



Tough loss eliminates Mock Trial team

By Ryann Crofoot

A two point difference proved to be all the difference in the world for the Mock Trial Team on Monday evening as the defending champions were eliminated from this year's Oswego County Tournament.

Coming off a close loss to Central Square in the opening round, the Fulton team met a similar fate against Phoenix, compounded by the absence of two regular members of the squad.

Just before the competition on Monday, a number of team members walked into the room announcing that they couldn't make the meet. Whether it was because of appointments or family emergencies, the Mock Trial Team was down two people, with a matter of two hours before the competition was supposed to begin.

Luckily for the team, two people willingly stepped up to the plate. Senior Kaitlyn Lauber became one of the attorneys, and had to learn about the entire case; no small task to complete in a matter of hours. Sophomore Lacey Rusaw met the team at the competition, ready to go despite having left school earlier in the day. Even though the day ended with a loss for Fulton, the team was glad it wasn't because of a forfeit.

During the meet, the attorneys for GRB, se-

nior Kaitlyn Lauber, senior Krysta Woodcock, and junior Ryann Crofoot fought hard with the Phoenix attorneys in an attempt to get their points across. The witnesses, freshman Logan Carvey, sophomore Lacey Rusaw, and junior Christine Proud, worked hard to think of answers on the spot that could foil the opposing attorney's attempts. In the end, Phoenix's Mock

Trial Team came out on top, but only by a two point margin.

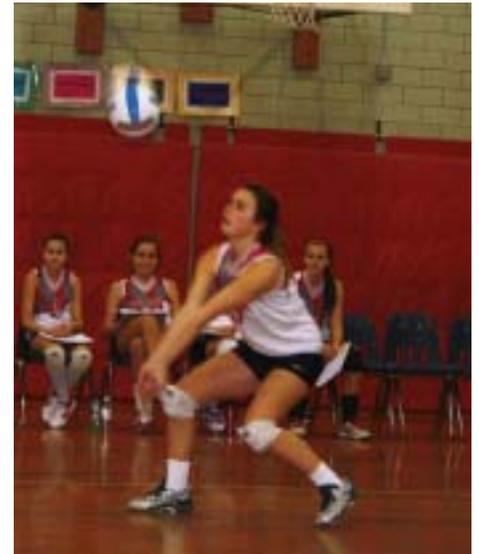
Because this is the second loss for the team, they are no longer in the Mock Trial Tournament. It was hard for the county champs from last year to accept defeat, but they plan to come back better and stronger next year, and once again go for gold.

Two named to All-League volleyball team

A pair of Raider volleyball standouts have been recognized by their league with the announcement of the Section III All-Star teams on Wednesday. Senior Kirsten Francis, top photo, was named a first team selection on the OHSL Freedom Division team while junior Erika Johnson, bottom photo, was a second team pick.

Both girls were important cogs in Fulton's march to the Section III title game and a second place finish in the tournament. Francis contributed 195 digs and 112 kills to go with 13 service aces for the Raiders while Johnson was the team leader in kills with 210, nearly 100 more than any teammate. She was also second on the team in blocks with 27 and aces with 19 for Coach Richardson's spikers.

(Kayla Hanczyk photos)



Friday deadline for Class of 2011 shirts

As the end of third quarter approaches, seniors anxiously await what should be the greatest part of their high school career: Senior Trip, Senior Day, Senior Dinner Dance and finally, graduation! Seniors are on edge to hear news on all of these events, and it will all unravel shortly and be here before they know it.

Most prominently in Senior Class news, the deadline to buy senior shirts has been extended to this Friday, March 18. The cost is \$12, which should be given to class advisor Mr. Reale. There will not be any extras made so seniors are encouraged to make sure to get their money in. Senior shirts have been a tradition over the years to designate those students who have finally reached their last year of high school.

This year the shirts read "Senior Class" with an "11" on the front and "On a scale of 1-10 were an eleven" on the back. All year on the senior class website the class has been taking suggestion for class slogans. This was the only one the class received, and it was agreed that it would be the most widely liked. For those who have complaints, the officers commented that, "you can't expect us to read your minds on what you want." The senior class officers have been working to get everything perfect for this year; if others choose not to help then their voices will not be heard.

It won't be long until the long-awaited senior events are finalized and all the hard work is rewarded. In the meantime members of the Class of 2011 are encouraged to stay in touch with announcements, *RaiderNet Daily*, *The Raider*, and the senior class website. **By Brenna Merry**



Opinion

Quirk's Players: it's a family, not a club

By Patty Morrison

There was an ingenious plan behind my time at drama. It was all a plan to become friends with the senior guys when I was a freshman.

And it worked

But while I was putting that plan into action, I never thought that I would come to love drama as much as I do now. I really had no clue how addicting the stage is, even being on crew, like I have been for seven shows out of eight. Simply put, it is just the most amazing thing that has ever happened to me.

The idea behind this column all started last year, when my friends Clare and Kylee and I were sitting around at Clare's house having a good time, talking about the Jonas Brothers and Selena Gomez and Taylor Lautner. Somehow, our conversation turned to the topic of drama club, and how much it meant to each of us. And there was so much to say about it, that I can't possibly fit it all into this column, but one thing sticks out the most.

The dictionary says that a family is "a group of persons from a common ancestry." If you have ever been to one of our rehearsals, you'll know the second that you walk through the door that that isn't true at all. We are a family. That's the most important thing to us, and that's our entire reputation.

That's how we are known among ourselves, brothers and sisters, and Briggsie (Director Mr. Briggs) is the head honcho who keeps us (including Asst. Director Mr. Lescarbeau) in line. That is how it works. I've been involved in eight shows, and senior night doesn't get any easier, but now I'm the one leaving the Quirk's Players, knowing that the tradition of our club will continue, and we will be a family forever.

And I know that I will always be able to come back to GRB, and watch as new generations of Quirk's Players take the stage. I'll sit in the audience, and smile, and laugh, and remember, as if it were yester-



day, that I was standing backstage, pacing as my friends got into character, or changed in costumes, or needed reassurance that they would do great, and steal the show. Just being backstage is a rush that no roller coaster can give you.

People outside the group may think that it's ridiculous that we cry on senior night, but they don't understand. It's very hard to watch twenty plus family members graduate every year, and go on to bigger and sometimes better things. Honestly it's one of the most overwhelming things that I've gone through. A certain connection is formed when you're with people who work as hard as you do, and are as determined as you are to make the show a success. So when you say goodbye, it's a sad ending, because deep in your heart, even if you don't admit it, you know that this is one of the last times that you'll be together as a family.

But fellow Quirks, please remember, that it's all about all of the long

"People outside the group may think that it's ridiculous that we cry on senior night, but they don't understand. It's very hard to watch twenty plus family members graduate every year, and go on to bigger and sometimes better things."

rehearsals, the arguments, the dance steps, staying through and singing in the chorus room, the tears, the laughs, the lame jokes, Mr. Nami singing soprano, Mr. Briggs wanting to kill us, Mr. Lescarbeau being a goon, singing along to all the songs, going crazy together in a practice room rocking out to Journey...talking about previous years, sharing lunch, and money, complaining about costumes, and shoes, man stick, guy liner, spending more time in the auditorium than your own house, and the ridiculous inside jokes. All of that adds together and makes Drama what it is, and I love every single one of you. Friends. Family. Forever.

And finally, to the people who have been there for me through our entire four years together, as well as the cast and crew. You guys are the best, and I love you all so much. You've been such a major part of my life, and you've made my high school years something to look back on and smile. I wouldn't have changed anything about the time that I have spent with you, or the memories that we have made together. I'm so glad that I got to share the stage with every single one of you.

Quote of the day:

"As a teenager you are at the last stage in your life when you will be happy to hear that the phone is for you."

~Fran Lebowitz, Social Studies

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True test awaits the Syracuse basketball team

By Max Fobes

With a big win over St. John's last week to propel the Orange into the Big East tournament semifinals the team looked to be in great shape. After a rough game shooting 28-76 against UConn in an overtime loss Friday night, it seems as though they have some work cut out for them. On Sunday the NCAA Basketball Tournament brackets were released. Syracuse at a #3 seed, stands in the Eastern region in what looks to be the toughest of the four pools.

With four wins Syracuse will be living large with the other three teams remaining for the "Final Four." As always, the road to the final four in Houston is no easy ride. Teams in SU's bracket include a strong #2 seeded North Carolina team and #4 seeded Kentucky along with a competitive Big East brother, West Virginia at the #5 seed. And atop them all is Ohio State, the overall number one ranked team in the nation. It is a major possibility that Syracuse will have to face teams including Xavier, North Carolina and Ohio State just to get to Houston for a shot to play for the national title in early April.

The Syracuse Orange have always stood out in tournament play. The hard nosed, on the floor, transition scoring, and zone defense game proves that SU has a different style play than most teams that allows

them to compete.

Orange fans are understandably excited about the teams prospects heading into the NCAA Tournament this weekend. Senior Mat Shoultz had a lot to say about the team when asked about how they will perform in the tourney this year. "If players can step up there's no reason they can't make a run to the top," stated Shoultz. "Scoop Jardine needs to stay on his game running the floor while inside power Rick Jackson proves why he earned Big-East player of the year this season."

Along with many believers who say that Syracuse has what it takes, there are also many who doubt the Orange after a rough season. Even long-time fan Mrs. Clayton seems a bit pessimistic about the bracket that was released Sunday evening, saying, "I really hope to see us go all the way to the finals, although I don't see them in it any farther than the sweet-sixteen."

Filling brackets has always been a shot in the dark. Even professional analysts from ESPN are often way off the mark in bracket selection. Whether Syracuse does well depends on several factors. It is called "March Madness," for a reason, as often game outcomes surprise you. To win it takes hard work and camaraderie, as well as a little bit of luck for that special team to make it all the way to the top, something Syracuse was able to accomplish in 2002.

Newly released video game, Homefront, really hits home

Step aside *Call of Duty*, there is a new first person shooter on the block with superior gameplay and a gripping tale of a North Korean invasion of the US mainland.

Homefront is a new name to the video game industry, but it is sure to make some ripples in the industry as this type of story has never been seen before. The year is 2027 and a crippled America is on its knees after an economic downfall and loss of power due to North Korean weapons. After Kim Jong IIs death in 2012, his son becomes the next north Korean dictator who unifies the Koreas into one greater Korean Republic soon after the Koreans invade Japan and other Southeastern Asian countries.

In the game you play as an American helicopter pilot who fights for the resistance movement against the tyrannical North Koreans in the town of Montrose, Colorado. This game is one of the more emotional first person shooters of the year with battles often taking place in suburban environments and outside of name brand chains such as White Castle and Tiger Direct electronics stores. The game was written by the cowriter of the movies *Red Dawn* and *Apocalypse Now*. The early reviews put it

in the league of such shooters as *Battlefield* and *Call of Duty Black Ops*.

Many reviewers say the game is the most emotional game they ever played due to the "hitting home factor" of things such as mass graves in front of the local supermarket. The game is being produced by THQ and Kaos studios and was released on Tuesday with great anticipation.

By James Ireland

RaiderNet

Daily

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School of Thought compiled by Kayla Hanczyk and Emma Whitmore

What do you think about the gas prices?



"It is a waste of my money."

Kyle Parker



"It is crazy, we need to find alternative sources of energy."

Mrs. Rossi



"It needs to be fixed, it was \$70 to fill my truck."

Kara Yakel



"I have an SUV so it stinks! We need to be self-sufficient."

Mr. Burdick

Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



Today:



Cloudy with a few showers. High in the mid-40s.
Record high: 80 (1990).
Avg. high: 43.

Tonight:



Mainly cloudy. Low around 30.
Record low: 5 (1980).
Avg. low: 24.

Tomorrow:



Sun and clouds. High in the mid-50s.
Record high: no data.
Avg. high: 43.

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