

# Orchestra season ends on a high note

On Wednesday night anyone who ventured on down to the G. Ray Bodley High School auditorium was in for a real treat! The high school orchestras gave their audience an excellent performance and the crowd seemed more than pleased. Beginning the concert, Nick Abalgore performed Sonata Pathetique Mvt 1 by Beethoven on the piano. At the conclusion of the piece he received a much deserved standing ovation.

Nick then accompanied the Concert Orchestra in performing Sonata Pathetique Mvt 2 by Beethoven. In the next piece, Concerto in DM, by Torelli, Director Mr. Caviness joined the Concert Orchestra as a trumpet soloist.

The Concert Orchestra then performed Beatles Mania by John Lennon and Paul

McCartney. Next to take the stage was the Chamber Orchestra performing Concerto in Sol Minor by A. Vivaldi. Following the Chamber Orchestra, seniors Alicia Vann and Brandon Teetsel performed a duet.

In honor of the seniors the Symphonic Orchestra, which took the stage next, was conducted by a different senior for the first three songs. First to conduct was senior Amanda Copps, who conducted Final Countdown by Joey Tempest. Next senior Shawn Yanock conducted Legend of Zelda which he also arranged himself. Alicia Vann was the violin soloist in this piece. Alicia then went on to conduct Phantom of the Opera arranged by Calvin Custer.

The last of the senior pieces was Concerto Gross by Robert Hirsch. The soloists were se-

niors Sarah Allee, Danielle Bowers, Amanda Copps, Kerri Knopp, Emelia Molascon, Emily Rothrock, Brandon Teetsel, Shawn Yanock and Alicia Vann, all on kazoo. Kazoos were not the only different tools in this piece for they were also accompanied by an air horn, whistle and gong.

At the conclusion of Concerto Gross each senior was recognized and given a rose. They will all be missed greatly next year!

Last, but certainly not least the Concert Orchestra and Symphonic Orchestra joined each other to perform Blue Fire Fiddler by Soon Hee Newbold. This piece was conducted by Mrs. Evans and marked the conclusion of a very successful spring performance.

*By Alexis Semeraro*

## **F** RaiderNet **Daily** **F**

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## Top students honored at special breakfast

**By Brenna Merry**

Throughout the year many students work and study hard and feel that their good behavior goes unappreciated. This year especially G. Ray Bodley High School is attempting to make changes so that these students do not go unnoticed. There is talk of many extended privileges, the addition of the VIP pass and much more.

One idea that is not new, however, is that of the Top 100 Breakfast, which took place on Wednesday, June 2. Students with the top 25 Grade Point Averages from each grade arrived into school and immediately rushed into the cafeteria to reap the benefits of their efforts. They munched on breakfast pizza and cinnamon rolls as well and were able to miss their first bell class.

This year's breakfast was a little more hectic than previous years, as it was initially scheduled for the last week in May and people forgot to bring the food! All turned out successful and the student's gave many thanks for those in charge of the event.

Vice Principle Mrs. Stuetz addressed the lunchroom full of diligent students, saying, "Congratulations! We appreciate your hard work and hope that in years to come you keep it up. Especially those of you who are moving on towards college."

One of the top 100 students, junior Katelyn

Holbrook said, "It's nice to be appreciated for once and know that I'm not working my butt off for nothing. Even us good kids need some praise every now and then."

The Top 100 Breakfast is not only an event

that gives appreciation to those who are working hard, but also motivates others in the school to try harder. When it all boils down to it, taking that extra hour of studying to make sure you ace a test is definitely worth the grade, the praise and the free food.



Seniors Eric Belair, left, and Jake Tallents unpack boxes of Fultonian Yearbooks in preparation for today's sale and distribution. Today marks the culmination of an entire year's worth of work by students from the Yearbook Club and journalism classes. Books are available for purchase for \$65 all day today. (Senecal photo)

## Opinion

# Academic awards deserve a level playing field

By Amanda Wood

On the upcoming evening of Monday, June 7, at 6:30 pm, dozens of students at G. Ray Bodley High School will be honored at the 28th annual Academic Awards ceremony in the high school auditorium. This is the once-a-year opportunity for the parents, families, and friends of the students to witness the reward their student will receive for all their hard work during the school year.



There is no doubt that this evening is the highlight of the academic year at G.R.B., and by now many are familiar with the event. But I would like to bring up one interesting fact about it that is most certainly, and completely worth noting. This year, administration at the high school is making an attempt to keep this night of recognition to an hour or less. Logistically, it makes sense. If the night is not kept to a certain time limit, people would be there all night, as many students have done exceptional work that is worth being recognized.

Now what I just said would normally be okay, except for one thing. After each and every sports season, a similar event is held to recognize athletes who have had or made outstanding contributions to their team. These events are the athletic equivalents to the Academic Award Night. The other major difference between these occurrences is that there is seemingly no time limit set on the sports banquets.

Although I am not in sports, I have been told more than once by a number of athletes that these events last for hours on end. Once a banquet went on for three and a half hours straight. I was also told that this was in part due to the fact that many coaches made mini-speeches about each and every player on their respective teams. Don't get me wrong. I know that every member of the team is equally important. But I believe a particular focus of the sports banquets is to recognize the achievements of those athletes who have gone above and beyond in their particular sport. It is also to my understanding that multiple players on each team are given special recognition that is published for all the community to see.

**"Why does our school insist on holding back the number of students being recognized for their academic achievements as much as they can, while athletic achievements are given the sky as the limit for time allotment?"**

With that being said, answer me this. What does this say about the priorities at our school? What is more important, athletics or academics? Why does our school insist on holding back the number of students being recognized for their academic achievements as much as they can, while athletic achievements are given the sky as the limit for time allotment? I love sports as much as the next person. But we all know that everyone isn't going to go pro in their sport of choice. In fact, research has shown that less than one percent of all high school athletes will go on to play professional sports. So it is clear that doing well in academics will much more easily allow a student to go on and live a financially stable and successful life than those who think they

will become the next Danica Patrick, Kobe Bryant, or Derek Jeter.

Again, will someone please tell us how G. Ray Bodley justifies allowing just one hour for outstanding academic recognition while they stand by and give away hours for distinguishing athletic students? I just don't think this obvious imbalance in our school is fair for anyone. A number of teachers have had strong views about this topic as well. Both a journalism and English teacher, as well as an avid sports fan, Mr. Senecal commented that, "In the past few years we have been asked to limit the number of awards we give out. This year I had to pick one student out of my three English 9 classes. I realize that some people went way overboard in the past and gave awards for breathing, and this made for a sometimes long, hot night in the auditorium, but I think the limitations have gone above and beyond as there are a number of students who deserve recognition for actually working hard at a time when being lazy seems to be the cool thing to do."

Another teacher noted that, "This clearly speaks of the priorities and lack of focus on academics here. Teachers are told they are limited (severely) to the number of students that can receive academic excellence awards (approximately one per course). Sometimes this means a 98.6% average is awarded and a 98.2% average is not!!"

I realize that nobody is perfect. I also believe there is a reason for everything; and that nothing just "happens." So on that note, I would just like to see the administration rethink this display of strange prioritization.

## Upcoming events:

**Today:** Yearbook sale and distribution in the auditorium. There will be some yearbooks available for purchase for \$65 on a first come, first served basis.

**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

**Friday, June 11:** Last day of classes! Senior Dinner Dance at Bridie Manor in Oswego.

## School records fall on Thursday

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runner in Fayetteville-Manlius' Alex Hatz, who won in 4:17.66 and second place was Jesse Garn from Marcellus in 4:20.88. Carroll broke an impressive school record, but unfortunately this was Noah's last race of his amazing high school running career.

These three individuals had an outstanding night as they represented Fulton in a great, positive way with their excellence on the track. Good luck to Cooper and Strong in the state championships on Friday June 11 at Vestal High School, and congratulations to Noah Carroll on an impressive and record high school running career. **By Eric Belair**

## School records fall at state qualifier meet

Last night was an impressive evening on the track at Cicero-North Syracuse High School for varsity runners. This was a chance for many speedsters to show off their skills and further their season onto the state stage, as it was the state qualifiers. Fulton was represented very well by three outstanding individuals; junior Morgan Cooper, and seniors Noah Carroll and John Strong. All three of these runners had great nights as they broke school records.

Junior Morgan Cooper ran to a first place finish in the 400 meter dash with a time of 59.62. Cooper broke the record, which she previously set this season in 60.88. With the victory in this race, she quali-

fied for the state championships.

Also breaking a school record was senior John Strong in the 400 meter hurdles. Strong currently held the record for this event last year in 2009 with a time of 58.1, then shattered this time last night by running in 55.47. Strong took second in this event to Utica Proctor's Leonardo Rodrigueuz by .06 seconds. By placing second in the event Strong qualified for state championships.

Senior Noah Carroll broke a 38 year old record in the 1600 meter run by .38 seconds. Carroll took third in this event to the country's top

(continued on page 2)

## Tillman an amazing American, but not for HOF

By Jake Tallents



An American named Pat Tillman became a household name in 2004, especially to American football fans. Pat became infamous after his tragic death in that year, and what made matters worse was that we lost him to friendly fire. But Pat's story isn't well known for the fact that he died defending his country, not that it isn't reason enough. Pat and his story became famous due to the fact he turned down a \$3.4 million dollar deal with the Arizona Cardinals to enlist in the Army Rangers and participate in Operation Enduring Freedom. Only 110 Americans had died at that point in the Operation, making his story that much more renowned and respected as it should be. Pat became the absolute epitome of American Nationalism as well as the main example for who every American should strive to be.

Broadcaster Chris Collinsworth has spearheaded the movement for Pat to enter the National Football League Hall of Fame. And it truly is

an amazing story, moving from a seventh round draft pick to an All-Pro in 2000. And so the question becomes; does Pat deserve to enter the Hall of Fame for his selfless actions off the football field? Will it become the Hall of professional athletes who have achieved great things off the field, in lieu of on the field? The NFL's Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio is one of the most relished and honored halls in all of professional sports. He indeed deserves an endless amount of recognition for doing something few men in our day and age would have the gumption to do. But is the Hall of Fame truly the right place?

Pat received both the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his sacrifice overseas. Pat is now one of thousands who have lost their lives overseas in order to establish peace in the Middle East. And so, who are we to single one out whose sacrifice was more than any of those thousands? Sure, probably very few of them gave up millions to serve their country, which is what made Pat so unique. And so, in short, I do not believe the NFL's Hall of Fame is the correct place for the enshrinement of Pat Tillman. Although, if there was ever a shrine for the all-around best Americans, Pat Tillman would be my first vote.

## It's a big weekend for new movie releases



It's Friday and that means there will be new movies in theaters for the weekend. This weekend there will be five new movies in theaters. These movies are *Killers*, *Get Him to the Greek*, *Marmaduke*, *Splice*, and *Ondine*.

*Killers* is an action/romantic comedy that stars Katherine Heigl, Ashton Kutcher, and Tom Selleck. The plot of this movie is about a married couple who have been married for three years

and the wife just learns that her husband is an undercover assassin. She also learns that he is a target worth millions of dollars to a couple of fellow assassins. These other assassins have been following this couple in secret since they met. While they are trying to run away from these assassins, they are also trying to save their marriage.

*Get Him to Greek* is a comedy starring Jonah Hill, Russell Brand, and Rose Byrne. This movie is about a record company that is hired to accompany an out of control rock star from London to his concert at L.A.'s Greek Theater. During the journey they encounter many problems such as brawl in New York City and drug smugglers in London.

*Marmaduke* is a comedy that stars Owen Wilson as the voice of Marmaduke, Judy Greer, and George Lopez. This movie is about a family who moves into a new neighborhood. They bring along their large but loveable Great Dane, Marmaduke. He has a tendency to wreck anything and everything in his way. Marmaduke realizes that it is hard to fit in when you are large sized dog.

*Splice* is a horror/thriller that stars Adrien Brody and Sarah Polley. This movie is about two scientists who fuse some DNA samples together to create new organisms: a human-chimera they name Dren. This creature rapidly develops at first into a deformed female infant and then into a winged creature. As she develops her initial bond with her creators turns deadly.

*Ondine* is a fantasy/drama that stars Colin Farrell and Alicja Bachleda. This movie is a fairytale centered on an Irish fisherman who catches the mysterious Ondine in one of his nets. The fisherman falls for this mysterious creature and a dark figure from Ondine's past comes and threatens their love. This movie is limited and will only be showing in certain theaters at certain times.

As always check your local listings for times and locations of the movies you would like to see. This weekend at the drive there will be a double feature. These movies will be *Shrek Forever After* and *Iron Man 2*.

**School of Thought** compiled by Jess Palmitesso & Taylor Barrett

*What are your plans for this summer?*



"Camping, beach and softball."  
**Jackie LoCastro**



"Moving into an apartment and going to a music festival."  
**Danyelle Morrison**



"Working and Sandy Pond."  
**Brett Corbett**



"Working and white water rafting!!"  
**Mr. Fadden**

**GRB announcements for Friday, June 4**

The Yearbooks are here! Sale and distribution of the 2010 Ful-tonian will take place today during all lunch bells in the auditorium. There are still some books to purchase for \$65 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration for varsity golf is now taking place. Please see Mr. Ascenzi in the guidance office to sign up.

All boys interested in trying out for JV and varsity basketball next season, sign-ups will continue until the end of the week in room 214.

There will be a meeting for members of Quirk's Players on Monday, June 7th at 2:30 pm in the chorus room (Rm. #106). Please join us for information about upcoming activities as well as auditions for the fall play. New members are welcome.

The last date for physicals for fall sports and working papers is next Tuesday, June 8. If you need a physical, please schedule one at the nurse's office as soon as possible.

*Meteorology and you*  
 by Carson Metcalf

**Today:** Sun and clouds. High in the mid-70s.

**Tonight:** Cloudy with a shower or storm. Low in the low-60s.

**Tomorrow:** Cloudy with a scattered shower or storm. High in the mid-70s, low in the mid-50s.

**Sunday:** Sun and clouds. High around 70, low around 50.

*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 real weather forecasts on RaiderNet Daily.*

