

The Review

James Whitcomb Riley High School
One Wildcat Way South Bend, IN
Volume 30 Issue 5
March, 2000

News Briefs

SHOOTING

On Tuesday, March 7 students were told on the afternoon announcements, not to drive down Dayton Street.

Jamarr Ferguson, a sixth grader at Lincoln Elementary was shot in a case of mistaken identity while in his home on Dayton. Suspects have been arrested.

TALENT SHOW

Riley's annual talent show will be held during fourth period on March 31.

The talent show will be hosted by senior class officers, Steve Wiltfong and Leonard Swedarsky.

The cost of the event will be \$3 and the absence from the class will be excused.

Dedication

Dedication ceremonies for the new Riley will take place on Sunday, March 19, from 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

Self directed tours will be given during the day, and a reception will follow the ceremony.

Grading Period

The grading period will end on March 24, with finals taking place on the March 23 and 24.

Report cards will be handed out during the evening on March 30. On this day parents will be allowed to come in and speak with teachers from 1 to 3 p.m., and 4 to 7 p.m.

Booing Brings Ban

Pep assemblies canceled

Ajaz Chaudhry

Editor-in-Chief

"Pep assemblies will be canceled for rest of the school year," said George McCullough, principal, after the events which occurred at the homecoming pep assembly.

During the homecoming pep assembly, mini-Olympic events were held. One of these events was tug-of-war. During the tug-of-war students from the junior and freshman classes jumped onto the gym floor, hoping to help their classes win. According to the rules, only the students who signed up for the mini-Olympics were allowed on the gym floor.

As a result, McCullough disqualified both classes. This is when many freshmen started booing, causing him to cancel the pep assemblies for the rest of the year.

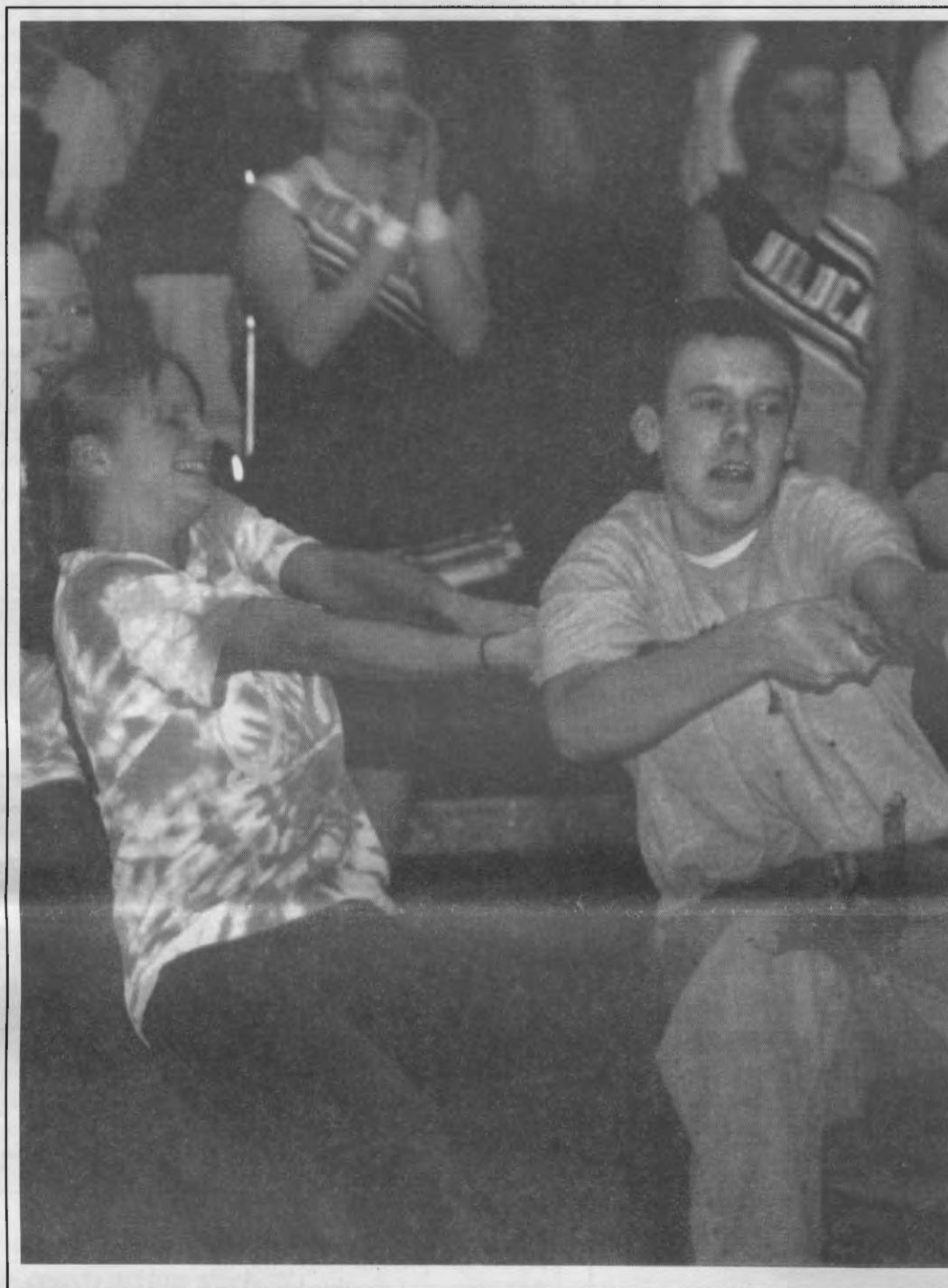
"We are too good of a school to have a few students 'boo,' we are better than that," explained McCullough.

He also referred to a comment he made at the pep assembly last year when he stated that, "Any booing will cause me to cancel future pep assemblies." When you make a comment or decision you must follow through," said McCullough.

Most students were disappointed to see the pep assembly end. The guys on the homecoming court were the most disappointed. This was the pep assembly at which the senior boys on the court were to be escorted by teachers.

"These guys worked four years to make the court, it was supposed to be their day," said Camille Johnson, senior.

Faculty members also



Grant Jones

START OF THE ASSEMBLY / The tug of war incident above led to booing and cancelation of all remaining pep assemblies.

SEE ASSEMBLY ON PAGE TWO

Mock trial places seventh in regional

Gretchen Lemmer

Sports Editor

The annual regional mock trial competition was held on February 19, 2000 at the downtown courthouse. Sixteen teams participated. Two teams represented Riley at this year's competition.

This year's sponsor was history teacher Mr. Jim Spears and business law teacher Mrs. Jo Klodzinski. The coach was a lawyer from Baker and Daniels, Mr. Stanley Wruble.

The two teams worked very hard over the past three months to prepare their case. Attendance was very important for these practices, according to

Spears. The teams met three days a week, for three hours a night. Hard work went into each practice as the teams prepared their opening statements, direct and cross examinations, and closing arguments, said Gretchen Lemmer, team member.

"A lot of time and commitment had to go into mock trial. Not only did we have to spend time working at school, but everyone put in many hours of individual work at home," said Ajaz Chaudhry, team member.

At the competition each team acts out the case three separate times against three different



Jonathan Russel

DEEP IN THOUGHT/ Mock Lawyers, Brett Bensely, Gretchen Lemmer, and Melissa Wibbens, pay close attention to the testimony.

SEE MOCK TRIAL
ON PAGE TWO



Towing

Students get upset. See News page three.



Basketball

Season ends. See Sports page one for recap of the season.



Dating

Consequences of high school dating. See Centerspread.



Working

Pro and Con of working during school. See page eight.

Olympiad Team Places Fifth

Creative projects inspire young scientists

Elyse Chudzynski

Viewpoints Editor

Blast off! is what freshmen, Zach Ernsberger and Doug Shook, were thinking when their pop bottle rocket shot into the sky.

They, along with 12 other team members, created their projects for the regional *Science Olympiad* competition on Saturday, February 12. The team placed fifth out of 11 teams in the city.

'Bottle Rocket' was only one of the many different projects that was shown at the tournament. There are three categories in *Science Olympiad*, within those three categories there are 35 events.

Students chose the projects they wanted at the beginning of the year, and worked on them from September until the tournament.

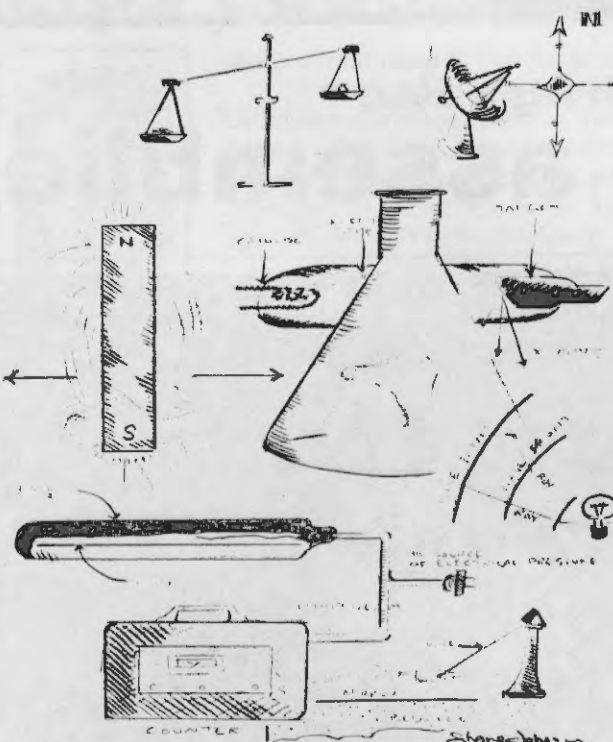
The categories include: 'Science Concepts and Knowledge,' 'Science Processes and Thinking Skills,' and 'Science Application and Technology.'

In 'Bottle Rocket' students had to create two different rockets, one made of a two-liter pop bottle, and one made from a one-liter bottle.

The teams had six minutes to launch both rockets, but only one launch was allowed for each rocket.

The launch times were added together and the winners were decided by the highest amount of time. If any parts of the rocket fell off during the flight, points were deducted.

"I thought this one team was going to get disqualified because their rocket hit a power line," said Ernsberger, "I started cheering because I thought we



would win, but they only got points deducted."

Some events in 'Science Concepts and Knowledge' included 'Designer Genes,' the study of genetics; 'Polymer Detective,' the study of polymers and plastic in everyday life; and 'Fossils,' the identification, description, and classification of fossils.

Many students in 'Science Processes and Think-

ing Skills,' had to perform certain labs and experiments. In the 'Egg Drop Contest' a team's devices were made to drop an egg on a target without breaking it.

Salima Oudghiri, sophomore, who competed in three other events, had to study biology in order to prepare for the event 'Biology Process Lab.' Once she was at the competition she had to complete a series of questions and tasks involving biology. The questions on the test involved things like DNA and the structure of cells. She also had to know information about famous women and men in science.

Sophomores, Kim Russell and Rebecca Choi, also competed in four events. One of their four was 'Tower Building,' which is part of the 'Science Application and Technology' category.

Together they constructed a wooden tower that had to hold a certain amount of weight. Using thin pieces of wood, they created a stable, supportive tower. It was a success. Their tower held more than the maximum 22 kilograms.

For their accomplishments, Russell and Choi received 1st place and a gold medal in 'Tower Building.' Russell and Choi were not the only successful Riley members that day.

Shook and Ernsberger won a fourth place for their bottle rocket, Oudghiri received a third place in 'Cell Biology,' and other members also received high honors.

"I am very proud of the team," said Thomas Morgan, the *Science Olympiad* sponsor and coach, "they did awesome!"

Each student had to work a minimum of 20 hours on their projects. ♦

Assembly

Continued from Page one

share Johnson's sentiment, "I made the homecoming court when I was in high school," said Chester Wigfall, security guard, "I still remember walking out in the front of my peers. It was the highlight of my life. I was really disappointed for those kids."

Students on the court felt disappointed and even angry, "The worst thing is the fact that a small number of students were booing and acting stupid. They should not have been allowed to destroy the experience for everyone else," said homecoming king, Brian Cherry.

McCullough agrees with Cherry that it was a small number of students who were guilty, but feels he had to send a message. "I feel bad for the seniors but we are responsible for each other. Students should have stopped the few kids from running out. Those who wanted to participate in the events should have signed up ahead of the time."

Some teachers agree with McCullough's decision, "I understand why he made the decision to end the pep assembly. If someone got injured Riley High School and the South Bend Community School Corporation would have been liable," said Ed Linetty, history teacher.

Wigfall, who also served as a security guard at the pep assembly, disagrees with Linetty and McCullough. "The situation could have been handled differently. We knew that the booing started with the freshmen. They could have been kicked out of the pep assembly."

McCullough had nothing

"If students can't go without booing, then they will have to go without pep assemblies."

-George McCullough
Principal

Wildcats

Respond

Policy Change

1. Do you agree with McCullough's decision about the assemblies?

☑ %10
☐ 90%

2. Do you think this decision will affect the attendance at athletic events?

☑ 87%
☐ 13%

3. Do you feel McCullough should reconsider his decision?

☑ 67%
☐ 33%

This was a random survey of four different grade classes. Total of 100 surveys were given with 95 responses.

but praise for the seniors and the way they handled themselves at the pep assembly. "I am proud of the way seniors have handled themselves. Not only at the pep assembly, but throughout this year, they have led the school. I hope to have programs where only seniors will be invited down to join in school spirit, in the future."

With this strict response, McCullough and the faculty hope to set an example for years to come. "There would only have been one more pep assembly this year, so if by sacrificing one pep assembly we can stop the booing, then it's worth it," said Linetty.

How strongly does McCullough feel about this? His reply: "If students can't go without booing, then they will have to go without pep assemblies." ♦

Mock Trial

Continued from page one



teams. Each team is guaranteed to play as the plaintiff once, the defense once, and the third time is a toss-up.

There are two judges present for each trial. They judge each individual lawyer, each individual witness, and the team as a whole. The team which has the most total points at the end of the case is the winner of that case.

The team of Melissa Wibbens, Chaudhry, Dallas Easton, Bret Bensley, Lemmer, and Lyndsey Frushour placed seventh overall. The top five teams at the competition proceeded to the state competition. Riley missed this cut off by one point. The team met against Adams first and received two losses. In the second round they lost one and won one against Marian. In the third and final round the team met LaVille and was given two victories. The team finished 3-3 overall.

"Overall I was pleased with both teams' presentations at the court house. I was, however, very disappointed with the fact that we missed going to the state competition by only one point," said Spears.

A number of individual awards were also given out to four Riley members. Chaudhry and Frushour were both awarded the title of a top ten witness. Lemmer was titled as one of the top ten attorneys. Johnson was also named as one of the top ten attorneys and mentioned as one of the top ten witnesses.

"I expected a lot of the members to receive individual awards and was very proud of the team for holding 20 percent of the top attorney and witness spots

-Jim Spears
Mock Trial Coach

overall. When one team from Riley gets three individual awards and the other team gets two awards, I think that speaks very highly of the school and of the students here," ended Spears.

Each team contained six members. The first team consisted of Lauren Markamb, Myra Brazier, Anyah Williams, Camielle Johnson, Ian Delater, and Corey Banks. Members of the second team were Wibbens, Chaudhry, Easton, Bensley, Lemmer, and Frushour. Juila Horvath was formerly on the team but could not go to the competition due to hospitalization. Frushour took her place, as a witness, and Chaudhry and Easton took over her duties as a lawyer. ♦

Students' cars get the boot



Towing warning came too late

Chris Henry

News Editor

The student parking lot has more than enough spaces to hold an additional 75 student automobiles. But kids still try and defy the system by parking elsewhere including the dirt parking lot on the south side of the school, the teachers parking lot, and other students spots closer to the school, according to security guard, Chester Wigfall.

"Kids want to park in these spots, because the student parking lot is much further away from these top of the line spots right up front. If you park your car anywhere on school property, they can tow your car if it is not properly parked," said Wigfall.

The front row of the student parking lot, nearest to the school was recently unassigned to anyone, because at the beginning of school year, the teachers parking lot was not completed, and these spots were reserved for teachers.

Students could park in these prime spots if they arrived early enough to school and nobody would complain.

"I came early to school for swimming every day and the first spot was always open, so I took it. No one ever said anything to me," said senior, Marcus King.

These few spots, that were once available to whomever got them first, have now been assigned to sophomores who have just gotten their license.

Many upperclassmen agree that these spots should have been reassigned to juniors or seniors who are parked way out at the other end.

"Now that these spots are filled, I have to park way out at the other end of the parking lot," said senior, Cameron Stouder.

Students are getting towed from places that no one else is parking in. The dirt parking lot on the south side of the school is open and nobody parks there. "I just got my license and I think that if anyone wants to park in a spot that is unassigned to anyone, that they should be allowed to," commented sophomore, Adam Nevel.

"Kids are not allowed to park in the dirt parking lot on the south side of the school, because those spots are reserved for the construction workers."

- Steve Smith
Director of Student Activities

"Kids are not allowed to park in the dirt parking lot on the south side of the school because those spots are reserved for the construction workers until the school has been completed. If kids parked there, the construction workers would have nowhere to park," said Steve Smith, director of student activities.

When asked what the policy is on cars that are illegally parked, Smith commented by saying, "When a car is in violation, and is at risk of being towed, we usually put a sticker on it. If the driver parks illegally the next day, we will have it towed."

The teachers also complained about a couple of students' cars parked in their parking lot. "They should just let it go because they are not the ones who have to walk through snow, ice, mud, and dodge the occasional speeding car," said senior, Matt Coleman.

"I always park in my spot because I don't want to risk getting towed," said junior, Bryan Proven.

"There is going to be a parking lot built right across the street in the near future for visitors only," said Smith.

I learned my lesson the hard way

Chris Henry

News Editor

A couple of weeks ago, my car was towed.

I was running late for school one day and decided since a lot of people park in the dirt parking lot, that I could, too.

So I ran into school knowing that I was going to move my car during my lunch period. I never got the chance.

Right when 'A' lunch started I overheard some people saying that they just moved their cars from the dirt parking lot because they were towing them.

Towing them!

Why would they be towing them from a place where people had parked all year? The cars were not hurting anyone by being parked there. I had never heard any announcements telling us not to park there.

Some people said that they may have heard an announcement telling us not to, but the sound quality of the speakers in this new school is below par in some classrooms, so actually hearing the announcement was out of the question for me.

So when I heard this, I flew out of my seat, down to where I parked my car. I found them hooking it up as I was running towards them. I got there and spoke to Steve Smith, student activities director, and the towing guys, about getting my car back. It didn't seem to phase them. I had even considered bribing the towing guys with some money, but I had no money. What was I going to bribe them with, my body?

I called my dad right away to explain that my car had gotten towed, and I didn't have enough money to get it back. To get it back it was going to cost \$100. \$100!

No one can just pull that money out of their pocket and afford to pay it. "Brian Kendall, security guard, is the one who calls the towing company, and he calls the most expensive towing companies just to teach the kids a lesson," said security guard, Chester Wigfall.

I didn't know that I wasn't supposed to be parking there, and for them to go and call the most expensive towing company in Northern Indiana is twisting the knife a little deeper.

"They should put a boot (a lock on the wheel) on your car instead of towing it because if you get it towed, about ten people will hear about it. But if your car is sitting out there by itself at the end of the day with a boot on it, a lot more people are going to get the message," said Wigfall.

"I used to park in the dirt parking lot because the signs for 'no parking' are on the other side of the fence, and not in the dirt parking lot," said senior, Leonard Swedarsky.

The administration should have either put some 'No Parking' signs in the dirt parking lot or made an announcement right in the middle of the day to tell the kids who are parked illegally to move their cars or they would be towed, and then no one would take that chance again.

Jeff Gates

Junior



"If people need to park, they shouldn't deny them the right to park by towing them"

Melissa Medich

Sophomore



"I think if people park illegally, that they should be towed"

K.C. Wiseman

Junior



"My friend got his car towed, and there weren't any signs telling him not to park there"

Don't fall into the dating trap

Elyse Chudzynski

Viewpoints Editor

No matter where you go, teens are always talking about the opposite sex.

As a person grows older it is inevitable that he/she will have sexual feelings. Most often, this leads to dating relationships, and there is nothing wrong with that. Relationships are a part of life.

Judy Hums, guidance counselor, says that it's ok for students to date.

"It's good to have relationships, it's a part of growing up," said Hums.

For the majority of students at Riley dating is a positive thing, but sometimes things get carried away.

Sometimes a relationship can begin to control a person's life.

"I worry about students who get serious about dating so fast," said Hums, "It's sometimes the first relationship in a student's life, and he/she thinks it is supposed to last forever."

In such serious relationships, the partner can seem overbearing and controlling. These are the type of relationships that can hurt a person.

Physical abuse is very serious, and should be dealt with as soon as possible. However, emotional abuse can be just as damaging.

"In emotional abuse, where someone is constantly being put down, students' self-esteem is ruined, and this usually leads to other problems," said Hums.

Hums believes that relationship abuse goes in a cycle, and if the cycle isn't broken then the abuse will just get worse every time.

Unfortunately, most students don't go to Hums or other counselors for help in relationships.

Although she hasn't talked to many first-hand victims, Hums has had friends of abuse victims come to her. They tell her that they don't like the way their friend is being treated.

"If someone is always being told that they're fat and ugly, then it's sometimes hard to understand why they take it," said Hums, "These insults are really symptoms of low self-esteem rather than causes."

It is very difficult to get out of an abusive relationship, and it's even harder to get back to dating after one has been abused. But there are ways to prevent abuse in teen relationships.

"You have to be honest with each other and go slow," said Hums, "but you especially have to be true to yourself before you are true to someone else."

Teen relationships can turn abusive, but they aren't always negative. Relationships are usually positive. They help a person develop and mature. Serious teen dating isn't essential to life. The most important thing in a relationship is to have fun. ♦

getting HELP!

Numerous local and national organizations have established **confidential** hotlines and counseling centers designed to aid victims of domestic abuse. The following is a list of places you can contact for help.

☎ SOS

Sex Offense Services

403 E. Madison, South Bend

24 hour emergency hotline

289-4357

☎

National Domestic Violence Hotline

www.mcs.net/~kathyw/abuse.html

1-800-799-SAFE

☎

RAINN

Rape, Abuse, Incest, National Network

www.rainn.org

1-800-656-HOPE



struggling to
Survive
an in depth look into the world of teenagers

Good relationship

Shane Johnson
Art Editor

Glancing in the rear-view mirror, I combed my hair through with my fingers. Turning slowly down her court, I tried to straighten my tie. Then I pulled up into Ashely's driveway, like I had done many times before. I rang her doorbell after the short walk up the drive.

As I stepped in and looked around, I think it was her shimmering eyes that caught my first glance. She was very beautiful.

Ashley and I decided that for our first anniversary, I would take her out to dinner. I took her to *Sunny Italy's*, a small Italian restaurant in South Bend's old down town. I had eaten there numerous time before, but this particular night seemed different. Our food was good, but I really wasn't paying attention to what I put in my stomach. Rather, I was just enjoying the moment.

After dinner, we exchanged the

gifts that we had bought for each other. And after a few grins and short winks from the tables around us, we left with semi-sheepish but somewhat proud smiles upon our faces.

Before calling it a night, we made a run to a local ice cream hangout that Ashley and I visit frequently. We sat down and shared a dish of the day's special. We also indulged in a warm conversation while watching other families and friends enjoy their desserts. Upon departures, we said our hello's and goodbye's to the employees that we knew.

On the drive home, I began to wonder, *'what is it about my relationship with Ashley that has allowed us stay together for such a long time?'* As a teenager, I constantly see my friends romances begin and end. It seems like some have a different girlfriend every month.

I suppose that there are many reasons Ashley and I have had a lasting romance. A lot of it, however, has to do

with communication. Instead of spreading rumors or talking through other people when we have problems, we talk to each other. I've learned that talking things out makes life a little easier.

I think another reason is that, in addition to being boyfriend and girlfriend, Ashley and I are also friends. Our time together doesn't always focus around romance. A lot of times, we just hang out and make each other laugh.

Friendship makes a relationship, but trust builds it. I always feel that I can trust Ashley and I try hard to earn her trust as well.

Celebrating a year of being together with Ashley was fun. Dinner was good and the company was even better. But as nice of a time that we had, I would have enjoyed it just as well as a quiet walk and over six months later, I would still agree. ♦

Bad relationship

Anonymous
Guest Writer

I remember laying in my bed, staring at the white, textured ceiling, wondering what was wrong with me. I was strong willed, independent. I got straight A's and participated in extracurricular activities. I could excel at anything I set my mind to. My entire life changed, however, the day I met my boyfriend, *Chris**.

For the first month, things were wonderful. Chris and I had everything in common. We could talk for hours on the phone every night. I gave up my friends, my activities, my life for him. In my mind, our relationship couldn't have been more perfect.

Then, things started to change, and not for the better.

At first, the changes were minor. Chris would check up on me, call my house to make sure I was home when I said I'd be, or show up at my extracurricular events. Of course, I didn't realize this at the time. I thought he was just showing his love and support.

Then, the changes became more severe. Chris started demanding more and more of my time. He convinced me that I should spend every un-busy moment in his company. If I didn't, he would make me feel bad, call me names, crush my self-esteem. I actually began to believe that he was the most important person on earth.

He yelled, when he was 'displeased' with me or when our relationship didn't go his way, but I refused to yell back. I merely sat, letting myself be abused, humiliated, degraded.

I figured that if I just let him get it out, maybe things would improve.

I was right, things would improve. But the improvement was only temporary, and the good times were invariably overshadowed by the bad. He would come to me, after one of his tirades, and beg for forgiveness. He would promise that this time was the last. I would believe him, forgive him.

I don't know why I continued to take him back. I guess I'm just too trusting, too into second chances. I think the main reason, however, was my lack of self-esteem. Much of which was due to Chris's verbal abuse. He affirmed in my mind that I was worthless. He made me believe that he was my only chance, the only person in the world that would accept me.

Looking back, I can see the abusive qualities in our relationship, but at the time I was blind to the truth. My parents and friends realized what was going on. They warned me, tried to help me see the light, but I simply couldn't. I forbade myself to comprehend.

Then, one night everything changed. That day, I got sick during second hour, and went home. I collapsed on my bed, and slept for the entire afternoon, neglecting my after school sports practice. It turned out the be the worst sick day of my life.

Chris was in one of his jealous moods. He showed up at practice and quizzed my team mates about where I was. He called my house, but I was sleeping. Then, he showed up at my bedside in a rage.

He yanked my out of my bed and screamed at me. He demanded to

know why I didn't inform him of my plan to skip practice, why I didn't answer my phone. I was sick, I tried to explain, I was sleeping.

I was stunned, I couldn't answer. Chris grew frustrated with every moment, every stutter. He had lifted me off the ground. The next thing I knew, I was laying at the base of a wall, flakes of drywall and paint floated down and rested on the carpet beside me. My head was pounding, my back was bruised and bleeding, and Chris was gone.

I didn't know how long I'd been laying there, and it took a few moments before I realized what had actually happened. I dragged my body to the bathroom and forced myself to look in the mirror. I couldn't believe that I'd let my relationship go this far. I pledged that this was the last time I would ever let him near me.

Some probably think I should have gotten out the first time Chris yelled at me. They're right, I should have. I was careless, stupid, naive. Still, I consider myself one of the lucky ones. There are people out there who never allow themselves to grasp the danger they're in. They never reach out for help.

My relationship with Chris was one of the darker parts of my life. Thankfully, I had family and friends that were willing to stick by me, even through the worst of times. I remember my relationship not for the pain it caused me, but for the lessons it taught me. I will never again allow myself to be treated the way Chris treated me. ♦

**name has been changed*

Just the facts

Have you ever been physically abused by a boy/girlfriend?

Yes 20%
No 80%

Have you ever physically abused a boy/girlfriend?

Yes 16%
No 84%

What would you do if your boy/girlfriend physically abused you?

Talk to a friend 44%
Break up 40%
Call a dating violence hotline 8%
Call the police 7%

**Based on a survey of 100 Riley students*

Ajaz's Agenda



By
**Ajaz
Chaudhry**

Ban on pep assemblies, disappoints students

Principal George McCullough decided to cancel pep assemblies for rest of the school year after the events that occurred during homecoming on February 4.

In the mini-Olympic events students from the junior and freshman classes broke the rules and ran out on to the floor. This caused McCullough to disqualify both teams.

The disqualification prompted immediate booing from the freshmen, that is why McCullough cancelled the pep assemblies.

I admit things got a little out of control but that is because students were pumped up and were excited about the mini-Olympic events.

The fact that a few students ran out to help their class win the tug-of-war should not make the entire student body look like irresponsible young adults.

A very small number of students were booing and an overwhelming majority of us disapproved of the booing.

For all students, this is a huge disappointment. We all look towards the pep assemblies with anticipation. They give us a chance to cheer the team and get excited about high school.

This situation is even worse for seniors. This is the last year in our life to participate in high school events.

The only students that ran out to the gym floor were a few freshmen and juniors. All of the sophomores and seniors sat at the bleachers waiting for the next event. Yet these students were also punished with the group.

The worst impact of the whole day was on the senior guys who made the homecoming court. They, along with their teacher escorts, dressed up for this day.

These guys who waited four years to make the court didn't even get to walk out in front of their classmates. This is something that's been done as a tradition for as long as I can remember.

The students running out to help their class shows school spirit, something that is constantly stressed by McCullough.

It is better to have students show such enthusiasm for their class rather than sitting down at pep assemblies.

Another fact which should have been taken into consideration is that it wasn't a normal pep assembly, it was homecoming.

Students were excited and anxious, so a small mishap such as the one that occurred is understandable.

Maybe the students did mess up and posed a danger and maybe it wasn't a responsible thing to run out into the gym, but we must remember that the incident involved only a small number of students.

Let's not let a small number of people ruin the high school experience for everyone else.



Breaking rules ruins perfection

Beth Marshall
Managing Editor

I've always considered myself a "good" student. I get A's, and I always follow the rules. My reports cards are strikingly perfect.

Even if one were to look beside the grades, say to the numbered comments at the right, one would still be sickened by the comments my teachers choose to apply to my classroom behavior.

'Has a good attitude towards others.' 'Is attentive and industrious.'

These are the phrases one would find when he or she compared the number in the comment column with the key at the top.

For some reason, I've always been driven to succeed. My drive doesn't come from my parents, teachers, or peers. Rather, it comes from inside me. I take on activities and join clubs and teams like there's no tomorrow.

I enjoy all of my activities, and I'm successful at most of them. There's only one problem, all of these various clubs and teams have meetings and practices, not to mention competitions and games. It seems as if I'm constantly strapped for time.

Last week, for example, I volunteered to play in the pit orchestra for the musical at LaSalle High School. Rehearsals spanned from 6:30 to 11:00 p.m., every night. Just the other day, I was at newspaper layout until 10:30 p.m., the night before I had to get up extra early for an NHS meeting.

People have told me I have to slow down, to give up activities. And I've tried, I really have. After two years as a faithful mock trial member, I decided that my schedule this year just couldn't handle the law related activity. Still, I became involved after the sponsor asked me to write an article for the journalism portion of the mock trial competition.

I used to have weekends to unwind. Not anymore. Every Saturday at 8:15 a.m., I am required to

be at IUSB for a chamber trio and Youth Symphony rehearsal. Sundays used to be free too, until I successfully auditioned for a seat in the South Bend Symphony Side by Side Concert. When I agreed to audition, I truly never thought I'd make it.

It seems that as soon as one activity ends, another begins. Add in homework, and my schedule becomes deadly. It seems as if I have no time to do anything for myself anymore. The free minutes I find seem to be filled before I can decide what to do with them.

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining. I realize that my schedule is determined by no one other than myself.

The problem isn't my drive to succeed. The problem is the cultural push to take on so many suc-

cessful activities. Any high school student can confirm this.

How do you get into college? It used to be all you had to do was get good grades. But that's no longer true. Now you need extra-curricular activities, and lots of them. How many times have you heard that today's college is looking for 'well rounded students'?

Well, exactly how well rounded do we have to be? Most teenagers are burning the candle at both ends trying to round themselves.

Maybe that's the way it's supposed to be. Maybe that's what adolescence is all about, learning limits and boundaries, learning how to pace yourself. Maybe we all just need a good nervous breakdown before we decide which activities are truly important.



What We Think Students deserved warning

We, the Review staff, agree with the towing policy that the administration has recently installed.

Students should not use the dirt parking lot because it is needed for construction workers. They also should not use the teachers' parking lot, which is also off limits to students.

However, we believe that the students should have had a fair amount of warning before their cars were towed.

The first row of the parking lot was unassigned until recently, and some students didn't realize that these spaces had been taken.

So, it is understandable why they parked in those spots. There were announce-

ments about towing, but it's difficult in some classes to hear all of them.

Signs should have been posted throughout the building, and notices should have been placed on the cars days prior to the towing.

We understand the reasons for towing, but the students needed more notice.

The way to prevent towing is for students to always park in their assigned spots. If this rule was consistently enforced, students would not attempt to park elsewhere.

Parking and traffic policies have been a little hectic this year. However, there are plans for improvement next year.

(See related story page 3)



Required classes, are they all really needed?

Katie Grembowicz
Viewpoints Editor

Every year in February, every high school in the corporation does the same thing, scheduling.

We are given a seminar about what classes are required for graduation, given a booklet, and sent along our merry way until we are called to the guidance office.

Many students have to fill their blocks because of all the required classes they need. But what can be done about the students who don't need to fill those blocks and are required to anyway?

And what about the students who don't need even some of the required classes because they have no need for them in future career choices?

While in the guidance office, I was told that even though I've already completed almost all the required classes for my high school career, I still need to completely fill the schedule for my junior year.

Ashley Coker, sophomore, had totally the opposite experience.

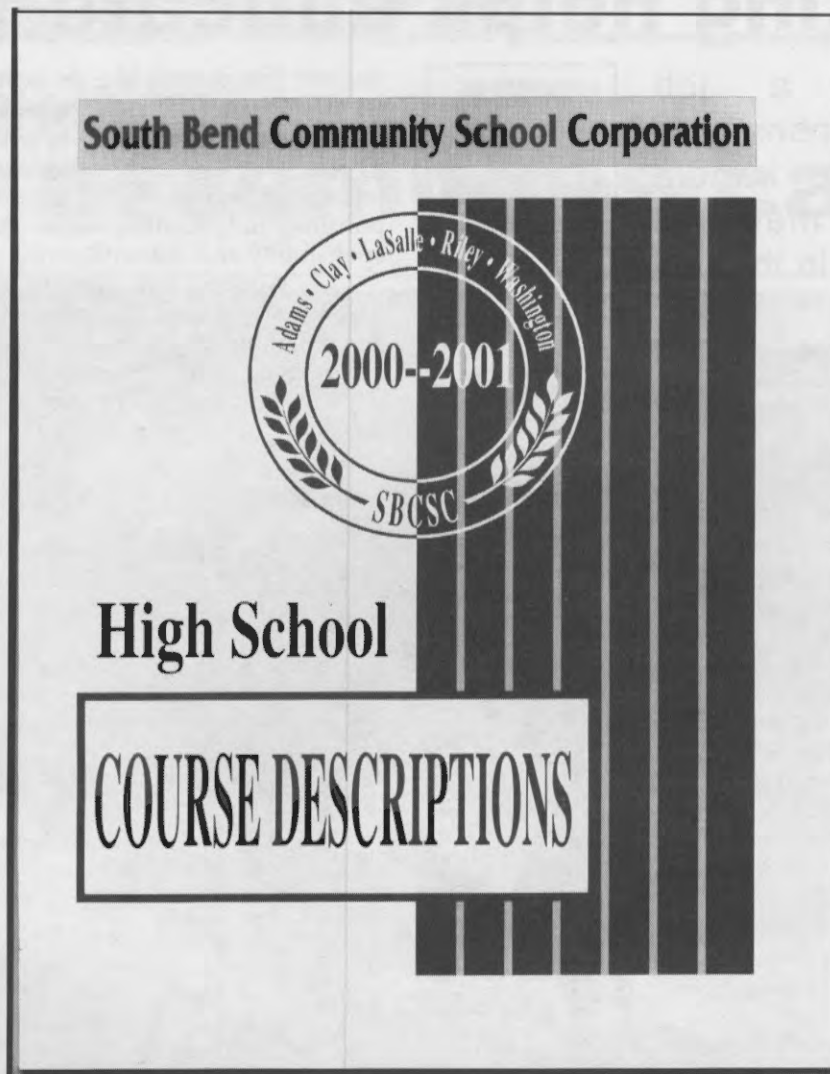
"I know what classes I want to take and need to take, but I can't because my schedule is filled with all these required classes just so I can get a high school diploma," she said.

Coker wants to go into radio broadcasting after college and she won't even be able to take the CO-OP program her senior year because her schedule will be full.

For seniors who have finished all their required classes, there are many options.

Some students start college the last semester of their senior year at IUSB or Ivy Tech.

They can also do a combination of a couple classes here and a couple at a college. And then there are some seniors who come



for one or two periods and go home the rest of the day.

Now, I'm not saying we shouldn't ever have to take an algebra class or write a paper for English.

But it's a bit ridiculous to go through four years of English and only be able to fit three science classes when you plan on going into a medical field.

Kari Meersman, sophomore, says "I think high school is

just about trying a little bit of everything so we know exactly what we want, and so we have all these experiences.

Besides, if we let kids take only the classes they really need, half of them would be on half days and some of these kids come to school because it's a safe place," she said.

Judy Hums, counselor, agrees.

Required classes have the

purpose of giving everybody just a little bit of exposure to everything. It's all very basic," she said.

If students know exactly what they want to do in life, they should be allowed to skip some of the required classes and take what they need to help them through college.

Maybe someone who wants to be an engineer should take two years of English, a year of social studies, maybe a gym or health class, and spend the rest of his or her time in high school math and science classes.

Hums also thinks it's good to fill schedules early just in case kids change their minds about what they want to do with their life.

"Some kids sign up for courses that they think they have no interest in, but when they think about it over the summer, they decide they really want to take that class.

It's better to schedule them early so they have a place in it.

If they don't, they may come back to us at the beginning of the year desperately wanting a certain class, and we just can't fit them in," she said.

And that's good for those kinds of students, but there are still ones left that are dead set on what they want out of life who can't fit it all in.

School is a place to learn the skills we will need to better our future.

If we don't start learning what we really need here, where will we? ♦

"I think high school is just about trying a little bit of everything so we know exactly what we want, and so we have all these experiences."

Kari Meersman
Sophomore

Letters
to The

Editor

Too Short Lunch

Dear Editor:

I would like to discuss a problem that we have with the lunch periods. I think they should be longer.

The reason is because there are too many kids that go to lunch. This makes the lines very long, and by the time you get your lunch and find a seat you only have five minutes to eat. That isn't long enough.

My solution to this problem would be to make the lunches longer. That would really work out and the students would be pleased.

We would have more time to eat and we wouldn't have to rush. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Judy Trujillo
Judy Trujillo

Lunch Duties

Dear Editor:

During lunch a few of the Riley lunch aids have some students take up their lunch way before other students.

Worse yet, they have students stay after lunch to clean. This would be justifiable if the students are purposely making a mess.

Moreover, they have students stay for something as minor as tapping the tables.

They have even made students, who have done nothing wrong, stay after and clean. In effect, the students miss valuable class time. It's bad enough we have closed lunches, we shouldn't have to deal with unfair lunch aids on top of that.

Sincerely,
Anthony C. Hoff
Anthony C. Hoff

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The Review is published by the publications staff at Riley High School, One Wildcat Way, South Bend, IN, 46614. The intent of The Review is to inform the public of event occurring in Riley High School and the South Bend area.

The Review is a self-supporting publication

Students speak out on: Working

Working helps educate teens

👍 Having a job teaches responsibility and how to handle money. It makes it easier to be in the real world.



Beth Marshall

Managing Editor/Centerspread Editor

Your weekly allowance was terminated when you hit high school and your working friends are sick and tired of extending unpaid loans in your direction. Looks like another Friday night at home with the family.

You beg your parents for some extra dough, but to no avail. 'Kid', they say, 'it's time to get a job.' Instantly, thoughts of terror run through your head, you hear your parents and friends grumble about work every day. Saturday morning cartoons are a thing of the past. At least I've got my paycheck to look forward to, you remind yourself.

But is working all that bad? Surely extra money couldn't be the only perk. There must be something else that inspires thousands of teenagers to don their Burger King uniforms each afternoon and tromp into work.

In addition to cash, a job provides young adults with a chance to mature. You don't only get to make money, you get to learn about saving money. (This is

the part that parents like the best.)

It's incredible the number of teenagers who don't know how to deposit or withdraw money from a bank. They don't know how a credit card or checking account works. With a job, you will have the opportunity to learn these skills. You get a sense of responsibility and self-sufficiency.

Working will provide more time to spend with friends. You no longer have to spend your time getting intimate with *Judge Judy* reruns. Now you can be at work with them.

"A couple of my friends were doing it [getting a job] and I decided I needed a little extra money too," said freshman, Gavin Mack.

You can joke around and make money at the same time. It doesn't get much better than that. Working will also provide wonderful opportunities to meet new people and make new friends.

Another reason teenagers choose to work is to discover job opportunities. You'll have more fun if you choose a job in a field that interests you. Say you have your heart set on getting a job as a nurse. Before you take that leap into nursing school, get a job at a hospital. After you experience nursing first hand, you might decide that nursing isn't quite what you thought it would be. By discovering this while you're still in high school, as opposed

to after you graduate from nursing school, you'll save yourself a lot of trouble, not to mention money and time.



Jobs not worth it for some

Being a teenager is supposed to be about having fun. We shouldn't have to worry about stuff like taxes and work schedules.



Katie Grembowicz

Viewpoints Editor

Having a job is like having a kid, a big responsibility. It is one that I definitely don't want right now. You always have to be there, you're expected to actually, you know, work. And you get very little satisfaction from it.

And jobs for teenagers today are awful. You have the option of bagging groceries, standing behind a register at *Target*, or being a delivery person if you happen to be lucky enough to have a car.

My parents always tell me that I'll be working for the rest of my life, so I don't need a job right now. And I know inside me that they're right. Being a teenager is about having fun. Why should we have to worry about things like how much the government is taking out of our paychecks and filing tax returns?

Many parents lead their children to believe that they have to have jobs to help the family, but that is not technically true. There are some kids who don't mind having a job to chip in for expenses, but the law does not require it until a child has turned 18 and their parents no longer have to pay their child's way.

Having a job now seems pointless anyway.

With the exception of a few people who would rather have jobs in town, most of us will leave high school, go to college, and have a career that doesn't involve saying 'Would you like fries with that?'

And we have so many things to schedule ourselves around. As a high school student, we're involved with a ton of stuff. Sometimes we just don't have time to fit it all in. We would have to work around stuff like football practice, dance lessons, drama rehearsal. It's just a big hassle.

What about transportation? If you're 15, you're not

driving anywhere, and mom and dad probably don't like peeling themselves off the couch after a day at work to run you places. I know my parents don't.

Teenagers also don't like being tied down because you never know what's going to come up. One of your friends could call and say everybody's going to the movies, and wouldn't it be a bummer if you had to work that night?

Yes, you may have extra spending money, and it may teach you responsibility. But in the long run, you'll just regret starting so early at something so boring and time consuming.

We have so little time to enjoy ourselves as children. Our parents are right, we all grow up very fast. So, we definitely shouldn't waste it on a job that might never further any career we choose in life.



What You

Think

about
Working

Brittany Straite
Junior



"Having a job is a really good idea because kids need to learn how to handle money to prepare for the real world. It gives them responsibility and every kid needs that. I actually think it should be required."

Lindsey Hab
Sophomore



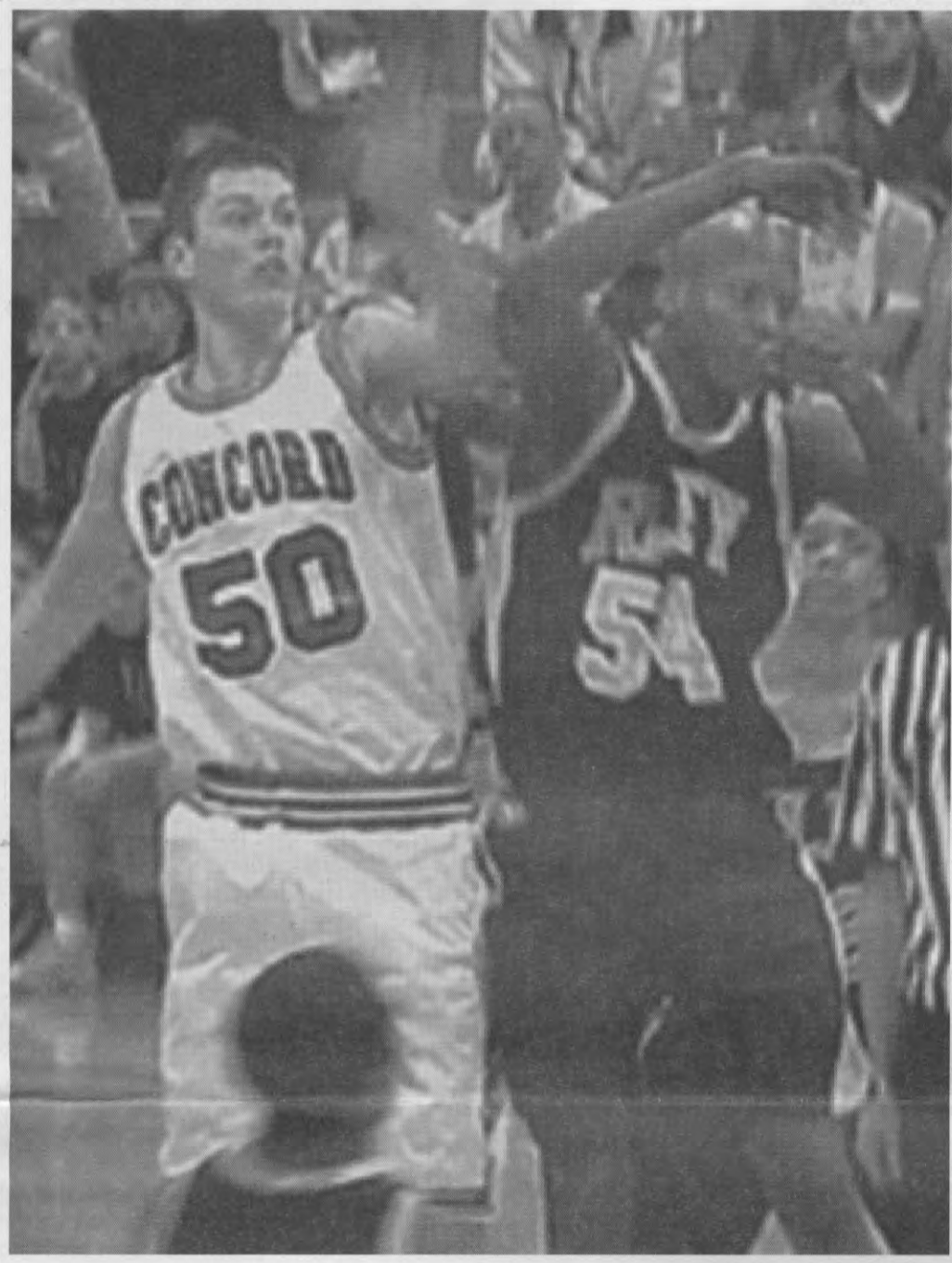
"Having a job as a teen can be good and bad, but I think it's mainly bad because it takes away from time to study and do extra-curricular activities."

Cory Long
Freshman



"I think having a job as a teen is a really good idea. It gives kids a sense of responsibility, and it also gives them money. And all kids want more money."

Loss to Clay ends season



Cameron Stouder

CONTROLLING THE TIP/ Ronald Dokes battles for the ball during the game against Concord. The boys' team season ended in the sectional.

Cameron Stouder
Sports Editor

On March 10 the boys' basketball team took the sectional court at Penn high school. The team received a bye for the first round of sectionals and was faced against the *Clay Colonials* in the semi-finals. Clay took an unexpected win over Riley earlier in the season. Riley was expected to avenge the three point loss with power sectional play.

All the elements for victory were there. A huge student section came to support the boy ballers, the team had been practicing hard for months for this moment, but when the final buzzer sounded the scoreboard showed that Riley had lost by a mere three points, 54-57. What went wrong?

"We went into the game with the right frame of mind, but something just wasn't clicking. In the first half we just didn't have any ball movement," said head coach Tom DeBaets, "One of the major things that hurt us was that we weren't blocking Clay. That really affected the outcome."

Despite losing in the sectional, the team improved by leaps and bounds this year. Last year they finished the conference winless and ended the season with a dismal 4-17 record. This year, the team ended their campaign with a 5-3 record in the conference and a 15-6 overall record.

"Depending on what scale you use you need to win sectionals to have a great year. You need to win conference to have an excellent year. However, I am pleased with the way the team played this year and the amount of improvement that the guys showed," said DeBaets.

"It was a fun year, the whole turn around from last year was amazing. Everyone was having fun this year," said Dokes.

DeBaets gives much credit of the team's turnaround to the work the team players put forth during the summer, especially seniors Ronald Dokes and Darrel Foster. Most of all, he acknowledges the team's chemistry.

"The chemistry on the team this year was the best its been since I've coached here. The team accepted their roles this year," said DeBaets.

"This year the team had better teamwork. The guys actually wanted to go to practice, they accepted their roles whether it was rebounding, shutting down the other team's big scorer or scoring points. Everyone played to the best of their ability," added Dokes.

The team started three seniors this year and all of them played major roles. They will be losing their top rebounder and second leading scorer, Dokes. Their key defensive and second leading rebounder Foster also started in all 20 games.

The team is also losing its starting shooting guard Mike Washington who was second on the team in assists and third in steals. They will return, however, leading scorer Martell Taylor and starting point guard Reggie Swanson.

"I don't think that the team will hurt that much next year. There are good people on the bench. We are also returning Martell and Reggie plus junior

SEE BASKETBALL ON PAGE TWO

Team wins big...

Boy swimmers continue sectional streak

Cameron Stouder
Sports Editor

For the seventeenth consecutive year the boys' swim team convincingly came home with a sectional title. St. Joe held off Clay and Mishawaka for the runner-up position.

This year for the first time the meet was held in Riley's new pool. Several swimmers thought this helped and coach Steve Smith agrees.

"I definitely think that having the meet here helped. Home pool advantage always helps, you always know where all your stuff is. You also don't have to worry about the team traveling. Not to mention that you already are familiar with the starting blocks and the walls," said Smith.

"I was pleased with the way our team swam. We swam faster than I thought we would. I think that the swimmers were pleased as well," said Smith.

"This sectional title was different from the others because it wasn't Riley against St. Joe, Clay, Adams, Mishawaka, LaSalle, and Washington. It was more like Riley against the field," commented Smith.

The team not only won the meet but succeeded in qualifying eight people for the state meet.

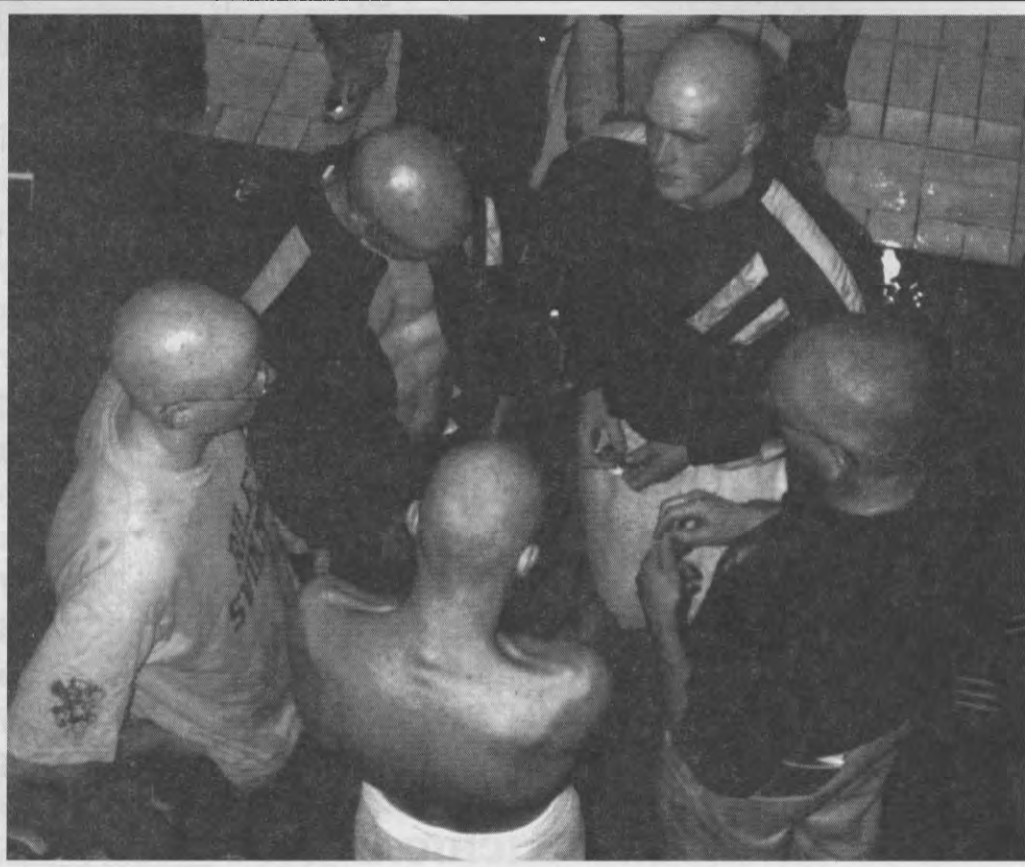
The meet started off right. The 200 medley relay of senior Marcus King, junior Shane Johnson, junior Sam Peat and junior Peter Cavadini upset the top seeded Adams team to send Riley's team to state.

"I was surprised by both Sam's butterfly and Peter's freestyle splits in the medley relay. They were faster than I expected," commented Smith.

This proved to be a launching pad for the team. Riley sophomore Mark DuBois won the 200 freestyle and freshman Louis Cavadini qualified for the state meet in the 200 individual medley.

Throughout the rest of the first half of the meet Riley continued to distance themselves from the rest of the teams.

The second half of the meet started off similar to the first with Riley's Peter Cavadini and Peat finishing first and second in the 100 butterfly. The 100 freestyle was between only two



Gretchen Lemmer

SEE SWIMMING PAGE TWO

MENTAL PREPARATION/The 200 medley relay team of Marcus King, Shane Johnson, Sam Peat, and Peter Cavadini, get last minute instructions from Coach Steve Smith before the state swim meet.

Softball season looks bright



Cameron Stouder

THROWING HOME/ Senior Lyndsey Frushour hurls the ball to a teammate during practice.

Cameron Stouder
Sports Editor

With the entire starting infield from last year and a very strong outfield returning, the softball team is looking forward to a championship season. The team will look to the infield of seniors, third baseman and captain Kristi Andert, shortstop Rachelle Chapman, second baseman Lyndsey Frushour and first baseman and captain Adria Phillips, to anchor an experienced defensive team.

"We return our entire defensive unit. We have the best outfield in the conference and maybe the best in northern Indiana, with senior captain Beth Lesar and sophomore Theresa Foley and junior Lisa Cowper. That combined with our experience, senior leadership and strong underclassmen are our strong points," said assistant coach Bobbi Megyese.

"The strength of this team is our experience. We have the entire starting lineup back plus a few talented additions. We have a great team spirit and we work well together," Chapman.

"Having an all senior infield helps because we have experience and we are comfortable together," said Phillips.

"Having our whole infield back will help immensely. They know each other on the field. They have been a unit for a couple years. That makes them weeks ahead of schedule. They know more advanced strategies and they make plays that aren't routine," said Megyese.

The team will also look to its pitching staff for help. Sophomore Kristen Preniczy took over last year and showed improvement throughout the season. She will share pitching duties with sophomore transfer Cassie Nolley.

"Kristen and Cassie will be our starting pitchers, however freshman Brooke Lootens and Ashley Phillips will be their support," said Megyese.

The team hopes to be a contender in the race for the conference title, although both Penn and Mishawaka will put a good team on the field.

"Penn and Mishawaka are our biggest rivals for the conference title this year," said Phillips.

However the team's goals don't end with the conference title. They are hoping to advance past the sectionals this year.

"The team is going to win sectionals and be a contender at the regional this year," said Chapman.

"A successful season for me would be to win



Cameron Stouder

TAKING GROUNDERS/ Senior Rachelle Chapman picks up a ground ball while playing shortstop.

conference and sectionals. But mostly I want our team to be a good ball club. We can do that by winning the games we should and pulling off some upsets. I expect the team to be comfortably over the .500 mark this year," said Phillips.

"You can't always use wins and losses to reflect on whether a season was successful or not," said Megyese.

The team will not have to get used to a new home this year however. The team does not plan on playing on their new field. They plan to still play their home games at O'Brien Park.

"We are playing there because it has more room than the field at Riley," said Megyese.

Despite what diamond is played on, the team is expected to have an outstanding season this year, according to Megyese. ♦

Basketball

Continued from page one

Marc Wilson who played a key role off the bench this year," said Dokes.

"I really don't know what to expect for next year. It's too early to say. It really depends on how hard the returning players work this summer. It will either be a great or poor season. We have a long way to go," said DeBaets.

Taylor led the way in scoring at the end of the season. He averaged 18.3 points a game. Dokes was second with 16.1 ppg. Foster and Dokes were the team's top field goal shooters with Foster shooting 64.1 percent and Dokes 60.6 percent. Washington shot 38.6 percent from behind the three point arc.

On the defensive side of the ball Dokes led the team with 2.4 blocks per game and 6.6 defensive rebounds a game. Swanson kept the other team's point guards in check with 53 steals this season.

The 'Cats outscored their opponents 68 to 59. The team shot a solid 49.3 percent from the field this year and 35.7 percent from three point range. The team also shot 64.8 percent from the free throw line. They also pulled down 32.7 rebounds a game and had a total of 181 steals. ♦

A LOOK AT THE 1999-2000 SEASON

RILEY VS.

	US THEM
LAPORTE	62 - 69
* CHRISTIAN CENTER	103 - 48
PENN	51 - 60
* JOHN GLENN	71 - 65
* WAWASEE	89 - 66
* DOWAGIAC	73 - 62
* NILES	52 - 50
* ELKHART MEMORIAL	72 - 52
CLAY	49 - 52
* LASALLE	68 - 55
* MARIAN	63 - 55
* MISHAWAKA	68 - 44
* ST. JOE	74 - 59
* ELKHART CENTRAL	58 - 49
* CHESTERTON	60 - 51
* GOSHEN	70 - 62
WASHINGTON	55 - 61
* ADAMS	80 - 61
MICHIGAN CITY	62 - 80
* CONCORD	

FINAL RECORD: 15 - 5

Swimming

Continued from page one

people, Clay's Noah Hopkins and Riley's Louis Cavadini. Although Hopkins won the event the younger Cavadini finished in a time fast enough to qualify for the state meet.

The 500 freestyle once again showed Riley's domination of the distance events with Dubois, freshman Brian Johnson and senior captain Jimmy McKee taking finishing 1,2,4 respectively.

The 200 freestyle relay of senior captain Ryan Jesswein, freshmen Kevin Blue, Louis Cavadini, and DuBois set the pool record and nearly set the sectional record. This relay was also named to the first team all-conference.

By the time the last relay the 400 freestyle relay came around Riley had won the meet. The only question was if Riley could send all three relays down to state. The 400 freestyle team of Jesswein, Dubois, Cavadini and Cavadini beat a tough Clay team.

"It was one of my goals to send all three relays down to state. After we got shut out last year it was a relief to get all three down," said Smith.

Sectionals was the end to a successful season for the team. They won the conference title, won the city title, won the sectional title and placed second at *Munster Relays* and third at the *Highland Invitational* two very high quality invitationals.

"The highlight of my year was beating Penn, Bremen, and Kokomo. They were teams that were ranked in the top 20 in the state, they were big wins for us," said Smith. ♦



Beth Marshall

BEATING THE PRESS/ Hoop Team 16 player Mike Hoffman attempts to get by faculty team member Nancy Simon

Hoop Team 16 helps net funds for junior class

Elyse Chudzynski

Viewpoints Editor

It was Riley vs Hoop Team 16 on March 14, 2000. Faculty members faced WNDU's Hoop Team 16 in a vicious game of basketball. Of course, vicious isn't really the right word.

"To win but have fun," was the Hoop Team's strategy according to Hoop Team member/WNDU meteorologist, Mike Hoffman.

The game was sponsored by the junior class, and tickets were \$2 each. There was also a raffle in which prizes were donated by local businesses.

All profits went to the junior class, and Hoop Team 16 did not charge for their appearance. Hoop Team plays about 17 games a year, and they consider the games community service projects.

Considering it was on a Tuesday night Kim Green, class of 2001 president, was a little concerned, however things worked out fine.

"It was a Tuesday night, so it was better than we expected," said Green. To request Hoop Team they just had to call in and request a date. It was really easy, according to Green.

One of the highlights of the game is when Bryan Focht, faculty player, made a three pointer in the third quarter.

"It was like buttah," said Focht. Anne Goshurt, faculty player, also commented on Focht's play.

"This is just fun...It's the first time I ever had to give a technical foul to cheerleaders."

-Bob Berger

"He was in the zone, totally," said Goshurt. However, this wasn't

the only climax of the game. A technical foul was given to the cheerleaders with 6:40 left in the third quarter.

"This is just fun," said Bob Berger, referee, "you just kinda swallow your whistle and let them play. This is the first time I ever gave a technical foul to the cheerleaders."

Beth Gavin, who was a faculty cheerleader, said it was really fun.

"I feel pretty old. Many years ago, I was really a Riley cheerleader," said Gavin, "it brings back memories for me."

The final score was 141-139, in favor of Riley. Overall the game was a success, the junior class benefitted from the game. ♦

Hanging up the speedo...

Swim coach to retire

Cameron Stouder

Sports Editor

After four years with the Riley boys' swim team, three years as head coach, Steve Smith has decided to resign.

"I had decided to resign three years ago. My goal was to only coach one year in the new pool. I've got a new position at Riley that takes a lot of time. I'm going to start my administrators' license, and I would like to spend more time with my wife," said Smith.

"He was a good coach. I enjoyed swimming for him," said junior, captain Shane Johnson.

Throughout his tenure as a coach at Riley, Smith won four sectional titles, two conference titles, and four city titles. He also coached state runner-up breaststroker Matt DuBois.

Smith does not plan on coaching again, but he said he has learned 'never say never'. He said that if he does come back to coaching, it will probably be in an assistant coaching job.

"My most memorable moment as head coach was beating Penn this year and winning the conference," said Smith.

Smith says that being the coach of the Riley swim team brought back old feelings he had from coaching previously at Adams High School.

"Coaching here, I felt the agony of defeat as well as the excitement of victory. I've worked with some interesting people both swimmers and coaches. My most memorable win as a coach was when we were when I beat Riley while I was the coach at Adams. That's

how much respect I have for this program," said Smith.

The question now is: who will replace Smith at the helm of the team?

"There will be a selection committee made up of parents, teachers, and administrators who will decide who will take over the position.

Right now assistant coach John Vandriessche is at the top of the list. However the school will still have to open the job up to the public," said Smith.

"If I were to become head coach for the Riley swim team, it would be incredibly special. The chance to become the head coach here was the reason I came back to South Bend," said front runner Vandriessche.

Vandriessche coached at Knox prior to becoming assistant coach here. He was the head coach there for five seasons. While at Knox, Vandriessche modeled the program after Riley.

"Everything I did there, I modeled after what the Riley team was doing," said Vandriessche.

"If I become head coach, every coach on the staff will stay. I haven't thought about hiring another assistant coach to take my place yet," added Vandriessche.

The team this year was young. Therefore, Vandriessche has a positive outlook on the future.

"The team coming back next year has a strong nucleus. The future looks bright," said Vandriessche.

"The key to having a successful state team is that we need to swim year round. We need to continue swimming in the summer to be able to make waves at the state meet," commented Vandriessche. ♦

Wellness center opens to community

Elyse Chudzynski

Viewpoints Editor

Living only a block away, Riley has always been a part of my neighborhood. However, the closest I ever got to Riley, before high school, was riding my bike in the parking lot. I hadn't even entered

the building until I visited during my eighth grade year.

I never got to use any of the facilities until I began my high school career. It would be a shame, now, to have this brand-new Riley and brand-new equipment, and not have it open to the community.

-George McCullough

exercise, and fun. Many athletic facilities are now open to the public, including the swimming pool, indoor track, gym, and weight room.

All of these facilities are being rented by various clubs and organizations. The swimming pool is especially useful for life saving programs and Learn to Swim provided by

Red Cross.

The fire department and Marine Corps have also used the athletic facilities.

"The athletic equipment is mostly used by athletes, but now it's open to everyone," said George McCullough, principal.

"Students are usually coming to school to work or practice for a game, and this will open the school up for students to have fun."

To get access students simply show up, go to the locker room, and get dressed. Right now, students can come in any day between Monday and Thursday from 3-5 p.m. Sessions are supervised by Ted Crisman and Jim Berger, and students are required to have their IDs present.

"I think this will build pride and neighborhood unity," said McCullough. "It will create a sense of ownership in the community." The plan for Riley to be a resource center isn't a new idea, it has been

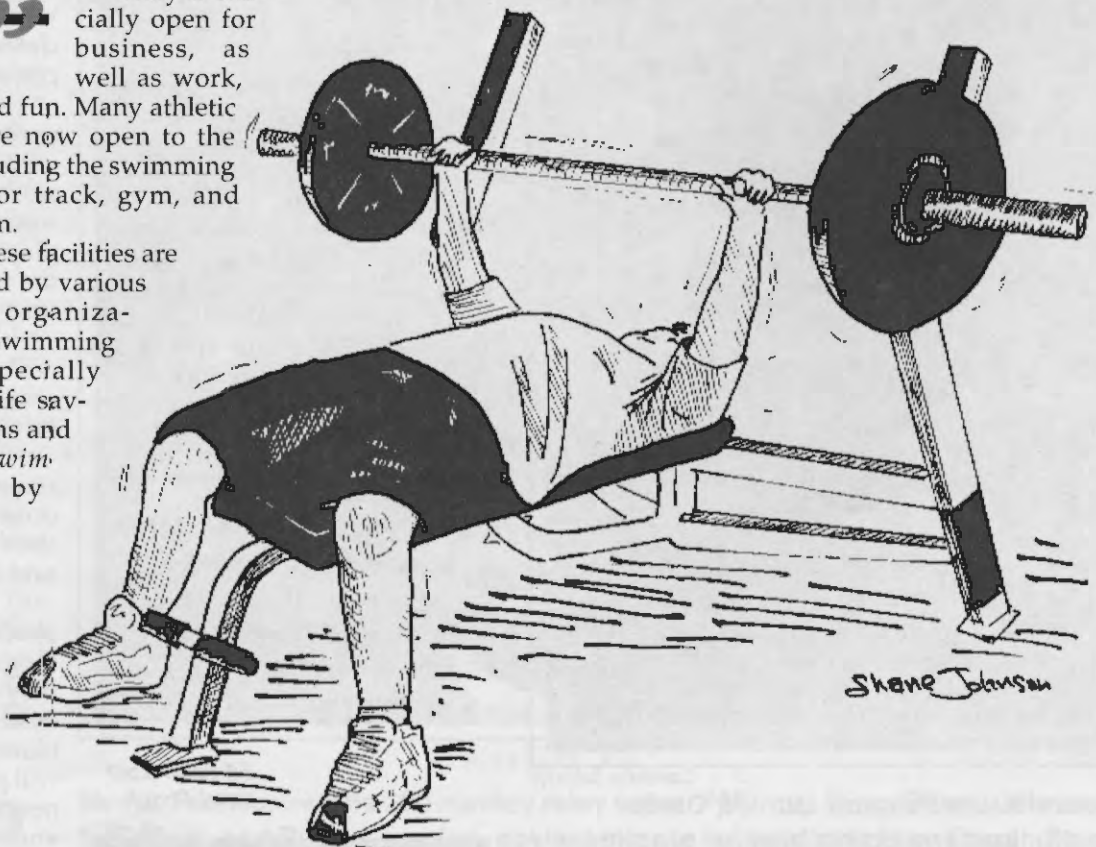
"Before they even started building the new Riley, we knew it should become the center of the community."

-Steve Smith

the strategy since day one.

"Before they even started building the new Riley, we knew it should be the center of the community," said Smith. He believes that the neighborhood should revolve around the high school. Not everything has gone smoothly this year, but it has sufficed for the first year.

Riley is reaching out to the community and giving students an alternative to high-risk activities. So far, Riley becoming a Community Resource Center was a worthwhile decision. Riley's aspiration is to become a community based school, according to Smith. ♦



Weight loss, danger to athletes

Katie Grembowicz
Viewpoints Editor

On a sports team in high school, a lot is expected of an athlete. The code of conduct says that an athlete should basically be a role model to everyone around them. They shouldn't drink, smoke, and they should be respectful to all students and faculty. But there's one more thing that some athletes are expected to maintain: weight. Weight is important for all sports just because of athletic ability, but it's the deciding factor for wrestling at Riley.

Wrestling has 14 weight classes ranging from 103-275 pounds. An athlete can be as much below the weight as they want, but there is absolutely no exception for being even a tenth of a pound over the required weight. And if an athlete doesn't make weight?

"If you don't make weight, you either don't wrestle at all or you have the option of wrestling a class above your normal weight," said Bryan Proven, junior wrestler.

There are so many guys on the Riley wrestling team that, basically, if a guy doesn't make weight someone else will and will wrestle that weight instead.

But is encouraging athletes to make a specific weight or be beat up by guys twice their size really healthy?

Indiana Pacer trainer, David Craig, says no. "Food is your energy source, and you need more energy to be able to perform well," he said.

But wrestling assistant coach, Jim Flatt, says that whatever weight a wrestler is is their choice.

"We're not going to force the guys to lose weight that they're not going to be healthy at," he said.

But should it even be the athlete's choice? Some guys seem so determined to wrestle that they'll do anything.

Proven lost 15 pounds this season to be able to wrestle in his normal class. He ran with sweats on, and he even starved himself for a couple of days at a time just to make weight.

"They (wrestlers) have to train their bodies to stay at their weight. Bryan's body wasn't trained well, and that's why he had to lose all that weight in such a short time," said Coach Flatt.

When asked why he didn't just wrestle in the class above him, Proven stated that he was just too small.

"In higher weight classes, competition is harder. Also, people from other schools are also trying to cut weight, so I would be wrestling people who should've already been in another weight class above me," he said.



Coach Flatt agreed by saying, "What a lot of wrestlers want is the better edge. The lighter the person they have to wrestle, the easier it is to shift around weight."

But Proven walked around school for weeks looking pale, circles under his eyes, and his clothes hanging off of him. All for a sport?

Larry Grembowicz, former LaSalle city and NIC champion wrestler, said it's either lose the weight or someone will wrestle for you.

Grembowicz wrestled at 112 pounds his sophomore and junior year, and 120 his senior year.

"I was supposed to lose 18 pounds because the coaches wanted me to wrestle at my previous weight class. I lost about 12-15 pounds, and then I just

couldn't lose any more. There was just nothing left on me to lose. I guess I was actually relieved when I couldn't lose anything else because then I could actually eat something without worrying how many ounces I had just gained," he said.

He ran with trashbags and plastic sweatsuits over him. He took laxatives, and even laid in the bathtub with towels over his body to make a makeshift steamroom. He also has the memory of putting his tongue under the water faucet just to know what water tasted like because he couldn't drink it, or risk gaining weight.

"I remember once in high school walking into the auditorium and I had these corduroy pants on. They swished so loud because they just hung off of me that people started to look at me funny," he said.

But girls' basketball coach, Mike Megyesi, said this behavior is just not healthy for anyone.

"If an athlete doesn't maintain a healthy weight, they can lose strength and risk injury," he said.

Grembowicz says that it's not the answer for everyone, but losing extreme amounts of weight doesn't affect everyone in the same way.

"It can be dangerous," he said, "especially for the lower weight classes. Football linemen can come in and lose 30 pounds and it may not affect them at all. But because lower weight wrestlers don't have as much on their bodies, it could be a drastic change for them."

Craig said the proper way to lose weight is to have a good diet and to watch your body fat, not the weight.

"Look at percentage of body fat. Men should have no more than ten percent body fat, and women should have no more than eighteen percent," he stated.

Coach Flatt says that's exactly right. At the beginning of each season, a doctor comes to take a fat test for all wrestlers and then determines the minimum weight that is safe for a particular wrestler to be at. Then a wrestler is not allowed to be under that weight.

After the fat test, losing or maintaining weight is basically on the shoulders of the wrestlers. They all have different diets, they run, and they work hard.

But why even be in a sport if you're not going to be able to participate if you don't make a number?

Proven said there are some drawbacks to losing so much weight in such a short period of time.

"You get tired, but you gain energy back after you eat. You also start to look really thin and people definitely notice," he said.

So, seemingly for some Riley athletes it's not how you play the game, it's doing anything and everything to be eligible to play the game.

Young team tries to work out weak links

Nate Howell
Sports Editor

With the spring season, comes baseball. The team is pretty young this year and it promises to be a great season, according to coach, Ed Faulhaber.

The wildcats have three different squads for baseball. The three teams are the varsity, junior varsity, and the c-team. "I played on the j.v. last year," explained Tom Stewart, who is a sophomore.

Working out is a big deal for the team this year. The team lost a lot of seniors which has made the team's average size a lot smaller. The team works-out at least three times a week after

school. A daily work out consists of running, abdominal work, weightlifting, and some work with tossing the ball around.

"We have not determined our strengths at this time. Our work ethic and commitment will determine future strengths," commented Faulhaber.

The players are really excited about the season. "I can't wait to start playing games, I'm ready to get on the field," said sophomore Chad Myers. Myers plays outfield and second base for the wildcats. He also spent some time pitching last year.

Bobby Ullery, sophomore, who played on the j.v. team last season, said that he is looking forward to the season also.

"I am glad the season is coming up soon. As soon as I am done with hockey, I am going to start working out with the team," said Ullery.

When the boys start practicing and playing outside, they are going to have to decide if they are going to play on the new field that was built a year ago. However, Faulhaber said the team will probably play at Jackson. The new field wasn't built very well and the school, according to

Faulhaber, won't fix it. Faulhaber said, "The mounds are not ready, the grass is sparse in the infield, and storage areas have no doors."

"Whoever built the baseball field is an idiot because the field is unacceptable to play on," said senior Chris Henry. It doesn't look like the varsity will be playing on the new field.

The baseball program is having a fund raiser to get funds for the team's needs. "Players are getting donations. Ten dollars buys tickets to a bowling party: food, drink, bowling, door prizes, D.J. and music," said Faulhaber.

The money is going to be used for bats, balls, and other needed equipment. The bowl-a-thon party is from 4-7 p.m. this Saturday, March 18.

The team needs guardian angels for the year. If there are any girls who are interested see Faulhaber in his math class on the second floor.

"Even though this is my senior year, I would have to say that this is a rebuilding year for next years seniors," said Henry.

Ullery sends this shout out to all Riley: "This season be sure to go out and support us." ♦



Cameron Stouder

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT/ Junior, Chris Horvath, loosens up his arm for practice.

-Ed Faulhaber
Head Coach