

the Review



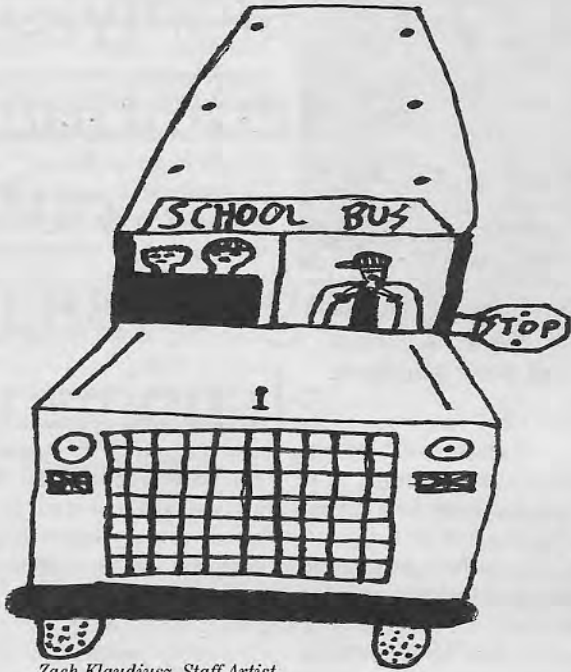
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James Whitcomb Riley High School • 1902 South Fellows Street • South Bend, IN 46614 • Volume 33 Issue 3

Delayed buses spell tardy students



Zach Klaudiusz, Staff Artist

Estella Tabb Ganger
Staff Writer

What would you do if you were sent to lockout because your bus was late? Some students have been complaining about this ever since the first snowfall hit last year around Christmas time.

Tanesia Booker, sophomore, rides bus number 55 and says that her bus is ten minutes late most days. She arrives at school at 7:40 a.m., right when the first bell rings, and has to hurry to get to her locker and go to her first hour class on the fourth floor.

Randall Lewis, sophomore, has the same problem. According to Lewis, his bus is often

15 minutes late. The first bell has already rung when he arrives at school and instead of being able to go to class, Lewis is told to go to lockout.

Stan Markavitch, principal, refers back to the class meetings held at the beginning of the year. According to Markavitch, he told students that if they were late because of bus transportation problems, they needed to go to the attendance office and get a pass.

"I remember the class meetings, but I don't remember him [Markavitch] saying that," said Ross Ford, junior.

According to June Bensley, the attendance office secretary, the only way she can issue a pass is if the bus driver calls in and tells the school that the bus will be late.

"If a bus driver knows that his bus will be late, he radios our office and then we call the school. If there is a case where the bus driver doesn't call us, Judith Dolstrom, the head of the transportation office, handles it.

There's no specific way in which the driver will be disciplined, though. We haven't been able to confirm these complaints, but we reminded the bus drivers of the procedures anyway," said the transportation office.

So, were the students late because of the snow, or be-

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"If a bus driver knows that his bus will be late, he radios our office and then we call the school."

-The Transportation Office

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cause of bus drivers?

Although there haven't been any more complaints about busses being late since the beginning of the year, students and bus drivers have been informed on what to do if this happens again. ■

Thrown soda pop endangers student

Ashley Beelaert
Staff Writer

Can you imagine yourself sitting on the stairs doing homework or writing a letter and then someone throwing a half-empty pop can at your head?

Junior, Shawn Jewart was just sitting and writing a note to his girlfriend, between the third and fourth floor stairs when this happened.

Some people had thrown a fruit cup at him that missed, but right after that, they threw a half-empty pop can that hit his head. "The whole day I was dizzy and couldn't work well," said Jewart.

"The symptoms I had were light headedness, sharp pains, a hard time standing up, and I had a hard time working. To this day I still have migraines," said Jewart.

Jewart wasn't the only one who had something happen to him. The principal, Stan Markavitch, also had an incident. "I was on the second floor during lunch when I saw a half empty pop can being thrown from above, and I'm not sure where it had come from. The cameras weren't pointed in the right direction at the time when it happened," said Markavitch.

Many students have had similar experiences.

"I was walking up the staircase near the weight rooms at the back of the school and I heard two people laughing on the stairs above me. The next thing I knew, a full backpack was thrown from above the stairs onto the step behind me. Had I been walking just a little bit slower, the backpack would have landed on my head," said Ben Marshall, junior.

Cruelty and mischief are also factors.

"Freshman year I was walking down the main stairs and somebody above spit down into the group of people on the stairs. Some of it hit my back, and I didn't even know it until one of my friends told me. I had to borrow someone else's shirt to cover up the huge, nasty wet mark from a stranger's saliva! It was disgusting. They need to realize that what they're doing is dangerous," said Sarah Michalos, junior.

"It all depends on what is thrown and also where from to determine the danger of getting hit," said Velma Rassi, school nurse. "If someone gets hit in the eye with a pencil dropped from above it can cause blindness, and also if someone gets hit on the side of the head in a certain spot it could kill them," said Joseph Caruso, a local doctor.

"One incident is too many and after I heard what had happened my reaction was anger," said Markavitch.

"To alleviate these incidents, let one of the staff members know. They will treat it confidentially. The punishment includes expulsion and the I will treat it to the fullest extent and turn it to Kendall," said Markavitch.

"It all depends on what is thrown and the damages and injuries it has caused to determine the consequences. Punishment can range from three to five day suspensions to an expulsion," said Kendall. ■



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

BOMBS AWAY: Brandy Purnell demonstrates how a student was injured after being hit by a pop can. She is standing on the balcony of the teachers' lounge located on the fourth floor of the building.

News Briefs

New Art Section

◆The Review staff would like to include a student art section in the next issue. Students may bring their art submissions to room 429. Submissions should be no larger than 8 1/2 by 11 inch originals or clear photos of their original work.

Mid-Winter Ball is here!

◆It's finally here! The Mid-Winter Ball is being held this year at *Holiday Inn*, downtown South Bend. It takes place on Friday, February 21 at a cost of \$25 per couple, or \$12.50 for the single folks. The junior class is hosting the event.

Black History Month

◆February is *Black History Month*, and Riley is celebrating it with a black history program. The program will feature a show with performances by many of the school's talented students.

ROTC Ball

◆The Riley MCJROTC is having its annual ball on February 7. It will be held at Saint Hedwig Hall on Western Avenue and Scott Street in downtown South Bend. Any ROTC student can purchase a ticket for \$15 from Master Sergeant Roy Mullins.

Current dress code revised

Morgan Goodhew
Staff Writer



in high schools.

Stephanie Forsberg, junior, said, "The dress code we have now is fine, but there are a few exceptions...like clothes that don't fit which expose certain individuals."

Branden Balentine, junior, said, "When girls wear pants that ride low and show thongs, it's distracting and not at all appropriate for school."

Many students would prefer a little less 'negative exposure', but on the other hand, still like the freedom of being

Restrictions may be made to the present dress code next year.

A committee is being formed downtown which will review establishing a dress code or uniform

allowed to wear basically what they want every day. This line must be drawn by an administrator, and negotiated by students.

Stan Markavitch, principal, said, "The present dress code is too liberal. The fashions are a distraction and not necessarily appropriate for school, but they are great for a dance or the beach."

Teachers agree. Joyce Weik, English teacher, said that she has the most trouble with students at the beginning of the year, when everyone wants to wear skimpy layers. Weik also says that she gets students to comply with the dress code by reminding them of the school handbook.

Parents seem to side with the principal about limiting the revealing and inappropriate attire teens are wearing. They think that being a little more restrictive is fine, as long as the school is consistent with everyone, not just 'specific' people.

Dana Spencer, parent, said,



Justin Mikesell, Staff Photographer

HOME GROWN VALUES: Administrators are making the current dress code more strict to prevent violations like the one depicted above. Students, parents, and teachers all agree that changes are needed in the student dress standards.

"Teens need to learn to adapt to society by following appropriate standards and to adopt a certain image. Also, teachers should have the same dress image, and act as a role model for students to follow."

Students seem to think that the dress code is established by the board of school trustees,

but that isn't the case. According to Richard Sheehan, school board member, "The dress code policy is in most part, an individual high school's decision rather than a school board matter."

"Many students believe that an advantage of attending a public school is being able to

wear what you want every day," Sheehan, said. "A public school's responsibility is to help you prepare for a job and in the words of the Army, 'Be all you can be'. Any advantages should relate to reaching that goal."

Theodore Neumann, family practice doctor, agrees that a

dress code teaches teens to adapt for their future by dressing for a job. He understands that they feel that a dress code infringes on their freedom of choice and expressing individuality, "but they should learn to become accustomed to it now, in preparation for later," he said.

The disciplinary actions that will take place for not abiding by the rules vary. Markavitch said, "The worst punishment would be as little as someone having to wear a humorous T-shirt over their inappropriate clothes (It might read, 'I love Mr. Markavitch') or if it's really bad they would be sent home to change."

Markavitch is more than willing to sit down with students to try to compromise with the dress code. He says, "students should be able to have a say in the clothes they have to wear."

However, the standards committee may implement a new code for all schools next year. Markavitch assures, "We will wait to see what our attorneys have to say, but our hopes are that it will be put into action with Plan Z next year." ■

No escaping 'the draft'

John Finn
Staff Writer

The *Selective Services* have been around for many years now. It is a governmental program that requires all 18 year-old men to register in case our government was to ever reenact the draft.

The federal law which the agency operates under is the *Military Selective Service Act of 1948*. The mission is to provide the armed forces with the manpower they'd need in a national emergency. The *Selective Service* is also responsible for assigning alternative services to those who object to the draft.

Beth Horban, assistant principal, used to be the contact for the *Selective Services* at Riley. She said, "People like school photographers and journalists have access to your information without even asking. It's public domain information."

The *Selective Service* lets the applicant send the information himself.

The *Selective Services Act* has been around for quite some time now. The law we have today was enacted in 1948 but others existed during the drafts of *World War I* and *II*.

But what's the chance of a draft happening? How much would it take for the government to reenact the draft? And, how easily could teenagers be drafted into a war?

According to Horban a draft is a difficult process, and if a draft were to be considered by the government, the public would know about it.

First Congress must authorize a draft, and then the lottery would begin.

Twenty to 25 year olds would be the most likely to be drafted first before any others. The chance of 18 to 19 year olds being drafted is a much smaller one.

Some think that the draft should be a permanent fixture in American society. Ed Linetty, government teacher, says, "I think that the draft should have been enacted a long time ago. It's a good idea to get kids out of high school into the military."

"A lot of kids out of high school lack responsibility and intellect. They should all get the chance to serve the country by being in the military. It would teach them a great amount of responsibility," said Linetty.

Why apply though? What harm could not applying do? Plus, what can someone get out of registering anyway?

Well, it's not just some little law. If a man fails to register and is convicted in court, he could face both a \$250,000 maximum fine, and a prison term of up to five years. Even combinations of both are possible.

A man must register in the *Selective Services* in order to be eligible for federal student financial aid, and state funded financial aid as well.

Most federal and state employment also require a man to register with *Selective*

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If a man fails to register and is convicted in court, he could face both a \$250,000 maximum fine, and a prison term of up to five years.

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Services.

So someone applies, and gets drafted, but they don't want to ever really have to fight or bear arms. What can he do?

"Even if they are not going to fight I think kids should still have to serve their country in some other way at home or in the military," said Linetty.

If a man chooses not to fight, due to his beliefs, he may appear before a local board and request to be classified as a *conscientious objector*. There are two such types of objectors.

Classification 1-0 pertains to any involvement in war, or combat. These men may be required to work on a public assignment.

Classification 1-A-0 is for men who would serve in the military but won't take up arms. They do not receive weapons or combat training but would still directly serve in the military.

Conscientious objectors need to present the board with friends and family who can testify as to their beliefs pertaining to bearing arms. If their case were good enough they would receive one of the two classifications. For male citizens, there is no way to escape registration for the *Selective Services*, it's the law. ■

WETL: Students learn communication skills

Radio station making airwaves accessible to students

Kim Hoosier
Staff Writer

Radio station! Students in the South Bend high schools are taking 'Intro to Broadcasting' at WETL (We Educate Tomorrow's Leaders). The class is held downtown at the Education Center and the signal is bounced to an antenna located at Jackson Middle School.

"The students are responsible for programming and shows. They have to turn in program logs and be on-air for at least a half-hour everyday Monday through Thursday," said John Overmeyer, program director and instructor.

Only three students from Riley are taking advantage of this opportunity. Nick Robertson, senior, Raquel Cruz, junior, and Rachel Howell, junior.

"The class is a good opportunity to expand our horizons," said Cruz.

Together, Howell and Cruz are 'South Bend's Finest,' broadcasting R&B and rap on *Shake Your Rump to the New School Bumps* from 12:30-1 p.m. on Monday through



Salina Sohlke, Staff Artist

COMING IN CLEAR: Jeanne Brownell, Adams junior, works on her on-air show.

Thursday. From 2:30-3 p.m. Monday through Wednesday a recorded show is aired.

"In addition to their show, the students must make public service announcements and report on news, sports, and weather," said Overmeyer.

Robertson hosts *The Fat Nick Show*, providing variety music from 3:30-4 p.m. Mon-

day through Thursday. "We can play anything and talk about anything as long as it's clean and positive. The music is edited and can't discuss violence, drugs, or rape," said Howell. "If anyone wants to be on the radio or get on to freestyle, they can talk to any of us involved and we can get them on the air." ■

the Corrections

Last issue (December 2002), it was erroneously reported that Coach Mark Johnson won three semi-state competitions at LaSalle and Dwenger. It should have stated that he participated in three semi-state competitions.

Students enjoy after school activities

Science Olympians anticipate fun and challenge at regionals

Molly Shook

Editor-in-Chief

Many students see upcoming science tests and projects as a source of stress. One group of Riley students, however, makes science their hobby.

On Saturday mornings, while most of their peers are still in their pajamas watching cartoons, these dedicated students come into school to tinker with robots, study for tests, and construct rockets from plastic bottles.

These people are members of the *Science Olympiad* team. They prepare for various competitions in the classroom of the team's advisor, Tom Morgan.

Science Olympiad is a way for Kathleen Pedraza, sophomore, to pursue her interest in science.

"I became involved because I thought it would be fun. I like science," Pedraza commented.

A competition took place here earlier this month. Teams from Warsaw, Clay, LaLumiere, Elkhart Central, Winamac, and Riley participated. Riley's team placed first.

The competitions are made up of a series of events. Some of these events, including *Mission: Possible*, require contestants to prepare science projects. For *Mission: Possible*, Adam Booher, junior, is preparing a device designed



to produce several energy transfers. The more energy transfers there are, the better he will score in competition. The device must start when a quarter is dropped into it, and ring a mechanical bell at the end. Booher uses a doorbell.

Ben Peak, senior, is chiefly involved with the *Wright Stuff* event. For this event, he constructs an airplane out of wood pieces. The plane can actually fly, through the use of a rubber band motor and a propeller. Peak is sticking to the design he used in the event last year. It has brought him a lot of success.

"Last year, it won second place at the regional competition and two fourth place finishes at state," said Peak.

The *Science Olympiad* team has also had previous success in the *Bottle Rocket* event. They placed second in the event at last year's regional competition. Matt Giles, sophomore, jokes that this was "thanks to lake effect snow."

In this event, Giles and Jason Karkiewicz, sophomore, prepare and launch rockets made of plastic bottles. They operate on a combination of water and air pressure. The rockets are judged based on the amount of time they are aloft.

Edianys Deynes, junior, Dan Meyers, sophomore, and Lan Do, junior, are competitors in the *Boomilever* event. The boomilever is a structure made of wood designed to hold a bucket of sand. The boomilever must meet certain height and weight restrictions. They are judged accord-

ing to their structural efficiency. The lighter the boomilever is and the more weight it can hold, the better it will perform. Boomilevers are often destroyed in competition. For this reason, the *Boomilever* competitors sometimes have to reconstruct their boomilevers several times.

"I've built about five of them," said Do. Randy Becker, sophomore, and Karkiewicz construct a robot for the *Robot Ramble* event. Their objective is to create a robot that will pick up combinations of objects that include a paper towel roll, film canisters, and a ping pong ball. The robot must place the objects into a box. Becker and Jason move the robot with a remote control.

The *Science Olympiad* team members are not as optimistic about their goals this year as they were last year. Peak believes that it is less likely that the team will advance to the state competition this year.

"Our goal this year is for everybody to have fun and try their hardest," he said. ■



ROBOT RAMBLE: Jason Karkiewicz, sophomore, works vigorously on making a robot for competition



Photo by Justin Mikesell, staff artist.

Orchestra sets the night on fire

Kim Hoosier

Staff Writer

For the past few years, Riley's orchestra has been in the background making beautiful music and winning state competitions.

"For the past eight years, we've sent groups to state and many have come back with awards," said Linda Howard, orchestra instructor.

To qualify for state, on February 22, students participate in solos and ensembles at the ISSMA (Indiana State School Music Association) contest. The contest will be held at Penn High School on February 8. Students from grades 7-12 will participate.

"A lot of their accomplishments go unrecognized because students don't come out to support the orchestra - or the band and choir - like they do with sports," said Howard.

The orchestra's annual winter concert was held in mid-December. The group of 40 was split into two groups of 20, each playing a song. The selections were *Concerto VIII*, composed by Arcangelo Corelli, and *Suite for Strings*, by Robert Washburn.

"I'm very proud to be doing the original Corelli piece in its entirety. Corelli composed that in the 1600's," said Howard.

"In the spring, the band and orchestra put on a show called 'Pasta and Pops.' People who

come to see it are served spaghetti and garlic bread while the groups perform," said Howard.

For the first time, the orchestra will be going with the band to Florida this year. The trip is scheduled during Spring Break, April 5-11. Due to budget cuts, both the band and orchestra have been having fundraisers. They have worked at concession stands and sold chicken and doughnuts. Dropping fourth grade orchestra classes is another result of budget cuts.

Lack of funds aside, orchestra teachers face a lot of challenges. "I teach at elementary, middle and high schools, all in different buildings. Life is hectic teaching grades 5-12 simultaneously. At the same time it's a lot of fun. I'd be a little frustrated and a lot less excited if all I got to do was 'Hot Cross Buns.' This way I also get to see the kids develop and grow up," said Howard.

Keeping kids interested in music over the years is somewhat difficult. "We try to keep quartets together and do a lot of competitions, such as ISSMA. The students look forward to that and working with their friends each year. People simply enjoy playing," said Howard.

Howard has been playing music since she was 12 years old, when she took up the French horn. "Then I started to play the viola and the cello," she said. "I've played for 32 years in the *Elkhart Symphony Orchestra* and I've played quite a few years in the *South Bend Symphony Orchestra*," said Howard.

"My hope for everyone is that they can find something that they're passionate about and stick with it. For me it's been music for a long time," said Howard. ■

THE DUFF METHOD:

Freshman, Christian Duff plays his violin at the orchestra concert in mid-December.

Photo by Andrew Kirksey, Editor in Chief.

Challenges of teen years leave many

Steps to take.....

Have you ever noticed a friend acting in a way that they usually don't?

When it comes to depression, there are many types, although we're listing the ways you can try and help. Information gathered by Brandy Purnell.

☹ If you think the situation is getting serious, go **talk to your class counselor**. They will be more than happy to help.

☹ "First we try to see if the student is suicidal and if they have a plan," said Judy Hums, a counselor. "We then make referrals and contact the parents, especially if it's serious. Definitely tell someone, a teacher, counselor...**Don't leave them alone. Don't promise not to tell anyone,**" continued Hums.

☹ Finally if all else fails only thing you can do is be there for your friend. Help them by talking to them, and listening to them. Take a walk, share stories, but most importantly, **just be their friend.**

☹ **First, find out what their problem is.** Try to get them to talk about it, get them to open up to you. This way you can see if they are just mad at someone, or if there is something really wrong.

One Riley student turns

As told by Jeff Irvin to Becky Nijack
Riley Student/Staff Writer

I thought about suicide a lot. I thought it was a way to get out of my problems.

At first, suicide was a comforting thought. I started with the drugs, and then cutting myself. I tried to overdose. I would always wake up, and feel like crap. It was like I never had enough guts to do it when I was sober, so I had to get drugged up and drunk to do it.

To deal with my depression I would do drugs. This led to my involvement with police and this led to more drugs. It was a cycle.

In fact, before I conquered depression and suicide, I had just been dumped. My ex-girlfriend said many things that made me doubt my religion. I didn't have any friends, because I sacrificed them for this girl, I didn't have my family because we weren't close, I didn't have my drugs because I was on probation, and I didn't have my religion because the girl had made me doubt it. I was alone.

I've been thrown around a lot from parent to parent to

parent. I never really had few friends, but

I was on probation three times.

After the break up stomach pains, I could pain relievers to stop dark, for days.

In fact, on the way rock. As I went home put the rock over my Wicca gods that my that it would never out.

I woke the next couldn't eat, and I from the pain.

My mom and brother left. I had to get out sick of living with it. I went to the kitchen

Depression detection: Are you or your friend

- ☹ regular episodes of sadness
- ☹ tearfulness
- ☹ crying hopelessly
- ☹ persistent anger, hostility, and boredom
- ☹ fatigue
- ☹ low self-esteem
- ☹ feelings of guilt
- ☹ inability to concentrate
- ☹ social isolation
- ☹ self-injury or mutilation

Stress leads to teenage

Amanda Sommers
Staff Writer

Let's face it
life's
not perfect.

Teenagers have a lot of stress in their life including schoolwork, friends, family, boyfriends or girlfriends, and their job. Sometimes all this stress can lead to depression.

"Sometimes life just overwhelms you and depression sets in," said Barbara Smith, sophomore.

"It seems like everyone has bad days, I just have more," said Alison Kitt, freshman. "I got

depressed because I didn't like what I was doing in life, there was no meaning to it."

There are many causes to depression, stress or loss being the biggest factors.

"My depression started off with my grandma dying, she was really close to me and it hurt a lot to lose her. Then my parents were threatening each other for a divorce, and I didn't have many friends," said Smith.

"My friend situations, doubt, broken relationships, loss of faith, and my hopes getting shot down caused my depression," said Mary Thomas, sophomore.

Depression can also be caused by a chemical imbalance in the brain. "When you are clinically depressed you feel numb," said Ross Ford, junior. "My family suffered a lot because I was being a major pain."

When you are depressed, suicide sometimes looks like the only way out of your pain. 19 percent of high school students from the age of 15 - 24 have admitted to having thoughts of suicide or being in a depressive state.

"I didn't feel appreciated and suicide seemed like the best way to end the cycle of depression and anguish," said Thomas. "I thought about and almost tried it."

"I got really depressed and figured there was no meaning to life, so why not kill yourself?" said Kitt.

Cutting yourself makes you feel alive," said Ford. "I tried to commit suicide five times."

Three million teenagers have committed suicide each year because of



Art by Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

My hopeless; *suicide is not the answer*

His life around: Irvin finds answer in Christ

fit in at school or in any clique or club. We were the best of friends.

on twice, and in and out of JJC two or three times. I was so torn up that I had really bad days. I couldn't sleep, and I had to overdose on the pain. I stayed in my room, in the

home from the break up I picked up a bottle of pain reliever, and I overdosed on the pain reliever, and I laid in bed. I prayed to the heart As I laid in bed. I prayed to the heart would be as hard as that rock so I could feel that kind of pain again. Then I passed

day. I felt like crap. I couldn't sleep, I couldn't do anything to distract myself

ther, the only family I had, had already died of the pain. It was too intense and I was

then and grabbed the sharpest knife I

could. I planned to plunge the knife into my heart. I knew it would hurt but it would be better than feel the pain I felt. I went back out to the living room and sat on the couch with the knife and stopped myself for a second.

I never really wanted to die. I just didn't want to feel the pain and pressure of my problems. I decided to pray. First, to the Wicca god for some sort of comfort and some sort of way out. Then, to the pagan gods. I got no answer, no comfort no help, and I had a further urge to do it.

So I raised the knife to my chest, but then something stopped me again. A thought shot into my head. I was being forced to go to church with my mother, called *Mount Mariah*. According to my probation laws, I had to do what my mother said or I'd be locked up. So I figured, "Two hours at church or I don't know how long at JJC."

I remember some of the things they said about Jesus. And so I said three words, in tears, "Jesus help me!" the very instant I said those words it was like a strong gust of wind blew through the room.

It felt as if my sorrows and pain were blown out the window. I felt a kind of joy. I was laughing and smiling. It felt

like Jesus had come down and He was sitting next to me on the couch.

Every thought and urge to commit suicide had vanished in less than a second. I don't even think it was a second. It was just that quick!

Suddenly, all of my friends, whom I thought hated me, came over within fifteen minutes, all at once.

Two weeks after that I became Christian. My problems began to get smaller and smaller until I didn't have to worry about them any more. I have gotten a lot of rejection for being a 'Jesus Freak,' but I owe Him everything because He saved my life.

I am always happy!

You shouldn't date for fun, but for the ultimate goal of marriage. Not sex.

I've been set free of my addiction of drugs. I haven't done drugs since I have become Christian. I've lost a lot of friends, but Jesus has made up for everyone of them.

If there is one thing I could say to the entire student body. Its Jesus gave you your life. So you owe Him *everything!* ■

ends depressed? Here's how to tell:

- ⊗ loss of appetite or constant hunger
- ⊗ discussion or thoughts of suicide
- ⊗ alcohol or drug abuse
- ⊗ withdrawal
- ⊗ physical illness associated with stress
- ⊗ having trouble in school
- ⊗ alcohol or drug abuse
- ⊗ thoughts of suicide
- ⊗ loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities

e depression

depression. Depression has become the third leading cause of deaths among high school students.

There are many possible ways of trying to commit suicide. 40,000 students have attempted suicide, but were not successful.

"I cut my wrist, but didn't do it hard enough, overdosed a lot, drank anti-itch lotion, and lots of other stuff," said Kitt.

"I never tried anything, but I made plans to," said Smith.

"I popped pills, anything from diet pills to aspirin. I only slept for like an hour because the pills made me very jittery," said Ford. "I never got my stomach pumped either, so all that stuff is still down there."

Depression also caused Ford to be anorexic. "I tried to avoid water because I thought it would make me look fat," he said.

Killing yourself may look like a good option, until someone opens your eyes or you realize what you are about to do.

"I threatened my mom to take me to *Madison Center* to get help after about a year of depression," said Ford. "It just got worse and worse and worse. They gave me pills for my chemical imbalance."

"My friends supported me a lot to not commit suicide. They told me to tell my mom so I could get help," said Smith "I then explained the situation to my mom who talked to my doctor who gave me some medication. I had to take five pills a day. I really found out how many true friends I had through my depression and then I learned to cope with my grandma's death."

"My parents sent me to a hospital five times. This has caused a lot of my depression," said Kitt.

"Christ, faith, and my brothers and sisters in Christ helped me get out of my depression. No one let me give up," Thomas said.

Smith, Ford, and Thomas all say that they do not have suicidal thoughts anymore.

"I don't think I'm 'better'. I'm a happier person, but it's like the depression is lurking in a dark place, so if something bad happens it'll come back to haunt me," said Smith

But sometimes suicide still looks like the right option, Kitt admits to still wanting to commit suicide.

Thomas gives advice to anyone else struggling with depression and thoughts of suicide. "Talk to somebody you trust. Don't give up no matter how bad you think it really is, there is always hope. Keep in mind that Jesus loves you if you don't feel loved." ■



Art by Christian Macon, Staff Artist and Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

The ultimate survivor:

Kenthany Murphy's stunning story

Kenthany Murphy
Staff Writer

Kenthany Murphy was born on February 7, 1987 in Chicago, Illinois. One day after his birth, he was diagnosed with sickle cell anemia. He has spent countless days of his life in the hospital battling the illness.

Tawanda Murphy-Hill raised him as a single mother and she always felt he was a special child. Doctors told her that her son was not likely to live past the age of two and Kenthany was well aware of his situation. However, he would not let this disease break his spirit.

At an early age, his progress in school was apparent from flawless reading in preschool to being computer literate in kindergarten. The illness tried its hardest to keep him from success in school; he was constantly in the hospital.

One incident in particular stands out in Kenthany's mind. Due to major back, stomach, and chest pains, he was kept out of school for one month. Shortly after, he suffered two strokes. None of this, however, compared to the abuse he suffered at school.

Kenthany had to deal with bullies at the age of six; the bullying did not end until he was eleven. He was taunted not only about his conditions, but also about his looks and how smart he was. Although never known to pick fights on his own, Kenthany was involved in many altercations with fellow students who pur-

sued him.

When the bullying became serious, Kenthany decided to take matters into his own hands. He was soon caught carrying a knife in his backpack as a form of self-defense. He was slapped with a count of threatening another student.

Soon after, Murphy suffered a minor heart attack and was placed in a local hospital. If the heart attack was frightening, nothing could prepare him for the next challenge he was faced with.

A close friend of Kenthany's was a victim of being shot in crossfire. The circumstances unfolded inside Murphy's school and he was there to witness his friend's final breaths.

"It was a sad feeling," explained Murphy, "to see my friend taken from me so quickly and for

no reason."

Almost as if a domino effect was taking place, his close cousin was killed in a plane accident the following day.

With the stress of two deaths implanted in his head, Kenthany was rushed to the hospital for another checkup. The numerous tragedies in his personal life were taking their toll on his physical health, but his mind was still reeling.

Deciding that his depression could not control his success in life, Kenthany began to look at his days in a different way. He began to appreciate each one as if it were his last.

On December 25, 2000, his newfound approach to life faced its greatest challenge. His family's home was

burglarized and all of their prized possessions were wiped out. Although the perpetrator was found, the incident scarred the Murphy family.

After eighth grade graduation, Murphy was surprised by FOX 28's Traci Capellman and Brian Sievers with a *Scottsdale Mall* gift certificate. Kenthany was able to replace some of the Murphy's stolen goods and was filled with a feeling of satisfaction.

In regards to Kenthany's unfortunate situation *The South Bend Tribune* wrote an article on him that appeared in the Christmas Eve issue. Through the paper, his family was blessed with a brand new computer for Christmas and money to turn on the heat.

"I couldn't believe it," exclaimed Murphy, shocked at the generosity.

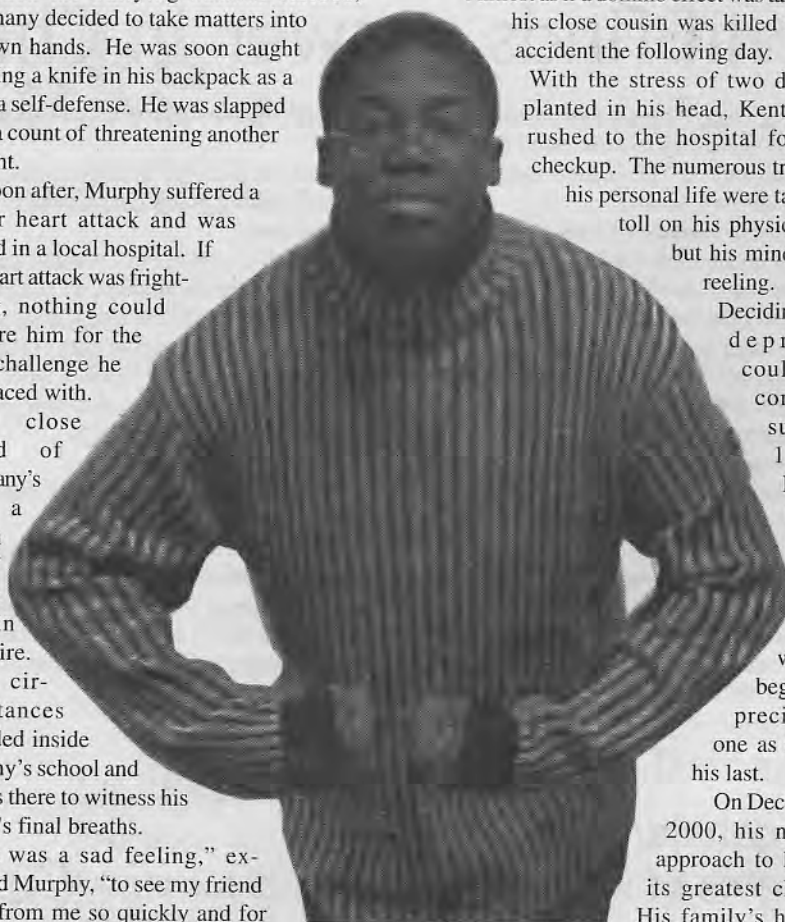
As Kenthany experiences the ups and downs of his disease, his home life is a very comforting surrounding to turn to.

Pro wrestling, one of his favorite hobbies, has become a creative outlet for Kenthany that has eased some of his pain.

A sophomore, Kenthany strives to be the best he can and achieve his goals to the best of his ability. If he has learned anything, it is that the future holds many opportunities.

Regardless of his past struggles, Murphy has seen the silver lining and is confident about whatever challenges life faces him with.

"Keeping a positive attitude," he said, "is what life is all about!" ■



John Finn, Staff Writer

Students drop the ball on stair injuries

Sarah Michalos
Sports Editor

Common sense. It's a term that's familiar to all of us, but do we really know what it means? Common sense is defined as 'native good judgment.' Now I'm assuming that mature, intelligent high school students would be able to distinguish between the phrases 'common sense' and 'very stupid and harmful.'

Correct me if I'm wrong, but it could be characterized as 'very stupid and harmful' for a student to drop a full pop can down from the fourth floor balcony into the crowd of students below. Would the student who dropped the can be known for his 'native good judgment?' Probably not.

With the recent news of vandals loose in the student parking lot and bathrooms, most people don't find it upsetting that a more dangerous type

of vandalism has been going on daily here at Riley.

Every day students who are bored, immature, or just plain ignorant, find ways to amuse themselves in the stairwells. They drop half-full, or even unopened cans of pop from the staircase to a lower level. They snicker as the can hits the ground and douses some unsuspecting freshman with *Cherry Coke*.

Ha ha. Funny. Know what's even funnier? When students stand on the fourth floor landing of the main staircase and hock a big lougie and it lands on the back of an innocent person on their way to class.

You know, I can't think of anything funnier than that. Wait, yes I can; how the irresponsible students who do these things never get punished for their actions. That's a real laugh. Especially since one of these times, the pop can will hit a student on top of the head and seriously injure, or even kill them.

As I'm sure you've noticed, this is no laughing matter. What most students think is a 'funny prank' could end up as a homicide investigation. Even an empty pop can, dropped from 50 feet up could seriously hurt someone.

Even though spitting on someone probably won't injure the victim physically, it's just plain nasty. No one wants to walk around with a big glob of a stranger's saliva on their back all day.

That very same incident happened to me my freshman year. I was walking down the stairs, on my way to *Algebra 1*, when I felt something wet on my back. A friend who was walking behind me said, "Ewww, someone spit on your back!" Not only was this unsanitary event embarrassing, it was inconvenient. I had to borrow a spare shirt. ■ (See related story page one)



Staff Editorial

Accusations proven incorrect

This issue, the *Review* received a disturbing letter to the editor from a reader and Riley student. The letter addressed a number of concerns the reader had with the *Review*, its contents, its production, and its leadership. What this reader doesn't realize is that producing a 24-page newspaper on a limited budget with a limited amount of time is a very difficult task.

First of all, our staff of writers is very small considering the amount of copy that each issue requires, and the number of students who attend Riley High School. With few writers to choose from, each writer is often assigned an overwhelming number of stories. Writers complete their stories as quickly and efficiently as possible. If the stories in our paper do not meet the standards of this student, it's time for him to stop criticizing and start contributing in a constructive way.

Content is another issue addressed in the letter. It appears that the topics written in our paper are not satisfactory to this reader. Again, it is not constructive to simply say that, "many of the subjects the articles are on are just plain stupid." Just for the record, we have not run a story on marijuana this year, and on top of that, the war in Iraq was on the front page of our November 2002 issue.

We do our best to produce a quality paper as quickly as possible each month.

It is not easy. We are self-supporting, we have five other classes to pass just like every other student, and we put in hours after school trying to complete the paper. We do our best. This is an invitation to all students who think they could do a better job writing, designing, or leading the newspaper to come to room 429 and contribute their time. We would appreciate it! ■



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Students in Journalism and Publication classes that contributed to this issue:
Amanda Cozzi, Tiffany Davis, Amber DeCook, April DeCook, Franklin Fielder,
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Jessica Marts, Ashley Nance, Becky Nijak, Dillon Nowak, Brandy Purnell, Lindsey
Shafer, Jacqueline Skwiercz, Jalisa Tobar, Paula Vandriessche, Kyle Vann, Dion
Winston, Bryce Geeter, and Bridget Willemin.

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.

Senior Blues: Upperclass disorder has heads spinning

Shaun Martz

Viewpoints Editor

The class of 2003 has a lot to be proud of. The majority are overachievers with high expectations for the future. Many are planning to attend college and live successful lives. Although the New Year has just started, this group of students has one more thing in common: senioritis.

It is an annual emotional imbalance that affects nearly every senior in every school. Usually beginning in late February, senioritis is notorious for altering students' grades and changing their educational focus significantly in the last few months of senior year.

Senior May Lee Lockhart's senioritis started to creep up within the first two weeks of the school year.

"Worrying about college is the main thing on many seniors' minds," said Lockhart.

Indeed college plays a significant factor in students' bogged down schedules during their reigning year of high school. With applications due and scholarships flowing through the guidance office, seniors have found themselves spending more time on their future while forgetting to focus on the present.

"Many times," explained senior Megan Lesar,

"I'll go home and lose focus because I'm so absorbed in my college applications."

Guidance counselor Elizabeth Gavin has seen many pupils succumb to senioritis

after waiting too long to get started on college material.

"It's a smart idea," she exclaimed, "to organize your ideas early in the year and figure out what colleges you're interested in. Once you square that information away, senioritis is not as big of a problem."

Deciding where to attend, what to major in, and who to room with are all big decisions in any student's life. However, senioritis can also be a result of impatience.

After three years of being the underclassmen, seniors have a load taken off their shoulders once that shining moment comes when they are crowned twelfth graders.

"The sense of accomplishment," said senior Kevin Blue, "is a big one. We're finally the head of the class."

As good a feeling as it is, this can easily be one's downfall. Slacking on homework because you "don't feel like it" or are "sick of wasting your time" is not acceptable behavior at this stage of high school. In fact, it becomes critical that you don't fall under this spell.

What are ways to overcome senioritis?

Many of us, no matter how busy we may

think we are, have time for stress relieving ac-

tivities. These including taking a short walk, watching fifteen minutes of television, or talking with your friends for a while.

Another way to succeed in your final year at Riley is to become more organized. As trivial as it may sound, constructing your ideas into a planner or journal has come in handy for many students.

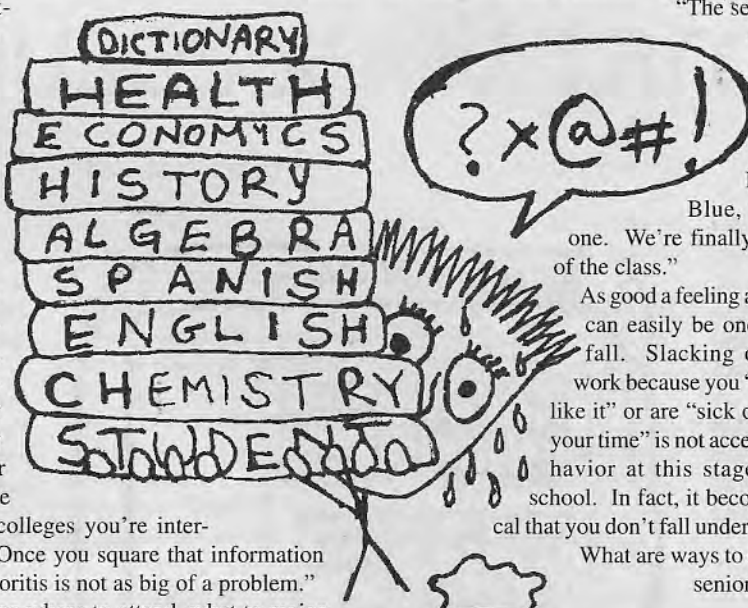
"I try to write all of my assignments down," pointed out senior Mary Therese Padberg, "and plan what times I'll start certain things."

One thing that is important to keep track of is the SATs. Seniors must keep track of when information forms are due and when the actual test dates are.

Many other tests are available to place students into specific colleges and the guidance office always has an open door for any questions seniors have on their future plans and possibilities.

Continued Gavin, "We are always here to answer any of your questions!"

In the meantime, do your homework, don't lose focus, and remember to relax when a break is needed. Above all, enjoy your final year at Riley, because the future is yours to write and many are just beginning to grab their pens. ■



Shaun Martz, Viewpoints Editor

A pessimistic student wants out!

Patrick Sims

Staff Writer

As some may have noticed in the years of attending high school, there comes a point in time when you just can't learn anymore. Normally, this point comes near the end of your senior year for your average student, but what about those who reach this status before their high school career is near its end?

After years of putting up with things that you know you won't use in life, finally you just reach the point where you can't take it anymore. You go to school just for good measure, make a few appearances, and that's about it. But since you're not 18 yet, and you don't have parental permission, you can't withdraw from school.

Now, by the time that you're a junior in high

school, you start to gain more independence. You are finding out on your own what you want to do with your life and making your own decisions. But since you haven't reached that age yet, that blissful age of freedom, you cannot do what you want with your life. Still you are hindered.

Some students just aren't meant for high school. They don't get along with the people, they don't agree with teaching methods, and they just have a lack of interest in high school. Students like me. Now, instead of doing what they want with their life, they are forced to sit through classes that they could care less about.

A lot of these students just want to withdraw from school and get their GED. Some may think that this will hinder their job selection and col-

lege selection, and in some cases it may. But what about those students who don't need a high school diploma to go to the college of their choice? Some students who just want to go to a technical school can just get in with a GED.

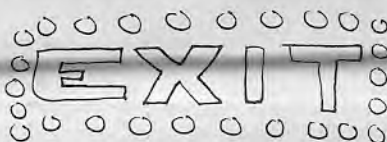
Although they can get into their college with just a GED, still one obstacle stands in the way: parents. For some odd reason, a lot of parents have a problem with letting their children do what they want with their life. They'd rather have their kids live life how the parents want them to live it. So because of uncooperative parents, you can't get your GED and are stuck.

What these parents don't realize is that no matter what they say, their kids will try to get what they want. Whether it is skipping school,

or even trying to get expelled, they will try to achieve their goal, no matter how much it affects their future for the worse. But if their parents had agreed with their views in the first place, then the student wouldn't be in this mess.

All in all, age is the deciding factor in today's modern world. If your parents are ignorant to your views and don't want to accept the fact that you are who you are, not who they want you to be, then you just have to live by their rules, or find a way around them.

So if you're tired of useless classes and early mornings, even though you have plans that would work out to your advantage, it's too bad. Because you can't legally withdraw from school without parental consent until you're 18. ■



Letters to the Editor

Backpack hupla!

DEAR EDITOR,

Why does the school have a problem with backpacks? Having them in class could greatly benefit students who are forgetful and continuously late to class. Many have to go back to their locker when they forget their textbooks. It would also cut down on tardies altogether, providing more time for restroom breaks and other emergency stops. I hope the corporation reconsiders this restriction.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Eichols

Improvement applauded

DEAR EDITOR,

I would like to congratulate the boys' basketball team on their success this season! They have shown great improvement and the entire student body should be proud of their hard work.

Sincerely,
Eric Butler

Early bird not getting worm

DEAR EDITOR,

I get to lunch early each day to avoid the long lines and overcrowding. This seems to be my only solution for the situation. However, lately the staff has been locking the doors to the lunchroom and opening them only once the bell has rung. On top of this, when they do unlock the doors, lunch ladies will not serve students until the bell sounds. I am getting tired of students who get there after I do cutting in front of me and receiving their lunch before me. Would it be so hard to serve students as they come? Why all the fuss?

Sincerely,
Ken Stafford

Library unavailable

DEAR EDITOR,

I think it is CRAP that I am not allowed in the library during my lunch hour! As a student, I should be entitled to visiting the "media center" whenever I choose. The library is not open when I come to school early and is not available after school. It should be there for my benefit and it is my right to come and go as I please. If you cannot visit, what is the point of having a library at all?

Sincerely,
Mary Therese Padberg

Bitter, anyone?

DEAR EDITOR,

There are many problems with your so-called newspaper. It is rarely issued and its content is very bad. Most of the articles are poorly chosen and do not deal with the real world. For example, the article on marijuana was a pure waste of time. Why not write about the real world? H.I.V. awareness, national security, or the war in Iraq would all be good topics. Please take my recommendations.

Sincerely,
Jonathan R. Lessans

Bring on the heat

DEAR EDITOR,

It is winter, and it is cold. Most buildings use heating to keep comfortable. Obviously, Riley does not understand this concept. In class it is hard to concentrate because you're distracted with trying to keep warm. It's harder to pay attention when there's cold air blowing on you from the ceiling vents. Jackets aren't allowed in class, so how are students supposed to cope? Riley seriously needs to do something about this issue. If they don't, students should be allowed to wear jackets and drink coffee in class.

Sincerely,
Julie Marie Carrico

FOR RESPONSE TO THIS LETTER, PLEASE SEE PAGE 6: STAFF EDITORIAL.

Tell us about it!

Here at *The Review*, we hear many different opinions about stories we've written, topics we've covered, and pictures we've posted. Comments and constructive criticism are always welcome.

We are willing to listen to your point of view! If you have a response to a story, an innovative idea, or a complaint that needs to be voiced, send us a letter. We'll gladly print your input in our next issue for others to read! Send all letters to room 429.

Viewpoints Editor,
Shaun Martz

Pro

Vender Bender:

Should we reopen the machines?

Con

Vending machines create problems

Before: Students were allowed access to the vending machines whenever they felt the need for a snack. **After:** Students are only allowed access to the vending machines before school, after school, and during passing periods. **Big deal.**

Everyone is making a huge fuss over the new vending machine policy. Who cares? For some students, their entire school day revolves around the vending machines.

They get to school, eat a pop tart and drink a coke, go to first and second hour, and by third hour it's time for a little sugar. After third hour is over, it's time for lunch. Guess where lunch comes from? That's right, the vending machines. They go and buy a bag of chips, a ho-ho and another can of coke. By the time sixth hour rolls around, they need some M&Ms to finish out the day. What is wrong with these people? Don't they ever eat at home!?

Ben
Marshall

Editor-in-Chief



It is disgusting to see people stuffing their faces with junk food from the vending machines every 20 minutes. Students walk down the halls carrying bag upon bag of chips and a bottle of soda in each hand, stuffing their faces like it's the best thing they've ever tasted. It is just plain disgusting. Just the thought of eating that much junk food is nauseating. On top of the obscene scenes of students stuffing their faces, there is the trash created from the vending machine traffic.

I don't really enjoy walking down the hall one minute, and being plastered to the floor by a puddle of, sticky, gooey dried soda the next. I don't know that anyone does. Students have no regard for others when it comes to their trash. They throw their bags in corners, dump their drinks on the stairs, and smash food on the floors in the hallways and classrooms. At least once I would like to step on something healthy.

Food in the vending machines can hardly be called food at all. Every time the television comes on there is some analyst discussing obesity in America. Right now, obesity is at an all time high, especially among young children and teenagers. The 'food' in those awful machines downstairs takes some of the blame. Maybe since high school students aren't responsible enough to take care of themselves, the new policy may force them to do it.

The worst thing about the vending machines is the amount of money that they generate from students. It's a rip off. It's hard to understand how people can't realize that they are being cheated out of a few dollars everyday. It may not seem like much but think about it. Take \$2.50 for five days, and by the end of the week you're out \$12.50. Days turn into weeks, weeks into months, and by the end of the school year many students have spent hundreds of dollars buying food, if you can call it that, from the vending machines. If people just ate a meal at home once in a while they could save an awful lot of money.

The new vending machine policy is a great thing. It will eliminate all of the problems above and many, many more. If the policy doesn't work, however, students need to start thinking for themselves a little bit. Just because the vending machines are there, you don't need to use them. The 'food' inside is unhealthy, too expensive, and creates nothing but clutter around our school. If the policy doesn't keep you away, it may be a good idea to stay away from them anyway. There is no need to use the vending machines as often as many students do. ■



We want our food; give us a break

Students are getting mad because of the new vending machine policy. Riley has programmed the vending machines so that they are off between the hours of 7:40 to 10:55 a.m. and from 11:40 to 2:30 p.m. Students get food out of these machines all throughout the day, when they are turned on.

What if a student is late to school and hasn't eaten breakfast or dinner, for that matter? They might turn to the vending machines for their breakfast, or a snack. What if there are students who come to school in the mornings, are really tired and need some caffeine? They would turn to the vending machines for a caffeinated drink.

But what if you get to the vending machines at 7:41 a.m.? You would have to wait until, after third or even fourth period to get food or drinks.

Sophomore,

Sarah Peden said, "It's really stupid! What is it supposed to fix? People still come to school with bags of chips and stuff. People will start to store food in their lockers. What's next? Daily locker searches and food sniffing K-9's?" said Peden.

We all heard that the reason for the machines getting turned off was because the halls were getting so littered, but it's not just food wrappers and pop cans that litter the halls. It's also papers from notebooks, pens and pencils that people have dropped and much more. Let's not blame the vending machines.

I have seen cartons of juice and milk and wrappers from the cafeteria lunches and all over. What are they going to do about that? Take lunch away and let us starve?

Some people go to their teachers' classrooms during lunch to catch up on missing work, so they get something out of the vending machines. Some people have to go to a local college for their class(es), during the day, and they might grab something out of the vending machines for the ride over there. They now cannot do that because the machines are turned off.

Senior, Saul Gilbert is another that does not agree with the policy. "I think that the policy is really stupid," said Gilbert. Most people do. There is a big question that I would ask. Do they turn off the vending machine in the teacher/faculty lounge? Or do they get to keep those on because it's in the teachers' lounge?

I went with a teacher into one of the teachers' lounges, to actually see if they were on and they were in working condition. They were not turned off or unplugged. The light was on and it was accepting money. The policy said that all vending machines were to be turned off at the times mentioned above. That would include the one in the teachers' lounge, wouldn't it? That would be one of the vending machines. Am I correct? ■

“

"It's really stupid! What is it supposed to fix? People still come to school with bags of chips and stuff. People will start to store food in their lockers. What's next? Daily locker searches and food sniffing K-9's?"

-Sarah Peden, sophomore

”

Photo Poll: Should we reopen and charge more for the vending machines during class periods?



Julie Carrico, 11

"No, I don't think it's OK at all because they are already over priced."



Ben Peak, 12

"I find the inflation of potato chip or 'snack' costs troubling and disturbing!"



Andrew Baldwin, 12

"The stuff was already expensive in the first place."



Zach Bergen, 11

"They shouldn't turn off the vending machines because a few people are irresponsible."



Tori Fack, 10

"Raising the price is just the school wanting more money..."



Josie Phillipson, 9

"I don't like it because the school has enough money already."

Dance fever: See page 2

Boys' Bowling keeps on rolling: See page 3

Life long dream realized: See page 4

Skaters 'bored' with regulations; Desire to ollie greater than fear of rules



ROLLING HIGH:

Zach Kladucz jumps from the bike rack on the west side of the building. He didn't hurt himself.

Zach Kladucz
Staff Artist

Everyone is always complaining about skateboards. But the real question is, are skateboards really a problem?

I'm a skateboarder and I've been skating for about three years (still not very good). Some people it comes easy to, but some people, like me, it takes a long time to get.

I mean it took me a year to learn how to ollie (jump up on a skateboard).

But I've loved it since I started, and I stuck with it. But I always had a big problem. I'm a street skater (skater who

skates on the streets, curves, stairs, ledges, picnic tables, etc.) and not a vert skater is who skates ramps, half-pipes (an example is O'Brien Skate Park).

There is a problem with street skating. It's basically illegal. You can't skate in any good places without someone messing with you, telling you where and where not to skate.

A couple of times I've been told not to skate on school grounds, but like most skaters I ignored their warnings and I

skated. They caught me many times and took my board away.

I specially remember a time earlier this year when I was in front of the school skating and I was trying to do a 360 shove-it (board goes in a 360 motion) and I wasn't looking. Principal Stan Markavitch was standing in front of me while I was doing the trick and the board popped up and hit him right in the knees.

I'm lucky it didn't hurt him. I'm just glad that they never

kept my board, and actually gave it back, because these pieces of wood with wheels we call skateboards cost at least \$50 if you want a good board.

This one time I had a cheap CCS board (\$30, a name brand magazine board) and I broke it the first day I got it. So they're not cheap. That's not including the trucks (part that holds the wheels on), wheels, and bearings.

So for about a \$100 you can count on a skateboard that

won't break for a while, but they do eventually break.

Also all over the city you see signs that say 'No Skateboarding'. What I want to know is why are people so scared of skateboarders?

"We are willing to take risks and deal with the aftermath"

-Zach Kladucz, Staff Artist

Officer Brain Kendall has taken my board before, so he should have some answers. According to Kendall, the problems skateboards cause are damage to property. Damage can be wax on curves,

ledges, and rails to grind. Remember people, that wax doesn't come off. Also boards leave the ground and land on different objects to do stalls (stops on a area).

Kendall said (stalls) leave marks on property that is considered as vandalism. Last, but not least, Kendall said if you fall on someone's property you can sue him or her, probably for every thing they've got. Kendall also said he doesn't have anything against skaters, he just does his job. He actually tried skating before when he was young, but never stuck with it.

In my opinion, I think people think we're going to fall on the ground and hurt ourselves, then sue them. Of course you're going to fall. It doesn't matter how good you are, you're going to fall. To me falling is one of the great things about skateboarding. It's just

the rush of jumping a five-foot gap or a five set of stairs. Just to know that you might fall or break your board.

I took some pretty hard falls, but I'm lucky I never broke, twisted, or sprained any bones or ligaments. That's the risk skateboarders are willing to take.

Once my friend and I where skating behind Scottsdale Mall and he tried to ollie off this ledge, but he fell and twisted his ankle. The mall security always told us not to skate on the property, but we didn't say anything to the mall about this accident, because we are willing to take risks and deal with the aftermath.

In my opinion, I think they should make a law that says if you skate, you skate at your own risk and you can't sue anybody for your own mistake. The only problem with that is that it wouldn't sit well with lawyers and attorneys.

Skateboarding is a sport just like football and basketball. So if I try to slam dunk at a local park and get my arm stuck in the hoop and my arm breaks, do you think that I would be able to sue? I don't think it would go very far in the courtroom. It's our own choice to jump off of ledges, stairs, and whatever else we can think of jumping off of to pull off a wicked trick.

So you be the judge, is skateboarding a crime? If it is, then I'll be the first to be locked away and never be seen again. ■

Girl bowlers strike out: Can they spare another loss?

FOCUS:

Cassie Eickleberry sophomore, checks out the condition of the lane before she bowls.



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

Sarah Michalos
Sports Editor

With the season about a third of the way through, the girls currently have a record of 2-4.

They may be off to a rocky start, but the team members have confidence that they'll be able to turn things around. "I am very pleased to see how far the beginners have come; they have made great improvements. On the other hand, I am not satisfied with my performance," said Erin Patzkowsky, junior.

Patzkowsky has been a member of the team for two years, and hopes to improve her scores this year.

With only six members, the team is a close-knit group. They joke around and have a good time at practice with their coach, Roxanne Sinka. Roxanne is the mother of Stephanie Sinka, sophomore, captain of the team. The captain is chosen by skill.

Practices are held on Mondays, starting at 4 p.m. at Chippewa Bowl. The practices end whenever each member has bowled three games.

The girls practice alongside the boys' bowling team, but they have little interaction with each other. However, they do have joined matches every Tuesday.

Sinka helps coach the girls by observing them bowl. "She gives

us pointers, and she's really helped me improve my scores," said Kelly Horvath, sophomore.

Patzkowsky also appreciates Sinka's advice. "She takes us aside to work on what we are doing wrong or to teach a new technique," she said.

This is Horvath's first year on the team. Like many others, she tried out last year but didn't make it. She tried out again this year because she really enjoys bowling. "It's really fun," she said.

However, bowling can be a challenge at times. "Bowling isn't hard unless you make it," said Patzkowsky. "You come to practices, learn how to improve, and remember to have fun!"

Kayla Waterman, freshman, agrees. "I bowled on leagues when I was younger; I finally found a sport that I enjoy." This is Waterman's first year on the team, and she hopes the girls will win sectionals like they did last year.

Patzkowsky enjoys bowling whether or not the team wins their matches. "I have never been in a sport and had so much fun. There is so much cheering at competitions!" she said.

"I'm satisfied with the season so far, but I think I should be doing better," said

Horvath.

Even if the season is unsuccessful, the current members will stay on the team.

"Why let the fun stop now? There is so much more to learn!" said Patzkowsky. ■

"I've never been in a sport and had so much fun while doing it. There is so much cheering at competitions!"

-Erin Patzkowsky, Junior

On the rebound: Boys' basketball team prevails

Christen Scogins
Staff Writer

"I feel like the season is going on like it should be, because our team is so positive, and our whole team shares the spot light," said Brandon Prince, senior.

The boys and coach Mark Johnson feel that they have had a great start with an 12-2 record. "We have a saying on our team, 'Don't be hung-up on 'what' but be real concerned about 'why'." Our record is nice, but the things we are doing that enable us to win are more gratifying," said Johnson.

Prince feels that the record is perfect because being 12-2 lets them know that they still have things to work on.

The team has been ranked as high as ninth in the state.

Johnson also says, "Being ninth in state has no effect on us. It's nice that people on the outside think we have a good team, but it is much more important how we feel about ourselves."

"Every team is going to play their best game against the Wildcats!" said senior Vynsynt Vann.

Many LaSalle and Riley fans were curious to see how the LaSalle and Riley players would come together as a team. LaSalle closed its doors in June 2002, and Riley gained most of the Lion's veteran players as well as coach Mark Johnson.

As far as there still being a Riley/LaSalle family, Johnson simply said, "We all represent Riley now."

Vann said, "The 'family' came together back in the summertime. I don't think we can get too much closer."

There are many goals and challenges and a few improvements that the team still faces.

Prince said, "Defense and leading by example is where we need to improve."

Vann said, "The season is going great. We're exactly where we want to be in terms of winning, but there are a few things we need to improve upon. For example, when we get a team down, we need to put them away. We need to develop that killer instinct."



Photo contributed by the South Bend Tribune

Vann's goal for the team is to win state but says the team would be happy to win the conference.

Prince's goal is to do whatever he can to make sure the team wins. Johnson says the team's goal is to remain consistent. "To improve every time we step on the floor."

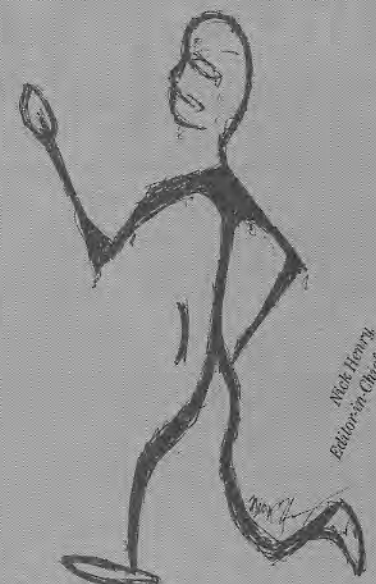
The team's biggest challenge is to stay mentally and physically fresh. To help them stay mentally and physically fresh, the team practices offense fundamentals, defense fundamentals, also mental alertness drills and conditioning drills

at practices.

Who is the team's biggest opponent? "The biggest opponent is yourself and the most important game you have to win is the next one. Then the next team that you play is the most important opponent. If you look too far down the road, you lose track of the present," said Johnson.

This year's sectionals will begin the first Tuesday, Friday and Saturday in March. The sectionals will be held depending on how the draw turns out. ■

ON TIP TOES: Brandon Patton struggles for possession of the ball during the game against Elkhart Central.



Track team lacking devoted members

Franklin Fielder
Staff Writer

Three-year head track coach Carl Hubbard has been trying to round up a team full of athletes, but hasn't had the best luck trying.

"In the last few years I've been coaching here at Riley, students don't try out," He says, "A lack of athletes hinders our success; every year we average to win two track meet wins."

"Last year the team managed to defeat Washington and city champs Clay high school. "With the athletes that do come, I try to train them hard enough so they can have impact on their individual events," Hubbard stated.

"I've been calling for meetings to have those interested to come in early to condition, but very few athletes start conditioning, they are participating in other sports, have after school jobs, or just aren't interested," Hubbard points out. The runners that do come out to condition early are Carl's "core" to build upon.

Senior Steve McPherson and sophomore Sean Wright are two of the "core" squad members. McPherson, who ran the 800 meter run, came in first in the city, then first in the sectionals, then second in the regional and managed to go to state for his event.

Wright, who is thus far undefeated on Riley's two year-old track, came in second place in the city as a freshman in the 400 meter run and ended up making it to regionals. Their individual efforts helped rack up much needed points for the team.

Other early conditioners like sophomore Brandon Fielder and junior Ryan Holloway have been conditioning since early October of last year, even though the season officially starts February 27.

During conditioning athletes run drills and short sprints to help build stamina and to get their hearts pumping on the indoor track, while coach Hubbard gets a better understanding of his new runners, shot putters or discuss throwers.

"With LaSalle high school out of business," senior Tyler Hansen said, "the city should be up for grabs since their valuable seniors have already graduated and their other runners have been spread out at different schools."

"LaSalle had some of the fastest sprinters in the state," Wright exclaimed.

"This year should be different because we have a larger number of solid performers than last year," Holloway admits "Riley boys' track should be stronger in middle distance events: 400 meter, 400 meter relay, 800 meter, and the 1600 meter run."

"This season should be full of promises," Fielder said, "Once the season starts our hard work should pay-off."

"Even with our small team if everyone does half as good as I do, the team do well!" Hansen exclaimed. ■

The life of a dancer: From salsa to ballet, her feet tell the story

Morgan Goodhew
Staff Writer

When thinking of someone ambitious, determined, smart, and talented, Julie Carrico is first in mind. This girl not only dances Flamenco, Ballet, Point, Jazz, Modern, Salsa, Ballroom, Swing, Character, and Tap, she also teaches Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern, and Flamenco. Talk about hard work!!

Julie is not one to complain, she doesn't look at this as work, but as fun. It's her passion.

Every single one of us can relate in having a passion, whether it be in sports, writing, art, or music. They are all ways of individual expression; things that we enjoy and are good at. These forms of expression take us away from the stresses of daily life and let us focus on something we love.

Theresa Carrico, Julie's mother, says that ever since age four Julie has been, shall we say, 'The Prima Ballerina' and 'The Diva Queen'. There hasn't been a day where Julie doesn't dance or have a desire to dance. "I've always been proud of her, in everything she does. She chooses to dance and I just encourage her," Carrico said.

The number one reason Julie loves to dance is because it is the one thing she never gets tired of. It never tells her that she should be studying for that Trig test, or that she has to clean her room. Dance isn't something she has to argue with or please, she can be herself and live an hour with out specific stresses to interfere.

This urge started when her mother put her in Ballet classes in Pre-School. Julie recalls a certain dinner party, where she had to wear this ruffled pink tutu that made her look like a fairy, she loved it!! "What girl doesn't want to run

around in a leotard, tights, and ballet slippers at 6 years old?", Carrico said.

From then on Julie performed at ethnic festivals, museums, recitals, and also made some appearances at St. Mary's College. Some of the plays she performed in that stand out in her mind are 'A Christmas Carol' at age 13 and 14, and 'The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe' at age 15. Julie had many chances to audition for the very popular ballet known as the 'Nutcracker', but opted "no" because she favors original ballets.

"I work hard at techniques in the studio, and then feel the work pay off in my performances. After every performance I only hope that I have touched the audience, and left them with even a fraction of the emotion and passion that I put into dancing every time I step out on to that stage," says Carrico.

'Arts Alive Academy' is the studio where Julie practices and perfects. Her teacher and mentor, Carolynn Hine-Johnson, constantly tells Julie that "Her body is just muscles and tendons". This has encouraged her to mold her body into the "Ideal Dancer".

Dance is also good exercise. Julie dances a total of around 17 hours a week, with few exceptions.

An article in "Alternative Medicine", says that dancing is based on the thought that the body and mind are interrelated. On physical levels,



Photo courtesy of Julie Carrico

ON TIP TOES: Julie Carrico, right, poses with members of her pointe class before a performance.

dance provides the benefits of exercise: health improvement, well-being, coordination, and muscle tone. ■

All-star athlete succeeds: Laura Heline is recognized as a scholar

Whitney Griffin
Staff Writer

If I couldn't play soccer I think I would die," said Laura Heline, senior.

Heline started playing organized sports at the age of four, and hasn't stopped yet. Since she entered high school she has played three different sports; basketball, soccer, and softball.

Heline also puts effort into her schoolwork. "Laura has been in my AP English class for the

past three years, and she is a very hard worker," said Jasmyne West, senior.

Heline said that playing sports has made her a harder worker and sports also inspires her to stay in school.

"I once saw Laura playing in a soccer game, and I couldn't believe the way she was throwing herself all over the field," said West.

Heline has gotten lots of attention as the goalie of the soccer team, where she is also co-captain. She was awarded the soccer team MVP in 2002, Second team NIC in 2000 and 2001, and Tough-

est Defender in 2001.

"In the sectional game against Penn that went into double overtime with no score, I kicked the only goal of my high school career in a shootout. I was very proud of myself," said Heline.

In the future Heline plans on playing soccer in college. She has been accepted to attend Carthage College in Wisconsin, but is still undecided. Whatever school Heline attends she will major in physical therapy. During her sixth hour she assists the school trainer, which involves helping out games by taping injured ankles.

Just recently Heline had surgery on her ACL (a ligament in the knee). After surgery she was told by doctors that her ACL had totally disintegrated. She had the surgery to prevent any future injuries that would cause her to have to end her soccer career.

Besides sports, Heline is involved in extra-curricular activities. She is a member of SAFE and NHS. Heline's favorite sport to play is soccer, but she also enjoys playing softball.

If she isn't winning sports awards, she is earning awards for academics. ■

Bowled over; boys' team stays out of gutter



Andrew Kirksey, Editor-in-Chief

DOWN THE LANE: Shawn Welcome, sophomore, prepares for the release at a match against Clay.

Sarah Michalos
Sports Editor

The Riley boys' bowling team has only been in existence for about four years, but they have confidence that this will be another winning season. The team consists of seven members; five starting members and two alternates. The practices on Monday determine which of the seven members will start at the matches on Tuesday. Zach Hess, senior, always starts because he is a returning senior. The four highest scoring bowlers also start.

The team practices at *Chippewa Bowl* twice a week; on Mondays, and on Thursdays, which are optional. "There is no actual preparation for a match. We know we have to fill the frames with strikes and, most importantly, spares," said Hess.

Hess has been around bowling since he was around three years old, but actually started bowling when he was nine or ten. "My whole life I've been around bowling, so I guess I've always been interested in it," said Hess.

Hess's father, Ray Hess, is the manager of *Chippewa Bowl* and also the head coach of the boys' team. Besides Hess's father, the team has another coach, Ed Sheler. Sheler owns the *Pro Shop* at *Chippewa Bowl*.

Prior to a meet or just open bowling, the lanes are greased with oil to make them smooth and easier to bowl on. "Ed helps us analyze the grease on the lanes," said Welcome. Sometimes the oil is thicker in certain places, and that could cause the ball to slide around.

Despite the ever-present risk of throwing a gutter ball, the team also has to worry about the scores of their competitors. They compete with many area teams weekly. Every school in the South Bend School Corporation has a bowling team, and so do St. Joe, Mishawaka and New Prairie.

The perfect score is 300, and many players on Riley's boys' team have come close to that. Welcome's highest score was 257, and Szymanski's record was 204, which he achieved in practice a

few weeks ago.

According to most bowlers, when you get the hang of the game, it gets easier. "It's hard work if you're a beginner and you want to get good at it. If you're experienced, and keep the same tempo, don't speed up when you release. It's all about mental preparation," said Welcome.

This is both Welcome's and Szymanski's first year on the team. Szymanski tried out last year, but was cut. When he was younger, ten or eleven, he was in a league at *Chippewa*. "I had fun then, and I'm continuing to for the rest of my life. It's a fun hobby," Szymanski said.

Welcome also enjoys bowling. "I joined because I'm a pretty good bowler; I've been doing it for so long. I heard about the try-outs, and I decided to do it," he said. "It's a fun sport to play."

According to Hess, there are five different "houses" (bowling centers) where area high school bowlers compete. They are: *Beacon Bowl*, *Bowlers Country Club*, *Regal Lanes*, *Chippewa Bowl*, and *P.N.A. (Polish National Alliances)*. Riley and Adam's home house is *Chippewa Bowl*.

With the amount of time the bowlers spend at *Chippewa*, the alley is like a second home to them. "I bowl four times a week; at practices Monday and Thursday, at matches on Tuesday, and on Saturday at a morning league," said Welcome.

However, even with all the practice the team gets, they are unsatisfied with the season so far. With a record of 2-3, the bowlers have room for improvement. "We need to have a comeback in the second half of the season," said Welcome.

Hess feels that it's still early in the season, but he already has his goals figured out. "I don't know if I'm speaking for the whole team or not, but I think our goal should be to do the best we can and see what happens," he said. "If you worry too much about the results, how will you be able to execute?" ■

"I joined because I'm a pretty good bowler; I've been doing it for so long. I heard about the try-outs, and I decided to do it, it's a fun sport to play"

-Shawn Welcome, Sophomore

Under Pressure: Megyesi believes this year's team can surpass last year's.

Christen Scogins
Staff Writer

Riley girls' basketball fans might be wondering what has happened to the team's game in recent weeks.

"The team needs to play more like a team and not as individuals," said Kyle Vann, senior.

Crystal Norman, senior, is remaining optimistic. She believes that the team will learn from its mistakes and move on. "It's going OK. I think it could go better. We are trying our best. We will get back on track," she said.

And getting back on track is what they did during their games against Washington and Elkhart Central.

Coach Mike Megyesi agrees that the team has room for improvement. "The team

didn't play to their potential [against Adams]. That night, talent didn't work hard," commented Megyesi.

But even though they didn't play their hardest at the Adams game, the girls showed their resolve during the game against the Panthers.

"We played [for] 32 minutes and I'm extremely proud," complemented Megyesi.

"[It was a] hostile environment but [we] maintained composure and persevered."

After the Adams game Norman felt that the team

needed to develop its chemistry. But now, due to the two conference wins, Norman feels that the chemistry that the team

lacked earlier in the season is now coming together.

-Crystal Norman, Senior

teamwork in practice," said Megyesi.

The girls are performing well. Their current record is 14-3, and they currently are ranked ninth in the state.

Though this record is not as strong as last year's Megyesi

considers this year's team stronger in some respects.

"We're many steps ahead compared to last year. We are also improving in each and every game, which is very good," he commented.

There is no pressure from fans or the school about going undefeated, since the girls have lost a couple of games. And the girls still have their sites set high.

"My goal and the team's goal is to win state," said Norman.

Jenny Swanson, junior, would also like to see the team work harder and make a big turn around.

This year's sectionals will be the week of February 10. The team takes its competition seriously.

"Every opponent is Riley's biggest opponent," said Megyesi. ■

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Junior enjoys "greatest ride of her life"

Julie Vander Weide

Staff Writer

Being on the road with your family for seven days can seem like an eternity. No DVD's, no cell phone (until recently), no one to talk to except mom and dad, and only dad's oldies music after the batteries in the CD player wear out.

Some perks, however, do exist. Those that come immediately to mind are swimming pools, hot tubs, not having to make the bed, and a maid cleaning the room.

The destination can also be a perk. We have gone to the *Mall of America*, *Disney World*, *Disney Land*, the *Grand Canyon* and many more. But the destination I really enjoyed was a trip to the small town of Fayetteville, West Virginia.

We had been on the road for about a week. Trips to ball games, the *KFC* museum, the *Chrysler* plant in Kentucky, and shopping at every big mall we could talk dad into (which wasn't all that hard since he likes to shop) were things we had already done. They were great, for the most part, but the best was yet to come.

As we were driving along we saw a sign next to the road up ahead. The faded, red letters on the white sign said *Whitewater Rafting* five miles ahead. That sounded like fun! Rafting was something we had never tried before, but would my parents think it was too dangerous, or that they were too old?

Surprisingly, my mom said to my dad, "Let's try it. Rafting sounds exciting." Even more amazing was that my dad agreed.

We found a hotel and picked up some literature on different rafting excursions. We learned some rafting terms like: a run, the section of a

river that can be boated; put-in, the part of the river where you begin; take-out, where the trip ends; river right, the right side of the river when facing downstream; river left, the leftside of the river when facing downstream; and many other terms. We decided that the day long trip would be the perfect trip; just in case we didn't like it.

The next morning dawned sunny and warm. It was perfect weather to be outside. We put on our swim suits, shorts, t-shirt, sunscreen, and tennis shoes; grabbed the camera and suntan lotion; and headed out. I was so excited that for once I didn't mind getting up at 7 a.m.

After getting to the rafting excursion departure area and

getting our tickets, about 80 of us were driven by minibuses to the loading area. After carrying the rafts down to the river and putting on life jackets (we weren't allowed to get on the raft without them), we were loaded into a raft; eight people plus the guide in each raft.

For the next five hours this little rubber boat would be our only means of transportation and of survival.

The trip actually started out rather smoothly. We were taught how to sit, row, and control the direction of our raft. The guide also told us about the different difficulty levels. The levels range from one to six; one is the lowest and easiest. Six is the hardest and is unable to boat down. Five is the highest level that can be boated. We were on a level three river. At first all was smooth sailing. We saw beautiful scenery; it was peaceful; the sun was shining. It was a perfect day.



Photo courtesy of Julie Vander Weide

RIDING THE RAPIDS: Julie Vander Weide, second from guide on left side, her dad John directly behind her and her mother Jackie, far right.

Just as we were getting comfortable, the first in a series of rapids loomed straight ahead. My muscles tightened, and we began to row faster as the guides yelled, "Pull, pull, pull. Go to the left. Dig, dig, faster, faster! We're headed right for the rocks!"

We pulled out safely and went almost immediately into another. As we went my muscles loosened and I became less frightened.

We quickly had lunch then set out again. The guide said the worst was yet to come. The biggest rapid was a nearly invisible one. The guide had to point it out to us a few times before we

actually saw it. We barely noticed when we came upon it but then we seemed to fall straight down like we were on the *Tower of Terror* at *Disney World*.

We were the first to hit it so we could look back at others. All but one raft made it through smoothly. The last raft went vertical, hung in the air for a few seconds, then flipped spilling everyone into the water. Everyone was OK and laughed a lot. Then the best ride of my life was over and we were heading back to the starting point in drenched clothing, but not caring at all. ■

Norman accomplishes a life long goal

Suntana Granderson

Staff Writer

December 14, 2002, was probably one of the happiest nights of Crystal Norman's life. Norman broke the all-time scoring record here at Riley which was 1,402 points; she beat it by just one point with 1,403 points. Norman holds a lot more records, like: most points in one game, all-time assists, and all-time rebounding with 931 rebounds.

Outside of basketball, Norman faces a really busy schedule at home, including helping her older brother watch her little nephew Robert, and keeping the house clean while her mom and dad are working. Norman said, "It's really hard for me to maintain everything, but I think it's just getting me prepared for the future." She's busy trying to improve her G.P.A. and bring up her test scores.

Last season, Norman proved to the state that her shot was the best around. Playing Washington in the sectional, Norman got a pass from Marcy Patton. She took one step and threw the ball going straight through the net. That shot was recorded by the news, which was sent to the *Crunch Bar Company* for a contest that was being held by Shaquille O'Neal, the Los Angeles Lakers standout. Looking over the tape, Shaquille picked Crystal's shot to be the best buzzer beater shot in the nation over 10 other candidates who were also chosen to be in the contest.

Norman visited Shaquille to play one-on-one this past summer. She said, "The experience was fun and Shaquille was a big man." Even though Norman is scared of heights, she couldn't turn down this one.

While in Los Angeles for the weekend, Norman attended a

WNBA game with Shaquille to watch the *Los Angeles Sparks* play. Norman had hoped to see Lisa Leslie dunk, but it didn't happen.

Norman looks up to one of the best players around, Notre Dame standout Alicia Ratay. She has been Norman's role model for the past three years. Norman says, "It's like we are alike because everything Alicia can do, I can do, too." Crystal loves to watch Ratay whenever she gets the chance to see Notre Dame games.

Norman started to develop a love for the game when she was just three years old. Her father was also known for his athletic talent back in his day, growing up in Elkhart and taking his high school team to state. Crystal thinks her dad (James Norman) pushes her the most in basketball because he sees something great in her, something that he once had himself.

A teacher named Miss Morsy at Studebaker discovered Norman when she was young. Norman said, "I remember the day like yesterday, I was outside shooting jump shoots, when Miss Morsy came to me and told me that I could be a great basketball player if I tried out for the team." Norman felt that she would give basketball a try and when she did, it turned out she loved the game.

Norman found a way to manage her time with basketball, and other things. She said, "The best way to do it is go to practice, come home, and do homework." After that all her time goes to her family and her boyfriend (Moe).

Coach Mike Megyesi thinks Crystal is a good worker. He said, "Norman can be a leader by example."

Norman said, "I really don't do anything special to motivate myself, I go out and do what I have to do to win the game".

Norman's teammates think highly of her, like sophomore Danille Six said, "Crystal can work hard whenever she puts her mind to it."

Junior power forward, Marcy Patton said, "Crystal works hard sometimes, even though she really has the potential to work hard all the time".

Crystal hopes to continue her success with basketball in college, but is undecided where she wants to go. ■



Photo courtesy of The Tribune

QUICK BREAK: Crystal Norman, senior, takes a breather during a game against Penn.

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