway.

Who doesn't around the holiday season? The mall seems just as crowded too. If you are going the wrong direction, watch out! You'll probably not live to tell

the story. Those crowds are vicious.

If you are looking to dodge those ferocious holiday mobs, your best bet is to avoid weekends. Tracy Davis, University Park Mall marketing director, said, "The best time to shop for students is on a Monday or Tuesday evening."

But who cares anymore, you'll probably never get into the mall. It's now beginning to snow and the sky grows dark so early.

Your mind drifts to that special someone that you are enduring all this holiday hoopla for. The perfect gift is what you need. But, what do you get for someone who has everything?

The majority of students polled (30 out of 40) have trouble buying gifts. How are you supposed to know just what it is that will make their holiday a little more special?

"I have trouble hunting for perfection!" said Annie Gustafson, freshman. We all want our gifts to be perfect, right?

Don't worry too much. The gifts for you will be piling in soon. Just think,

(the top five gift wants according to a Riley student poll are money, CD's, gift certificates, clothes, or a new stereo.) Lots and lots of new stuff all for you! I can hardly wait. But until then, keep your spirits up and enjoy that hustle and bustle of the holiday season, or think of July. ■



DECEMBER 20... PRODUCTION IS BEHIND. SANTA IS NOT HAPPY.

cheers and jeers

- To two week Holiday Break.
- To being able to catch up on the latest soap developments.
- To Holiday spirit and volunteers, like Salvation Army bell ringers.
- To potato latkes, a Hanukkah treat.
- To gaining five pounds on Christmas cookies and fudge.
- To plain candy canes and fruit cake.
- To freezing cold and no snow.
- To socks and underwear in your stocking.

Ditch this!

FACES IN THE CROWD

What's the weirdest thing you've ever asked for "Christmas?"

"Kathy Ireland"



Chad Pinne
Senior

"Scuba gear"



Jennifer Nelson
Senior

"A 600 foot long stocking filled with treats."



Matt King
Junior

"Lime green and brown striped socks."



Sally Lisewski
Junior

"A year's supply of chicken patties."



Michael Gates
Sophomore

"A jogging suit, that was purple and green. It was nasty."



Salina Brown
Sophomore

"A motorcycle."



Titus Jones
Freshman

"Spam!"



Kristen Dietz
Freshman

STD'S / CONTINUED FROM P2

were laughing at was what they were really going through or experiencing," she said.

Slides shown at the assembly depicted syphilis, genital warts, and other STD's on various parts of the anatomy.

For some students this assembly was too graphic.

"It overexposed some private places. It needed to show us what diseases are out there, but it really could have been more tasteful," said Jon Zurcher, junior.

"We didn't come to Riley to scare people or to use the shock tactic, we just want you to know what is out there, and that you are not immune to any of the STD's that we talked to

you about. We didn't try to gross you out or to worry you, just to give you the straight facts," said Nicholas.

"I found it (the assembly) to be educational. It could have been more clean, but the truth can't be sugar coated," said Heather Friant, freshman.

"If people know what could really happen to them, maybe they won't be so quick to jump into bed, but the important thing here is to keep the lines of communication open. Instead of only one week a year, we need to have continual awareness," said Gartee.

RAINBOWS/ CONTINUED FROM P1

and Bev Donati, social worker. Judy Hums, special education teacher, was nominated to be site coordinator, and they decided to ask members of *Friends, Inc.* to assist student involvement.

A meeting will be held for all interested faculty to inform them about the program, and selected members

will be asked to be facilitators.

Any teen who wants to be in the program can.

"No body is ever turned away, but we don't like to bring teens in once the group has started meeting. However, we have made exceptions in certain situations," said Dave Bennet, a facilitator of the program at the *Clay United Methodist* site.

According to Fean, there are ways for teens to get involved with the program without parents finding out.

"We will do whatever makes teens the most comfortable. If they were involved in a program at school it might be easier than if they

were involved in a program that had night classes," said Fean.

Interested students may call the *Rainbows International* number, 234-311, and they will locate the nearest site that has a program for teens. The program at Riley may be in action as soon as the second semester.

NEW RILEY/ CONTINUED FROM P1



out the whole community that the board plans to start the entire process over.

"We are not back to square one. The worst is that we would have to go back through the approval process. This would take from five to six more months," said King.

The board is standing behind the plan to build at Riley, according to King.

"No matter what is decided it is still going to take a couple of years (to complete a building project). Nothing can be done this winter, so the soonest that anything can get built would be the summer," said Overmeyer.

CRIME STOPPERS/ CONTINUED FROM P1

crime you may call back and receive information on your reported crime by using this number.

"If someone calls in a crime that deals with students at Riley, *Crime Stoppers* will send a report to our principal. It will be up to us to follow up on the information and find the person who has committed the crime," said John Floyd, security guard.

If your crime tip leads to the apprehension of the person responsible for the crime or the recovery of stolen items, you may qualify for a cash reward of \$25.

"This gives the students some incentive to try and report the crimes in order to make Riley a safer school," said McCullough.

Since the students are aware of the cash reward there could be a problem with students reporting crimes just so they could get the reward.

"Students don't receive money unless the criminal is caught, or merchandise is recovered," said McCullough.

Once the crime is solved, *Student Crime Stoppers* will give you instructions on how to receive the reward.

"The reward is a small amount, just to say thanks for being a good

citizen," said Stines.

As of right now, McCullough does not see any drawbacks to the program and says there aren't any dangers because everything is confidential.

Even though it is confidential some stu-

dents are afraid to use the program.

"I would only be afraid if I was the only witness," said Jada Horral, freshman.

According to Stines, there is no way that the person who committed the crime could find out who reported them.

"Criminals like to brag so many people will hear when someone has committed a crime," she said.

"I would be afraid that I would be caught in the middle of the situation," said Amanda Winn, freshman.

Once a student has reported the crime, they are no longer involved. *Crime Stoppers* uses their tip to solve the crime and file a report about the crime.

Out of 30 randomly served students, 22 said that they would use the program.

"I would use the *Student Crime Stoppers Program* because I have had something stolen from me before," said Kimber Brenne-man, freshman.

Crimes have been reported since the program was put into effect.

"We had someone call in reporting obscene phone calls and also reporting possession of marijuana. We know who has committed these crimes, now we just have to prove it," said McCullough.

According to Stines, nine crimes have been solved since November 4.

"We had someone call in reporting obscene phone calls and also reporting possession of marijuana. We know who has committed the crimes, now we just have to prove it."

George McCullough / Principal

"If someone calls in a crime that deals with students at Riley, *Crime Stoppers* will send a report to our principal. It will be up to us to follow up on the information and find the person who has committed the crime."

John Floyd/ Security Guard

QUIZ BOWL/ CONTINUED FROM P2



remedy this problem by posting announcements in the halls and also through word of mouth.

"I have told some of my friends that I am in quiz bowl and that they should join, too," said Schafer.

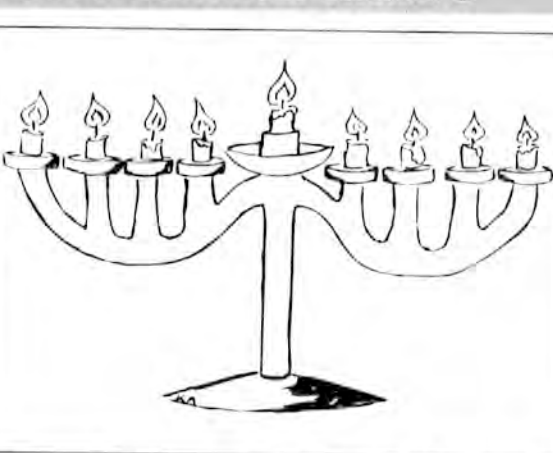
The quiz bowl team seems to be able to overcome its many hardships, such as a lack of student interest and also that they lost the majority of last year's meets.

"Even though last year's losses were very frustrating we still handled our defeats graciously. We were able to use our experience to help us through," said Liszewski.

According to Garretson, the 1994-95 season is off to a great start. The team won its first match this year by beating Clay.

This year's team is composed of: varsity members: seniors, Derek Carr and Matt Andrysiak, juniors: Johnathan Stankiewicz, Pete Seal and Sally Liszewski, and sophomore Mary Wisneski. Junior varsity members: juniors Marc Chodock and Becky Bankoff, sophomore: Andy Malec, and freshmen: Erica Costello and Nick Schaffer.

POINT/ CONTINUED FROM P3



I am not trying to diminish Christianity or the holiday of Christmas. All I am asking for is people to show a little cultural and religious

sensitivity. Not only do I feel it to be especially necessary during winter holidays, but it is important all year long.

Final Thoughts

SAT Dates

Up and coming SAT dates are: January 28, April 1, May 6, and June 3. If you would like to take the SAT test on any of these dates see your counselors to sign up.

Multi-Cultural

The multi-cultural society meetings are held every Thurs-

day at 3 p.m. in room 306. Anyone is invited to attend these meetings.

T.R.E.E.S. Reminder

The Riley Environmental Education Society reminds you to keep recycling your cans and papers. You can find can barrels in the halls and paper boxes in every classroom.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Matt Andrysiak for being chosen as Riley's High School's representative to the South Bend Rotary Club.

Holiday Break

Holiday break will begin December 23 and last until January 9. All South Bend Community School Corporation schools will closed.

