

# Raider sports teams spring into action today

It's that time of year again. All your beloved spring Raider teams will be back in action starting today, March 12. Teams include boys/girls lacrosse, boys/girls track, boys' tennis, baseball, and softball.

While some teams have had some open gym time and such, run by the senior leaders on each individual team, the real deal starts today and the kids are chomping at the bit to get going. "I know a lot of the guys on the team are ready to get going since we haven't been able to do much of anything in the winter," stated Alex Bawarski, a three-year varsity tennis player.

Others show a little more excitement if

that's possible, with senior baseball player Tyler Terramiggi yelling out in his first bell class, "I can't wait to get out on the diamond baby!" referring to getting back out onto the Raider baseball field.

While the boy's baseball and lacrosse teams are coming off season that did not match their expectations, the anticipation is still in the air for the coming campaign. The girl's lacrosse team is a whole different story, as they loom to be a serious challenger for post-season glory. This Lady Raiders team is looking like a sectional favorite and is hoping to bring a title home to G. Ray Bodley. As always the track meets will be exciting

with all the runners enjoying great indoor seasons. The softball and tennis teams are returning many seniors who hope to lead their teams to respectful seasons.

Spring is one of the best times of the year around the high school, with all the teams practicing outside and usually a sporting event every day of the week. As a result, it is never a dull time. Throw in prom, senior day, senior dinner dance, battle of the athletes, the kick ball tournament, and the warm weather, and it's fun and games all-around. Of course, there is some studying in there in order to pass all those Regents and final exams.  
*By Ross Maxam*



## RaiderNet Daily



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## Quirk's Players seniors go out in style



Quirk's Players honored the many senior performers and crew members at Saturday night's finale of *Damn Yankees*. From left to right they are, front row-Morgan Firenze, Madeline Clark, Amanda Tetro, Alaina Campolietta, Christine Proud, Morgan Galletta, Kyle Ketcham. Middle-Gage Meyer, Ryann Crofoot, Cassandra McCann, Kara Yakel, Alissa Scruton, Dallaslyn Lamb, C.J. Barbera. Back-Morgan Knight, Dance choreographer Mrs. Forbes, Alex Bawarski, Joe Medico, Cody Hockey, Nate Hawthorne, Neil Devendorf, Nate Deavers, Director Mr. Briggs, Assistant Director Mr. Lesarbeau, Musical Director Mr. Nami. Senior musicians Nick Abelgore, George Snyder, Sara Jay and Lyndsey Ladd were also honored. Cassandra McCann and Nate Deavers were awarded the Jacalyn Stewart Memorial Award for Achievement in Musical Theatre. (Senecal photo)

## Opinion

# A heartfelt thanks to the senior Quirk's Players

By Laura Perwitz

The show we practiced long and hard for has come and gone. And although the cast and crew were excited to get the show on the road, there are also those who aren't ready to say goodbye to things like all the memories that have been created, all the jokes told.



Throughout this show, a lot of the Quirk's Players have become great friends and have held that friendship for a long time. After being with some of the same people for four shows, I am one who is not ready to say goodbye.

The seniors in the group this year have been such a big part of everyone's life. They talk to you and want to be friends with you. You never see any of them acting snide or rude to one another. Like

**"From the bottom of our hearts; thank you seniors, for making this such a great experience for everyone in the show. In future shows, we will pick up where you left off and not let you down."**

seniors in the past, these seniors have had a huge impact on the lives of the younger people in the show. As underclassmen, we look up to them and want to resemble them in any way possible. Even though it is never said, we younger people in the show love the seniors. The weird moments and funny jokes never get old.

As is always the case, when Saturday night hit, there were no dry eyes on stage. We have all come closer as a family through events when we had to fundraise, rehearsals and even outside of school and through other shows. From the bottom of our hearts; thank you seniors, for making this such a great experience for everyone in the show. In future shows, we will pick up where you left off and not let

you down. Contrary to what is believed, you will always be part of the Quirk's Players family.

The 24 seniors graduating have somehow given us the courage and love that we have needed. They have rooted us on when we were nervous, and they were always so positive. The last few rehearsals were tough for us, but as a family we pulled through. Senior night was a really hard night for us all and it really doesn't hit the seniors until they find that they won't have any more auditions and no more late night rehearsals trying to finish homework during little breaks.

It will hit the younger members when we don't see the same faces next year during the meetings for the show. It will hit home when we don't hear the same voices cracking jokes or saying weird things to other people. A huge thank you goes out to all the seniors, even newer members, who made this show something special and who made the people involved who they are. We will miss you guys terribly. You will never leave Quirk's Players. You will be in our hearts for as long as we keep singing and acting, not only for the public, but for you..our family.

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**Quote of the day:**  
"Begin to be now what you will  
be hereafter."  
*William James*



## Reflections

-THE- Salon & More

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## Opinion

## The Great Outdoors

# You know that spring is in the air when...

By Daniel Summerville

For the past few weeks, the weather has been alternating between winter-like and spring-like weather so often that many people are beginning to wonder whether spring has come early or if we still have some winter left to go.

There is no real way of knowing for sure whether winter is over or not, but by paying attention to nature there are ways to make a decent guess. There are many things in nature that are seen as signs of springtime; people just have to take the time to notice them.

It is well known that robins are a good indicator of springtime. These common songbirds migrate south during the winter months, and return in the spring. Robins are not quite as hardy as geese are, and thus they are a much better indicator of spring. If there are robins there is a good chance that there is not going to be too much



more cold weather to come. The robins have arrived back in the Fulton area, ready to start searching for worms and insects to eat. Whether the robins somehow know that spring is here to stay is debatable, but they would not return unless winter was almost over.

In autumn, the giant rippling flocks of red-winged blackbirds can be seen traveling southward toward their winter home. It is a breathtaking sight to watch the river of birds flowing through the air in numbers upwards of one million. Like the robins, blackbirds are usually a credible sign of approaching spring. Their familiar songs are can be heard throughout the countryside nearly every morning from the time they arrive until they migrate back south in the fall.

While the songbirds arrival may not be a surefire way to predict the coming of spring, it is usually quite accurate. The birds will not knowingly return to an area that is still going to be bitter and cold. There is definitely no guarantee that we will not see another few short bursts of winter, but it may at least be safe to say that the harshest part of winter is behind us.

## Kony 2012: the word is out on Ugandan injustice

By Taylor Milliken

If you're active on social media, there is little doubt that you are going to notice a quickly spreading awareness campaign this week called 'Kony 2012.' For those of you who don't know anything about this, you will at the end of this article; and hopefully you'll feel something in your heart kick in by the end of it.



Joseph Kony is a name you're bound to hear many times within the year of 2012. He is the leader of the LRA (the ironically named Lord's Resistance Army), made up of over 25-30,000 children. Kony held large portions of Uganda hostage for over 20 years. During this time he has caused two million people to flee their villages, and enslaved more than 35,000 children. He reportedly kidnaps whole boarding schools full of innocent children overnight. Once kidnapped, children are used as pack mules, carrying supplies for the LRA until they are too weak to walk, at which time they are either killed or simply left to die.

Kidnapped boys also serve as targets and decoys, sent to the front lines, unarmed. Kidnapped girls whom Kony or his senior commanders find attractive become their "wives" (Kony is reputed to have about 60). Troublesome captives have their noses, lips, and/or ears cut off, and are then made to eat their own flesh. The kidnapped children are often made to kill their own parents and even their neighbors; to ensure that they have no home to return to if they ever try to flee Kony's army.

These happenings have been going on for over 20 years, but finally Americans are making the right choice, and taking action against it. The viral video across YouTube in the past few days, "Kony 2012" is speaking out to teenagers, elderly, middle-aged, and everyone in-between across America. The video explains the details of the mishaps in Uganda, and what we, as American citi-

zens, can do to help contribute to Kony being stopped.

The Invisible Children organization was created in 2003 to help stop Kony, when three young film-makers traveled to Africa in search of an amazing story. But that all came to an end when they stumbled upon Africa's longest-running war; a conflict where children were both the weapons and the victims. Found on the Invisible Children's website was this quote, "We are a generation eager for change and willing to pursue it. With a U.S. headquarters in San Diego, CA, our programs rely on talented staff, hundreds of committed volunteers, and thousands of young activists who want to use their voices for peace. We also have offices in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. These offices in Gulu and Dungu are primarily managed and operated by staff from LRA-affected communities. Our work in the United States focuses on advocacy and inspiring America's youth to do more than just watch. We believe that by uniting our voices we can use the systems, influence, and resources of the United States to expedite an end to the conflict."

The Invisible Children uses film, creativity, and social action to end the use of child soldiers in Kony's rebel war, and restore the LRA-affected communities in Central Africa to peace and prosperity. So when it comes to the heart of every American citizen, what will you choose to do? Help, or stand by and watch as thousands upon thousands of innocent Ugandan children are taken hostage and forced to kill hundreds of others, and even their own parents.

Log on to [www.invisiblechildren.com](http://www.invisiblechildren.com) to learn about how you can help stop Joseph Kony, and what you can do to contribute to Uganda; and go to YouTube and type in "Kony 2012" and watch the 30 minute long, inspiring video that will change your life. On April 20, join fellow Fultonians at midnight for "Cover the Night." Everyone across the country, in every city and state will be covering their town in posters, stickers, flyers, etc. to help raise awareness about Joseph Kony. Don't be the last person to know about him, spread the word; because you can make a difference!

## What's the best part of being a Quirk's Player?



"We're a family."

Amanda Trombly



"I like it because I've made a lot of friends."

Kayla Hatch



"Because I get to do what I like to do most."

Laura Perwitz



"Knowing that everyone is there to support you."

Michael Mankiewicz

# Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



Today:



Mostly sunny.

**58°**

Average: 41°  
Record: 67° (1977)

Tonight:



Clear skies.

**45°**

Average: 24°  
Record: -8° (1984)

Tomorrow:



Increasing clouds  
with rain.

**60°**

Average: 42°  
Record: 71° (1990)

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.