

the Review



Absence Policy: See News page 3

Markavitch: See Centerspread page 4-5 (left)

Lunch Lines: See Viewpoints page 6

James Whitcomb Riley High School • 1902 South Fellows Street • South Bend, IN 46614 • Volume 33 Issue 1

War front reaches Riley

Dion Winston/Nick Henry
Staff Writer / News Editor

Candis Duke, class of 2001, left with her *US Army Infantry* unit on a 6400 mile journey to Iraq. Duke was in the *Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps* program and graduated as an *E-2 Private First Class*.

"When Candis first came to the *ROTC* program, I didn't think she was going to make it, but she got herself together and left as a young lady; she was focused, and she knew what she wanted in life," said Master Sergeant Roy Mullins, sponsor.

Duke has now been in the United States Army for two years and has achieved the rank of *E-4 Specialist / Corporal*. As an automated logistical specialist, Duke is presently stationed in Fort Stewart, Georgia with unit *92 Alpha 10*.

Her *MOS*, or job, consists mainly of warehouse duty, and involves multitasking, according to Duke. She is responsible for outfitting all the soldiers and tanks with the proper weapons, ammunition, and supplies.

According to Duke, the purpose of military action is not to destroy the opposition, but to find a common ground with them and to work from there. To this end, most units have been training and ready to go.

President George W. Bush has already deployed "some of the biggest tanks we have," said Duke. "You don't send two of our largest tanks over if you don't mean to start anything," said Duke about what she thinks will be happening in Iraq.

"No [I'm not scared], but I want to know how long I'll be there," said Duke. She is not particularly pleased about leaving, because it "messes up my plans for college." Her post-secondary education is a concern of hers, as the deployment could last anywhere from a couple of months to a year.

Sidonia Hankins-Muwakkil, Duke's mother who works at Riley as an aide, expresses little concern about any of the obstacles her daughter may face. Duke has had a strong upbringing and is very bright, strong, determined and committed, according to her mother. Also, her mother feels that, combined with her conditioning and training with the military, she is well equipped to deal with the obstacles she will encounter and cannot help but to be an asset to whichever unit she serves in.

"We're very proud of her," Hankins-Muwakkil said.

When Duke leaves, she will be taking her field gear, M-16, and her good luck coin. The good luck coin is

an achievement award given to her by a Sergeant Major and a Colonel in Oklahoma City for her skillful running of a warehouse. The coin is very important to her because of the sheer amount of work she put into the warehouse and its organization. Those who are given a good luck coin are expected to carry it at all times.

After two years of training she's ready to put her skills to work. *Basic training* is where she learned her survival skills and how tough she was. *Basic training* is nine weeks long, with Sundays off. "The only thing you did on Sunday was to go to whatever religious thing you do, or clean the barracks with toothbrushes. I joined every religious group I could think of so I wouldn't have to go scrub the barracks," said Duke with a smile.

To graduate from *Basic* she had to go through the three phases. The 'red' phase was the phase where all the physical training was done. The 'white' phase was the weapons phase, in which Duke is a qualified expert with rifles and grenades. Finally she moved into the 'blue' phase, which consisted of classes predominantly about the military.

Once Duke passed the 'blue' phase, she graduated from *Basic*. She recalled that it made her very proud to have completed something so rigorous.

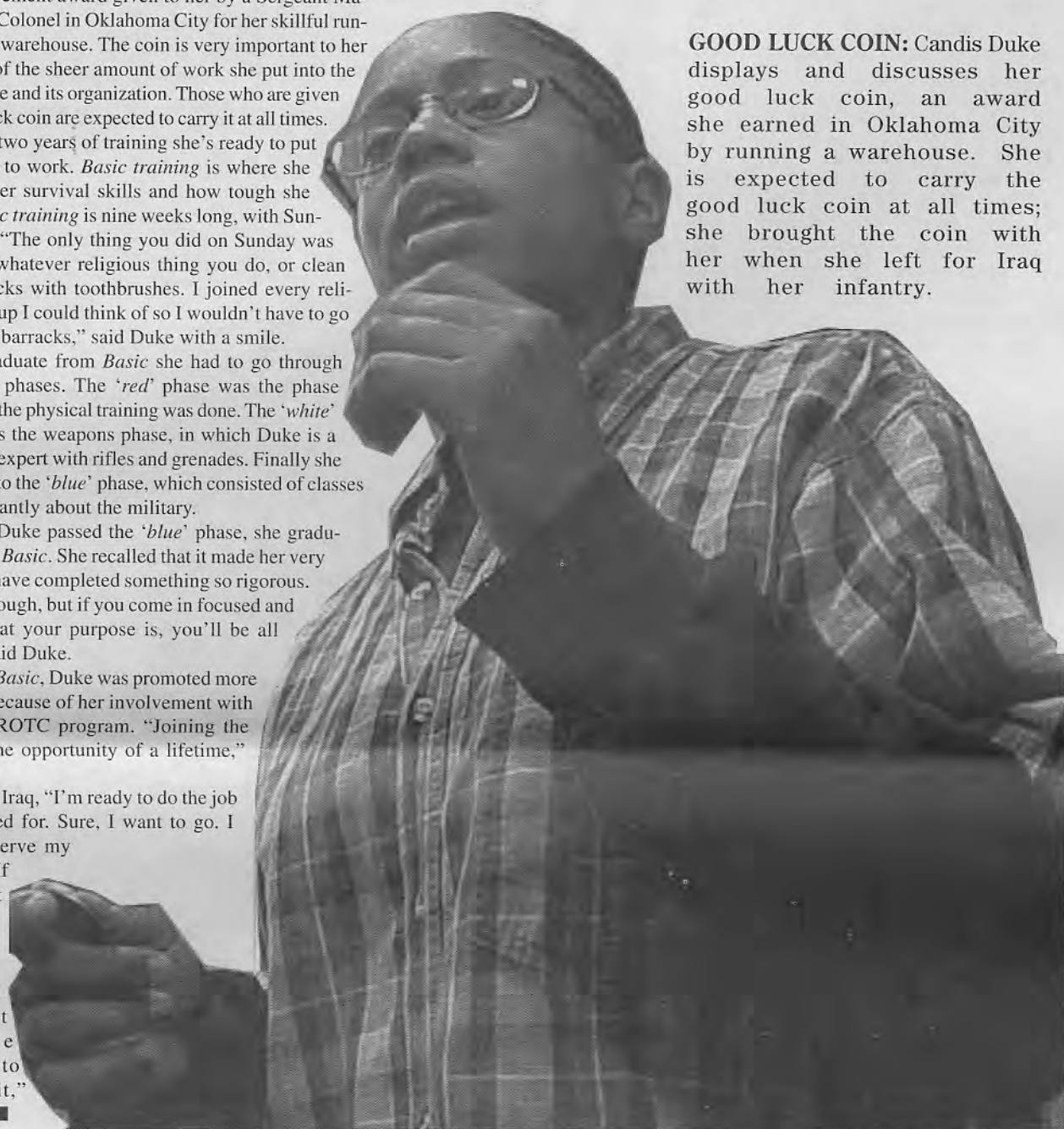
"It's tough, but if you come in focused and know what your purpose is, you'll be all right," said Duke.

After *Basic*, Duke was promoted more quickly because of her involvement with Riley's *JROTC* program. "Joining the army is the opportunity of a lifetime," she said.

As for Iraq, "I'm ready to do the job I'm trained for. Sure, I want to go. I want to serve my country. If

I didn't believe in my job and this country, I wouldn't have trained to defend it," she said. ■

GOOD LUCK COIN: Candis Duke displays and discusses her good luck coin, an award she earned in Oklahoma City by running a warehouse. She is expected to carry the good luck coin at all times; she brought the coin with her when she left for Iraq with her infantry.



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

Car break-ins raise students' security concerns

SHATTERED: The back window of junior Samantha Harper's car was damaged when a thief broke into it. A recent string of car vandalisms similar to this one has worried many students. Harper had a cell phone and a cup of change stolen from the vehicle. Her CDs and other belongings were untouched.



Christen Scogins, Staff Writer

Christen Scogins
Staff Writer

How safe are our vehicles in the parking lot?

Recently juniors Samantha Harper, Sara Schaefer, Corey Stokes, and senior Chris Ashbaugh, walked out to their cars in the student parking lot to find their cars had been broken into and vandalized. Curtis Szucs, junior, discovered the same fate the next day.

Schaefer had CDs, a pair of *Oakley sunglasses*, and a check stub in her *Jeep Cherokee* stolen. These items totaled about \$200 in value. The perpetrators had broken into her front driver-side

window and from there, gained access to her vehicle.

Harper's car was also broken into on the driver's side, but only through the small back window. The criminals had stolen her cell phone and a cup of change. Stokes' car was broken into, but nothing was stolen.

Chris Ashbaugh had CDs and a set of speakers stolen.

Officer Brian Kendall, a security guard appointed to work at Riley through the *South Bend Police Department*, said that the students informed him of the break-ins. He also spoke to the victims. The cameras on the parking lot had picked up a red hatchback car roaming

■ See Break-ins: on page two

News Briefs

We're Out!

◆ The October issue of the *Review* is finally out! We apologize for the delay. We are a new staff under new leadership, and we are all learning our roles in making a successful publication. We will strive to finish future issues in a more timely manner.

Kauss Resigns

◆ John H. B. Kauss, drama teacher, has resigned his position as director of this upcoming spring's play *Up the Down Staircase*. Kauss will remain involved in the production as an advisor. A replacement for Kauss is being sought.

Hall Passes are O.K.

◆ Riley administrators have created a new rule involving hall passes. When a student arrives late to class with a hall pass, they are to be admitted to class without grief. This means that students with hall passes are also not to be marked tardy.

Blood Drive

◆ A blood drive was held in the wrestling room on Monday, November 4. For participating, students received Mardi Gras beads and a free t-shirt. Donors had to be 17 or older and at least 110 pounds.



Brian Johnson, Staff Artist

Review claims a second Hoosier Star

Amanda Sommers

Staff Writer

From covering locker searches to Satanism, the *Review* has been bringing you the news for 76 years. The staff has traveled to New York and has won national awards.

They've covered everything that concerns the student body and have gotten both sides of the story. And over the last 17 years, they have proven there is no such thing as high school journalism.

"All journalists are professionals." Said Marcia Kovas, adviser. "We are held to the same standards of liability, responsibility, coverage, and ethics as any professional organization."

"The *Review* is of the highest quality and they have a good advisor," said George McCullough, previous principal at Riley who has worked with Kovas for two decades. "It is one of the top newspapers in the nation and they cover events efficiently."

The *Review* is more than just your average newspaper. Just last year they went to New York to receive their first ever Silver Crown award (awarded by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association) which is given to the top 20 newspapers in the country. And recently the *Review* attended the Indiana High School Press Association Convention to receive their third Hoosier Star award, which is the state championship in high school journalism. This is the first time they have won this award two years in a row.

The Hoosier Star is awarded to the top newspapers in the state by the Indiana High School Press Association. "Clearly the *Review* is one of the better papers in the state," said Dennis Cripe, director of the IHSPA.

When you have the one of the best newspapers in the state, there's room to brag. "We have a lot of prestige," said Andy Kirksey, senior and editor-in-chief.

Awards may be great, but are nothing if you don't learn anything from them, according to Cripe. So when the paper comes back from being judged, it has a booklet with ideas and suggestions for your paper. "Our focus is to teach, not just hand out awards," said Cripe.

Kovas shares these packets with her class at the beginning of the year. From there they develop an 'action plan' for the year. "This year we are focusing on improving graphics, theme packaging, and making the editing tighter," said Kovas.

Kovas teaches publications for advanced students, which is a two-year course for the more experienced student; and journalism, a one-year course for beginners. "This class takes hard work and dedication," said Shawn Welcome, who is a sophomore in journalism.

"Having these classes allows me to guide and teach the basics to my students. I couldn't get deep if this was just a club or group. Plus, you deserve a grade for the

work you put into the *Review*," said Kovas. "They learn to write, edit, design, take photos, and handle people."

The staff does all the aspects of production themselves, except the actual printing. They write all their stories, take all their own pictures, do their own art, sell the ads, and design their own pages. "We try to get as close to perfection as possible," Kovas said.

The *Review* students have high hopes for the newspaper this year. "I want to win a national award and become the best editor in the state," said Kirksey. They plan to publish six issues this year of the 24-page paper. Many of the students in Kovas' classes believe they will go on to have careers in journalism.

Elyse Chudzynski, last year's editor-in-chief, worked on the *Review* staff through all four years of high school. She is now a freshman at Ball State studying graphic design. "Working on the *Review* definitely influenced

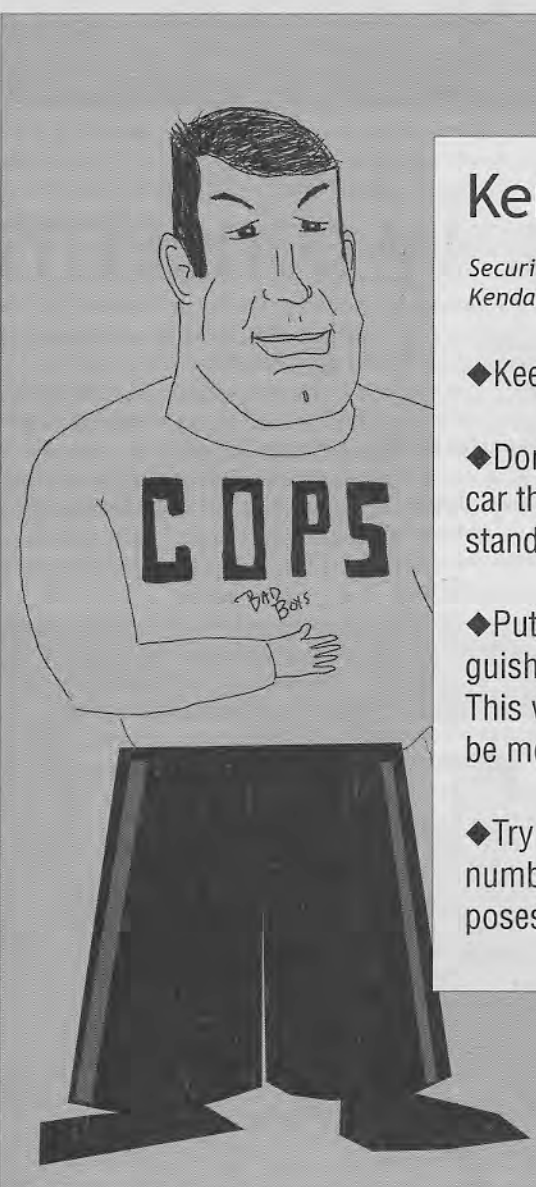
my career choice. I had no idea I would ever be studying this," Chudzynski said.

Welcome also plans on becoming a journalist because he enjoys writing, he has high hopes for this year. "I would like to get published in the *Review*, improve my writing skills, and get an 'A+'," Welcome said.

Ashley Coker, last year's in-depth editor, is also studying communication studies/public speaking at Ball State. She worked for three years on the *Review* staff. She said that working on the *Review* staff influenced her career choice too and that it taught her communication skills.

Brandy Purnell, a sophomore, would also like to become a journalist because she loves to write. Her goal for this year is to write something people will eventually read. She says this to anyone who wants to take journalism, "Just do it, it's fun." ■

DEADLINE: Kyle Hudak, Shaun Martz, Molly Shook, Sarah Michalos, and John Finn stay after school as their deadline draws near. The editors use this time to lay out pages, and writers sometimes come in to finish stories. Much hard work is necessary in order to produce a publication.



Kendall Says...

Security tips provided by Brian Kendall, security officer

- ◆ Keep your doors locked.
- ◆ Don't do anything to your car that makes it obvious or stand out.
- ◆ Put some type of distinguishing mark on all property. This way, stolen property will be more easily recovered.
- ◆ Try to remember the serial numbers of any of your possessions.

to be sent to the victims' insurance companies.

Some students questioned why the officers did not dust for fingerprints. The officers responded that dusting for finger-

■ Break-ins: (Continued from page 1)

through the lot. After school Kendall and two other uniformed officers were called to the scene where Stokes and Harper discovered the vandalism done to their cars. One of the officers on the scene said that there was not much they could do. It was up to the victims to call the police station and file reports. The reports are

prints would ruin the car or pick up too many prints. It is hard to identify which prints were the students'.

Corporal William Scogins, from the police department of Converse, Texas, disagreed to the procedures used.

"If they really wanted to get prints from the car, they could have. It would make the cars a little dirty, but it could have been done. To process the crime scene, they could have dusted the interior and exterior of the vehicle to get a latent print. If they were able to collect a latent print as evidence, and if they developed a suspect later, they would have definitive proof [of the crime]," said Scogins.

Another suggestion for capturing the culprits would be to convince the school board to buy better cameras on the school premises. Kendall agreed, but believed that that undertaking would probably be unsuccessful. The corporation is facing financial difficulties and does not have the money for more cameras. "I am doing my darndest to make this a safe place, but I can't do it alone," said Markavitch. He also said that if the perpetrators are found and caught he will prosecute all the way and give justice to those people whose cars were broken into.

He will prosecute, but will let the police handle the crime. They can issue a more complete punishment than he can.

Kendall and the other security officers have begun to watch the cameras more

closely and patrol the parking lot more often. One morning they saw the red hatchback which looked like the car they saw on the cameras.

Kendall and the other security guard watched as the four suspects got out of their car and started looking around in the student parking lot. Kendall drove to the students' parking lot. As he headed to the parking lot, he was radioed with the actions caught on camera. As he approached the car, the suspects tried to get away. Kendall caught them before they could escape.

After they were caught, Kendall went through their car and discovered that the possessions that were stolen had matched the possessions in their car. There were four suspects in all. They were all students from John Adams High School.

Corporal Scogins said, "If the police officers would have taken the time to dust the cars to get a latent finger print, they might have been able to get a print that could have linked to the suspects to the scene of the crime. The suspects could have been charged with burglary, which is a tougher sentence."

All four students are being charged with trespassing and the driver was also charged with possession of stolen property.

Kendall says that he was able to collect over 50 percent of the stolen property because of distinguishing marks on the property. ■

New policy calls for cooperation

Sarah Michalos
Sports Editor

With this year's new attendance policy, students can have their parents call in when they're absent to excuse them. This new policy was designed to keep things simple and help students keep their unexcused absences down.

"This is the way it's supposed to be," Stan Markavitch, principal, said. The State of Indiana rule says that an absence is excused if a parent calls in within 24 hours of the absence.

There will be a separate number for parents to call, and they will need to state their child's name, school ID number, and their reason for being absent. If the absence qualifies as excused, an E will be entered for 'excused' on the computer.

"Some schools require a note, but high school students are more responsible than that," Markavitch added.

However, are high school students responsible enough not to take advantage of this rule? "I would be naïve to say that I don't believe students will call in for their friends," Markavitch stated. "I believe it will happen, but I don't expect a large amount of students calling in," he added.

Students have a different opinion. "Of course students will take advantage of this rule," Adam Taylor, junior, said. Katie McConnell, junior, agrees. "Students will definitely call in for their friends, and what's why we need a form of verifications," McConnell said.

According to Markavitch, there will be a form of verification, and a punishment for students who take advantage of this policy.

For the verification, students who are absent will receive a call at home along with a recording stating 'Do you know that your child was not in school today?....'

Markavitch has reasoning behind this recording. "It's so that I know that your

parent knows that you're not in school," he said.

As for the punishment, if it is found that your parent wasn't the one who called in, the absence will be treated as a truancy. "Those who do it and are caught will be dealt with. It's fraud," Markavitch said.

The administration is enforcing a strict policy on tardies and unexcused absences. In each class, your first and second tardies are counted as half of an unexcused absence. Your third tardy and beyond are counted as a whole unexcused absence.

When you pass the second unexcused absence mark, a call will be made to your parents and you will be in 'no credit status'. With this new policy, many students will rely on credit redemption, which allows students to stay after school to make up their absences.

However, the administration wanted to eliminate credit redemption. "We wanted to discontinue the credit redemption program, but it doesn't seem to be possible," Markavitch stated.

This year credit redemption will still be offered, but only for the last three weeks of each semester. Some students think that credit redemption isn't needed.

"I don't think that credit redemption really had any point in the first place," Taylor said. "Skipping days of school then sleeping for an hour to make up for it..." he added.

Last school year McConnell went on a trip to Italy. "I still had to go to credit redemption, because the

sences were unexcused," she said.

McConnell also missed a number of days due to illness and had to attend credit redemption. This year, in-school suspension, out-of school suspension, and field trips do not count for excused absences.

With the new policy, a simple phone call from home excuses students from school due to sickness, appointments, and family matters.

What this new policy requires to work is cooperation. "We need the cooperation of kids, parents, and teachers," Markavitch said. He also believes that this new policy is setting up a system to protect those who protect themselves.

The students who haven't passed ISTEP and/or have many unexcused absences will be most affected by this new policy. "In order to get a waiver, a student's attendance rate must be 95 percent or higher," Markavitch said. Without having unexcused absences waived, students can't graduate. Students also need to pass the ISTEP to graduate.

Overall, most students and administrators feel that this policy is a good change. "I feel that it is an excellent policy, as long as the student body does not abuse it," McConnell said.

Markavitch has a similar opinion. "If it gets to the point where the cooperation isn't there, we'll have to make some drastic changes," he said. ■



Tardies spell doom for students on the run

Molly Shook
Co-Editor-in-Chief

This year, don't be late to class. Tardies are still excusable with a pass from a teacher. Unexcused tardies, however, can accumulate into unexcused absences.

A student's first two unexcused tardies will equal one unexcused absence. Every unexcused absence after the first two will count as another unexcused absence.

And two unexcused absences is all it takes for a student to be put on 'no-credit' status in a class. This year, however, absences can be excused with a phone call from a parent (see details in story above).

Students can have an unlimited number of excused absences. Formerly, students could have only five absences before they were put on 'no-credit' status.

"If absences are excused by parents, students will not be held to five absences. There's no need for waivers anymore," explained Elizabeth Horban, assistant principal.

Though Stan Markavitch, principal, expressed a desire to eliminate credit redemption at the beginning of the year, credit redemption is still available in the cafeteria for students with too many unexcused absences.

Credit redemption is an after-school session that allows students to make up their absences. Horban believes credit redemption is still necessary because without it, students would fail too many

classes due to absences.

"If kids go over their days, they won't get credit, and they will fail," said Horban.

It will only be offered, however, during the last three weeks of each nine-week marking period. This change is intended to help students who have only a

“[People should] go to class and get their work done. Credit redemption doesn't teach responsibility.”

-Kevin Blue, Senior

few unexcused absences—not students who are often truant.

"This will help kids with one or two absences, not students with chronic attendance problems," Horban emphasized.

Though she sees credit redemption as necessary, Horban expressed feelings that there are flaws in it.

"In theory, credit redemption is a deterrent to absences. But when over 100 kids show up for it, it shows us that it is not an effective deterrent in reality,"

Horban said.

Some students agree that credit redemption is an ineffective solution to truancy problems.

"It makes it easier for people to skip," commented Anthony Willemin, senior, "because it gives them a second chance."

"[People should] go to class, and get their work done," stated Kevin Blue, senior. "Credit redemption doesn't teach responsibility."

Credit redemption is only during the last three weeks of each grading period because that is the time when most students show up for it. According to Horban, when credit redemption was held at the beginning of the grading period last year, few students attended it.

"The first weeks [of credit redemption, last year], there were only one or two kids at credit redemption. It was a waste of teachers' time," said Horban.

Credit redemption will be held for two hours every day, after school in the cafeteria. If a student needs to make up only one hour, they will be dismissed at 3:55 p.m. Otherwise, dismissal is at 4:45 p.m. ■

What's on your mind?

Do you feel that having shorter passing periods influences tardiness?



Erica Brown - 12

"Yes, because when we had the extra minute we had more time to get to places and it's especially hard for the freshmen."



Adam Ward - 11

"Yes, because people have to run from floor to floor and end up being late."



Eric Stuart - 11

"Yes, especially now that we have more students. It's almost impossible to get around."



Jackie Vanderweide - Teacher

"No, because I don't have anymore students late this year than the last. Only problem I have is with lunch hour."



Jamar Hankin - 9

"Yes, because some kids' lockers are far away from their classes."



Jim Spears - Teacher

"Generally no. Sometimes, specifically, it isn't enough; depends on the situation."



Jordan Decker - 12

"Yes, I do agree that they make students tardy and would rather have the day extended."



Marcy Patton - 11

"Yes, because there's more people so it should be longer to go to class."



Sarah Moorhouse - 9

"Yes, because we don't have enough time to stop at our lockers and go to the bathroom without being late."



Zach Roberts - 10

"Yes, because people have classes on the fourth floor, lockers on the first floor, and have to go back to the fourth floor."

Totals: Yes: 8 No: 2

All photos by Patrick Sims, Staff Writer

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The students



David Cavadini, 10
"I think he's doing well as a principal"



Dominic Gilbert, 11
"He's Polish and he's nice to me."



Chris Denton, 12
[Markavitch] is a great man who's done much for our school.

The staff

"George McCullough was a great principal. He was always involved with the students and concerned with their needs. Even though we lost Mr. McCullough, we gained Stanley Markavitch, and I have confidence that he'll fill McCullough's place well."



-Sarah Michalos, Sports Editor

"George McCullough was a great principal, especially when times were rough at Riley. He always cared about every individual and was there to help us with our problems. Although Stanley Markavitch is a great replacement, McCullough's style of overseeing our school won't be forgotten"



-Shaun Martz, Viewpoints Editor

"Former Riley High School principal, George McCullough, transformed the school during his time here. Most noticeably, he oversaw the building of a brand new school building. Last year, as a part of a district-wide redistricting plan, he was transferred to Washington High School. Although many were saddened to see him go, many are also looking ahead to a new era with a new principal, Stanley Markavitch."



-Ben Marshall, Editor-in-Chief

Students and Review staff on McCullough and Markavitch

This

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Who is this guy anyway?

Shaun Martz
Viewpoints Editor

As a brand new school year kicked off here at Riley, one new thing was out of the ordinary.

It was not a schedule that needed to be changed. Nor was it a locker combination that just wouldn't click. It was the new head principal standing at the front door.

Stanley Markavitch was almost abruptly welcomed into our doors after he switched positions with former principal George McCullough in July.

"Initially," Markavitch stated, "I was unhappy about the decision. Not because of the location I was being switched to, but because starting over is never easy for anybody."

Markavitch's interest in education began when he was no more than 15 years old. Growing up in Muskegon, Michigan, he gained a high respect for his science teacher and realized he also enjoyed teaching others.

"Teaching," as he sees it, "is probably the greatest gift you can give somebody. When you educate someone, part of you goes into that education."

Although he loved his job at Washington, Markavitch is very excited about the staff and pupils here at Riley. "It has been," he exclaimed, "a tremendous experience so far! This building and the people in it have been very welcoming and friendly."

Currently living in Bridgman, Michigan, Markavitch makes the 50-minute trip each morning. He also knows of the many concerns our students have, especially regarding long lunch lines and attendance.

"If a student has a problem," he explained, "I want them to feel comfortable talking it through with me. What's said behind my office door is strictly between that student and myself. I'm here to be a mentor as well as a friend!"

As for the transition between schools, Markavitch says the only drawback has been learning to adapt to a new environment. Following up McCullough as principal is another factor to adjust to, due to the fact that principals make such hefty impacts in a learning facility.

"Many families," he stated, "were close to [McCullough]. I think it would be a good idea to have an open house for the parents to ask any questions they may have."

Not naïve at all, Markavitch also recognizes that some students may disrespect his authority simply because of his newness.

"I try to treat every student," he said confidently, "with the same attitude I'd like to be treated with. You can't always please everyone and I expect to be respected."

In his o

"Initially, I was unhappy about the decision. location I was being switched to, but because never easy for anybody."

"I expected all the complaints, so I try to listen, and if it makes Riley better then I look at it closely and see what I can do."

"The students are very polite and very serious about their education."

"Teaching is gift you can g

"I enjoy teach to get more in of young peop

"I try to treat ev with the same a be treated with."

According to Dr. Cohen, assistant principal, Markavitch's best quality as a principal is his "respect, care for, and supervision of students."

The rules this year are also status quo from last year as Markavitch sends a reminder to the student body. Those rules are only in place because there are five percent of teenagers who disobey them.

The dress code, attendance policy, and I.D. requirement are among the rules that have some students up-in-arms.

"In an ideal world," he exclaimed, "there would be no rules, because people would have enough sense to use their heads."

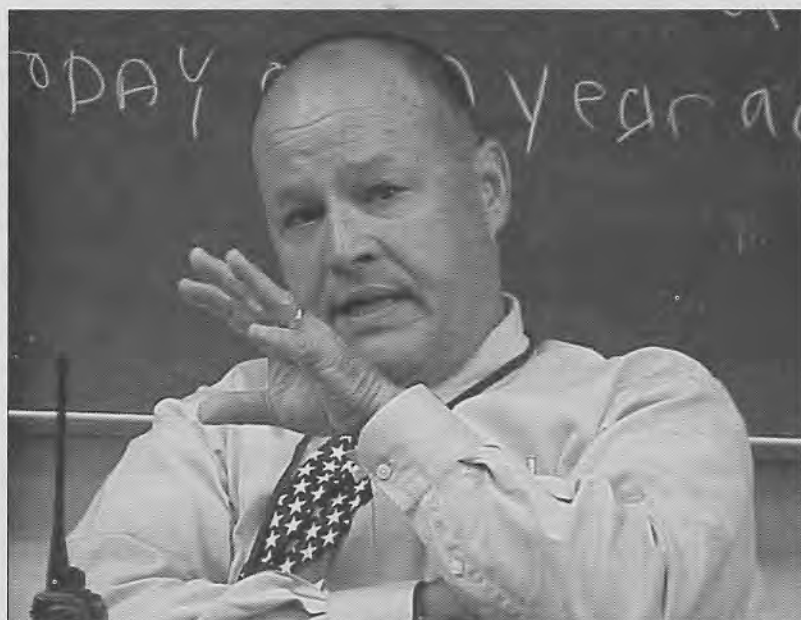
After a long, hard day in the office, Markavitch sets his sites on two of his loves. Whether swinging his golf club with sheer confidence or trimming his hedges while grinning from ear to ear, he finds his afternoons to be quite relaxing.

"Unwinding is a great way to end the day," he said.

His wife, Vickie, the super intendent of Penn School Corporation, lives apart from him during the week due to the separate locations of their jobs.

An avid pet fan and corporation leader, Stanley Markavitch is a new addition to Riley's ever-growing family and a welcomed educator.

"I want to make this school year a great one for the students, the staff, and myself alike," he confirmed, smile intact. ■



YOU SEE...: Riley Principal, Stanley Markavitch, explains the reformed absence policy that will be in effect this school year.

Justin Mikesell, Art Editor

is now: New Riley era...

own words

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"I want to make this school year a great one for the students, the staff, and myself alike."

The Anatomy of a Principal



The **BRAIN** that whipped our policies into shape.

The **EARS** that listen to students' problems.

The **NOSE** that smells success.

The well-defined **MOUTH** and supermodel **JAW** of a man with a plan.

The bulging **MUSCLES** of a powerful leader.

The **POCKETS** that hold the passes you wish you could get your hands on.

The strong **LEGS** of a man on a mission.

The **SHOULDERS** that hold the weight of our school.

The **TIE** that shows his classy fashion sense.

The **RING** that shows he's a married man (sorry, ladies).

The suit **COAT** of a businessman.

The **SLACKS** of a non-slacker.

The **SHOES** of a shining addition to Riley.

A Bunch at Lunch: Overcrowding creates controversy

John Finn

Staff Writer

Long lines, overcrowding, cutting, pushing, shoving, yelling, and chaos. These are all words you would normally associate with the lunch lines this year.

Most of the students who have classes on the fourth floor during lunch actually find themselves sprinting to lunch just to get there early enough to make the front of the line.

Some of them have already even missed lunch entirely, more than once, or given up and gone without eating instead of waiting on the lunch lines.

Factors like line cutters, ID stealers (borrowers), and actual lunch thefts haven't helped the problem either. There is one thing the student body wonders: what will the administration do about this problem?

"All the lunch ladies can do is hold our ID's and make us go back in line. Like that'll get me to stop cutting. Half the time they don't even see it happen," said Nashawn Brown, freshman.

Curious as to how many students are actually having trouble with lunch, a poll of 40 people was taken to determine the answer. It's noted that all the people asked have classes on the first, third, or fourth floor during lunch.

We found that approximately 32 out of the 40 students polled had indeed gone without lunch at least once this year due

to the crowding situation.

Twenty-one of those people have missed lunch a second time as well. Students who do make it to lunch in time to get a decent spot in line have reported that they are cut nearly every day, except when buying ala carte.

"I get cut all the time, every day, and the security guards don't do anything to stop it," said Zach Weldy, freshman.

With more than 1700 students attending, 100 up from last year, the lunch ladies find themselves busier than ever. Head lunch lady Annette Heminger commented on the situation.

"We don't have any time to relax because we're too busy preparing food," Heminger said.

The lunch ladies are also facing disrespect from

the students. Heminger commented on an event where a girl tried to steal a salad from the lunch line and she had to corner her in.

Students angered at the crowding and slow service at lunch have vented their anger on the innocent lunch ladies instead of where it belongs: the central office.

According to Heminger, "the cafeteria is very understaffed, but due to the school budget problem other actions should be taken. We have ten lunch ladies currently, all we need is two more."

This year there are approximately 550 students per lunch hour. "That's quite a bit more than what we had to deal with last year," according to Heminger.

When asked if she thought the hundred additional students from LaSalle were contributing to the problem Heminger said, "That's definitely a

possibility, but there still have to be ways to fix things."

So far, the only visible steps taken to help the lunch lines has been the addition of extra security guards to check for line cutters. Also, a smaller extra line was added as well. But, until we are willing to face the problem head on, lunch lines and overcrowding will continue to be problems.

The measures taken are not enough. Lunch lines will still move at a snail's pace, extend to the back of the room, and kids will still think they can be special and get ahead by cutting.

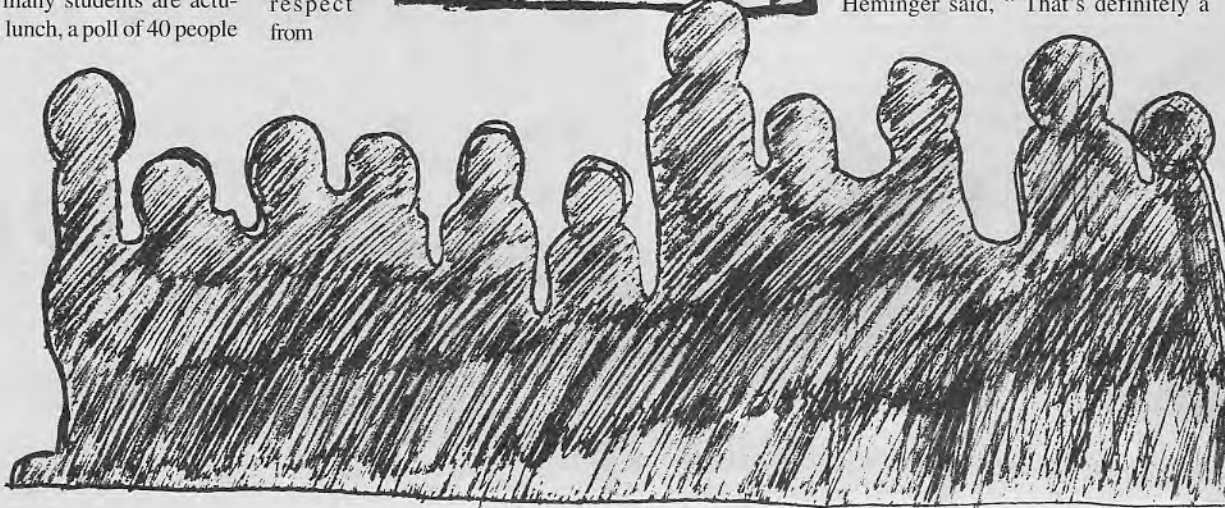
Assistant principal Jim Cohen, commented on both points saying, "Kids should not

be going without lunch. The entire purpose of a lunch is so kids can get some lunch. If that's not happening it defeats our purpose. And, if kids are still cutting in line that's going to have to change, too."

The administration is willing to work to eliminate the problem. Indeed the administration added four additional security guards to the lunch hours. But, how are security guards in the hallway supposed to help lunch lines in the cafeteria? Wouldn't adding more lunch ladies seem a more tangible response to the problem?

The additional lunch line helps, but how much? The lines still move much slower than last year. Yet the staff claims the problems are being solved.

Hopefully, the staff won't have to eat their own words. ■



Lunch staff faces challenges

Kitchens understaffed, workers underpaid

> Students often complain that lunch lines are too long, that there isn't enough food, and that people cut in the lunch line. But people should understand that lunch workers undergo problems, too.

Andrew Kirksey

Editor-in-Chief



The summer before first grade, we would play outside and drink red kool-aid, all while my mom would fix my friends and me peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

I remember when I couldn't finish them because they were just too much for me to eat. Now they are like air, tasty, but not exactly filling; and I don't have them for lunch anymore. My lunch is served by some of the most dedicated women the food services industry has ever seen: the kitchen staff of Riley High School.

Due to the hardships we've endured during our brief lunch hours, students feel justified in their outrage toward our 'lunch ladies.'

Hardships include longer lunch lines, less food to go around, and crowds of students who think they're well within their rights to cut in front of you in line.

All of these aspects can be very stressful to students. From the lunch kingpins to the slouching slackers, school lunch is probably the most

important meal of the day. For some students, it is the first or only meal they will have for the day.

That doesn't take away from the fact that our understaffed kitchen is serving over 2600 meals every day (1300 of those meals go to elementary schools around the area and have a different menu, which complicates the preparation of their lunches and our own).

According to Annette Heminger, kitchen manager, whether or not we have enough plastic trays depends on whether everyone shows up. If a fourth lunch line is to be opened, then they are one staff member short.

That may not seem like a huge deal, but losing one staff member means losing a cook, and losing one cook means that you end up shorting your lines of food, and not everyone gets fed.

Last year, I spent a day working with the lunch staff. I took a photograph of Susie Chick lifting a 40-pound box of french fries, a procedure which she has to partake in daily. As one might expect, 40 pounds of fries is not going to feed 1700 students, so you can imagine the physical strain that

lifting numerous 40-pound boxes puts on her body.

The addition of vending machines that would supply healthy lunch alternatives comes with miles of red tape. Approval from the principal, then the Riley High School board, then the superintendent

herself are all involved in this process. Also, the fire code prohibits the addition of vending machines anywhere in the building except the atrium and possibly where the pay phones are located.

So do yourself a favor in lunch hour and thank a lunch lady. Food services is a thankless job. ■

Photo Poll

Do you feel that our lunch ladies are underappreciated?



Alicia Johnson, Building Substitute

"They are one of the key elements to food service success at Riley."



Mike Helfrich, 10

"Yeah, I guess so. Sure, they're underappreciated."



Jayson Matlock, 9

"Yes, everyone is always leaving their trash for them to pick up."



Salina Solik

Custodial overtime bulk of drama charge

Nick Henry
News Editor

When I first heard of the expenses the drama club incurred for using the auditorium on production nights, I was outraged. How on earth, I wondered, could the central office administrators charge the drama club for using their own stage?

My thoughts immediately turned to politics. For me, that was the only conceivable answer.

Rachel Haste, the drama director from Saint Joseph High School, told me that her club did pay to use an auditorium, but the auditorium belonged to Saint Mary's College, not to the high school. I was slightly mollified, but still determined to get to the root of an injustice that I was convinced was being perpetrated.

My journalistic fervor unabated, I continued calling schools and was met with assurances that when the directors were available, they would call me back.

At my adviser's suggestion I called Mary Jo Kaser, director of fine arts for the SBCSC, downtown and left a message. When she returned my call, my indignation fell off in droves.

According to Kaser, any time an organization needs access to the school facility at a time when it would normally not be open, the engineer and the principal consult and decide how many custodians are needed.

The factors that affect the amount of manpower needed are things like projected attendance, what parts of the building need to be secured, lights needing to be turned off or on, and whether or not there will be concessions available.

Each custodian called in to work outside of his scheduled working hours needs to be paid between \$25 to \$50 dollars per hour.

I realized that my initial ire was not only unfounded, but also unjust.

It struck me, Why should custodians have to come and work irregular hours in addition to their regular hours for uninspiring pay? The \$25 to \$50 an hour rate makes it while worthwhile for a custodian to come in for five hours on a Friday night.

Another thing that put my mind to ease was the realization that it was not a specific targeting of the Riley drama club.

Any group, be they choir, NHS, orchestra, or non-scholastic programs, that wants to use any part of the building has to make provisions for custodial assistance.

John Berta, athletics director, said if on a Saturday the boys' or girls' varsity basketball team had a game scheduled, then the athletic department would foot the bill because it's understood that a varsity basketball game will bring in revenue. ■



Art by Brian Johnson, Staff Artist, Illustration by Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

Staff Editorial

We're out; thanks for waiting!

The Review staff could officially call room 429 their home away from home. Much of our time is spent in the classroom trying to make this paper as close to perfection as possible. We would like to thank all of the teachers who let us out of our classes and helped us try to meet our deadline.

We have been working on this issue alone for some weeks now to make it of highest quality. This is pretty good for starting off with a whole new bunch of editors. Plus, considering how much we've done over that period of time, we've gotten it done in fairly good time.

It takes a lot to create an issue of *The Review*. The staff not only writes the stories, they do their own art, take their own pictures, lay out the pages, and sell advertisements so they can print the paper.

On top of all this hard work, the staff still finds time to learn many new, creative, and informative techniques to make the best paper for you!

Despite a few drawbacks and deadline adjustments, *The Review* is now completed and fresh for you to dive into.

We have found that the newspaper takes over most aspects of our lives. It's such a relief to finally get this issue out; maybe our advisor, Marcia Kovas, will be able to sleep at night now. All of the editors, writers and photographers will also feel more at ease, having put this paper to bed.

As we distribute the October issue, there are many new stories out there for us to grasp! Bring any of your ideas to room 429. ■

Letters to the Editor

Awesome teachers

DEAR EDITOR,

I really like the teachers this year. They really help you a lot. We need good teachers to get a good education. My teachers this year give me a lot of attention. They always find time to help me and they let me take retakes on tests. I really appreciate the help my teachers give me; I know it will help me in the long run!

-Darriela Lax

Change your attitude

DEAR EDITOR,

I'm concerned about the attitudes of some students at this school. A lot of people at this school do not have any manners. People are really rude. You try to be polite and hold doors open and say thank you, but no one cares. I'm tired of it. People need to learn manners. Do they treat people in their household the same way? It's really sad.

-Stephanie Sinka

Fresh or spoiled?

DEAR EDITOR,

The freshmen this year are out of control! They walk around acting as if they are upper classmen. The way they talk to the staff is uncalled for. They act like they own the place. This behavior needs to be stopped. I'm not the only one noticing their actions. Others that I've talked with have agreed with me. I hope someone takes some kind of action to what I have written.

-Amanda Bucker

Have we lost our pep?

DEAR EDITOR,

I think we should have more pep assemblies to put more hype into school activities. This would get the student body more involved and interest them into coming to more games throughout the year. The girls' basketball team and boys' swim team both made it to state last year, and they have the potential to do it again. I hope our school can come together to give them the support they need!

-Ryan Singleton

To I.D. or not to I.D.

DEAR EDITOR,

I have concerns about the I.D.'s. We're in high school. Why do we have to wear them around our necks? We could just take a picture, put it on a plastic card, put it in our pockets. Or, we can have a little machine where you type your I.D. number, and you can get into the building. Faculty and staff know who goes here.

-Sarah Rupert

Hallway time is no delight

DEAR EDITOR,

The issue I would like to address is the jumbled halls. I have been late several times because so many people mess around during passing periods. I have enough trouble trying to get to my locker in the five minutes we are given. This policy needs to change immediately or we will see many more problems in the future!

-Sarah Peden

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The Viewpoints section of *The Review* contains opinions written by Review staffers and Riley students. Although we provide a forum for a wide variety of opinions, *The Review* does not necessarily endorse published opinions, with the exceptions of staff editorials and editorial board votes.

Pro

Attendance Tendencies:

Can students handle the new policy?

Con

New policy promotes responsibility

With the new attendance policy in effect, students' parents can call in and excuse their absences. This policy allows students more freedom and responsibility, much like the freedom and responsibility they'll have when they're adults.

Sarah
Michalos

Sports Editor



High school is supposed to be a time when teenagers learn to manage their time, money, and learn values that will help them in the real world. This new policy lets students be in charge of their own absences, giving them a sense of responsibility and leadership.

However, some students can't be trusted with this new lenient policy, but they are the minority. The majority of the students will just be glad that they don't have to deal with waivers and credit redemption when they're sick.

According to the policy, any absence excused by a parent is acceptable. The only restriction is that the parents have to call within 24 hours of the absence.

Compared to last year, with the hassle of going to credit redemption daily to make up one hour of one class, this new policy is a great change. It's easier on the students, administrators, and parents.

Many of you may remember this same policy from elementary and middle school. This policy has been around for years in our corporation, but has not gone into effect at Riley until this year, for some unknown reason.

Without the new principal, Stan Markavitch, we would still have the previous policy. Many students agree that this new freedom gives them the opportunity to be responsible for themselves and to stay on top of their unexcused absences.

With last year's policy of five unexcused absences per class per semester, students often had trouble receiving credit in their classes.

There will still be credit redemption this year, but only for the last few weeks of each grading period. Credit redemption will also be two hours long instead of the usual one hour, so students can make up two hours of the same class, or two different ones.

Many students feel that credit redemption is now pointless, since there is no reason to have unexcused absences with the new policy.

It would be naïve to say that students wouldn't call in for themselves or their friends. I'm planning on calling in myself in a terrible disguise of my mother's voice, along with the rest of the student body.

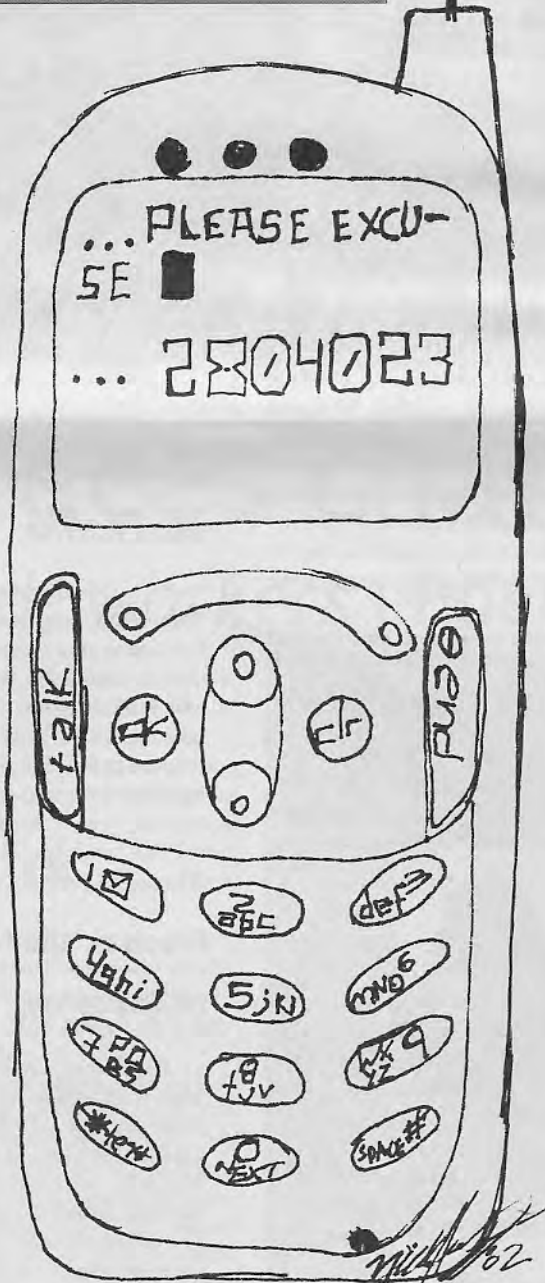
Obviously this policy is not fool-proof, and there is a catch. When a student is absent, even if someone called in to excuse it, they will receive a call from the school. The message goes something like this: 'Your son/daughter was not in school today...'

So, unless you want to live your life in fear, running to the phone on days that you and your friends skipped, there is no way to beat 'the system.' But undoubtedly, students will try.

Overall, this policy is a huge step in the right direction. It will take a while for parents and administrators, even students, to get used to it, but it is definitely in an improvement form last year's policy. ■

UNDER THE NEW POLICY...

- ◆ A parent may call in to excuse any absence.
- ◆ All absences must be excused within 48 hours.
- ◆ Each student is allowed only one unexcused absence per semester.
- ◆ Credit redemption is held the last three weeks of each semester.
- ◆ Credit redemption time has been increased to two hours.



Students too immature

'You have reached the Riley High School attendance office.

Please leave your child's student I.D. number, the date of their absence, and their reason of absence.'

Shaun
Martz

Viewpoints Editor



These are words you will often rely on with the new attendance policy that has

been put into effect this year. But how safe and practical is this method?

Under the new policy, you as a student can have one unexcused absence per term. Any other absence, whatever the reason, must be excused by a call from your parents.

Once this new idea was passed, I immediately heard what I had expected to: students were planning on calling in and pretending to be their parents.

Although any absence that is excused by parents is by law an excused one, the trust school administrators have put in students is inexcusable by any means. It is simply a given that there will be many who plan on abusing this system for all it's worth.

Skipping class is such a commonplace in today's schools that many students are relieved that they can have a parent call in to excuse their actions. This way, skippers, truants, and fakers have a vacation any day they want. What a great way to control absences!

On top of student lies, some teachers do not bother to take attendance, let alone keep track of excused absences. If attendance is such an important part of passing a class, why are teachers not more concerned about the school's policies?

Principal Stan Markavitch has admitted that there is no way to track who is calling to excuse absences or when. However, responsibility is a part of the real world. Above anything else, this is the law.

Law or no law, policies of the past have proven much more successful and easier to cooperate with. The new system provides no official way to track, clarify, or excuse absences.

Students feel positively about the policy, yet they realize the danger in basing attendance on little more than 'their word.'

While I realize this policy cannot change now, additional procedures can be added to verify a student's story.

Bringing in a note from their parents or printing absence sheets for parents to fill out both seem like reasonable alternatives to this problem of trust. Although some students say this would not be a problem, others don't want to bother with red tape. What a surprise.

Students simply want an easier way around lying, cheating, and making life easier for themselves. We are giving them just that and telling them we accept it.

June Bensley, school secretary, has been swamped with answering machine messages since the day this policy went into effect. Her job already had demanding qualities, but with these newer changes, her work environment has become almost unmanageable.

With the winter quickly approaching, I think the corporation needs to seriously rethink their tolerance and rules regarding this important subject. Unless a change is made within the next few months, this policy will become an even bigger issue filled with lies and half-truths.

Until then, go ahead and skip. ■

Photo Poll: Do you agree with the new attendance policy?



Zachary Roberts, 10

"I think it's a little too harsh, because if someone's sick for a week it isn't fair."



Danilo Rodriguez, 11

"I don't like it because you actually have to go to school now."



Maurice Harding, 10

"I think it's cool the way it is because it keeps students in school."



Wayne Aberegg, 10

"It's good because students can't skip as much. Students actually learn something."



June Bensley,
Attendance secretary

"Yes, statistics are showing an improvement from last year."



Michaela Warnsley, 12

"I guess it's all right. As long as my parents call in, I'm fine with the policy."



Berger's Boys: See page 2

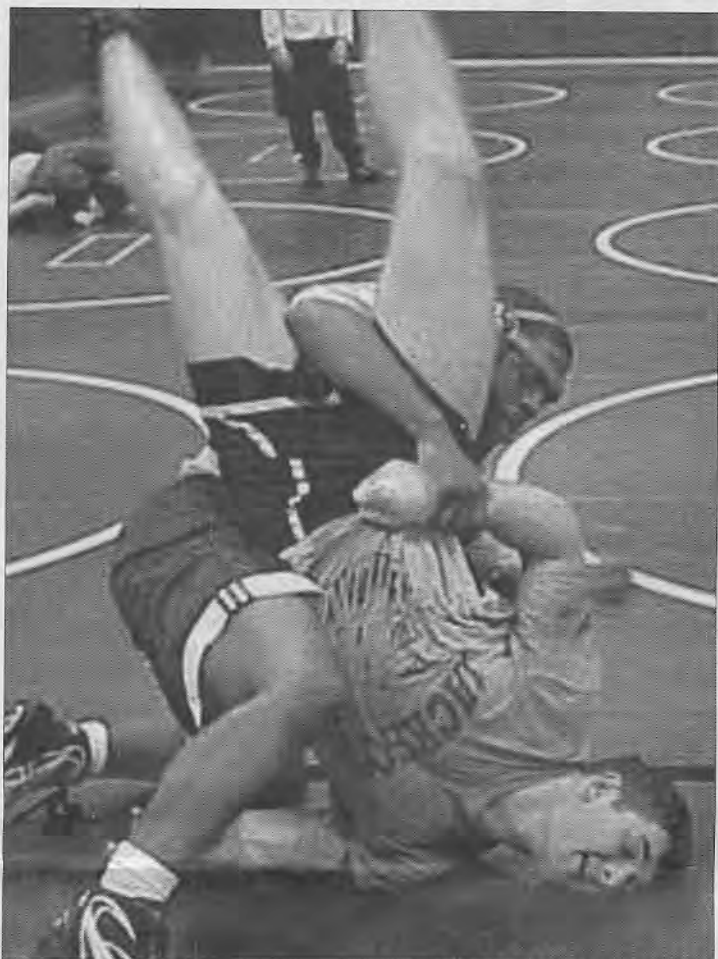
Feminine Football: See page 3

Sensational Swimming: See page 4

Wrestling for success: Young team steps up to challenge on the mat

Sarah Michalos
Sports Editor

"Wrestling is my life; it's fun, but very time-consuming and stressful," Tim Boone, junior,



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

ON THE MAT: Mike Markham immobilizes senior, Gavin Mack, using the pressure of Mack's body against his neck. The move lasts for several seconds.

said. Boone, along with many other members, left the wrestling team after last season.

Members left the team for various reasons. "I injured my right knee," Boone said. Clayton Steele, junior, also left the team due to permanent injuries to both of his shoulders. "I tore my anterior labrum; it's a cuff that your joint sits in," Steele said.

Both Boone and Steele have been on the wrestling team since middle school. Riley's wrestling coach, Bill Flatt, also started wrestling when he was in seventh grade. "I had no friends on the teams but I decided to join anyway," Flatt said.

Mike Markham, senior, has been on the team since eighth grade. "It was either basketball or wrestling; and after two years of basketball, I found I just wasn't coordinated enough. But I've grown to love wrestling," he said.

This is Flatt's fourth year coaching at Riley. He also coached for one year at Mishawaka High School and at his college.

Despite members

quitting and losing two seniors, one who was a state qualifier, Flatt has confidence in this year's team. "I'm hoping for 20-25 members," he stated.

Boone feels that the team will survive without last year's members. The only concern Boone has is to fill all of the weight classes. "I did all right last year, so someone will probably wrestle 160 pounds (what I would have wrestled this year)," he said.

However, the number of wrestlers is yet to be determined. "It depends on if coaches of fall sports allow their athletes to participate in winter sports," Flatt added.

Richard Helfrich, sophomore, plans to help recruit new members. "We could put something on the announcements or look for people in the halls who want to wrestle," he said.

In the past, potential members quit the team because it was too hard. "We'll have a bunch of guys show up for practice, then they'll quit," Steele said.

Practices consist of running, lifting weights and 'live' wrestling. The first official practice was in October, but members participated in conditioning twice weekly up to that date. Practices are daily and are about 2 1/2 to 3 hours long.

Members are quitting the team not only because of injuries, but also because it's a difficult sport to be a part of. "Kids feel overwhelmed and they can't find time to continue," Steele explained.

However, even students who take Honors or Advanced classes are able to put school first. Flatt allows students to take practice time to do their homework. "He cares about you on a personal level," Steele stated.

Their coach's understanding about academics paid off. Out of all the winter sports teams,

the wrestling team has the highest accumulative GPA.

This year's team will be strong, according to former wrestlers. "They'll have a few players that'll do well, but the overall performance depends on who's going out and how hard they'll work," Steele added.

Helfrich agrees. "Rodney Sleepers and Mike Markham should be able to do well in their respective weight classes, and everyone else is expected to do the same," he said.

Markham also thinks the team will do well this year. "We will do very well, especially with a few key seniors coming out, like Carvell Wigfall and Donald Peck," he said.

Flatt also has faith in the team. "We have a big nucleus," he said, "and seniors who started out as freshmen."

“

"Every year we try to have more team success."

-Bill Flatt, wrestling coach

”

Flatt also thinks that an advantage is that the team is senior-dominated, so experience is on their side.

However, there are some downfalls. "Having to put freshmen on varsity will work

against us," Flatt commented. Another disadvantage is that three of the teams Riley plays were ranked in the top 20 in the state conference last year.

"It's hard to have to wrestle teams like Mishawaka and Penn!" Flatt said. Despite the challenges, academic and physical, returning members wouldn't give up wrestling for the world. "I would never even consider leaving the team. It's too much fun and I have a lot of friends on the team," Helfrich added.

Flatt tried to prepare the team for their ultimate goal: improvement. "Every year we try to have more team success," Flatt said. ■

XC team suffers from lack of LSD; (Long, Slow Distances)

Jeanette Holleman
Staff Writer

Many members of the cross country team are skeptical whether or not this year's team can measure up to last year's. Last year they had more talented runners with experience. "We graduated a lot of talent last year," said Mike Smorin, coach. The team lost Ben Allen and Chris Delgado, top runners last year. Team member, Anthony Willemin, senior, said "We're not so good this year. We're not comparable to last year's team at all."

It was hard for the team to stay motivated in these situations. "I kept the team motivated by having each member set personal goals," said Smorin. With a record this year of 1-13 to last year's 12-2, setting goals might not be enough. "The team and coach keep me focused," said Steve McPherson, senior cross country and track member.

Long days of running can put problems on runners. "Muscle cramps, tiredness, injuries and criticism can be problems," said McPherson.

The runners of today have advice for future runners. McPherson, said, "The best way to get ready for a long season is to do a lot of LSD (Long Slow Distances) and lift weights."

Junior Ben Marshall felt that the benefits of running compensated for the hard work and muscle aches. "I would be so tired after practice, but now I'm in great shape. It was worth it," said Marshall.

Though being physically fit is important, having the right shoes helps in performance. Long time fan, Keith Stephens, senior, said, "It all depends on the shoes you have, so after years of running your cartilage doesn't deplete."

Even with all the work, the runners do have fun. "There was one practice at *Potato Creek*, one of the girls on the cross country team got lost for an hour and a half. It was pretty funny," said Nick Henry, senior cross country captain.

Runners also have their own special ways of

getting ready for a meet. Eating the right foods can play a big part in overall performance. "I don't drink soda before a meet, just lots of water and pasta the night before," said Willemin.

Many runners drink lots of water or sport drinks before meets to keep well hydrated.

McPherson said, "I like to stretch and eat lots of carbohydrates to prepare for a meet." He added, "Water is essential to a runner's overall performance." ■



Courtesy of South Bend Tribune

AND THEY'RE OFF!: Senior, Nick Henry, races against opponents in the sectional meet at Erskine Golf Course.

Disappointing season doesn't rattle resolve

Allen Sherk
Staff Writer

"Mistakes have killed us all year," said football head coach Jim Berger on the 2002 football season. "The only thing that has stopped us this year is ourselves," he added.

Many players have been lifting weights and working



Andy Kirksey, Staff Photographer

hard since November, and the season has been very hard on them according to Berger. They committed ten turnovers in the first two games, he said.

"We have had quite a few people step up their game since the beginning of the season," said Berger. "A lot of J.V. people became starters due to injuries. Others have just stepped up just to get the playing time they think they deserve," he said.

Despite hard luck early in the season, some of the players were still optimistic. "I think that we have an advantage over a lot of teams because most of our games are at home this year," said senior quarterback Richie Rhodes.

After a very disheartening, 53-14 loss to *DeKalb*, followed by another disappointing, 21-6 loss to *Michigan City*, the team took their luck against a very fast *Gary Roosevelt* team and came out with a 20-14 victory and a record of 1-2. The next week they had to take on the top rated *Penn Kingsman*, and walked away with a 61-12 loss.

The next week was homecoming against the struggling *Mishawaka Cavemen*, the Cats also struggled and lost 15-6 in a defensive show down.

The next week the team faced the *Adams Eagles* in a double overtime thriller, resulting in a 25-19 loss.

"That was the hardest loss of the season be-

cause it was so close," said senior offensive lineman Matt Patrick. Junior running back Justin West agreed with Patrick, "The whole team took the loss hard."

The next week things were different. "We had a great week of practice, and the result showed on Friday," said Berger. The result was a 29-28 overtime victory over the *Washington Panthers*.

The first round of sectionals brought the *Mishawaka Cavemen* back to Jackson Field, where the *Cavemen* routed the *Wildcats* by the final score of 33-6. This ended the season with a 2-8 record for the second straight year.

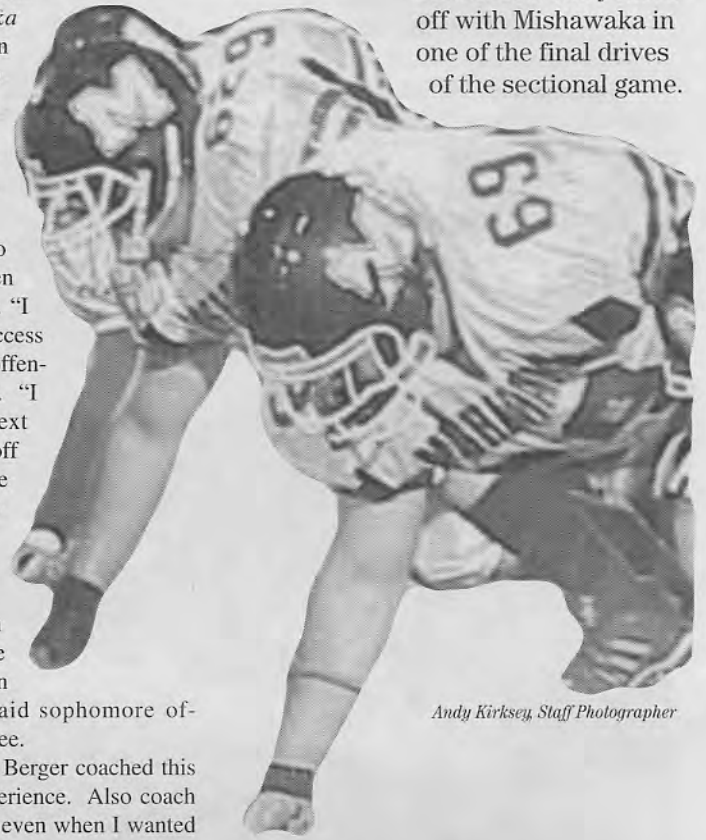
There are also hopes for next season, even as this season is barely over. "I hope we have a lot more success next season," said junior offensive lineman Rob Heiland. "I am looking forward to next season and lifting in the off season," added sophomore defensive end Ryan Hodges.

The hopes for next year are high again. "We have quite a few good freshmen moving up to play on the varsity level. Next season will be a lot of fun," said sophomore offensive lineman Tom McKee.

"I think the way coach Berger coached this team was an uplifting experience. Also coach Todd Stammich made me, even when I wanted

to quit, keep going and try harder. I think the two coaches made the whole team drive themselves even harder," said McKee.

"We will have a very young team next year, a lot of young kids will get significant playing time," said Berger. ■



BLUE 221: Riley faces off with Mishawaka in one of the final drives of the sectional game.

Andy Kirksey, Staff Photographer

Coach inspires both students and team

Ashley Nance
Staff Writer

Jim Berger has been coaching football for 12 years. "I like being around the kids and I love football," said Berger.

Berger has always been a sports fan. "He was a very big fan of the Cowboys and Michigan," said Bob Berger, his father.

When the time came to pick a head coach, Berger was hired. "Berger was the best choice, he calls good offensive plays," said athletic director John Berta.

Berger has taught his players to be committed to something and to make sacrifices. Senior Richie Rhodes said, "Coach Berger teaches us a lot. He puts in a lot of time and work to make us a good football team."

This year's season ended with a record of 2-8. "When we lose a game it's not just his fault, there's things that everyone could've done to help us win," said Rhodes.

"I wish we could have won more of the close ones," said Berger.

"I think we had a lot of fun, we might of had too much fun during practice, it didn't seem to matter to people if we won or lost," added Rhodes.

Not only varsity, but freshman players also look up to him as a role model. "He's understanding and he listens," said Chris Basker, freshman player.

You all might know of the incident with the trash can. Allegedly, Berger was fined for destroying a trash can after a lost game. "My players have taught me to be more patient," said Berger. "He's smart and he's still learning," added Bob.

Of course, like any other person, Berger has gotten a few complaints, "I wish he would find him a nice wife and settle down so that he doesn't wake up at 1 p.m. on the weekends," said his father Bob.

As a young boy, Jim was a very focused person. "He was really into dinosaurs and *Star Wars*. He was obsessive compulsive," added Bob.

As a teen Jim always wanted to please. "We had our moments but we overcame the rough spots," said Bob.

According to Berger, coaching has added a lot of stress. Which is a good thing; he said, "It helps you keep your edge."

There are things that people feel Berger has done that are outrageous on and off the field. For example, "He bought that stupid *Cadillac Escalade*. That car's more expensive than his house," said Bob.

All in all, Jim Berger is a good coach and person. "He puts in a lot of time and does his best to teach us how to do better," says Rhodes.

Next year Berger plans

on building his team with hard work and discipline. He hopes for the team to get better each week. ■



HITTING THE BOOKS: Jim Berger and Dominique Simon work hard in Berger's third hour World Geography class.

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A Girl in Action:

Demanding respect both on the field and off

Becky Nijak
Staff Writer

How do you picture a football player? Most people think about big, muscular, sweaty guys in helmets and pads. What if the player pulled off their helmet to reveal ponytails? Shocking?

Jenny Bodensteiner, athletic trainer, believes girls are physically able to play football.

"Yes, girls are able to play football," she said, "But when doing exercises, girls are quadricep dominant while guys are hamstring dominant."

In other words, the front muscle of the female's thigh is stronger than the back muscle. The male's thigh is just the opposite. Technically, then, women can keep up with the men on the field.

According to Sherry Bolden-Simpson, a counselor, the emotional aspects of girls playing football on a male's team are, "Isolation. Not wanting to come to terms with a female body. As woman, we don't have as much bone mass [as men]. [Women] use equality wrong."

According to Bolden-Simpson, girls don't need to be physically equal to be treated equal.

"Women want to be treated the same way as men are treated. But their bodies aren't built to take blows of that measure," she said.

"I was reading this article," said Bolden-Simpson, "about how a girl had her spleen ruptured and broke many bones. I wouldn't want my son, who weighs 101 lbs., to be tackled by a 250 lbs. guy!"

Freshman, Amanda Sommers, admitted her love for football: "I have played football with my guy friends. Guys are really shy when they play football with

me."

There is a federal law called Title IX. It states that any school receiving federal funds must offer an equal opportunity for women to participate in sports. Put in simpler terms, if there is no team for women equal to that of men's, the school has to allow the women on the team. This does not mean that the women have to actually see playing time though.

When asked how many girls he has played against in his football career, senior Donald Peck responded, "Two. [But if a girl wants to play and] if she is aggressive, then it's fine."

In the past four years, only two girls have played football here, Sarah Tidwell and Becky Nijak. Sarah played wide receiver and Becky played offensive tackle.

John Berta, athletic director, believes girls are capable of playing, but their presence creates a few problems.

"It's difficult for the girl because she has to get ready in a different locker room and wouldn't be able to use the rest room during half time," Berta said.

And he brings up an important fact. "Getting ready in a different locker room may mean she misses out on any changes that would be made in the lineup or game plans," he said.

Head coach, Jim Berger, said, "It's tough. The [girls'] lockers themselves are too small. If [the girl] needed anything, she would have to leave her locker room and find a coach to get the item for her."

"They were part of the team!" exclaims Tom McKee, sophomore, when asked how he felt when the girls were in the boys' locker room.

Due to the fact that most of the time spent in the locker room consists of pre-game talks and mid-game talks, women miss out.

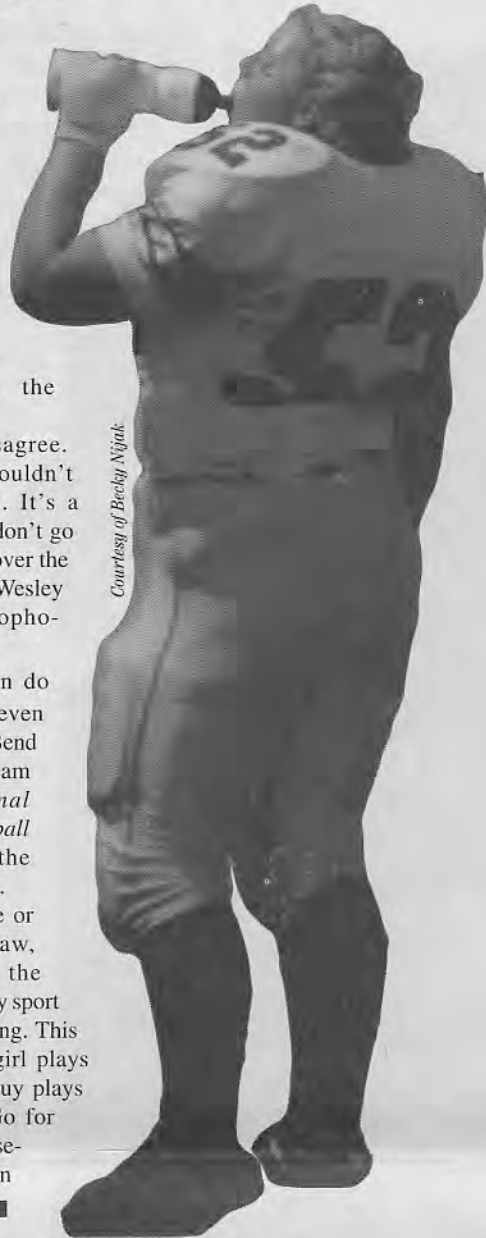
Tyler Peat, senior, said girls deserve

the chance to prove they are as good, if not better, at football than guys. "I speak for everyone when I say girls should play football," he said. "They may be better (than the guys)."

Others disagree. "No, girls shouldn't play football. It's a guy's sport. I don't go trying to take over the kitchen," said Wesley Kenton, a sophomore.

But women do play football—even locally. South Bend has its own team in the *National Women's Football League*, the *Golden Hawks*.

Either male or female, by law, people have the right to play any sport of their choosing. This may mean a girl plays football or a guy plays volleyball. "Go for it!" said Riley senior, and fan Ryan Crozier. ■



Courtesy of Becky Nijak

What a girl really wants;

Female player reaches personal goals

Becky Nijak
Staff Writer

Women have always been told they can't play football simply because they are girls. Women have traditionally been made to be the stay-at-home mom or the maid. Yet, we have proven we can become other things like doctors, lawyers, or even football players.

I joined the football team to have the the opportunity to release my anger and have fun doing what I love. My parents were worried about me getting hurt, but I reassured them that nothing would happen. I am not a small girl, in the least.

Everyone (even other girls) told me I couldn't play. I refused to listen to all of the insults I received upon walking into the first football meeting.

I asked the head coach, Jim Berger, and defensive coordinator, Todd Stammich, if they would mind having a girl on the team. They told me that they already had a girl on the varsity team, Sarah Tidwell. I was excited because I wasn't the only girl.

At the first practice, I showed up 20 minutes early. I introduced myself to the rest of the coaching staff and got familiar with some of the other guys I would be playing with for the next few months. They weren't upset that they had another girl.

I learned the stances and the plays fast. Most of the other guys had been playing for at least two years at that time, and I had gone to elementary school with some of them.

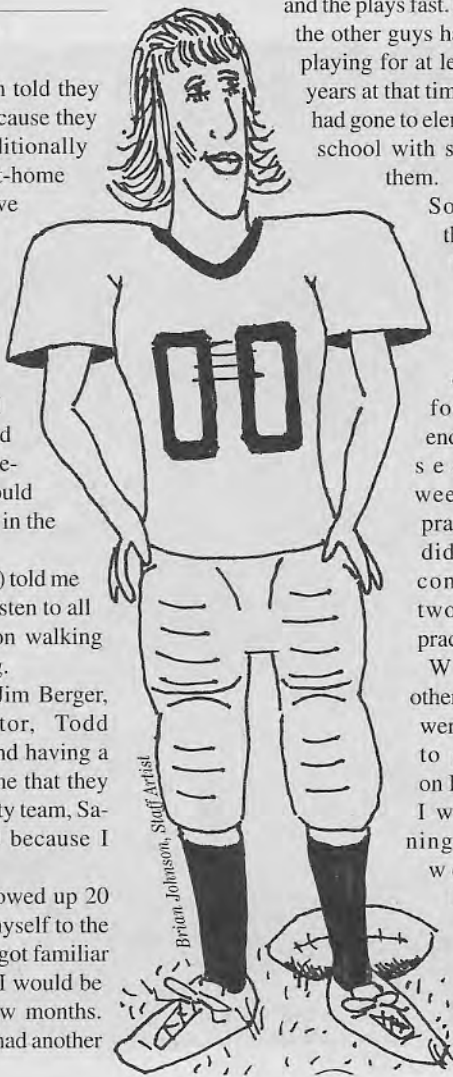
Some of the guys thought I would drop out before the end of the second week of practice. I did not. I continued two-a-day practices.

While other people were going to parties on Fridays, I was running hills, weight lifting and running endless plays

to make us better. I would come home with no energy and drenched in sweat. Life revolved around football. All I could think about was getting out onto the field on a Friday night and hearing my name being called over the public address system—even though I knew that might take a couple of years.

As the season started, I suited up in my own locker room, then waited for the guys to get dressed. I would listen to pre-game talks in the boys' locker room. We would get on the bus and travel to the field we were to play on. I played offensive left tackle.

By the end of the four months, I had 98 big brothers, and had a great time. I would love to make a career out of football. ■



Brian Johnson, Staff Artist

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Taking it to the pros

South Bend Goldenhawks take it to the field

Paula VanDriessche
Staff Writer

"You can do whatever you set your mind to," said Eva Jones Young, one of the 53 players who signed contracts for the *South Bend Golden Hawks*.

Margaret McCain, manager, said that the name *Golden Hawks* came from a Studebaker car called Golden Hawk.

To get on the team, a woman simply tries out. Girls who are interested have to be 18 to try out for the team, but the coaches of the *Golden Hawks* are planning to make a Junior Varsity team as well.

The only difference between men and women's football is that women use a T-1000 ball instead of an NFL regulated ball. A T-1000 ball is junior-sized, and used because women's hands are smaller than men's.

Last season the *Golden Hawks* played *Cleveland Fusion*, *Detroit Danger*, and *Southwestern Michigan Jaguars*. The newest team they'll be playing is *Toledo Spitfire*.

T.J. O'Keefe, the offensive line coach said, "The first season was frustrating, because we competed well and we improved, but we let mistakes take the win from right under us." In the upcoming season, he hopes that the team will win their games.

Pam Hall, a player for the *Golden Hawks*, said she joined the team because it sounded like fun and a challenge. Hall is an offensive running back.

Regina 'G' Williams, a player for the *Golden Hawks*, said, "When you see it from the perspective of my three year old niece, Georgia, she will say, 'I want to play football' and the people around us look at Georgia as if she is weird." Williams is a defensive tackle and a teacher at *Navarre Middle School*.

Janus Horrall, earth science teacher, said, "I wouldn't try out for football because it is a man's sport and I am not going to bang myself up."

Melissa DeCook, an offensive center for the *Golden Hawks*, said that she had the time of her life [playing football] and she can't wait for the new season. "It's a lot of work, but so worth it," said DeCook.

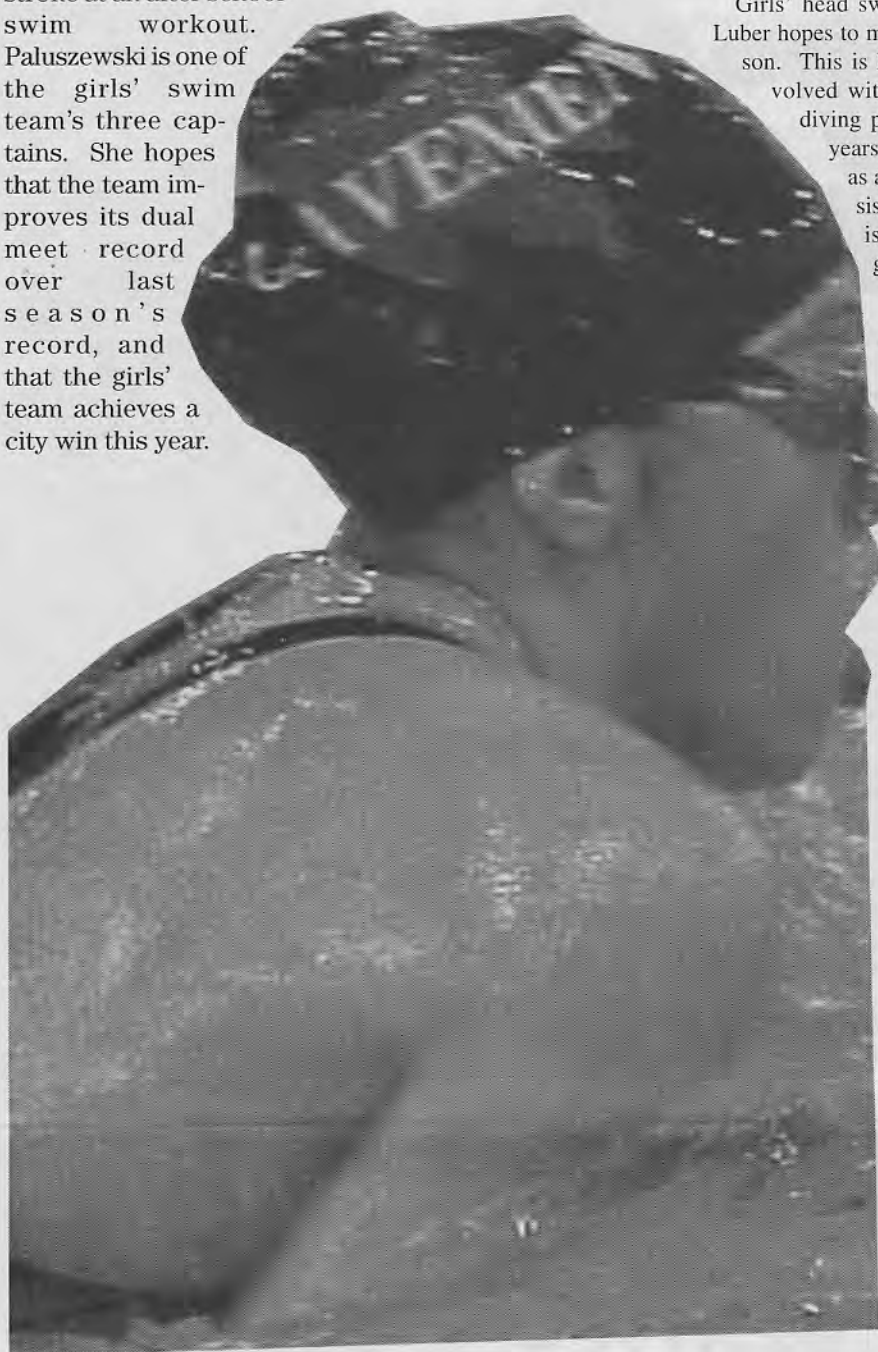
Jones Young is the defensive corner back for the *Golden Hawks*. She is also a fourth degree black belt in karate, owns her own business, and holds three different world championship titles in women's boxing. There are 49 other athletes on the team.

Roger DeCook, Melissa DeCook's husband, said this about his wife playing football: "It's definitely different; at work I see a lot of disbelief from people. Towards the end of the season when some of my co-workers went to the games it changed.... it became more accepted and real."

Keri Boley, DeCook's best friend, said, "I am glad they are letting women play football in the big leagues. A lot of women have wanted to play and it makes things more equal. I just hope it goes somewhere like the men's teams and I wish the whole team good luck!" ■

Luber leads Lady Cats to success

HIGH HOPES: Micaela Paluszewski, senior, practices her breaststroke at an after school swim workout. Paluszewski is one of the girls' swim team's three captains. She hopes that the team improves its dual meet record over last season's record, and that the girls' team achieves a city win this year.



Molly Shook

Editor-in-Chief

Girls' head swimming coach Mike Luber hopes to make a splash this season. This is Luber's fifth year involved with the swimming and diving program. In previous years, he has been involved as a diving coach and assistant swim coach. This is his first year as the girls' head swim coach.

"I hope to establish a strong [girls' swimming] program. I will remain until the program is at the level I want it to be at," Luber said.

Luber is still the head diving coach for the boys' and girls' teams. For this reason, he has limited involvement in the swimmers' workouts.

John VanDriessche, the boys' swim team head coach, conducts workouts for both the boys' and girls' teams.

Being the head diving coach and the girls' head swim coach presents conflicts for Luber when it comes to meets. The boys' and girls' teams sometimes have meets the same evenings.

As the diving coach,

Luber used to have the option of choosing whether to attend the boys' meet or the girls' meet. Now, as head coach of the girls' team, he must always be present at the girls' meets. As a result, Luber will not be able to coach his divers at some of the boys' meets.

In addition to a new head coach, the girls have a new assistant coach this year. Kelly Gallagher, an *American Sign Language* student at *Bethel College*, has come to South Bend from California. Gallagher's main job is to assist new swimmers.

Last year, everyone on the team did the same workouts. This year, however, the team is divided into lanes according to ability.

VanDriessche creates four workouts every day which each follow the same basic framework, but vary in the amounts of yardage and the speed of intervals.

On Tuesday, November 19, the girls will have an inter-squad meet.

This is a practice meet intended to help new swimmers get accustomed to competition. It will not be a competition against another team; the girls will simply swim for times in various events.

The *Lady Wildcats'* first dual meet will be against Penn on Tuesday, November 26. Penn is one of the most challenging teams the girls will compete against this season.

Luber, however, has high expectations of the girls. "My expectation for the Penn meet is the same as it is for all meets: to win. I also expect the girls to swim smart races. Preparation is important," said Luber.

Nicole Boston, a senior and one of the girls' three captains, hopes "for our experienced swimmers to get best times, and

for our new swimmers to get a feel for meets," at the Penn meet.

Marian, Northridge, and St. Joseph's are other strong teams Riley will be swimming against this year.

The girls have never competed against Northridge before. Northridge was added to Riley's meet schedule because there is no longer a LaSalle team. A new meet had to be added to the schedule to replace LaSalle, which closed its doors last June.

Luber feels that competing against Northridge will be a positive experience for the team.

"Any time you swim against good competition, it aids in providing a good meet environment. It's something you really like to remember," he said.

Boston also feels the girls will benefit from the addition of Northridge.

"I think it's a good, challenging meet for my teammates to watch and compete against fast swimmers, and for people who have a

chance to progress beyond sectionals to see how fast they should go," she said.

The swimmers are also optimistic about the upcoming season overall.

"I hope that we have a winning [dual meet] record and that we win city," said Paluszewski.

"I hope for individuals to improve their best times," said Boston.

Luber is looking forward to the season as well. He sees his position as head coach as an opportunity to help his swimmers in many ways.

"I look at coaching as the business of making good people," he said. ■

I look at coaching as the business of making good people.

-Mike Luber

Boys' swim team continues tradition

Nick Henry
News Editor

Second in the state may be a tough act to follow, but according to co-captain Kevin Blue of the boys' swimming and diving team, it is entirely possible to be first this year. "Looking at our team, I am confident we will add another chapter to the book of boys' swimming tradition here at Riley," said Blue.

Even though he expresses confidence in his team's abilities, he knows that the season will not be short of challenges. "Although our team has six or seven incredible swimmers, we may not have the same depth as last year. We're looking forward to a tougher schedule with dual meets against Northridge, Penn, and Munster," he said.

Penn has joined Riley's sectional this year, but that does not cause much concern for Blue. "The kids that are going to score points at state will be well under the qualifying times and are definitely going to advance to the state meet," he said.

Peter Cavadini, class of 2001, and a former captain has come back as an assistant coach and technique instructor. "I'm glad to be back," he said. "Now that I'm a coach I'll be able to share my experience and knowledge with another generation of swimmers."

Cavadini and his two younger brothers, both of whom are on the team this year, Louis (senior) and David (sophomore), are all state swimmers.

Senior Brian Johnson said, "Expect to look for us at state this year. We are looking to bring as many of our guys down as we can. This year is going to be fantastic."

Johnson's enthusiasm stems from an abiding inter-

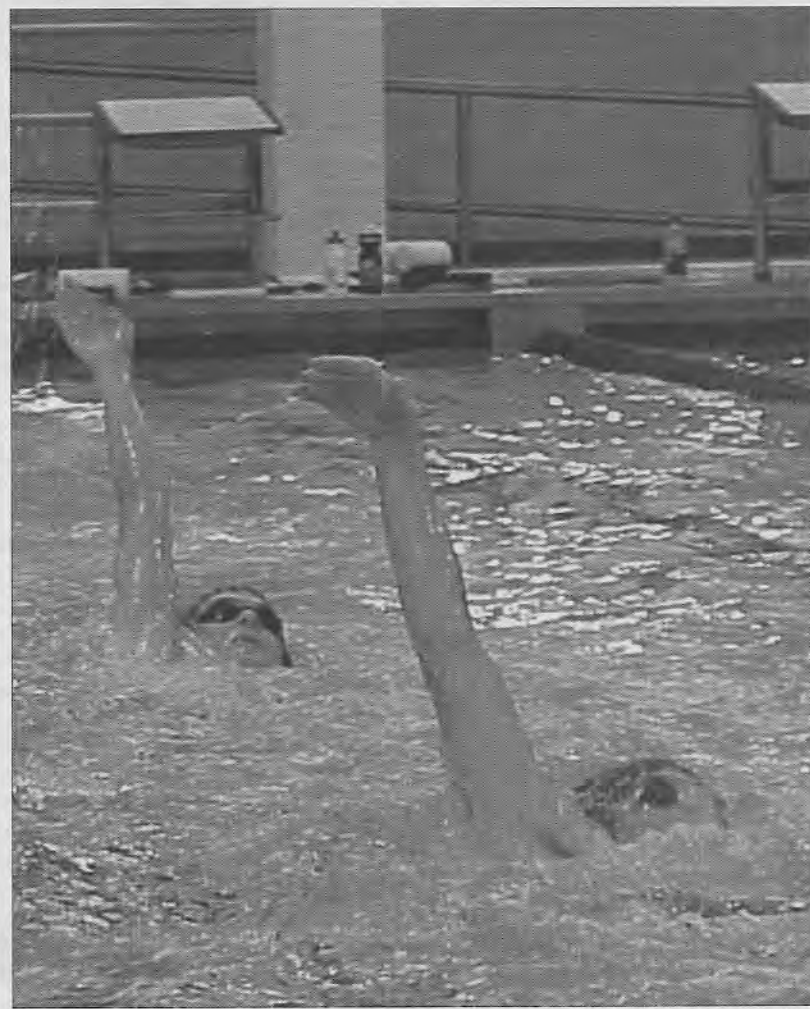
est and dedication to the Riley swimming program. Sharing in the enthusiasm, first year swimmer, sophomore Kyle Hudak said, "I hope that this year is going to be one of the best years Riley's ever had."

Swim coach, John VanDriessche said he is excited about this year. "Last year was phenomenal, we were ranked 16 in the state at the beginning of the year, and we ended as state runner's up," he said.

"This year we're ranked sixth in the state, but that is no excuse to take a break and relax. We really surprised a lot of people down state last year, and the last thing we want to be is ill prepared when someone else does the same thing. There is going to be a lot of talent down in Indianapolis this year and it's definitely not out of the question for someone to come out the woodwork and surprise us."

VanDriessche isn't about to let his team get caught off-guard. "We're doing everything we can to be ready by the time the state meet rolls around. I'm pushing the boys to eat right, get enough sleep, ice where it hurts, and to basically take good care of themselves. When we go down to the *Natatorium* in Indianapolis, these boys will be as fast as they've ever been in their lives." ■

DIVING INTO THE SEASON: Tim Blue, freshman, and Chris Denton, senior, swim backstroke at an afternoon workout. The boys' swim team hopes to qualify as many swimmers for the state meet as possible. This will be a challenge because of the addition of Penn to their sectional.



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief