

Raiders roll to victories on court, diamond

It was a banner Thursday for several Raider sides as the softball, baseball and tennis teams all emerged victorious. Fulton scored its biggest win of the softball season by blanking defending Class B champion Homer 3-0 while the baseball Raiders put together their best inning of the season to charge past Homer 11-4. Completing a big day for teams in red was the tennis team, 5-2 winners in Chittenango.

Girls blank defending champs

RBI triples from Lindsay Larkin and Hather Reed helped fuel the Raider rise to 9-5 in softball as Fulton handed Homer just its third loss in 16 starts. The Raiders scored once in the fourth inning and added two more in the fifth while collecting their second shutout in the past three games.

Pitcher Jessica Palmitesso held the Trojans to just two hits, aided by strong defensive play from shortstop Jackie LoCastro. Palmitesso notched eight strikeouts and added an RBI for the winners, who will take part in the Phoenix Tournament on Sunday. In the past three games the senior hurler has yielded just one run for the Raiders, who have improved to 8-4 in league play and 9-5 overall.

Big day for Raider baseball

The Raider baseball team finally put it all together on Thursday to notch its second win of the season at the expense of an 8-8 Homer side. Eight big runs in the top of the sixth inning put the game away for Fulton after the guests had scored two in the top of the first and one more in the fifth to take a 3-1 lead.

Kody Ravesi picked up the win on the hill for Fulton and was backed by an offensive attack that featured 13 singles as well as four Trojan miscues. Bobby Bonnie led the way with three RBI and Dan Bolster added two while Ravesi, Hunter Gorton, Derek Southworth, Josh Collins, Tyler Terramiggi and Max Ambuske each drove in a run.

Tennis overpowers Bears

The Raider tennis team improved to 6-5 on the season by bursting past Chittenango 5-2 on Thursday. Fulton swept through the four singles matches with relative ease as the top three players held the Bears to just four points along the way.

Derek Bateman scored a 6-0, 6-0 win at first

singles and Eric Naioti followed with a 6-1, 6-0 triumph in the second singles pairing. Adam Wolford battled to a 6-4 first set win at third singles before closing at 6-0, and fourth singles player Richard Reeschke outlasted his opponent 7-6 in the first set and then won 6-1

to give the Raiders a commanding lead.

In doubles competition Nate Borden and Kyler Gardner combined on a 6-3, 7-6 victory in the first position. Fulton's second and third doubles teams also played well, but came up just short in three set finals.



Last Sunday, May 9, seniors Sarah Allee, top left, and Rob Purtell, along with previous GRB students Samantha Meeker, top right, and Taylor Larabee, delivered a carnation and card to each of the women at the Andrew Michaud Nursing Home in Fulton. The group went door to door to hand out the gifts in celebration of Mother's Day. Thanks to Dowds', Claudettes', and Divine Designs' donations, they were able to give each resident a carnation. The cards were handmade by Fairgrieve Elementary's fourth grade students to wish the women a Happy Mother's Day.

Although this event was Sam and Taylor's project for AmeriCorps, Sarah and Rob wanted to help as well, and for their benefit received two hours of community service toward their graduation requirement. "I feel like the residents don't get a lot of visitors at Michaud, so I thought visiting them on Mother's Day was a great opportunity," said project leader Sam Meeker. "It went really well," she went on, "the women seemed very grateful."

A lot of the women were happy for getting a surprise - some even cried, because it meant so much to them. Nursing home members don't always get the attention and love that they deserve. They all have so much wisdom and experience, and all the stories to tell that come with it. All in all, the group had a lot of fun talking and visiting with the residents, while doing something good for our community.

Opinion

Community service is a win-win situation

By Travis Cowart

People need to be involved in some sort of activity that will make their community better. Too many times I hear statements like, "I hate Fulton. It's way too dirty to handle," and, "I'd like to be anywhere else but Fulton." I strongly suggest that those people who want to put their city down turn their attentions toward making this place better, and they can do this by finding some way to become a part of this community. A great way to do so is to perform volunteer work. Regardless of what volunteer activity you choose, it will manage to find a way to make this city a better place.

Many people think that volunteer work is a waste of time. I too used to think that. However, now that I have started doing community service, I can't stop. I volunteer as a mentor every Wednesday at the CYO, helping kids with their homework, helping to get them active, and to be like a big brother to them. At first, I wasn't very excited to have to take care of children. Being the oldest of seven children is challenging enough. But after the first two weeks, I realized that it was not as bad as I thought when I began mentoring. I also realized how the other mentors and I are an essential role model for these children. Doing community service has really helped these kids, and it also taught me what helping the community is really all about.



I'm not the only student who does volunteer work. Not only is it required to do community service to graduate, but it is also required if you are a member of the National Honor Society. Although it is a requirement, I guarantee that they have learned a valuable lesson by volunteering. Volunteering also looks great on a resume. It shows that you have been active within your community, and places that require a resume such as a job or college application think of volunteer work as a step above the others.

So for those people who only repeat the negative statements listed above, I strongly suggest you go and do something to contradict those complaints. Talking about the problems gives you an idea of what's wrong, but only the citizens of Fulton can actually repair the problems you state. In order to fix these problems, all you need to do is commit to volunteer work. Not only does it help the community as a whole, but there will also be many times where you will reach out to individuals. Maybe those individuals will even join you in your volunteer work, and eventually many more people will be helping out in order to make this city a wonderful place.

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Robin Hood highlights new releases

It's Friday and that means new movies will be showing in the theaters! This week there will be three new movies in theaters. These movies include *Robin Hood*, *Letters to Juliet*, and *Just Wright*.

The long anticipated new Robin Hood movie is finally out.

This Robin Hood is an action/drama starring Russell Crowe,

Cate Blanchett, and Matthew Macfadyen. This movie is a story about an expert archer at the end of the 12th century who travels into the town of Nottingham. When he reaches this town he is inspired by the acts of a sheriff and the presence of a beautiful widow to assemble a gang of mercenaries.

These people he is assembling are raiding the upper class as a way to correct the sheriff's injustices. Unlike past versions of Robin Hood, this one deals more with the story behind the origin of the legendary character.

Letters to Juliet is drama/romantic comedy starring Amanda Seyfried, Gael Garcia Bernal, and Vanessa Redgrave. The plot of this movie is when a young woman is on vacation in Verona, Italy and she finds an unanswered "letter to Juliet." This letter is one of the thousands of missives left at the fictional lover's Verona courtyard. The volunteers who respond to the unanswered letters inspire her to go on an adventure to

find and unite the writer of the letter and her beloved.

Just Wright is a romantic comedy which stars Queen Latifah, Common, and Paula Patton. This movie is about a physical therapist who falls in love with one of her clients. This client is a basketball player who incurred a career-threatening injury. There is one problem, this basketball player is not interested in the physical therapist, he is interested in her best friend who just wants to be his trophy wife.

If you are looking to see a movie but just not one of these, you can go to the drive in and see three movies for one price. The movies playing at the Midway Drive-in this week are *The Wolfman*, *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, and *The Crazies*. As always, check your local listings for locations and time of the movie you would like to see before you go see the movie.

Upcoming events:

Friday, May 14: Junior Prom at DoubleTree Hotel, 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 5: Senior trip to Cedar Point Amusement Park.

Monday, June 7: GRB academic awards ceremony, 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 10: Bodley Bash after school

All eyes are on Boston in playoff battles

By Nick Millard

Boston, Boston, Boston... this city alone has taken over the spotlight this week in sports. This should not come as a surprise, however, because this is what they do.

In the Stanley Cup playoffs, the Boston Bruins have done something historic in the last week. The Bruins, who were up 3-0 in their series, had it all but won, but somehow in the last week Boston managed to give that all up and are staring into the eyes of something historic. Yes, the Philadelphia Flyers tied it all up 3-3 and are heading into game seven with all the momentum. Ironic isn't it?

Let's flash back to October of 2004, the MLB American League Pennant; the Boston Red Sox found themselves in a 3-0 deficit, and came back to win the series, which was the first time a baseball team had ever responded to such a deficit to actually win the series. For such a die-hard sports city, being on the other side of the spectrum cannot be all that fun.

With Chicago, San Jose, and Montreal already punching their tickets into the NHL conference finals, the final ticket will be punched tonight. Boston looks to avoid infamy as only three teams have ever lost after leading 3-0 in the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Boston and the Cleveland Cavaliers were the only two teams in the conference semi-finals to exchange wins at any point. The Los Angeles Lakers, Phoenix Suns, and Orlando Magic all dominated their counterparts in 4-0 series sweeps. The Boston Celtics walked into this year's playoffs with a new attitude and swagger that they did not possess during the regular season.

The Celtics were dominated in game three by the Cavs, being outscored by nearly 30 points and found their way into a 2-1 series deficit. However, it was lights out from there on, and the Celtics won their next three games to move on and upset LeBron James and the number one seeded Cavaliers.

Was it mentioned how they did it? Considered to old to challenge by the "experts," the suddenly youthful Celtics won all four of their games by a margin of 17 points per game. The "Big Three" consisting of Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce, and Ray Allen came to play for one more title, and have not looked better. On the other side of the spectrum, the NBA free agency is starting in approximately 60 days, and questions are looming around the future of MVP LeBron James in Cleveland. The Knicks have been all the talk for the last couple

of years for LeBron, and things are looking like they will get exciting come July.

On mother's day, Dallas Braden of the Oakland Athletics threw the rare perfect game, which was the 17th in the history of the MLB. Braden, a relatively no-name pitcher, was best known for his feud with Yankee Star Alex Rodriguez, which all stemmed when A-Rod ran back to his dugout by running across the pitching mound. Pitchers have found much success this year, as earlier in the year we all saw a no-hitter thrown by Colorado Rockies pitcher Ubaldo Jimenez.

Even this week alone, there was another one-hitter thrown. For local baseball fans, Syracuse Chiefs star pitcher Stephen Strasburg is lighting up the Triple A in his journey to the big leagues. Strasburg, who has pitched 12 innings thus far, has given up one hit. One Hit, not one run... one hit. If you haven't had the chance to go out and watch this guy yet, I recommend doing so because he will not be here for long.

Elsewhere in sports, Tiger Woods in continu-

ing down the endless road that has become his life. After struggling with his driver in his previous two events, Tiger dropped out of the fourth round of the Players Championship after dealing with neck pains. Woods received an MRI earlier in the week, which revealed that he had an inflamed neck joint. Woods will go through physical therapy, and will return to golf when he is "physically able."

In the NFL, controversy is swirling around Rookie of the Year linebacker Brian Cushing as he has been accused of PED use, which was revealed in a test back in September. There was a revote for the Rookie of the Year award, but Cushing still won due to the phenomenal season he had. Cushing is standing up for himself and is strongly denying the fact that he ever used any PED's.

With the Conference finals for the NHL and NBA determined, next week should be full of suspense and drama... or one sided sweeps and blowouts, which is all we could get out of the semi-finals.

Cortland roughs up Raiders

The boys lacrosse seniors had hoped to go out as winners on Senior Night but the Cortland Purple Tigers had a different idea as Cortland handed the Raiders a 17-7 loss on Thursday.

It was a tale of two halves for Fulton as it was a disappointing first half for the Raiders. Cortland started the game outplaying Fulton, but the only lead was a 3-0 lead through 12 minutes. The Purple Tigers turned it on in the second quarter and scored five straight unanswered goals, putting the Raiders into an 8-0 halftime deficit.

The second half was a different story for Fulton as they were only outscored by two goals as Cortland scored five goals in the third, compared to Fulton's three. Cortland still dominated the second half, but the score was closer. The fourth quarter was even at four goals apiece for each team.

Senior Bobby Earnshaw led the Raiders in scoring with three goals, and one assist while sophomore Steven DeLisle recorded two goals. Senior Jack Howard scored one goal, along with junior Brett Williams who also scored one goal, but added four assists. Junior Colin Shannon had one assist on the day. Senior goalie Eric Belair recorded 20 saves in the game.

The seniors gave it their all throughout the game, as well as the whole team. The seniors: Eric Belair, Bobby Earnshaw, Cody Hogan, Jack Howard and Jake Tallents will be missed for their leadership and experience.

Fulton's loss drops their record to 2-13 on the season, but the team will have a chance to get one more win. The Raiders have their final game on Monday in Whitesboro, where Fulton will try to avenge an earlier season loss to the Warriors.

By Eric Belair

THIS WEEK IN RAIDERS SPORTS

Sat. May 15: Track @ VanDusen Invitational in Ogddensburg.

Mon. May 17: JV boys lax vs. Cortland (5 p.m.).

Tues. May 18: Boys V lax vs. Cortland (5 p.m.); Girls lax vs. ES-M (V-4:45/JV-6:15); Track @ OHSL Meet (TBA).

Wed. May 19: Softball vs. ES-M (4:45); Baseball @ ES-M (4:30).

Thurs. May 20: JV boys lax @ Chittenango (5 p.m.).

Fri. May 21: Softball @ Fowler (4:30); Baseball vs. Fowler (4:45); JV Girls lax @ Homer (5 p.m.).

School of Thought compiled by Erica Lamb, Morgan Mirabito, Jessica Palmitesso

What were your past prom memories?



"Seeing my friend dance for the first time."

Mr. Cuny



"Hanging with friends and after prom parties and a BBQ the day after."

Mr. Bono



"It was fun to see everyone dressed up and we all had a really good time together."

Ms. Vehrs



"Played in a Sectional field hockey game before and lost, and only had an hour to get ready for prom, and made the most of it with my friends."

Mrs. Kells

Morning announcements for Friday, May 14

The freshman Avon fundraiser will be running from now until May 20th. Money and order forms can be turned in to Mrs. Hallatt by that date.

Seniors! Many local scholarships are coming due this week. Come down to the guidance office and pick one up.

Attention seniors! The final due date for all cedar point money as well as paperwork is today. The total cost for the trip is \$125.

There will be a football signup meeting on Wednesday, May 19th in Room 209 right after school. Attendance is required.

The Library Club will hold its final meeting of the year on Wednesday after school in the LMC. Selecting officers for next year will be a main topic.

Meteorology and you

by Carson Metcalf

Today: Cloudy with a few showers. High in the mid-60s.

Tonight: Cloudy with a few showers. Low around 50.

Tomorrow: Sun and clouds. High near 60, low around 40.

Sunday: Mainly cloudy. High in the upper-60s, low 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 ...Look for his weather forecasts on RaiderNet Daily.

