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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"640K ought to be enough for anybody."
—Bill Gates (1981)



Have you seen what's in the parking lot this fall?.....2

The COMMONS is published biweekly during the school year by the Upper School Newspaper elective class at Riverfield Country Day School, 2433 W. 61st Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74132. No issues are published the weeks of Fall Campout, Winter Break and Spring Break.

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All opinions expressed are those of the individual writers and do not reflect positions of the newspaper staff, advisers, or school administration.

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"It's a wonderful setting...a great thing for the whole school. It took a lot of hard work to make it happen." — Coach Jason Bogle

Riverfield football kicks off

By Tristan Hightower
SPORTS EDITOR

The season is officially underway, and if one thing is for sure, the future of RCDS football looks promising. This is our third year for football, and as the school grows, so does the size of our team. Last year we had less than 15 players. There are now more than 20 suiting up on Friday nights.

Friday, September 4, was the first ever Riverfield football home game. The entire school had been looking forward to it for months, and the team was ready to go out and "Protect This House" against Claremore Christian. Heavy rain hit the morning of game day, so when the Ravens ran out onto their brand new field for the first time in uniform, it was through puddles and mud.

The game started off great. Within the first two minutes, we had a 14-0 lead. But with a few big plays, Claremore was back in it. Things got worse for us as our starting quarterback Michael Kelley took a shot from their defense and was out for the rest of the game. Then, when Ed Schotter was helped off the field a few plays later, our hope was just about gone. Schotter returned in time to help the team in one final effort, but conditions and inexperience caught up with us. The final score was Claremore Christian 26, Riverfield 20. Everyone did their absolute best, and we are thankful to all that attended.



The Riverfield Ravens take the field for the first game on their new home field on September 4. PHOTO COURTESY BOOSTER CLUB

The week before, on August 28, we won our first game against Boulevard Christian in Muskogee. At halftime, it was a close game at 12-6 in our favor. The team came out for the second half recharged, and jumped way out in the lead. The Raven defense didn't allow a

single score in the second half, and the offense picked it up as well, putting up TD after TD until the game ended and the scoreboard read Riverfield 40, Boulevard Christian 6.

Our next game at RCDS is this Friday against Evangelistic Temple. The Ravens will hit the field even more fired up than last week. Everyone in the stands is sure to hear loud and clear, "Protect This House!"

Welcome Back!

By Matt Faeth
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For many, the summer was way too long, and for every other normal person here, it was exactly the opposite.

I can't identify completely with either of those groups. I miss those summer nights with bonfires on the beaches that so many of us hopefully enjoyed. Coming back to school is also throwing a hard pitch my way, with the proverbial clean slate.

But it doesn't really matter what we think about coming back to school, does it? We are here whether we like it or not, so I urge you to make the best of this fresh start that we are given every new semester.

No matter how excellently or poorly you fared last year,

we all start out at the same level. I hate to use a cliché, but "all men are created equal" really works well in this situation. I would like to focus on the word "created." In these circumstances, all students are created equal, but what you do with that equality decides how you will fare not just during this semester, but throughout your entire life.

You may be starting out equal with everyone else here in high school. However, the grades you make and maybe even more importantly, the actions you take will help to give you an advantage in life.

You are choosing your path here and now to decide the rest of your life, so I urge you to choose the road that puts you a step above everyone else.

FALL CAMPOUT IS NEXT WEEK!
Sept. 16 through 18 (Wed.-Fri.)

weekday weather

MON		90
TUE		89
WED		84
THU		82
FRI		83

INFORMATION FROM WEATHER.COM, 9/8/09, 9:00 A.M.



2 Features

COMING UP IN OUR NEXT ISSUE: Rock Band plans...A Debate on Healthcare...Cheerleading Awards...Volleyball update...and more!

Three interesting new shows debut on television this fall



Looking for something new to watch? Check out these picks and set your DVR.

PHOTO BY KAITLYN RICHARDSON

By Marisa Morgan
A&E EDITOR

Fall is a season full of inevitable things: school starting, leaves changing, and television shows coming back into our lives.

Now with so many choices and so little time (and DVR space!) it can be difficult to decide which ones to watch. So I am going to attempt to sort through them and give you my

take on a few of the more interesting new shows.

GLEE

Station: Fox

Synopsis: Based on a high school show choir of misfits in Ohio.

Opinion: Even though the concept seems kind of lame, the first episode was really good. It is different from all the other new shows which makes you like it even more.

VAMPIRE DIARIES

Station: CW

Synopsis: Based on a book about a vampire and a human falling in love.

Opinion: Really, do we need another one of these? There's already *Twilight*, then *True Blood*, and now this one. Yes, it was interesting in the beginning, but the outcome is always the same. Plus, it doesn't follow the book exactly and the fans are outraged.

FLASHFORWARD

Station: ABC

Synopsis: Based on a novel about people being unconscious for two minutes and being able to see themselves six months in the future.

Opinion: It sounds like a cool idea, but it will be difficult to explain and follow through. It will probably have a pretty good following in the beginning, until they start killing off random people like in *Lost*.

A little too big?

By Ramsey Talladivudula
FEATURES EDITOR

How much growth is too much when it comes to the students and faculty at Riverfield?

We are expanding within a blink of an eye, but we are not nearly as big as Jenks or Union. The way those schools operate is unacceptable in my opinion. There are cliques, violence, drug abuse, lazy teachers, and in the end you're just a number. To the teachers you're ID is the only thing that really makes you a student there. "Your teachers don't even know you. There are people in your class that you have never seen before. The only positives are people don't know all your secrets, and if someone made you mad, you have ten million other students to be friends with," said Kaitlyn Richardson, a new Riverfield sophomore and former Union student.

The teachers at Riverfield aren't here just to give you homework and grade your tests. They also make our high school experience enjoyable and fun in the classrooms. You have room to move around and be yourself without being judged or figuring out how to get more than 30 students in a room only big enough for 20.

RCDS student Tristan Hightower says, "A positive for Riverfield growth is we would be more widely known and get more money to spend on school programs. We would have to spend most of the money building a bigger school and hiring more staff. (However) campouts, Game Nights, and Spring Trips wouldn't be able to function very easily."

Our school is expanding, but it's the students and faculty that make us who we are. As long as we stay the same open-minded school where everyone can coexist, there's no problem with growth.

Students' New Cars



These are some of the new cars at Riverfield this fall. Maybe you've seen them, maybe you haven't.... From left to right, Ashley Morton's Scion, Connor Schmigle's Mustang, Kendall Cannon's Mazda3, and Hayden Skoog's Cadillac.

PHOTOS BY RYAN PEAKE

New Facebook policy explained to students

By Malachi Keeter
OPINION EDITOR

Facebook is a privately owned social networking site that has exploded onto the scene in the past year or so, replacing profile-based sites such as Myspace and Xanga with its locally-based communication-centric layout.

The tight, family atmosphere of Riverfield quickly made the leap to Facebook. However, the last time you logged on to Face-

book, you might have noticed that you had fewer friends than before. This is because of a new policy at Riverfield governing student/teacher Facebook friendships which does not allow students and teachers to become "Facebook friends."

For an explanation, I conducted an interview with Mr. Clark, the Upper School Head. In the interview, Mr. Clark said that one of the main reasons for the new policy is so that teachers can avoid looking like they

are playing favorites. It also allows teachers to say no to students' friend requests without hurting feelings. However, he said the main point of the policy was to reinforce that there is a line between teachers and students. "If they (students and teachers) want to be friends, that's OK, but they can be friends in other ways," said Clark.

Personally, I am friends with several of my teachers, and I believe that those friendships

are a big part of the Riverfield experience. However, I must say that I support this new policy. If a student posts something stupid on Facebook and one of their teachers sees it, it could end badly for the student.

The new policy protects the teachers as well. As students, there are parts of our teachers' lives that we don't want to be in on. As Riverfield is a tech-oriented school, it is important to draw the line online alongside real life.

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES



FOOTBALL

Aug. 28 at Boulevard Christian (Muskogee)
Sept. 4 vs. Claremore Christian
Sept. 11 vs. Evangelistic Temple
Sept. 25 at Windsor Hills
Oct. 2 at Life Christian (Oklahoma City)
Oct. 9 vs. Eagle Point — HOMECOMING
Oct. 23 vs. Prue



CROSS COUNTRY

Sept. 5 Sapulpa Chieftain Invitational
Sept. 17 Coweta Cross Country Classic
Sept. 19 Bishop Kelley Comet
Sept. 26 Holland Hall Cross Country Invitational
Oct. 3 Riverfield Cross Country Challenge
Oct. 24 Laps for Little Ones
Oct. 31 Tulsa Run



VOLLEYBALL

Aug. 28 vs. Evangelistic Temple
Sept. 14 vs. Regent Preparatory
Sept. 21 at Evangelistic Temple
Sept. 28 vs. Eagle Point
Oct. 6 vs. Regent Preparatory

EVENTS IN BLUE HELD AT RCDS.