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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

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INFORMATION FROM WEATHER.COM, 10/26/09, 9:30 A.M.

At Riverfield, "people (are) unique individuals, not just members of groups with labels." — Mrs. Patricia Dickey

Celebrating diversity



PHOTO BY PATRICIA DICKEY

By Omar Rana
10TH GRADE

Since Riverfield is a small school, sometimes we may think it isn't diverse enough.

However, Mrs. Dickey is among many who have noticed the diversity at RCDS. "A quick look around the Upper School shows a great deal of diversity among our students. At least 15 to 20 percent are members of ethnic and/or religious minority groups—a higher percentage than at many private schools." She also says, "The great thing about Riverfield is that since we are a small school, we all get to know each other very well. When that happens, people become unique individuals, not just members of groups with labels."

Mrs. Clark, Keri Edwardes (a Riverfield parent), and two women that work at the local YWCA came up with the idea to invite students to a Diversity Committee meeting.

We met earlier this month. At the meeting, we brainstormed about things that, as a community, we could do to help prevent poverty, end racial and religious injustices, end stereotypes, and be a more enlightened community. We talked about things we could do such as volunteering at the soup kitchen, participating in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade, participating in diversity conferences, and visiting different houses of worship.

It is a very cool committee, and if this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, just ask me or a fellow member for information and join us!

Tulsa: Lovin' it or leavin' it?

By Ramsey Talladivedula
FEATURES EDITOR

Tulsa has many of the same qualities as any other city. We have museums, shopping districts, parks, clubs, movie theaters, concerts, and so on. But what makes someone want to stay in Tulsa? If other cities have the same stuff and more, why not move?

I asked some students and teachers for their opinions on



Will Ramsey stay in Tulsa?

PHOTO BY KAITLYN RICHARDSON

this, and I received very different views.

Mr. Wright says, "I like Tulsa a lot, it's a good city. Maybe if there were a good job opportunity somewhere else, I would consider moving. But I'm happy here." I think many adults would agree with this. Once you grow up, start a family, and get a job, there's not much of a reason to move.

Chris Dickey says, "I would live in Tulsa. There's not as much traffic as other places, and it's small enough to get everywhere easily. All we need is a beach, and Tulsa would be perfect." So basically, we would be complete if only the ocean could spare a little water! It's true, though—traffic in Tulsa isn't terrible unless there's a wreck or bad weather conditions.

I got some negative feedback from a couple of students. Meghan Kelkar says, "I would

leave because it's boring. We need an Urban Outfitters!" I agree, Urban Outfitters is amazing, but Tulsa isn't boring. You can always find stuff to do. All you need is a group of a friends and a place to hang out, and you can have lots of fun.

"I wish it would snow here like Breckenridge," says Ryan Peake. It seems like snowing in Tulsa has become a thing of the past. We now use the term "icing" more frequently. I agree that snow is more fun, but get a few mats and go down some ice-covered streets, and I guarantee you will love it. However, ice isn't there only thing there is to love about Tulsa.

When the time comes, it will depend on what feels right when deciding whether to stay or say good-bye to the city of Tulsa.

The rules of trick-or-treating

By Marisa Morgan
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Trick-or-treating is a tradition that has been in our society for many decades. But the question is, when do you become too old to trick or treat?

This is a question everyone wonders about. Some people even refuse to give candy to someone they deem "too old to trick-or-treat."

In my opinion, you are too old to trick or treat when you turn 18. Basically, if you have a say about whom our next president should be, I think you are too old to trick-or-treat!

Now, even though it is frowned upon to trick-or-treat at an older age, there are ways around it. If you have a younger sibling, you can always use them to your advantage by kindly volunteering to take your younger brother or sister out trick-or-treating early in the evening.

This ends up being a win-win situation. Not only will you still get to go trick or treating, but your parents might be so thankful for your helpfulness that they let you stay an hour later at that Halloween party you were invited to later that night. (Total Score!)

So to sum it up, some people may think you are too old to trick or treat, but you're never too old to have fun on Halloween.

HALLOWEEN DANCE

Upper School Commons
Friday, October 30
8 to 11 p.m.

\$5 before or \$8 at the door

Costumes not required
...BUT...prizes for best dressed guy and girl!



Last game against Prue ends Riverfield football season

By Tristan Hightower
SPORTS EDITOR

Riverfield football was a lot different this year than last year. We had an entirely new team with almost twice as many guys coming out to play. Some had never played a season of football before but wanted to see what they could do.

The year started off well with a strong win against Boulevard Christian. After that, the season consisted of some up and down games. Some games we blew the other team off the field, and there were a few games where we were so close to coming away with the win, but in the end just couldn't pull it off.

Friday, October 23, was one of those down games. We went into it with a 3-3 record. It was our last game, with the Prue Rockets for an opponent. Everyone wanted to send the seniors out with a win. One of them, senior running back Ed Schotter, was still out with a collarbone injury, and when Jacob Allen, our other running back was hit and injured, the running

game was looking thin. But with some powerful yards gained by fullback Ryan Peake and some big plays here and there, at half-time the score was 16-6 in favor of the Ravens.

Everyone was pumped and ready to go out and finish what we started, but the muddy field created some problems for the Ravens, along with a few mistakes. With less than two minutes left in the game, Prue had the ball in Raven territory with the score still 16-14 in favor of Riverfield. A complete pass to the end zone gave the Rockets a touchdown, and after their kick-off and then a very long run by quarterback Michael Kelley, Riverfield just barely had time for one more play, but couldn't connect on it. We lost the game, 16-20.

Nevertheless, the season was a great experience that proved what this year's team can do, and all the amazing support we had from our fans will always be appreciated.

Thanks to everyone, from players to parents to fans. We couldn't have done any of it without all of you.



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2010 NBA rookies worth a look

By Tristan Hightower
SPORTS EDITOR

In the past there have been very strong NBA drafts because of all the college superstars. This year it was a bit different.

It was a weaker draft, but the top player, Blake Griffin from the University of Oklahoma, is one of the best to ever enter. He was the top pick in the draft because of his explosive play, and his skills down low in the paint. There

was no player who could guard him in college, and many think after a few years in the NBA, it will be the same there.

Griffin was selected by the Los Angeles Clippers, a weak team in need of his services. There are very high expectations for Griffin because of his dominance in college, and I think he can deliver.

There are many other rookies who have been overlooked but still have much to give to the teams who picked

them. Some of the other top rookies include Hasheem Thabeet, James Harden, Tyreke Evans, Johnny Flynn, Jordan Hill, Stephen Curry, and DeJuan Blair.

A point guard from Spain named Ricky Rubio was drafted by the Memphis Grizzlies, but he decided to stay in Spain to get better for a year or so. The rest of the rookies are out on the court, getting adjusted to the increase in skill, size, and speed of the competition. It will be exciting to watch.

Zack Allen's brush with greatness creates memories

By Matt Faeth
STAFF WRITER

Riverfield junior Zack Allen was recently lucky enough to see Michael Jordan and many other great players inducted into the NBA Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Zack knows Joan Crawford, a former Olympian and a Hall of Famer herself. Ms. Crawford knows about Zack's love of the game and brought him along to the induction festivities.

The first day Zack got there, he went to a reunion dinner. In attendance were current and former NBA greats Carmelo Anthony, Michael Finley, Juan Howard, and the all-time assists and steals leader, John Stockton.

That night, Zack went back to his all-expenses-paid Marriott resort hotel, where he called it a night.

The next morning Zack was taken in a limo to the actual Hall of Fame grounds in Springfield. Later that day there was a dinner that our fellow classmate attended. This is where Michael Jordan, John Stockton, David Robinson, Vivien Stringer, and Jerry Sloan were present and inducted.

After the induction, Zack attended the after-dinner party where he met Tim Duncan, Dennis Rodman, Scottie Pippen, Ray Allen, David Robinson, and THE Michael Jordan.

At the conclusion of a long day, he was given \$250 at the Mohegan Sun Casino to spend in the shops.

After a jam-packed three days of going from party to party, Zack returned home to Oklahoma and back to school at Riverfield. Must've been quite a let-down.



(Top, left to right) Zack with Tim Duncan, Pat Riley and Doug Collins, and Carmelo Anthony.
(Bottom, left to right) Zack with Ray Allen, Scottie Pippen, and John Stockton and Ahmad Rashad.

PHOTOS COURTESY ALLEN FAMILY

3 Features

BOO! Check out these Haunted Houses: Hex House, Psycho Path, The Maize, Nightmare (Guts Church), Frozen Morgue, and Scream Country...



Molly Tierney and Alayna McClendon cook up some "homemade" mac & cheese in Home Ec class. PHOTO BY RAMSEY TALLADIVEDULA

The ultimate mac & cheese

INGREDIENTS:
4 T. butter
4 T. flour
2 c. milk
½ c. heavy or whipping cream
¾ lb. grated cheddar cheese
½ lb. small elbow macaroni
1 t. Worcestershire sauce
½ t. Tabasco sauce
(or more to taste)
dash of fresh ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Heat milk in saucepan and keep warm. Melt butter in another saucepan over low heat. Add flour, stir with wooden spoon for approximately 3 minutes until roux is frothy and the taste

of raw flour is gone.

Gradually add warm milk to roux, stirring hard all the while. Turn up heat, stir while cooking until roux is just at boiling point. Then reduce heat and let simmer for a few minutes. Add pepper, Tabasco and Worcestershire sauces. (It brings out the flavor of the cheese.) Stir in cream, simmer a little longer until flavors blend.

Cook and drain macaroni. Mix ¾ of cheese into the sauce. As soon as it melts, combine with macaroni and pour into baking pan.

Sprinkle remaining cheese on top. Bake at 350 for 20-30 minutes.

Source: "James Beard on Pasta," David Field and Catherine McCormick James (Margaret James's parents).

"This is the only macaroni and cheese I ever had growing up. It's the best there is!" says Home Ec instructor Margaret James. "My parents made this for my birthday every year, at my request."

It was a favorite of her Upper School students as well, who loved it because of the complexity of flavors.

Try making this at home. You'll never go back to the fluorescent-orange-powder-in-a-packet stuff again!

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By Ramsey Talladivedula
FEATURES EDITOR

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and this is the 25th year of celebrating awareness, education, and empowerment. Tulsa and the rest of the nation are turning pink! There are so many things going on around the Tulsa area.

The Komen Tulsa affiliate will be hosting Pink Sunday on October 25, and all churches in Tulsa County are invited to participate. The goal of Pink Sunday is to help raise awareness about cancer and the importance of early detection.

Also on October 25, there will be a live auction benefiting Tulsa Project Women, and a Breast Cancer Survivor fashion show at Woodland Hills Mall. If you go to the mall, you will notice some unusual artwork. Twenty-nine representatives from Tulsa businesses, organizations as well as media personalities have been plaster cast by Breast Impressions, and area artists have turned those casts into stunning works of art! The casts will be on display throughout the month of October.

National Football League players are wearing pink gear for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. They have been wearing pink hats, gloves, and even shoes!

So many people have had cancer, among them such famous individuals as Nancy Reagan, Sheryl Crow, Lance Armstrong, Deanna Favre, Walt Disney, and Bob Marley. Research is being done to find a cure, and you can help. You can donate money for research or create your own ways to support the fight against cancer.

Restaurant Review: The Melting Pot

By Chris Dickey
STAFF WRITER

The Melting Pot is a restaurant at Riverwalk Crossing in Jenks that serves fondue. You cook your own dinner on an electric heating pad in the center of your table.

There are four courses in the meal. The first course/appetizer is a choice of cheese fondues. My favorite, "Traditional Swiss," is made with white wine (the alcohol burns off), Swiss cheese, fresh garlic, lemon juice and nutmeg. It is served with bread cubes, green apples and raw vegetables.

The second course is salad; I always get their Caesar. It's one of the best that I've had. (It even rivals Herr Clarks!)

The third course is the entrée. Each option has a variety of meats. I chose the "French Quarter" which has steak, chicken, shrimp, and andouille sausage, all rolled in Cajun spices. Along with the meats, the waiter brings out fresh mushroom caps, potatoes and broccoli. All entrées come with an interesting variety of dipping sauces: teriyaki, plum, curry, cheese, and "Green Goddess" (perfect for stuffing the mushroom caps.)

For dessert, you have a choice of several different kinds of chocolate fondue. They bring strawberries, banana slices, brownie bites and other goodies to dip.

It seems like they are always bringing more food! It's a lot of fun to sample a little bit of eve-

rything at the table. Be prepared: it takes a couple of hours for dinner.

The booths have very high backs, giving a sense of privacy while dining. Although it is ex-

pensive, it is a great place for special occasions. Call ahead for reservations.

All in all, The Melting Pot is an amazing restaurant that I would recommend to anyone.



The Melting Pot's Flaming Turtle Chocolate Fondue is made with milk chocolate, caramel, and pecans. PHOTO BY KAITLYN RICHARDSON

Movie Review: Fame

By Marisa Morgan
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Recently I saw the latest Hollywood remake: Fame. And even though I put my life in the hands of Hannah Skoog's driving abilities, I suppose it was worth it.

But even though I enjoyed it, it is not a movie for everyone.

If you do not enjoy singing, dancing, and cheesy love stories, this is not a movie for you.

The story follows the lives of a few students at a performing arts high school from auditions to graduation. They all have different specialties, and you watch them fight to build careers in the performing arts. Not all of the students make it to

graduation, and even some of those that did graduate were told they would not be able to continue in their chosen fields. Each student takes this a different way, and there are even some suicide attempts. This seemed a little dramatic to me.

The other problem with the movie was the amount of time it had to cover. The story actually

spans more than four years. The characters' situations were constantly changing, and sometimes it was hard to keep track and sympathize with the characters when the years kept moving forward.

All in all, it was a good movie that was worth maybe half the money. I wish I had seen it at the dollar theater.



PHOTO BY KAITLYN RICHARDSON

Fall fashions for girls and guys

By Darcie Golden
12TH GRADE

This fall there are many new fads emerging. The 1980s are making a comeback with the ever-present leggings and the flat boot. Girls have been pairing great boots with leggings, a jean mini, and a layered top for a great fall look.

But watch out, jean mini, you have some new competition. Another great fall piece is the high-waisted skirt. When paired with a belt, it creates a

flattering silhouette for any body shape.

Of course, accessories are a must. With a plethora of great scarves, headbands, belts, and jewelry, this fall should be anything but boring.

Now guys, don't feel left out. There are plenty of new fashion ideas for you. Plaid shirts are back and here to stay. When paired with jeans, it's a great alternative to that old, ragged t-shirt that you shouldn't wear in public. Another great fall fashion statement for guys is

the layered look of the classic button down shirt with a rugged sweater.

The perfect pair of jeans mixes just the right amount of dark-wash denim and distressing that are able to flatter any guys' looks.

If you're looking to update your wardrobe, you may be wondering where to find the falls "Must Haves." For girls, it's definitely Forever 21 or Buckle, and guys can't go wrong at Abercrombie and Fitch or Buckle.

Censorship in the schools? Sam and Rachel disagree...

By Rachel Merry
9TH GRADE

Almost everywhere you look, censorship is eminent. Censorship is an important right, and it is there to stop certain things because those things that are censored are usually censored for good reasons.

You have probably been using the internet at school and have seen what happens when a website is blocked. That is censorship. The school has blocked the website because it contains inappropriate material or is irrelevant to what the student should be doing, which is schoolwork.

This school newspaper, for example, is censored. And it is not wrong for the school to do that. They pay for the entire paper, and they can, therefore, decide what stays out. If someone wrote an article on why racism is good, for example, the school would likely choose not to publish it because it would be insulting, and it would not present a good or true image of the school.

But what about our rights to the freedom of speech? Well,

the First Amendment states that "Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech" of the press. But since school censorship is a policy of the schools and not a law passed by Congress, it is legal.

As much as censorship seems useless, annoying and limiting, it is important. Schools reserve the right to censor anything they want and can do so as they please.

BUT, IS IT LEGAL?

In the 1988 case of *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, the Supreme Court ruled that school administrators may censor any forms of expression deemed "ungrammatical, poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced, vulgar or profane, or unsuitable for immature audiences." In addition, schools may censor any expression that advocates "conduct otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order" or any expression that is "inconsistent with its basic educational mission." In short, if a student press is school sponsored, having been lent the school's name and resources, and can be described as part of the school curriculum, it can be censored as a result of the Hazelwood decision.

By Sam Laney
10TH GRADE

First amendment rights are being infringed in school systems, and students are being denied the right to express themselves. In his book *1984*, George Orwell depicts a world where inhabitants are not allowed any expression of beliefs beyond those deemed appropriate by the government. Anyone

disagreeing with the ideas of "The Party" promptly disappears. Should we let this continue, the same may occur to us...

According to former Supreme Court justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, free speech is protected so long as such speech does not present a "clear and present danger" to the audience. However, schools are going beyond this by quieting opin-

ions and beliefs of the students. This should not be allowed because of basic first amendment rights, and also on moral grounds.

To have "free speech" is commonly understood to mean that one can say anything and cannot be silenced by law.

Obviously there are limitations (i.e. profanities in school), but specific views or observations shouldn't be censored just because they do not match those of the establishment.

Regarding morals, is it right to take away the voices of others? The establishment is silencing the underdog.

This is a direct contradiction of the rhetoric of the government that states all individuals are equal and can be heard. "All men are created equal," so as such, each individual's ideas should be given equal opportunity to shine.

To keep *1984* fiction and not reality, it is clear to me that censorship should not continue. The people's views and beliefs must not be silenced or the rights "guaranteed" to the people will slowly and surely be taken away.



"Can't you see this is tearing us apart!?" Sam and Rachel have a lot of fun in Debate class.

PHOTO BY KAITLYN RICHARDSON

Pacific garbage patch

By Kenzie Zwyer
STAFF WRITER

Every year, tons of plastic bottles, bags, bits of plastic, toothbrushes, and styrofoam cups are dropped into the ocean. Where do they go? It is estimated that 70% of all marine trash has sunk to the bottom of the ocean.

But a good part of the rest of it has been caught up in a circular gyre in the mid-Pacific formed by the Kurosho, North Pacific, Californian, and North Equatorial ocean currents. When the floating trash migrates along the current, it eventually comes to a calm spot in the middle of the vortex, where it stays indefinitely.

This calm spot has accumulated tons of trash, drifting and floating around the surface of an area roughly the size of Texas.

Contrary to many unofficial sources, scientific communities such as NOAA say

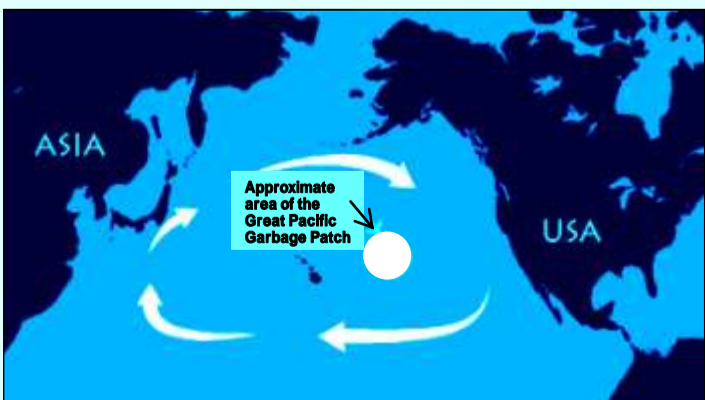
that the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" isn't an island of trash—in fact, it isn't even easily seen. But the concentration of plastic in the water in this area is so alarmingly high that this doesn't matter.

As for a clean-up? Scientists say that is impractical. It would be like trying to pick the egg whites out of 332,519,000 cubic miles of egg drop soup.

What marine mechanisms do we have that could effectively rake over an area the size of Texas? Small pieces of plastic would escape nets, and the process would take an enormous amount of energy.

With ocean liners and cities like New York dumping their trash into the ocean, the best we can do is to try our hardest not to add to the garbage vortex.

Fishing all of the trash out of the ocean isn't as easy as grabbing a dime from the bottom of a pool. In fact, it's virtually impossible.



The Texas-sized garbage patch is trapped by the currents.

ARTWORK BY KENZIE ZWAYER

Obama's Nobel Peace Prize

By Malachi Keeter
OPINION EDITOR

Oklahoma, as you may have noticed, is a pretty "far right" place. But here at Riverfield it can seem that liberals outnumber conservatives.

Now, everyone knows that I am not a Republican, and that I don't hold much respect for the modern conservative party. But I have some reservations about President Obama nonetheless.

It's been a slow presidency so far. Not much has happened, and to be completely fair, he hasn't messed anything up yet. Sure, there are conspiracy theo-

ries all over the place, along with the constant murmur of students' opinions, which have led me to sticking up for Obama on several occasions.

However, something happened recently that I just couldn't defend. Obama was declared the winner of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize.

According to the Nobel committee, Obama won because of his initiatives to end tensions in the Muslim world and promote diplomacy rather than warmongering. However, he, umm, well...he hasn't actually done those things. Initiative is

great, don't get me wrong, but the Nobel Peace Prize is typically awarded for accomplishment.

I agree with the New York Times, which said that the award can be seen as an endorsement of sorts.

I get the feeling that Obama won just for not being former President Bush. Bush was an awful president in my opinion because he was not good at the job. But I don't think that you should get an award just for not being Bush. After all, I'm not Bush either, and I'm still waiting for my award letter from the Nobel committee.

'Space Hijackers'—what is this?

By Malachi Keeter
OPINION EDITOR

For the past 50 years or so, middle class white kids have been feeling a strange urge to find things to rebel over and make a statement about.

There are a lot of things wrong with the world, and not many people are willing to fix them. However, often times these middle class kids protest things that aren't really issues. In my opinion, few protest groups embody this phenomenon better than the Space Hijackers.

The Space Hijackers are a group of "anarchitects" from Britain who aim to "reclaim the streets and public spaces from the evils of advertise-

ment, architecture, and multinationals," among other things.

At first glance, this seems like a good idea. After all, we are constantly bombarded by advertisements disregarding our humanity in favor of our money, so much so that we don't even notice anymore! However, the Space Hijackers seem to be a group of disgruntled middle-class white kids looking for something to do, rather than a protest group with a real message or goal.

What have they done to "protest" this invasion of the public spaces? They have taken benches and bolted them down in the asphalt in public parks (not much protest in this action.) They have organized a game of cricket in the middle of Lon-

don's financial district at midnight (which strikes me more as "teenagers having fun" than a legitimate protest.) And they drove an armored vehicle into the middle of other protesters at the G-20 London summit and parked in front of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

In short, the Space Hijackers, and the whole counter-culture right now, is completely idiotic. The majority have nothing to protest about, and those few that do choose to protest often do so with stupid goals and no impact.

I believe we should take back our streets. Not from advertisers or governments, but from the likes of the Space Hijackers, the pretentious fools trying to "protest."