

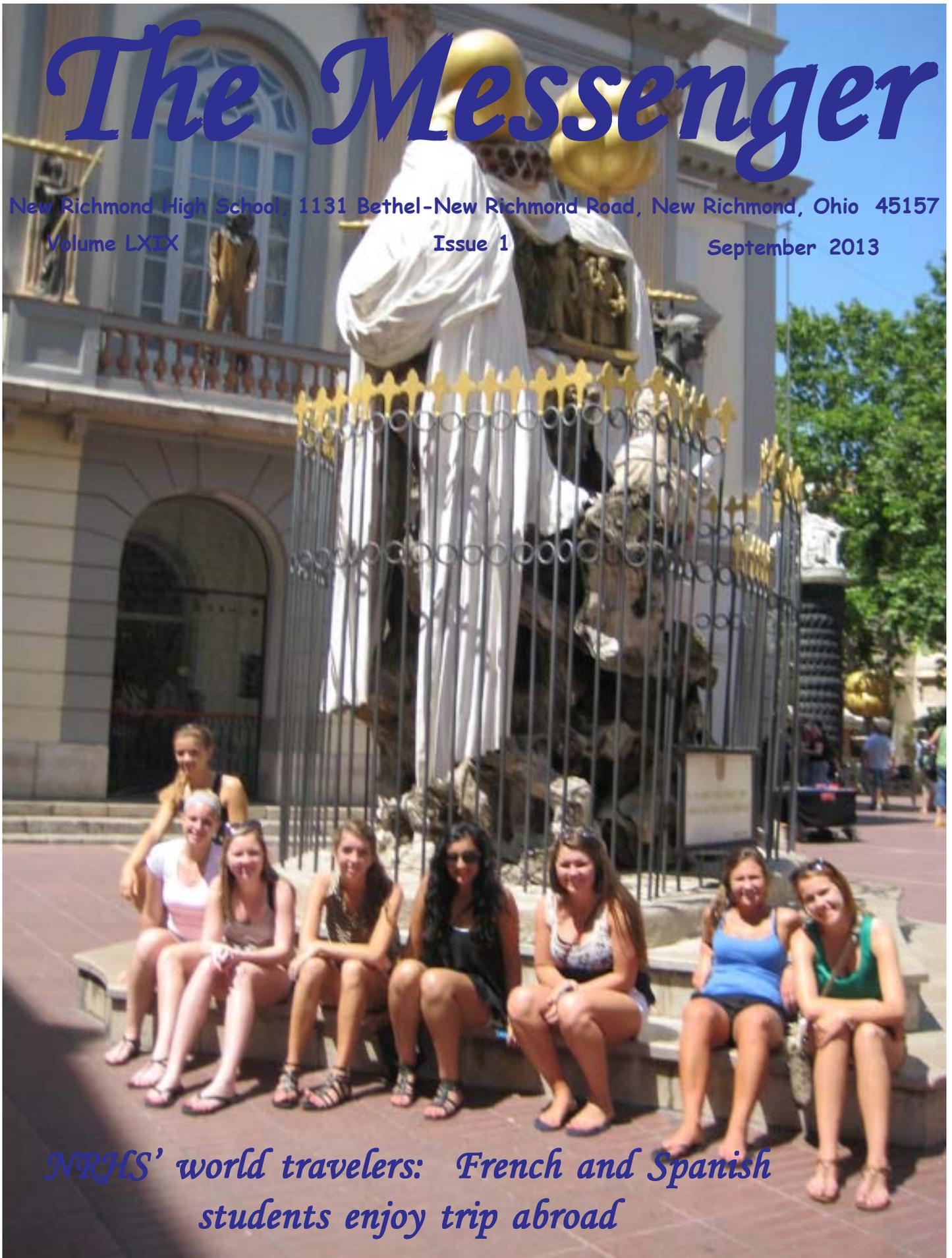
# *The Messenger*

New Richmond High School, 1131 Bethel-New Richmond Road, New Richmond, Ohio 45157

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*NRHS' world travelers: French and Spanish students enjoy trip abroad*

# Shall we dance? Of course, but with a few guidelines

By Chelsey Fawley

People refer to their teenage years as some of the best of their lives, but really, people don't notice that nowadays it's quite a challenge to be a teenager. We were raised in a period of transition, and being under eighteen we have lived in two centuries. As a result of being raised in this time, we have seen a ton of changes in media, fashion, language, and even what is now accepted publically. A study at the Harvard School of Public Health focused on what is known as "the ratings creep". This study shows that over time film raters have become more lenient in allowing sexual aspects and violence into lower rated movies. As kids growing up along with the ratings creep, we seem to have become more lenient in what we believe is acceptable as well.

Here at New Richmond High School, the administration did not grow up in this changing time, quite obviously. Since the school dances that went on last year, an issue has arisen on whether or not the dances that take place at Homecoming and Prom are appropriate. The conclusion that was drawn is in fact, no, these dances are not appropriate and should no longer be allowed to take place. Principal Mark Bailey and assistant to the

principal Phil Heflin worked together and informed the students that 'grinding' and other dirty dances would no longer be tolerated at these events and will result in the students' evacuation from the dance.

Bailey explained that his concerns were in no way related to the dances themselves, merely the style that students were demonstrating at both events.

"I heard from students that they [last year's dances] were the best dances of their high school career, which tells me they had a lot of fun. My concern with the dances were that of the manner students chose to dance in."

As Bailey had been a band teacher at the high school for twelve years previously, he said he never saw those kinds of dances in that stretch. In 2000, he moved to be principal of Monroe Elementary and hadn't attended any more high school dances until last year. Bailey thus drew his conclusion. "Somewhere between 2000 and 2012," he said, "the dancing devolved to these actions that simply no longer even resemble dancing."

Assistant to the principal Phil Heflin believed it was disgraceful how the students have been allowed to dance. He says this year students will be expected to dance 'normally' or bear the

consequences. "Dance like normal people," he said. "No grinding, no sensual activity. Just dance. People should be able to attend school functions and have a good time, they just have to abide by school rules."

Students did not seem to take this news very well, however. Upon the day of the announcement the social network Twitter blew up with outrage. Why, though? The tweets weren't well supported with reason, just blind outrage. Upon a student survey of 122, however, it seems these tweets were very misleading. About one third of the students surveyed agreed with the changes to the dances.

This is a topic students care very much about, on both sides. The surveys were well supported and appreciated by the student body as a chance to have their opinions heard. As well as opinions from students, there were several given suggestions as to how to make a fair compromise.

Junior Analiese Rohdes said, "I have mixed feelings about the new changes. I can see how it might be inappropriate if looked on by older people, but let's keep in mind that their parents thought Elvis' hip-thrusting was disgusting at one point, too."

Valid point, Miss Rohdes. Teachers were surveyed as well,



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and it was pointed out that since the 1920's when the Charleston emerged parents and other adults have frowned on the dancing of the younger generations. Bailey admitted that indeed back in his day he could cut a rug. He said, "I would have given recent graduate Cole Bird a run for his money!"

Senior Chandler Cochran agrees with Rohdes. He said, "Dancing has always been frowned upon and it always will be. But Miley Cyrus isn't helping anything!"

Once again, though, when observing the dances that had previously been frowned upon, they got increasingly inappropriate as well. After the Charleston came the Hustle, the Twist, disco, break dancing, and eventually during the 90's came the famed Booty Call (which science teacher Logan Minning enthusiastically admitted to participating in). So, really, who can blame the kids nowadays for the dancing?

Senior Christin Smith argued the point that the times have changed and therefore so have the youth. "I think that if you don't like how we dance you

can't really change it," she said, "I mean we watch Miley Cyrus 'twerk' on TV and that's what we're influenced by."

Senior Alyssa Hallahan and junior Tina Lawrence agreed. Lawrence said, "I feel these changes are just unreasonable. The way our generation dances is by 'grinding' and/or twerking and shaking our butts. This is how you dance to the music kids our age listen to."

Hallahan felt pretty much the same. "With our generation's music," she said, "there isn't much other way to dance."

Senior Star Rutherford and junior Daman Abner also associate the dances students do with the music. Abner said, "I want to go to Homecoming, not a ballroom dance."

Rutherford said, "The music encourages the dancing. If they don't want us dancing like that, then stop playing that kind of music."

It seems this year undoubtedly requires some changes in the playlists, as both students and teachers agree. Mr. Bailey said, "Obviously we won't have a repeat performance of Prom where a certain song was played and

everyone on the dance floor was shouting the 'F Bomb' at the top of their lungs."

English teacher Malissa Cornette agrees absolutely. She said, "I think the radio edit versions should be played. We need less 'club' music."

Science teacher Laura Prescott feels the music needs changed as well. "Songs should be played that don't promote sex, drugs, or demoralize women," she said.

Another issue seems to be that students feel their having rewards taken away and being treated like children. Junior Mariah Corbin strongly disagrees with the changes, as she feels as a near adult she should be able to make her own decisions.

Corbin said, "We are constantly being preached at that we are in high school and should be prepared for the real world. We're told we should act as adults, therefore we should be treated as adults, who can dance however they please."

Junior Nicholas Wuest had a similar thought. "We are on the brink of adulthood," he said. "We have the ability to know what is too far, and what is okay.

Forming rules seems foolish and will do no more than encourage breaking said rules, and perhaps even encourage students to try and go further."

Fair enough, but fact is after the dances last year it's quite obvious that not all students are mature enough to know what is too far. As near adults as well, the fact that students are conspiring to break the rules shows even more that they are not as mature and they believe themselves to be.

Adults have rules too, and they have to follow them. The big difference is when adults break rules there are real consequences. As teenagers we should be preparing for those circumstances, and should just start to accept that it doesn't matter what your opinion of the rules are. They are rules and must be followed, or there will be consequences.

Phil Heflin put it best it seems, "It's easy enough," he said. "Either buy your ticket, go to the dance and follow the rules, or don't go."

Other students feel that it isn't an issue with being treated as an adult, though, they seem to feel

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as if something is being taken away from them.

Freshman Destyni Cox asked, "Our parents got to have the times of their lives at dances and dance how they liked, so why can't we?"

Sophomores Adrianna Flood and Ally Lutz felt similarly. Flood said, "We only live high school once and we want to make the best of it. Our school is actually one of the 'cleaner' schools at dancing. Each generation have their own dance, this just happens to be ours."

Lutz said, "I feel like the changes upset a lot of students because by taking away the way we dance you're taking away our freedom to express ourselves."

For those students who disagree with the changes, it seems there is only one more general concern. That concern is of what those students who choose not to go to the dance will be doing.

Optimistically Heflin and Bailey had similar answers when

saying what they imagined kids would be doing should they not participate.

"I think students will be going to the movies with friends or spending quality time with family," Bailey said.

Similarly, Heflin hopes they'll be at home with their families or at the least not doing anything that would jeopardize their safety.

Kids will be kids, though, and fear of incidents does arise. Cornette admitted she'd rather not think about what kind of hoodlumism students will get into.

Senior Aaron Everson wasn't so meek in speaking of his fears however. "It's an outrage," he said, "Now kids are going to go out, party, drink, do drugs, and have sex, all because we won't be allowed to dance how we want at a safe school gathering."

Senior Christine Lutz shared Everson's fears. "The kids who are throwing a fit about not being able to grind are the same

kids who are likely to get in trouble for illicit activities. Frankly, as a teenager, you know who drinks and parties. Also, you know the kids that drink and party are not going to go to a dance they have to pay for if they can't even get to dance as they intend to. I personally won't feel safe on the roads those nights for the simple fear of my classmates."

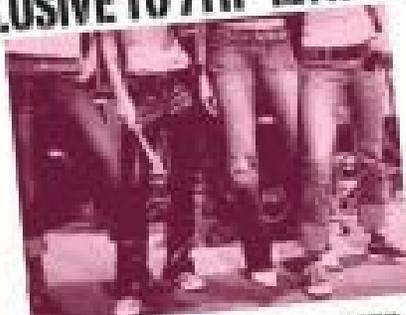
Science teacher Lauren Wilkins said, "Incidents are always a possibility and always have been with Homecoming and Prom nights. This year will be no different. We can educate, lecture, and even beg but it is ultimately in the hands of each individual to make SAFE and responsible choices.

Wilkins is absolutely right. Though there may be slightly more fear for students on these nights, there is nothing to be done but hope parents don't allow their kids into those situations and that students will make the right decisions.

Speaking of right decisions, there is that third of students who support and see the reasoning for the changes to allowed dancing. Upon reading the 122 surveys as well, it seems the students who support the changes are also the ones with the best supporting thoughts and reasoning.

Junior Tristin Baumann said, "I feel that the changes to how we dance are good, and I think they will help keep these events semi-

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professional and morally sound. While I do believe students should be entitled to certain things such as their preferred dancing style, I also believe that all students still have a moral obligation to dance in an appropriate manner at school functions."

Senior Caleb Hayward agreed absolutely. "I think it's completely reasonable to make these changes," he said, "Dancing like that is fine to do on your own but school is not the place. It will still be fun, but I understand why people are frustrated."

Tyler Sipple, another senior, had similar feelings. "I, honestly, am not terribly offended by the changes because I can manage to dance and have fun with my girlfriend without behaving like a clothed prostitute. I don't even go to dance, I go for the pictures and the experience because that's what makes the memories. Also I feel that if slower songs were played it would make couples less 'rowdy' and could

reduce the results of irresponsible post-dance 'mishaps' (pregnancies)."

Alec Bomske, a sophomore, thinks the changes are good as well. "The kind of dancing that happened before was inappropriate and frankly just awkward," he said.

Sophomore Katie Flake feels more comfortable now that the changes have been made. "I'm going now because of the changes," she said. "With the changes, I'm now excited because there's no risk of being pressured into something that makes me uncomfortable."

Flake and seniors John Ernst and Courtney Roberts all had similar ideas for solutions to the fact that kids nowadays seem to not know how to dance in any manner except dirtily. "The school should be like Hogwarts!" Flake said, "One day they should send students to the gym and teach them how to dance properly."

Ernst didn't reference Harry Pot-

ter, but he did say, "I am excited to learn to dance. I'm hoping they have some instructions on classic dancing."

Roberts also suggested dance clinics and said, "People really don't know what it's like to legitimately dance to a song, and that'd be a fun way to teach us!"

So for now it seems students are coming around and though Homecoming and Prom will be different this year, they will undoubtedly be a blast. It's all about attitude, and with the right

kind hopefully this year we will have two fun, clean dances. Perhaps a classical masquerade even for Prom? No one dirty danced in *Phantom of the Opera*.

As senior Student Council member Cheyann Fletcher said, "I think everyone needs to quit being so negative about Homecoming. It's going to be fun still, and the dancing doesn't even matter that much. People just need to give it a chance."

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# Look out NRHS, there's another Heflin in the building!

## Math teacher Daniel Heflin joins family members

By: Chandler Cochran

Just like Steve Young replaced Joe Montana as starting Quarterback for the 49ers, or like Tom Brady filled a very important role in New England, new math teacher, Daniel Heflin is filling some very big shoes.

Heflin is the newest math teacher here at New Richmond High School, replacing John Callebs.

"I enjoy math (yes I actually do!), and I love helping and teaching students. It is very fun and exciting," said Heflin. He is currently teaching math nine, math ten and statistics.

As you know, Daniel Heflin's dad, Mr. Doug Heflin, is also a teacher here at NRHS and is very proud of his son.

"Our family has produced ministers and teachers for over a hundred years, and for Daniel to add to the tradition is just simply awesome."

Heflin attended New Richmond High School and graduated in 2009. He then went on to major in math at Muskingum

University. Now he is yet another Heflin teaching in the building. It obviously has not been too long since Heflin roamed the halls as a student, and when he was here, he was very busy.

"During my four years here, I played varsity golf, tennis, and participated in Academic Team, and men's chorus." Heflin was also a member of National Honor Society.

Heflin explained that, "Although not much has changed, it is different talking with other teachers now. I still feel weird saying their first names."

Some advice Heflin would like to share with his students and other kids in the halls is short and sweet. "Make sure to enjoy yourself while you can, and have fun in high school."

As you know, Daniel Heflin is now one of three Mr. Heflin's in the building, and when asked how he feels about having two close relatives as colleagues, he replied, "At least I'm the best looking Heflin around!" The not

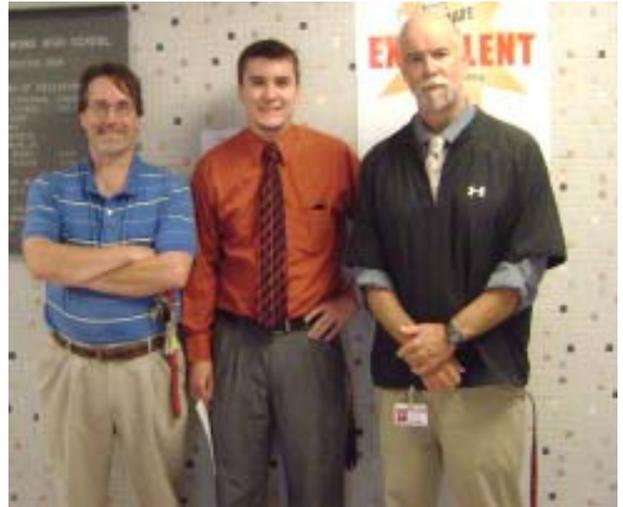
so good looking Heflin responded with, "Lonely desparate people say lonely desparate things."

When asked if he had any influence on his son becoming a teacher Heflin said, "I believe that there is a big influence in what we do. The work my son is doing is a "legacy of service" many of our family members have done as well."

Daniel Heflin's service and giving back to students may have just begun, but he has many en-

couraging people and words of advice to help him along the way.

"Establish authentic relationships and continue in a life of service to others," said Doug Heflin, as words of wisdom to his son.



The old, the hot and the bald : Doug, Daniel and Phil make for some confusion when asking for Mr. Heflin. Photo/Messenger

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# “Don’t judge a book by its cover”

## Equal treatment vs. first impressions

We all have heard the phrase, “Don’t judge a book by its cover,” but we all know that it happens anyway. The book with a plain cover just may be the most exciting, enjoyable, or educational book you have ever read. But with only looking at the cover, how are you to know that?

Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, however, it seems many people today judge people by the wealth they appear to have. Why is that? A lot of that reason is that people today seem to be focused solely on what others own and wear, where they live, and how they behave rather than focusing on their character.

Our society today has become very superficial and it seems to me that everyone today thinks everything revolves around a

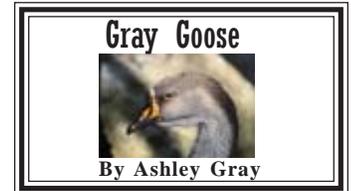
fashion statement. It is easy for us to only look at the outer surface of people instead of working to get to know more about them.

As for high school, I believe that all people do these days is judge other kids by their wealth. Judging a book by its cover happens a lot throughout high school because adolescents are trying to discover who they are and other people may not accept them for that. A majority of it comes from girls because girls love to gossip. Shocker, right? It seems that all people do is take one look at someone and say “He/she is poor;”, “Wow, he/she looks rich,” but no one should be judged based on their income.

It is very hard not to be judgmental when we live in a world

that is so superficial, but I think it would help for people to understand that other people just may spend their money a little differently. Some don’t find it highly important to have the new, up-to-date technology. Others may not find it important to buy new clothes every year. The economy we are living in makes it hard for some people to make ends meet. With larger families, too, it is hard for parents to constantly keep buying new clothes; hand-me downs just make it easier and more affordable.

We all have been taught year after year to not judge a book by its cover and to accept others for who they are. We all know that it is hard not to judge others because of the stereotypes that



we hear in the media and see in movies. We need to remember that people are different and they put their money in different places. Just because someone doesn’t wear the most glamorous clothes or have the most awesome shoes doesn’t mean that they are not a good, moral person. Some people simply don’t have the money for new clothes, etc. and can’t afford to buy new things. Society shouldn’t punish those people who don’t overindulge in material goods. The only thing that matters is who someone is on the inside.

## Senior year, starting off with a reality check

### “This could be my last time to do this”

Have you started the school year off right? Is getting up at six gettin’ to ya yet? With the daily grind of getting up early and being to school on time the summer just went too fast. It felt like three weeks ago we just ended the last school year.

Between shuffling to get school supplies and lining up those last minute deals at the register, is it possible that all of this is a reality? Hopefully, you spent your summer doing something more productive than laying on the couch every day eating a bag of potato chips and sleeping in until two.

This summer gave me a real reality check that this is my last year in high school. Every time I look at a situation, I have to realize, “This could be the last time I get to do this.” School definitely flies by faster than we think it will freshman year when our

dreams of being a senior start setting in after the first week of school.

One thing I know I won’t miss is getting up every day as early as I do just to make it on time. But it’s kind of a bittersweet goodbye when I think about it, which is why I think moving on can be so hard for people. High school is a safe place where you can be stupid, mess up and not be punished too horribly, but the reality of life is high school is just the start of what you make of yourself.

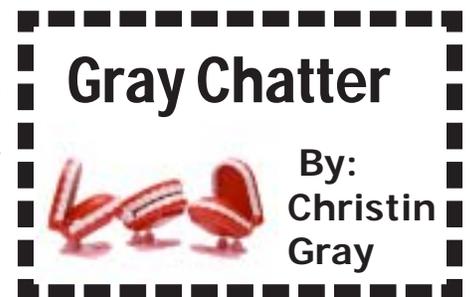
So if you think getting up early and actually making it to school some days just isn’t going to happen, I hope that somewhere in your head you realize that what’s happening today is just temporary because one day you won’t have your parents, teachers, and friends holding your hands along the way.

High school is most definitely what you make of it. It can be the best four years or maybe the worst years of your life, but what you do here will only determine the ambition and ability to be someone in the real world someday.

If getting up early is hard for you, quit playing video games until 3am and then trying to wake up to come to school, don’t leave your homework until the last possible second because odds are it either won’t get done or you’ll end up copying it from someone else.

I guess if there’s one thing I hope you get from high school, it’s have fun, but also keep in mind the responsibility you have to better yourself.

It’s very easy to get caught up in the latest hallway gossip, or



worry about who your ex went out with last night. Don’t let that affect the way you perform in the classroom. Relationships after high school are highly unlikely, and then you’re left with no relationship and you don’t know anything because school wasn’t your main focus.

An education is the one thing NO ONE can take from you, and if you apply yourself by focusing on studies more than what’s going on around you, you’ll be one step ahead of the majority of the high school population.

# Giving back, helping out the school

## Student begins to get involved

Throughout my last three years of high school, I haven't really involved myself with the various clubs that NRHS offers. The main thing I've pretty much left all of my time for has been basketball. Of course, I do community service things and I'm a pretty social person, but I've never really been in many school clubs. So at the end of junior year, I decided that I should change that for my upcoming senior year.

I decided to join the Student Council. I am now the Secretary of the senior class. I'm really excited to be a part of the Student Council because they are involved with so much that goes on with the school. Homecom-

ing, Spirit Week, several fundraisers, and many more things all fall in the hands of Student Council. I know how much work goes into various events like these and I wanted to start helping out, even if it is my last year here. I also feel that after getting so much out of the school, it would be good to give back a bit. I just want to be able to be involved with more activities that go on at the school and be able to spend time with my fellow classmates. I think this will help me branch out a lot as I help out the school.

After I started with Student Council, I started thinking about the people who've I have mainly hung out with throughout high

school. I'd definitely say I have a big range of friends, both in high school and out of high school. But I starting thinking that maybe I could become closer with more of the kids in my grade by just hanging out with different people.

I know there are a ton of kids that I don't talk to or see on a regular basis. Later on in life, I think I will regret that. People tell me all the time that high school memories will always be with you, so I want to make them good ones with everyone that I graduate with. I want to be able to say that I was friends with pretty much everyone in my graduating class, and hopefully I'll still be able to be in contact with a lot



of them.

I think it is important to have a big range of friends. I know a lot of kids in high school have little groups, and don't talk to anyone else. I'd advise those kids to branch out more and meet new friends. Also, participate in the clubs and activities that the school has to offer. I never really thought about doing this in my first three years, but I wish I had. You're only in high school with those people for four years if all goes well, so you want to make the most of it.

# Advice to make freshman year great

## Tips on how to have fun and do well

I can think of some tips that could be of some benefit to freshmen by looking back on my freshman year. Freshmen think they're going to do well and pass every class with their special tactics that they use. Freshmen always think that they're cool, although in reality every class of freshmen is annoying, and every freshman believes at one point that he or she can get away without doing homework, but that's not going to work for the whole year, if it all.

I realize when I look back to my freshman year how annoying and stupid I was, and that's how freshmen always are. There are the freshmen that stop right in the middle of the hallway to talk to their friends or boyfriend/girlfriend. You do have a limit on time to get to class, so get out of the hallway and talk to your friends in class; not only are you risking being late to class, but you're also slowing other people down. You

don't want to constantly be late to school or class; there are consequences for that.

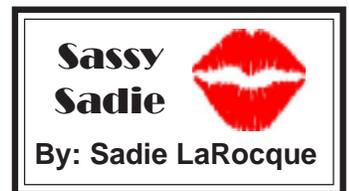
From what I've seen, the freshman class always seems to be the biggest class, but that doesn't mean they need to be the loudest, too. When I was a freshman, I was really loud and annoying, and that's what I see from freshmen every year. Quiet down, it's school, not a football game.

Speaking of football games, if you're not a football player, cheerleader, or in the band, go to a game once in a while and show some school spirit. There are some freshmen that won't go to a football game all season unless their boyfriends are football players. My freshman year I went to the occasional game, not every single one. Show your school spirit by going to a game once or twice.

Another way to show your school spirit is during Spirit

Week before Homecoming. Participate in Homecoming week, dress up, look ridiculous, have fun with it. Homecoming week may be the one week you actually get to have fun when you're at school, so even if you're not planning on going to Homecoming, dress up and have fun during Spirit Week.

Homework is another issue among freshmen. I know, homework stinks, but it's necessary to do it. A lot of freshmen are in sports or extracurricular activities, but that doesn't mean that you can blow off homework. Homework does affect your grades, and with sports, you have to keep your grades up, plus the grades you get freshman year will affect your chances of getting into the college you want to go to. Don't blow off your homework, especially if you plan on playing sports at school and going to college. The homework you don't do will affect your



grades, and affect your future. You have the power to get where you want to be in life, so use that. Teachers always bombard you with homework, and even upperclassmen get those crazy amounts of homework, so just try your best and learn as much as you can.

Freshman year is what you make of it, so go to some football games and have fun with friends, go to Homecoming, participate in Spirit Week, and enjoy yourself, but remember to stay on track in school and do your homework. You've only got one shot at your freshman year, and it will affect the rest of your schooling and affect where you go to college, so make the best of it.

# The bet that shaved a head

## Bow tie phenomenon ensues

In January I made a bet, and to keep this story short, I ended up cutting off all of my Afro. This posed many problems, including my ears getting cold in the winter time, not being able to be spotted in large crowds, but more importantly, my column box for this class now makes very little sense because I have decided to not grow my hair back out.

Curly's Corner has now been replaced by, "Bowtie Brigade," because let's face it, bow ties are cool. For those of you who are confused, or don't follow me on Twitter, I pretty much love bow ties. They are old school, awesome and are coming back into style. We have only just begun the school year, but I have already seen a lot of people wearing them in school and it's pretty great.

I have been asked a lot if I was going to grow my hair back out

to the monstrosity it once was. My response is usually along the lines of, "Eh, probably not," or, "I haven't thought about it yet." In reality, I guess I haven't been all that truthful because I'm not going to grow it back out. Sorry guys.

Before, I basically was held against my will to shave my head. It was pretty much all I had. I was known for having a big Afro, and now that it is gone, I obviously want to be known for wearing bow ties.

I told you at the beginning of this story I was going to keep it short but let's face it, I'm on a newspaper staff. I had proposed the bet that if Notre Dame beat Alabama in the BCS national championship game, I would shave my head, and vice versa for the other guy. After word got out about this, it was turned into a fundraiser for the Boys and



Girls Club without my knowledge, and raised over five hundred dollars in one day. So I was pretty much guilt tripped into shaving my head and in the end I'm kinda happy I did cut my hair and kept it short, because let's face it, bow ties are so much cooler than hair. I mean, you can't switch your hair color everyday, but you can switch out the color of your bow ties. And having shorter hair is much less of a hassle, it doesn't get in the way anymore, and paper wads are much less likely to land in shorter hair.

# Don't let the title fool you

## Dumb Ways to Die teaches valuable lesson

Nowadays, with transportation a non problem, people don't really think about how they get from place to place. Need something? Head to the car and get it, no worries. Due to this people often get too comfortable and complacent in their lives. Accidents happen, but they are often accidents that could have been avoided. People forget that on the roads there are things to watch out for, and many dumb ways to die.

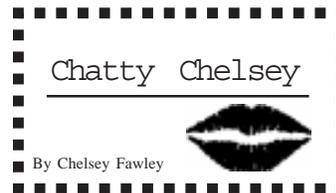
Drivers now may even forget that trains exist. I mean, who uses trains? However, the trains still pose a very real threat. They are big metal machines with only go and stop controls, it's not something that can easily be slowed down. They only carry about five people and therefore have very little to lose, so when someone intends to play chicken with a train they will lose. The frivolousness of drivers now seems to have brought train related

deaths and injuries back as an issue that needs to be publicized.

An Australian company known as McCann Melbourne has taken it as their duty to inform the youth of the dangers of trains in an exciting and engaging way. They were commissioned by the Australian company Metro Trains to create an engaging way to get the news out, and they've done a fantastic job.

The game is known called "Dumb Ways to Die" and slips train safety ideas in with what seems to be pointless fun game playing. It features several small little man-like characters that get into bad situations, what most would consider a 'dumb' way to die. The events in the song happen to these characters and it is the players duty to stop them from dying. Sneakily, there are three situations about railroad safety cleverly put in.

McCann pushed the bound-



aries of information spread by creating an application that was meant to be played by teens on their smartphone devices, and his idea worked wonders. It's been downloaded hundreds of thousands of times all around the world and was given 4.5 stars by the Apple iTunes Store.

The game is fun, clever, and informative. As you complete levels you gain characters who have died in 'dumb' ways and there's also a featured song that's available for purchase. I say great job McCann Melbourne, your game is worth the download and a two dimple smile from Chatty Chelsey.

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*The Messenger* would like to remember Mrs. Betty

McKenney as we begin our 74th year, and once again, thank her for her many contributions to our paper.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Ms. Diana Spinnati, for her support and encouragement of our student journalism program.

*The Messenger* is a publication of the journalism one classes of New Richmond High School.

Opinions expressed in *The Messenger* are the opinions of the writers only and not necessarily the opinions of the adviser or administration of New Richmond High School.

*The Messenger* accepts letters to the editor and guest columns and will publish both at the discretion of the newspaper staff and as space permits. Both items must be signed by the writers.

The *Messenger's* regular monthly issues are now online only and are available on the high school's and district's web sites. The Senior Issue will be printed, and will be available for purchase at school at the beginning of May. The cost of a senior issue mailed directly to your home is \$7.

Please direct comments or questions about the paper or its contents to the adviser, at 553-3191, x10204 or at [griffin\\_s@rrschools.org](mailto:griffin_s@rrschools.org)



# Faces in the Hallway

By: Christin Gray

## Senior Colter Mack

Senior Colter Mack is more than excited for the school year, mainly because of graduation, but he is looking forward to this school year as well. "I am very excited for graduation and being able to move on," he said.

Even after being in the building for two years, Mack says his grades will be the problem. "My main struggle will be passing all my classes this year," he said.

Although grades might be an issue for Mack, he certainly does like his teachers. "I love my schedule. I really like all the classes I'm taking, but the workload is going to be insane," he said.

Mack has his eyes focused on something most people are scared of coming out of high



school. "The only thing I'm looking forward to for the end of the year is graduating and getting out in the real world," he said.

The only thing Mack misses about summer is the fact that he didn't have any concerns. "I miss the freedom and not having to worry about school, homework or anything related," he said.

## Sophomore Nikita Branam

Sophomore Nikita Branam wasn't too excited for the start of the new school year. He said, "It's going okay, I just wish summer didn't go so fast."

The biggest struggles of the year are mostly balancing homework and friends all at once. Branam's biggest struggle is only one of the two. "Keeping up with homework will be my biggest struggle," he said.

Being well liked is a nice thing, liking your teachers is just icing on the cake. For Branam this year things might go a little easier, "I really like my teachers a lot," he



said.

The only thing in Branam's rear view mirror pertaining to summer is, "sleeping in," he said. But as the school year goes on, "I also look forward to passing all of my classes," he said.

## Junior Sierra King

Junior Sierra King feels like summer went too fast this year. "I really wasn't looking forward to coming back to school, but I did want to see my friends," she said.

King's biggest struggle this year will be the work load she has. "I am taking two AP classes and the rest of my classes are advanced, so I'm very worried about the work I have getting done," she said.

King's only concern is getting too bored in classes. "I really like my schedule so far; I have A lunch which is awesome! I haven't had that since I've been here. My teachers seem fine, but I'm already bored in my classes," she said.

King looks forward to gradua-



tion parties for the end of the year. "I can't wait to see all my friends graduate and go to all their parties, too," she said.

The one thing King misses the most about summer is sleeping. "I really miss sleeping in until 1pm and pool parties, I had so much fun this summer," she said.

## Freshman Riley Wolf

Freshman Riley Wolf has mixed feelings about the start of the school year. "I am excited and nervous mainly because I'm not really sure what to expect this year," she said.

Wolf has one subject that is going to give her a lot of trouble this year. "I'm really bad at history, so I just know that I'll struggle with it all year long," she said.

Liking your schedule can either be a love or hate thing. "I really like my teachers and my schedule because the teachers are understanding," she said.

One thing rings a bell in Wolf's ear when she thinks about the end of the year, which is sum-



mer. "I can't wait for the end of the year to be a sophomore and because I can't wait for summer," she said.

"I really miss being able to sleep in and not have to worry about homework," she said.

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# Do you have the travel bug?

## Students and teachers share memories of summer trip

By Ashley Gray

How did your summer go? Did you do anything exciting? The New Richmond High School students took a trip to France and Spain. Students who completed two years of either French or Spanish were able to attend the trip. They stayed in France for four nights and then traveled to Barcelona, Spain, for two nights, and then to Madrid, Spain, for another two nights.

"It was a wonderful experience. I thought that most students really enjoyed the experience. For our first time in 13 years, it was terrific," said Spanish teacher, Sharon Nehls.

French and Spanish students, along with French teacher, Roger Nyam, Nehls shared some of their feedback.

Students had a fun filled, yet at

the same time educational, itinerary for their trip.

"There is so much!!! Where does one begin? The Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, the Sagrada Familia, Park Guell, the Prado, the palace at Versailles, the Palacio Real in Madrid, and everything in between," said Nehls.

Nyam said, "I was with the students throughout the trip, visiting the various sites we had to visit: Notre Dame Cathedral, the Montparnasse Tower, the Dali Museum, etc."

For some students this was their first time out of the country.

"I thought it was very educational and an eye-opening experience," said sophomore French student, Emily Belmont.

"Although I speak a small amount of French, everything is



*Building cultural bridges:* Spanish students enjoying the weather on the Locks-of-Love Bridge in Paris, France. Photo/ S. Nehls

so different and at times difficult to understand. I was dumbfounded in Spain because I personally do not speak any Spanish," said sophomore French student, Joe Maxwell.

Some of the French students had a lot to say about what they liked about the trip.

Belmont said, "I liked how awesome our tour guides were, the amount of history we learned over the trip, and the beautiful scenery."

Sophomore Adrianna Flood also liked the scenery. "I liked being with my friends, too," she added.

The Spanish students also had a few pointers in what they liked about the trip.

Senior Jessica Nazareth said, "I loved Spain, the Eiffel Tower, and being on a trip with all my friends."

"My top favorites would have to be Barcelona, the Eiffel Tower, Madrid, and being with all my friends," said senior Eleanor Wildey.

The teachers said they had a very enjoyable time on the trip.

"Overall, I enjoyed the trip," said Nehls. "I have to say I was a little nervous at first because I hadn't traveled in so long and the airport security protocol concerned me, but it went smoother than expected," Nehls continued.

Several trip highlights were mentioned by the chaperones.

Nehls said, "Definitely the dancing in Barcelona and going to the beach late at night in Barcelona when everything was just getting going! Our tour guide was a hoot; he always referred to us as his sexy people, and every time our bus was late he blamed it on us being so sexy," Nehls added.

"Navigating the Parisian subway system, visiting the Louvre Museum where Mona Lisa (La Jaconde) is, visiting the Castle of Versailles, the cruise on the Seine River, visiting the Dali Museum in Figueras, Spain etc.," said Nyam.

Although students enjoyed many aspects of the trip, there were a few things they did not

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like as much.

"I didn't like how it didn't phase me that I was in another continent because I was surrounded by people I see every day. It made me feel I was still at home and I didn't like how we wasted a whole day traveling," said Belmont.

Nazareth said, "All the museums," were her least favorite about the trip.

Flood said it would have been better if the students got to pick their roommates. "It would have made the trip a lot more enjoyable," she added.

Nehls and Nyam believe their students learned a lot about the culture and history of Spain and France.

"I heard good things in terms of practicing their language skills. Some students told me they were very proud about how well they communicated with people when making purchases," said Nehls.

Despite being a language teacher, Nehls said the trip was a learning experience for her as well as for her students.

"I learned some French and found out I need to take a class. I do love the language, but even as a language person, I find French challenging in terms of pronunciation," said Nehls.

Nehls and Nyam both believe their students gained a lot from their experience.

Nehls felt the students gained: "Independence, self-worth, and the opportunity to stand on their own two feet."

"The great thing about the trip is that the students did not only learn things related to French and or Spanish languages but gained knowledge in arts, history, geography, science, politics, and many other fields," said Nyam.

Traveling, especially in a foreign country gives everyone the chance to experience something totally different from the usual routine.

"This was the biggest group I have ever traveled with," said

Nyam.

Belmont found a couple of different things. "The nightlife of the cities, attitude of the people there, and staying away from my friends and family for ten days."

"The amount of bread I ate," said Wildey.

"I think the three main shocking things to the kids were: paying to go to the bathroom in some places; it cost 1 Euro, along with in France some women yelling at you if you spent too much time in the bathroom," said Nehls. "Also, eating dinner late at around 8pm and the prices. It cost anywhere from \$1.25- \$1.50 per Euro," Nehls continued.

Nehls and Nyam are both fans of Spanish and French food and listed their favorites.

"Pot au feu, Gratin dauphinois, pommes de terres sautees, tartes, cassoulet etc.," said Nyam.

Nyam said his favorite is pot au feu. "Because it's a mixture of beef, vegetables and potatoes etc (I like it spicy :) and it's easy to make," he continues.

Nehls said she was the member of the clean plate club. "Chocolate mousse from France and paella from Spain. I think some students even branched out and ate escargot," Nehls added.

If students were able to do this trip all over again, there are some things they wish to do differently.

"I would change the transportation methods and I wish I would have taken more pictures," said Belmont.

Nazareth would stay in Barcelona longer. "We didn't stay there very long, and I wouldn't go to as many museums also because there were just too many," she added.

Maxwell said he would like the trip to be longer. "I would like to experience more, especially in France," he said.

The teachers also shared their opinions.

Nehls said she thinks she might have spent more time in Barcelona. "That is one of my



*How do you say Cheese in Spanish:* The Spanish group posing in Park Güell, Barcelona. Photo/S. Nehls

favorite places in Spain." "Also if it had been possible and affordable, I would have worked on getting students to do the extension further south to Sevilla, Cordoba, and Granada along with going over to Morocco in North Africa," Nehls continued.

However Nyam said he would not change anything. "The countries we visited had great learning opportunities for the students," he continued.

The students and teachers all felt the trip was well worth it!

"This trip was definitely worth it! It was a very enjoyable trip and I recommend it to anyone thinking about attending it in the future," said Maxwell.

"I think anytime students can get a chance to travel on their own, be independent and practice their language skills make them better individuals. Being a mother, I did miss my other two children, but I kept in close contact with them and my husband via Skype," said Nehls.

Nyam felt the trip was worth it because of its educational value. "The students learned a lot. I can safely say that no student returned from this trip without experiencing a certain degree of improvement in the way they view the world. Of course they come back from the trip smarter than they were when they embarked

on the tour," he added.

Overall, the teachers felt the students behaved generally well.

"Whenever there were instances where students were not doing the right thing, the teachers and the chaperones just corrected them. They were good at complying with instructions," said Nyam.

Is there a possibility in the future for more trips? Teachers say yes.

"I am already working on a trip to either England and Spain, or Italy and Spain for the summer of 2015," said Nehls.

Nyam said, "Absolutely. As a matter of fact, I am leading another trip, this time around, to France, Belgium and Holland. Since I believe in the educational value of these trips, I plan to lead many more trips in the future."

As you can tell, the France and Spain trip was enjoyable for both students and teachers. Traveling to a different country was an eye opener for the students and gave them more attributes to their character. The trip was very entertaining, but at the same time very educational. Teachers are already planning in the future for more possible trips, so hop on board and join a foreign language and you just may be able to be a part of the next exciting trip abroad!

# What is in your locker?

Students put everything in there from books to sports gear

By: Sadie LaRocque

What's in your locker right now? Most likely books, notebooks, and a backpack, but some people cram everything they can into their lockers, and have that huge mess of loose leaf and homework papers that have been crumpled up and thrown in the locker because they think that they won't need them, while others have nice and organized lockers.

It seems like everybody's locker starts out clean and organized and eventually it gets more and more messy until it is pretty much a black hole.

Drawings, pictures, and magnets are in a lot of girls lockers to make them look prettier, even if the rest of the locker is a mess of papers and books.

"I currently have four textbooks in my locker, along with my lunch box and a jacket. I don't have any drawings, pictures, magnets, or anything like that in my locker right now but I plan on putting some Ed Sheeran, The Fault in Our Stars, and nerdfighter related stuff up," said junior Grace Williams. "My locker has always been an unorganized mess and I still have made no improvement in my system of organization. I have my books in my locker in order by which class I'm going to, and then I have notebooks, folders, and papers shoved between my books and in the bottom of my locker which makes them rather hard to find."

Guys, on the other hand, have

a completely different system for the organization without all the locker accessories. "All I have in my locker are my books, my backpack, and most times a lunchbox. I don't like being disorganized, so I try to keep all my papers in folders or notebooks instead of letting them be in my locker and I never put other people's stuff in my locker. I also have a system for my books, keeping them upright and in order by class," said sophomore William Isbell.

"Being a guy, I don't have pictures and stuff up in my locker, I just keep my lunch box, backpack, books, and a coat in my locker. I did swimming freshman and sophomore year and kept a bag for that in my locker. Although it took up more space in my locker, I still had room for all my books, lunchbox, and backpack," said junior Daniel Wilson.

The majority of guys have some system of organization but others don't care and just throw their books in their locker and call it good.

"I don't really have a system of organization, I just put stuff in and hope I know where it is when I need it later on," junior Nicholas Wuest said.

Some students keep sports equipment and other people's stuff in their lockers along with all of their belongings and although sports equipment gets in the way of everything else when it's shoved into your locker, it is easiest to get to there.

"I'm on the tennis team and keep my uniform in my locker. It takes up space but I prefer to have it in my locker so I won't forget it at the end of the day when I go to my locker," said freshman Taylor Cardarelli.

There are always those people

who don't even go to their lockers during the day and just carry everything around they need.

"I never go to my locker, in fact I have no idea where my locker is. I keep my books with me all day for my classes or keep them in the classroom. I feel like if I stop at my locker, I'll end up forgetting something and have to go back to my locker again, which I don't want to do," said junior Jasmine Thompson.

Some people will carry everything they need for at least three classes at a time to avoid the inconvenience of going to their lockers.

"I carry the books, folders, binders, notebooks, and everything else I may need for three or four of my classes at a time so I don't have to walk up and down the stairs to go to my locker every time I need something," said junior Ben Phillips.

"I carry a bag around with me all day with my belongings in it so I don't have to stop at my locker between every class. I forget to get the stuff I need when I go to my locker, and end up having to go back and don't want to do that," said junior Rachel Taylor.

Students keep certain belongings in their locker and others with them because they want to make sure that nobody will break into their locker and take it.

"I keep the books I need for my class that I am going to with me and carry my headphones around because I don't want to put them in my locker and have them get broken or stolen," said sophomore Dillon Moore.

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# Summer work provides valuable experience

## NR students see advantages, disadvantages to jobs

By: **Christin Gray**

Did summer jobs have you sweatin' like a dawg? Most kids around their junior year of high school are given direction by their parents to do something productive and try to make a little money doing so. So at that point, kids start looking for jobs that will last for the summer and stop when school starts back up.

A couple of teachers here at New Richmond High school are managers at Coney Island. Former geometry teacher John Callebs, along with industrial arts teacher Jim Robinson, and network technician Steve Wolf are all parking managers. History teacher Brian Benzinger is also a manager at Coney in the rides department. Coney is a seasonal work place and can offer students many benefits. "I think that Coney Island is a very valuable for teaching young adults responsibility both financially and personally," said Wolf.

The bad economy a couple of years ago had many kids finding themselves out of luck, because unemployed adults would take low income jobs just to keep their own lives afloat. Fast food restaurants suddenly stopped hiring, grocery stores stopped looking for new baggers, etc. But today, with the economy improving, students are once again working.

Senior Chase Catron works at Frisch's in New Richmond, "I like the hours but after being around fast food, you tend to hate it. The majority of the people I work with are a mixture of teenagers like me and adults. Probably more adults than kids, though," she said.

Working for Kroger's can have its perks. Junior Alex Schultz worked at Kroger throughout the summer, and found it to be not what she expected. "I honestly thought the job wasn't going to be fun or entertaining at

all, but it's kind of fun to see the random faces, like from school and stuff. It makes working there a little better," she said.

Summer jobs are important for young people, just solely for the experience, Benzinger said. "Obviously, the number one reason why students are interested in a summer job is the extra money that they can earn. Like most employers, Coney Island has high standards on attendance and job performance. Each summer, a large group of our New Richmond students represent our high school and community well by being excellent employees at Coney Island."

Being able to list a couple of corporations or connections made while working somewhere on an application is an important step to making long term decisions about work. Most college students have a job either in the summer or in the school year to help pay for expenses. Employers look for experience when going through the hiring process. Working a job, whether it be in the summer, or during the school year, helps students develop a routine of good attendance and work ethic might lead to higher pay, or a better job down the road.

Experience is important. Junior Kyle Weeks worked in the rides department at Coney and said, "I thought that by working at Coney it really showed me what things employers look for in interviewing, and work performance. I liked working at Coney and meeting all the employees and making new friendships with them."

Summer help tends to have its drawbacks, too though. Senior Olivia Ferguson worked in the rides department at Coney. "It was an alright first summer job. It has its advantages and disad-

vantages just like every job does. But I guess one thing I didn't like was all the irregular scheduling that went on the whole summer. It became difficult when volleyball started."

At Coney, Robinson said he hates the postseason the most, solely because the heart of his staff leaves to go back to school.

"Especially, college students who have been working for me for three, four, and sometimes even five years. When colleges start back, I have to replace them with all my first and second years, which makes things harder because they aren't as experienced as some of my other employees," he said.

Working with people you like can make the job better, and Robinson agreed. "I love working at Coney! The way I got the job was through and old friend/teacher Mr. Brandyberry, who was a science teacher here at New Richmond for years. I started working there and have been there for almost 30 years now. I think the best part about my job is getting to work alongside my best friend, John Callebs," said Robinson.

Getting in shape can also be a benefit of summer work. Senior Blake Thompson worked for his grandfather's roofing company, "I liked that I was basically working out and getting paid for it, although I would rather have been working at Coney with all

my friends."

Parking cars all summer begins to get old, according to junior Brittany O'Brien. "I had a love/hate relationship with working at Coney all summer. The shifts were long and boring. I had a lot of fun parking for the concerts, though, because I could see all my friends going to them."

On the other hand, having long shifts means a nice paycheck at the end of the week.

Senior Shawn Butler also worked in the parking department at Coney this past summer. "I didn't enjoy the endless days and countless hours spent showing/telling cars where to park, but I'd rather have more hours than less," he said.

Doing something you're passionate about makes the summer fly. Senior Levi Simpson said, "I spent my summer working at Flash baseball facility. I loved my job because I got free lunch and could make my own hours throughout the summer, which is why I wouldn't want a different job," he said.

Weekends off, you can't beat it! Senior Emily Leffler said, "I babysat this past summer, and something I really liked was that I was able to keep my entire paycheck. It was a really easy and fun job. I also liked that I didn't have to work weekends."



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# Football team has high hopes

## Good start sets up for good season

By Josie Buckingham

The New Richmond High School football team has kicked off another season of football. This season has brought changes for the Lions. Leading these changes is the position of the new head coach, Joshua Stratton. Beginning his first year as head coach and teacher at NRHS, Stratton is prepared to

continue the tradition of excellence with both of his new titles. "NR is different because of the tradition and community spirit. I have never coached anywhere with as much excitement as NR has for its schools and athletics. I feel truly blessed to be a part of a community so great," explained Stratton.

The Lions kicked off the season on August 30th with a home game against Indian Hill High School. There are several tough opponents this year, providing good competition throughout the season. Although Stratton has not coached within this league and isn't familiar with the opponents, he still has high expectations.

coach Joshua Wade is also excited for this season. "It's going pretty well so far, but it's hard to tell only a few weeks in. We have a long way to go and we are off to a good start," said Wade.

After taking down Indian Hill and Grant County, the Lions hope to continue the rest of the season in a positive way. Since Stratton is new to the league, he isn't too sure about how the Lions will match up against different opponents. "I am not familiar with the league. I do, however, feel that have made great strides as a program over the last five months," said Stratton.

"We are a great TEAM; we have no individuals. Each and every player in our program understands that the only expectation set for them is to be better today than you were yesterday."

Stratton said that the last five months have been going very well since he was first announced as coach. "We focus on three things: 1. Attitude; 2. Effort; 3. Attendance, none of which take any talent. We have made great strides in all three areas," said Stratton

With a strong senior class, leadership and experience will be a major factor this season. The 15 senior members are ready to lead the Lions through another successful year. "One of our strengths is our leadership, and team chemistry, both of which I feel are extremely important to the success of any team or organization," said Stratton.

"We tell our boys to not be afraid to be great. Our goal is to get better every day," said Wade.

This season should be an exciting one for the Lions. The team, coaches, and fans are all hoping and preparing for a successful year.



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# Boys varsity soccer hungry for a league title

## Strong senior class hopes to put all the pieces together

By: Chandler Cochran

The New Richmond Lions boy's varsity soccer team is coming off an impressive season last year, with much more to prove this year. With a very strong senior class leading the way, this season should be one not too many people will forget.

This year's squad is unlike anything else NRHS has seen in a while, a very large group of seniors leading the way to let a few underclassmen shine and get some varsity playing time.

"This year we have a few younger guys who have fit right in. We are one big family and we are all best friends, not to mention great teammates," said senior goalkeeper Will Hayden.

Senior striker Noah Chaney added, "We are a better team this year; we have more talent on offense and defense."

Being a senior means these soccer players have a lot of expectations to live up to, a lot to prove and more importantly, they

have underclassmen teammates who need their leadership to keep the team on track.

Senior forward, Tyler Klein, explained, "I have earned the role of being a captain from my teammates and my coach. I feel like I should be a captain on this team and I am glad have support from my teammates."

So far this year, the Lions have built up a pretty impressive record, losing only one game and tying Madeira, who won the state title just three years ago. They have also already beaten Amelia and are poised to improve on their 4-1-3 record.

"Beating Amelia was awesome," explained Chaney. "That game gave me and a lot of my teammates the confidence we really needed."

When asked what it is like to play soccer for the New Richmond Lions, the seniors responded proudly.

"It is amazing," said midfielder

Zach Fields. "By far one of the best experiences of my life."

Senior defender Adam Slade explained, "I feel that playing soccer for the Lions is a high honor, and way better than playing for any other school around here."

Although they may be reflecting on their years on the turf, this season is far from over.

"We have done great things this year, but we aren't done," said Klein. "We will win league."

Hayden added, "Even though we have had a very impressive past, I still feel like we are hun-

gry for that league title."

The most important person players can learn from is the coach. Coach Doug Flamm has been a very influential factor in teaching the Lions many skills, some of which are also life lessons.

"Coach Flamm always told us to, 'always have an attitude for gratitude.' Never take anything for granted because you never know when it will end," said Hayden.

"If you give up on yourself, you're giving up on your team," said Fields.

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# Lady Lions soccer team successful

## Strong team with bright future

By Josie Buckingham

The Lady Lions varsity soccer team is in the middle of a great 2013 season. The girls and coaches have been working hard to improve each day. "We are 6-1-1 right now and 3-1-1 in league play. We are currently tied for second with Norwood," said head coach Chris Malotke.

Malotke is in his second year of coaching for the Lady Lions. "As a new coach, your first year is spent getting to know your younger players, implementing your program, style and skill work, and instilling a new winning attitude. The biggest improvement this year is the raised level of competitiveness amongst the girls, improved team atmosphere, and improved consistency with play," said Malotke.

Like most sports, preseason preparation is necessary for a successful year. "Our preseason consisted of three days a week conditioning (weightlifting, core,

running & senior led open play-3 hrs in length) in June and July. I also took the girls to several tournaments over the weekends in June and July. The Freshman went to the 8v8 ONU tournament, where they won their division. The JV and Freshmen went to the Wright State tournament, where they also won their division. The Varsity team went to the Xenia tournament, where they won their bracket, and the Mason tournament, where they finished third in their bracket," said Malotke.

The varsity team has a strong season class this year. Jill Flenniken, Emily Barcheski, Bailey Workman, Alexis Meyer, and Logan Smith have been helping to lead the team. "They have done a great job of putting the younger players under their wing and making them feel comfortable and part of the team," said Malotke.

Flenniken said, "The season is

going very well so far and we've only lost to Amelia. We all work together very well. We like to work the ball wide and cross to the middle. It's been a great experience playing here and I will be sad when it comes to an end. I love all of the girls. The underclassmen and very talented and fit well with the program. The future looks good for the team."

"The team has a lot of promise. If we all have a good mindset, we can come out on top. I'm excited to be a senior, but I don't

want it to end. It's bittersweet. Go Lions!" said Workman.

Malotke set several expectations for the team this year. "Top three in the league, Top ten in final city poll division 2, increase goals scored, and decrease goals allowed."

Several goals were also set for this season. "Winning overall record, winning league record, adding more players to the all-league team, increasing goals scored, and increase defensive shutouts," added Malotke.



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# Bump, set, hit, spike

## Lady Lions preseason volleyball talk

Ashley Gray

What does a carpenter have in common with a volleyball player? They both like to hammer spikes. You know who else likes to hammer spikes? Our New Richmond Lady Lions volleyball team! Coaches Susan Curfman and Carla Corbin, along with the volleyball players, give us some in-

sight on how their season is starting out.

Over the summer, the girls had the opportunity to participate in a tournament at Clark Montessori.

“Even though not all the girls were able to make it, our middle school coach, Barb Ammerman,

was there to oversee their progress in which they did apparently very well,” said Curfman.

“The girls had the best record in the league, and finished second in the tournament,” added Corbin.

The volleyball girls are no slackers.

“Our camps, open gyms, Clark league, and conditioning kicked off mid June and continued until try-outs and practice started at the beginning of August,” said Corbin.

Conditioning was arduous, but very beneficial to whipping the girls into shape.

Curfman added, “By the end of practice they were a sweaty mess, so I would say the workout is sufficient.”

Along with all the conditioning, there are quite a few skills the coaches have been focusing on this year.

“The girls continually work on their passing drills because the serves from the opponent are difficult,” said Curfman. “Without a good pass to the setter, we can’t even begin to set up the hitter for the kill,” she continued.

Corbin added, “All the skills are important but every point starts with a serve and every play begins with a pass. These skills must be executed in order for the other skills to matter. We spend a lot of time in practice on these. We have also been working on hitting, more specifically and getting our bodies into the proper hitting position.”

Curfman said in practice the

girls ready to exceed their goals for this year.

“Tom Branam runs a camp in the summer for the girls due to the fact we are only given 10 coaching days with our girls,” said Curfman. “The girls began conditioning with the insanity workout and continued with volleyball conditioning drills so on the first day of our camp they were ready to go,” Curfman continued.

Corbin said, “The girls worked very hard over the summer to improve their skills and endurance. Endurance plays a big role especially when the varsity plays 3 out of 5 matches. The intensity demanded for that level can take its toll when a fourth or fifth game is necessary.”

The coaches believe the conditioning was arduous, but very beneficial to whipping the girls into shape.

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girls are working on, "serving, hitting, passing, blocking, covering blockers, digging, tipping, placing the ball, and getting the ball out of the net."

Curfman and Corbin share their goals they hope the volleyball team will accomplish this season.

Curfman said, "We hope to make players more confident in what they are expected to do on the court and continually make them better at their positions so that they will see their progress and in turn, win games and take first in the league."

"Right now, I think we could finish in the top half of the league. The team already has more wins this season than we had the entire season last year, and we are currently in fourth place in the SBC. We just have to execute our skills in our remaining games," said Corbin.

Since the volleyball team started in August, the coaches said they have seen a tremendous difference in the abilities

of the girls.

"We have a great group of girls and we all have a great time playing volleyball," said Curfman.

Corbin added, "The girls continue to improve."

The volleyball players shared what they like about the game.

"It keeps me active and I enjoy it," said junior Wendy Appelmann.

Sophomore Erin O'Toole said, "I like volleyball because it challenges me, I get to do it with my friends, and it is overall is a fun sport."

"You always have to be ready; it keeps you on your toes and is a great sport," said freshman Rachel Riffle.

Freshman Kandice Miller said she enjoys the intensity volleyball has to offer.

Many of the girls have played volleyball for years and continue to enjoy it.

Senior Emily Leffler said she has stuck with volleyball because of her, "teammates and

love of the sport."

"The athleticism and it gives me something to look forward to at the beginning of the year," said junior Emily Carter.

Senior Jessica Nazareth said, "I love the game and being a part of the team."

Sophomore Adrianna Flood said she has stuck with playing volleyball because, "I love the sport and a few of my friends are on the team which makes it very enjoyable at practices and games."

The volleyball players, too, have goals they hope to accomplish this year.

Sophomore Alicia Bailey hopes

to, "get better at necessary skills."

"To play hard and try my best to improve on my skills this year," said freshman Kaylee Chapman.

Leffler said, "I hope to have a great senior year and win a lot of games."

"I hope our volleyball team gets a winning record and hopefully wins league," said senior Rachel Zawaski.



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# Running: your punishment, our sport.

## NRHS cross country team off to another great season

By Joe Maxwell

Running: your punishment, our sport. Running three miles is not an easy task, but our team seems to enjoy as well as be very competitive doing it. The New Richmond High School cross country team is off to another great season with Rylan Shebesta as coach of both boys' and girls' cross country teams. Team captains this year are seniors, Brian Lewis and Nick Gilman, for the boys' team. The girls team captains are seniors Olivia Behymer and Paige Anderson and junior Taryn Rupp. With both boys' and girls' teams being one of the top teams in the league, we are expecting great things and many goals achieved this season.

Although the NRHS Cross Country team has been trying hard and doing well so far, before the goals can be achieved, they need to be set.

"My goals for the season are to break nineteen minutes and get into the eighteens. I also want to make it to state. I know that these are high goals, but I believe that if I push myself I can achieve these goals," said sophomore Claire Burns, "My goals for the girls' team are to win league and districts and possibly for the girls' team to make it to state. If we work hard, I believe we can definitely make these goals a reality."

"My goal is to get better and better every race if possible, if I

do this, I want to be able to get near or under 20 minutes this year," said freshman Alex Gardner. "I would also like to see the boys' team beat Western Brown and Bethel in leagues; this is because those seem to be the teams that have been beating us the most."

Sophomore Ashley Gray said, "This season I hope to mainly get into shape for basketball season, but I also want to be able to run three miles in 22 minutes, especially since I just started running this year and have only run three races with my best time so far being 26 minutes. I would like to see the girls' team win leagues and districts, and do well in regionals. Then hopefully, qualify for state."

As you can see, everyone is very optimistic about the season ahead and has some very high goals that we are determined to achieve.

Sophomore on the boys' team, Carter Light said, "My goal for this year is to see if I can break 20 minutes, I have been running between 21 and 23 minutes so far this year. I feel if I push myself hard enough I can get into the nineteens. I also would like to see the boys team make districts and possibly win."

"So far this season, I have been running in the nineteens," said senior Stone Oliver. "I would like to see if I can get my

time down to 18:15. I would also like to see the boys' team win districts. We came close last year, I think if we work hard we will have a shot again this year."

Freshman Shelbi Simpson said, "Although I usually run around 22 to 23 minutes, my goal for this season is to beat 21 minutes and possibly beat Taryn in one of the meets. My goal for the team this year is for both teams to get first in the same meet and for everyone to beat or almost beat their own goals or personal records."

"My goal for this season is to get a personal record that I am content with, maybe a 26 or 25 minute race," said junior Katelynn Nichols. "On top of that, my goals for the team are to go to regionals like we did last year."

So far this year, as the runners are pushing towards their goals they are doing great in placing. Only two teams out of our league are constantly giving us trouble. Bethel, which has seemed to be neck and neck with us for quite a while now, as well as Western Brown, which has been ahead of us by very few points each race. If the runners continue to push themselves, we could wind up with both boys' and girls' teams winning leagues.

Leading the push to league vic-

tory are the amazing athletes who consistently run top times for the team this year. The top runner for the boys' team being junior Bobby Bingham, who runs between 17 and 18 minutes, with senior runner, Stone Oliver, not too far behind, running in the nineteens. And don't forget surprisingly good performances by newcomers Zach Fields and Charlie Spicker. Both are soccer players that are running cross country as a secondary sport. They surprised the whole team, with both of the runners running in the top five on our cross country team and helping add quite a few more points to our team with their exceptional and very impressive, surprise times.

Leading the girls' team is sophomore Claire Burns, who runs mid to high 19 minutes range. She is followed by other top runners, Olivia Behymer, Shelbi Simpson, and Taryn Rupp, all running with times between 22 and 23 minutes, giving security to a very strong girls' team placement every meet. Overall, both teams look strong and we are very optimistic about the rest of the season and what it holds in store for the New Richmond High School boys' and girls' cross country teams.



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# Lady Lions tennis season off to good start

## Players doing well so far and enjoying sport

By: Sadie LaRocque

The Lady Lions tennis team is doing well so far this season.

The top seven players, who are on varsity, play in most games. "The tennis team has 19 girls on the team this year, but only seven of them get to play in a match," Flamm said.

This year's team has three seniors, five juniors, three sophomores, and eight freshmen. "Several of our players are returning from last year, but only one of the returning players is in the top seven," Flamm said.

The top players are senior Megan Wollum, junior Lexi Jump, sophomores Laura Painter and Brooklyn Klein, and freshmen Lily Cahall and Taylor Cardarelli.

"The top players this year are a good group of players and are doing well so far," coach Flamm said. "There were no cuts made to the team this year, so the top seven players were chosen by doing an inter-squad tournament; however, once the top seven are set, players can still challenge for a position."

"When I heard I made varsity, I was really excited. I have been practicing for a while and doing lessons," said freshman Taylor Cardarelli, adding that all the practice and hard work she has done helped because she made the varsity tennis team.

Freshman Lily Cahall, who made varsity tennis as a freshman, is enjoying tennis so far this

season.

"I like tennis and I am proud to say I made varsity. I think this is going to be a good season and am glad I decided to do tennis," Cahall said. "The other players on the team are kind and I am enjoying tennis so far."

The tennis team is proud of themselves and the team this year. "I am proud of myself, having made varsity this year and I am proud of the whole team," said Cardarelli.

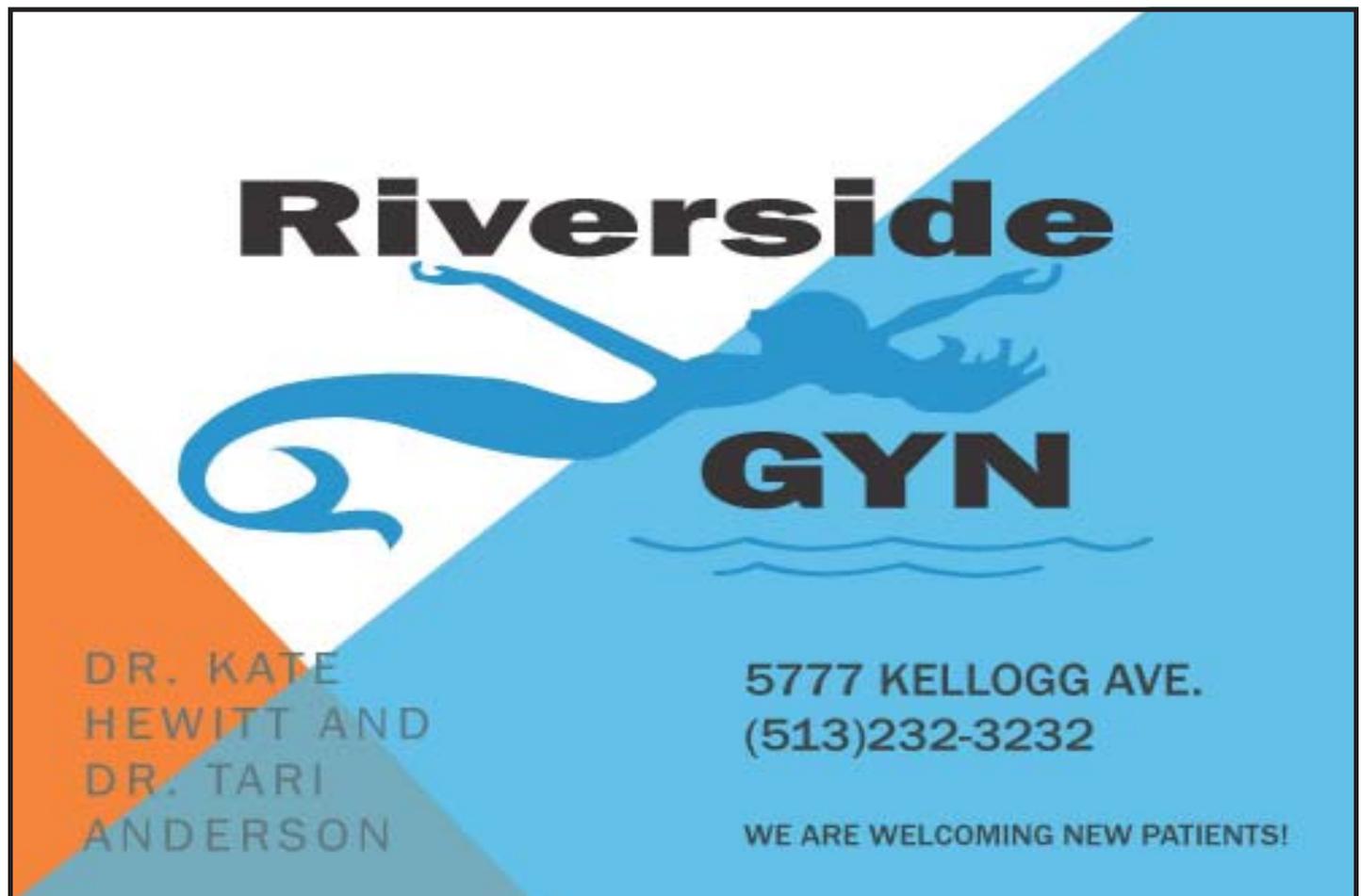
The team works well together and are all good players. "The girls enjoy what they are doing and I am proud of them. We have a great group of girls on the team this year and they work well as a team," Flamm said.

Enjoying tennis is a part of the sport; if you don't enjoy it, you won't do as well.

"I enjoy tennis but it is a lot of work, but if I didn't practice and take lessons and didn't enjoy what I was doing, I wouldn't have made it on varsity as a freshman," Cardarelli said.

The hard work does pay off for the tennis team.

Junior Halee Curtis joined the tennis team as a freshman and is still on the team. "I started tennis as a freshman with my friends and really enjoyed it," Curtis said. "I think the practice has paid off for not only myself, but also the other players and I'm glad I decided to stick with it."



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# We may not care for team, but we love the ballpark

## Even Cincinnatians can appreciate Busch Stadium in St. Louis

By: Chandler Cochran

I know that we live in Cincinnati and aren't even supposed to speak of the Cardinals on a regular basis, but have you seen their stadium? It's enormous!

Over the summer, I went on vacation with my dad, uncle and cousin to St. Louis to watch the Cardinals play, and to see the stadium. I have obviously been to Great American Ball Park many times, and I have also seen Wrigley Field in Chicago, and Miller Park in Wisconsin, but nothing has come close to Busch stadium in St. Louis, Missouri.

Just to give you a brief look at

the stadium, and to imagine how big it really is, GABP has roughly 42,000 seats; Busch Stadium has around 20,000 more seats, and many more levels of seats. Just about everyone I know either likes baseball or can tolerate watching a game or two, but the view from Busch stadium is a lot different than the view you get from our ballpark. First of all, if you are in any of the seats other than the outfield, you have a beautiful view of the St. Louis arch, which is very cool. Busch stadium also sits up higher than our ballpark, and has more lev-

els. When I was there in June, I sat towards the top of the stadium and it felt so much higher than GABP and I had an amazing view.

The enormous stadium is not very old, opening three years after Cincinnati's did. The stadium itself has an old time feel to it, and the Cardinals are often looked at as an old school team so they go hand in hand. In our outfield we have the very famous steam boat and tall stacks, while St. Louis has what they call, "Big Mac land," and yes, there is a McDonalds up there.

One of the coolest things about the stadium, in my opinion, stands about 30 feet tall right outside of the park. Stan "the man" Musial, arguably the best player in Cardinals franchise history, passed away in January of this year. His legacy lives on with an amazing statue of him greeting fans that enter the main gate.

I really loathe the Cardinals, and I hope you do too, but if you are ever in St. Louis, I highly recommend watching a game at Busch stadium. So far it is unlike any ballpark I have ever been to, I enjoyed it, I'm sure you will, too.

## "Human suffering anywhere concerns men and women everywhere"

# Night is great summer reading novel

By Ashley Gray

A majority of us dislike summer reading, right? While not being much of a bookworm, I actually enjoyed my summer reading book this past summer. Sophomore students were required to read *Night* by Elie Weisel. Published in 1958, *Night* is Wiesel's personal experience in a concentration camp during World War II.

It might not be your typical story, but certainly is a book that we need to hear and remember. *Night* is centered around Wiesel and other fellow Jews and the horror it was to be a Jewish prisoner in these concentration camps. This novel details the life of Elie and his father as they are

shuffled from the ghettos to various different concentration camps in East Germany and Poland.

I was pleasantly surprised how interested in a book I could be, but reading this novel will get readers hooked in through just the author's note. I can't say I have a favorite part of the book because it is disturbing knowing what civilized human beings are capable of doing to other human beings, but I enjoyed how descriptive the author was.

There are many books written on the Holocaust, but by far *Night* should be one of many people's favorites. Elie Wiesel's

novel was the only book written about the Holocaust that received a Nobel Prize. Although the book is not very long, it still gives the reader descriptive and haunting imagery in just a couple of sentences.

Taking into account what experiences the author went through, he could have easily made *Night* a six hundred-seven hundred page book, and who would want to read that? An upside to reading this novel is the vocabulary is not too complex, which allows this to be a required book for high schoolers to read. No high schooler is going to

jump for joy about a six hundred page book and the great thing about *Night* is anyone can pick it up and read it.

I recommend this book to a mature audience because immature adolescents might overlook the importance of this novel. This novel also contains an ample amount of graphic detailed events that you would not want your sixth grader reading about. *Night* is a simply well written story that allows us to learn from and remember, even though we may not want to. Overall, it is a great novel!



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# Kardashians only have themselves to blame

## The scandalous limits they go to for attention

By: Christin Gray

Almost everyone has either seen the Kardashian's in the tabloids or on their hit TV show *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*, since October 2007 when they began their television series on E!

The family was filmed based on the few minutes of fame they made with their chaotic personalities, and the scandalous limits they will go to for a couple dollars, which had persuasively amped up the viewers. Kris and Bruce Jenner collectively have eight children. Kourtney, Kim, Khole, and Rob Kardashian were from mother (Kris') previous marriage to Robert Kardashian in 1978. After Kris' divorce in 1991, she remarried former Olympian Bruce Jenner, who also had two sons from a previous marriage, Brandon and Brody Jenner. Together, the soon to be entertaining power couple had two

children together, Kendal and Kylie Jenner.

With fame shining in the spotlight, from no make-up to embarrassing photos and tapes, to the launching of one another's success, the family has shown they always stick by each other. But is the reality of their lives beginning to get too personal to be broadcast on television?

The family is known for playing pranks on one another, but just the other night, Kim and Kourtney decided to cook dinner for everyone. Throughout the course of that dinner, the family came to find out that what they were eating is some random person's placenta. The family was in complete disgust over this, and to be honest, it was kind of hard to watch. Most of the time the family is hilarious to watch, but recently, I feel like their per-

sonal lives are getting too in depth on live television.

Kim and Kourtney both knew the family's take on eating a placenta. There was a previous conversation about eating it, and the family was disgusted by the idea of it. With Kim's pregnancy, she has been wanting to experiment, referring to the things she puts in her mouth.

The family takes things to extremes in terms of what they allow all the children, teenagers, families, and other parents to see. The Kardashians have NO PRIVATE life, but I think the only people they have to blame for that are themselves.

The show is like a *Brady Bunch* nightmare. It's obvious that the Kardashian/Jenner family is very spoiled in more ways than one. Discipline for doing something wrong is nonexistent, which shows in the television series. Both parents are at fault for the crazy actions of their children just as much as the children are themselves. Without discipline,

children are wild, and the Kardashian/Jenner family is long gone past wild.

The show was never supposed to be a family watching event, but now that the audience for *Keeping Up with the Kardashians* has expanded, what is the message the show is giving off? That making an inappropriate tape to get famous is how you do it? Instant fame is how the family got their own television show, not due to the talent any of them portrayed; it was more along the lines of "What can I do so people will recognize me?"

Is this what you want teenagers watching? The show started from a video scandal and is still going on today due to its enormous audience. It's kind of sickening to think that the family made billions just off the scandals and vulgarity of events we would find appalling with people we personally know.

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# Some NRHS staff and students take a trip to Europe

## Reviewer enjoys both France and Spain over the summer

By Joe Maxwell

Thinking about going out of the country? If so, I recommend taking a tour with New Richmond High School's French and Spanish classes, guided by EF Educational Tours. These tours are made to be fun for all tourists on the trip, and they are designed to be educational as well! Not only is it amazing to attempt to apply the languages we are learning here at the high school, it is fun to experience new cultures and see how different it is for some people to live.

I took the high school's most recent tour, the France and Spain trip of June 2013. We left on June 9th with a group of about one hundred people. After a long, nine hour flight across the Atlantic Ocean to Europe, we landed in Paris, France, and met our two Spanish tour guides. The trilingual, French, English, and Spanish, tour guide, Rafi, toured with the French class.

The bilingual, English and Spanish, tour guide, Tony, toured with the Spanish class. Both tour guides were very, very kind and funny. All students, chaperones, and teachers enjoyed their being around. They were very helpful, and I enjoyed listening to them and was impressed by how much they knew about everywhere we traveled.

Out of the three cities, Paris, Barcelona, and Madrid, I most enjoyed myself in Paris. Don't get me wrong, Barcelona and Madrid were amazing cities, but the thing about Paris I liked was how I could at least attempt to have conversations with French speaking citizens. I liked touring Notre Dame and the other churches in Paris to see the artwork and architectural design. One of the most amazing things was, obviously, the Eiffel Tower. If being 1,063 feet in the air isn't enough for you, the view is amaz-

ing! The experience is unreal!

Barcelona was fun, but since it is practically the soccer capital of the world and I am not a big soccer fan, I was not as impressed as some of my soccer buddies were on the trip, although I have to admit that playing soccer at night on the Barcelona beach was a pretty irreplaceable moment.

Madrid was pretty cool, too. With it being the capital of Spain it was a very large city with a lot to do, like I said, just like New York City except it's not the capital of a country. Everything there was in walking distance from our hotel. Literally, the premier for the new Superman movie was right down the block, and we saw a lot of the stars in that movie. Other than all of that fun Spanish stuff, Paris was my favorite city in the trip.

If any of this interests you, you should possibly look into the

2014 trip. It has three stops, Belgium, Amsterdam, and Paris. The only requirements are, you have to have taken at least two years of either Spanish or French, so you might be able to communicate at least the slightest bit over in foreign territory.

If you are a traveling or exploring type of person, these EF Tours' trips might be the thing for you. I had lots of fun on my trip to Madrid, Barcelona, and Paris. Despite the lack of communication and France being the world capital for pickpockets, there is a lot to do and an unlimited amount of fun and sights to be awestruck by. I very highly recommend scraping all of your money together and taking a trip with New Richmond High School and EF Tours, I promise you will not be disappointed.

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# Despicable Me 2 proves an enjoyable film

## Cute animated movie brings lots of laughs

By Josie Buckingham

The summer of 2013 was full of various movie releases that caught my eye. From thrillers to romantics to comedies to cartoons, I saw many different films, one in particular, and definitely appropriate for all ages, was the animated film *Despicable Me 2*.

After seeing the first *Despicable Me* back in 2010, I was intrigued with this cute story of a villain whose life is changed due to three little orphaned girls who later see him at their father figure. When I saw this movie three years ago, it made me feel like a

little kid again since it was an adorable little animated movie. When the sequel came out this past summer, of course I had to see it.

*Despicable Me 2* picks up with the main character Gru, voice of Steve Carell, living his new, non-evil life with his three girls Margo, Edith, and Agnes, voices of Miranda Cosgrove, Dana Gaier, and Elsie Fisher. Gru's domesticated life is quite different from his old days as he is now presiding as a jelly and jam enthusiast with a production line beneath his home.

After an evil plot is pursued on a scientific outpost, an organization contacts Gru. This organization, AVI, is responsible for taking care of the type of villains that Gru was formerly known as. The AVI wants Gru to help them catch the person behind the attack using his villainous powers and mind that he used to use for evil. Gru agrees to help and he is teamed up with an agent named Lucy, voice of Kristen Wiig. The two set up in a local mall and pursue a few suspects who are

Gru also battles with the emotions of having a teenage daughter who becomes involved with the son of one of the suspects. It's easy to see how being a father has softened up Gru since the beginning of the first film. He is protective of his daughters, like many fathers are.

The minions are another huge part of this film. They are Gru's workers and helpers, and end up being captured during the film. They add fun, humor, and cheeriness to just about every moment they are on the screen. Their silly voices and actions never fail to make viewers laugh.

All of the voices chosen for this film fit their characters fairly well. I love Gru's voice and accent, and the voices of the little girls are adorable. Each individual voice makes each character different and draws you in. I believe that the voices of Gru, the girls, and the minions, being the major characters that viewers would no doubt identify with and remember, deserved to the benefit of Carrell and Wiig's treatment especially.

This film is a good one for all ages. This animated film is obviously intended for children for the most part, but it is also fun for adults as well simply because of the childlike humor in all of us.

While pursuing of the investigation, a bit of a romance unfolds between Gru and Lucy, ending happily of course.

It's one that I would definitely see again, considering I've already seen it twice. I found both of the *Despicable Me* movies to be cute, adorable, funny and worth viewing, but it's hard to say which one is better. It's a funny sequel with a cute storyline that keeps viewers laughing the whole time.



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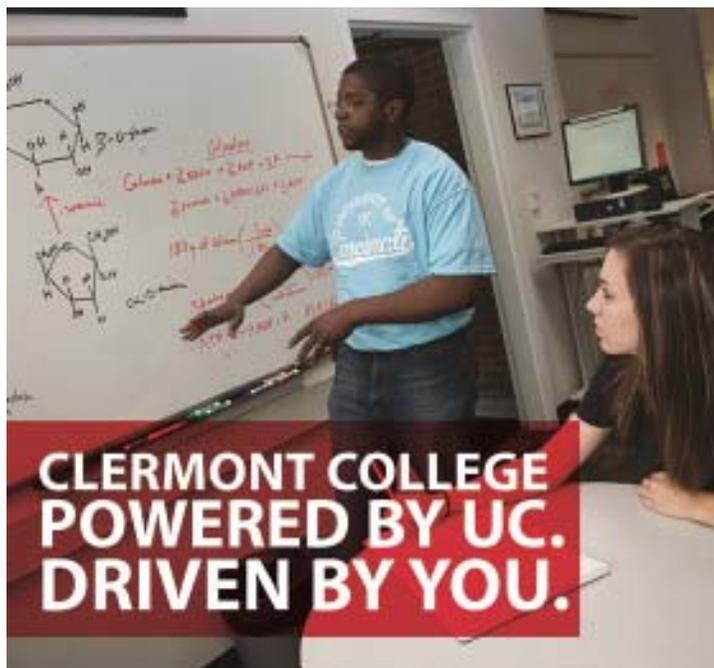
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# Peacock Pastries placed perfectly

New Richmond lucky enough to finally get its own bakery

By Chelsey Fawley

In the small town of New Richmond, few things seem to change. We've had the same three gas stations, the same grocery store, and the same banks for what seems like forever. Then it seems even when something new breaks into the scene, it soon crashes and burns. For the longest time, it's just simply seemed like New Richmond was bland.

That is all in the past now, though. With Mr. Grimm's and Front Street Cafe holding their ground, a couple of new businesses have started in our little village.

Most notable of these new establishments is one of the sweetest (pardon my pun) little bakeries I've ever had the joy to be a patron of: Peacock Pastry.

Perfect Pastries, they may as

well have called it! Though the building itself is a humble and quite small looking from the outside, inside there's a huge taste. All the pastries are made by hand, with 'grandma's cookin' kind of recipes. The women who started the bakery up create their own recipes, which frankly, are delicious.

Some of the pastries they're perfecting include Midnight Rendezvous Raspberry Cupcakes, Blonde Bombshells, oatmeal cookies (filled to the brim with various berries and chips), sticky buns, quiches, pies, and all sorts of specialty items they bake each week.

If you're not a huge pastry connoisseur, take it from me. These foods are worth purchasing. At Starbucks for a fifteen

ounce muffin you'll be paying \$3.97 without tax. At Peacock Pastries you can order a cupcake as big as a grown man's fist and it will only be \$2.50, as are all of their large baked goods. The prices and qualities are amazing, and they're open every day of the week. If it weren't for amazing self control, I would purchase a pastry every afternoon.

Along with the mind blowing deliciousness they're serving up at Peacock Pastries, the inside is

decorated remarkably. They used nothing but recycled furniture but made it into something I had never witnessed. The adorable inside seating is decorated in what looks like a collage of postcards and stamps. While inside you really feel like you've jumped into a little Paris Cafe, and it's lovely. The whole experience is worth it absolutely. Peacock Pastry deserves five stars and everyone's patronage.



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