

the Review



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James Whitcomb Riley High School • 1902 South Fellows Street • South Bend, IN 46614 • Volume 33 Issue 2

Vending machines vandalized

Litter and vandalism may lead to shutting down machines

Ross Ford
Staff Writer

Every day, we use the vending machine to get snacks and our lunch, but what would happen if they were shut down? This is now a real possibility because of the recent break-ins and vandalizing of the machines.

According to Linda Krzyzaniak, treasurer, "Students try to get candy and change out of the vending machines."

Because of this, the vending machines were bolted down to prevent the machines from being tipped over.

"It's the first time in four years that the vending machines had to be bolted down," said Krzyzaniak.

One reason the machines are tipped over is because they take the student's money. For example, when students put their money in the vending machine, their snack gets stuck.

"I especially hate when you buy something from the vending machines and it gets stuck," said Caitlin Conrad, senior.

Some students wondered if they could go to the treasurer's office to get their money back.

"N. H. Vending Company gives me change to refund students who have their money taken from the machines. If the candy is stuck in the machines, I try to see if I can get it out before I give them a refund," said Krzyzaniak.

But according to April DeCook, sophomore, "I got my chips stuck in the vending machines, and when I went to the treasurer's office, she wouldn't give me my money back."

"I can pretty much tell if the students trying to get refunds have really had their money taken from the machines from the students who want to just mess around. And if not, I'll just check the machines to make sure they're telling the truth [that their money got stolen from the machines or that their chips got stuck]," said Krzyzaniak.

Lately, some students have questioned whether the security guards have been policing the machines. Stan Markavitch, principal, supports the security guards.

"The security guards are doing their best job to catch these students but they can only do so much. Students need to report any vandalism of the vending machines, so

that students trying to break in to the vending machines will get caught," said Markavitch.

Another reason why the vending machines may be shut down is that they are known to cause tardiness, which leads to bad attendance. Students who use them before class are often tardy to class, and then sent to lock out.

Some students wondered if shutting down the machines is the right solution to end tardiness.

"The machines shouldn't be shut down because kids can't get to class on time. They are old enough to know not to use the machines if they can't get to class on time," said Brianne Wiand, junior.

Markavitch may decide to remove the vending machines because they cause too much litter.

"There are accidental spills which happen occasionally, but now it has gotten to the point where students are causing intentional spills," said Markavitch.

"Students are throwing their cans of pop down the stairs. This four-year-old school is starting to look like a pig pen," he added.

Some students wonder if shutting down the vending

machines will really stop the litter problem.

"If the vending machines were shut down, kids would bring in food from outside the school. They would still throw it in the halls which wouldn't get rid of the litter problem," said April DeCook, sophomore.

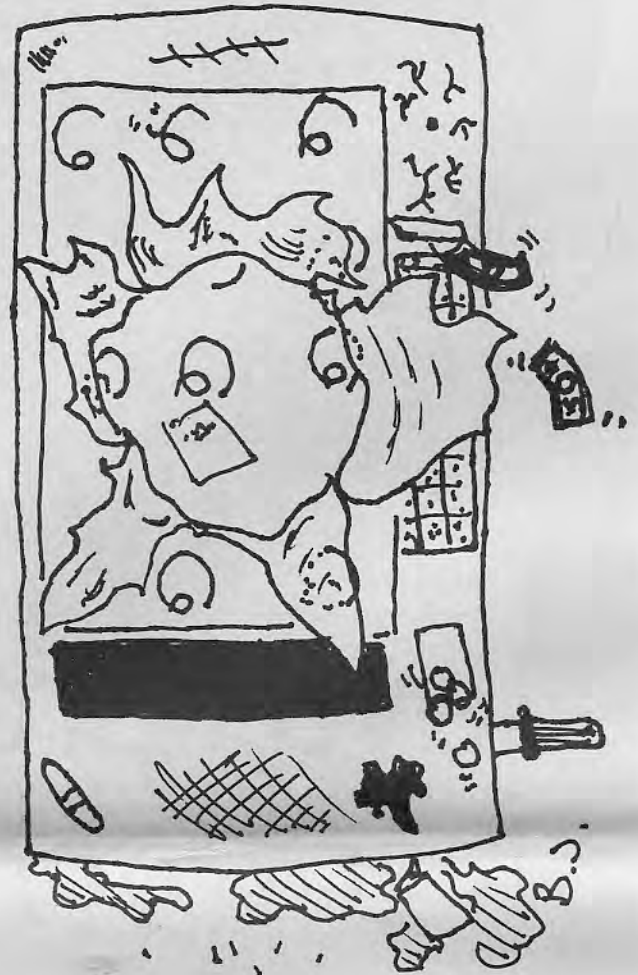
DeCook believes it is only a small portion of the students causing the problem.

"No, the whole school shouldn't have to suffer from the five percent of the students causing the problem. The security guards should catch the students causing the problem and write them up. Then the culprits should have to clean up lunch so they'll learn not to litter in the school anymore," she said.

Markavitch agrees, "I'm not talking about the majority, 95 percent of the school. It's the five percent of the student body which make the school look bad," said Markavitch.

If the machines were shut down, the school would lose out on the income it makes from them. The machines generate \$30,000 a year that goes towards the athletic department, and school funds.

■ See Vending: on page three



Letter jackets prohibited in classrooms

Ashley Beelaert
Staff Writer



The new rule that the administrators are now enforcing is that no one can wear any type of jacket in class.

"Someone told me that before I came here, letter jackets were not allowed, and that's why I changed the rule again to ban all jackets, even letter jackets, during class," said Stan Markavitch, principal.

The main reason they are not allowing students to wear jackets is because students can hide things in them that are illegal, like knives and drugs. This is also the reason why book bags are prohibited. These precautions are for security and safety issues. "They can hide more in a book bag than what they can hide in a jacket," said Markavitch.

The reason that Markavitch originally let letter jackets be worn was to let students show off the awards they had earned and school pride.

"Another reason this rule came about was when LaSalle closed, and the LaSalle students asked if they could wear their LaSalle jackets

at their new school, it was universally agreed that they could be worn in school," said John Berta, athletic director.

But now students are not allowed to wear their jackets in class anymore.

"Students like to wear their jackets and bring their book bags last hour, so they can just leave. They also bring them in the morning because they often don't have time to go to their locker," said Joyce Weik, English teacher.

"Everyone should wear layers like I do, since they know the school will be cold," said Markavitch.

"The only way to let kids wear their jackets would be if all high schools bought into the idea,

and we need to wait and see what the corporation does," said Markavitch.

“

"I think it's a fair rule now because when the administration only allowed letterman jackets, others were being left out, and some people can't afford one."

-Aimee Meyer, Senior

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"I'm glad that the 'no jacket' rule is in effect, but there is a problem with enforcing it since all the rooms are all different temperatures having some colder than others," said Weik.

"I think it's a fair rule now because when the administration only allowed letterman jackets, others were being left out, and some people can't afford one. I like the jacket ban, because jackets only cause chaos. Students can bring zip up sweaters and sweatshirts just as easy as coats," said Aimee Meyer, senior.

"I'm not sure that jackets and book bags pose a threat, but I have not seen any schools yet that allow book bags in classrooms. The issue, though, is that this rule is necessary because kids can bring things that they don't need to school in both jackets and book bags," said Markavitch. ■

News Briefs

Library Closed at Lunch

◆ The school media center will no longer be open during lunch periods in order to allow its staff a lunch break and a planning period. Students cannot use the library or its computers without an adult present for supervision (See page two).

Students sell products

◆ A wide variety of products are now available from economics students, including 'Pardi Gras' cups, water bottles, spirit sticks, flashlight keychains, and t-shirts. The students are selling these products as a class project.

PSAT scores returned

◆ Students who took the PSAT in October received their scores on December 11. -Good luck on the SAT, which will be given in January and June.

Winter Break

◆ The holiday break is quickly approaching. Riley will be closed for the winter holidays during the weeks of December 23-27 and December 30-January 3. Classes will resume on Monday, January 6.

It's All GREEK To Us



BUDDY GEVAS: Ephie Gevas, a native of Athens Greece, was elected teacher of the year by the teaching staff.

Gevas proclaimed 'Teacher of The Year'

Sarah Michalos
Sports Editor

"My name was tossed around, and there was a chance, but I didn't think I was going to win," said Ephie Gevas, foreign language teacher. This year Gevas won the prestigious *Teacher of the Year* award.

In order to receive this honorable award, teachers are nominated by their fellow staff members. The names of those teachers nominated go on a ballot, and then the certified staff members vote.

For Gevas, it was just an honor to have her name on the list. "Everyone on the list was well-qualified," she said.

Being the *Teacher of the Year* requires responsibilities, such as putting together a portfolio, and attending meetings.

Gevas has been teaching here for 19 years, and affectionately calls Riley her 'home school.' In the past, Gevas spent her day traveling between Riley, Adams, and Clay. Now she spends most of her time here at Riley.

Jim Stebbins, foreign language teacher, has known Gevas for all of the years she has been a teacher. "She started out as my student teacher," said Stebbins.

Gevas decided to become a teacher because one of her own teachers influenced her. "She created a time in the classroom

that everyone was equal, although we were all different," commented Gevas.

Gevas's favorite part of teaching is interaction with the students, and she feels rewarded when her students succeed. "When I see the kids learn and go on to bigger and better things, I feel rewarded," she said.

Many of the staff members here at Riley feel rewarded by Gevas's presence. "Mrs. Gevas

is a rare gem. She is uniquely qualified, and has excellent rapport with students," said Stebbins.

"When I see the kids learn and go on to bigger and better things, I feel rewarded."

-Ephie Gevas, Teacher of the Year

Gevas's students also appreciate her. "She is an excellent teacher. She truly adores teaching and her students," said Ben Peak, senior.

Although her main priority is education, Gevas also enjoys having a good time. "She knows when to have fun!" said Trisha Tabler, junior. The excitement she brings to the class makes learning fun," said Peak.

Gevas's students look forward to her class daily. "My favorite part of Mrs. Gevas's class is the way she involves the students," said Peak.

According to her students, Gevas has already accomplished one of her goals; making a difference in their lives.

"I am thankful Mrs. Gevas has been a part of my high school experience. I will take what I have learned from her and apply it to my life," said Peak. ■

Library off limits during lunch periods

Ashley Beelaert

Staff Writer

The library has been closed during all lunch periods.

"The reason that the library is closed is because they have eliminated the assistant position and with the contract, both the librarian and teachers have a 30 minute lunch period, and a planning period," said Melody Golubski, librarian.

"I need to do errands during my free hour," Golubski said.

Students are unable to use the computers, or to do any kind of research if they need to during the lunch hours.

"I really dislike the library being closed at lunch. I want to have students use the library," said Golubski.

Students caught doing their homework in the

halls or in the stairwells will be sent to lunch by the security guards or principal.

"Kids need to be out of the halls," said Susan Pantoja, English teacher.

The library used to be a haven for those students who needed a few extra minutes of study or research time. Now there's nowhere to go. Teachers or a volunteer are needed to supervise the library, said Golubski.

"I would like to have an adult volunteer to come in and help so the library could be open to everyone at lunch," said Golubski.

Only adults can volunteer because students present a liability and need to be supervised.

"I am open to having adults volunteer to keep the library open at lunch, but has it has to be cleared with me and the librarian because of liability concerns," said Stan Markavitch, principal.

There are other possible solutions to help this

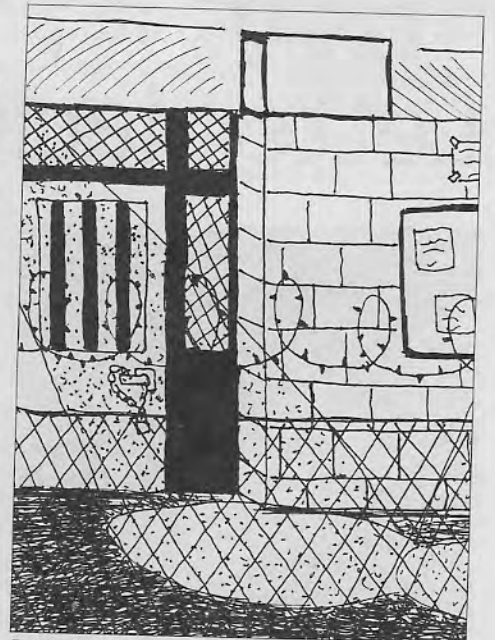
situation with the library. It would be better to alternate the hours that it's closed, rather than close completely at lunch.

"If the librarian would want to have one of the three lunches open each day by alternating them, she would have to do it willingly," said Markavitch.

At present, the financial picture has eliminated the assistant position and the corporation cannot hire anyone to fill a position that was eliminated. Unless a volunteer comes forward to help out, the library will remain closed.

"Downtown is always looking for options and suggestions," said Markavitch.

For second semester there won't be any changes in the funding. There is also really no way to get more money for the library. "The corporation is trying to save money," said Markavitch. ■



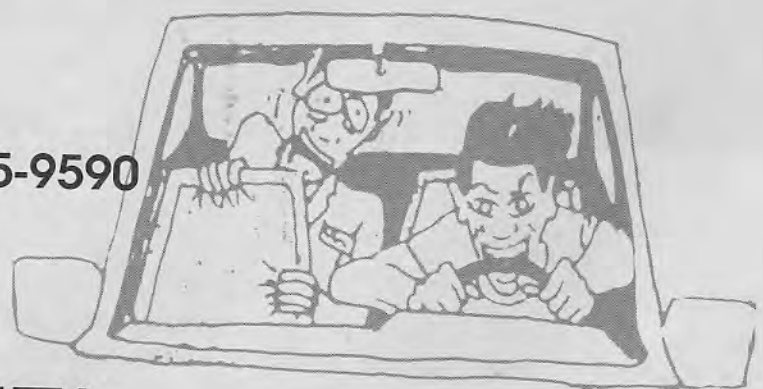
Brian Johnson, Staff Artist

the Corrections

The *Review* reported erroneously last issue (vol 33, issue 1, Car Break-ins by Christen Scogins) that the *South Bend Police Department* could have fingerprinted the vandalized cars and charged the perpetrators with burglary. Scogins correctly cited Texas law (which defines burglary as theft from an area that is not open to the general public) but did not cite Indiana law. Indiana law determines that cars, while private property, are in a public area and therefore persons stealing from a car can be charged only with theft, not burglary. The *Review* extends its apologies for this oversight.

Drive Rite

You may register by phone: **255-9590**
236 W. Edison Rd.
Mishawaka, IN 46545
Classes start December 18th



\$20.00 OFF*

*Please present coupon at Registration. One coupon per customer.

Toilet troubles:

Vandalism persists in the school

Crime and Punishment

Excerpted from the Student Code of Conduct:

Arson: The burning of materials (lighter, matches, etc.) or attempting to burn the building or any school property

Punishable By: Parent contact, 5 days out of school suspension, Police/fire dept. referral. Possible due process expulsion

Malicious Vandalism of Property: The deliberate damage of school or personal property (Extensive damage of school or personal property)

Punishable By: Parent contact, 5 days out of school suspension, Possible police referral, Possible due process expulsion, Restitution for damages

Vandalism: The destruction, damage, or defacing of school or personal property

Punishable By: Parent contact, 3 days of in school suspension, Restitution for damages

Christen Scogins

Staff Writer

Vandalism is a minor annoyance here. Officer Brian Kendall, head of security, said, "Vandalism is a common problem but not a major concern compared to our major problems like fights."

Students, however, think vandalism is a small, but serious, problem here.

"Bathroom vandalism is one of our biggest problems," said security guard Armando Williams.

Bathroom vandalism runs from students writing vulgar messages on the stalls to students smoking in the bathroom and setting the trash cans on fire.

"Vandalism is not only breaking down things and trashing things, but also breaking chairs and stepping on ketchup in the cafeteria. Also the vending companies are complaining because students who rock the machines to get free food end up breaking the machines," said Frank McPherson, custodian.

Frank Macri, maintenance engineer, said, "Students are breaking door handles, taking thermostats from class rooms, pulling wires from the auditorium stage and destroying other furniture."

Many students and staff members remember a student who soiled the bathroom with his own feces last year. Another recent incident was when a rival school attempted to come and mark our territory with their signature on our front entrance with spray paint.

Kendall said, "That particular incident was more severe because it was more than vandalism. It was a statement. I am not exactly sure if students from Adams were the ones who did it, but every South Bend high school was vandalized with the 'JA Eagles' so you can only put two and two together."

"There is no stereotype of a vandal; it could be anyone. Normally, students vandalize to express how they are feeling," said principal Stan Markavitch. However, custodians bear the brunt of the clean up.

McPherson said, "When a student vandalizes

it gives us more work to do. We already have to do general cleaning and maintenance, it makes it harder when we have to stop what we are doing or put aside what we are doing to go clean up a mess." Students say it's not being taken care of properly. Custodians disagree, "We try to get to the mess as fast as we can and get it cleaned up," said McPherson.

McPherson says that when cleaning up some of the messes he has to pull out the heavy-duty stuff such as caustic solvents.

"When the mess is too much for us to handle or if we are not trained to handle it, then we have to get someone from the outside," said McPherson.

Another incident that has happened is that a student carved his initials into the hard wood floor in the main gym. The student was suspended with a request of expulsion.

Another time a student was in the bathroom and purposely lit the trash can on fire. This student was caught and was also suspended and expulsion was requested.

So what happens when a student gets caught? "Depending on the severity, he could receive suspension, a request of expulsion or both, plus restitution," Markavitch said.

"Severity is measured by the damage that incurred or the cost of manpower needed to clean up the mess, or both," said Markavitch.

"We do our best to try and catch the students who do this, but it's hard to do," Williams said.

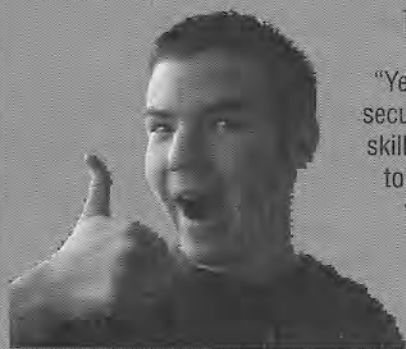
McPherson said, "If the school could have a couple more security guards, they might be able to control some of the vandalism."

When any damage is done to property, the school pays either through insurance or the budget or both.

Some students feel vandalism damages Riley's reputation. "People think less of the students and staff when they see the school all messed up," said Shalise Combs, junior.

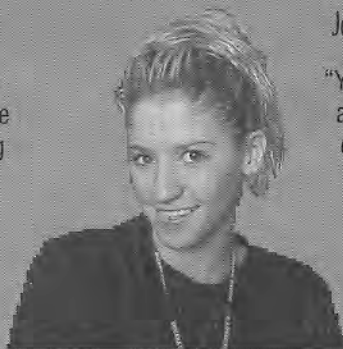
Elizabeth Horban, assistant principal, thinks that this is the best building, the best school, and has the best teachers, the best custodial staff and the best students. But when students damage the school they are not showing south side pride. ■

Photo Poll: Do you feel that vandalism is a major concern at Riley?



Tyler Peat - 12

"Yeah, because security lacks the skill and training to apprehend vandals."



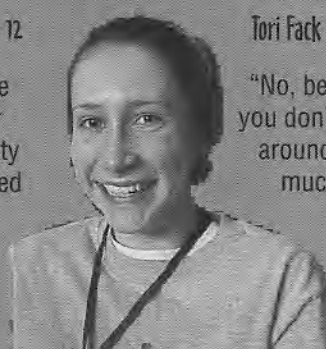
Jenna Johnson - 10

"Yes, it seems like a lot of people's cars have been broken into."



Allison Jesswein - 12

"No, because over all, our school is pretty clean compared to other schools."



Tori Fack - 10

"No, because you don't see it around that much."

■ Vending: (Continued from page 1)

"It pays for awards nights and helps pay if a sports team goes down state to compete, plus anything else they could possibly need," says John Berta, athletic director.

There are only a few fundraisers a year to raise money to support the athletics, and with the loss of nearly \$30,000 from shutting the vending machines down they wouldn't be able to afford to do all the things they do now.

Some parents feel that vending machines are unhealthy for their children.

"They complain about kids being obese, and they don't really have a choice of healthier foods. Your choice is either candy or chips," said Amanda Buckner sophomore.

N. H. Vending Company owner/president Cliff Laskowski said "We offer just about anything vendible, like sandwiches, desert,

microwavable products, milk, cold drinks, juice, and basically anything that most convenience stores offer.

So if we can have healthier items in our vending machines, why don't we? Philip Knapp, junior, believes that students wouldn't buy healthy food.

Markavitch would have students taste different kinds of foods. Then he would have the students pick out their favorite kinds, and then put them in the

vending machines.

Many students feel that shutting the vending machines down wouldn't solve anything, but only make more problems.

"It would be a pretty dumb idea because a lot of people use the vending machines. And if the vending machines were gone it would increase lunch lines. There already isn't enough time to eat lunch," said Brianne Wiand, junior.

"It's a last resort," said

Markavitch. "I hope it doesn't get to the point that I have to shut down the vending machines. I don't want to have to shut them down, but if I do, it will be the last option. Hopefully the students will understand I mean business before it gets to that point." ■

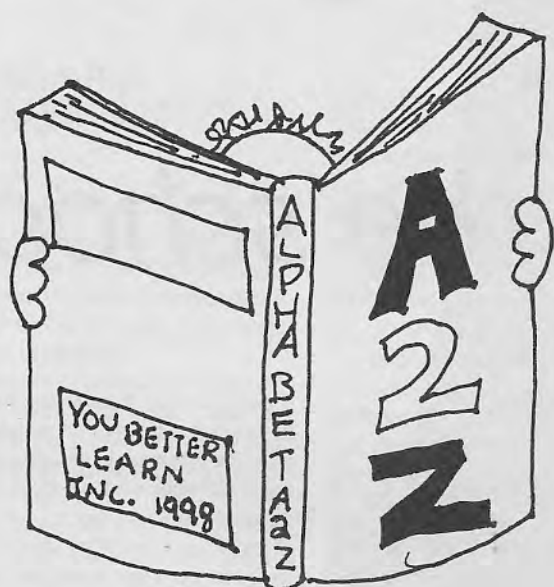
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"It [the vending machines] pays for award nights and helps pay if a sports team goes down state to compete, plus anything else they could possibly need."

-John Berta, Athletic Director

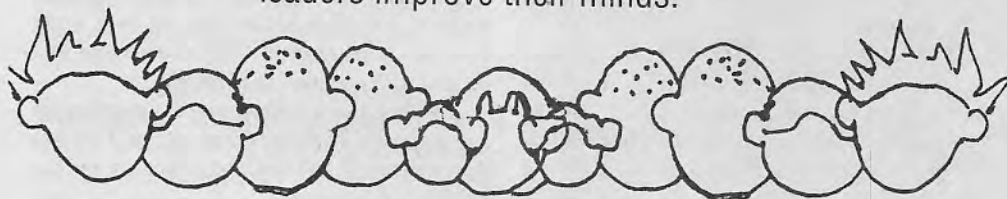
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Volunteering their efforts for t



Read to children

Children need a special kind of exercise; they need to exercise their imaginations. Take some time and help tomorrow's leaders improve their minds.



Healing the disease of hunger: Riley students serve at kitchen

Becky Nijak
Staff Writer

To most people, volunteering is just another thing that they don't want to do. So, Andy Kirksey, Christen Scogins, Amanda Sommers, and I set out to see why it was so hard to volunteer.

The *Hope Rescue Mission (HRM)* has been open since 1954. It was originally meant to house men who were alcoholics and drug addicts. In 1963, they started to house women and children. The mission of the *HRM* is to offer support to these people, to try to break their dependencies, and to lead them on the road to Christ.

As we arrived to the *HRM*, we saw the faces of some of the homeless people who stay there. They were there because of a drug dependency or alcohol abuse. Our job was to serve lunch to the residents, employees, and the homeless for an hour and a half.

We arrived at 11 a.m. Don Bloore, volunteer coordinator, showed us to the kitchen. It was a steep stairwell to the basement.

In the kitchen, there was only enough room for eight people. The dining hall barely fit 35 people.

We put on our aprons and either a hairnet or a hat. We were instructed to serve a given amount of each food item to each person.

By the time 11:30 a.m. came around, the residents and employees were served, and were heading back to where they were before lunch. I couldn't believe how many people lived or worked in the *HRM*. The *HRM* houses 60 men, women, and children.

At 11:55 a.m. we started to make trays for 10 people. The *HRM* only allows 10 people in at a time because they don't know how each person will react with the others.

As the first group of people came in, my heart sank. Standing there was a mother and her son. The mother couldn't have been over 25 and the son was barely able to see over the counter. I felt so sad for this family because I had been raised with a mother and a father. We had a roof over our heads and food on the table every night. This small family didn't even have a house.

By 12:15 p.m., we were serving our third group of people. By that time, the mother and her son had left. As I stood there serving the people, I heard almost in unison 'thank you,' after 'thank you,' after 'thank you.' These people had nothing, but still had every bit of respect that the Queen of England would have.



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

LEND A HELPING HAND: (Left to right) Amanda Sommers, Becky Nijak, and Christin Scogins help prepare food in the kitchen of the Hope Rescue Mission in South Bend.

When we arrived back at Riley, we received a call from the director of the *HRM*. We had served a hot lunch to 93 people!

In my 16 years on earth, I didn't think that I would ever volunteer or become so involved in the community. This opened my eyes to the world outside my shell.

Over all, volunteering isn't at all what everyone makes of it. When you volunteer, you feel as though you have done the greatest deed in the world. ■

Pick up trash

There are many opportunities to help clean up the community. There are even some available here at Riley. Clubs like T.R.E.E.S. often help out by picking up trash in and around the school.



Toys for complete f

Whitney L. Griff
Staff Writer

How would you feel if you woke up couldn't afford to buy you any presents?

Some children wake up Christmas morning with nothing underneath the tree. Care to help? Donate to the Toys for Tots drive.

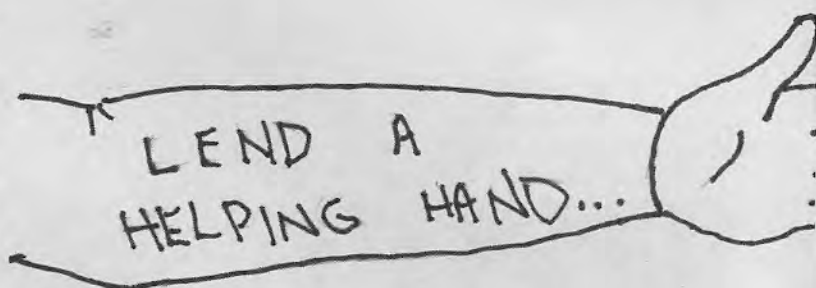
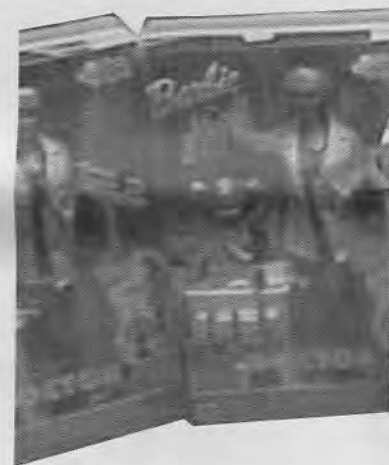
The Toys for Tots toy drive originated in 1947 when the U.S. Marine Corps decided to take up a collection of toys for children in need.

During the month of December, Riley students will be collecting toys for children between the ages of 1 and 14 where it will be stored for safe keeping.

Master Sergeant Roy Mullins, ROTC instructor, has been collecting toys for many years and it has been a tradition for him.

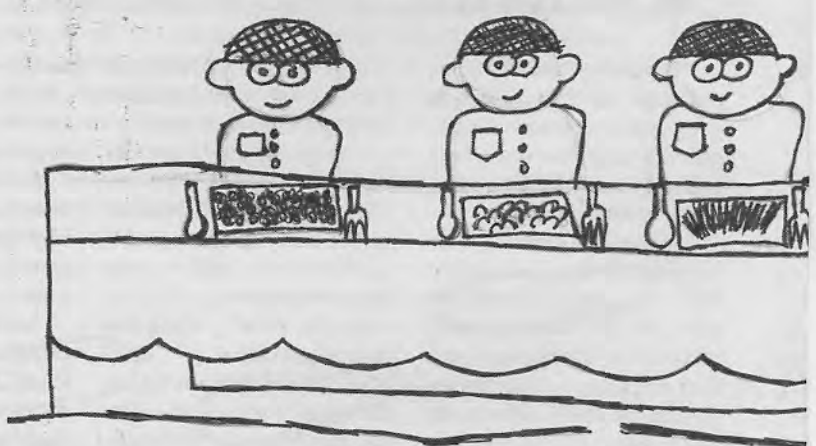
After Riley is done collecting all the toys, the ROTC students will come pick up the toys. If cash donations are made, they will be given to the ROTC.

Riley students go out to the WNDU parking lot on a cold December morning to start the collection. After an hour of directing traffic, your friends will be able to see the tent that they have set up, according to Mullins.



Serve food

Many organizations such as the Hope Rescue Mission help preparing and serving food at their facilities in South Bend.



the greater good

tots: Making Christmas for area children

n/Patrick Sims
riters

on Christmas knowing that your parents
For some this is a reality.
ning to a bare tree with no presents be-
for *Toys for Tots* toy drive.
in 1947 when the *United States Marine*
toys for the local children. Today, this
and even at our own Riley.
students can bring in new, unwrapped
d 15 and drop it off in the ROTC room.
instructor, said that Riley has been col-
en a big success. Last year alone Riley
ys, they call the Reserve Center and the
nations are given, Mullins goes out and
ck to these that are less fortunate," said
cking lot on US 31 before the sun wakes
helping set up and prepare for the rush.
t get frozen and you just want to stay in
Patrick Sims, junior and ROTC Corpo-

time directing traffic that he got frostbite on his feet, but he didn't care because he was just glad to help out. "I did it to help some little kid," said Butler.

Eventually after being there long enough, you will think that there's some national crisis because all you see and hear are hundreds of police cars coming your way. But the officers are just there to personally drop off their donations, said Sims.

The goal of the *Toys for Tots* toy drive is to deliver a shiny new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to needy children that will show them that their fellow man still cares about the less fortunate and is thinking about them.

In the past years, the toy drive has generated over 17,000 toys in the Michiana area alone. "I think the toy drive is good for the community," said Abby Spencer, sophomore.

After all the toys are collected they will be taken back to the Reserve Center. The toys will then be separated into age groups of 0-3, 4-7, 8-11, 13-15. Families of the community can put in applications at the *Salvation Army* to see if they are eligible to receive toys.

The *Toys for Tots* drive is much bigger than just Riley High School. This year, 160 different local area businesses have drop sites. The *Toys for Tots* drive happens all across the country.

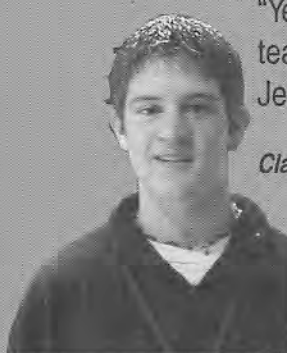
Founded on the saying that "every child deserves a good Christmas," parents of millions of children will be spared the pain of having to tell their children that Santa isn't coming this year. ■

Cody Butler, junior, was at the
Toys for Tots toy drive his freshman
year. He spent so much



What have YOU done?

Your very own classmates share their volunteering ideas and experiences.



"Yeah, I've been helping teach a class about Jesus at my church."

Clayton Steele, 11



"I helped clean up some houses that were T.P'd."

Chris Howard, 9



"I did *Toys for Tots*, a fund raiser for the American Cancer Society, a thing for the humane society, and a community play for charity."

Tom McKee, 11



"No, I don't know what I could volunteer for."

Eric Bikowski, 11



"I coached the St. Matt's volleyball team."

Megan Lesar, 12

An All ★ Volunteer; Misty Perrin takes the cake

Estella Tabb Ganger
Staff Writer

Volunteering helps people who are alone, homeless, or hungry. Some people may volunteer for recognition; others may volunteer because it's a requirement. Misty Perrin, junior, volunteers because she enjoys the feeling she receives from helping someone.

One program Perrin volunteers for is *Hospice*. This program helps families get through difficult times. For example, if there is a man who has cancer and is bedridden, his family won't have to deal with his sickness alone.

Each fall, *Hospice* sponsors a six-and-a-half mile walk in Potawatomi Park. At the beginning of the year, participants fill out pledge forms and try to get people to sponsor the walk. If the person participates in the walk, these sponsors give \$2 to *Hospice*. Perrin has been involved in *Hospice* since her sophomore year and every year she walks the six-and-a-half miles to raise money.

"The first year I participated in *Hospice*, I decided to roller blade instead of walk. Well, when I was going down a hill behind IUSB, I ran into about six people. After about a mile, I decided to walk the rest of the way," said Perrin.

"Misty is very enthusiastic and

dependable. Most times, she's the one to ask me when we're going to do something. She's a very hard worker," said Mary McMann, French teacher.

Another program Perrin volunteers for is *Habitat for Humanity*. Over the summer, a group of people get together and build a house for someone in need of shelter. In 2002, Perrin and a friend, Riley graduate Steve Miscel, came up with the idea of having a *Youth Build*. They presented their idea to the *Habitat for Humanity* board and the idea was given to the ten high schools in the area.

For *Youth Build 2002*, Perrin was the Riley student representative. The project of building the house started the first week in July and ended around August 17, 2002. Some of the things Perrin did in the house were putting in doors, working on the rafters, and dry walling. Perrin will serve as the student representative for *Youth Build 2003* this summer.

Perrin also participates in *Special Olympics*, sports activities designed for the mentally and physically challenged. Last year was Perrin's first year participating in the program and she packed over 500 sack lunches for the Olympians.

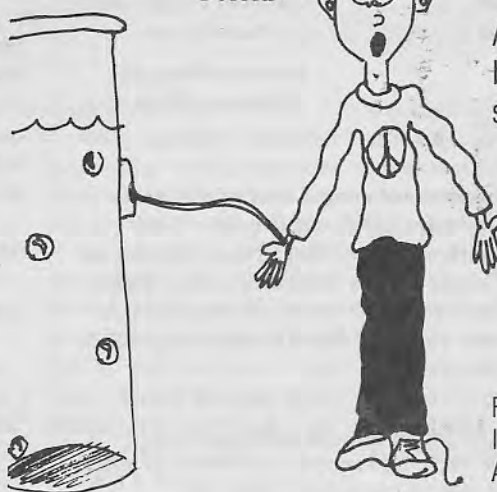
Every chance she gets, Perrin encourages others to volunteer too. "Misty is really great; she does a lot of volunteering. She's inspiring," said

Allison Ciesielski, sophomore.

Perrin doesn't just participate in volunteering programs, she does little things too, like donating blood and clothes to different places. She also participates in the soup kitchen with her church youth group at the *Salvation Army* in LaPorte. Not only does she serve the people food, she feeds those who can't feed themselves.

"The other day, I went shopping at Kroger's. They had a display for non-perishable food items and instead of spending money on myself, I bought \$5 worth of canned foods and donated it," said Perrin.

Perrin



feels that she will be volunteering for the rest of her life. She's been volunteering for about a year and a half now and doesn't have any intentions of stopping. She doesn't really know why she volunteers, but it just feels right. "When I find something I want to volunteer for, I just go out and do it," said Perrin.

This year, Perrin plans on working with the *Homeless Center*, she wants to be a tutor, and she wants to work in the chapel and the nursery. ■

Give blood

All you lose is a little bit of time (and blood of course), and you get the satisfaction of knowing that your blood may save a person's life. Accidents happen every day, and without the crucial blood they need, many people would not survive.

For more information on donating blood:
Indiana Blood Center: 1-800-632-4722
American Red Cross: 1-800-448-3543.

Taking the test: Riley considers a possible change

Mary Hall
Staff Writer

If drug testing in sports were to be adopted, Jim Berger, football coach, feels that everyone representing the school should be tested. Berger feels that failure of one test should result in suspension. His players would have to attend every practice, but they would not play in any games during mandatory suspension.

The consequences of refusal or failure of a test have not yet been set in stone. There are many situations that may affect the punishments of a failed test. If a student athlete fails, should he be kicked off the team?

If a senior is counting on a scholarship to attend college and he fails the test, should he be kicked off the team and risk losing the scholarship? Should a repeat offender have a more severe punishment?

Riley has not yet adopted an official drug testing policy, but a policy relating to drugs is listed in the *S.B.C.S.C. Secondary Schools Student Code of Conduct*. The policy states that the possession, use or the sale of alcohol/drugs (including look-alikes) results in a parent contact. It can even result in a five day suspension, a mandatory police referral, and possible due process expulsion.

In the future, this may be different. A June Supreme Court ruling stated that students have a Fourth Amendment right against unwarranted searches and seizures, but their right is waived when they join an extracurricular activity. Is drug testing a violation of student rights or a needed

policy to regulate drug use in schools?

As stated in our current United States government book, the Fourth Amendment is still intact and used in our judicial system. Jim Spears, history teacher, said that anything within the school grounds is school property, therefore if the school has suspicion against an athlete, it may take action in testing. This includes the searching of lockers as well.

There are many ways to test. There is a urine test, a blood test, and a hair test. Urine testing is the least expensive method but it can be faulty. The person taking the test urinates in a cup and the cup's contents are tested.

When a test is performed there should be a follow-up to ensure the test results are accurate. The blood test is the most expensive of the tests because a specialist ensures that the proper safety precautions are followed. Blood is drawn from a specimen and it is then tested for drugs.

The hair test is performed by sampling a strand of hair from the person being tested. This method can detect drug usage within a window of 90 days.

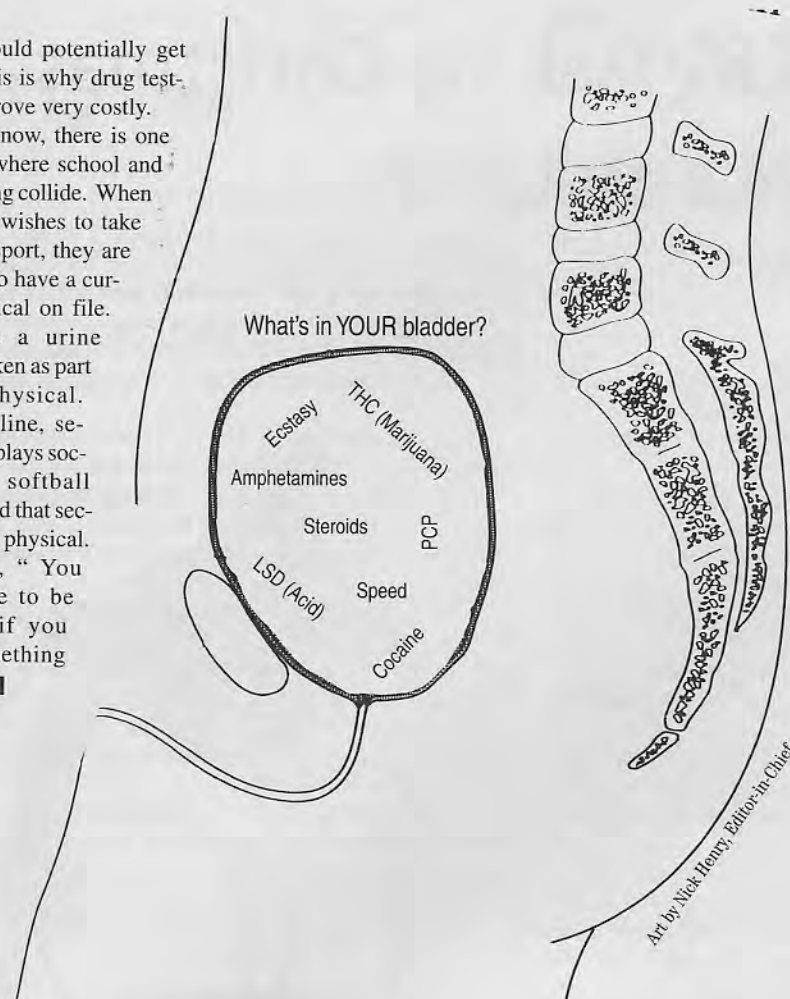
Any of these methods could be quite costly. The cost of a test depends on the amount and type of drugs being tested for.

At schools that already partake in drug testing, failure of a test does not appear on a student's record. If a student is tested, the tests are to remain confidential.

Any school that tests for drugs must ensure that the procedures are performed correctly and a student is not falsely accused. If a student is falsely accused and a false positive arrives the

school could potentially get sued. This is why drug testing can prove very costly.

As of now, there is one instance where school and drug testing collide. When a student wishes to take part in a sport, they are required to have a current physical on file. There is a urine sample taken as part of the physical. Laura Helene, senior, who plays soccer and softball didn't mind that section of the physical. She said, "You only have to be worried if you have something to hide." ■



Security shortage encourages skipping

Patrick Sims
Staff Writer

Terrorism has invaded our school! Or at least that's what administrators seem to believe. We

opinion

have safety precautions for everything, a large number of students at Riley don't follow these plans. IDs are not worn, lunches are skipped, and so are classes. A handful of students haven't even seen the lunchroom this year.

And then, we have our security guards running around in the midst of it all, trying to fix an unfixable problem. At least, it can't be fixed with

the current security we have.

Try as they may, security guards cannot be in every place at once. A few do have certain areas that they patrol. These are 'high traffic areas' where skippers tend to accumulate. One person cannot do as much damage as a group, but I've seen some people that can do more damage alone than with a group of friends.

True, we do not have that many security guards. We also don't have enough cameras. Since there are fewer security guards, maybe the ones we have should be stricter.

Some students walk into the building in the morning every day with no ID on. They brush

past the security at the front doors, as if unnoticed. Some students haven't worn an ID all year, except on special occasions. And these people just go untouched by security's reach. Many students skip every day, but most of them don't even leave the building.

Where do they go? They go into every nook and cranny this building has. But we just don't have the manpower to check all these places at once.

What we lack in security guards, we try to make up for in cameras. Although we do have cameras and backup videos of the day's events, we just don't have cameras in all the needed places.

Look at the vandalism going on in the parking lot. We may be able to tell what type of car it

is, but wouldn't it be better if we could just zoom in on the car and get a license plate number?

Also, as some may have noticed, you see students leaving the building all the time without a word being said to them. Now, some students do have cadet teaching or co-op or just plain don't have classes, but how can security be sure that the students leaving fall into that category without checking first?

We've got roughly 1,700 students in this school, and only a handful of security to keep track of them all. There are four floors in this building, but not enough security to patrol every floor.

Our security just isn't up to snuff as of right now. Some of the fault may lie with a shortage in staff. Some of it may lie with a lack of security equipment as well. In the meantime, we all must work with security to solve the problem. ■

Many students skip every day, but most of them don't even leave the building. Where do they go?

Staff Editorial Slippery when wet!

Yet again, the scourge of Napoleon's armies, *General Winter*, has returned on his yearly migration from Russia to Michiana. Perennially, the winter months have been unpredictable and even debilitating in the South Bend, Elkhart, and Mishawaka areas.

Dangerous roads come with the territory, and the only thing you can do about it is drive carefully. But, when students get up at 7 a.m. and make the trek to school, they should not have to risk their lives in their very own school parking lot.

The student lot is already sheeted in glacial slabs of ice, which are conveniently hidden by the snow. It really does not make for good footing, as well as safe parking for the students who've been up until all hours of the night doing homework, or pretending to do homework while chatting online with their new DSL lines.

About 6 a.m. on December 9, social studies teacher, Ed Linetty slipped and fell on his way from the teacher's parking lot to the building. He cracked some of the bones in his wrist, and its badly bruised. Unfortunately, not all of the students and faculty at Riley are that resilient.

According to principal Stan Markavitch, the sidewalks are the responsibility of the building custodial staff. However this is dependent upon the amount of manpower and equipment available to the custodians. It seems that the icy fjords in and around the parking lot are another symptom of our corporation's distinct and distressing lack of funds.

However the *Review Staff* believes that salting the steps, sidewalks, and parking lots is an economical and effective means of reducing the hazard.

We believe a diligent effort needs to be made to reduce the risk of injury to both staffers and students alike. ■



the Review

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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.

Whoa, Baby! • One teen's story of labor and delivery

Lisa Washington
Staff Writer

I had just finished a foot-long sub from Subway. As I took my last bite, I felt a sharp pain in my belly. It was my first contraction, which felt like violent punching and kicking. I immediately screamed out in pain as my mother came running. She was frantic and soon went blank, as I began to panic.

By this time, I had slowly crawled to the bathroom. My mother's cries seemed to yell, "What should I do?" After searching for a phone, she dialed 9-1-1 and explained our situation. I was sitting on the bathroom floor in too much pain to move.

As the paramedics arrived, I was moved into the hallway and checked for abnormal signs. Everyone was standing around me with shocked looks on their faces. After being loaded on a stretcher, I was rushed to *Memorial Hospital*.

During the ambulance ride, my contractions grew closer together and the pain intensified. It seemed as if the driver hit every pothole possible just to make the experience harder for me. With everything moving in slow motion, I felt ready to die.

Once I arrived, I could only think about sleeping. It seemed so tempting to close my eyes and dream. I was checked to see how much I had dilated and at four centimeters I was advised to walk around.

After 20 minutes and many more contractions, I was put back in bed where the pain was lessened. Since it wasn't helping the birth progress along, I was told to take a warm shower.

About 90 minutes later, I was checked again. Six centimeters into dilation, I felt hungry, big, and extremely tired.

Hooking me up to an I.V. was the paramedics' next duty while I prepared for an epidural due to intense pain. My mother was my only comfort as I laid my head against her body while waiting for my injection.

As if this weren't enough, my mother began

to get dizzy and almost fainted. The nurses fetched her a chair and a glass of orange juice.

Within 15 minutes, I felt no pain as the shot began to take effect. My body felt like *Jell-O* and trying to move it was like trying to control a waterbed's motions. The waiting was so tiring, I soon drifted into sleep.

My doctor came in to check me about a half-hour later. I was dilated at nine centimeters and despite the doctor's wishes, I began to push.

Once I was officially approved to begin labor, my mother held one of my legs as I began an experience that will forever change my life. However, the labor was too much for her and she fainted.

Meanwhile, I took nine good pushes and on December 14, 2001 at 12:42 a.m., my baby was born. I named her Tyonna Marie and she weighed six pounds six ounces at birth. The moment it was over, I knew my life would never be the same.

Becoming a teenage mother has changed me significantly. I have to admit that it was a drastically tough change, but one I never regret. I have a responsibility to my child's needs and wants. Having her depend on me gives me a very maternal feeling.

A child is not like a doll you can pick up or leave behind. Full-time care comes along with the decision to have a baby.

Balancing schoolwork with sleep has proved hardest for me. I can't decide for myself when I go out or what I can do anymore; my child does.

Although I would never recommend becoming a teenage mother, it isn't all bad. Of course my social life has been in a strain and I cannot go have fun with my friends as often as before, but having something you love so much in your life makes up for any ill will.

I will say this again: I would never want to change what happened and will never wish to turn the clock around. My life is different, but they say change is good. I now know what they mean. ■

I would never want to change what happened and will never wish to turn the clock around.

-Lisa Washington, Senior



Photo contributed by Lisa Washington

BABY LOVE: Lisa Washington, senior, holds her daughter, Tyonna Marie. Tyonna turned one year old on December 14, 2002

Letters to the Editor

Braid policy still unraveling

DEAR EDITOR,

I know you probably get this complaint a lot and that's because it's a big issue. Why can't boys wear braids in their hair? None of the students here see the big deal. It's stereotyping teachers and principals that have the big problem with this issue. I see some afros that look like someone got a little to hungry and took a big bite out of them. I'm white, and I have long hair. I like to braid my hair too. I'm sure I'm not the only one. People would appear more decent looking if they wore braids instead of our naps we call hair. We're here to learn, not to worry about what we're wearing. We should be able to wear what we want. Isn't that discrimination? If not, then I don't know what is.

Sincerely, Zach Klaudusz
Zach Klaudusz

Exceptional tardies

DEAR EDITOR,

I have a transportation problem that began two weeks ago. First of all, my cousin got into an accident in my mom's van. A week later, my mom was driving my cousin's car and hit a parked truck. My sister and I have missed a lot of school because of these problems and we are late if we do make it to school. We are from LaSalle and we chose to come to Riley. Although we were promised a bus, none have shown up yet. I've tried to explain to my teachers why I'm continually late or miss school, but I feel like a bad student. I'm writing simply to get across my concern about receiving all my due credits and making up my absences.

Sincerely, Dominique Suggs
Dominique Suggs

The girls keep positive

DEAR EDITOR,

What happened to the support the girls' basketball team used to receive? We've lost two games, but our spirits are still high. Many have said we're losers now. I don't understand how anyone can say that when our team practices hard and tries their best. That explains a winning attitude if you ask me. The only thing bringing us down right now is peoples' negative comments about the team. Please think twice before cutting us down. We will still claim victory this year.

Sincerely, Beatrice Pedraza
Beatrice Pedraza

Bathrooms out of stock

DEAR EDITOR,

I would like to complain about the atrociously kept girls' restrooms at Riley High School. If I'm lucky enough to find a restroom unlocked, I walk in to find the floor flooded, bathroom stalls locked, used feminine products, and a complete disarray of filth. When I finally find a clean restroom, there is no toilet paper. If I would like to wash my hands I usually discover there is no soap or paper towels. Janitors get paid to clean them and keep things filled. If they don't want to do the work, then I have a piece of advice: FIND A DIFFERENT JOB! No wonder people are late to class.

Sincerely, Amy Guy
Amy Guy

Let the talent shine, please

DEAR EDITOR,

Many students have heard rumors that there may not be a talent show this year. I would personally be very upset if this is true. My band mates and I were going to make our debut performance this year during the show. I would like student council to rethink the talent show because many are interested in it and it raises much-needed money for our school.

Sincerely, Jon Baldizon
Jon Baldizon

I'm with the band

DEAR EDITOR,

I'm concerned about band. We never get any recognition. We try our hardest to make the games more enjoyable...but nobody cares. Every year, someone in the crowd feels the need to yell obscene things at us and it doesn't seem fair that we take such abuse. You may not know it, but the Riley band goes to different competitions every year. In fact, we are currently preparing for our biggest competition ever. However, I doubt many students will show up to show support. I'm frankly tired of people not caring!

Sincerely, Stephanie Sinka
Stephanie Sinka

Are we ghetto?

DEAR EDITOR,

What is going on with this school? There are so many rumors being spread to other schools about how bad and ghetto Riley is. Parents even seem to believe this is true and many will not send their kids here. Why are we getting the bad rep when we are considered a *Blue Ribbon School*? I think we are labeled as 'ghetto' simply because of our location. I think students and parents alike should rethink these accusations and take a look around. Riley High School produces many well-educated students and is focused on fulfilling our needs. If this is ghetto then I will be the first to apologize.

Sincerely, Beatrice Pedraza
Beatrice Pedraza

Pro

The Letter Grade:

Should letter jackets be allowed?

Con

The rules should apply to all; jocks included

It's a typical school day. The teacher hushes her students after the bell rings. The room is freezing, but the teacher instructs all of the students to put their jackets in their lockers, in accordance with school policy. The students get up to leave, but a few students wearing letter jackets remain.

The other students return, shivering, while the jocks sit back, warm in their coats. Does that seem right to you? It certainly doesn't to me. I praise principal Stan Markavitch's decision to enforce a unilateral ban on all coats in the classroom.

For decades, athletes have been given special treatment for their abilities. They are known to get special favors, breaks from teachers, and less homework.

How far will it go? If athletes were allowed to wear their jackets while the rest of us freeze, it would have perpetuated the sense of favoritism.

Though the future is a major concern, the present should be focused on now. What kind of message were administrators giving off by favoring athletes over others?

This rule was especially unfair considering the temperature of the school. It's freezing here at Riley; even heavy sweaters don't keep students warm. It's a proven fact that a warm environment helps stimulate the brain. In cold environments, students' brains shut down, prohibiting them from concentrating in their classes.

By letting all students wear jackets, we'd be promoting a learning environment. However, a major concern with allowing jackets to be worn is the threat of students possibly hiding weapons or contraband items in their coats.

With the styles of today's clothing, including loose sweatshirts and baggy pants, weapons could be easily hidden in any outfit. If certain students were allowed to wear jackets in class, would that mean they were less likely to smuggle weapons and drugs into school?

Why don't we ask Mr. Markavitch to remove his suit coat, since NO jackets are allowed in school. That's ridiculous, right?

Just like letting students freeze while they have warm coats stowed away in their lockers is ridiculous.

Why don't we ask Mr. Markavitch to remove his suit coat, since NO jackets are allowed in school. That's ridiculous, right?

-Sarah Michalos, Sports Editor

Sarah
Michalos

Sports Editor



Letter jackets show school spirit

What is wrong with students showing Riley pride by wearing their, or their friend's, letterman jackets?

What if you take the bus and you don't have time to run to your locker after sixth period? You should be able to take it to class, so you don't miss your bus or ride.

What if you are walking in the doors as the bell rings, you have your first hour books in your hand and a letterman jacket on? Your teacher might send you to lockout and you will miss out on your educational time.

Many people feel that it is all right to wear letterman jackets in their classes during school hours. I am one of them.

Teacher and head football coach, Jim Berger, said, "Yes, I do think athletes should be able to wear them because they have earned them and they only show school pride."

Jamie
Shirtz

Staff Writer



"Yes," Donald Peck, senior, says, "we should be allowed to wear them because it's a way to show how active you are in the school and show your accomplishments."

Students occasionally wear their letterman jackets during school hours to their classes and most of the teachers do not seem to mind. Why should they mind? Students are showing school spirit.

A letterman jacket is nothing bad. It has no gang symbols, foul language, advertisements, or anything bad on it at all. It just has patches that students have earned, the year they graduate, their first and last name, and sometimes a school logo. There's nothing bad, nor offensive, on the jackets. Principal Stan Markavitch doesn't have a problem with students wearing them. "I think that it promotes school spirit," he said.

I can understand that some people see it as a jacket and as a jacket only, but they need to look at it from another person's point of view. Students have earned the patches on the jackets. Why can't they show them off at the school that they earned them from? Like I have said before, there is nothing bad, nor offensive, on the jackets.

If you are not able to wear a letterman jacket, why should you be able to wear a class ring, or a hooded sweatshirt (hoodie) or shirt with your sport and, sometimes, your last name (or nickname) on it? It pretty much shows the same thing as a letterman jacket.

A letterman jacket is simply something that students have earned and (should) have the right/privilege to wear.

As for the LaSalle letterman jackets, I think that they should be allowed to be worn because it is not the students' fault that LaSalle was closed. They had no say in their school's demise.

I know that it is the school corporations' rule and that's why some teachers agree with it, but rules can be changed and so can some minds. I'll say it again; there is nothing wrong with showing your school pride by wearing a letterman jacket. ■



Photo Poll: Should students be able to wear letter jackets during class?



Rebecca Finn, 9

"Yes, because it is what you have accomplished for the school."



Kieth Stephens, 12

"A jacket is a jacket. People wear them to keep warm. They should be allowed."



Eric Reamer, 10

"Yes, it shows your school spirit."



David Sandmark, 11

"All jackets should be allowed or no jackets at all."



Tamika Lockett, 11

"I don't think so. If it's cold outside, dress warmly."



Trisha Urbanski, 10

"Yes, they should be able to wear any jacket."



Rah! Rah!: See page 2

The Cavadini Legacy: See page 3

Mighty Mike Markham: See page 4

Riley strives for state

Suntana Granderson

Staff Writer

When people look at Riley's basketball team this season they might say, "We will make history this season in girls' and boys' basketball. With the closing of LaSalle, Riley acquired some of the top players in town.

Former boys' varsity coach Tom Debaets resigned last year. Coach Mark Johnson from LaSalle, who led his team to a sectional victory last season, has taken over the job and has brought good talent with him.

"The team can't really worry about what went on at LaSalle last season; they can only focus on this season," said Coach Johnson.

The new players are hoping to turn last year's losing season into a fantastic season, Johnson said.

"You can't compare the guys who went to LaSalle last year and those who went to Riley. They both have come together to make a team, so the only way you can look at it is we are all one team," he said.

"Riley is looking good every day in practice and is working hard on and off the court," he said. The players who plan to help make this season successful are: guard Vynsynt Vann, center Brandon Dixon, and shooters Brandon Prince, and Brandon Patton.

"Our goal is to make this season one that we will always remember, and all the players know what it will take to be the better team," Patton said, "We can never let up on anyone. We will always have to come to play no matter what."

The team is looking for Patton to step it up big time, and put everything in faster motion this year. Vann will also be a major factor for Riley this season, coming from LaSalle. He scored 18 points per game, and tossed around approximately eight assists per game. He hopes to become the best point guard that Riley has ever had.

The players know that they are the talk of the streets, but they say they can't let little things like that interfere with their game. They have to keep focus throughout the whole season. Prince said, "The team should stay positive about everything, we should never think negative about anything if we are a team."

Johnson said, "We really can't judge ourselves until we play someone." Johnson also thinks that you really can't prepare for who's next, everything that they work on in practice is for whoever is on the schedule. The team has a lot of trust in themselves, and wants to be the best of the best in the midwest.

Vann said, "Not to get a big head or nothing, but to me no one around should be able to stop us if we play together."

He also feels that they have too much quickness, height, and bench to be stopped. The team feels that they have a statement to make and they won't stop until they make it.

The team opened the season 4-1, bouncing off the loss to Goshen on November 30, and coming back to crush Glenn on December 3. The explosive guard Vann led the way with 24 points, 9 assists, and shot 12-17 from the field.

It was an excellent night for Vann on Tuesday as they crushed Glenn 100-64. "We still have things to work on, but things will only get better for us," said Vann. Over the weekend the boys played *East Chicago Central*, and won with a score of 81-72.

Judging from the last four games the team feels there is still work to do. Prince said, "The team did well by executing the offense and converting the shots, but we feel we need to work on defense."

Forward Demetrius Avance thinks that the team needs to work on communication, as well.

When asked how he motivates the guys before a game, Coach 'J' replied, "You can only motivate the kids who want to be motivated by the things the coaches say, those who don't want to be motivated are the ones who get sent home. There is no particular way you can motivate someone." ■



CAN'T TAKE IT AWAY: John Duke, junior, runs down the court after making an impressive steal from an East Chicago player.

Photo by Andrew Krishna, Editor-in-Chief

All the children in Mr. Johnson's Neighborhood say:



CAN'T TAKE IT AWAY: Coach Mark Johnson gives a friendly pound to his varsity player Vynsynt Vann

Christen Scogins
Staff Writer

With a new teacher and new varsity boys' basketball coach, what can we expect to see on the court this year?

A lot of fans are curious to see what coach Mark Johnson has in store for the team this year. Adam Chodzinski, LaSalle graduate and Johnson's former manager said, "You can expect tradition. He is able to find talent that others aren't able to see."

Johnson transferred to Riley this year after his position at LaSalle was eliminated due to school wide redistricting.

Adam Scholtes and other fans said, "We would like to see the spirit brought back to the boys' basketball team."

Johnson is a new teacher at Riley and the new basketball coach. Johnson said, "Every one has went out of their way to make me feel extremely

■ See Johnson: on page three

Justin McKesel, Staff photographer

Ready? Okay! Cheerleaders prepare tough new routines

Sarah Michalos
Sports Editor

They withstand grueling try-outs where only the strongest survive. They practice for three hours every day they don't have a game. Their sport is their life. Who are they? Wrestlers? Swimmers? Basketball players? Wrong. They're cheerleaders.

"Cheerleading is an extremely hard and time-consuming sport. It's not all fun and games," said Sarah Taylor, junior. Taylor has been cheering since she was in sixth grade, and even though cheering is challenging, she enjoys every second of it.

The squad spends many afternoons in the gym practicing their cheers, stunts, and dances. They start out every practice by cheering the school song 'full out', as if they were at a game. The girls also strive for hitting the hardest stunts and pyramids. "We stay focused by setting daily goals and working until everything is perfect, or is as close to perfect as we get," said Taylor.

During try-outs, perfection counts for everything. There are many requirements to become a cheerleader; first and foremost, grades. Other requirements are technique, (jumps, tumbling, stiffness of motions), attitude, (smiling, voice projection, enthusiasm), and commitment to the sport.

This year the girls are adjusting to their new coach, Becky Kelly. Kelly decided to fill the void in the coach's position to spend more time with her daughter, Heather Kelly, a freshman cheerleader. "This is my first time coaching anything," said Kelly, "I'm just going with what I know." Kelly was a cheerleader when she was in high school, so she has some experience.

The members of the squad feel that their new coach has helped make their season a success so far. "She is very organized and caring. She is someone we can talk to," said Ashley McKissic, senior.

Charlette Hawkins, sophomore, thinks that Kelly's creativity helped raise money for the cheerleaders. "She came at the beginning of the year when we didn't have a coach and started coming up with all kinds of ideas," she said. Kelly organized several fundraisers to help fund the girls' uniforms and buy T-shirts and sweatshirts.

Even though Kelly spends lots of time with

the girls during practices and games, they often come over to her house to 'hang out' and play music. "I have so many kids calling me 'Mom' now," said Kelly, "my house is always full!"

Kelly has seen a lot of improvement in the girls' skills since she started coaching. "JV never stunted before, and they are now," Kelly said, "and varsity is doing more with stunts." Kelly gives the girls more freedom than they had before, because she feels that the more freedom the girls get, the more creative they'll be.

However, the girls are satisfied with their squad and their cheering experiences. "I love every minute of it!" Jesswein said. Hawkins has

also had a rewarding cheering experience, and plans on staying on the squad in future years. "For the most part it has been worth it because it's something that I enjoy doing," she said.

All of the girls enjoy cheering now, but decided to cheer for different reasons. "I would go to the Riley basketball games with my brother when he was in high school and I saw the cheerleaders," said Taylor, "they would talk and smile at me and I was like, 'Mommy, I want to be a cheerleader!'"

Jesswein thought cheerleading looked fun. "My friends talked me into it," she said. Hawkins also joined because of her friends. "My friends talked me into it be-

cause I can't play anything that involves balls!" she joked.

Despite their reasons for joining the squad, the girls feel like they're practically family. They joke around about seeing each other so much, they should just buy a big 'cheer house' and live together. "Basically, our only day off is Sunday," Taylor said.

However, the girls want to stay focused on cheering and continuing to work hard this year to achieve great things. The squad's mottos are, "We must be the best of the best!" and "Never give up!"

These mottos are taken seriously, and so are the memories the squads shares. "We have so much fun together; we'll talk of our cheerleading careers for years to come!" she said. ■

"Cheerleading is an extremely hard and time consuming sport. It's not all fun and games."

-Sarah Taylor, Junior



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

GO TEAM!!!! The Varsity cheerleading squad cheers the boys' basketball team to victory at a recent game against East Chicago. Linda Johnson and Becky Hannah perform the 'cradle' technique here thanks to their new coach, Becky Kelly.

Coach Kelly lifts cheerleaders to new heights



Jamie Shirtz
Staff Writer

They think she's a student, but she's a coach. Becky Kelly heads up the cheerleading squad in order to spend more time with her daughter,

Heather, a junior varsity cheerleader.

Kelly is very creative when it comes to building floats and creating fundraisers. "Martha Stewart is nothing compared to her!" said a few of the cheerleaders.

She is very supportive of the girls, and even helps them out with fundraisers. You might have recognized her at the cheerleading team's car wash, when she had pom-poms and was jumping up and down and yelling for the people to come until she was hoarse.

"She [Kelly] gets along very well with us," said Linda Johnson, junior and varsity cheerleader. "If we don't listen, she may yell at us, but other than that we get along great!"

"She doesn't put up with foul language or

snotty attitudes," added Johnson. "She makes sure that we remember that we are one team and not individual teams [freshman, junior varsity and varsity]. We have learned that we need to work together as one team, because it's all for the better."

Kelly would like to be the coach for as she can. "She enjoys her job and working with the girls very much," said her daughter Heather, freshman.

Kelly does not have an assistant coach but she does have two managers: Jamie Shirtz, sophomore, and Amanda Haddock, freshman.

The two managers help out with the fundraisers, and help Kelly out in any way possible. Whether it may be with the fundraiser, or

even just keeping the girls in line at practice, they are more than happy to help.

During practices, Kelly makes sure that the cheerleaders [and lifters] stretch correctly and don't slack off. Before they start to work on their cheers and pyramids, they cheer the school song. They also do stomach crunches, push-ups, jumping jacks, etc. When the cheerleaders and lifters 'build,' they have to be supervised and have to be on the mats, in case they fall. They all have lots of fun during practice.

Although she is still new to her coaching duties, she still enjoys the job and has fun. She wants to continue coaching at Riley for the years to come. ■

Ice skating is 'cool' option this winter if you follow the rules

Becky Nijack
Staff Writer

Living in South Bend doesn't give you many options on things to do on the weekends. Bowling, the movies, snowboarding, and ice skating are a list of things to do on a winter day.

"Ice skating is very relaxing to me, it makes me feel free," Jacqueline Skwiercz, sophomore.

Ice-skating is a fun way to exercise and chill out with friends. You never know, some day you could be the next Scott Hamilton or Tara Lipinski.

In South Bend, the rink is full on a Friday night with almost 100 people at Howard Park Ice Rink. Every session is full with students for around the area. St. Mary's, Riley, Clay, Adams,

Washington, Penn, and Mishawaka are just a few of the varieties of letterman jackets that you will see while you skate.

Monday through Thursday, Howard Park only has one session per night, from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. On Friday nights, they offer the weekly session and another session from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. On Saturday, they offer a third session from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sunday's sessions are 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Howard Park charges according to where you live.

According to them a city resident is someone who lives in the South Bend city limits. For these residents it is \$2 per session for students ages 6-18 and \$4 for adults. For the non-city residents, it is \$3 for students and \$6 for adults. Children under 5 years old get in for free. Skate rentals are \$2 per person per session.

Once you get out onto the ice, there are a few rules to follow:

- * Skate the same direction as everyone else
- * Don't knock anyone down on purpose
- * No food or drinks

"I personally love holding onto the walls."

-Alison Kitt, Freshman

on the ice

The rink guards will give assistance if you need help, such as if someone fell down or got into a fight.

Skating is not for everybody though. "The first time I went skating I went around the rink eight times and fell about 20 times. It was fun but not enough to go back. I hurt myself too much," Julie Vander Weide, junior.

"I hate ice-skating because when I was little I fell and got blood all over the ice. It is an okay date if you can actually skate, or else you'll just look stupid. I personally love holding onto the walls," said Alison Kitt, freshman.

Just remember that if you have nothing to do during winter break, go to Howard Park. It's the newest hang-out in town. ■

Boys' swimming continues 18 meet winning streak

Kyle Hudak

Staff Writer

Our boys' swim team has taken out Mishawaka, clawed their way to the top at the Munster Relays, walked over Adams, and just plain beat St. Joe. It seems to be the beginning of a great season, hopefully even better than the last.

"Even with Penn in our sectional, we won't be stopped," said Alex Nimtz, junior. Kyle Ludwick, sophomore, agrees, "It will be a great chance to push ourselves and reach new heights," he said.

The team has a great lineup this year, including Kevin Blue, senior and co-captain, and his younger brother Tim, freshman; Louis Cavadini, senior, and David Cavadini, sophomore; helping out is an amazing group of returning swimmers who are going to make up the heart of this dedicated team next year.

New swimmers are always asking the veterans for

help and advice on how things work, how to improve your stroke, and anything else they

can think of. One person who is easy to approach on these things is Chris Denton, senior. He's always willing to help and make sure everyone tries their hardest.

As much as they enjoy the support of hundreds of alumnae and dozens of parents and teachers, only the team can decide to take the challenge and lay their best out along the lane lines.

"I just write the workouts," said John VanDriessche, coach, "It's the boys who have to decide what they want. I could stand around and breathe down their necks every second of practice, but if they didn't want to get any better, it wouldn't do any good. Fortunately, these boys know what they're capable of, and they know what they want: a state championship trophy to bring home to the pool."

"I know we can make it there, but we can't hold anything back. We have got to lay all our cards on the table and send a message to all the other teams that this is our year, so they better get out of the way or we're going to run all over them," said Nathaniel Utz, sophomore.

VanDriessche said, "I'm afraid to think about what's going to happen next year. We might not be on the top, but hopefully we'll be in the top ten."

The team is holding an undefeated record going this year with a current total of 18 meets that they've won in a row. "The only way this team can beat an undefeated season is to make that two undefeated seasons in a row, and it looks to be the case at hand this year," said Ludwick. ■



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

DIVING INTO SUCCESS: The boys' swim team makes a stunning start at their November 8th swim meet.

Vynsynt Vann: Driving down the courts

Ashley Nance

Staff Writer

Varsity senior Vynsynt Vann has been playing basketball since the fourth grade. "I like it because it keeps me busy and gives me something to do in my spare time," said Vann.

Most people say that their role models are celebrities. "My role models are my parents. They're always there for me," said Vann. He looks up to his mom most. "I'm a momma's boy," added Vann.

"Vynsynt and I are really close and he tells me everything. He knows that he can count on me to support him and any decision he makes," said his mother Lisa Vann.

Vann may have left a family at LaSalle, but he came to Riley where he already has some family. Kyle Vann, is a senior known for his dancing in the group *Caution*.

If you see these two guys walking down the hall you could tell they're brothers. "I knew a lot of people were going to say we look alike," said Kyle.

However, the guys aren't as close as they seem. "We don't talk to each other that much. We only talk at school," added Kyle, who doesn't live with Vynsynt.

Vann also has long-time friends on Riley's basketball team, one of them being Brandon Patton. He's known for his good looks and his basketball skills. Vann and Patton have known each other since the eighth grade.

"It was a plus having him come to Riley. He's very unique, smart, humble, and a talented point guard," said Patton.

"I've known Vynsynt for four years. He is a role model and we need more people like him on this, earth. I think he's a leader because he's like a coach on the court," said Andreo Harris, junior.

But despite his stardom, some feel that he is too shy. "If I could change one thing about him it would be for him to talk to more people he doesn't know," said Kyle.

"I'm shy because I really don't like

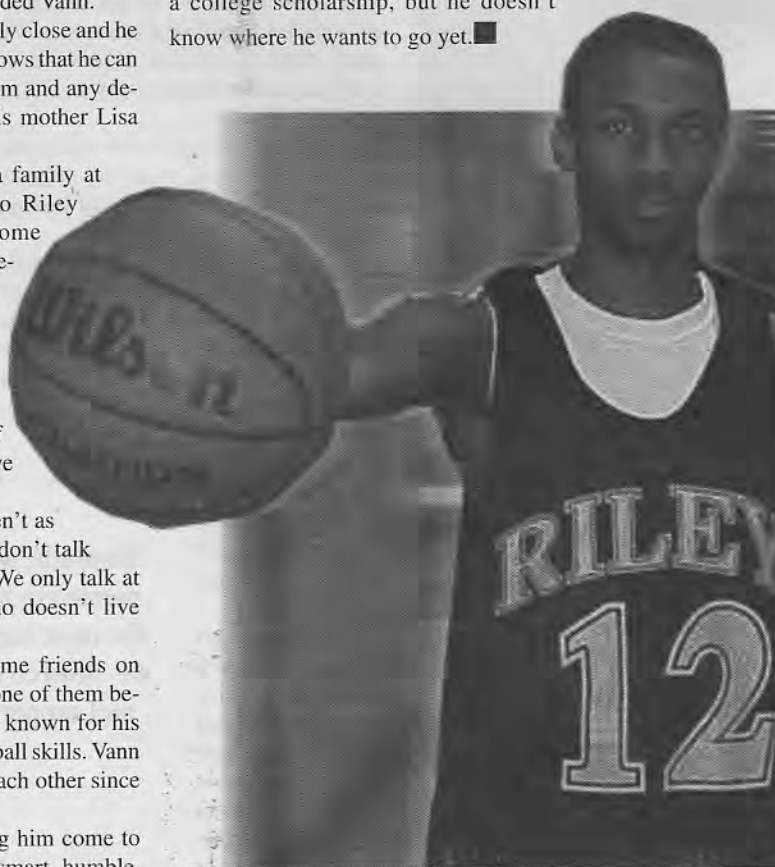
attention," said Vann.

"This year's going to be a season to remember. We're both better than ever," says Patton.

"I'm happy that he came here to Riley. It takes more pressure off of me by having him as a teammate on the basketball court. The one things that is special about him is that he is smart and has skill to go pro (not) he's more of a *Division 1* player," said Harris jokingly.

"I'm going for the state championships," said Vann. Vynsynt is looking for a college scholarship, but he doesn't know where he wants to go yet. ■

THE GRIP:
Vynsynt Vann shows his strength by gripping the ball single handedly.



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■ Johnson: (continued from cover)

welcomed here."

"I will always have a special place for the *LaSalle Lions*, but I am loyal and glad to be a full Wildcat," say Johnson.

Johnson has won four sectionals, two regionals and participated in two semi-states at LaSalle. He has also won one sectional, one regional and won one semi-state at *Fort Wayne Dwenger High School* during his career.

The semi-state win at *Fort Wayne Dwenger* was a very important game because it was the first semi-state win in the history of the school," Johnson said.

He has been a coach for 26 years and plans to finish his 12 years here.

Johnson said that he really enjoys what he is doing and is very happy to be here.

Johnson's goals this year are to "get established to the program, be able to pace ourselves to play the best basketball game by tournament time."

"My biggest goal is to get better. You can only get better or worse, you can never stay the same, the game basketball can change one mentally, physically or emotionally," he added.

Johnson's biggest challenges are to get players to be willing and able to do what is asked of them. The importance of the team is what matters most to Johnson.

As far as the team goes, Johnson says there is no difference between the LaSalle players and the Riley players. They have all come together as a big *Wildcat* family.

Johnson said, "The players made the family come together. It's amazing how they have come together. We all talked about trust, getting to know each other and learning how to play."

Vann said that they all played with each other at two summer camps of over the summer, so that gave them a chance to get to know each other.

Dixon, a former LaSalle student and now a Wildcat said, "at the end of last year's season everyone sat down, and some of us agreed wherever Coach Johnson went, that's where we would go". When asked if he thinks that his fans will follow him just to see him coach, Johnson said, "It's not about me. If there is enough pride, it will carry." Chodzinski, however, said that people will come just to see him coach. ■



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Hockey team overcomes rocky start

Ashley Beelaert
Staff Writer

The Riley hockey team did not have the start that they thought they hoped for. They lost their first few games having their record at probably 6-8-3(ties). "[We had a] slow start but [we are] turning around," said Tom Fautz, senior captain. Despite their slow start, they are now working together and understanding what teamwork is all about, according to Fautz.

Winning strategies

"Our strategies for winning are to know where teammates are and to talk, but then you can't have strategy because hockey is too fast and you can't think, you just do," said Branden Balentine, junior.

The guys think they have enough skill to go to state and with skill comes the attitude to make it there. "I think we have the skill and potential to make it to state," said Kyle Vanderheyden, freshman.

"The few practices we've had, we started out with physical skating drills then the break out drills. 'Break Out' means getting the puck up to the sideboards and breaks it out of the zone. The toughest thing to accomplish is the physical skating drills and the mental break out drills, the drills you have to anticipate what the other player does," said Balentine.

You gotta be tough

The hockey players say that you have to be tough and have to be able to take the emotional and physical pain of the sport. "It is tough and it is hard at first but if you are a true player, they will get through," said Balentine.

"One of our strengths is our chemistry together and we are also improving by being in shape since we have a new coach this year. He pushed us to the limit with intense practices. The goals of the team are to help younger players to be motivated and to play well, but my goal is to work as hard as I can," said Balentine.

According to Balentine, "For that 30 seconds, it is the most intense 30 seconds of the sport, and if we do not go to the rink prepared, our performance reflects that."

The part about hockey that the guys like the best is checking. A check is when an opponent hits you and you fall almost or every time. "I like to hit the guys and watch the look on their face when they fall, but I like to use the term, lay them out," said Vanderheyden.

The fans are a big part of the game performance, because when fans are present, the guys know people are there watching them and cheering them on. There are special fans that are called 'Ice Angels.'

Ice Angels keep it frosted

'Ice Angels' are female students assigned to a hockey player who buys, or makes him a gift package the size of a shoebox or bigger. The 'Ice Angel' buys the players candy, drinks, and toys. The angels also go to the games and cheer on the guys and travel with the guys so no matter what, they have fans. ■

Markham leaves his mark

Amanda Sommers
Staff Writer

Though they are often depicted as enormous muscle-bound miscreants thrashing one another on late night television, wrestlers come in many shapes and sizes. Riley has a champion wrestler in the shape of Mike Markham.

A senior, Markham is ranked first in his 189 pound weight class. Though he does get nervous before matches, he doesn't let it get to him. "You just get out there and try to beat your opponent. You don't really think about anything else," Markham said.

Although he doesn't plan on making a career out of wrestling, he still spends a lot of time practicing, often up to three hours a day. "People think that practice is tough, and there is a lot of drilling. It may seem tough at first, but you get used to it," he commented.

Practice includes running, jumping rope, and practice wrestling. "You can't just prepare for one meet, you have to prepare every day in practice; and conditioning is the best way," he said, "and the hardest thing about wrestling is staying in shape. Conditioning is my focus."

Markham said that the best moment of his wrestling career was going to the state competition last year. "To see my face on the big television at the Conesco

Field House and receiving a medal [for participating in the match] was cool," he said.

Markham truly enjoys wrestling, and it shows. "Markham is a good wrestler because he takes it really seriously," says teammate Carvell Wigfall, senior.

His teammates have a very high opinion of him. They think he's an excellent wrestler and a great leader. Wigfall says that he considers Markham a leader because "he's inspirational." Markham considers himself a leader. "People like to play around a lot and I constantly remind them to stop."

Markham would like to be named game captain. Captains are chosen by the coaches, and the

position is usually given to someone who cares about wrestling and maintains a serious standard of behavior.

Markham's goal this year as a wrestler is to return to the state competition. He explains that he is different from other wrestlers because he has experience and believes that he pushes himself harder. Last year's match was Markham's best. He wrestled against the returning state champion, but lost 3-0. "Even though I lost, a match that close is a great accomplishment. I would have rather won, though," he said.

Markham's personal goal as a student this year is to raise his GPA to a 3.3 or a

“You can't prepare for just one meet, you have to prepare every day in practice; and conditioning is the best way.”

-Mike Markham, Senior



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

3.4. Next year he wants to attend a small community college.

A student with a full schedule, Markham is a teacher's aide, and is in third year Spanish, ceramics, economics, fourth year English, and earth science.

Besides school and wrestling Markham works at Meijer. "I spend most of my time outside of school at work," he explains. He said that if he didn't have to work, he wouldn't, but Meijer is very flexible about his schedule and he likes that.

He is also involved in PSI, which is where students from Riley go to Jackson and talk to them about the importance of 'Postponing Sexual Involvement.' ■

LAYING THE MACK DOWN: Mike Markham, senior, is victorious over Gavin Mack, senior.

Through the hoop: Girls' basketball team begins the journey to victory

Ashley Beelaert/Linda Johnson
Staff Writers

The Lady 'Cats are back to their winning ways with a 5-2 record. The girls are satisfied with their season so far, and many of the players look at basketball as a privilege and an opportunity, not just a sport.

"I want to be a contribution to the team whether it's scoring, or playing defense, or just being a supporter," said Brittani Moody, senior.

Whether or not they play, the girls have to prepare themselves mentally and physically for each game. "We do drills and run and run to keep ourselves in shape physically. Mentally, we focus on what

is needed to be focused on, but the most important thing that we need to work on is helping and supporting each other," said Jenny Swanson, junior.

The team has changed a lot since last season, since they lost some good players. "We lost four very valuable seniors: Dionna Topps, Missy King, Myra Brazier, and Renee Chapman. We're missing their hustle and determination," said Mike Megyesi, coach.

However, the girls aren't easily discouraged. "We are doing fine so far but we need more work on intensity," said Crystal Norman, senior.

"They start the game out strong, but for some reason, they seem to lose intensity the last minutes of the game. They need to keep up the same high intensity throughout the whole game," said Tamara

Osbourne, junior.

Both Megyesi and Norman said that they expect everyone to play hard every day. Since the team has practices daily except for game days and Sundays, the girls feel like family.

The basketball season lasts for six months, and everyone will be together until the season ends. The coaches and team agree that they spend more time with each other than with their families.

Many players look up to their fellow teammates as role models. "I admire Suntana Granderson, not only because she is one of the best players, but also because she is always giving 110 percent," said Melanie Davis, sophomore.

Davis also admires Granderson because she is always trying to improve herself; and Davis thinks she will go far in the future, and is very deserving.

“Mentally, we focus on what is needed to be focused on, but the most important thing that we need to work on is helping and supporting each other.”

-Jenny Swanson, Junior

"The team's strongest points are that we have great athletes and great people," said Megyesi.

However, the girls are upset about their two losses. "Right now they can't be as successful as they want with two losses," said Osbourne.

The girls work hard at practices trying to improve their skills. "My least favorite thing we do at practices is running longs (13 lines back and forth) and shorts (seven lines also back and forth)," said Norman, "but what I do like to do is shooting and defense drills."

Although they do work hard, the team's main goal is to have fun, and fun for a basketball team is winning titles.



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

CAN'T TAKE IT AWAY: Suntana Granderson, senior, shoots a three point shot at last Friday's game against Penn. The girls won the game, leaving them with a record of 5-2.

"My goal for this year is to win the NIC (Northern Indiana Conference) first, then we'll concentrate on other things," said Megyesi. ■