

Dance team tryouts underway this afternoon

Getting involved is part of the high school experience. It makes the school day that is full of tests and stress seem less dreadful. Also, it's a way to make new friends and do the things that you want to do instead of have to do. For those of you who like to dance, it is now your time to get involved.

Starting today and continuing through Wednesday are this year's dance team tryouts. Even though the team's season is not until the winter, the dance team does many activities throughout the year. This includes dancing and participating in the Relay for Life on June 11,

as well as performing at the Pep Rally in the fall. When the season does come, the team practices Monday, Wednesday and Friday along with two games a week usually on Tuesday and Friday.

Tryouts start at 3:30 in the third gym and end at 5:30. The first two days participants will learn a hip-hop routine. On the third and final day the girls will perform the routine in groups of threes or fours in front of four judges who are past dance team members and coach Sara Percival. Those with the top scores will earn a

spot on the team, usually the top fifteen.

Dance team is a group that very quickly becomes great friends. It's an activity where you get to do something you love and cheer on your sports teams. Along with the hard work and nerves of performing a dance you just learned, it is an experience that you could never get in the classroom.

So for all of you dancers out there, this Monday through Wednesday bring your jazz or lyrical shoes to the third gym and try out! It's a decision you won't regret.

By Brenna Merry



G. Ray Bodley High School, Fulton, NY

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Raiders breeze to win as Palmitesso tops 1000 K's

By Alicia Vann

Second place and a shot at immortality were on the line for the Lady Raider softball team, and when all was said and done in Chittenango, Fulton was a perfect two for two on Saturday. Reeling off their fifth straight win of the season, the girls powered past the Bears 7-1 to claim the runner-up position in the OHSL Freedom Division behind regular season champion Homer. And they did it in fine fashion with seven runs on 10 hits while watching senior hurler Jessica Palmitesso enter the record books behind a two hit, 15 strikeout performance.

Coming into the game just 11 strikeouts shy of becoming the first Fulton pitcher to ever eclipse the 1,000 career strikeout mark, Palmitesso remained on a tear by bottling up the Bears with an array of pitches. It all came down to the bottom of the fifth inning as the entire team went into the frame full of smiles, knowing that the five-year varsity starter only needed two more strikeouts to reach her goal. Palmitesso quietly kept her composure and walked out onto the field like any other inning. When the first batter launched a pop fly caught for an out, it was much to the disappointment of the rest of the team. After what seemed like the longest at-bat ever caught by a catcher, Jessica clinched the K, bringing her one strikeout closer to her milestone.

The third batter of the inning reached the plate, and every Fulton fan witnessing the game knew what this at-bat meant. Again it seemed

to last forever, but once the strikeout was tallied, relief set across the field. The crowd was roaring, and tears were shed, as the team, Palmitesso, the fans, and pitcher's family were thrilled with the feat she had just accomplished.

The 15 strikeouts also pushed Palmitesso to 204 on the season, which marks the second time in her career she has broken past the two-century mark. Her career high of 235 came during her freshman campaign, although she has fallen just short of 200 on two occasions, counting 195 punchouts in both her eighth grade and sophomore years.

The Lady Raiders won the game with style, scoring twice in the top of the first inning and then adding four more in the second on their way to a 12-4 league mark at the expense of a 10-6 league, 11-8 overall Chittenango side. Sophomore Lindsey Larkin led the Raiders, going 3 for 4 from the plate while recording a

single, double and triple on the day. Senior Heather Reed rapped a pair of doubles for two RBI to join fellow seniors Palmitesso, Alicia Vann, Meghan McCann and junior Brandi Peets with hits for the Raiders. Jackie LoCastro also drove in a run as Fulton completed a home and home sweep over the Bears, who registered a triple by Brandy McDermott among their two hits on the afternoon.

The Lady Raiders head into their first sectional game this week on a five game winning streak and an overall record of 14-6. The Raiders are looking good both defensively and from behind the plate, as the girls really seem to be pulling it all together for the most important time of the season. Fulton will face a familiar opponent in the opening round of the Section 3 Tournament on Thursday when Chittenango comes to town for a rematch of Saturday's contest.

Requirements must be met for NHS grads

Graduation is just around the corner and there are a few important things that members of the National Honor Society have to do before graduating as an NHS student. Any member wanting a stole for graduation must see Mrs. Morse in room 212 for an order form. Anyone who does not want to order a stole must also fill out this form! Do not wait to pick up a form if you have not already been issued one or have lost your original. Orders are due by Wednesday, May 26 at 2:30 p.m. Each stole costs \$19, which includes shipping and handling, and can be paid in cash or a check payable to National Honor Society. It is stressed that you order the correct color.

Blue = Girls

White = Boys

Aside from ordering stoles you must also be sure to pay your annual \$10 dues and turn in your community service hour forms before graduation. Otherwise you will not be able to graduate as a National Honor Society student.

By Alexis Semeraro

Opinion

Time to crack down on steroid users

By Nick Millard

Another week has passed, and another steroid admission has come to surface. Former Tour De France winner Floyd Landis admitted to using PED's (Performance Enhancing Drugs) back when he won the tour title in 2006.

Landis, however, was not going to go down by himself, as he dropped names such as the event's all-time winningest cyclist, Lance Armstrong, accusing them of also using PED's. Armstrong has had these questions looming over him for years, and now he will have to answer them again. The whole topic of PED's is a long story, and the list of names goes on forever. When star athletes are involved, however, the treatment is changed.

I heavily believe professional sports are too soft on the star "model" athletes. As an avid sports fan, watching people cheat and tarnish the name of athletics everywhere is somewhat gut wrenching. Alex Rodriguez, David Ortiz, and Manny Ramirez, the faces of the MLB, all admitted to the use of PED's last year. Mark Maguire, Sammy Sosa, Barry Bonds, and Roger Clemens, all former legends, all either admitted or tested positive to PED use. The issue remains evident in the NFL as well, with rookie phenom Brian Cushing testing positive to PED use back in September. He is the future of the NFL. Commissioners of every professional sport need to crack down, these whole NFL four game suspensions, or the MLB 50 game suspensions just do not seem to bring justice to the act. Are star athletes really being held to LOWER standards in organizations? If you are waiting for a template commissioners, look at Olympic sports, medals are effortlessly stripped away when the use of PED is brought to attention. Ask Marion Jones. Look at Floyd Landis, who was stripped of his Tour De France title back in 2006 for doping.

Fifty game suspensions? Honestly, let's be real, the MLB season consists of over 160 games, how many players do you believe honestly like playing that many games? Coming into the season a third of the way through could be an advantage for an older player such as Ramirez. It is a chance to gain fresh legs and have a slight edge over the younger players. Between Maguire, Sosa, and Bonds, they own the top six slots for most home runs hit in a single season. Yes they used PED's, and yes

The Zany Zodiac

More words to live by, short but sweet

Aries- you will not achieve any goals this month.

Taurus- Good times are on the way.

Gemini- Don't stop until you get enough.

Cancer- keep on keeping on.

Leo- follow your dreams.

Virgo- hardships await you.

Libra- you need more friends.



they keep those records. You will always hear the term asterisk begin put aside the records because of the PED use, but they are still records. If Bud Selig wanted to make a statement, then just erase those marks and give Roger Maris his old 50-year record back. I know if I got caught cheating on a test, I would not keep my high grade; I would get a big 0.

The NFL commissioner is hard on those who give bad reputations to the NFL by breaking the law. Well then why such short suspension for those who mock the game? A few years back we saw it with Shawn Merriman, who was suspended for only four games for the use of PED's. He, along with Selig, goes by the 'second chance' policy. Personally I feel as if in this day and age athletes should just know better. You cannot honestly believe that these athletes thought what they were doing was the right choice. Steroids and PED's are such a touchy subject that statements need to be made. Right now it seems as though the punishment is not fitting the crime.

Is saying sorry enough in these circumstances? Alex Rodriguez, who will likely break the all time homerun record in years to come, apologized for his involvement in PED's, and because of that received no punishment. Alex admittedly broke the law, and received no punishment while others were found on the losing end for the same crime. OJ Simpson apologized for his recent armed robbery and kidnapping of a Sports Collectable Dealer, and guess what, he still went to jail! In an

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effort to try and protect the stars of the league, it is just becoming a laughing matter by spectators.

These statements are not biased; I could care less about the Yankees, or the Red Sox, or any cheating hall-of-fame bound, record setting athlete. Currently the dark cloud is still looming over professional sports. Fans everywhere are tired of seeing it, and hopefully in years to come statements will be made.



Scorpio- take a deep breathe, relax.

Sagittarius- time to get a new attitude.

Capricorn- the sun is shining, time to get in shape.

Aquarius- let bygones be bygones.

Pisces- red fish blue fish one fish two fish, for dinner.

By Noah Carroll and Andrew Kush

Budget result proves the power of each and every vote

By Zachary Froio

As many of you may already have heard, the Fulton City School budget failed to pass this year by just seven votes. Earlier in the year a \$60 million dollar spending plan was announced. However it suffered an upsetting 595-587 loss.

Supervisor of Schools Mr. Lynch explained that time and time again that they discussed the school budget problem in public and at multiple board meetings. He said that it was a very responsible budget and he was extremely proud of the budget they put together. He went on to explain that some of the results were extremely surprising. It was the first time that he could ever remember that Lanigan Elementary had more votes for "no" than "yes."

Unfortunately the law only allows for one revote. So there are a few options Fulton City School has. One, Send the same budget back for a second vote, "which I don't anticipate we'll do," Mr. Lynch told Oswegocountytoday.com. Two, make more cuts to the budget before a second vote, which is the likely option, or the school can adopt a contingent budget, which would force strong cuts in spending and eliminate all free community use of district buildings and land.

By the sounds of it, there will be another vote, just the dates are not yet announced. Many people need to remember how much their votes actually counts. The difference in this poll was only seven votes. If



eight seniors who are over 18 had voted for the budget it would have been a whole different ball game. A lot of people think that one vote doesn't matter, but clearly that is not the case here. So in the words of P. Diddy, "Vote or Die."

To my fellow seniors who are eligible to vote, please pay attention for the date of the revote so we can give this budget another chance. If we cannot get it passed it is highly likely that there will be some cuts in some of our school programs. Not only would people potentially lose their jobs, but our younger siblings, friends, and teammates will not have the same opportunities that the Class of 2010 had the privilege of enjoying.

When the date of the revote is announced try your best to take time out of your schedule, get over to the nearest voting center and place your vote. As last week's outcome clearly shows, every vote counts.

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Too sick for school? Sometimes it's best to stay home

By Travis Cowart

The results are in; every single person gets sick. Sometimes people feel a lot worse than others when they are sick, but nevertheless you still have that sick feeling. So what should you do? Should you stay home and rest, or should you push through and deal with it during school? A lot of people worry about missing work and worry about having to catch up on their studies. Others believe that rest is needed. Just like every other topic, there are mixed feelings about this issue.

In my opinion, deciding whether or not to stay home from school



depends on how sick you feel. If it is something minor, such as a cold or if you are just feeling groggy, then I advise you take some medicine before school and push through the six hours of G. Ray Bodley. Your grogginess should heal over time. However, if you are so sick that getting out of bed is a lot harder than normal, then you should just stay in bed and get some well-needed rest. Usually if you are in this state then it means you are pretty sick.

People may ask, "If I miss school, how far behind will I be on my homework?" In some cases, you will miss a little work, but there are ways you can receive your homework even though you did not show up to school. One way is simple, have a friend bring the work to your house. Surely a friend would be nice enough to get your work for you.

Another method would be to check out the teacher's websites if they have them. Some teachers actually have their work and their e-mail address, so when you complete the work you can send it to your teacher. Most teachers use the Castle Learning program, a website where teachers make questions that the students can answer over the Internet. Even if you miss school, there are still ways you can complete or make up some of your work missed without the stress of being overloaded with work on your day of return.

If you are truly sick, the best solution would be to stay home. It is the only sure way of getting better, even if you miss a day of school. Eventually you will be able to make up all of the work missed, or if you are an extremely eager student, then you could find ways to get your work done at the comfort of your own home. Either way, staying at home while you are sick is the best option. Besides, everyone could use a day off once in a while.

Upcoming events:

Thursday, May 27: Recycled battery drive during advisory.

Tuesday & Wednesday, June 1-2: Class of 2011 Senior Portraits in the auditorium.

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

School of Thought compiled by Max Ambuske and Zach Froio

What are your plans for Memorial Day weekend?



"Going to the parade!"
Derek Bateman

"Im going to check out the fireworks."
Sean Amico

"It's my birthday! So I plan on having a good time."
Kody Ravesi

"Going to the races with my mom."
Erik Ingleston

GRB announcements for Monday, May 24

Attention seniors: bring in copies of pictures you would like to make part of the senior slide show. If you'd like them returned, please write your seminar teacher's name on the back. All pictures are due to Mr. Perry by June 4.

Senior dinner dance tickets are currently available for \$35.

Information and registration forms for summer driver education in Fulton are available in the guidance office. The deadline to register is June 2, and you must be 16 on or before July 1 to take driver ed. This summer.

Physical for working papers and fall sports will take place this Tuesday and Thursday May 25 and 27. Please sign up in the nurse's office.

Bring in your used dry cell batteries and win a free breakfast. The advisory with the greatest total weight will win. The contest has been extended until this Thursday, May 27th.

Sign ups for girls soccer in the fall will be today after school in room 203. Summer soccer leagues, fitness, and camps will be discussed.

Meteorology and you by Carson Metcalf

Today: Sunny skies. High in the low-80s.

Tonight: Clear skies. Low in the mid-50s.

Tomorrow: Sunny skies. High in the mid-80s.

GRB sophomore Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ www.centralnewyorkweather.com ...Look for his real weather forecasts on RaiderNet Daily.

