

Senior school spirit

Lenny Swedarsky and Ryan Gibson show how seniors are trying to keep the school spirit alive at Riley.
SPORTS / Page 6



Matt Kayser

An up date on Senior Matt Kayser's battle with cancer and how he's battling with a great attitude.
NEWS / Page 2



Puff Daddy

Dan Jancha discusses the growing popularity of cigars and some of the side effects associated with smoking cigars
EYE CANDY/Page 5



The Review

Riley High School / 405 East Ewing

Issue 1, Volume 28 / October, 1997

Sophomores meet their match

The class of 2000 takes the ISTEP test to graduate from high school



next level. But I do think there should be included in the test social studies and science," said Mary Lawson teacher.

Each student at Riley who has eight to 19 credits is required to take the exam in the fall. Each was designated to a second floor room with their fellow sophomore classmates. The rest of the students were responsible for finding something to do for the first three hours and 15 minutes of the day.

"The state gave us a very rigid schedule. We didn't have much control," said Cheryl Fleming, vice principal.

While the sophomores were testing, the rest of the students had study hall.

"I do understand that the test is state mandated and students do better in smaller groups. But it's too bad that something could not have been done to avoid disrupting 15 hours of the other students' education," said Mary McMann, language teacher.

Some teachers wish to see the three hours and 15 minutes in the morning utilized better for the freshmen, juniors and seniors next year. "In the teachers' meeting before ISTEP, we brought up letting seniors work in the community, letting the freshmen work on study programs, and letting the juniors job shadow," said Lawson.

"I think for next year the test needs some evaluation and make it a little more flexible," said Fleming.

This year's ISTEP tests will be graded by college graduates who are trained in scoring. The scores will be based on correct answers as well as content, level of understanding of questions and ability to communicate answers.

Sophomores who took the ISTEP you will have four more opportunities to test again: two times each junior and senior year. Once you've passed either the mathematics or English sections of the test, you do not have to retake them.

Block Scheduling will come to Riley next year

Jason McFarley
Divers Ideas Editor/ Copy Editor

Although block-four scheduling was approved 63-24 by teachers last month, the change needs approval by the school board.

"Our hope is to have block scheduling fully implemented next school year, but the issue has not been brought before the South Bend school board yet," said Cheryl Fleming, assistant principal.

A 70 percent majority was needed to pass the block system. It was passed by a 70.7 percent majority, which meant one teacher was the deciding factor in the vote.

The block-scheduling proposal has been in the works for the past three years. Teachers and administrators have done extensive research concerning block scheduling, including reading books on the subject and visiting schools with the block system in their curriculums.

The last time the proposal was voted on, in June of 1996, it

was rejected, losing only by three votes. This year, if the school board approves Riley's block scheduling proposal, the system will take effect at the start of the 1998-99 school year.

Under a block-four system, students will take four classes, ranging from 85-90 minutes, five days a week for four nine-week terms. This will allow students to earn up to 16 credits per year, rather than the present 12.

"Block scheduling may also benefit students by allowing them to concentrate on homework for four classes instead of six," said Fleming.

And, according to Dennis Kielton, director of guidance, block scheduling should aid

some of next year's seniors in graduating.

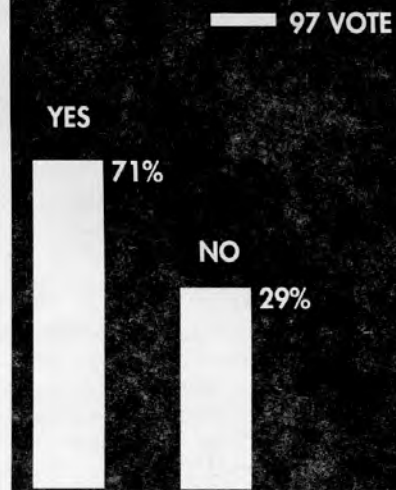
"Students will have the opportunity to take more required courses over, and a chance to take more electives," said Kielton.

In fact, teachers are in the process of developing new electives, said guidance counselor Beth Horban.

"More elective choices will help fill in the open spots in students' schedules, because all students (with the exclusion of co-op participants) must select 16 classes for next year," Horban said.

This includes next year's seniors, although many of them will only need fewer than five credits in order to

RESULTS OF TEACHERS' VOTES ON BLOCK SCHEDULING PROPOSAL



DAVID GUSTAFSON AND JASON MCFARLEY

Monica Swintz

Editor-in-chief/ Sports Editor/ News

The class of 2000 is now required to pass a graduation exam, ISTEP in order to qualify for a high school diploma.

This year's ISTEP test is not what it used to be. The old version contained primarily multiple choice questions. The newer form of the ISTEP has fewer multiple choice questions and more essay type questions, including story problems that show how well students problem solve, read and write.

"I'm in favor of the test. If you don't have the knowledge you shouldn't graduate or move on to the

He's pride of the south side

Jason McFarley
Diverse Ideas Editor/ Copy Editor

It's usually hard to fool nine year veteran Riley principal George McCullough, a man who prides himself on staying wise to the happenings at Riley. So it came as a

big surprise when State Superintendent of schools, Dr. Suellen Reed, completely shocked McCullough with a Milken Award, which entitles him to \$25,000.

Four statewide Milken Awards are given annually to educators who



WORKING TOGETHER/Principal George McCullough and his secretary Esther Robinson work together every day to keep Riley running.

demonstrate superior abilities or innovative curriculum instruction.

"This award came as a total surprise to

me. I was told that Dr. Reed was coming to talk to our school about the importance of education. She was then going to present an award to one of the teachers," McCullough explained.

McCullough will receive his monetary prize next June at a national convention in Los Angeles. McCullough plans to make a donation to United Way. "I also want to take a nice vacation," said McCullough.

According to McCullough, this award is the result of a culmination of things that people have taught him over the years. He gives credit to his late mentor, Charles Martin and former Riley principal Algje Oldham. McCullough also praises his family, col-

leagues, and the entire Riley community.

"All these people have acted as a support system for me. I've realized at this point in my life and career that you need people to help you; you can't do it by yourself," said McCullough.

In her two full years at Riley, assistant principal Cheryl Fleming has gotten the chance to work side by side McCullough.

"One of the first things I noticed about him was his self-confidence and his take-charge manner," said Fleming.

Fleming also noticed McCullough's big smile.

"That I am expected to do," McCullough said.

Flash Back

✓ Homecoming

The homecoming court consisted of eight seniors. They were Erin Wibbens, Amanda Winn, Dana Varner, Whitney Dueringer, Pamela Boone, Julie Brasseur, Kylea Asher, and Jadah Horrall. Homecoming queen was Julie Brasseur. The homecoming parade went from Riley to Jackson middle school and the freshman class won the annual float competition. The music department sold Porta-Pit to accommodate everybody's hunger. There was a dance sponsored by the senior class after the game.

✓ Band

The marching band placed second out of three in the contest at Columbia City on September 27. Also, they marched in the South Bend marching festival at seven p.m. at school field on September 24. The *Marching Wildcats* placed first out of ten South Bend bands. On October 4, they went to I.S.S.M.A. contest and received a first division rating. They placed seventh out of ten.

✓ ISTEP Testing

ISTEP testing took place the week of 9-22 and was for those who had enough credit to be considered a sopho-

more. The sophomores have to pass the test to graduate. Freshman, juniors, and seniors were in first hour for three hours while the sophomores took the test.

✓ Prayer Group

The prayer group has been meeting on a regular basis for weeks and will continue to meet in Tom Morgan's room, 317, at 7:10 am every morning for a prayer. Also, they meet every Monday and Thursday at 3:00 p.m. in his room.

✓ Donut Friday

The premiere of annual donut Friday was on October 4. A variety of donuts are on sale for 50 cents in the lobby every football Friday by the senior class.

✓ Block Scheduling

Block scheduling will be in effect for next year. The vote took place last month. The teachers who voted in favor of the block won the majority which was determined by only one vote.

✓ State Award

On October 2, principal George McCullough received the Milken state award for outstanding achievement in education. The award is only awarded to four educators in the entire state of Indiana. He received the award in front of the entire school at the surprise all-school assembly held in his honor.

"Best in The World"

Nick Schafer
Editor-In-Chief/Copy
Editor/Centerspread editor

At the international competition held in June, only one American Future Problem Solving team placed first in its division. That team, from Riley, is also the only team from Indiana ever to place in that competition.

The senior team of Kimber Brenneman, Natalie Garrett, Colleen Jurkaites and Erin Wibbens beat out the teams from 48 other states and five other nations from New Zealand to Australia for the honor of "best in the world." The competition was held at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and attracted 2,000 students.

Their problem was the possibility of increasing life span. The scenario given to them specifically involved

nursing homes in which old people could live to be 120. The downside was that the old people couldn't leave, and that there were many strict rules and regulations.

"The problem we found with the nursing homes," said Wibbens, "was that they were an invasion of privacy and discouraged in-

dividuality which is why we invented an organization called HBO (Helped By the Old). Through the program, the old people would go out into the community and help out wherever possible boosting their self-esteem and self-worth."

At the end of the two hour writing portion of the competition, the team was satisfied with their solution. "We left knowing that we did well but never really expected to win," said Jurkaites. Wibbens further explained they didn't doubt their ability, it was just that the team thought their idea needed to be more spectacular to win at the highest level.

"We left knowing that we did well, but never really expected to win."

"We also didn't think that we would win because most of the other teams take a 'Future Problem Solving class' high school and have more time to sharpen their skills," said Jurkaites.

"At the awards assembly," said Garrett, "we thought that we had lost because we didn't hear our team number called when they announced the teams that had placed second



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIN WIBBENS

WINNING COMBINATION/The senior Future Problem Solving team of Erin Wibbens, Natalie Garrett, Colleen Jurkaites, and Kimber Brenneman display their trophies after beating the "best in the world."

through fifth." It wasn't until a few minutes later that they received a shock of winning.

"We thought we were hearing things when we heard our number called," said Brenneman. "It wasn't until we heard our sponsors name (Leona Johnston, now retired English teacher) that we stood for our standing ovation," she continued.

Both Wibbens and Garrett have been doing future problem solving since the third grade. Jurkaites joined their team in eighth grade while Brenneman was taught in the *Depth* program

at Lincoln Elementary School.

With all prestigious honors, there is usually a visual reminder of your accomplishment. "There is no way you can miss the trophy that we won," said Garrett. "It's about three feet tall and takes two people to carry."

The state championship was even more special for them because it was the first championship for the senior team. The team presented the trophy to the school and Mr. McCullough at the fall sports pep assembly on October 24.

The Review

The Review is published by the Publications staff at Riley High School, 405 East Ewing, South Bend, Indiana, 46613. The intent of *The Review* is to inform and entertain the public of events occurring within and outside the school. Any opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinions of *The Review*, except for the editorials in the Viewpoints section. *The Review* maintains the right to print others' opinions, but is unbiased and does not support them.

The Review is a self-supporting publication. Advertising is our main source of revenue. We accept contributions from any guest reporter. We accept advertising from area merchants and corporations. The printing of this publication is done by Frank Moriconi and his Graphic Arts class at LaSalle High School.

Editor-in-Chief

Nick Schafer
Monica Swintz

Centerspread

Annie Gustafson
Nick Schafer

News Editor

Rebecca Cripe
Monica Swintz

Diverse Ideas

Jason McFarley

Viewpoints

Erica Costello
Laura Pippenger

Eye Candy

Diana Szymanski

Ad Manager

Erica Costello

Lab Technician

David Gustafson

Photo Editor

Alison Pickarski

Staff Photos

Adam Collins

Sports Editor

Annie Gustafson
Monica Swintz

Head Artist

Erica Fleisher
Rachel Schaut

Senior Staff Reporter

Tony Black

Staff Writers

Jennifer Clements
Melissa Davis
Erica Fleisher
Elisa Garza
Nicole Horton
Charlie Orban
Amy Parker
Adria Phillips
Jeff Price
Heather Thompson
Jessie Tobar
Cami Thurston
Adam Vanderheyden
Derek Young

Copy Editors

Kylea Asher
Dan Jancha
Jason McFarley
Nick Schafer

Advisor

Marcia Kovas

New library with nature theme

Rebecca Cripe
News editor

A cafe, children's area, outdoor area, and a nature theme are all a part of the plan proposed for the new library being built on the corner of Miami and Kern Road. The groundbreaking ceremony will be held in the spring of 1998. The library is being built for everyone.

"I think the library is definitely needed and, I think they made the right decision to build one out there. However, I won't use it because I don't live on that side of town," said Jim Spears, social studies teacher.

"The new library will help me out because it will offer more resources," said Amy Kaehr, sophomore.

"I think that building the library is an excellent decision because it will provide the community with the service that they need in a sufficient manner," said Dave Dunlap, economics teacher.

"We did preliminary research for the new library by visiting other libraries in other states. We wanted to have a different library that was exciting," said Maxine Sandretto, treasurer on the board for the library. The

community needed a library due to its growth in population.

"We did research for a couple of months and met with the community. We got information on what they wanted in the new library," said Sandretto. This library will be a library with special features.

"The proposed plans were chosen by the community and a task force from the St. Joseph County library. We have proposed many special features for the library such as a fireplace, small rooms, and pleasant atmosphere," said Sandretto. The community gave input to the plans.

"People from the community asked for a drive-up window and more of a nature theme for the library," said Sandretto. The land was already chosen for the library.

"The land had already been bought years ago with the purpose of building a new library there. The space was available, appropriate, and for sale," said Sandretto. The new library will have computer access.

"The library will be similar to the Francis branch because it will have a lot of computer access such as connection to the Internet," said Sandretto.

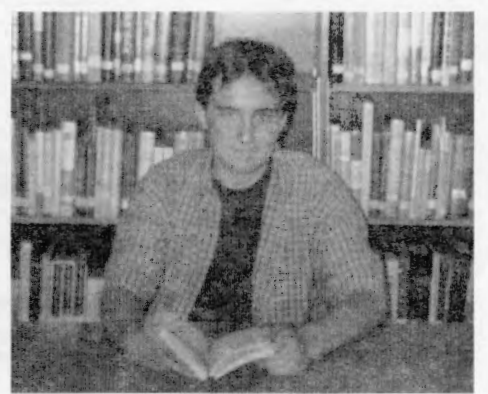
Teen continues his fight

Kylea Asher
Senior staff reporter/ Copy editor

"You have to know there will be bad times, but a positive outlook always makes you feel better," senior Matt Kayser reported to *The Review* in an interview last year.

Kayser's

positive outlook might just be one of the reasons that he is doing so well today. For the past 15 months, Kayser has been fighting an uphill battle with cancer. In June of 1996, Matt Kayser, age 16, was diagnosed with lymphoma.



ALISON PIEKARSKI

LEARNING AS HE GOES/Matt Kayser, senior, studies his world in the Riley library.

After many hours of doctors visits, trips to Riley Children's Hospital, and chemotherapy, Kayser gladly claims that he is beginning to feel like his old self.

"I am a little sick in the morning, but by school I feel okay," said Kayser.

In retrospect, Kayser can say that his illness has brought him closer to family and friends.

"It makes me more appreciative of life. Everything that I do, I want to make the best of it. You look at it (life) in a different way. I feel fortunate just to be at places or see certain things," he said.

"When I was ill I had to tell myself not to worry, although I usually thought about the worst," said Kayser.

"I have learned that anything can happen to anyone." Fortunately, Kayser had taken good care of himself prior to his illness.

"If I had been a smoker, the doctors said I would not be alive today," said Kayser.

"It was amazing to see so many people write notes of prayers to me. People at school who I barely knew, would approach me and let me know that I was in their thoughts and prayers." ■

Viewpoints

Riley High School / 405 East Ewing

Issue 1, Volume 28 / October, 1997

Editorial

We, the Review staff, would like to commend our principal, George McCullough, for winning one of only four National Educator Awards sponsored by the Milken Foundation given in the state this year. McCullough was a little embarrassed, but very honored when State Superintendent of Public Instruction Suellen Reed announced him as the recipient of this prestigious award.

"This award wasn't just for me. It was for the Riley family. I don't do what I do to be awarded; I am trying to help others," said McCullough.

Two of McCullough's main goals for Riley have been to develop a system of quality education for every student, and to help students with post-secondary plans. McCullough also tries to make students comfortable with coming to school.

"I try to make sure the kids feel that they're cared about," said McCullough.

McCullough wants to thank the people who have helped him along the way, especially the past Riley principal who hired him, Algje Oldham.

"Oldham started my accomplishments at Riley, and I carried them on," said McCullough.

McCullough's most recent accomplishments include the new Block 4 schedule for next year. He also hopes to see the letter grade "F" for failure be replaced with the letter "N" for no grade.

"No one in this school is a failure, some people simply need more help in difficult classes," said McCullough.

McCullough doesn't know exactly what he will do with the \$25,000 prize he received for the award. He will probably donate some to *United Way*, and invest some for retirement.

"I have to discuss the prize money with my wife," said McCullough.

McCullough will definitely be at Riley for the next three years, to get settled into the new school. After that, he doesn't know.

"Riley has been very good to me, and for that, I try to touch the life of one person each day," said McCullough.

Thank you, Mr. McCullough, for touching our lives.



Schedule changing 101

Listen Up



Diana Szymanski
Eye Candy Editor

It arrived in the mail. Finally! Your schedule for the new school year. Most expect to see who their new teachers are. Then they call and compare schedules with their friends, so do I.

This year was differ-

ent for me. When I opened my schedule, I found classes I did not sign up for. Even worse, I didn't get a class that I needed. I was blown away. I specifically remember the printout I was given at the end of last school year. The only mistake was I was given a seventh hour. I went to my counselor and had the mistake corrected. How my schedule became so turned around is beyond me.

When I came to school to correct my schedule in August, there was a line all the way down the hallway. It was unbelievably stressful for all. I ended up having to drop orchestra, which is a class that I have taken since the fourth grade. I also had to take a couple

classes I do not necessarily want.

When I went to one of my unwanted classes, I saw about five or six of my friends who also did not sign up for that class. So why are we stuck in that class?

I have heard many other complaints from students who have schedule problems. We should not have to complain. We should all have the schedules we originally signed up for.

It is stressful for anyone to make schedule changes. First you have to make an appointment with your counselor. Then you have to wait to hear from your counselor which can sometimes take a few days. Then when you finally get there you have

to figure out what classes you can and can't take.

I feel sorry for anyone who has to go through this process. I have been through it two years in a row. Whatever is messing up our schedules desperately needs to be fixed. I am sure that students, along with counselors and teachers, do not want to deal with this much longer. ■

How to change your schedule:

- ✓ Consult with Guidance Counselor
- ✓ Consult with parents and teachers
- ✓ Request schedule change form from homeroom teacher
- ✓ Visit counselors office to set up appointment
- ✓ Work with counselors to make appropriate changes

-Information by Dennis Kielton
-Graphic by David Gustafson

Something to talk about



Erica Costello
Viewpoints Editor/ Business Manager

"Did you hear what Susie did on Saturday night?" Did John talk about

me during English?" Let's face it, if gossip were a drug, we would all be addicted. Our curiosity always draws us to ask the questions we have no business asking.

We have become a country that dwells too much on negative issues. We laugh at people, put people down and talk about them behind their back. All for what? So that we get a pat on the back or a boost to an ego? At what price do

we have to pay for hurting a person's feelings?

The recent death of Princess Diana is an example of how destructive gossip can be. It's depressing to think of all she had to

go through just so a paper or tabloid could make a dishonest dollar. Someday we must realize gossip has to be curtailed.

Even at Riley, the damage of gossip can be seen, whether it's the girl crying in the hallway or the words printed in the bathroom stalls.

Have you ever just stepped back and tried to understand what the other person is going through?

I think Rachel Schaut Aesop

said it best when he said, "You'll never understand a person unless you've walked a mile in their shoes."

Gossip is just like playing the telephone game in second grade; by the time everybody hears it, the truth will have become distorted. Unfortunately, it's a game that should have remained in second grade. People need to realize that their malicious gossip is uncalled for, and whatever the intention of the gossip is, it is hurtful to someone. And besides, WHO CARES? ■



HIGHWAY TO

Lost loved one gives life new perspectives

Monica Swintz

Editor-in-Chief/ Sports Editor/News Editor

I deeply felt the loss of my father this summer.

Throughout all of this, the person I am did not change. The key to keeping a good attitude and learning to heal mainly came from the example set by my mother.

The way my mom handled the situation gave me strength. She helped me learn quickly there was no use for anger, and that God may not even have an answer to why he took my dad so soon.

There are many people who said

"A good attitude didn't necessarily show me a road to guaranteed happiness, but it helped clarify what living and making accomplishments truly mean."

to me, "I can't imagine being in your position," or "I could never live without someone I love so much." But when that person is no longer here, there is no choice. I had to go on with life. I learned that the clock stops for no one; that's why the time we have here is so precious. I found new comfort in my family, friends, and faith because those are the most important things in life.

With a good attitude and a strong will, I've relearned how to live life to the point which it seems normal. Now I see the goodness in every person I come into contact with, and I tend to hug a lot.

A good attitude didn't necessarily show me a road to guaranteed happiness,

but it helped clarify what living and making accomplishments truly mean. Through losing my dad, I have learned more about what it means to live. Things like helping others, simply saying 'hi' to friends in the hallway, and hugging a family member have all taken on a new importance to me. When those things are gone, there is nothing left. That's why we need to preserve and uphold love and relationships for as long as possible. I guess that's why the last thing I say to my mom when I leave home in the morning or at night is 'I love you.'

I have realized I haven't lost my dad; he's still with me. I was lucky to have him for the time I did. I have realized that each day I spent with him has helped make my life what it is now. Each day the positive thoughts of my dad and other happy things in my life help fill some of the emptiness I still feel.

Teen faces the realities of death

Kylea Asher
Copy Editor

Out of the ordinary events have happened recently. Our lives, our community, our nation, and our world have been saddened with the news of untimely deaths. And yet, the paradox is that it is not untimely. Death is inevitable. The only promise that life brings with it is that at some point it will end. So why, is dealing with death still such a shocking, disheartening, and painful experience?

From the international news of the death of Princess Diana to the local death of police officer Paul Deguch, our community has felt sorrow for the respective families. The outpour of support just partially shows all of the feelings of sympathy that

we feel. Internally, we are left with feelings of uncertainty and hopelessness. We do not know when our demise might come or when the demise of those we love will come.

Those who are fatalistic might say that death reminds us of the sanctity of life, and that without it, we would never understand what a precious commodity life truly is. I like to believe that this is true. I want to know that Deguch's and Diana's senseless deaths were not in vain, but rather gifts of life to the rest of us.

Having little in common with Deguch and nothing in common with the princess has no bearing on the feelings I feel for them and especially for their families. I can only identify with their pain as a daughter, sister, niece, and fellow human. Death, too, can be a

strong unifying force. Good or bad, black or white, rich or poor, we will all die one day.

"The death of someone so vibrant and vital causes us to come face to face with our own mortality and the mortality of those closest to us," said Barb Welber, clinical social worker at Family Learning Center. "Additionally, the death of Princess Diana and Paul Deguch seem senseless. The sudden loss of a father and mother, both being so young and taken away before their time, can be extremely painful," she continued.

The death of someone that we do not personally know often has a harsh effect on us. We are saddened and scared, and sometimes even surprised by how hard we take the news.

"Sometimes death can reawaken past griefs or losses, and then it seems as if

"Good or bad, black or white, rich or poor, we will all die one day."

THE GRIEVING PROCESS

SHOCK- The body produces chemicals that make immediate acceptance of the loss impossible. The griever is unable to accept the reality of the loss.

PROTEST- Lifestyle is characterized by a loss of control. The griever cannot accept the loss of the loved one.

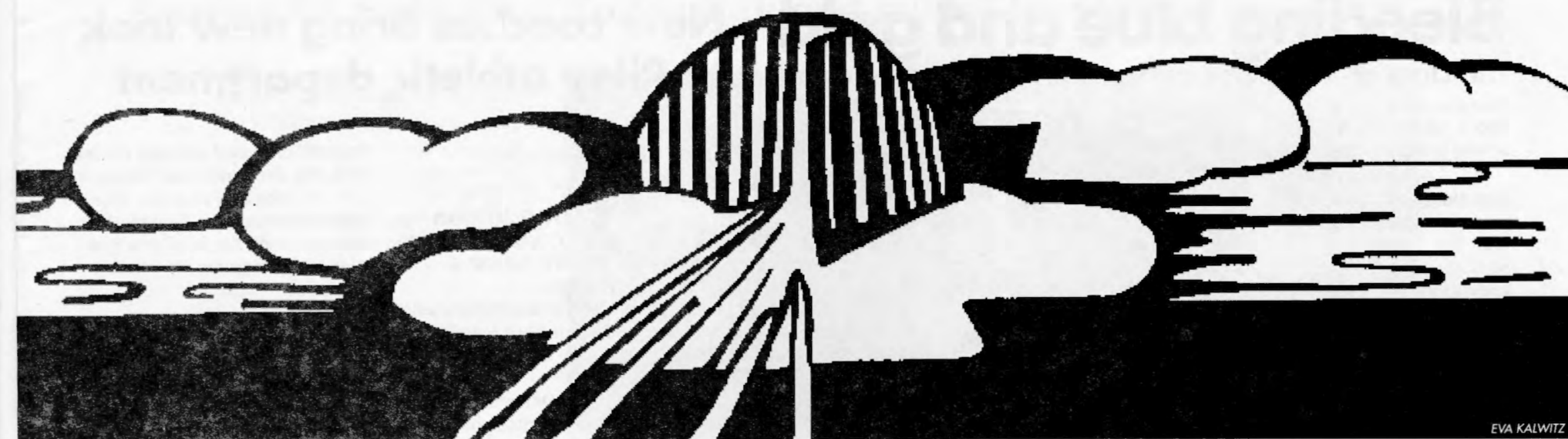
DISORGANIZATION- The griever's life is in a state of chaos. The griever cannot accept the loss of the loved one.

we grieve again," said Welber.

In order to alleviate pain that one feels after the death of someone they know, Welber suggests preserving the person in memory.

"We try to help our clients through grieving by memorializing the person who died. We suggest that they create a memorial; perhaps you can plant something special in your garden or donate your time to a cause that they strongly believed in."





EVA KALWITZ

Replacing a special pet provides heartache for teen

Rebecca Cripe
News Editor

She may have only been a cocker spaniel mutt, but my dog, Sandy, meant the world to me. She had been with me ever since I was a little girl. We had grown up together, and became best friends. Sandy was always there for me when I needed her. I could pet her and hug her whenever I was upset about something and she never

complained. She meant a lot to me and her death was the hardest thing I have ever had to deal with.

Sandy had a cancerous tumor on her stomach. It could have been prevented if she had been spayed. I decided to have our vet do the surgery to remove it. The tumor was removed successfully, but another one formed on her stomach a few months later. Sandy got very sick, and I was forced to make one of the hardest decisions of my life.

Sandy's personality changed as well as her physical condition. She became very sad and depressed. She stopped greeting me when I came home from school because her illness made her so tired. Sandy stopped wagging her tail and wasn't as upbeat as usual. The veterinarian prescribed pills for her in order to take the pain away, but they only helped a little. I began to watch my best friend and companion suffer; she began to shake and was growing weaker everyday. I wanted more than anything to take her pain away and stop her suffering. I cried because she was in so much pain and there

wasn't anything I could do about it.

"Sandy got very sick, and I was forced to make one of the hardest decisions of my life."

I decided it was finally time to put her to sleep when she could only move once or twice a day. Also, my family helped me come to my decision. They told me how sick she looked, and I could see the pain for myself when she looked at me. I just couldn't take the guilt and pain of watching her suffer anymore. I felt hurt and angry because I knew Sandy wouldn't get any better no matter what medicine she took or how many surgeries she had. I felt I had to let her go for her own sake. She was so ill that she was merely existing rather than living a full life anymore. I felt so helpless, and I couldn't think of anything else to

do to help her. So, after careful consideration, I decided to have Sandy put to sleep.

I said good-bye to

her before the vet took her away by petting her and hugging her, telling her how much I loved her and how good of a dog she was. After the vet put her to sleep, I cried and mourned for a long time. There was an aching pain in my heart for the dog that had been my best friend for so many years. There were times when I felt guilty because I just wanted Sandy back. Then, I would remember

Sandy's suffering, and, in my heart, I knew I had made the right decision. Sandy had become a part of me, and I didn't even know it until she was gone. I felt very lost without her. The crying stopped, but the pain didn't. I felt as if I had lost a very close family member. Everything around the house reminded me of her. I would look up at the landing where she would usually lie, but she was never there.

I have slowly moved on, but the loss I feel will never go away. I can never replace Sandy because she was so special to me. Now, whenever I think of her, I just feel an ache and great void in my heart. I try to think of all the time that Sandy and I had together and know that Sandy loved me as much as I loved her. I will never completely get over Sandy's death. I do have a new dog, but the love I have for her doesn't compare to the love that I shared with Sandy at all. All I have left of my best friend are the memories. I continue to deal with the pain everyday of my life, but it just won't go away. Sandy was more than a dog; she was a friend that I will never forget as long as I live. ■

"I would remember Sandy's suffering, and, in my heart, I knew I had made the right decision."

IE
VING
CESS

es an anesthetic which allows the griever to
arrangements, such as a funeral. The mind is
the reality of death.

ged drastically. Sleep patterns are disrupted,
appetite and anxiety attacks occur frequent
nnot adapt to the loss.

e griever begins to restructure their life without the loved
ere are still many thoughts about the person, which makes
age of healing a slow process.

REORGANIZATION-Acceptance of the death has oc
cured and realization that the
griever can lead a fulfilling life
once again.

Information provided by Carolyn Pritchard from Hospice of St. Joseph County.

HEAVEN

Bleeding blue and gold

The class of 1998 shows how they have school spirit

Monica Swintz
Sports editor/News
editor/Editor-in-chief

School spirit is something every principal wants to claim their student body has. George McCullough, principal, knows his student body has school spirit and is working hard to keep it.

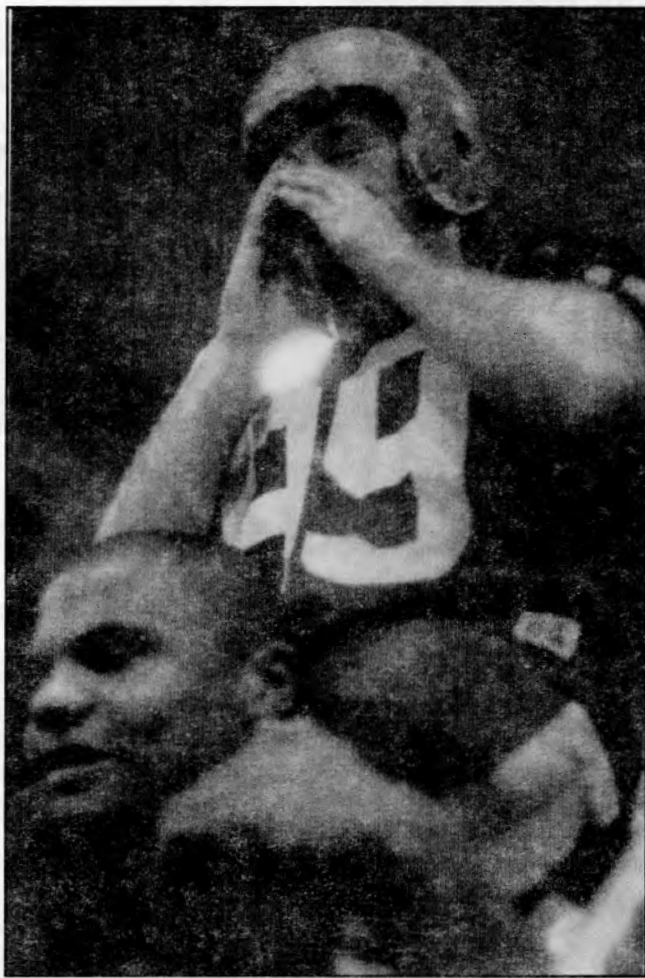
At Riley, the seniors have taken control of keeping the spirit alive. "We're only going to be seniors once. It's time we go out and support our classmates and get the rush of spirit," said Lenny Swedarsky, senior.

"The seniors this year are off to a good start. Every year the administration takes a comparison of the senior spirit to that of past classes. We can encourage them in the best ways possible," said McCullough.

The seniors have made their presence known. "This class has spirit because we're a close knit group; we're just one big group that wants to support each other," said senior Ryan Gibson. "It's all about camaraderie and enjoying our senior year and the blue and gold spirit," said Swedarsky.

To keep the school spirit on the right track, there are things Gibson and Swedarsky think need to happen. "The underclassmen need to feel the insanity of spirit and everyone needs to be involved," said Gibson. "And we need more pep assemblies, three a year isn't enough," said Swedarsky.

"We need school spirit because it helps create leadership and the right role models. These things create a community," said McCullough.



ALISON PIEKARSKI

DOWN BY THE RIVER/Senior football captain, Ryan Gibson and best friend senior Lenny Swedarsky lead the seniors during the pep assembly in the traditional "Down by the river" cheer.

School spirit doesn't just involve the student body, it also involves the teachers and administration. "I want to see more of the staff at events and not just football games. It's one thing to have a blue and gold day, but it's another thing to go out and support things like soccer and quiz bowl," said Gibson.

At the first senior assembly, assistant principal Tony Byrd made the comment that if the seniors worked hard they might be able to be as good as last year's class. Gibson and Swedarsky believe they've

already met Byrd's challenge. "I think we are already better spirited than the class of '97, we've taken over and created spirit for ourselves," said Gibson.

Gibson and Swedarsky want this senior class this year to be remembered as a year of electricity; as a class with potential.

"I want the seniors to look back at this year and have no regrets, no wishing you would have gone to a game or supported a classmate, we only have one senior year," said Gibson. ■

New coaches bring new look to Riley athletic department

Monica Swintz
Sports editor/ News editor/
Editor-in-chief

With the addition of nine new coaches, this year will prove to be a year of change.

Two of the new coaches may seem new, but both have already spent time in Wildcat country.

Both Tom Debaets, math teacher, and Steve Smith, physical education teacher, have coached at Riley before, but as assistant coaches. Debaets coached alongside former basketball coach Bob Berger 20 years ago and Smith coached alongside former swim coach Craig Fox, for the past two years.

Debaets and Fox have a strong belief in tradition, but both realize that change comes with a new coach.

"When I left Clay two years ago, [Clay] was ready for a change. Not all change is good but after a number of years change is sometimes needed," said Debaets.

"Last year's team will be hard to follow; I don't want to see a lot of change but I may have a different training program," said Smith.

Both coaches believe in keeping the same traditions that have been passed down through the years.

"I want to keep the work ethic the same for all of the swimmers, and I also want to keep alive the parent support alive," said Smith. "I've learned most of what I know as a coach from Berger; things won't be exactly the same but they will be similar. Man-to-

man defense and running the ball will stay the same," said Debaets.

The two coaches have different reasons as to why they wanted to be the head coaches. "It's a big thing for me coming back to

Riley. I taught here for 13 years. I've now

coached at three different South Bend schools and that's unusual. I

wanted to come back and work with this staff again and George McCullough,

principal. He always said that I would come back again," said Debaets.

Smith thinks of the job as taking on a new challenge in his life. "I need something besides teaching, I need a challenge or diversion. I felt this team had a lot of potential and were ready for a new approach. They needed someone who knew them and was qualified," said Smith.

Though neither coach has started their seasons yet, both have expectations and desires.

"I'm looking for improvement, winning and losing is measured in other ways than just records," said Smith. "We've got to work to the point where we expect to win every game. We're going to have to develop a work ethic and discipline both on and off the court," said Debaets. ■

Stats and scores
Gary Roosevelt-14 Cats-24
Clay-3 Cats-7
Marian-15 Cats-20
Elkhart Memorial-28 Cats-7
Washington-13 Cats-19
Lasalle- 22 Cats-49
Elkhart Central-14 Cats-42
Mishawaka- 20 Cats-19
Penn-56 Cats-9

Seniors

Adrian Benavides #54
Jeff Wedel #50
Chris Dawson #70
Nick Hintz #52
Dan McConnell #55
Justin Riffell #63
Dustin Rhodes #28
Aaron Kaser #2
Nate Van Laere #45
Chris Swartz #37
Brad Davis #41
Ryan Gibson #99
Nick Maiuri #62
Ricky Shines #18
Jason Chrapliwy #84
Jeff Brown #69
Jeremy Crabtree #86

Juniors

Dennis Miller #72
Jason Binder #77
A.D. Stackhouse #83
Tyler Warnock #15
Mike Lutonski #22
Colin Mills #85
Brad Horvath #33
Ryan Brown #4
Joe Hilliard #60
Nick Van Holsbeke #51
Bobby Aldridge #39
Mike Mays #12
Ben Aronson #57
Joe Green #53
Scott Ferguson #89
Phil Lloyd #27

On the field with full force

Laura Pippenger
Staff Reporter/ Viewpoints editor

The football team currently has a 6-3-0 record going into sectionals.

Football coach Ron Metcalfe is impressed with the team's progress, especially with the players that have improved tremendously.

"Phil Lloyd, junior and Mike Lutonski, junior are two of our most improved linebackers. They have learned how to attack well," said Metcalfe.

"Joe Green, junior has really come a long way. He learned how to use his size to his advantage," said Metcalfe.

The players have a bright outlook on this season as well. Senior Ryan Gibson is one of these optimistic faces.

"This year's team is really enthusiastic, and we have a great work ethic," said Gibson.

"The other seniors and myself know that this is our last year, and we want it to be our best," said Gibson.

"The seniors are playing like a team, and that's the most important element of high school football," said Metcalfe.

Junior Nick VanHolsbeke has a positive opinion of the seniors as well.

"We lost a lot of seniors last year, but this year's seniors really stepped up and showed their leadership," said VanHolsbeke.

"In order to have a successful season, we need

to show teamwork and leadership," said Gibson.

One of Riley's most important games was the Marian game. "It was very nice to beat Marian because of the way they acted last year. They were very unprofessional," said Metcalfe.

Metcalfe made it clear, however, that the season is not over.

"We play Mishawaka in sectionals, so we need to play hard," said Metcalfe.

Metcalfe believes that fan support is part of a successful season. "The best way to support the team is to come out to the games and cheer," said Metcalfe. ■



ALISON PIEKARSKI

GET READY GO/The defense is waiting for the start of play, during the cold rainy night that the Riley Wildcats defeated Washington 19-13.

Experienced coach improves varsity squad

Starting his tenth year, KaRon Kirkland guides his players to success

Nick Schafer
Editor-in-Chief/Copy editor/
Centerspread Editor

The boys' tennis team far exceeded its coach's expectations this year. According to ten year coach, KaRon Kirkland, every member on the varsity squad has improved tremendously since last year.

"I was very pleased with the results from our very first practices," said Kirkland, who also coaches the girls tennis team. "Many of our players put in hours of training in the offseason; some took lessons in the winter, others came in the spring to train with the girls, and almost every-

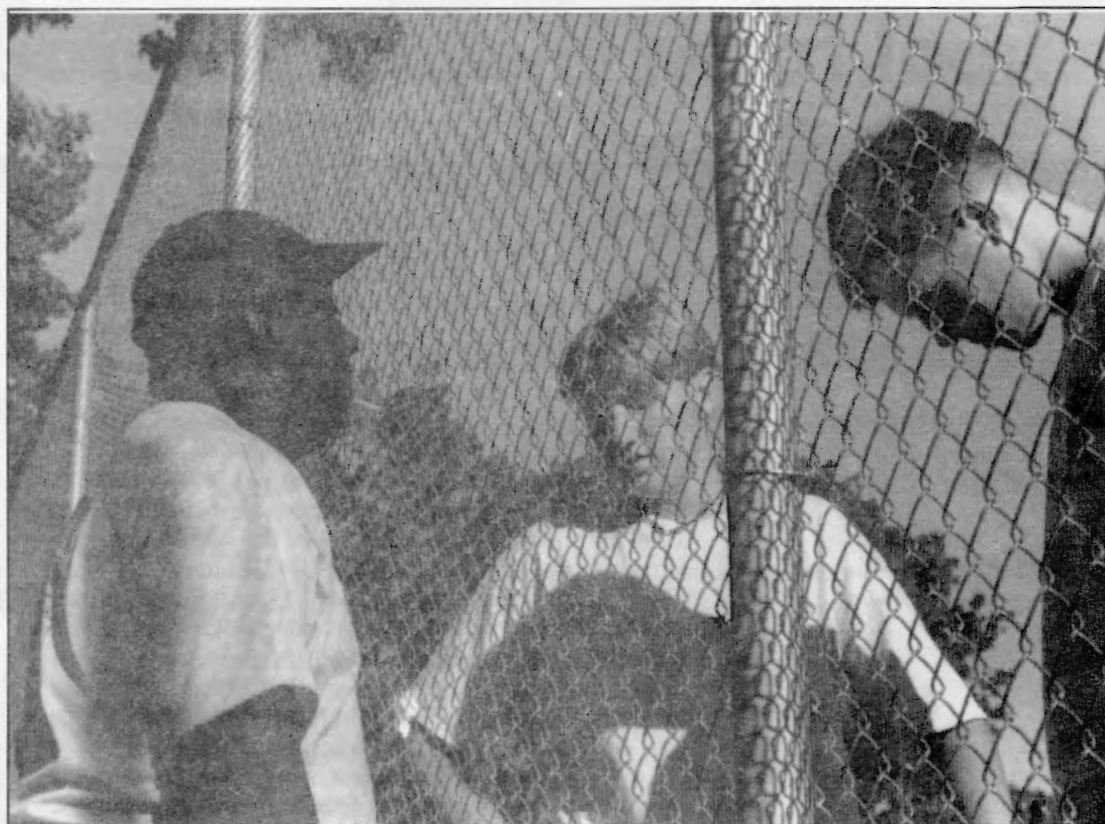
one attended tennis conditioning clinics in the summer before the season."

"I have been trying to prepare Nick all year for sectionals. The Northern Indiana conference is easily one of the top three conferences in the state.

One of the ways Kirkland measures how much his team has improved is comparing match results with those of previous years. "Last year we had some disappointing losses to Michigan City as well as to Mishawaka. However, the boys pulled it together this year and defeated them both fairly easily."

The boys' team is no stranger to ineligibility. "I was very angry with last year's seniors for their lack of responsibility. We had the potential to be a top-notch team and ended up losing two varsity starters for the whole year and another starter for half of the season," he said. The team found themselves losing another varsity member to ineligibility this year. "Luckily he is only a junior so that he will have another year to compete," said Kirkland.

For the past two years,



ALISON PIEKARSKI

BEHIND THE FENCE/Varsity doubles partners junior, Adam Collins and sophomore, Marcus King discuss strategy against their Mishawaka opponents with coach Kirkland. Collins and King won this match against Mishawaka 6-1, 6-0.

the team has been led by first team *All-Northern Indiana Conference* member and co-captain senior Nick Schafer. "I have been trying to prepare Nick all year for sectionals," said Kirkland, "the *Northern Indiana Conference* is easily one of the top three conferences in the state. If he is in the right frame of mind, I would expect him to advance in the state tournament."

Also leading the team in singles this year are returning starter, junior Jason McFarley and co-captain Pat Ruth. Kirkland is looking to both of them as upperclassmen to lead the team this year and next. "Jason can wear you down with his consistency while Pat is potentially dangerous from every spot on the court," said Kirkland. "I am looking forward to the 1-2 punch they will provide for next year's team."

As for doubles, both teams struggled throughout the season. "Chris Wodrich (senior) did an excellent job at number one doubles considering he had a different partner to work with almost every week," said Kirkland. Other doubles players included Eric Fey, junior Jeff Cohn, and sophomore Marcus King.

The team gained two freshmen this year who Kirkland believes have great potential. "I am already training Eric Moore and David Gustafson as a doubles team," he said.

Last year's team finished the season with a 6-9 overall record and was 3-5 in the N.I.C. The records this year were exactly the same but with a first place finish in the *Wildcat Invitational*, and second place finishes in the *East Noble Invitational* and sectionals. Like last year and in years past, the most difficult teams to play were Penn, St. Joe, and Adams.

Cross Country team wrestles with new coach



ERICA COSTELLO

EXERTING THEIR ENERGY/ Senior cross country runners, Annie Gustafson, Chris Dobecki, and Adam Turner run off their lunches during afternoon practice in front of the old Riley.

Dan Jancha
Copy Editor

The boys' and girls' cross country teams wrestled the challenges of the season with new coach Mike Smorin. The boys' season ended at sectionals with a sixth place finish, but the girls' team is still alive qualifying for regionals for the second season in a row.

This was Smorin's first season as coach and he inherited a regional qualifying girls' team and a boys' team that was one place away from making it to regionals last season. Smorin has also coached the wrestling team for 11 years.

"It was hard starting out to get the kids to take practice and meets seriously, but after that they started working harder and they realized that they had the talent to be successful," said Smorin.

The boys had four returning seniors and the girls had three; Smorin looked for their help and support during the season.

"On the girls' side the senior leadership was good, but the boys were lacking a little bit and they should have guided the team better," said Smorin.

According to senior captains Adam Turner and Chris Dobecki, they were disap-

pointed with last year's near miss of qualifying as team for regionals and had set new goals for this season.

"Our goal once again was regionals but we also had a more realistic goal of having a very strong group of top five runners. We were stronger this year among the top five runners than in the past," said Turner.

The girls' team showed they can be successful with their regional qualifying last year, but according to senior captain, Annie Gustafson they were still looking to improve.

"I think some individuals new they could make it to regionals, but we wanted to make it as a team," said Gustafson.

The team has had nine regular season meets so far, two were the invitationals Manchester and New Prairie. The boys finished the regular season 3-9, and the girls finished 5-7.

"Both teams showed a lot of improvement, it would have been nice to win every meet but time wise they improved a lot," said Smorin.

Both teams have gained new runners: sophomore Steve Wiltfong, senior Chris Slagle and senior Eric Kimmel have joined the boys team, along with new freshmen runners.

"The three senior captain boys were the backbone of our

team. Sophomore Alec Rubinstein and Slagle were challenging them the whole season, and the top five runners changed order a lot," said Smorin.

"For the girls, junior Jenny Segner and senior Annie Gustafson were our one-two runners. Junior, Sarah Woodcox and senior Carrie Talboom were good contributors and freshman Lauren Horvath was the number one runner in city and sectionals," said Smorin.

The city meet was on October 9 and the sectional was on October 17, and Smorin believes that's when the real season started.

"We finished fourth in city and sixth in sectionals, but I enjoyed our season, and everyone seemed to be good friends by the end of the season," said Turner.

The girls team still has regionals on October 25 at Culver, and if they meet their goal they will be running on November 1 at semi-state.

"We believe that we have a very good chance of making it to semistate, and if everyone runs there best I think we will be there in November," said Segner.

Diverse Ideas

Riley High School / 405 East Ewing

Issue 1, Volume 28 / October, 1997

New school fresh chapter in proud Riley history

Jason McFarley

Diverse Ideas Editor/ Copy Editor

The new Riley High School, although still under construction, is an inspiring sight.

The rising sun casts a brilliant glow on the school's bronzed iron beams. The fresh morning breeze gently blows the Wildcat flag atop a high vaulted ceiling. And an overpowering sense of the future already surrounds the building.

Less than a football field's length away from that towering structure, another soaring giant stands—the present Riley High School—as the final chapter of its proud history is being written.

There they stand, these two schools so close together it would seem they should be in direct opposition to each other. But they achieve a level of perfect harmony, each existing independently yet somehow looking to the other for strength. And though it seems that the two schools don't even belong in the same zip code, Riley's past, present, and future all lie virtually upon the same plot of land.

But with all its promises for tomorrow and its next century technologies, the new Riley can't help but overshadow the present building. State-of-the-art

OPINION

equipment, vast athletic facilities, and modern conveniences such as elevators are only some of the qualities that add to the new school's superiority.

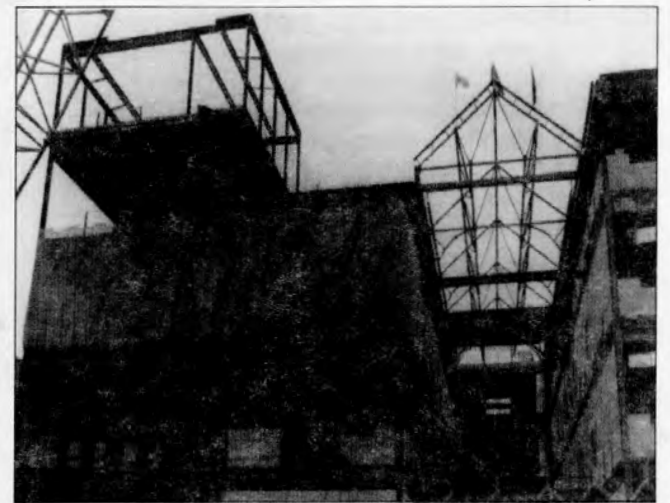
Although less equipped, today's building is in no way a collapsing mass of old cement. But it is clear that its days are numbered.

The administrators, for example, are planning special celebrations and activities for the classes of '98 and '99, Riley's two last graduating classes.

Also a book, which will chronicle all of Riley's graduating classes from the first in 1934 to the last in 1999, is in the works. And orders for Riley bricks are already being taken.

So as the end of the old Riley tradition grows nearer with each passing day, it makes every remaining moment we spend here that much more important. It makes each football game we attend more special. It makes each class we take more rewarding. It makes each new friendship we gain more meaningful.

And it leaves us in an impending race against time, a race to leave a lasting final impression on the fine history that is James Whitcomb Riley High School. ■



AUSON PIEKARSKI

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE/ The new Riley High School is still under construction at the corner of Fellows and Calvert streets. Begun in September of 1996, the building is slated for completion in the spring of 1999.

Christian band getting message through to teens

Adam Collins
Staff Reporter

Christian music is on a rise in popularity like never before. *U93*, *the Bear*, and *B100* have all played Christian music lately. These bands have a secular, non-Christian sound that appeals to many teens.

One band that is on the rise is *BetweenThieves*. On September 21 they played a concert at *Granger Community Church*. The band has a top hit on their self-titled first CD called *Kindle*. This is a band along with many Christian bands that has a direct purpose in their music. To share the love of Christ.

"The ministry is why we play," said the band's drummer, J.D.

When asked if she liked the band that night, youth ministry member Katie Clevenger, responded, "Yes, it was cool to see a lot of people coming to Christ."

Many students from Riley have attended religious concerts. It was really encouraging to see people that enjoyed the night without doing anything illegal.

This music is very helpful in a lot of ways. It reminds you that the problems we face are not ours alone. Others are facing them and overcoming them.

It helps when you are able to receive advice from a band who knows what you are dealing with. I think the fact that this band is giving good advice to help teens get through the problems we face every day is great.

The band shares an inspirational message that Christ will help you through everything if you ask for his help. This is the advice that has changed my life.

I enjoyed the concert. The band played a great show that had me wanting to hear more. Fun, friends, and God is what the night focused on.

This band has a message and a purpose. They are a modern rock group that plays their music and shows the love of God at the same time. ■



Zero tolerance policy effective only if enforced

Jason McFarley

Diverse Ideas Editor/ Copy Editor

Forget three strikes; this year if you fight, you're out.

This was the message reinforced by principal George McCullough at each class assembly.

Most of us have been through at least two such assemblies. Each class is called down individually to receive a welcome back to school message and an overview of the rules.

In recent years we've heard over and over again about the attendance/credit redemption policy. We've been told of each offense which is grounds for suspension or for expulsion. Lock-out rules were covered, the closed lunch policy reviewed. We were introduced to new faculty and staff.

The Surprise

We heard everything we expected to hear, with only one surprise: *'Fighting or threatening any other student is immediate cause for expulsion.'*

McCullough said the message with such sincerity and conviction that it made us all take notice of this giant step toward enforcing a zero tolerance policy.

After all, why keep giving disrespectful students who obviously don't want to be a part of the school's learning process multiple chances to disrupt Riley's academic environment and violate others' rights?

Why allow those students to mess up time and time again yet still be able to return to Riley's halls and possibly upset the atmosphere again?

We all have rights. But limits exist to these rights. And what some students seem to overlook is the fact that their rights end when they infringe upon the rights of others.

That is not to say, however, that everyone doesn't deserve a second chance. But for the most part, there are more repeat offenders than first time offenders within Riley. The majority of students who break school rules are those who have done so before and who will do so again.

What Used to Happen

In the past, a serious infraction of school policies was grounds for C.O.R.E.

(in-school suspension) or a 3 to 5-day suspension. Most of the students we saw fighting (or violating some other rule) on any given day would usually be back before the next week. It was almost certain that they would be back in to trouble soon after their return. And the cycle continued like a wheel spinning out of control.

Now, with the adoption of a zero tolerance policy, we may finally see the end of the cycle.

Going Forward

The next step in the process must be total enforcement of the policy. It is very easy to talk a big game; now we need some proof. We need to see the policy in action. And so do the

offenders. For only when they are kicked out of school and given the rest of the year to think about their actions will they realize that their disruptive behavior and violence towards others is not acceptable.

Only then will the concept of zero tolerance become a reality to them and to the rest of the student body. ■

"We all have rights. But limits exist to these rights. And what some students seem to overlook is the fact that their rights end when they infringe upon the rights of others around them."

Missions trip to Mexico worthwhile for teen

Adam Collins
Staff Reporter

Picture this: the middle of Baja, California, in summer. Everywhere you look all you see is the poverty-stricken landscape of Ensenada, Mexico.

At nights you sleep in a tent on the hard, dusty, barren ground. It's 55 degrees at night, and the most common worries are tarantulas and poisonous scorpions. When you awake the temperature changes, escalating to 105 degrees in a two hour time span.

This past summer I was in this situation. I went on a missions trip with 30 of my closest friends from Granger Community Church. The group consisted of 24 students and 6 leaders.

Our vision was to carry the word of God to the citizens of Ensenada. We taught the children and adults with games, music, crafts, drama, and Bible stories. We even fed the people in the park. Luckily, we weren't kicked out of the park. In Mexico, during political elections, the politicians gain total control of the parks.

The pastor of the church helped us with all of our problems while we were present. He taught us their customs and showed us around. He also showed us the poorest part of Ensenada. This part was called the *Banos*, or the toilets. Houses were literally made of tin and wood. Some of these houses were the size of the average classroom and provided shelter for four to eight people.

In America we get upset if we

MEXICO: SOUTH OF THE BORDER

▼ Baja, California is actually a Mexican state located just south of the American border.

▼ The term "Baja, California" comes from the Spanish language, meaning *below California*.

▼ One of the poorest parts of Ensenada, Mexico is called the *Banos*, which means *the toilets* in Spanish.

have to give a younger brother a ride to school. In Mexico they don't even have cars in most places. If we share a room with a sibling we whine. Down there they share everything.

Be happy with what you have. Someone else, somewhere, somehow has it worse than you. ■