

The Review

James Whitcomb Riley High School
One Wildcat Way South Bend, IN
Volume 30 Issue 7
May, 2000

NEWS Briefs

GRADUATION

Commencement ceremonies for the class of 2000 are scheduled for Sunday June 11, at 1 p.m. at the Century Center.

Seniors should pick up their six commencement tickets from the treasurer's office. If you need more tickets, see George McCullough, Principal ASAP.

ENGLES

Joanne Engles, Riley High School, 1999, Teacher of the Year was recently awarded with the Wal-Mart/Sams Foundation 2000, Teacher of the Year award. Engles will receive a \$500 check from the foundation for her accomplishment.

Math Minds

The junior math team of LaMont Barlow, Sara Lusk, and Danielle Marks placed first in the Pre Calculus division at the Area Mathematics contest held at IUSB on May 13.

The Sophomore team of Josh Cottrill, Andrew Craker, and Roger Wiltfong earned a second place in the Geometry competition.

Barlow and Wiltfong placed fifth in the individual portion of the competition.

Salima Oudghiri and Erin Ward represented Riley in the sophomore division.

Team sponsors were Carol Wallace, and Larry Morningstar. Faculty participants were Beth Gavin and Char Totten.

Overcoming Adversity

Aguilera motivates students



SUPERSTAR/ Aguilera answers questions during her May 20, appearance at Riley. Inset: Yearbook advisor, Rober Smith, left, and Principal, George McCullough, right greet Aguilera

Grant Jones

Andrew Monnier

Staff Reporter

"She said 'hi' to me," exclaimed Kim Green, junior.

"Yeah, she winked at me," added Grant Jones, junior.

Christina Aguilera is the award winning singer every student at Riley has been talking about since she made her appearance on Saturday, May 20.

The yearbook staff this year decided to bring a star to Riley for an 'Ultimate Yearbook Signing Event.'

Among the other stars they tried to reach were Michael Jordan, Mia, The Rock, 98 degrees, Joe Montana, and Mandy Moore.

The yearbook was able to get her to come "through special arrangements and a lot of networking," according to Mr. Robert Smith, head of planning this special yearbook event.

The night before she came to Riley she had a concert in Holland, Michigan. Smith arranged the short flight down to South Bend for the yearbook event. He also arranged for Aguilera and her entourage to fly to a concert gig that night in Omaha, Nebraska via Lear jet.

It started at 11 a.m. with performances by the Gospel Choir. About 800 people were packed in there at one point, according to Smith. During the event, various prizes were given away including assorted CDs, and copies of Christina's new video, 'I Turn To You.'

Also among the prizes were gift certificates for lunches and dinners at such places as Applebee's and T. G. I. Fridays.

Even though there weren't

SEE AGUILERA ON PAGE TWO

Block scheduling dispute, not over yet

Kaite Grembowicz

Viepoints Editor

LaSalle and Clay high schools have been granted their request for the Block 8 schedule. Students will have 4 classes every day and switch every other day. So, instead of having 6 classes in a semester, they'll have 8.

Riley, Adams, and Washington, have already changed to Block schedules.

Adams has been on Block 8 for only a year now, but principal, Cheryl Fleming, says everything's running smoothly.

Washington is in their fourth year of Block 8, and principal, Dr. Karyle Green, says she couldn't be happier with it.

Riley went to Block 4 last September, and the teachers and students here say that they're having a very easy time adjusting from a regular schedule of six classes a day.

So, it seems that adding LaSalle and Clay to the list would be the next logical step. But what happens to all the other high schools would also seem to be the next logical question.

The three high schools already on the Block programs have requested 13 new teachers for the upcoming school year due to retiring faculty and population increases, and have been told there

SEE BLOCK ON PAGE TWO



Contacts

Are street lenses safe?
See News page three.

Wrap-up

Find out how your favorite Riley team did this year.
See Sports page two.

Summer

Having trouble making summer plans?
See Centerspread.

Seniors

Check out senior survey results.
See Eye Candy.



A Look Down Memory Lane

Calvin remembers highlights of career

Chelsea Steele

Sports Editor

After seven years as South Bend Community School Corporation (SBSCS) superintendent, Dr. Virginia Calvin is in the final months of this phase of her career. She will be turning her position over to Joan Raymond at the conclusion of the '99-'00 school year. However, Dr. Calvin is pleased with all that she has accomplished.

"I have no regrets over anything I've done or accomplished. I just wish I could have given more time and energy to the job. I also wish that I'd been superintendent earlier, so that I'd had more time to accomplish things," reflected Calvin.

Calvin has established the SBCSC Education Foundation, Hamilton Alternative School, built school-community partnerships, improved school safety, and built three schools. Principal George McCullough appreciates Calvin's open mindedness towards innovative block scheduling and her involvement in promoting the JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp) program.

School Board President Richard Sheehan sees Calvin's building program and her ability to correct the financial deficit as Calvin's biggest accomplishments.

The highlight of Calvin's position as superintendent has always been visiting with students, and it's been evident to those who have watched her career.

"I think Dr. Calvin is truly concerned for students," said McCullough. "(Dr. Calvin) empa-



thizes with students in all walks of life," added Sheehan. Sheehan has been with Calvin at many meetings where he witnessed Calvin's kindness first hand. He recalls a time when she met with students who were preparing to make a second attempt to pass ISTEP.

"She was very sympathetic and empathized with their struggles to pass," said Sheehan.

McCullough and Sheehan agree that Calvin had a strong gift for leadership. Sheehan says that her ability to delegate was evident at board meetings as well as her day to day ability to conduct business with her coworkers. It is Calvin's fairness and leadership style that McCullough will miss the most.

While it seems that everyone is saying farewell to Calvin, she is not saying goodbye to anyone but her office.

"I will stay involved. I'm a citizen and a taxpayer. I will continue to follow the activities of the school corporation and express my opinion on occasion as a citizen and a taxpayer," stated Calvin.

Calvin has no concerns regarding the new superintendent and thinks she will be a terrific asset to the corporation. Meanwhile, she plans to tie up loose ends and make the transition as easy as possible. She is proud of what she's done and has accomplished a personal goal in being superintendent.

"I always wanted to be superintendent. It's a job I fought for, and one to which I aspired. It brought excitement and cheer to my heart that I was given the opportunity to lead the system into the 21st century and I did it."

Block

Continued from Page one

is a slim chance their requests will be granted.

But LaSalle and Clay have asked to be able to hire 12 teachers total for their new programs and have been given that privilege.

Many of the principals are quite upset with this decision. Not only because it leaves them out in the cold when it comes to some departments, but also because Washington and Riley had to start their Block programs with absolutely no extra teaching help, and LaSalle and Clay will be given 12 new teachers to work with.

Fleming is especially upset with this because she says there's just no room for some of her students.

"We have about 150 kids who at this time are not scheduled," she said. "They're going to have to go somewhere. I mean, I can't just turn them away."

Fleming said her biggest problem in faculty size is in the foreign language and math departments.

Washington, on the other hand, is having trouble scheduling kids for social studies classes because of lack of teachers.

"We have somewhere near 165 kids that need to be absorbed into some of these classes to graduate high school, and with an average of 30 kids in a class, that's a lot of teachers that we need," said Dr. Green.

"It's like getting your first credit card. You go out and want to buy something, you have no cash, so you just swipe the card. Then when the bill comes, you're \$2,000 over, and you have no idea how it happened."

-Dr. Fred Stump
Executive Director
of Support Services

And even though all three high school principals are very supportive of LaSalle and Clay's endeavor to implement the Block program, they're a bit worried about where this will leave their schools.

George McCullough, Riley principal, made a plea for more teachers along with many Riley faculty members at a school board meeting held on May 22.

Charlotte Totten, math teacher, was the only other faculty member to speak at the meeting, saying,

"We urge you [the board] to reconsider your decision on freezing additional faculty..."

She made the point that Riley has the largest student population out of all five high schools, and there will be an anticipated 200 more students next year.

McCullough stated that the only solutions to not having new teachers are negative.

"We would have to reschedule all students which would result in class overages and we would have to pay overage for current staff members," he said, "Or we would have to eliminate some programs and place those students in study hall, which would be a complete waste of time for all those students."

Another solution would be to hire more teachers in the fall, thus losing the opportunity to get the best candidates in the pool.

So, where does the S.B.C.S.C. plan to find the money to fund these new programs?

Executive Director of Support Services, Dr. Fred Stump's, initial comment was, "Out of the air."

Stump says what's happening is that the school board is basically spending money that they don't have.

"It's like getting your first credit card. You go out and want to buy something, you have no cash, so

you just swipe the card. Then when the bill comes, you're \$2,000 over, and you have no idea how it happened," he said.

Actually, the money for these new programs and new teachers is coming from the corporation's operating balance, which is a general finance account for all salaries, utilities, insurance, and curriculum material.

"The State Board of Education decides how much we get each year for spending, and since we're not

getting any additional funds, this is where the money has to come from," Stump commented.

The balance has been around \$7.3 million since December of last year, but Stump says by December of 2000, it will have dwindled all the way down

to \$3.5 million, and that doesn't include any of the new teachers' salaries which will add up to about \$200,000 a year.

"We can only afford 12 new teachers this year and the board decided that they should be awarded to LaSalle and Clay," he said. But how did Washington, Riley, and Adams all implement the Block programs and not take a huge chunk out of the budget?

"We hired no new staff for our program," Dr. Green said, "and we had to work with what we had."

Adams made a proposal to the board and clearly explained their needs for some extra funding, and the board agreed, but they also didn't get nine new teachers like Clay is getting. But John Harris, Clay principal, said the new teachers for his school are completely warranted.

"We have a curriculum review at the end of every year, and we get no more extra staff than that warranted by the proportional increase of our student body," he explained.

"We would have to reschedule all students which would result in class overages and we would have to pay overage for current staff members,"

-George McCullough
Principal

Aguilera

Continued from Page one

enough of these prizes to go around, no one left empty-handed. Pictures of Christina were copied and handed out to all the people in the gym.

When Christina arrived, the whole gym was a single mass of loud cheering. Christina walked up on the stage and placed herself on a stool. For the majority of the time that Christina was at Riley, she answered various questions about herself, her work, and her family and friends.

While Christina was answering questions, her new video was playing on three screens behind her. In addition to this, there was a slide show with 1,000 slides taken during the year.

Christina left after she was done with answering the questions, but before she did, she signed a few quick autographs to people who were lucky enough to be close to the stage.

There were some people who came just to see Christina not to buy a yearbook. However, the main focus of the event was for students to exchange autographs and meet new people, according to Smith.

Smith seemed happy about the turnout. "We had students and teachers who had never bought a yearbook come. We had people of all ages, from four year-olds to grandparents. We had a diverse spectrum of students, people of all races and ethnic groups," Smith said.

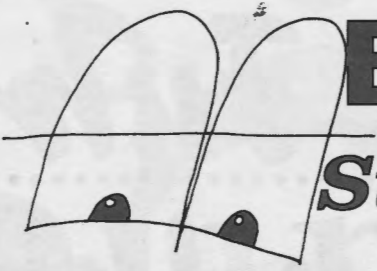
This is the first time Christina has made an appearance at an event at a high school, said Smith, "This was a spectacular event that celebrated one example of educational excellence at Riley and branched out into the community," he said.

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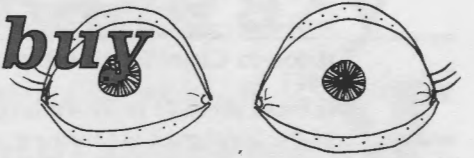
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Eyes at risk for teens

Street lenses dangerous to buy



Beth Marshall

Editor-in-Chief/Centerspread Editor

A teen can get colored contact lenses off the street and save a bundle. But the costs may be much higher in eye damage and in infections.

Eric Collins, Education to Careers Coordinator, exposed this dangerous phenomenon at Riley.

"I noticed the colored lenses on a student I work with," said Collins. "She had beautiful big brown eyes one day, and the next day she came in with green eyes."

"I was shocked, I couldn't understand why she would want to change the color of her eyes. Your eyes are the window to your soul, by changing your eye color, you're putting on a false front to everyone you meet."

Collins was even more shocked when the student told him she had purchased her green eyes off a man on the street. He started asking other students with colored contacts where they had gotten their lenses. As more and more students began giving him the same answer, he became more and more concerned.

According to Leslie White, and optician at Pearle Vision contact purchasers are required to pay for an eye exam and contact lens fitting which can cost anywhere from \$60-\$100. Add to that the cost of

lenses, about \$30 a pair, and it's apparent that a student can save hundreds of dollars by buying street lenses.

"I made the administration aware right away, because I felt people should know

"The risk of buying a device like a contact lens off the street is the same as the risk of using someone else's prescription medication."

**Craig Norman
F.C.L.S.A.**

about this," Collins said.

According to Craig Norman, F.C.L.S.A., and director of the Contact Lens Division at the South Bend Clinic's Department of Optometry, street lenses are more common than most people realize.

"This is a nation-wide problem," said Norman. "I hear about it from other eye care practitioners at a lot of conferences and meetings."

Norman says that the most common way for students to obtain street lenses is through their friends. Teens often buy multiple lenses and distribute them among their companions. That's not the only way students get them, however.

"A lot of people are buying them off the Internet, and then selling them," he said.

Sophomore, Richandra Blake, bought her light blue lenses from an unfamiliar street dealer.

"I heard about it from some friends who had bought their lenses from the same person," said Blake.

Senior, Nichole Marbley, purchased her \$20, gray and honey colored lenses from a family member.

"I'm not sure where she [the dealer] got them, but they came packaged," said Marbley.

Neither girl received an eye exam or fitting. "It's better for me to buy them off the street,

because I don't need prescription lenses," said Blake. "They're not prescription, so I don't see how they can harm my eyes."

That mentality, said Norman, is dangerous.

"Anyone interested in wearing contacts should see an eye care practitioner to determine what kind of fit is right for their eyes. Just because one size and shape of lens fits many people, doesn't mean that it will fit everyone," he said. "If contacts fit improperly, they can cause irritation."

Juniors, Erica Kramer and Kim Green experienced this first hand. Although they purchased their lenses from a licensed retailer and paid for an exam and fitting, the contacts irritated their eyes.

"First I had to try a disposable trial pair for one week, and then I went back for an appointment. They didn't fit right, so they had to give me yearly wear contacts. Those don't irritate my eyes," said Green.

"I wouldn't buy contacts off the street because my eyes are so sensitive. I don't know where they've been of if they're right for me. I wouldn't want to waste \$40 on an eye infection," she said.

Another concern is that teens like Blake and Marbley are misusing their contacts. The majority of colored lenses are two-week disposable lenses. This means they should be worn for two weeks, then discarded.

The lenses should be cleaned with a special contact lens solution and kept in sterile cases when they're not being worn. Many street lens purchasers, however, are keeping and wearing theirs long past the two week limit. They're not cleaning them correctly, either, according to Norman.

"I only wear mine about two times a week, but I use them until they rip or I decide that I want a different color," said Marbley. "I don't really clean them. When they get dry, I wet them with contact solution or Visine."

Norman warns against this.

JUST THE FACTS, ABOUT COLORED LENSES

How can you get them?

Colored lenses are available at most optical stores, or from your eye care professional. You don't need a doctor's prescription in order to buy the lenses.

How much do they cost?

The lenses themselves cost about \$39.95 for a package of 6 (that's 3 pairs.) Most dealers, however, require you to pay for an eye exam and lens fitting, which usually costs anywhere from \$60-\$100.

How do they change the color of your eyes?

Thanks to advanced colored contact technology, fashion lenses can now change even the darkest eyes into baby blues.

They accomplish this transformation by using a ring-shaped patch of opaque tint that's incorporated into the lens during the manufacturing process. When the contact is placed into the eye, the ring covers the wearer's iris (the colored portion of the eye), disguising his or her true eye color.

"Keeping the contacts longer than two weeks, is dangerous. The lenses build up deposits, which increases the chance of infection and irritation," he said. "Even though the teens are using solutions, they haven't been instructed on the correct way to clean their lenses."

The more deposits, the more dangerous the contacts.

"The biggest danger is eye infection. Some infections result in ulcers which cause permanent vision damage, and scars when they heal," said Norman. "The risk of buying a device like a contact lens off the street is the same as the risk of using someone else's prescription medication."

Collins was not only concerned about the welfare of the students purchasing the lenses, he was also concerned about the safety of the entire student body.

"The girls told me they were buying their lenses from someone outside the school. I was frightened about a possible security breach. It sounded like an unauthorized person was coming around and the building after school," he said.

He advised Brian Kendall, School Resource Officer, of his concern. Kendall investigated the situation, but uncovered no trespassers.

"I checked into it, but I didn't find anything," he said.

As to the legality of selling contact lenses off the street, Kendall doesn't believe the practice is illegal.

"If the seller has the proper permits, I don't think it would be a problem," he said.

Captain Ron Wilson of the South Bend Police Department hasn't experienced any complaints about street contacts or dealers either.

"I wasn't aware that it was a problem in South Bend," he said. "Still, I'd be careful. Buying them off the street, you don't know what you're getting, where they came from, or where they've been. It's a big risk to take."

WOULD YOU BUY CONTACT LENSES OFF THE STREET?

Austin Currier

Junior



"No, I wouldn't know where they have been. They could have been used for the past ten years."

Anyah Williams

Sophomore



"Yes, they are cheaper and you still get the same product, but that's taking a risk."

Kyle Kosanovich

Freshman



"No, they are dirty and I don't know where they've been."

Working for a living

Beth Marshall

Editor-in-Chief/Centerspread Editor

Your bank account is dwindling, school is ending, and the local mall is taunting you with irresistibly cute, summer clothes. It's time to get a summer job.

According to Eric Collins, an *Education to Careers Coordinator*, who advises students on employment issues, you should start your summer job search by completing a career interest survey. The surveys can be administered by school your counselor, and the results will help you identify the jobs that you're most suited for.

The next step is finding an opening in your preferred field. According to veteran job seekers, this is easier said than done.

One can always look in the classified ads, or survey their friends, but these often aren't the most effective methods.

Collins suggests using a new computer program called *Pathfinder* to find a job opening. *Pathfinder* is a computer program that was developed by Workforce Development Services, a local agency that handles career counseling. All a student has to do is type in his or her name and career preference, and the program will produce a list of available jobs, as well as job shadowing and co-op opportunities.

Just because you locate a job that you're interested in, doesn't mean you're going to get it. Your first must fill out an application, and complete an interview. This, says Collins, is where many job possibilities turn to job fantasies.

"Many students go to interviews dressed inappropriately for someone seeking employment. You have to remember that you're trying to sell yourself to a

potential employer," said Collins.

He suggests dressing up for an interview, even if the job you're seeking is in a fast food restaurant. Girls should wear a pant or skirt suit or a dress. Boys should wear a suit, or nice pants and a sports jacket.

The best case scenario, is that you'll receive the job that you applied and interviewed for. If you're under 18, however, you must obtain a work permit from the state of Indiana. This gives you legal permission to

work and provides you with the employment guidelines for minors. According to Collins, you must apply for a new permit for each job you obtain.

The permits can be obtained through Collins, or, if you change jobs mid summer, through the education building downtown. (For more details see the accompanying fact box.)

"Don't think of a summer job as fun," said Collins. "Your going to be paid for providing a service,

"Don't think of a summer job as fun. You're going to be paid for providing a service, that's not necessarily fun."

-Eric Collins
Education to Careers Coordinator

that's not necessarily fun."

Your summer job may not be a bowl of cherries all the time, but there are some who occasionally find their jobs simply unbearable.

Junior Sara Rogers is on her third job in two years. "I just couldn't get along with my managers," said Rogers.

Collins has advice for this situation as well. "Don't just quit, give your employer the time to hire someone else. Two weeks notice is standard," he said.

Still, if you're strong enough to survive, there are some benefits to working.

"You can get a wonderful experience if you're open to learning. You can learn about yourself and what it takes to make it in the real world," said Collins.

If that's not enough incentive, there's always that annoying paycheck to look forward to. ♦

Fun in the

HOW...

to obtain a work permit

- Step 1** Obtain a green "Intent to Employ" card from Mr. Collins in the guidance office.
- Step 2** Take the card to your prospective employer and have him or her fill it out.
- Step 3** Take the card home and have your parent or guardian sign it. Your card will not be valid without a parent's signature.
- Step 4** Bring the card back to Mr. Collins, or place it in the envelope marked "Work Permits" on the wall outside his third floor office.
- Step 5** Pick up your permit from Mr. Collins or from the envelope outside his office at the end of the school day.

Facts

- You must have a new work permit for each job you receive.
- If you quit or you're fired, your employer will send a "Termination Notice" to the state. This will make your permit invalid.
- If you need a new permit during the summer, you can get one from the city building downtown.

Restricted

Do you know where you stand when it comes to labor laws?

Ages 14 & 15, restricted to:

- 3 hours per school day
- 8 hours per non-school day
- 18 hours per school week
- 40 hours per non-school week
- No work before 7 a.m. or after 7 p.m., except 9 p.m. from June 1 through Labor Day

Age 16 restricted to:

- 8 hours per school day
- 9 hours per non-school day*
- 30 hours per school week
- 48 hours per non-school week
- No work before 6 a.m.
- No work past 10 p.m. on school nights
- No work past midnight on non-school nights*
- No more than 6 working nights per week

Age 17 restricted to:

- 8 hours per school day
- 9 hours per non-school day*
- 30 hours per school week
- 40 hours per school week*
- 48 hours per non-school week*
- No work before 6 a.m.
- No work past 10 p.m. (11:30 p.m.)* on school nights
- No more than 6 working days per week

*Requires written permission of parents on file with employer

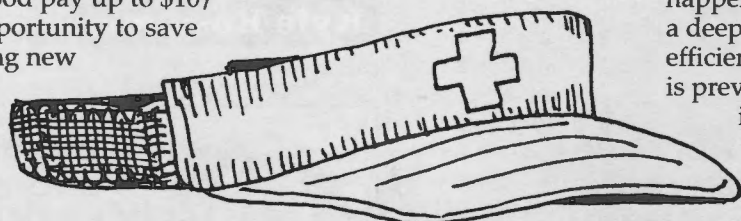
Dive right in: teens get tan, earn money all at once

Salima Oudghiri

News Editor

Many teens are looking for a job this summer.

Life guarding is one good job to look into. The job has many advantages including good pay up to \$10/hour, the opportunity to save a life, meeting new people, and even getting a good tan.



Jacob Stanley, junior, has been a lifeguard for three years. "I lifeguard at Riley and at the Twyckenham Pool," he said. Kari Meersman, sophomore, will start her first year as a lifeguard where she plans to work at the *Mishawaka Parks Department Pools*.

In order to be a certified lifeguard, *lifeguarding* and *CPR* classes are required. "I took a lifeguarding class at Riley through the *Red Cross* and a *CPR* class at the *YMCA*," said Meersman. "I took the spring session class."

The class cost Meersman \$10 for books and registration.

"In the class they teach you the different ways to enter the water, ways to hold the victim, signals to use, and all the correct procedures to do once you have a victim," said

Stanley.

Steve Smith, lifeguard teacher, said one of the most important things he teaches his students is how to remain calm when they face dangerous situations.

"When something bad happens, you just have to take a deep breath and react to it efficiently," he said. "The key is prevention. Once a student is prepared for something they are able to prevent anything dangerous from happening," he said.

According to Smith, students review this enough in class until the student grasps the process and is comfortable with any situation they may face.

According to Stanley, in order to pass the life

guarding class the student must be able to pass a skills test, where you actually save a victim.

Stanley suggests for anyone considering being a lifeguard, to be sure they can swim decently and to take the class. "Anyone can be a lifeguard. As long as you can swim 500 yards nonstop, which is easy, then you can be one," said Stanley.

Smith said, "The *YMCA* can also train deaf people to become lifeguards."

After a person receives his or her certification, many jobs lay ahead for them. Cameron Stouder, senior, works as a lifeguard at the *South Bend Country Club*. "In my job, I have to make sure the pool and pool house are clean, lifeguard, and take care of

minor injuries."

Stanley said, "One time I had to backboard someone. I asked for more help and there were a lot of guards. I just tried to remember what to do; I wasn't scared just a little nervous."

Shane Johnson, junior, also faced a dangerous situation. "While I was not on duty, I helped to assist a backboarding diving accident at Washington High School," he said.

Stouder said that any certified lifeguard can apply for a job at any country club or private or public pool. The director of *South Bend Country Club* said, "I look for certification, a good personality. These are some things that make up a good lifeguard." ♦



Camp counselor remembers summer

Ashley Coker

Senior Staff Reporter

Something about *Camp Ray Bird* captivates me. Maybe it's the natural beauty- the beautiful lake, the surrounding woods, the hills and flowers, and the clean air. Maybe the excitement surrounds me; there is no greater thrill than walking through camp and seeing a hundred kids jumping up and down, laughing and singing. I enjoy watching the campers get excited for campfire, while they try to both swat mosquitos away and apply bug spray at the same time. I love camp songs, camp games, unexpected storms, visiting the infirmary, and riding the "Welcome to Camp Ray Bird Hayride."

Most of all, I love spending time with the approximately 600 campers from the inner-city of Michiana. I love looking into their lives, getting to know them; I love seeing them change.

Working at *Camp Ray Bird* for the past two summers, I have been able to have a part in making the difference in kids' lives. Most of the children that come to CRB come from at-risk homes; situations of severe poverty, uncleanliness, and abuse are far from uncommon. Our job as summer staff is to nurture the children for the one week they are in our care. We try to give them the time of their lives, while showing them love that many of the campers do not receive at home. At a glance, this setup is perfect; we take the children out of their world for a week and put them in an environment where they are encouraged, instructed, and given a week they will never forget.

At CRB, we tend to cram a whole week's worth of activities into a single day. It tends to get pretty hectic sometimes, but after a whole summer of action packed days, it becomes apparent that all the chaos was well worth the while. My official job title was "Office Assistant" both summers at camp, but my actual job description included much more

than answering phones and making copies. In fact, I no longer view my time at *Camp Ray Bird* as a summer job. There aren't too many summer jobs that start out with "Flag"-the first activity of the day-in the morning, which takes place in "the bowl"-the circular shaped parking lot. Not very many jobs include a "horizontal hour"-nap time, and I don't recall acquiring the nickname "Flea Lady" at any other job. At CRB "Thursday night" has a subtext "Carnival Night," and the loved and famous super-hero "Sergeant Scripture" is never called by his real first name. Each special nickname and super-hero makes ministering at camp a little bit more enjoyable and memorable.

There are, of course, snags around every corner. Sibling rivalry, physical fighting, the occasional scrape or broken arm, illness, and heat exhaustion present numerous daily challenges to camp staff. Other everyday problems arise because of unruly campers or homesickness. The most major problems that occur are emotional. Sometimes a week is not enough time for campers to release all their emotional baggage. Although they may trust their counselors, five days with these kids can't change their sometimes heartbreaking home situation. So, every Friday we as camp staff are faced with

saying goodbye to another session of children we have grown to love as our own. Saying goodbye is especially difficult after witnessing a transformation.

It is sometimes easy to get caught up in mosquitos, heat, discipline problems, and exhaustion that the "big picture," is overlooked. But one night I was filling in for a counselor who was ill. The girls began to tell me about all their dysfunctional home lives, and their difficult and unique situations.

Each girl suddenly became more than a name I had memorized. That week I watched a transformation with the girls in that cabin called "Silver Spur." I saw them put aside their old attitude problems and home lives, and start working together as a team. They trusted each other and they trusted us. It was such a blessing to work with such a special group of girls. After becoming close though, it was especially difficult to say goodbye and let those girls slowly drift right back to where they were brought up. That week my encouragement came from knowing what amazing transformations had occurred in each one of their lives.

Although emotionally wearing, being summer camp staff at CRB has so many advantages and benefits. While I was busy ministering to the campers, they were ministering to me. While we were preoccupied with making sure every camper knew all the words to the campfire song "Flea," the campers were showing me and my fellow staffers just what camp is all about.



COUSLORS/Coker, right, and her co-counselor, Jessi Benninghoff, pose for a final picture in the Camp Ray Bird parking lot.

You drive me crazy

Students get behind the wheel in summer driving courses

Katie Grembowicz

Viewpoints Editor

We get excited about summer vacation for a lot of reasons. We're out of school, the beaches are open, we don't have to worry about getting up early. But there's something else for some teenagers that gets them excited: drivers' education.

Without it, we teenagers have to wait six months after our birthdays to get a license, so most of us opt to take it.

There are two driving schools in the area, *Frick's* and *Drive-Rite*, that offer classes not only during the summer, but through the school year as well.

This summer, *Frick's* offers three different sessions, July 24-August 4; July 31-August 11; and August 7-August 18. The first and third sessions are in the morning from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., and the second session is at night from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The total cost of the classes is \$475 with a down payment of \$252 and the remainder needing to be paid on the first day of class.

Lauren Dietz, sophomore, said, "I really liked *Frick's*. I didn't even check anywhere else because both my brother and sister went there. My instructor was really cool, and I really liked being able to schedule my own hours. It works well because if you have something planned already, you don't have to choose between that and driving lessons."

Drive-Rite has two sessions, July 7-July 28 and July 13-August 9. Their price is \$450, and \$250 is due to enroll and the balance must be paid by the end of the class.

Drive-Rite didn't go over so well with one student.

"They were completely disorganized and they couldn't schedule my hours when I needed them. We also had to pay extra money for stuff like manuals, and there was a fine for being late or having to miss a class."

Both driving schools have pick-up and drop-off for people who live inside St. Joseph County, but only for the actual six driving hours, which must be scheduled separately from the educational classes.

If you're looking for something a little cheaper and less time consuming, the *South Bend Community School Corporation* is offering driving courses as well over the summer. There are two sessions to choose from and two different schools to go to: *LaSalle* and *Adams High School*, one starting Monday, June 12, and another starting Wednesday, July 5, and they start as early in the morning as 6:30 a.m.

It's about \$100 less than the driving schools at a cost of \$350, but the full amount is due at signing, and the only place to register is downtown at the *Education Building*, and the education and driving hours are together. There are two hours of class and then two hours of driving every day.

Aaron Stokes, sophomore, said taking driving lessons out of school was definitely decent.

"You don't have to go in on weekends and drive, and it doesn't take up as much of your time," he said.

So, whether you want the flexibility of scheduling your own driving hours, or just want to get it over with at one time, make sure to take something if you want that license at 16 and one day.

Colin Cybulski
-Sophomore

ELYSE Explains



By
Elyse
Chudzynski

Buzzer ensures safety and adds security

In today's world we have to worry about safety no matter where we are. In our cars we have special air bags that supposedly prevent injury, and car alarms that sometimes seem more of a nuisance than a source of protection. In our homes we have security systems and guard dogs that keep burglars away.

And in our school we have a very intricate system that protects us as well as it can. Safety is imperative in a high school, particularly since Columbine and the other tragic school shootings. Sadly, they are becoming more common every day, and as they become more frequent, security must become stronger.

This year Riley's security has been especially efficient. Riley has more technology and staff concerned with security than ever before. Each student has an official badge that says he/she belongs. There are more than 40 security cameras monitoring the hallways and entrance. There is a full staff of security guards who are on the job the entire school day. And the parking lot has had lights and cameras installed as well.

The administration has done its best to ensure our safety. The most recent upgrade in security is the buzzer installed at the front door.

The buzzer was installed at the end of April, but it was always a part of the plan, according to Anthony Byrd, assistant principal. There were many decisions made before the building was built. The buzzer was one of them. However, due to the construction and modifications made throughout the year, certain plans were delayed.

The buzzer is connected to the main office in which whomever is present communicates with the person outside. In a few weeks a security camera will also be installed. The purpose of the camera is to confirm the identity of the person trying to enter the building.

The buzzer will be run most of the time by Sue Sellenburg and/or Esther Robinson, main office secretaries. When a person buzzes, the secretaries, or whoever is present, asks who it is and checks the camera to see who is outside. After the identification, the person is asked to report to the main office. The remote lock control is activated and the student is let into the building. Once they are inside they will show an ID in the office and if there are any problems, security is contacted.

"Any kids who try to be funny we contact the security immediately," said Robinson.

As of right now the camera is not installed yet. The secretaries are basically just practicing with the system. The camera is needed for the buzzer procedure to work. It is easy, without the camera, to enter the building with a group of people and only have one go into the office.

Without the camera the secretaries have no idea who is out there. But soon this system will be stable. This setup will make it easier for the security to control the situation and harder for the degenerate to cause any problems. The buzzer/camera system is an innovative tool that many schools are beginning to use.

"It's something new that's happening all over the country," said Robinson, "We're not the only school with this system."

Pressure to look good hurts

Katie Grambowicz
Viewpoints Editor

Every year, my mom and I sit down to watch the Oscars, and we kind of rate how everybody looks. When I see women with their necklines too low and practically no backs to their dresses, I feel like all the things women have worked for in the past has gone to waste.

We're still a society which feels sexuality must be flaunted to make it. And it may be all an act, or just an image. But in the eyes of a small girl, they think that's the way women are supposed to dress. Teenage magazines are all

"Little girls don't know about things like airbrushes and liposuction. They start to feel like if they don't look like those girls, they're not good enough."

about telling girls that looks aren't everything and there has to be something inside. But after that article, you turn the page, and it's "Amazing Bathing Suits to Catch His Eye" or "Hollywood Hair" or "Ways to Flirt That Will Really get you Noticed."

Everything is so glamorized, so glossy. Little girls don't know about things like airbrushes and liposuction.

They start to feel like if they don't look like those girls, they're not good enough.

I love my little cousin a lot, and I worry sometimes that she won't feel adequate, or I worry that she'll read these magazines and see these celebrities and want to be that glamorous.

But what she doesn't realize is that it's all an act. Just an image. That people like Britney Spears and all these other young women



go home from their performances and worry just like everyone else.

All my cousin sees is the pretty side of things. She sees the skimpy clothes, the lots of make-up, and the success for those who wear these things. We can't help it, but these girls are our role models.

These girls don't get to eat whatever they want, and they work out in their free time.

They don't get to go to movies or on dates, and they have to have bodyguards everywhere they go. It's not all fun and games to be famous or even popular.

I don't want her to have to worry about getting breast im-

"Everything is so glamorized, so glossy. Little girls don't know about things like airbrushes and liposuction. They start to feel like if they don't look like those girls, they're not good enough."

plants or face lifts or tummy tucks. I don't want her to have a false sense of reality.

I don't want her to think that she's not supposed to have faults or blemishes.

WHAT WE

Think Variety in temperature perturbs

Hot! Cold! Hot! Cold! With \$4 million worth of new school, it's hard to believe that air conditioning officials are having a difficult time keeping the school at a consistent, comfortable temperature.

From what we've experienced so far, the air conditioning in this building has only two settings, high and off. Teachers and students complain either of hypothermia or heat exhaustion.

Although each classroom has a thermostat, teachers are unable to control the temperatures of their individual rooms. If a teacher wants to alter the temperature, he or she must first find a janitor, a task which is consistently difficult to accomplish.



The new building was proposed, in part, to improve learning conditions. No one can pay attention or teach under sweltering heat, or freezing cold. Upperclassmen know this first hand, due to their tenure in the old building.

Either teachers should be taught how to control their own thermostats, or janitors should be made easily accessible throughout the school day.

It is our opinion that the administration would see improved student behavior and decreased dress code violations if the temperature were kept at a consistent 72 degrees, year round.

Clothing police inconsistent

Missy Tulchinsky
Eye Candy Editor

Well girls, you can put away your tank tops and halters... And you guys can hold off on the sagging pants, because the Riley High School dress code is in full effect.

Here's the deal: Now that the weather is nicer, most girls are showing a little more skin. O.K., I know in the original handbook the rules for appropriate dress are very well stated.

But let's admit it: as the year went on, people stopped paying attention and it was rare to see someone put on the spot for 'inappropriate dress.' So why does everyone have a problem now?

"The clothes have definitely gotten skimpier, and the code needs to always be in place," said Elizabeth Horban, dean of students.

This new (actually old) policy was refreshed in everyone's memory about two weeks ago in the bulletin from Horban.

"Shorts and skirts are to be mid-thigh length or longer..."

"No tank tops and spaghetti straps. They can be worn with a shirt underneath. This includes sundresses..."

We all know the rest. The sundress part is applying to more people that ever. But it's an easy one to fix. Just slip on a cardigan or over shirt.

But let's face it, no one wants to put a shirt on under their tank top. What's the point?

And not all tank tops are skmpy. Just because a shirt doesn't have sleeves doesn't mean that the person wearing it is

trying to sell her body.

If someone wants to come to school in a mini skirt, that's her decision. However, this school is freezing, so it wouldn't be the best idea. But people have been wearing unusual attire with few consequences all year long.

I know that this is a learning environment,



not a fashion show. And here at Riley we're not supposed to do anything to draw attention to ourselves or away from our learning.

But how can the administration expect us to know just what we can and can't wear, when the rules have been inconsistently enforced all year long?

If someone wears the same outfit throughout the year, and then all of a sudden, gets kicked out of

class, for wearing it, that's not fair. It's not our fault that not all of the policies in our school are not consistently enforced!

I'm not saying the principals need to really crack down on 'dress code violators.' I also am not saying that we should be able to come to school in a bathing suit. But I do think it would be nice if rules were consistently enforced.

LETTERS TO THE

Editor



'A' Lunch too large

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my opinion on overcrowded lunches. As I walk into "A" lunch everyday, I notice a very limited amount of seats compared to as many students there are in lunch. Everyday I sit in there and see as many as eight or nine people at a round table, sharing seats just so they can find a place to fit in.

I don't understand why they don't have sufficient seats to fulfill the needs of the students at lunch. If they are going to have closed lunches, there should at least be more than enough seats to allow everyone to have their own.

My suggestion to solve this problem is that they should order more seats or balance out the people in the lunches. If this is done, the cafeteria will be less crowded. People will have enough room to eat, and everyone would get their own chairs.

Sincerely,

Kynan O'Hara



Guarding the door

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you about a problem I have recently experienced. I was in lunch, and a friend and I had to use the restroom.

As soon as we got to the lunchroom door, a lunch aide, who was guarding the door, would not let anyone out. When we told him we had to use the restroom, he rudely replied that we could go ahead, but not to take too long.

Then a second-floor security guard yelled at us. We again politely told him where we were going to, and he mumbled something that both of us couldn't hear. We thought he just told us to hurry. But then he yelled at us and told us to go 'one at a time.'

I told my friend she could go and that I would wait. I felt like I was in prison. When my friend came back, she told me there was a bunch of girls in the bathroom. This problem could simply be solved if the guards and aides would enforce the rule to everyone.

Sincerely,

Christine Martin
Christine Martin

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Students speak out on: New Riley

New Riley keeps old tradition

👍 The new Riley is better because there's so much more technology, and the floors and walls are actually clean. We should be happy to graduate from this school, not sad.



Katie Grembowicz
Viewpoints Editor

Last year, when I heard I would have to spend the rest of my high school career in a totally new and different school, I was kind of mad.

I mean, my grandmother had graduated from the old Riley, and my aunts and uncles had all been rivals of the school.

And when I actually got here, it was even worse. Things weren't finished, construction was going on right in the middle of classes, there was no auditorium. I thought I was going to die trying to find my way around all the hallways.

But then something changed. I guess the new Riley just started to grow on me. I feel like it's actually home now, instead of just a big foreign place I come to learn in.

And the facilities are so much better! We have two huge gyms and really nice weight rooms. The pool is Olympic-sized and can be used for things other than just swim meets.

We have a ton of computers with all new software so we can do anything from writing English papers to doing math homework on them.

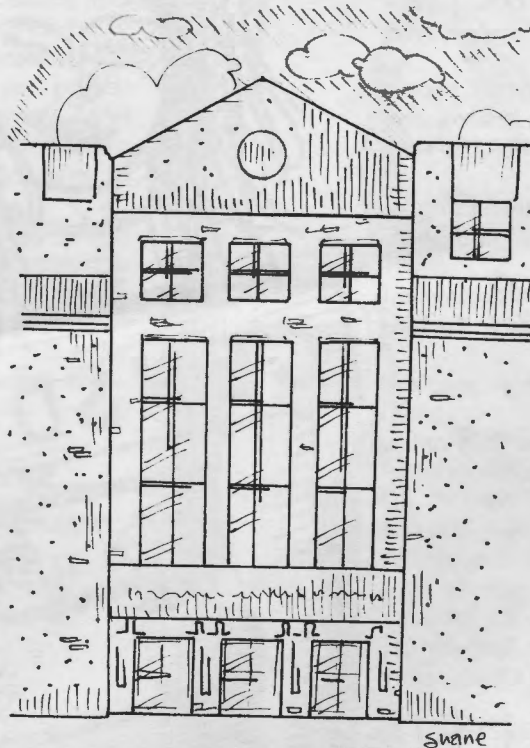
The classrooms are carpeted, so there's no scrapes or old, moldy gum on the floors. We have state-of-the-art photo labs and all kinds of cool stuff in the art rooms.

And when the auditorium is done, it'll have awesome acoustics and the stage will be huge!

Yes, there are a lot of things that still have to be done. And the construction drills are still kind of an-

noying, but it's a small price to pay to say you graduated from one of the best and most technologically sound schools in the country.

We should be happy with our new school. Just because we left the old school behind, doesn't

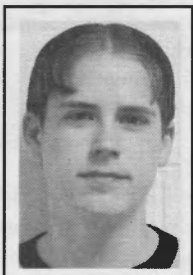


mean we also left behind our tradition and our pride.

It doesn't mean we left behind our memories or our friends. We didn't leave behind our sports trophies or our plaques. And the new school doesn't mean we're starting over. It just means we're going from where we left off. We're keeping the tradition alive. ♦

There's no place like home

👎 The new Riley just has no school spirit. It seems like such a cold place, and I wish I could've graduated from a school that I felt comfortable in. It's just so hard and not inviting at all.



Andrew Monnier
Staff Writer

My freshman year at the Old Riley was wonderful. I never imagined that I could ever have so much fun at a high school. Now this year, well, it is not so great. Back at the Old Riley, there wasn't a feeling of always watching what you were doing in case you accidentally did something wrong and got in trouble for it. You never had to be worried that you had the wrong classroom, because they all had numbers.

The classrooms each had distinct characteristics that helped you feel more comfortable. You knew which floorboard would creak, which seat in the class would slightly wobble, which windows would stick, or whether the teacher would always have trouble pulling down the map.

As you walked into the Old Riley, it didn't matter what grade you were in. You would walk past those trophy cases in the hall and tell that there were people who once went to the school who worked so hard for all those trophies.

There were pictures of old track meets, pep ral-

lies, of faculty, past seniors of the school, and of students having a good time. There were plaques dedicated to all those who worked hard to earn those awards. It gave you a feeling of pride that you went to Riley. The pictures of all those people doing something made you want to do something, to be put up there with them, to be remembered.

As for the way the school looks, every day when I get dropped off at school, I look over and see a four story brown box. It is devoid of all emotion, it has no character, no feeling of comfort or being at home. I know that many people, majority of which would probably be adults, would say that a school isn't about the comfort of the students. I can understand it, looking from their perspective.

The chairs are exactly the same in every classroom, and the New Riley has that same feeling as when you go into a room of people all dressed in suits and ties, when you are wearing jeans and a T-shirt. You may have felt fine when you were at the Old Riley, but at the New Riley, everything is new, and clean, and expensive. It seems so intimidating, too good in fact, for student comfort.

As I walk into the New Riley, I see no plaques, no trophies. It becomes so depressing to think about it. There is one hall where there are trophies, but not nearly what there were last year. I see sports trophies, but no trophies or plaques from any clubs.

So, I think that the Old Riley beats the New Riley any day. The Old Riley had a history behind it, and character. The New Riley just seems to be a cold empty place that stu-

dents have to go into day in and day out. ♦

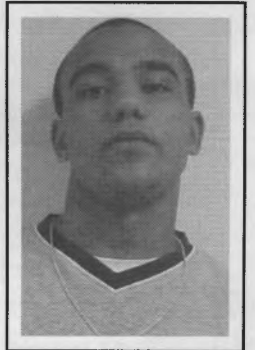
WHAT YOU

Think

ABOUT RILEY

Derek Madison

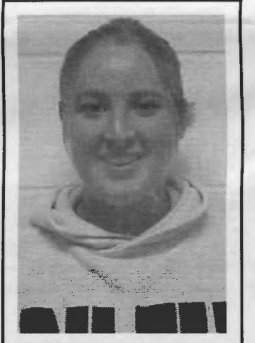
Senior



"I liked the old Riley a lot better. There weren't as many stairs, and you knew where everything was. This place is just so hard to figure out, and it doesn't really feel like home. It seems so new and foreign, kind of cold."

Elizabeth Jewitt

Sophomore



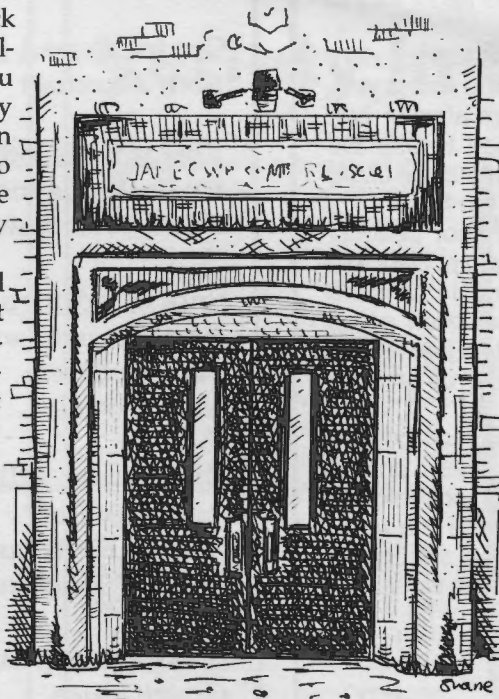
"The new school is so much nicer than the old one. There's more technology and everything is clean. There's nothing on the floors or the walls, and I just like it so much better."

Allison Jesswein

Freshman



"Even though I never went there, I was at the old Riley a lot for my brother, and I like it so much better than this school. It just seemed so much more homey, and it had so much more spirit. Like here, there's hardly anything up on the walls, and the trophy case is all the way in the back of the school."



Struggling for success

Nate Howell
Sports Editor

The girls' tennis team had a rough season this year. Their record is 2-8. "We don't focus or pull together," said sophomore Katie Meyers. Meyers has been playing since she was a freshman.

The team was led by Coach Karon Kirkland. He has been a part of the program for many years here at Riley. "He's a nice guy, and an interesting

coach," said senior Jessica Hudak.

Although the team has been struggling this year they have high spirits and they are confident that they are better than last year's squad.

"This year is a little more organized as a team, but we do let people get away with everything," said Meyers. Meyers said that the team horses around at practices sometimes.

The team was filled with more young players this year which contributes to inexperience.

There are many points that the team needs to work on for next season.

"We played like a dysfunctional family," said Meyers.

"Our goals were to improve by season's end, come together as a team and focus on all our games."

-Karon Kirkland
Coach

"We need to work on our listening skills," said Whitney Nickle, freshman.

Although this team had been struggling, it didn't let them get down on themselves.

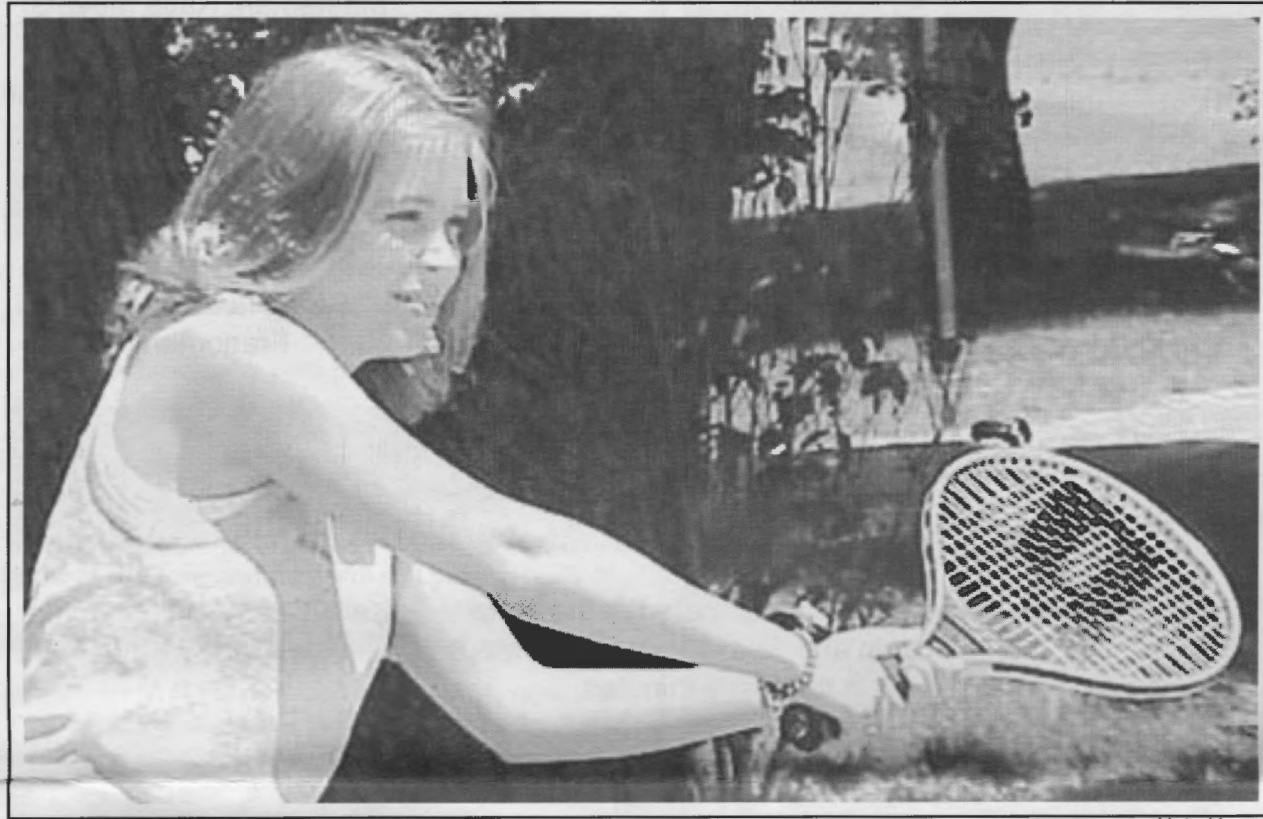
"Our goals were to improve by season's end, come together as a team and focus on all our games," said Kirkland. "We wanted to win more matches," said Nickle.

With winning being the number one goal at the beginning of the season, the team was hoping to do well in sectionals. The team was defeated by Clay this year in the first round of sectionals.

One of the team captains this year was Jessica Hudak. She believes that if the team works hard that they will do O.K. This was Jessica's fourth year playing in organized competition. She played doubles and said the team was better than last year's, but could have been a lot better.

"We've improved from the beginning of the season, I am very proud of the girls," said Kirkland. But the regular season brought a lot of difficult matches this year. Goshen, Elkhart Central, and Penn were the team's hardest teams to beat according to Myers.

The team is going to be practicing off and on this summer. Coach Karon will be busy with the boy's team but the girls practice by themselves. The players on the girls' team were disappointed with sectionals but are looking forward to next season.



Nate Howell

ALL-AMERICAN GIRL: Lindsey Hab, sophomore, practices her backhand as she prepares for sectionals.

Golf team pushes onward

Nate Howell
Sports Editor

The golf team is in full swing right now and not having a very stellar season. "We're underachieving at the moment but the year is not over yet," said Coach Chris Jurkaites.

"We aren't doing as well as we could, but a 5-3 record is decent," said junior K.C. Wiseman.

Jurkaites has been playing organized golf since he was in high school.

"Coach Jurkaites can lift a lot of weight off the players, he is a real team player," said Wiseman. He then went on to play golf in college for an additional two years. Now he plays for leisure.

The team is led by two juniors this season. "K.C. Wiseman and Mike Przygoda are our leaders," explained

Jurkaites. They were both on the golf team last year. The rest of the team is also contributing to the team.

"There are a handful of players who are hardworking and those are the players that improve the most," said Jurkaites.

"To advance to state, your four and five players have to step up for you. All good teams are solid one to three, but the dominant teams are strong one to five."

-Chris Jurkaites
Coach

The team is looking stronger than last year's so far. "This year's team is a bit more deep as far as talent goes," said Jurkaites. Every year there are a couple of teams to beat in the

conference that are really good. This year those teams are Clay and Marian.

The team is always working on its game and there are key components to making a championship squad.

"Our course management and short game need to improve if we are going to make it out of sectionals," said Jurkaites.

While the team needs some work, Jurkaites said that the team's strongest point is

that they have a lot of confidence.

"We are constantly working on our short game," said Wiseman. Jurkaites said the team is really sure of their game out there but they need to play like they think.

The team is struggling with placement of their shots and they don't seem to be very strong once they reach the green, according to Jurkaites.

Coach Jurkaites and the team practices every day

after school at Erskine Golf Course. They work on every aspect of the game while they are out there.

The reason the team is doing so well off the tee is the team's power.

"Some of the guys have weight training and that is improving their game off of the tee," said Jurkaites.

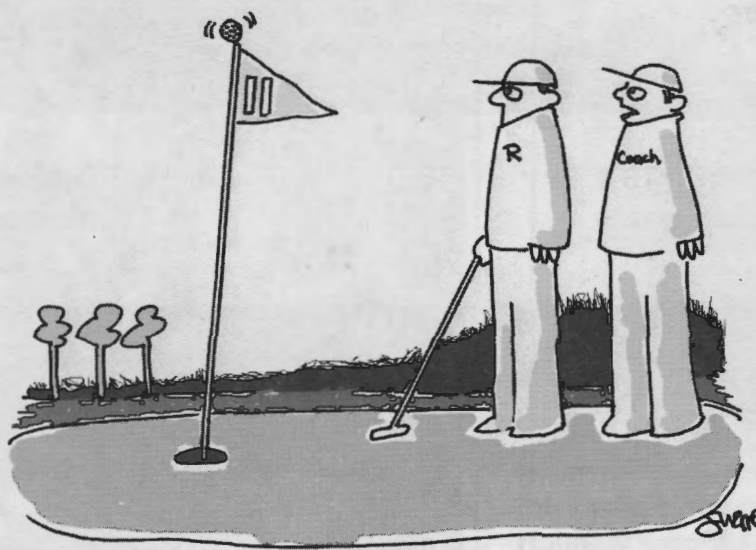
The team is looking ahead to sectionals. "Our team's goal is to make it to the state competition," said Wiseman.

That, however, is a lofty goal. To advance to state, according to Jurkaites, the entire team will have to focus and step up to green.

"To advance to state, your four and five players have to step up for you," he said. "All good teams are solid one to three, but the dominant teams are strong one to five," he said.









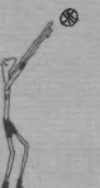





"Over the course of a season, your four or five players can make the difference between a 10-7 record or a 14-13 record," said Jurkaites.

The golfers are working hard on their game. Jurkaites thinks they have a chance to go far in this year's tournament.



Well, Wiseman.... NOW what?

The final score: stats on Riley sports

Sport		Final record	NIC record	Season highlights	Upcoming stars
Boys' cross country		11-4	6-2	City champion team, conference runners-up, competed at semi-state, Ben Allen competed at state	Ben Allen, Chris Delgado, Josh Drake, Steve McPherson, Matt Padburg, Harley Zielinski
Girls' cross country		7-8	2-6	Laura Horvath and Andrea Gartee ran at regionals	Lisa Cowper, Andrea Gartee, Laura Horvath, Kari Meersman, Katie Meyers, Molly Ramsdell
Football		5-5	4-2	Moved the ball 200 yards during one possession to beat Elkhart Central	Micah Horall, Brent Lootens, Roman Woods
Girls' golf		6-5	N/A	City champions, Sarah Lusk placed second in the city	Sarah Lusk, Ashley Fragomeni
Boys' soccer		5-10	4-3	Beating Adams in sectionals	Jeff Gates, Jean Gomez, Chris Noonan
Girls' soccer		10-8	2-4	Tied Marain (who competed at the state championship and was mostly undefeated) 2-2 in the last 5 minutes	Kelly Czarnecki, Gretchen Lemmer, Missy King, Mary Sisti
Boys' tennis		9-11	3-3	Sectional runner-up	David Gustafson, Eric Moore, Bryan Proven
Volleyball		28-7	4-4	City champions	Cassandra Koldyke, Laura Obenchain, Vanessa Voreis
Boys' Basketball		15-6	6-3	Niles Holiday Tournament Champions, second place in NIC, Ron Dokes signed with Ball State, Dokes made first team all conference, Dokes and Martell Taylor members of all conference team	Phillip Cusic, Brian Foster, Mike Green, Brandon Patton, Reggie Swanson, Martell Taylor, Mark Wilson, Mark Woodmore
Girls' Basketball		15-6	5-3	Crystal Norman was named to first team NIC, Suntana Granderson was named to second team NIC	Lisa Cowper, Suntana Granderson, Crystal Norman
Hockey		39-13-3	N/A	Dramatic turn around from last season, second in Turkey Tournament	Brandon Rigby, Bobby Ullery
Boys' swimming		13-1	8-0	Sectional champions, city champions, conference champions	Kevin Blue, Louis and Peter Cavadini, Shane Johnson
Girls' swimming		10-4	5-1	City champions, NIC runners-up	Beth Flesher, Ashley House, Maureen Warter
Wrestling		8-11	3-5	Bryan Proven was sectional runner-up and qualified for regionals, Aaron Bogunia was sectional and regional runner-up and qualified for semi-state	Mike Markham, Bryan Proven, Brandon Sandefur, Brad Weston

Softball ends season 13-12

Christine Martin
Staff Writer

The softball team has just ended their regular season games with an overall record of 13-12.

The team hopes to sharpen their skills and stay strong for sectionals, which start on May 30. Riley will go to battle with Clay for the first round. Clay beat the Wildcats 5-2 during the regular season, but the girls have since improved and are ready to take them on again, according to coach, Bobi Megyese.

All of their games have been hard-fought, but there

have been times when the team has lost focus and has lost the game in a single inning full of mental mistakes says Megyese.

"We should definitely be ahead of where we are...We're

"We have played all the teams we will face in sectionals, and we now know what we need to do to win."

-Rachelle Chapman,
Senior

better than how we've been playing, we just need better focus," said senior captain, Kristi Andert.

Every game is a step closer to perfection for the Cats. There have been some key changes in the starting line-up that have made the difference between the beginning of the season and the finale. Players say the team has enough depth that anyone can enter the game at any time and they will still persevere.

After a whole season of ups and downs, the team feels they are ready for sectionals.

"Our main focus is the tournament now. We have confidence in our line-up and in each other now, with a bit more experience. I think we will go far," said senior captain, Adria Phillips.

The players also feel that their knowledge of the game will help them along with their additional experience.

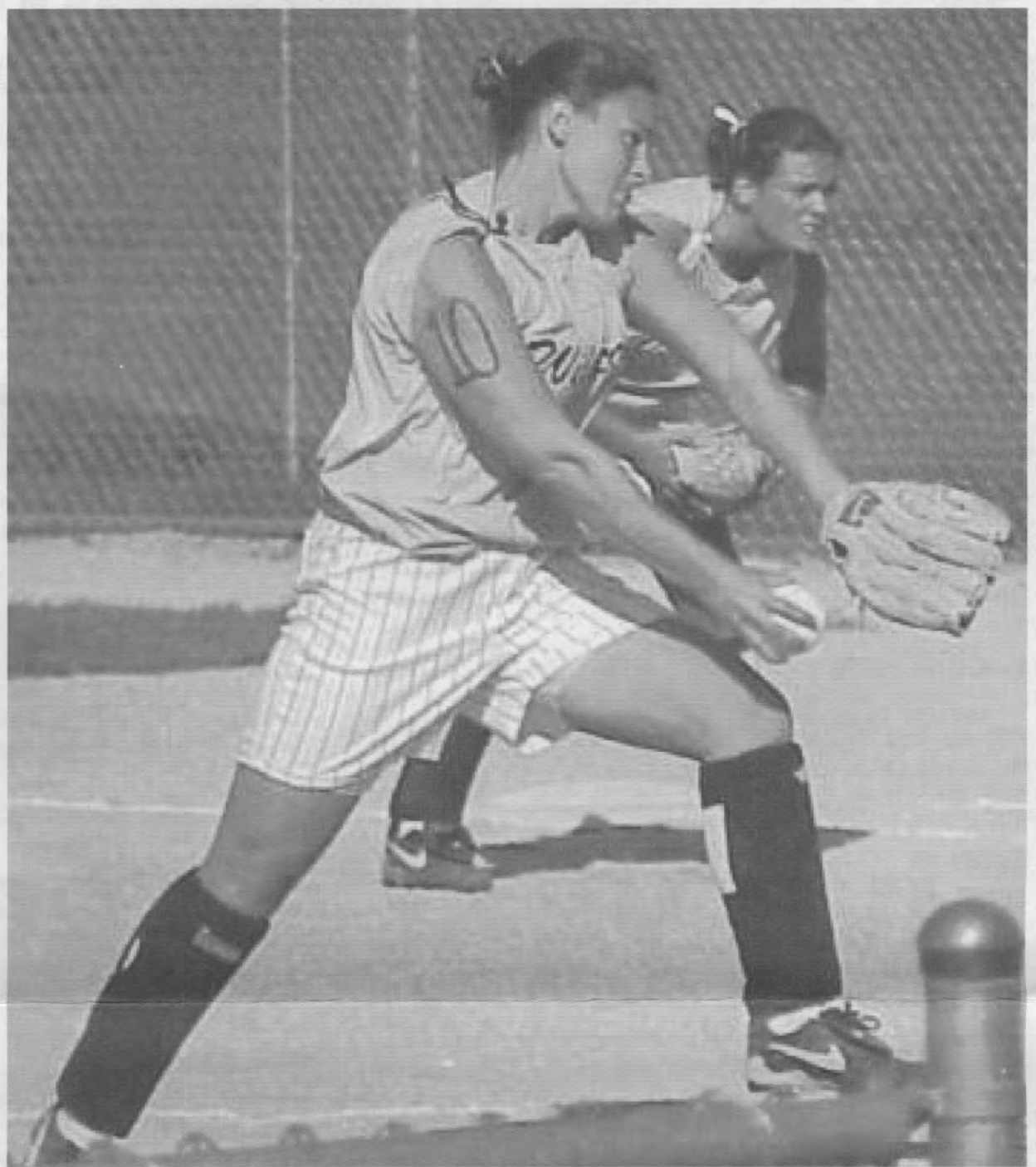
Senior, Rachelle Chapman, commented, "We have played all the teams we will face in sectionals, and we now know what we need to do to win. Most importantly, we need to shake the nerves and play without any mental errors."

Although Riley finished 3-5 in the Northern Indiana Conference, they are confident about how they will perform when sectionals rolls around. Having four of the nine starting players making the All-Conference team also gives them additional confidence.

Senior, Beth Lesar made 1st team as a right fielder; Phillips made 2nd team as a first baseman; senior, Lyndsey Frushour, made Honorable Mention as a second baseman; and sophomore, Kristen Preniczy, made Honorable Mention as a pitcher.

This summer, the team will be participating in their annual *St. Joe Valley High School League* games as well as in their traveling team tournaments. This team will be made up of mostly Riley players as well as some

girls from other area high schools. It will be coached by Mike Megyese, Riley head coach. A couple of tournaments they will be included in are: The Midwest Elite Tournament and an ASA Tournament that will be held in Ohio.



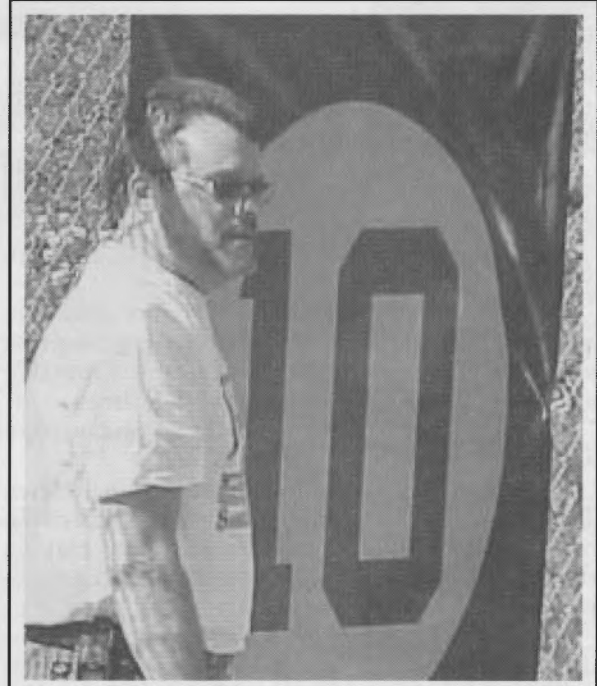
Beth Marshall

WE WANT A PITCHER: Sophomore pitcher, Kristen Preniczy, winds up as she prepares to throw another strike. Senior, Adria Phillips, stands awaiting the play.

Remembering Emily



Beth Marshall



Beth Marshall

HOLLISTER JERSEY/ The 1999 softball team returned to memorialize and retire Emily Hollister's softball number 10 at the May 23 game against Marian. The team painted the number 10 on their arms in her memory during the game.

Tracking stars for tomorrow

Ashley Coker
Staff Writer

Although the girls' track team struggled with lack of motivation and inconsistency this season, they were able to come out with a decent record, ending with the city track meet last night, in which the team placed sixth.

Positive attitudes increased throughout the season, according to coach Nancy Simon.

"They definitely became more positive as the season progressed, instead of getting worn out or frustrated," said Simons. "That's definitely what we needed."

One of coach Simon's goals was for every team member to improve their time. This goal was achieved, according to Simon. Freshman Deborah Gates took 25 seconds off her time in the 800 meter run.

"I finally learned how to give it my all instead of holding back speed," said Gates.

Michaela Paluszewski, freshman high jumper for Riley, cleared 4'8", and she just began working on the high jump toward the middle of the



Miranda Porte

KEEP IN RUNNING/ Yikia Lott (left) and Bessie Swanson (right) practice on a rainy day in the gym.

season. Sophomore Anyah Williams is the team's top discus thrower, and she began throwing at the start of this season.

Other team members such as Nicole Redding, Michaela Warnsley, and Heather Smith, also improved their times as the season progressed.

"I really think our whole

team improved a lot throughout the season. That's what makes track a blast," said Gates.

As the weather and times started to improve, the Lady Cats knew that state was in their reach, so they continued to train hard.

"It was tough to get the girls motivated to practice since they had to get on a bus every day. But they pulled through

it and did a good job, and everyone is very proud of them for that," said Simon.

Next year the team will have their own facility, and the team is really looking forward to this positive change in the program.

This season practices were held at Edison Middle School. With their own facility, players will be able to become comfortable with their own "track haven," and consistency will become the new focus.

Inconsistency was one of the battles that the girls track team fought this season. Some team mates fought illnesses, some a lack of motivation, and the whole team was faced with lack of focus and dedication, according to Simon.

The team finished the season with only 26 girls, fewer than was expected. Among the 26 were only two seniors, captains Heather Smith and Camille Johnson.

"We had a very young team this year, and that can be good too. They have all started to really get to know each other, and they are building trust," said Simon.

Simon believes that some of the underclassmen "rising stars" are freshmen Nicole Redding, Deborah Gates, Michaela Warnsley, and sophomores Shalina Wright, Keisha Sanders, and Michaela Paluszewski. She is looking forward to working with her talented athletes once again next year.

"I know we have a talented team, we just need to get the girls focused and dedicated to track."

-Nancy Simon
Coach

counting on having more girls come out next year," said Simon. "The girls always say 'now or never' before they run, but I'm not going to say 'never.' I'm going to say 'later.' There are going to be a lot of surprises next year, and we have to think of it as 'tomorrow,'" said Simon.

Five year streak ends

Ashley Coker
Staff Writer

"Whatever we have to do to take the seniors down, that's what we are going to do," said junior powder puff Emily Gersey just hours before the sacred powder puff game.

The day of the game, the general babble throughout the school resounded in favor of the senior girls.

Sophomore Lindsey Hab said, "Seniors have the advantage because it's their last year, so they'll try their hardest."

Others were confident in the victory of the seniors too. They said that juniors wasted their time in practice, and the seniors were smarter and tougher.

"Resistance is futile," said senior player Camille Johnson.

"Seniors are going to kill them," said referee Jim Berger.

Only a few had confidence in the juniors from the start. Sophomore Alicia Hess is one of them. She said, "Juniors are going to win. The sophomores already beat the seniors this year in the tug-of-war, so juniors should have no problem."

Despite discrepancies about who was going to win, the one thing each powder puff player had in common was excitement.

Senior player Stacey Horvath said, "It's going to be intense. I'm so excited."

Viewed as the underdog, the junior girls were ready to fight hard. Chrissy Biscupski scored the first touchdown of the game in the first quarter. From that point on, the junior girls dominated the game.

Kelly Czarnecki scored in the second quarter, making the score 12-0 at half time.

According to junior spectator Beth Flesher, half-time marked the turning point of the spirit of the seniors. "After half-time, the seniors started playing dirty. The refs tried to rig it, but it didn't work," she said.

Senior Liz Schreiber scored the first touchdown for the seniors. After picking up a two-point conversion, the score was 12-8 with only 8:18 to go in the game. Apparently, eight minutes was not enough time for the seniors to catch up.

The final score stood at 12-8. The junior girls beat the senior girls for the first time in at least five years, according to coordinator Judy Hums.

"The highlight of the whole game was when the clock ran out, the buzzer sounded, and we knew

we had won the game," said Gersey.

Hums is happy with the turnout. "I think it went well. It was a close game; the girls took it very seriously. I was very happy with the participation from the players and spectators," said Hums. Sophomore

Becky Hedman is already looking forward to the game next year. "The juniors may have done well this year, but we're going to slaughter them next year," she said.



Ashley Coker

CHECKING PLAYS/ Junior team members watch the plays while hoping for a victory. Juniors ended up defeating seniors 12-8.