



Budget cuts, lack of interest sideline pep band

By Nick Abelgore

Something has been missing from the Red Raider home football games this season. Longtime Raider fans might have noticed the absence of the pep band.

The tradition has been averted this year due to a number of reasons. Because the football season starts early, before school even starts, it is hard for interested members to find sufficient time to prepare songs to play. Another reason for the lack of a backing soundtrack is the lack of interest among the students, as they are not always willing to play in the band, often preferring to socialize with their friends at the game.

However, the most significant reason the pep band has disbanded is because of the budget cuts taking place in the music department. In order to save a second teacher from being laid off, the music department traded budget money for the teaching position, and pep band was something that had to go.

Their sacrifice is not isolated, however, as money geared toward the production of the spring musical as well as money for supplies and repairs were also given up. All of these sacrifices combined were the equivalent of one teaching position, and they were made in an effort to keep the music programs up and running.

Nonetheless, the Fulton City School District still ended up cutting fourth grade strings this year. Band and chorus have started at fifth grade for several years, but now orchestra students will now need to wait another year in their attempts to learn how to play their instruments. At one time, orchestra started in third grade and band in fourth, but those starting times were lost in a round of budget cuts 12 years ago.

According to Mr. Caviness, the junior high school was unable to change their schedules around to accommodate for music rehearsal times, so the music department is left to do the best with what they have. Because there are so many fiscal challenges

and the fact that the district and school are on the state lists again, music has seemingly had to take a back seat at the moment. High School Band Director Mr. Caviness has already been told there will be another cut next year, most likely a teaching position in the junior high orchestra department.

“We can’t absorb these cuts and keep these programs,” he says. “So we either need to not be making these cuts or I don’t know what we’re gonna do.” Things are spread thin for the music teachers right now and tasks have become difficult to manage. Like many

other people Mr. Caviness hopes that things will pull together in the near future and fewer cuts will have to be made.

In place of a pep band, there will be a rock group performing at the homecoming game and at the pep rally, similar to last year. Only having just formed within the last week or so, the band will have a handful of songs prepared to play, including music by famous artists like Def Leppard and Jason Aldean, as well as “Zach’s Song” from the movie *School Of Rock*.

**“We can’t absorb these cuts and keep these programs,”
GRB Band Director Mr. Caviness**



The G. Ray Bodley High School store, The Raider’s Den, opened for business on Monday, much to the delight of the students. Pictured from left to right are advisor Mrs. Ferlito, and store workers Meriah Dishaw, Erica Knaub, Taylor McManus, Tiahna Greenleaf, Ashley Waring, Precious Raley and Devyn Viscome. The store is run by students in the small business ownership class and the school’s Future Business Leaders of America Club. (Nate Dean photo)

Opinion

Social networking: is it all that social?

By Madeline Clark

Myspace, Facebook and now Google +, it seems as though social networking sites are here to stay. All of these websites attract (or in the case of Myspace, attracted) millions of users with the promise of becoming a social butterfly simply by clicking a few buttons. Yes, the Facebook generation has been given the pledge that practically anyone can connect with past paramours,



great aunts or grandparents, and even make the occasional new comrade with the aid of a mouse...but how true is this oath? Is Zuckerberg's solemn vow really all that possible?

As a Facebook user, I would beg to differ. In fact, I would argue that being on the internet all the time has the potential to make one become lonelier, not more sociable. Checking your news feed or wall every ten minutes can only be so productive, and let's face it, staring at a monitor for an hour or so is not making friends (unless

of what makes us, well, us. I fear for a time when we rely more on what a website says than actual conversation. When consulting my mother, a professor of sociology at SUNY Oswego and a clinical social-worker, she stated, "While it's true that social networking keeps us connected, it is an obstacle for genuine, warm human interaction. When you meet someone, you are using all of your senses; you are engaging and developing social skills, but when you connect through a computer, it is void of sensory skill application and is quite literally, a kind of 'virtual autism.'" She went on to state that, "even the term 'friends' is being redefined by social networking, to a less intimate term. Friends are now acquaintances."

The point is this; humans are social creatures, not digital. If we were meant to express emotion through a computer, we would have been made of nuts and bolts. So the next time you go to pick a fight or have an in depth conversation, ponder this thought; "Do I really want to deprive myself of vital social contact?" If you answered no, unplug the PC and go outside Robo-tron; the earth is really a beautiful place. If you answered yes, then the rest of human society, me included, look forward to L.A.R.P-ing you and your brethren to death in the coming robot apocalypse.

"...humans are social creatures, not digital. If we were meant to express emotion through a computer, we would have been made of nuts and bolts."

you count your PC; it's lonely being a cold, soul-less metal product of the silicon valley). If anything, social networking appears to be making us a more anti-social generation.

Arguments are fought at the keyboard and truly getting to know a person outside of the virtual, so it should seem, has become a thing of the past. Individuals would rather "text" than actually talk face-to-face or even on the phone. Social networking has become such a wide spread constant in this day and age that even a relationship is not iofficial until it is "Facebook official."

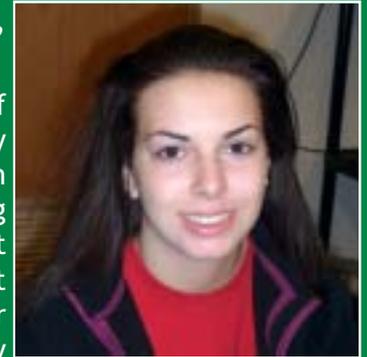
The real damage of Social networking is simply this—virtual contact is taking away from actual human interaction, an essential part

Meet the Reporters

Jeriann Parker,
senior

The newest member of the RaiderNet Daily staff, senior Jeriann Parker will be writing sports during the first semester and is the first girl on the staff to ever take part in the weekly NFL picks.

Her outside interests and hobbies include working at Dunkin' Donuts, horseback riding, football and reading. Something people might not know about this January graduate is that she loves being in the country and being around horses.



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In the News

By Madeline Clark



Disney classic, *The Lion King* still roars in Central New York

Disney's *The Lion King* was first released as a movie in the United States on June 15, 1994 and has been a Disney classic ever since. The original movie was the highest grossing film of that year, grossing a worldwide total of \$826,593,390! The film, which was rereleased in 3D this year, is reliving its glory with a new generation!

The 3D movie version of *The Lion King* premiered on September 16 to 30.3 million movie goers and was number one for the weekend! The 3D movie is only out for limited release for two weeks so that means you have to go see it while you can! The movie will also be rereleased on Blu-ray, so if for some uncontrollable reason you can't make it to the movie theater you can buy a wonderful quality copy of it perhaps to replace the VHS copy of it you have had since you were five!

The movie theaters are not the only place you can experience the wonder of *The Lion King*, as the musical version of the Disney hit has been at the Oncenter in Syracuse since September 22 and will continue until their final performance this coming Sunday at 1 p.m.. The musical was on Broadway from October 15, 1997 until it moved to make room for *Mary Poppins* on June 13, 2006. Even though it is no longer on Broadway, *The Lion King* is still running after over 5,350 performances!

The Lion King is a classic Disney movie that most everyone can remember as defining their childhood. And with the other two *Lion King* movies and the musical adaptation and the release of the movie in 3D, it will continue to impact the lives of children to come.

By Vanessa Langdon

BIZARRE NEWS OF THE DAY:

So what DO you do with 10,000 text messages?

A London artist has kept every text message she has received since 1999 - and is publishing them all in a book. Tracey Moberly, 47, has collected almost 100,000 texts since accidentally deleting her first 12 years ago and vowing never to lose another.

Every time a text arrived, she saved the contents - even writing down texts on paper when her phone ran out of room to store them. Now she is publishing them all in her book - *Text Me Up!* - charting the story of her life since the end of the last millennium, reports The Sun.

Ms. Moberly, from Shoreditch, said: "Some people think I'm obsessive, but I love looking back at old messages.

"It's like keeping a diary. All my friends say they wish they had kept important texts or ones which meant a lot to them. I'm lucky, I can go back to reading those messages any time I want."

She has filled more than 30 journals with the messages - received on six different handsets. They record the breakdown of her marriage, rebuilding her life and her friends' reactions to world events including 9/11 and the Haiti earthquake. The collection also contains messages from celebrity pals including Howard Marks, Pete Doherty and artist Banksy.

By Morgan Firenze

Sports

Golfers claim initial triumph, tennis falls

The losing streak is over for the Fulton boys golf team but the girls tennis team continues to search for that elusive first victory. The Raider linksmen shot their way into the victory column for the first time in 11 matches by besting Mexico 221-229 on Monday while the girls dropped a 5-2 match on their home court.

C.J. Barbera and Connor Goss led the way with scores of 41 and 42 respectively for the golfers while Alex Bateman added a 43 for the winners. Jake Seymour and Dan Wahl closed out the victorious total by carding scores of 47 and 48. Josh Hartley led Mexico with a 42 as the Tigers dropped to 2-7.

Cortland outlasted Fulton 5-2 in girls tennis to hand the Raiders an 0-8 start. There were plenty of tough matches on the day, highlighted by a 7-5, 7-5 doubles win from Madelyn Olon and Morgan Parkhurst at second doubles. Anna Guernsey and Caitlin Lavoie posted a 6-3, 0-6, 6-0 win in third doubles while singles players Faith Montgomery and Amanda Tetrop dropped tough decision in the first and second positions.

This week in Raider Sports

Today: Girls soccer vs. CBA (5 pm); V'ball vs. Syracuse Tech. (JV-5/V-6:30); Golf @ LaFayette (3:30 pm).

Wed. Sept. 28: V'ball @ Bishop Ludden (JV-4:30/V-6 pm); JV tennis vs. Mexico (4:30); V. tennis @ Mexico (4:30); Cross-country @ Mexico (4:30).

Thurs. Sept. 29: Golf @ Tully (3:30).

Fri. Sept. 30: Golf vs. Chittenango (3:30); V'ball @ J-D (4:30); V tennis vs. M-PH (4:30); JV tennis @ M-PH (4:30); V football @ Whitesboro (7 pm).

Sat. Oct. 1: V Boys soccer @ Bishop Grimes (4:15); JV V'ball @ B'ville Tourney (8:45 am); JV football vs. Whitesboro (10 am); Cross-country @ McQuaid Invitational (9 am).



Fulton's Kayla Distin, left, has her eyes on the ball during action from a recent varsity game. The Raiders seek their third win in a row this evening when CBA visits for a 5 pm start. (Hannah Dunsmoor hpoto)

The Great Outdoors Early bow season opens today

By Daniel Summerville

While some small game and waterfowl seasons are open in Oswego County, hunters still have to wait until mid-October for early bow season to open up in most local areas, and even longer for regular season. However, for some



deer hunters in Central New York, the long wait is over. Today marks the opening of early bow season in the northern zone.

The northern zone encompasses the eastern portion of Oswego County, allowing hunters who live or hunt there four days of hunting with last year's license. Tags that were not filled last year may be filled during these few days, allowing hunters to bag an extra deer or two if they are lucky.

Anyone who is caught by the DEC with

only this year's license will be ticketed, as 2011-2012 licenses do not come into effect until October. Once October starts, though, hunters will need this year's license in order to legally hunt deer or any other game animal.

While northern zone opens long before southern zone, it also ends earlier. The differences in the seasons in the two zones allow hunters to stretch their hunting period from late September to mid-December if they have somewhere to hunt in both zones, as long as they hunt during bow, regular and muzzleloading seasons.

The weather during early bow season is usually much more bearable than the weather during late bow and muzzleloading seasons. It is much more enjoyable to hunt in sixty degree weather than to do so in ten degree weather. Three feet of snow can make it nearly impossible to get to a stand. By taking advantage of the northern zone's early opener, hunters can make sure that they get as many chances to bag a deer as they can.

School of Thought By Natasha Luis & Mark Aldasch

How do you feel about the new homerooms?



"I don't like them!"
Greg Goodrow



"They are okay.. I guess."
Jon Baker



"Awesome! It helps keep track of the students. I wish it was just added on to first bell."
Mr. Mainville



"I hate them, they are stupid! But I have Mr. Bono so it isn't that bad."
Jordan Spaulding

Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



Today:



Cloudy with showers.

80°

Average: 68°
Record: 80° (1973)

Tonight:



Rain showers.

61°

Average: 48°
Record: 30° (1965)

Tomorrow:



Cloudy with showers.

70°

Average: 67°
Record: 85° (1959)

*GRB senior 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.*