

## Third place finish keeps Fulton OCAY near top

By Adam Wolford

Last Thursday nine teams from across the county participated in the third OCAY league competition of the year. This competition, titled the "Fitness Olympics," forced the teams to hone in on their athletic, creative and presenting skills in order to come out victorious.

The competition consisted of two parts, creating a new exercise program, similar to the recently popular zumba workout or the classical yoga, and also a testing of the participant's knowledge of health.

The Fulton team decided to create a unique program that required a partner. The program was titled "Best Friend Fitness" or BFF. After handing in the proposal to the judges the team began to work on the poster or visual aid that would promote their product. The Fulton team decided to put diagrams of all their exercises on their poster.

### *The Sound of Music* big hit for Players

After months of hard work and perseverance, the Quirk's Players production of *The Sound of Music* has finally come to a conclusion. On March 4-6 they had the chance to present their effort to the public, which led to fantastic results. With all shows nearly selling out, and one sold out show, a select few G. Ray Bodley students really had their time to shine.

Throughout the shows, people have taken the time to appreciate members of Quirk's for what they've done for the show. One of the first was Michael Spinoso, the choreographer. It was his first year working with the students, and his face lit up when he saw all his work done flawlessly. He has done wonders to the production and has received the appreciation he deserves.

Another member they took a moment to notice was GRB's own Dave Garber. During school, he is one of the physical education teachers, but to Quirk's Players he was the handyman, working behind the scenes. Mr. Garber helped to build the set, and he assisted in scene changes throughout the production. A few years ago, he even had the role of the

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hard they did not come out victorious, taking third to the teams from Central Square who got first place and Mexico who took second place. However, the results of the competition left the Fulton team in prime shape to come out victorious for the league and repeat championships for the OCAY league at the final

Next the team had to write a script for the presentation they would give to try and sell the workout plan to a gym. The Fulton team script was unique in the sense that they described each workout and made it simple for every person to do either at home or in the gym.

Although the Fulton team worked extremely



Ashley McDonald, Adam Wolford, Kirsten Francis and Emmy Molascon (left to right) present their fitness program during action from last week's OCAY competition, which was held in Fulton. The GRB team placed third to stay in contention for the overall team title. (Taylor Harvey photo)

### GRB Mock Trial team prevails in opener

The G. Ray Bodley High School Mock trial team won their first competition over Red Creek on Wednesday, March 3 at Granby Town Hall. The students showed a superior amount of knowledge concerning the case of Shawn Miller and the state of New York. Krista Woodcock, Juana Gonzalez, and Ryan Crofoot, were the leading lawyers for the defense while the main witnesses for the defense were Stephen McDougal (Shawn Miller), Lacy Buskey (Ryan Williams), and Kayla Distin (Mickey Pennmenn).

These students held their ground and then

some over Red Creek. Team advisor Mrs. Hallatt was thrilled, saying, "I'm very proud of my team, two of the three witnesses were called in at the last minute and had to memorize a whole new part. I look forward to getting a win over Sandy Creek."

The team has had a hard case to learn this year. Fulton will compete against Sandy Creek this Wednesday at 9:30 am at Volney Town Hall. If the students win, they will advance to the third round and will be that much closer to their goal of winning the competition.

By Christina Yanock

## Lefties: separating fact from fiction

By Jessica Palmitesso

Is being left handed bad? Lefties always wonder why they are the way they are. Especially when they are younger and they try to cut with the made-for-righty scissors, or after smudging the ink across the page when as they write.

These are just a few of the things that lefties face in a right-handed world where only 10 percent of the population is made up of lefties. Most people who are left-handed though usually have at least one left-handed relative, but scientist have not identified the gene or genes that play the role in determining what hand they will use when they are born.

At some point in time, however, the study into the human genome will help people understand how handedness is determined, but for now it is still a mysterious thing.

There are many rumors that lefties do not live as long as right handed people because lefties have shorter life spans. Only one percent of the lefty population is 80 years old and that is not a high percentage because only 10 percent of the population is left handed. For an example a medical study was published in a medical journal *Epidemiology* in 2007 found that left handed women did not live as long as similar right handed women. These left handed women have significantly higher rates of colorectal cancer and cardiovascular disease than right handed women.

While it may still be just an old wive's tale that lefties have shorter



life spans than righties, there are some theories about lefties living a shorter life than their right-handed counterparts. One is that lefties may have more accidents than righties when using power tools because most of those tools are designed for right handed workers, so this theory has been backed up by studies that lefties are more accident prone than righties.

Another is that lefties live just as long, but most of them describe themselves as a right hander due to stigma, superstition, or because they were forced to switch to their right hand as a child. People are still left with uncertainties and we need more research to understand handedness.

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edness and whether it will affect a lefties health and longevity and if it does it will be beneficial to figure out whether anyone can do anything about it. Until studies figure more things out do not believe everything you hear about lefties having shorter life spans, because many people who are left-handed have led full and extended lives.

## Oscar awards produce several surprises



The stars were out on Sunday night when the annual 82nd Oscars award show took place. The Oscars, which were hosted by Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin featured actors, actresses, producers and directors including celebrities Sandra Bullock, Zac Efron, director James Cameron and Jeff Bridges. There were twenty-four awards given out, highlighted by the awards for best actress in a leading role, best

actor in a leading role and best picture.

Best Actress in a supporting role went to Sandra Bullock for her part in the *Blindsight*. She was not expected to win this award because she was nominated with some other great actresses such as Meryl Streep and Helen Hiram. The Oscar for best actor went to Jeff Bridges for his role in *Crazy Heart*. Other actors in this category were George Clooney and Morgan Freeman.

The best original screenplay award was given to *The Hurt Locker*, which was written by Mark Boal. The *Hurt Locker* also won awards for best sound mixing, best sound editing, best film editing, best directing, which made history because Kathryn Bigelow was the first female to win best directing, and finally they won best picture.

The best writing of an adapted screenplay was won by the movie

*Precious*, based on the novel "Push" by Sapphire. Geoffrey Fletcher wrote this screenplay. Mo'Nique won best actress in a supporting role in the movie *Precious*.

Short Film winners were *Logorama* for best animated short film, *The New Tenants* for best short live action film, and for short documentary the winner was *Music* by Prudence, while *The Cove* took home the Oscar for best documentary feature.

*Avatar*, which was expected to take home most of the awards, finished with three. *Avatar* won best cinematography, best art direction, and best visual effects. *Avatar* is the top grossing movie ever made, but fell victim to a seeming Academy Award bias against films of this nature. Likewise *Star Trek: Beginnings* was also expected to take home some awards but only received one for best make-up.

The Oscars are always an exciting part of the year for actors and actresses and their respective roles. Now that the awards have finally been given out, the next few weeks will most certainly be spent analyzing the winners and the also-rans of the 82nd annual event.



## *Another sure sign that spring is in the air*



Disregard those snowbanks that border the parking lot at G. Ray Bodley High School, because spring is in the air. So were the lacrosse balls on Monday afternoon on the first official day of spring sports practice for the Fulton varsity. Donnie Watson wheels away with the ball in the photo above, with Brian Benton and Bobby Earnshaw in the background. Coach Halladay (right photo) gives instructions to Cody Hogan, left, with Jack Howard in the background. Meanwhile goaltender Eric Belair, right photo, makes a save against Brett Williams (#16) with Jake Sereno also in on the play. The team can't wait to get out on the grass to play, but in the meantime the parking lot will have to do. (Senecal photos)



**Auditions are  
March 30-31!  
Get your ACT together!**

### **The Sound of Music**

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Rabbi in the past production of Fiddler On the Roof. This is Mr. Garber's last year at G. Ray Bodley High School before retirement, and Quirk's Players are glad that they had a man as helpful as Mr. Garber.

During the intermission of The Sound of Music on Friday, March 5, a pair of students were recognized as leaders who showed perseverance and effort, as well as a sense of humor. Quirk's Players director Tom Briggs announced the recipients of the Jacalyn A. Stewart award, dedicated to the former GRB principal who passed away. The two students who received this award were Travis Cowart and Silvana Castelluccio. Congratulations on getting such a high honor.

Overall, the Quirk's Players production of The Sound of Music went very successfully. The students of G. Ray Bodley once again pulled it off, and performed an entertaining show.

*By Travis Cowart*

### **Meet the reporters:**

**Brenna Merry,  
Junior**

Brenna writes about school events and issues around the school. Her opinion columns are a regular feature on RaiderNet Daily.

She likes to dance, snowboard, golf and she likes to read and write. Something people don't know about her is that she is deathly afraid of riding a bike.



*Compiled by Christina Yanock*

# It's tournament time in the Big East!

By Eric Belair

The Big East Conference is arguably college basketball's toughest conference to play in. And now that it's tournament time it might have just become a bit tougher. For the first time in Big East history, all 16 conference members will participate in the tournament. This should make everything a bit more interesting.

This sixteen team conference is a great test to play in. The Big East is one of the deepest conferences as it has five teams ranked in the top twenty-five: Syracuse (3), West Virginia (7), Villanova (10), Pittsburgh (16), and Georgetown (22), which are the most from any conference in the NCAA.

As a result of the extended bracket, the Big East Tournament will now last five days at the legendary court, Madison Square Gardens in New York City. The five-day tournament could make the field more exciting because there is a chance for more upsets, which always makes a tournament more interesting. Seeds nine through sixteen will kick-off the tournament this afternoon at noon with #9 seeded South Florida facing #16 DePaul. The winners will advance to their respective games and play seeds five through eight. The top four seeds do not play until day three, the quarterfinals. The seeding is based on the teams' regular season conference record. The top four seeds are (1) Syracuse, who won their first outright conference title since 1991, (2) Pittsburgh, (3) West Virginia and (4) Villanova.

Some of the favorites to win the tournament are the top four seeds, but there is no clear cut front runner as anyone could be crowned champion. Obviously Syracuse is playing well as they are ranked third in the country and everyone here will be rooting for them to come out victorious, including me. But I am going to give you a couple of teams to watch, one from each tier.

In the first tier, which is day one and seeds nine through sixteen, the



## 'Cuse's #1 ranking was fun while it lasted

By Nick Millard

"We are SU. We are number one." It is highly likely that if you have even crawled out of your cave in the last week you have seen one of these shirts. Well, unfortunately your \$10 shirt is rendered useless until further notice. As the AP polls were released on Monday afternoon, Syracuse found themselves outside of the top spot once again, sitting at #3 behind Kentucky, and the new #1, Kansas. The Orange proved that they could not play at the top spot, as they suffered a defeat once again to the Louisville Cardinals.

It was fun while it lasted right? This two-year drought against Louisville seems unlikely due to the sheer domination the Orange has shown this season. Maybe I'm wrong; maybe they have not proven themselves worthy carrying their 7-0 record against ranked opponents. Sure, I'll take the 'Cuse any day against the likes of Kansas, Kentucky, or Duke, but God forbid they are forced to play an unranked team in tournament play. Syracuse has only lost to two teams this year, Louisville, and



Connecticut Huskies are a team to watch. I am not sure how far they will go, but if the Huskies want to make the big dance they need to make some noise. The Huskies are having a down season as they are 19-11, and are currently on a three game losing streak. Look for Andre Dyson and Stanley Robinson to come out playing hard.

A second tier team that is a five through eight seed are the Georgetown Hoyas. Now I might be saying this because I have always kind of liked the Hoyas. Georgetown sits at 20-9, but 10-8 in conference play. Even though the Hoyas are not on a big win streak, they are still a contender. Keep an eye on Antonio Freeman who is returning from a few game absence. Look for Freeman to help Chris Wright and Greg Monroe to get the job done. And should they win their opening game, the Hoyas will face Syracuse on Thursday with revenge on their mind after two losses to the Orange during the regular season.

My top four seed to watch are the Mountaineers from West Virginia, who have a three seed as they sit at 24-6 overall and 13-5 in the Big East. West Virginia is coming in winning five of their last six and even eleven of their last fifteen games. The Mountaineers are led by All Big East player Da'Sean Butler, who averages 17.2 ppg. West Virginia has four players averaging double figures in scoring. Also, West Virginia is my pick to win the tournament because they are hot right

now and things are clicking for them.

Lastly, a sleeper team to watch that has a great shot at winning it all are the Pittsburgh Panthers. I know what you're thinking: how can they be a sleeper when they are a two seed? Well I picked Pittsburgh as a sleeper because honestly, you do not hear about them. I have only heard about the Panthers for beating Syracuse. Pittsburgh is on a three game win streak and have won eight of their last nine games. The Panthers are playing well so keep an eye on them.

The Big East Tournament starts today, along with the excitement of March. Things should be interesting, and upsets will happen. That is a guarantee. So to find out what happens, stay tuned for daily updates.

Pittsburgh, both of whom were unranked at the time. Here is a fun fact, 66.6% of the Orange's losses are to Louisville.

Ok, well maybe it isn't as severe of an issue as I am making it, but the Big East tournament is starting and Syracuse needs to step up their game. The Orange has not beaten Louisville since 2008, and has failed to defeat the likes of Pittsburgh since 2006. Lucky for the Orange, both teams are sitting on the opposite side of the Big East bracket, so a match-up against the Cardinals or Panthers would only come about in the championship game.

Memories were made last year in the Big East tournament as Syracuse defeated UConn in the historic six-overtime game. All Syracuse fans can hope for is for their beloved Orange to play to their potential, and ride into the NCAA Tournament on a #1 seed. Regardless, the surging Orange have brought about a sense of pride around Central New York, and fans everywhere are not afraid to rock the Orange. Whether it be the 'Beat Nova' shirts, or last years 'Marathon Men', and 'Six in the City' shirts, all fans are bleeding Orange heading into March Madness.

## School of Thought compiled by Crystal Kimball & Raquel Vescio Who do you think will win the Big East Tournament?



"Syracuse"  
Trevor Littler



"Syracuse "  
Mr. Lyons



"Syracuse"  
Mr. Fadden



"Syracuse"  
Greg Jodway

### GRB announcements for Tuesday, March 9

The parking lot next to the tennis courts needs to be clear of cars by 2:45 for lacrosse practice.

Come on down to the Raider's Den for nachos, candy, drinks, Raider clothes and more. Did you know that you can pre-order cookies for any occasion? See Mrs. Ferlito in room 110. The Den is open bells nine and ten and after school.

The next meeting of the photo club will be on Wednesday, March 10 after school in room 118. Be there and bring pictures. Take pictures for The Raider and become a published photographer!

Buying lunch today? You'll have a choice between popcorn chicken with whole wheat breadstick or grilled chses sandwich with low-sodium tomato soup.

### Meteorology and you by Carson Metcalf

**Today:** Mostly sunny. High in the mid to upper-40s.

**Tonight:** Clear skies. Low in the mid-20s.

**Tomorrow:** Sun and clouds. High in the mid-40s.

*GRB sophomore Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ [www.centralnewyorkweather.com](http://www.centralnewyorkweather.com) ...Look for his weather forecasts on RaiderNet Daily.*

