



Happy New Year!



RaiderNet Daily



G. Ray Bodley High School, Fulton, NY

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Raider hoopsters claim consolation trophies

The final days of 2011 brought a pair of third place trophies to the Fulton collection as both the girls and boys basketball teams claimed consolation victories in the Fulton Christmas Classic. Senior Ashlynn Palmitesso continued her charge toward 1,000 career points by leading the girls past Phoenix 62-42 on Thursday before the boys toppled Carthage 50-45 to also claim third place honors.

The watch now stands at 15 points for Ashlynn Palmitesso after she fired up 21 in a 40-33 loss to Carthage and then followed it up with a game high 23 in the big win against Phoenix. The Raiders were quick off the mark in both the first and third quarters in beating Phoenix, as Fulton opened the game with a 17-4 first quarter and then put it away in the third by outscoring the Firebirds 18-8. Upping their count to 3-6 on the season, the girls also used nine points from Anna McKay to offset a 21 point effort from Phoenix's Brittney Sears.

Against Carthage a poor second quarter proved to be the team's undoing as the Comets used a 13-3 advantage to take a big 22-8 halftime lead. Zakiya Saunders fired in a game high 22 points for the winners, who held Fulton to just four names on the scoresheet including six points from Jessica Hudson.

The boys followed a similar route to the consolation triumph, falling 56-36 against Central Square in the opening round before outlasting Carthage in the third place match-up.

Leading 25-19 at the half but only 35-33 after three periods, the Raiders dug deep down the stretch behind a 16 point effort from Nate Hudson. Steven Henri added 11 for the Raiders to offset an 18 point night from Carthage's Walter Jeter.

Central Square pulled away from Fulton on the first night of the tournament by building a 28-19 halftime edge that expanded to 44-26 after three quarters. Joe Piazza scored 19 points and Malcolm Anderson added 17 for the Red Hawks, who were beaten 63-47 by Oswego in the championship game. Thje Bucs, now 5-1 on the season, advanced to the finals by whalopping Carthage 77-38 with a 26-6 burst in the first quarter levying major damage.

Both Raider basketball teams will be back in action this Friday when the boys

travel to Mexico while the girls play host to the Tigers in a 7 pm varsity start. All eyes will be on Ashlynn Palmitesso as she looks to become only the second girl and third Raider overall to surpass the 1,000 point mark for her varsity career. Robin VerSchneider, Fulton's all-time career scoring leader, finished with 1,212 points while becoming the first Raider to hit the thousand point plateau in 1989 when she fired in a career-high 31 points with 22 rebounds to lead the Raiders past Central Square on January 19, 1989.



Former journalism student and GRB Class of 2003 graduate Chris Porter, left, stopped by his alma mater to play Santa Claus just before the Christmas break. Mr. Porter made a generous donation to the GRB Journalism Club and advisor Mr. Senecal, right, which will be used toward supplies for the club that helps produce *The Raider* student newspaper.

Opinion

Ring in the new year with a fresh start

By Laura Perwitz

Now that we're back in school, we can all try to focus on one thing: A fresh start. Some of us could start out with a new attitude about school and homework. People should strive toward better grades for the start of the New Year. Try being prepared for class and ready to learn something new. Try things that you would never try before.

After all the articles I have written complaining about things around the school, I feel that every student, myself included, should have worked on developing a new attitude over our Christmas break. After all, we did have a week to do it.

According to the Mayan calendar, 2012 is supposed to be the year of the world ending. Instead of thinking about false information, think about what you could do to improve your grades. For juniors,



your cell phone off, making good choices, leaving your significant other alone for a little while, not starting bad relationships and so on and so forth.

Break isn't just a time for us to celebrate Christmas. It's a time for us to look back on the year of 2011, and think about what we could change about ourselves. Make changes that will help you do better, and not ones that you're not going to stick with. If you just take ten minutes out of your day to think about it, you can make 2012 a much better year for you. Struggling with a class? Try studying more for that class and maybe even getting a tutor. You could end up passing the class and getting a good education. Now that break is over, it's time for us to realize that we can't just sit around and be lazy anymore.

Take action and make 2012 the best year of your high school career. Do something other than sit on the couch eating a whole bag of chips and watching movies for the entire day. Take a stand and

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grades are a major thing this year. Making a resolution that you aren't going to stick with is pointless. Try making a resolution that you are going to try and follow, so you can accomplish that daunting task.

If you make the resolution to pass classes and do your school work, then follow through with it. That one little thing can change everything about school for you. Forget trying to lose that Christmas weight; do something about your future. You could try leaving

Quote of the day:

“The most I can do for my friend is to simply be his friend.”

Bizarre News of the Day:

Falling from the sky

An avalanche of apples that pelted road users in Coventry is just the latest in a series of bizarre examples of things falling from the sky. Residents, officials and scientists were left baffled in June 2009 by an apparent downfall of dead tadpoles in central Japan's Ishikawa prefecture. Clouds of the creatures appeared to have fallen from the sky in a series of episodes in a number of cities in the region. One 55-year-old man who heard a strange sound in a car park in the city of Nanao found more than 100 dead tadpoles covering the windscreens of cars in a ten-square meter area.

About a year ago 5,000 dead blackbirds rained down from the night skies in the small town of Beebe, Arkansas. The so-called “aflockalypse” on New Year's Eve saw dead and dying creatures crash down onto roofs, roads and gardens. Some Christian fundamentalists claimed the end was nigh, citing a passage in Hosea that describes when “the beasts of the field, the birds in the sky and the fish in the sea are swept away”.

(continued on page three)



Reflections

-THE- Salon & More

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Odds & Ends

The Great Outdoors

Opportunities abound for testing new gear

By Daniel Summerville

With Christmas and New Years behind us, there is no doubt that many hunters are itching to try out some of the new gear they got over the holidays. With no major hunting seasons going on, there may not be many chances for hunters to test out their gear until spring.

There are, however, a few seasons open for hunters to participate in. If the gear can withstand January weather, it will doubtlessly work wonders in warmer weather during turkey and deer seasons.

Most small game seasons are still going on for a month or two. Squirrel, rabbit, partridge, pheasant and coyote seasons are all open, and each of these species present hunters with unique challenges.



They also provide perfect practice with new firearms, and many of these species taste good as well. What better way to break in a new shotgun than to flush up a few plump partridges? A new rifle would work perfectly for sniping coyotes.

Trail cams can be used year round as well; it is interesting to see what deer are left after hunting season, especially if you are wondering whether that big buck that never got within range is still alive. There are very few pieces of gear that hunters need to wait until spring to test out.

The many small game seasons that are open now provide hunters with the time to practice their skills for when the more popular seasons such as deer, waterfowl and turkey open. There is no better way to tell if a gun is properly sighted in than to try it out on moving targets like squirrels or upland birds. As long as hunters are willing to brave the cold, there is no reason to wait to try out new gear until spring.

Top resolutions for 2012: will you meet yours?

By Vanessa Langdon

A year is over and a new one has just begun which means only one thing, everyone has made their new year's resolutions. Every year people pig out and enjoy themselves during the holiday season, only to get rid of that vice that they have been indulging in on January first.

But what is your new year's resolution? While everyone's resolutions are different, there are the steadfast ones that not only the

majority of people seem to do, they appear to revisit them year after year.

Not shockingly the number one new year's Resolution for people in 2012 is to lose weight. If this is your first year making this resolution or one of many past years you have to believe you can make it happen and that is only possible with good old-fashioned hard work. To make this resolution a reality you have to make a plan! Figure out what it is that is holding you back and avoid it and make an exercise schedule. If you really stick with it you are going to get the results you crave!

The second most common resolution for 2012 is getting orga-

Bizarre news of the day (from page 1)

In March last year, residents of a remote Australian town 326 miles from the nearest river witnessed two days of fish raining from the sky. Many of the hundreds of spangled perch were still alive when they fell to the ground in Lajamanu, in the country's Northern Territory. Weather experts believe the fish were sucked up in a thunderstorm before being dumped over the small town, with a population of less than 700. A Met Office spokesman said it was quite common for cloud bursts to open and release a hail of fish or frogs.

By Morgan Firenze



nized, something that we as high school students could surely use. Whether you want to organize your room, your locker, or your backpack you first have to tackle the main mess. Then once the initial issue is resolved, make a system to avoid becoming unorganized again.

Thirdly people are planning on spending more time with family and friends this upcoming year. This is wonderful if you can manage it, as you cannot chose to spend all your time with people and dropping other commitments. Spending time with people and giving them your undivided attention to show how much you appreciate them is a wonderful way to be during this upcoming year.

The fourth most common resolution for this year is to live life to

“The fourth most common resolution for this year is to live life to the fullest! We only get to live once and this year, do something exciting, within reason of course!”

the fullest! We only get to live once and this year, do something exciting, within reason of course! Do something that you have always wanted to do, but maybe did not have the courage to accomplish. Make 2012 a year you will never forget!

The fifth most common news year's resolution is to learn something exciting! This goes hand in hand with living life to the fullest. Why not learn the piano, or finally learn how to cook that recipe that you have been dying to try? Expand your horizon with a new thing!

No matter what your new year's resolution may be, have a wonderful year. Hopefully that resolution will be completed and this year will be one to remember!

What is your New Year's resolution?



"To lose a little weight."
Dan Coant



"To work harder in practice."
Conner Aldasch



"To lose 20 pounds."
Colin Blake



"To be jacked at 108 pounds."
Thomas Hill

Meteorology and you

By *Carson Metcalf*



Today:



Scattered snow showers.

16°

Average: 32°
Record: 62° (1950)

Tonight:



Cloudy and cold.

5°

Average: 17°
Record: -7° (1981)

Tomorrow:



Few snow showers.

27°

Average: 32°
Record: 67° (1950)

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.