

# School, city mourn loss of beloved former teacher

They say that bad news spreads quickly, and that was certainly the case on Sunday when word came forth that longtime G. Ray Bodley High School Health teacher Mr. Dodge had passed away suddenly at age 58. The school and city at large are mourning the loss of this wonderful man who not only taught health and physical education at the high school for 32 years, but also was a remarkable coach and driver education teacher. For his contributions to the school and community, he will be remembered forever.

The news of Mr. Dodge's passing reached many GRB students through Facebook, and the number of posts relating to his death and the thank you's were monumental. People thanked him for all he had done, remembered the good times, and let his family know they were in their prayers at this difficult time.

On a personal note, this reporter had drivers education class with Mr. Dodge this past summer, and seeing his smiling face every morning at 6 am was a wonderful way to



The unexpected passing of former GRB Health teacher Mr. Brian Dodge has brought an outpouring of sympathy from GRB and beyond.

spend my summer. I know that every person who had him for driver education has been taught much more than just basic driving skills, as talking to him every other day was a great learning experience. We talked about everything from music, colleges and careers to life philosophies and even cows.

An avid runner and cyclist, Dodge was nationally known for his abilities and was the former cross country coach at GRB. Just 18 months into his retirement, the sudden passing of such a young man has touched many at Bodley and the world beyond.

The services for Mr. Dodge are scheduled for Thursday and Friday. The calling hours are Thursday 4-7 pm at Fosters Funeral Home and the funeral is scheduled for Friday again at Fosters at 11:30 am..

In the words of Mr. Dodge, "Don't forget the defogger," so that you may always be able to see the road in front of you.

By Vanessa Langdon



# RaiderNet Daily



G. Ray Bodley High School, Fulton, NY

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## Superintendent cites "good fiscal health"

By Carson Metcalf

The 2012-13 budget situation here in the Fulton City School District does not appear, at least at this point, to be as bad as expected after last year's bleak and painful cuts to the educational program.

During a discussion with Superintendent of Schools Mr. Lynch earlier this month regarding the recent administrative changes, he also briefly discussed the upcoming budget season. It began by talking about the past few years of fiscal history in terms of schools here in New York State.

Mr. Lynch began by noting, "We are a high-need, low-wealth school district. [If the need arose] our local tax payers [wouldn't be able to] make up the difference."

He also noted that along with state funding being frozen three years ago and cut for the past two years by \$1.7 million and \$3.6 million respectively, the District has had to make changes to coincide. Mr. Lynch said,

"We've constrained spending over the last three years. If you look at what projected spending would have been, we cut projected spending by \$6.5 million dollars, and we've cut fifty employees in three years."

He went on to praise the staff, considering recent hard economic times, commenting, "Our employees have tried to step up and [have] forgone raises, taken less of a raise than they may historically have done, all in the matter of fairness." He added, "We are being very transparent with the issues. I think our staff has said they can be part of the solution; they certainly shouldn't be expected to be the whole solution."

Due to being at the earliest stages of the budget process, Mr. Lynch was not able to comment on any specific cuts possibly coming to the high school just yet. However, as the process continues, Mr. Lynch urges students inside the District to express their feelings on the current educational program in place. He commented, "As students in our

District or students here at the High School, what are things you're most proud of or feel most fortunate to have been involved in? That would be helpful to me to hear that."

The *New York Times* reports that at the state level, New York Governor, Andrew Cuomo, recently proposed an increase in state education aid of \$805 million, with about \$600 million of that going to poorer school districts. There is currently a debate between the governor's office and the Board of Regents as to how much funding to set aside for performance grants. It is unclear at this time what exactly this all means for the Fulton City School District.

Whatever the final proposal in this District may be, Mr. Lynch remains firm in his commitment to the best outcomes for Fulton students. He said, "We still have an obligation to make sure we provide a quality education to our students." *RaiderNet Daily* will have future coverage of the budget process, so be sure to keep checking back for more.

## Opinion

# ***It's time to stop judging other people!***

By Laura Perwitz

Around the school, people tend to be a little judgmental of others around them. It could be about their clothes, hair or just their style. Some people want to be a little different than others, and not wear or act the way some people do.

After seeing people being judged several times, it has some to my attention that it needs to stop.

Some students in the school act differently than other students. A lot of them like the funnier things or the weirder things in life. When you look around the school, you look at people wearing Hollister, American Eagle, Hot Topic and even Wal-Mart. A lot of kids enjoy wearing brand named clothes and the rest of us don't care what we wear. I am one of those people who like to wear Wal-Mart because

**"Students shouldn't have to be afraid to be who they are in school in fear of getting judged by my other classmates. They should be able to be themselves and not have to get picked on for it."**



it's cheaper and neater. It's true that brand name clothes look nicer, but look at how much they cost. A lot of people have those hats with characters or animals on them. It's true that they look weird, but they keep you warm so it shouldn't matter. You don't like it when people judge your attire, so don't judge theirs.

The biggest thing that people judge is the way you act. When you act like a buffoon during a class, you're probably going to get picked on a little. It's okay when it's one of the more popular people acting like that because no one really cares. But when it comes to someone who isn't so popular acting funny, they get ridiculed and it's wrong. People don't deserve to be judged the way they are. We all act differently, which is the one thing that makes us different from

other people. Students shouldn't have to be afraid to be who they are in school in fear of getting judged by other classmates. They should be able to be themselves and not have to get picked on for it.

Everyone should try to act like they would outside of school. Don't be embarrassed to be yourself, just because you're afraid of other kids. They get to act like themselves, so why can't you?

## Bizarre News of the Day:

### **Secrets of keeping a sharp mind**

Forget knitting, a centenarian from East Renfrewshire says the only way to keep her mind active is playing computer games on her beloved Nintendo DS.

Kathleen Connell, known as Kit, turned 100 last week but attributes her sharp mind to regular sessions on her hand-held games console. "It's absolutely super, I can't speak highly enough of it. I don't know what I would do without it," the grandmother of one said.

"I'll play it in the evening, then I'll have a break and a cup of tea, then I'll go back to playing my Nintendo," she added. The Nintendo DS fan owns around a dozen games including Scrabble, Art Academy and Family Fortunes.

She proudly admitted that Brain Trainer had scored her a mental age of 64-years-old - 36 years younger than her real age. Mrs. Connell said she always spent her evenings playing on the games console until she went to bed, by which time she said her brain was "a bit addled."

She also recommended children to have a go at the spelling and math games. "If children had this at school, it would be wonderful," she said. **By Morgan Firenze**

### Quote of the day:

**"Friends are the most important ingredient in this recipe of life."**

**Due to the half-day staff development day on Thursday, we will not be publishing on Thursday.  
See you again on Friday!**



## Reflections

**-THE- Salon & More**

**Welcomes GRB grad Natasha Humbert!**

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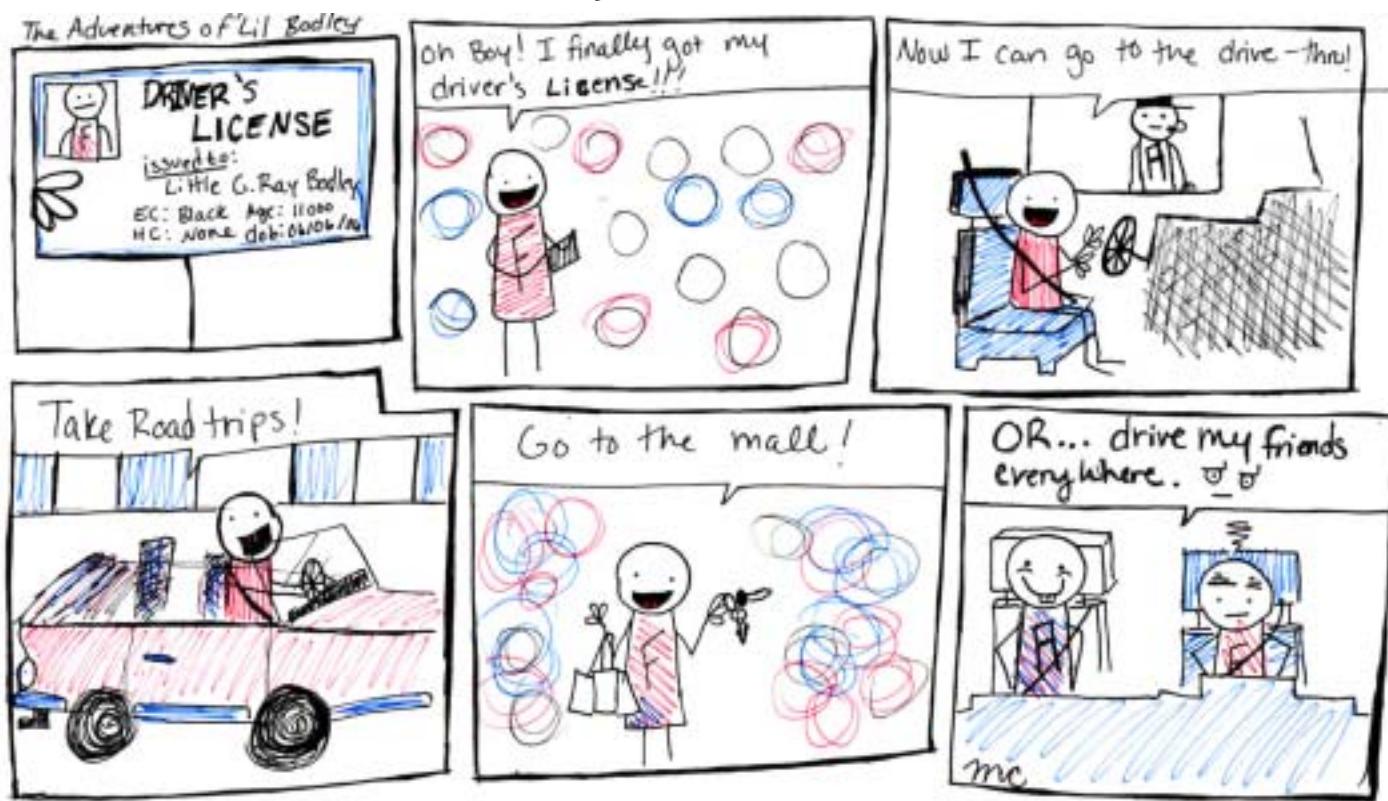
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## In the News

**The Adventures of 'lil Bodley**

By Madeline Clark (this comic is drawn on reused paper!)

**Tasty treats for a cold winter's day**

The weather outside may be frightful and cold, But that doesn't mean that you have to be! Here are some warm, tasty treats the whole family can enjoy during the winter season, they are sure to keep you warm inside and out!

## Hot Chocolate Ingredients-

1 (14 ounce) can EAGLE BRANDÆ Sweetened Condensed Milk, 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa, 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract, 1/8 teaspoon salt, 6 1/2 cups hot water, and of course Mini marshmallows!

## Directions-

In large saucepan over medium heat, combine sweetened condensed milk, cocoa, vanilla and salt; mix well. Slowly stir in water. Make sure to stir it occasionally while letting it heat through. Do not boil. Top with marshmallows. Store covered in the refrigerator.

## Microwave-

In 2-quart glass measure, combine all ingredients except marshmallows. Microwave on 100% power (HIGH) 8 to 10 minutes, stir-

ring every 3 minutes. Top with marshmallows if desired. Store covered in the refrigerator.

## Cookie Ingredients

2 3/4 cups all-purpose flour, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1 1/4 cups margarine, 2 cups white sugar, 2 eggs, 2 teaspoons vanilla extract, and 1/4 cup white sugar for decoration. (I like to use frosting but whatever works better for you) You can also add other toppings to your cookies.

## Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a medium bowl, stir together the flour, baking soda, and salt; set it aside. In a large bowl, cream together the margarine and 2 cups sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time, then the vanilla. Gradually stir in the dry ingredients until just blended. Roll the dough into walnut sized balls and roll the balls in the remaining 1/4 cup of sugar. Place cookies 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie sheets and flatten slightly. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven, until lightly browned at the edges. Let them cool!

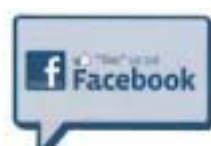


By Natasha Luis

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## Raider Sports

## Senior night rout for Raider girls

They couldn't have scripted it any better than Tuesday night's big showing by the Fulton girls basketball team as the Raiders erupted for a season high 82 points in burying Fowler 82-41 on senior night. With all five seniors starting the game, the Raiders controlled from start to finish to improve to 5-12 on the season overall and 3-7 in league play in their biggest offensive output in 11 seasons and 219 games, stretching back to an 88-29 win over Cortland in February of 2001.

Prior to the contest the team honored its five senior performers, Ashlynn Palmitesso, Anna McKay, Darlene Pappalardo, Jessica Briggs and Danielle Stone, and the girls responded by combining for 58 points on the evening. Palmitesso, the school's third leading all-time scorer, led the way with a game high 22 points while McKay and Pappalardo also contributed double-digit nights of 11 and 10 for the winners. Briggs added nine and Stone six in their final appearance on the home floor.

The Raiders were coming off their best played game of the year where they took undefeated and #6 state-ranked Jamesville-Dewitt down to the buzzer, only losing by three. Senior Captain Ashlynn Palmitesso spoke proudly of her team's defensive efforts against the Rams saying, "We stood up to the challenge really well. At points in the game they became very physical and we gave it right back."

The girls were ready to flex their muscles against the Falcons to pick up their fifth win on their campaign and bring a sectional berth within grasp. It was all in the seniors hands with Coach Lyons starting all five of them and letting them control the outcome of a night they would never forget. The defense played well and held Fowler to 41 points with 39 coming from the trio of Brianna Vassar, Samantha Palermo, Latina Smith.

The win marked a sweep over the still winless Falcons as in the first contest, the Raiders ousted Fowler on the Falcons home court, 65-45. Junior center Jessica Hudson saved her best performance of the year for that game with 19 points, a season high. Head Coach Derek Lyons is hoping to see Hudson repeat this performance for the Raiders hopes of a sectional berth to become a reality.



Senior members of the varsity girls basketball team and their families were honored on Tuesday night prior to the final home game for members of the Class of 2012. The girls, with their families are, from left, Ashlynn Palmitesso, Darlene Pappalardo, Anna McKay, Jessica Briggs and Danielle Stone. (Brandon Clark photo)

The Raiders travel to ES-M on Friday hoping to nail down their sixth win of the season and a spot in the upcoming sectional tournament.

*By Ross Maxam*

### Falcons rally for boys win

In boys action on Tuesday the Raiders fell victim to big second and fourth quarter efforts from the Falcons as they came up on the short side of a 68-58 final. Nate Hudson drilled in 24 points to pace the Raiders while Mark Pollock and Steven Henri had nine apiece. Fowler gunned in 20 points in the second quarter to erase a 19-13 deficit and then pulled away from a 44-43 struggle heading into the fourth by firing home 24 points as Mike Givens had 21 and Floyd Hartford 19 for the Falcons.

## This week in Raider Sports

**Today:** Bowling vs. Homer @ Mattydale (3:30); Boys Indoor Track @ OHSL Championship (4:30 @ OCC).

**Thurs. Feb. 2:** Hockey @ Cazenovia (7 pm); Boys Bball vs. ES-M (JV-5:30/V-7 pm).

**Fri. Feb. 3:** Girls Bball @ ES-M (JV-5/V-6:30).

**Sat. Feb. 4:** Boys Bball @ Oswego (JV-11 am/V-1 pm); WrestKing @ Class A championship @ Indian River (10 am).



## Going someplace cool? Take

# RaiderNet

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with you and get your picture taken for this year's Fultonian Yearbook feature

## "Where in the world is The Raider?"

**School of Thought** compiled by Tony Torrese and Adam Wallace

## *Who will win Superbowl XLVI?*



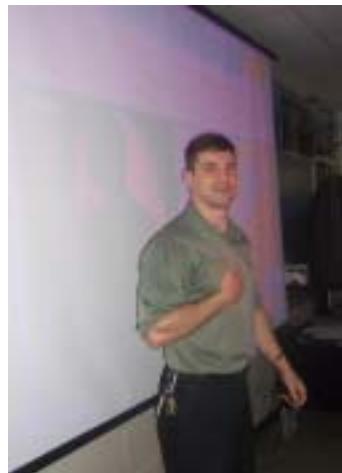
"Rooting for the Pats is like rooting for the Red Sox; Giants all the way."

Mrs. Kent



"I'm smiling big inside about the Giants."

Mr. Heindorf



"What do you think? The Giants all the way."

Mr. J Fasulo



"Giants all the way."

Brendan Smith

## **Meteorology and you**

*By Carson Metcalf*



**Today:**



Cloudy with  
rain showers.

**47°**

Average: 32°  
Record: 59° (1989)

**Tonight:**



Partly cloudy.

**29°**

Average: 16°  
Record: -11° (1962)

**Tomorrow:**



Mostly cloudy,  
chance shower.

**38°**

Average: 32°  
Record: 53° (1973)

*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.*