



## Sun shined brightly on GRB Homecoming

By Michaela Best

It was a Spirit Week so wonderful that even the weather favored the Fulton Red Raiders. The first bonfire in recent memory and the first outdoor pep rally in 20 years helped highlight a successful Spirit Week that culminated in Fulton's first football win of the season, 32-22 over New Hartford.

Friday's pep rally got off to a fine start with the announcement of Homecoming King and Queen. Homecoming King was senior Alex Bawarski while Homecoming Queen was senior Hannah Dunsmoor.

The crowning of Mr. Legs and Ms. Lips. Mr. Legs was also well received as seniors Devon Viscome and Erika Johnson took the respective titles. All of the Raider sports teams were also honored, including volleyball, which made its first appearance at a fall pep rally after changing seasons in 2011.

The most spirited students of each grade level and two staff members were also honored following a vote by the student body. The most spirited were freshmen Shelby Drake and Lauren Gaido, sophomores Jeff Waldron and Sophie Giovannetti, juniors Pat Fink and Sydney Plato, and seniors Alex Bawarski and Hannah Dunsmoor.

New to the pep rally was a contest that put the students against the staff in a chicken wing eating contest that also featured several humorous stunts such as "dizzy izzy," jumpropping and bouncing through cones on a giant ball. On the student's team seniors Tonia Lincoln and Alex Bawarski were joined by junior Bobby Guernsey and sophomore Courtney Smith. Competing for the staff were Ms. Hawley, Mr. Lacey, Ms. Clayton and Mr. Wasacz.

As always last two teams to be announced were the varsity cheerleading and football squads. The football team received some of the loudest cheers of the whole pep rally. But the most amazing part for many to experience was when Coach Connors called



The "Most Spirited" students and staff at the high school were honored on Friday at the annual Homecoming pep assembly. Pictured from left to right are Math teacher Mrs. Clayton, senior Hannah Dunsmoor, sophomore Sophia Giovannetti, senior Alex Bawarski, sophomore Jeff Waldron, juniors Pat Fink and Sydney Plato, freshmen Shelby Drake and Lauren Gaido and Match teacher Mr. Lacey. (Carson Metcalf photo)

out number 66, his son Tim. He was not just awarded with a flower and a hug from a cheerleader, he was awarded by being surrounded by his friends and family, who all gave him a standing ovation when he stepped onto the field to receive his flower.

During dismissal Master of Ceremonies Mr. Senecal announced the winners of the hallway decorating contest, the freshman class of 2015.

The pep assembly was the culmination of a great Spirit Week that saw plenty of participation in pajama day, twins day, favorite team/hat day, neon day and Red Raider pride

day.

Wednesday featured the annual hall decorating contest with the bonfire on Thursday night. Unlike the past few years when inclement weather cancelled the bonfire gathering, many students attended this social event and gathered around the fire to stay warm, and listened to the live band that played.

Special thanks must be given to Student Senate advisor Mr. Thurlow and English teacher Mr. Lescarbeau to the long hours they put in to help make Homecoming 2011 a special event for everyone involved.

## Opinion

# Are we opinionated, or just small-minded?

By Vanessa Langdon

We all have opinions, and the fact that they differ is what makes them so great. But when helpless discussions over a politician or some other opinion escalates into an argument, that is when the trouble starts. With bullying, an extreme problem now, some of that pointless fighting may be caused by opinions or some people being small minded.

Being opinionated is great. It is wonderful to stand up for what you believe in. But we as high school students need to learn now that not all people are going to have the same views as we do, so we have to learn when to be vocal about our beliefs and when it would be more beneficial to let it slide.

The number of topics in today's society that are controversial and



drum up such arguments grows every day with the war, the upcoming presidential election, abortion, religion, homophobia, and any number of things. But we have to be able to learn alongside people who believe something different than we do.

We as a student body have to learn how to be accepting and ignore our difference to embrace our similarities. I personally have friends who have different religions than me, and friends who believe the complete opposite of what I believe on many topics, but we still laugh together and love each other the same. I am not perfect by any way, but we all could work on understanding people's differences.

If we all don't learn now how to cohabitate with others who think differently than us, how are we going to fare in college, the workforce, and in real life in general? We have to learn how accept others and agree to disagree, or the future world will be in jeopardy because no one will know how to get along with anyone who is different than themselves.

## It's time to show a little bit of respect

By Laura Perwitz

When some students come into school they are prepared to learn. Others, not so much.

While they are not prepared, they feel as though they can get away with anything, just to be sent down to the office. Think about this, what are you taking away from yourself, and the students around you?

It seems to me that the students who don't care are the ones who are disrespecting teachers. It's both rude and irritating. When you decide to have a little episode in class, you are taking learning away from the people around you, and chances are they are not going to do so well because of you. When you were little, you should have been taught to respect your parents, grandparents, teachers or any other adult. Why should that change, even though you're in high school?

There is a saying that goes "you have to give respect to get it." You get mad when you don't get respect from a teacher, but did you give it to them? Nine times out of ten, you didn't. So really, there



isn't a reason for you to be getting upset that a teacher didn't respect you. Why would they respect you if you didn't respect them? It isn't fair to the teacher, and it isn't fair to you that you're missing so much. And then comes the big question, "how come I'm not passing?" You want to know why? It's because you're being disrespectful, and bringing it on yourself. Half of the time, they don't even try. Is being rude really worth failing a class that you're supposed to pass?

Whether you like the class or not, students should at least try and show a little respect to their teachers. Just go back to what your parents taught you, and the old saying. It shouldn't be that hard to give a little respect. If you give it, they will give it in return.

**"And then comes the big question, 'how come I'm not passing?' You want to know why? It's because you're being disrespectful, and bringing it on yourself."**

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## Reflections

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# It's a long way home for GRB exchange student

By Ashly Smart

Have you ever wondered how hard it would be to live in a completely different country? One new student at G. Ray Bodley High School is finding out first hand.

Valeriya Kleutsova of Tyumen, Russia is currently spending the year at GRB. When asked if it was hard to be so far away from home and what she missed the most, she said, "it is and I do miss my family, but I love my host family and I am so busy with everything that I don't really have a lot of time to think about it."

"If I had to choose one thing I missed most it would have to be the food, she said." Here in America you have a lot of fast food, but in Russia we really don't. We have a few McDonald's but not nearly as much as you do here."

What she likes the most about being at GRB is how she is allowed to pick her classes, the teachers, friends, and especially gym class because of archery. When asked how America is different compared to Russia, she said the communities are very different. She lives in the "flats" not in such a big community, and they don't really drive, they mostly walk. She went on to explain

how here in America the flag is everywhere such as in all the classrooms and outside. But it is not like that in Russia, people don't see them everywhere they go.

Another difference is that in her home school she has to wear a uniform and their dress is very different. "Here you see a lot of girls wearing very short shorts and very low cut shirts. You don't see that in Russia, we are more conservative."

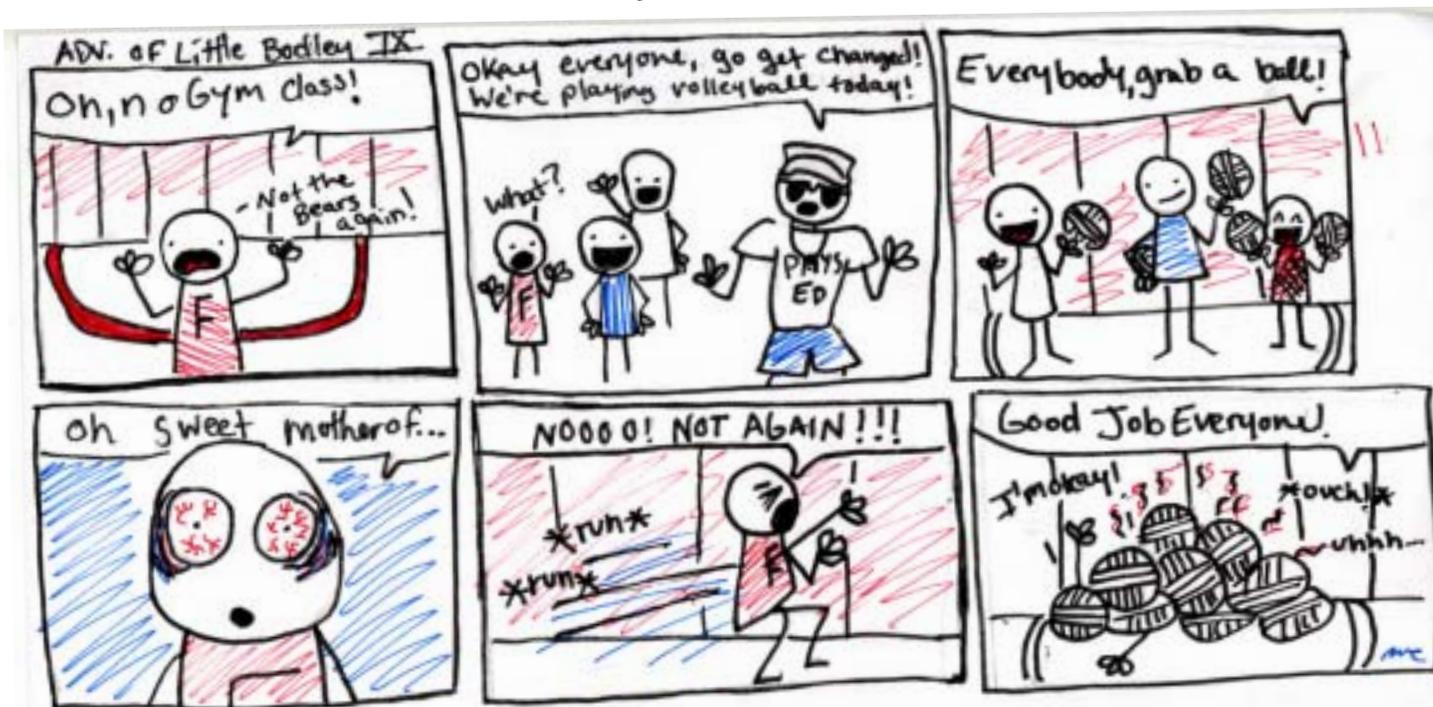
Schooling is also very different. She said that in Russia they do not have to be at school until 8 am, unlike here where most students are up at 6 am getting ready for school. Her classes are also different. She explained how in her school there are 30 people per class, but the students don't change. Four of her classes are with the same people and they are like a big family in that they are all very close friends.

As for how she got involved with the exchange program, she said, "well my friend got me involved." She didn't want to experience this by herself, so they signed up for it. She didn't think she would get the opportunity to do something like this until a lady called her and told her she had been accepted into the program. Now she is thousands of miles away from home, but enjoying her first



Exchange student Valeriya Kleutsova came to Bodley from Tyumen, Russia and has enjoyed her first five weeks as a Fultonian. (ashly Smart photo) few weeks as an exchange student at GRB.

## The adventures of 'lil Bodley!



By Madeline Clark

**School of Thought** *Compiled by Nick Abalgore and Nate Dean*

# What was your favorite day during spirit week?



"PJ day!"

**George Lewis**



"Friday because of the pep rally."

**Jason Mattice**



"Wednesday because it was hat day."

**Mitch Towsley**



"Twin day with Tyler French."

**Jeff Waldron**

# Meteorology and you

By *Carson Metcalf*



**Today:**



Cloudy with showers.

**65°**

Average: 63°  
Record: 84° (1954)

**Tonight:**



Rain showers.

**53°**

Average: 42°  
Record: 28° (1964)

**Tomorrow:**



Cloudy with showers.

**65°**

Average: 61°  
Record: 83° (1995)

*GRB senior 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 daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.*