



The COMMONS

Published biweekly by and for the Upper School students of Riverfield Country Day School in Tulsa, OK

VOLUME V NO. 12

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Better a witty fool than
 a foolish wit.
 — William Shakespeare



Spring sports are now in full swing 2



Looking for the perfect prom dress? 3

The COMMONS is published biweekly during the school year by the Upper School Newspaper 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.

The COMMONS reserves the right to edit any article or letter submitted for publication. Send all submissions to the Editor-in-Chief at mfaeth@riverfield.org. All opinions expressed are those of the individual writers and do not reflect positions of the newspaper staff, advisers, or school administration.

Spring 2011 Staff

- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Matthew Faeth
- MANAGING EDITOR
Omar Rana
- NEWS EDITOR
Sam Laney
- SPORTS EDITOR
Tristan Hightower
- A&E EDITORS
Max Harkness, Meghan Kelkar
- OPINION EDITORS
Malachi Keeter, Bryce Rossler
- FEATURES EDITOR
Erin Worley
- COPY EDITORS
Malachi Keeter, Bryce Rossler
- PHOTOGRAPHY EDITORS
Matthew Faeth, Ryan Peake
- DESIGN EDITORS
Claire White, captain
Chris Dickey
Ryan Peake
- ADVERTISING MANAGER
Omar Rana
- NEWSPAPER ADVISERS
Mr. Daniel Hodges
Mrs. Patricia Dickey

weekend weather

SAT		83
SUN		87

INFORMATION FROM WEATHER.COM, 4/1/11, 9:15 A.M.

New classes will be offered next year



Ms. James will teach two new History classes using these books as resources.

PHOTO BY RYAN PEAKE

By Erin Worley
 STAFF WRITER

Next school year there will be several new classes available to students in Riverfield's Upper School. Classes such as Acting I, two new surveys of English history, Philosophy, Psychology, Calculus, and Music Theory II, these will bring more diversity to class choices.

Acting I will be taught by Mrs. Long and will be a detailed class on acting that is open to anyone interested. If you have any questions, talk to Mrs. Long for further information.

For those history fanatics, there will be a couple of new History classes available, taught by Ms. James. Each class will be one semester long. In the fall, one class will introduce the English Tudor era, using the book *The Tudors: The*

Complete Story of England's Most Notorious Dynasty. The spring semester class will focus on Regency England, instructed by the book *Our Tempestuous Day*.

Mr. Wright will introduce two new core classes in the social sciences, Philosophy and Psychology. These classes are primarily intended for seniors, but some juniors could also participate.

Students who have to travel to TCC are in luck! Next year, Riverfield Country Day School will add another math class. Calculus will be available at Riverfield for those students eligible to take it. A teacher will be chosen soon.

For the many artistic and skilled musicians at Riverfield, Mr. Knight will be teaching a second part of Music Theory. Students can only take Part Two if they have previously taken Part One. Part One may be offered again if enough students are interested.

Reverse placebo effect proven

By Sam Laney
 NEWS EDITOR

The placebo effect has been well known for quite some time. When patients believe they are receiving powerful medication, they get better.

However, a new study suggests that this placebo effect also works in reverse. Participants' pain levels increased dramatically soon after they were told their medication was discontinued.

This new correlation between the effectiveness of medication and attitude has been dubbed the "nocebo"

effect. The study suggests that patients' expectations are critically important to their treatment. Belief in a medication does in fact make it more effective.

The study found that the painkilling effects of the drug tested almost doubled when patients were positive about the treatment and almost reduced to zero when patients felt that the drug would not work.

The study used 22 healthy volunteers and artificially induced pain. Reported pain varied dramatically, although the amount of opioid painkiller administered was the same after researchers had established a

baseline for pain.

The study, published in the February 16 issue of *Science Translational Medicine*, was conducted by researchers from the University of Hamburg Medical Center in Germany and Oxford University in the U.K.

Overall, the study suggests that doctors should quell negative feelings about prescribed treatments to improve effectiveness. It has yet to be seen if the "nocebo" effect applies to medications other than painkillers. However, the study brings modern medicine back to its roots. Healing is not just about medication.

NEWS BRIEFS

International

ABUJA, Nigeria — Nigerian political rivals blame opponents of sabotage by goat. A vice presidential candidate was forced to divert to a different airport when the runway he was to land on was covered in "escaped" goats. Opponents to the current regime are calling for an investigation. (news.yahoo.com)

TRIPOLI, Libya — Col. Muammar Gaddafi recently launched an assault on Zawiyah, a town held by rebels. Gaddafi sent upwards of fifty tanks and personnel carriers. Conflicting information continues to pour out of the country. It was previously thought that rebel forces in Zawiyah had been eliminated, however fighting continues. Gaddafi has reportedly cut telecommunications in the city. (guardian.co.uk)

National

AMHERST, Va. — A woman walked into a rural courthouse here for a hearing on March 10 with a tiny monkey clad in a pink-and-white dress tucked into her bra. Donna Bruce said the marmoset, which she named Cara and refers to as her "daughter," is only seven weeks old and requires constant attention. When asked how the monkey managed to make it past courthouse security, a deputy replied, "It wasn't armed." (*Associated Press*)

BETHESDA, Md. — Researchers have found that teenagers with eating disorders typically have at least one other psychiatric problem. Volunteers generally reported at least one disorder in addition to the eating disorder. Of all eating disorders surveyed, each had higher than 55% of participants reporting additional disorders. (abcnews.go.com)

NEW YORK — Oil prices fell sharply as OPEC pondered boosting production. U.S. stocks were up when worries about stalling economic recovery were quelled by the lower oil prices. OPEC remains cautious about boosting output the necessary 0.6 million barrels per day. (reuters.com)

NEW YORK — A new study finds that technology may cause lack of sleep. Nearly 95% of people surveyed said they use technology before bed, and nearly two thirds reported issues with lack of sleep. One researcher suggested that exposure to artificial light may heighten awareness and reduce the release of melatonin, a hormone that aids sleep. (news.yahoo.com)

Hey 8th - 12th Graders!
Camp Raven NEEDS You!

Become a C.I.T.
 (counselor in training)
 Swimming, Sports, Art, Food, and much more. Help join the fun and make memories while growing into a leader. Contact Mr. Breig for an application & information.
rbreig@riverfield.org

2 Sports

VARSITY TENNIS: Monday 4/4 vs. Metro @ Graham Park, 3:30pm ... Tuesday 4/5 vs. Rogers @ Tracy Park, 4pm ... Check out the brand new RCDS tennis courts!!!

RCDS spring sports update

By Bryce Rossler
STAFF WRITER

2011 looks to be another good year for Riverfield's golf and tennis programs, and both the boys' and girls' soccer teams look to expound on the solid first season of last year.

The biggest event of this year's season is certainly the completion of the school's new tennis courts. Funded completely by donors, the courts are tentatively scheduled for a grand opening on Friday, April 8. Tennis coach Mr. Clark is optimistic about the season and already has

three players he considers to be shoe-ins for the end of year tournament.

Although they're off to somewhat of a rocky start (Girls 1-2, Boys 0-3), junior Tristan Hightower remained his usual cheery self. "While our numbers are a little short this year," he said, "I'm still optimistic about what is going to be a great season."

The soccer teams are also confident. Sporting a .500 record after two tournaments thus far, the Boys' team is doing well. According to head coach Michael Nsien, "the Boys' soccer program is off to a good start. We have a blend of upper class and younger

players that should really show promise in the years to come."

Girls' coach Ms. Watts noted that "we have a strong core of players who are dedicated to developing their personal levels of play and to one another."

Although they're only returning three starters from last year's unit, the golf team has their eye on a successful season as well. Head coach Mr. Bogle epitomized all Riverfield athletes in his summation of his team, calling them, "a great group of student-athletes."

It's another exciting spring to be a Raven.



Luke Johnson, Jacob Allen, and Jeff Saizow are three of our spring athletes.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW FAETH



OKLAHOMA DRIVING SCHOOL
5970 E. 31st Street, Suite U
Inside Mall 31
www.oklahomadrivingschool.com
(918) 622-6500

Driver Education Classes for ages 15 & Up
10 Hours in Classroom - Weekend & Evening Sessions
4 - 5 Sessions per month - 6 Hours Behind-the-Wheel
One-on-One Instruction - 7 Days per Week
Pick-up & Drop-off in the Tulsa Metro Area
Licensed by the State of Oklahoma

Golf team competes

By Matthew Faeth
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, March 23, the Riverfield golf team piled into the school's Suburban along with their golf bags on a mission to compete in the bustling metropolis of Drumright, Oklahoma.

Schools came from all over various parts of the state to compete in this tournament. A Nowata golf team member said they had to leave their school at 6:30 a.m. and drive three hours to get to the tournament.

Also in attendance competing against Riverfield were schools like Seminole and a traditional rival, Rejoice Christian. Riverfield takes five golfers to every tournament. Representing the Ravens at Drumright were Ryan Peake, Jon Kelley, Hayden Skoog, Matthew Faeth, and Robbie Scott.

The tournament teed off at 9 a.m. and went for seven

straight hours until all 18 holes had been played by each of the approximately 100 golfers in attendance.

Ryan Peake ended up shooting the best with a score of 89, Jon Kelley a 101, Hayden Skoog a 108, Robbie Scott a 115, and Matthew Faeth a 117.

Without a doubt, the star of the day was Hayden Skoog who, after shooting an atrocious 64 on the first nine holes, came back to shoot a 44 on the back nine. This was a miraculous 20-stroke turnaround on the more difficult back nine. To give a little perspective, if Skoog had shot two 44s, he would have held the team high score for the day!

The team gave it their best, and that's all that can really be asked out of any athletes. To cap off the trip, the golf team was rewarded with drinks at Sonic afterwards courtesy of Coach Wes Rowell.



This year's golf team consists of Hayden Skoog, Robbie Scott, Jon Kelley, Matthew Faeth, and Ryan Peake. PHOTO BY ABBY GORE

Tristan Thompson is a stud

By Tristan Hightower
SPORTS EDITOR

College basketball lacks the dominant players it has enjoyed in years past. Most of the quickness and athleticism left with last year's draft picks that sent the college superstars to the NBA.

There is still hope, though. A power forward named Tristan Thompson who plays for Texas is arguably the best inside presence in the league. He is averag-

ing over 17 points (but for whatever reason, only about four rebounds) per game. Still, he knows how to score, has a nice midrange shot, and is a big body that can back down most defenders until he feels it's time to put another basket on the board.

Texas is by no means the best college team in basketball right now. Teams like Kansas and Ohio State could handle them.

However, if the team is to have any chance of competing

with those teams, their offense needs to play around and feed off Tristan's game. He puts the team on his back and is a very promising player to lead his team deep into the March Madness tournament. Armed with great skill and a powerful name, you should be keeping an eye on Tristan Thompson.

(Note: Texas was eliminated in the third round of the NCAA Tournament played at the BOK Center in Tulsa on March 18-20.)

Cleveland Cavaliers are weak

By Tristan Hightower
SPORTS EDITOR

Last year the Cleveland Cavaliers were one of the top teams in the NBA. They were considered an elite team, like the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers of the 1980s.

This summer Mr. LeBron James made a decision that took his talents from the Cleveland Cavaliers to the Miami Heat along with Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh. D-Wade had the team under con-

trol without him, but LeBron's talents are appreciated in Miami. Without their star, the Cavs are about to set a record for having the best league in the NBA one year, and the worst record in the league the very next year.

No one on the team has really stepped up to take on a large amount of the scoring load, and with the incredible 26-game losing streak they were on earlier this season, they have set themselves up to have the worst record this year.

Cleveland has showed their

disapproval of the man they called "King James," burning his jerseys and creating shirts that mock him. They even shower him with boos every time he gets close to the ball.

Regardless of the fans of Cleveland's efforts, LeBron is on a potential championship team, while they are sitting on a clunker of a team.

In the words of Seth Myers poking fun at Cleveland fans, "We hate you so much, we will burn our own clothes. Your move, LeBron."

Major League Baseball preview

By Bryce Rossler
STAFF WRITER

Every spring, Major League Baseball clubs congregate in Arizona and Florida to partake of Spring Training. The 30 teams come out of their winter hibernation to shrug off the remnants of the transcontinental blizzard and knock off the rust over the course of a month. With just a little under three weeks left until the regular season, several teams are already standing out.

Last year's champions, the San Francisco Giants, already look to be the best of the west,

standing alone at the top of the Arizona-based Cactus League with a 9-4 record.

Their American League counterpart, the Texas Rangers, who the Giants defeated 4-1 in last year's World Series, are grappling with the Brewers over bronze in the standings, sharing a 6-4 record.

The Kansas City Royals, who were pretty bad last year, are shaping up to be a contender this year with a +22 point differential, which is seven runs higher than the Giants'.

Across the country in Florida, home of the Grapefruit League, the 2006 World Series

participants, the St. Louis Cardinals and the Detroit Tigers, are off to decent starts themselves. Showcasing great gloves in the field, with only 30 and 31 runs allowed respectively, they don't have much to show for it considering their so-so records.

The Atlanta Braves look to decisively clinch the NL East this year. Teams like the Houston Astros, Tampa Bay Rays, and the Arizona Diamondbacks have fared less fortunately.

It looks to be an exciting season, and even though Ozzie Smith is long retired, plenty of people are going to be doing back flips on Opening Day.

3 A&E

COMING UP IN OUR NEXT ISSUE: Our senior athletes, the looming nuclear crisis in Japan, the world's funniest dictator, the best tattoos in the NBA, Facebook addiction, and more ...

Lykke Li's 'Wounded Rhymes'

Lykke Li is an independent artist (or as many prefer, "indie") who has given a poppy lean to her light, sometimes paper-thin voice. In *Wounded Rhymes*, this sort of rough back-drop creates friction with her voice which works in bits, but it only truly sounds together when she is singing to music that is as quiet as her voice.

She tries her hand in ripping, sweetened blue-eyed soul ("Youth Knows No Pain"), lightly layered Kanye tech pop ("I Follow Rivers"), and even fuzzy rock with jungle drums ("Get Some.") But nothing of this attempted experimentation



sounds quite as comforting or as beautiful as the simple "Unrequited Love" or the last three songs.

Lykke Li almost forgets what she and a lot of light indie artists do best — layerless, lighter than air pop. Her voice attempts to reach for anthems,

but it's a bit anonymous amongst much stronger voices. She certainly sounds better in a calm environment.

Not that *Wounded Rhymes* is anything but good. The music played is all grooving and booming, and even at her worst, Lykke Li's voice is good. The problem is that it lacks ... a certain something in most places. Listen to the last three songs and "Unrequited Love," but the other stuff, while good, is done better elsewhere.

Minimalism is Lykke Li's strong point, and *Wounded Rhymes* sees a bit of a downfall in that area.



Caitlin, Meghan, Kendall, Ramsey and Erin pose in their dresses before last year's Prom. PHOTO COURTESY OF CAITLIN POND

Finding a prom dress

By Meghan Kelkar
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Need prom dress ideas? Look no further!

Many high school girls consider prom night "the most anticipated night of the school year." There is the stress over who's going with whom, where everyone is meeting up before and after, and where prom will take place.

Before anyone can even think about these questions, girls have to make the most important decision: What am I going to wear? For those of you who haven't made this crucial decision yet, here are some fashion tips for prom.

First, you should find a dress that goes with the theme of the dance. The theme this year is "Casino Royale," and in my opinion, the best way to go with

this theme is to wear a long cocktail dress, red lipstick, straightened hair, and a mink. As for the shoes, I would recommend black pointy suede heels with bow on the front.

If girls would like to know where they can shop for dresses, White House/Black Market has great designs with various choices for jewelry as well. They even have a section dedicated to "Little Black Dresses."

RCDS sophomore Hannah Sieler also had advice for girls looking for dresses. "I managed to get a dress that went with the theme for prom from Dillard's. They had many choices for dresses, and they were for decent prices."

So, if you're like me and you still haven't gotten your dress yet, have no fear because there are still plenty of dresses available at various stores!

Amos Lee's appealing music

By Matthew Faeth
STAFF WRITER

Thirty-three year old Philadelphia native Amos Lee's music embodies a feeling of brotherly love.

Lee did not pursue a career in music until he was at the University of South Carolina in the mid '90s, and he was not considered an active professional musician until 2004.

To me, his music feels like a combination of the unbeaten and acoustic style of James Taylor mixed with the depth and character of Bob Dylan, then Lee adds his very own bluesy bend to all those elements.

Recently Lee released a new album featuring Willie Nelson on "Behind Me Now/El

Camino," and Lucinda Williams on "Clear Blue Eyes." Lee's "Windows are Rolled Down" track has been featured at all Starbucks worldwide as the featured free download of the week.

The way Lee goes about

presenting his work really facilitates his voice and comes together to create a combination that is definitively Amos Lee.

Lee's presentation is very simplistic. Most of his songs are just simply him and a guitar. It all has a very basic, minimalistic, vulnerable feel to it. Some songs do add background singers and drums, but Lee's signature style is not compromised by these small additions here and there.

Lee's music has a very wide appeal. He has performed songs with country artists such as the Zac Brown Band ("Colder Weather"), which attracts an older audience with its obvious influence from past artists. But his laid back style attracts a youthful audience as well.



Mrs. Long shows off her Starbucks music "Pick of the Week" card.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW FAETH

Classic April Fool's Day pranks

By Chris Dickey
STAFF WRITER

Though it is not clear when or where April Fool's Day originated, it is clear what we do on this holiday. It is a day dedicated to practical jokes and

hoaxes, also known as trolling.

When asked what he thought about April Fool's Day, Max Harkness replied, "I like April Fool's Day. APRIL FOOLS!"

Some of the more elaborate April Fool's jokes are legendary. According to Wikipedia,

in 1996 Taco Bell took out a full-page ad in *The New York Times* announcing they had bought the Liberty Bell to help "reduce the country's debt" and were renaming the bell the "Taco Liberty Bell."

What made this joke even better was that when White House press secretary Mike McCurry was asked about the sale, he replied tongue-in-cheek that, in addition to the Liberty Bell being sold, the Lincoln Memorial had also been sold and would henceforth be known as the Lincoln-Mercury Memorial.

Another famous April Fool's prank was that of the left-handed Whopper.

This hoax occurred in 1998 when Burger King ran an ad in *USA Today* saying it was now selling a Whopper for left-handed people. This left-handed Whopper was said to have condiments that were designed to drip out of the right side.



John Paul Lamb shows us his April Fool's Day spirit.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW FAETH

Movie Review: Big Momma's: Like Father, Like Son

By Max Harkness
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Springtime is truly a terrible period for the release of movies. It's just after the deadline when you can put in your bid for the Oscars, so it's the time of year when movie companies drop all of their worst and biggest flops into theaters with little regard, knowing people will go to see them anyway because there is nothing else out.

Already there is a negative tone to this review ... this is because *Big Momma's* puts any reasonable film watcher in a bad mood.

In *Big Momma's: Like Father, Like Son* we have the third sequel to a movie that was done better the first time. But even that first time around was done terribly by comparison to other dress-up comedies (*The Nutty Professor*), a genre that has barely had any

luck.

This is just another paycheck for Martin Lawrence, a guy who has done little to make us laugh, and the original *Big Momma* is no exception to his lack of comedic ability. However, the original *Big Momma* is *The Godfather* in comparison to this mess.

Before, Lawrence at least tried his hardest to make us laugh, but instead this is one of his dullest performances I've ever seen.

Everything else about the film is either unbelievably terrible or mediocre. The directing is dull and tired, like Francis Coppla's work on Robin Williams' *Jack*.

The sheer lack of laughs could make *Big Momma's: Like Father, Like Son* perfect for midnight showings, if only so that people could have a sleepover. In fact, that's the only use for a movie as bad as this one.

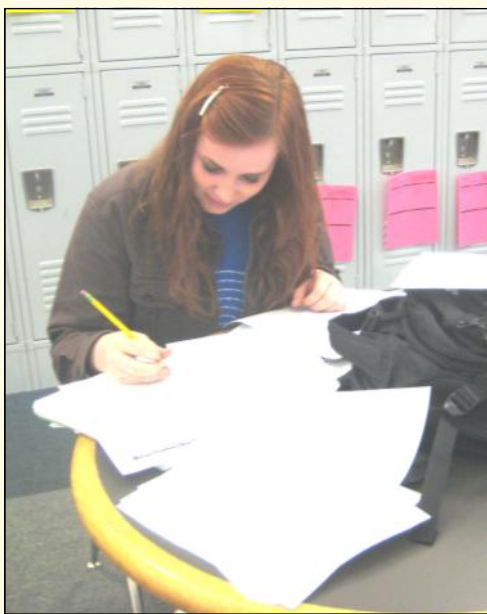
4 Features/Opinions

REMEMBER
TO RECYCLE!

Improve your SAT/ACT scores

By Erin Worley
FEATURES EDITOR

ACT/SAT Prep is very tedious, as many students know, but it is a very helpful way to improve your test scores. Currently I am attending Huntington Learning Cen-



Ramsey Talladivedula works on her ACT/SAT Prep. PHOTO BY MATTHEW FAETH

ter to improve my average ACT test score.

So far at the test center, I have improved at answering specific types of questions in certain subjects like Science, English, Reading, and Math. At ACT/SAT prep centers, teachers will test your weaknesses and strive to improve them with skilled techniques. No matter what your weaknesses are on the standardized tests, the centers will help with these needs.

According to other students that attended out-of-school preparatory classes, they suggest going to centers that will help. One of these students, Meghan Kelkar, who completed the course of preparation, states, "From the beginning, I didn't like my test score

on the ACT, but in the end I improved it by four points with the help of their one-on-one teaching."

Another student who is currently taking ACT Prep at Huntington is Omar Rana. He says, "Huntington has helped me so much, particularly in Reading and Science, by explaining techniques to use on these sections to complete them faster. With the improved times, it will help me get a better score than what I would've gotten without the techniques."

Huntington Learning Center is not the only test prep center that teaches one-on-one techniques to improve testing scores. There are also learning centers like Kumon, Sylvan, and Kaplan Test Prep and Admission sites.

Many students agree that ACT/SAT test preparation at learning centers has helped to improve their scores, which in the long run, might be the difference between earning scholarships and getting into their dream colleges or not.

How can you help someone who has an eating disorder?

Q: Do you know someone who has an eating disorder? How can you help them without being intrusive?

Omar: You may think this is an uncommon problem that your friend is going through, but it is not.

According to statistics, around ten million women and one million men in the United States today have serious eating problems. Also, around 86% of those women experience an eating disorder before college.

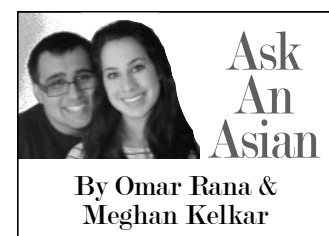
These are very harmful disorders. According to the Mirror to Mirror program, 40% of all women diagnosed with anorexia nervosa (a disorder in which one does not eat) will not make a full recovery, and around 5% will die from this disorder. Bulimia (another eating disorder in which one deliberately makes oneself vomit) has up to 20% of fatalities.

In all honesty, I know you don't want to be intrusive, but because these diseases are so detrimental to a person's health, I would honestly encourage you to think about staging an intervention. Think about it this way. It's your friend being mad at you for maybe five days versus your friend living with a harmful disorder that can follow them for the rest of their life.

Might I suggest for the intervention that you show your friend the website www.mirror-mirror.org. Show your friend the statistics behind whatever disorder they may have. If you really don't want to intrude, then you could send your friend the website and just have them look at it.

Q: How do you deal with drama in high school?

Meghan: Drama will always be with you wherever you go...



By Omar Rana & Meghan Kelkar

elementary school, middle school, high school, college, the work force, etc. There will never be a way to end drama in your life, but here are a few tips on how to deal with it.

First, learn to accept others' opinions. This is a very hard thing to do, but it causes fewer consequences.

Second, if any miniscule rumors spread about you, just let go of them. No one will remember who kissed whom, or who stole what in a few years anyway, so it really doesn't matter.

Third, don't get involved with issues that you are not a part of. If your two best friends are fighting over the fact that they wore the same shirt on the same day, just let them dispute.

Fourth, don't give people something to talk about. Your personal life is your personal life, so you should keep it that way by not speaking about it.

Last, don't give in to Facebook drama. I understand it's tempting. It's a big part of our adolescent lives, and some students are even addicted. Unfortunately, fighting with a bully over Facebook, AIM, Skype, etc., will just give them what they want: a reaction.

In my opinion, the easiest solution to this problem would be this: don't associate yourself with people who thrive on drama. It's a simple piece of advice, and it will always provide the best outcome.

'Duke Nukem' game set for May

By Malachi Keeter
OPINION EDITOR

The beginning of the 1990s marked a lot of things. It marked the fall of the Soviet Union, the ability for artists to sell records by not bathing, and most importantly, the golden age of gaming.

Companies like iD Software and Apogee Software were started in the early '90s in basements and garages by people who weren't out to make money, but to make games they could play and enjoy with their friends.

Games like iD Software's DOOM reinvented the industry,

taking the rebellious attitude of the players and putting it behind the reigns of the creative process for the first time. Without question, the most memorable and loved character from this generation of games was the gritty hero of the apocalyptic future, Duke Nukem.

The Duke Nukem games were very popular and sold well, defining the first wave of tactical games alongside titles such as Quake and Castle Wolfenstein. To this day, gamers still quote lines from the eponymous hero, all of which are too explicit for print in this publication. With such a strong following, you can imagine the excitement

that followed the announcement in 1997 that the ultimate Duke Nukem game, "Duke Nukem Forever" was on its way.

Plagued by internal miscommunication, lack of a solid game engine, a disintegrating budget, and unrealistic promises to live up to, the game took 14 years to produce, but it is finally here. Although it took more time to produce than The Beatles' entire musical career, the entire United States Apollo program, or the Vietnam War, the final product does look like a promising modern tactical game experience. The release date is set for May 3.

Planning for life after graduation: seniors' college plans

By Malachi Keeter
OPINIONS EDITOR

The 2010-2011 school year is almost over, and most people would say it's about time. But for some of us, it is our last year at Riverfield. This will be the fifth and so far the largest senior class to graduate from the school, and the class's plans and goals are as diverse as the Class of 2011 itself.

So far, the most popular college for the seniors I talked to is Missouri Southern State University. Three of our seniors are planning to enroll there. Ashley Morton and Kylar Carington both plan on a Pre-Med and Spanish duo, and J. P. Lamb plans to pursue "his thang."

Shelby Massey is also planning to go into medicine, but with a focus on Neuroscience at Hendrix College.

TCC is another popular option. Senior Audrey Riddle will study Astronomy there, and Moose Alred plans to go into History and join the TCC Speech team.

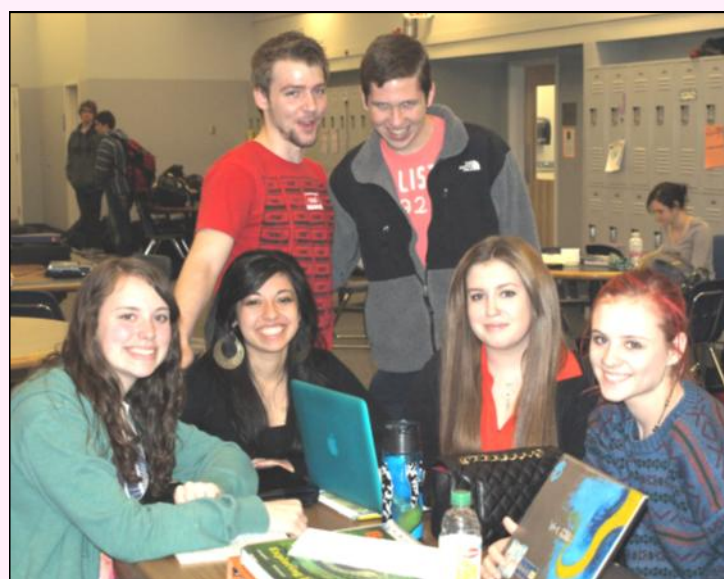
Some of our seniors are choosing to go into the fine arts. Seniors Connor Schmigle and Lauriana Williams are both planning to attend OCU, for Contemporary Music and Acting respectively. Torey Byrne is also planning to study Acting at Tulsa University.

A few of our sports stars here at Riverfield are planning to compete in college sports.

Zack Allen is going to Wesleyan University for basketball and will be studying Sports Management there. On the other end of the spectrum, known techie Skyler Dodd will major in Game Programming and Design at Neumont University.

This is, of course, an incomplete list. As we learn more of the seniors' post-Riverfield plans, we will update you here in "TheCOMMONS." If you are a senior and were not mentioned here, let us know what you plan to do so we can share the news!

This year's senior class is the largest and most diverse to date, but this should give you some idea of the wide variety of fields and walks of life that the class will pursue.



Several members of the Class of 2011 discuss college plans in the Commons. PHOTO BY RYAN PEAKE