



“Monumental” changes in store for next school year

By Carson Metcalf

We are all very aware that our country is still facing extremely difficult economic times. One area that is feeling more and more decimated at the state level as the budget process continues is education.

For students who will be here in Fulton for the next school year, that of 2011-12, Superintendent Mr. Bill Lynch is saying that major cuts have to be made, and that they are likely to be felt by many. Mr. Lynch invoked the word “monumental” at February’s meeting of the G. Ray Bodley Site-Based Team to describe the budget crisis. These cuts, especially those that have been proposed thus far, will ultimately affect many students in the District. Some of those students have mixed reactions and are speaking out about the cuts and how they will affect them.

One of the many items proposed in the first draft of the Fulton City School District budget is the cutting of one teacher in each of the core areas here at the high school; those being math, science, social studies, and English. GRB junior Andrea Gould said, “I would hate to see teachers lose their jobs.” GRB sophomore Kelsi Perkins put it simply and frankly, saying, “I don’t like it.”

Another cut on the proposal list would completely eliminate the school’s award-winning advisory program. Some students believe that cutting advisory would be appropriate, such as sophomore Danni Kline. She said, “So few people take it seriously, and complain about the Student Led Conferences, and some of the eprojects they do in their advisories.” On the flip side, GRB Junior Elizabeth Hursh had positive things to say about the program, noting that it has been “helpful to be with a good teacher that can help you with anything!”

Other elements of the first draft of the District budget include removing thousands of dollars in funding to the technology and athletic departments, as well as from extracurricular and after-school programs. Not surprisingly, these proposals aren’t sitting well with students at the high school either. Specifically relating to athletics, a very important part of the lives of many Fulton students, GRB junior Jordan LeClair says that cuts would be disap-

pointing, but justified in terms of putting education first. “Education is essential and a must before kids think about trying to participate in sports,” he said.

Beyond the high school, more teachers from elementary schools, including one teacher aide from each of those four schools, would also be cut. The elimination of all seventh grade LOTE (Language Other Than English) classes at the Junior High School would take place as well, which will have a direct effect on the language department at the high school where several teaching positions would be cut.

This is only a glimpse into how deep the cuts need to get in order to keep our schools open. This is the first draft, and these are preliminary recommendations, but many will likely be in the final draft as well. Although he is among many seniors who will not be here next year to have to sustain whatever cuts go through, GRB Senior Jon Bonning is holding out hope for our schools. He commented, “I just hope our administrators have the knowledge and wisdom to fix the problem at hand.” *Budget information was obtained via Oswego County Today.*

“Mr. Lynch invoked the word ‘monumental’ at February’s meeting of the G. Ray Bodley Site-Based Team to describe the budget crisis.”

Raider baseball looks toward big season

With spring practices well underway it is nearly time for Fulton sports teams to get out onto the field and begin competition against rivaling teams from around the league. The baseball team came short of sectional play yet again last year with what many might call a disappointing season.

Last year marked utter defeat as the team slid through the season picking up only two wins in nearly a twenty game season. The team defeated themselves, working off a short-handed roster with only twelve men in uniform each game. Pitching was at a deficit, with only six of the twelve men earning a spot in the rotation while staying healthy for critical games became an issue. This season will surely be a different story with tryouts coming to a close last week. Returning experience both on the mound and behind the plate, the Raiders look to be in on track to having an exciting season at hand.

To solve the problems of staying fresh and the pitching dilemma from last year season Coach Kip Harvey adapted to twenty-man roster this season, with eleven of them as pitchers. With nine returning players the lost role of leadership will be filled. Seniors this season Robert Bonnie and Kody Ravesi proved themselves last year as the two of the team’s

best pitchers with another year left to play. Not to mention catcher Max Fobes returns behind the dish for his third straight season to command the defense. Returners including first baseman Sean Stevens, pitcher and infielder Hunter Gorton as well as junior middle infielder Tyler Terramaggi are going to be key players in the outcome of the Raider season.

Gorton, one of the senior leaders of the club, had much to say in the keys to victory this season. “Our defense is solid but it’s our pitching that will bring us a long way.” He went on to say that, “The development of great pitching this year is going to be very important to having a successful team.”

Varsity newcomers Chris Bixby, Matt Liberti, and Brandon Guernsey, just to name a few, will also be stepping to the mound in 2011 for the team. Chris “the big man” Bixby looks to locate the knuckle ball to get the batter looking. Senior southpaw flamethrower Matt Liberti is a lefty with some movement on the fastball sure to make the opponents miss. In addition juniors Wahl and Guernsey have come a long way to fitting themselves into the rotation.

The Raider Baseball team looks to come together as a team and work hard at getting better each and every day. Knowing they will have

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Opinion

There is simply no excuse for being a slob

By Don Wilmot

When I walk into the cafeteria to enjoy my lunch, I am tired of seeing all of the garbage lying around, and Mrs. Wilmot and Mrs. Cook having to pick it up. Not only does it bother me that my mother is picking up after students who are rude to her, it bothers me to know that I am surrounded by slobs.



There are, however, times when I will see students helping her pick up garbage, even if it was not theirs, which just goes to show how easy it could be to be polite and to do the right thing. If everyone would just take care of their own garbage, and leave the cafeteria how they found it, it would not be hard to make it a clean place.

Another thing that is unexplainable to me is writing on the tables.

“Not only does it bother me that my mother is picking up after students who are rude to her, it bothers me to know that I am surrounded by slobs.”

For those students who are feeling artsy, sign up to take an art class, don't ruin school property. Keep it in mind that you are not the only

**Seniors! Stay in touch with your class!
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Quote of the day:
“And then one day you find, ten years have got behind you. No one told you when to run. You missed the starting gun.”
Roger Waters-Pink Floyd's "Time"

one who goes to this school, and not everyone wants to see that.

I constantly hear students in the hallways complaining about how crappy things are at our school, but they are the ones denting lockers or writing on stall doors. If you think the school is that bad, there are plenty of clubs you can join to help make it a better place. But if you think it is that bad, why make it worse for the students who are coming into the high school next year? If everyone would just act their ages, and give respect, they would get respect back from their peers and their teachers.

Note: Don's mother works for the school as a hall monitor and cafeteria monitor.

The Great Outdoors: Harassing is hunting

By Daniel Summerville



Lately, it has been quite spring-like outside, pleasant and calm. Though it is still March, there are many birds and creatures becoming more active as the weather gets nicer. Spring is the time when many animals give birth, which means that in a few short weeks there will be countless young creatures running around. The young creatures may be cute, but people should remember to give them a wide berth.

It may be interesting to watch the baby animals, but people should keep their distance. Most mother animals will protect their young with their lives. While most people know that it is wrong to bother young wild animals, they may not realize that it is a crime. It is considered "hunting" to kill, chase, or harass an animal in any way. The only time that hunting is allowed is during the allotted seasons, anything outside of these periods is illegal. Chasing geese or young squirrels may be illegal outside of their respective seasons, but still many people do it. Not only is it illegal, but it could also harm the animals, especially young ones.

Hopefully, high school students are mature enough to know not to bother young animals. However, younger siblings or children who are under their care may not. If someone sees a young person chasing animals, kindly tell them to stop. Harassing animals out of season is not worth endangering them, and it is not worth the fine either.

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Weekend's over, but new movies are still here



At the Movies

By Hunter Gorton

The weekend crowds have come and gone, and that means you'll have an easy time getting in to see one of the newest releases. Three promising movies came out this past weekend in *The Lincoln Lawyer*, *Paul* and *Sucker Punch*.

The Lincoln Lawyer: In this intense thriller, *The Lincoln Lawyer*, Matthew McConaughey stars as Michael "Mick" Haller, a slick, Los Angeles criminal defense attorney who operates out of the back of his Lincoln Continental sedan. Spending most of his career defending petty, dirty small minded criminals, Mick unexpectedly lands the case of a lifetime when he gets the chance to defend a rich Beverly Hills playboy (Ryan Phillippe) who is accused of attempted murder. However, what initially appears to be a straightforward case with a big money pay-off swiftly develops into a deadly match between two masters of manipulation. (Drama)

Paul: Two average sci-fi geeks get caught up in the ultimate adventure after picking up an extraterrestrial during a road trip to Area 51, and becoming the targets of a nationwide manhunt. They know we're not alone in the universe, but they won't be satisfied until they get a firsthand glimpse of the famed Area 51. But somewhere deep in the Nevada desert, the two UFO obsessed geeks barely avoid crashing into a speeding car when they happen to cross paths with a most unlikely hitchhiker. Paul (voice of Seth Rogan) is a pint-sized alien who has

Bizarre News of the Day

Miljenko Parserisas Bukovic, a 56-year-old newspaper salesman from Mexico, has 82 tattoos of Julia Roberts face inked on his body. After watching *Erin Brockovich*, a movie that earned Julia Roberts an Academy Award, Bukovic decided to show his appreciation for her talent by getting tattoos of her face all over his body. He now has 82 tattoos of Roberts, all inspired by movie scenes. He has images of her smiling, waving, pouting, looking serious and even sitting in a chair, all over his chest, back and arms.

Although Bukovic claims he has spent around \$81,000 (around 1 million pesos) on his tattoos of Julia Roberts, so far, his planning to add more ink artworks as long as he has room on his body.

By Morgan Firenze

spent the last 60 years in Area 51. He's been cooped up in the care of the U.S. government for far too long, and he's starting to get a little homesick. (Comedy)

Sucker Punch: This widely publicized movie is an epic action fantasy that takes us into the vivid imagination of a young girl whose dream world provides the ultimate escape from her darker reality. With no restraints by the boundaries of time and place, she is free to go wherever her mind takes her, and her incredible adventures alter what's real and what is imaginary. (Comedy)



Senior Bobby Bonnie is one of several returning hurlers looking to help the Raiders gain success in the upcoming season, which is scheduled to begin on March 29 at home against CBA. (RND file photo by Taylor Harvey, 2010)

Baseball preview

(from page one)

their ups and downs the focus is to keep moving forward. Coach Kip Harvey seems very eager for the season to begin. When asked about the outlook for this year Harvey stated, "Staying healthy, don't get too far ahead of ourselves and we'll be okay."

Schedules, although still being adjusted, can be found by going on the Fulton City Schools home page. The first game is scheduled home versus CBA on March 29. Come out, enjoy the weather and cheer on this year's 2011 Raider baseball team.

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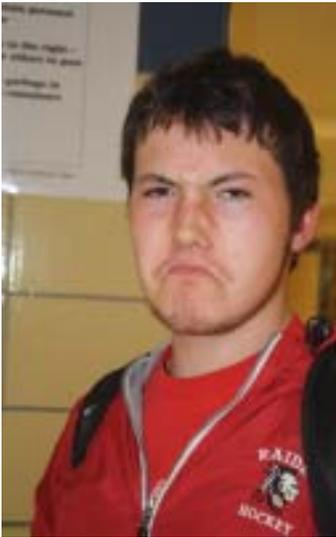


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School of Thought compiled by Kayla Distin and Kayla Hanczyk

What are your views on public displays of affection in our school?



"It should stop!!"

Joey Cortese



"Doesn't bother me."

Greg Jodway



"It's embarrassing. I don't bring my husband here and make out with him."

Mrs. Wilmot



"It's creepy."

Sara Bartlett

Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



Today:



Rain showers, heavy at times. High in the mid-40s.
Record high: 66 (1976).
Avg. high: 45.

Tonight:



Mostly cloudy. Low in the low-30s.
Record low: 0 (1988).
Avg. low: 26.

Tomorrow:



Sun and clouds. High around 40.
Record high: 67 (1979).
Avg. high: 45.

*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.*