

# Few consider consequences, danger of "skip day"

By Jeanette Bartlett

For as long as anyone can remember, the seniors at G. Ray Bodley High School have been participating in a so called senior skip day. A few years ago the school attempted to combat this by allowing for a senior trip, and with the creation of senior day. On the last day of classes the seniors are rewarded with a morning full of fun. There have been Hawaiian luaus, carnivals and other creative parties to make the final day of classes one to remember for the graduating class, known as Senior Day.

But even with the addition of Senior Day, students continue to plan and participate in the senior skip day. Many students feel that senior skip day is not a big deal, but first-year Bodley Principal Mrs. Parkhurst is not one of them. "I do not agree with senior skip day. I worry about the student's safety and feel that they are better off attending school,"

she commented, raising a good point. The school is responsible for the safety of the students. When the students skip and are illegally absent, the school is still responsible for those students.

Predictably, seniors see it in a different light. Many of the seniors believe that senior skip day is just a day for fun, and that it is part of their right of passage. They do not think about the possibility of anything bad happening. If they did, the consequences put on themselves, as well as the school, would outweigh skipping school for a day.

On top of that, the students have been incapable of planning their skip day without being loudmouths. By the time the students plan on skipping, half of the staff at GRB already have heard when the students plan to skip, what their plans are, and who is going to be attending.

Additionally, word travels fast, so it does not take long before the administration hears

and starts to plan the punishment for the student's naive actions.

Not all the seniors choose to participate. Since the teachers hear about the plan ahead of time, they often change their schedules to reward the students who choose to go to school. Last year students who showed up were rewarded with parties in some of their classes, movies, games and for some even extra credit. Even though the students are aware that attending school on senior skip day has many benefits which outweigh the consequences of skipping school, many still choose to do so.

In the past years the consequences dealt to the participants of senior skip day have included various senior privileges be taken away. Often the school talks of punishments, but not much really happens. The consequences are unknown, so anyone planning to skip has to be willing to bear the effects of their actions.



# RaiderNet Daily



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## Girls roar past Whitesboro, set for J-D showdown

By Ross Maxam

The stage has been set for a Saturday showdown as the Fulton girls lacrosse team continued its tear on Thursday with a convincing 19-5 win over Whitesboro..

Running their record to 5-2 overall and 4-1 in league play, the Raiders were led by a 7 point outing from junior Erica Knaub who scored on 6 occasions and assisted on another. Joining the Raider outburst was Kate Rothrock and Amelia Coakley who added a combined 10 points on 8 goals and 2 assists with four goals apiece. Julia Ludington created her own scoring chances with 2 goals and assisted her teammates on 2 others. Senior Jordan Rizzo added 2 more goals for the Raider cause and junior Alanah McClellan put in a goal of her own.

The Warriors featured a bright spot in Michelle Jones scoring 2 goals to lead the way for Whitesboro on a night when Fulton unleashed 29 shots on net. The Warriors con-

tinued their woes, dropping to 1-5.

The ladies dominated the entire game, going up 11-4 after the first half and never looking back.

Instead, the Raiders have been looking forward. The showdown with Jamesville-Dewitt on Saturday is looming, and this game will be a good mid-season test for the team to find out where they stand in Section 3.

J-D sits at 5-0 in the league with the Raiders closely behind at 4-1. The Red Rams are coming off a big 12-11 win over the ES-M Spartans on Thursday, a team that the Raiders lost to by one goal earlier in the year. The Rams used a 7-4 second half in that game to wipe out the two goal deficit at half-time. Rachel Toole and Haley DeVona led the way with three goal, one assist efforts as J-D improved to 5-2 overall. The Raiders will surely have to be wary of another second half explosion when they meet the Rams on Saturday.

The Red Rams are led by a pair of Taylor's in Fallon and Beirwagen. Fallon has 39 points in 7 games while Beirwagen has 28. The keeper, Maire Prosak, is a solid netminder who could give the Raiders trouble if they do not place their shots well.

Fulton has their own firepower as well in a pair of junior attackmen in Kate Rothrock and Erica Knaub and a phenom of a midfielder in sophomore Amelia Coakley. Knaub and Rothrock have 32 and 25 points respectively with Coakley adding 21 of her own.

Goalternder Torrie Whelsky will have to be big between the pipes to shut down the Red Ram offensives that will be surely thrown her way.

The game is set for a high noon on Saturday in Fulton following a 10 am JV clash and could easily be a playoff preview between two powerhouses playing very well right now.

## Opinion

# There is no such thing as a harmless drug

By Vanessa Langdon

Today is April 20th, or 4/20 on the calendar. And to many people that means marijuana. The origins of this symbolic “holiday” of sorts for pot heads is muddled, but there are two common theories regarding its origin.

It is either as a warning used by marijuana users to warn each other of police coming, or the contrasting story of the code used by police for smoking in progress.

Either way smoking marijuana is not something to be taken lightly. Contrary to common belief it is not a “soft drug,” as there is no such thing. No drugs are “safe” and “harmless.” Marijuana is a gateway drug to other more serious drugs, meaning that it can lead users to dabble in other drugs like cocaine, heroin, and acid. It is proven that the earlier a person starts using marijuana, the more likely they are to become dependent on other drugs later in life.

All students should know the effects of marijuana as they have taken health class first in seventh grade and then once more during



can last for days, weeks, or months after the “high” wears off. Is an hour of a euphoric feeling worth possibly losing out on a month of your life?

The lungs are another aspect of marijuana that seems obvious, but many users of marijuana either do not realize or chose to ignore. Since it is being smoked, that means there is smoke in their users lung! Marijuana smoke contains 50-70% more carcinogenic chemicals than average tobacco cigarette smoke! So marijuana smokers can have the same effects from their smoking that pack a day tobacco cigarette smokers have, like a daily cough and lovely phlegm.

The heart is yet another organ that is adversely affected by marijuana use. Marijuana causes the heart rate to increase by 20-100 percent directly after use and can last for up to three hours! Marijuana has also been shown to cause heart palpitations and arrhythmias which both contribute to an increased chance of heart attack in marijuana users.

Marijuana is not conducive to producing a productive student who will contribute to society. Sure there are exceptions to the rule, those kids who are “stoners” and still somehow maintain good grades and seem to have it all together, but they are not the majority of marijuana users! Extended and frequent use of marijuana limits your brains effectiveness and has even been shown to increase rates of anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia! So take care of your body today, 4/20, and every day, and refrain from using drugs, even the “natural” ones.

**“Contrary to common belief it is not a ‘soft drug,’ as there is no such thing. No drugs are ‘safe’ and ‘harmless.’”**

high school, but just to reiterate; Marijuana contains THC which gives it the high inducing effect. But this effect leads to brain, lung, and heart issues that many times are irreversible.

The effects on the brain due to marijuana use is connected to the cannabinoid receptors in the brain that are the gateway of the THC in the marijuana (cannabis) and every person has a different number of receptors in their brains, so the intensity of the effects varies in that way. Marijuana use causes hallucinations, delusions, memory loss, and disorientation.

For repetitive users the adverse effect on learning and memory

**It's not too late to sign up for the Senior Trip**

**Were you interested in the senior trip but missed the date for the deposit?**

Anyone who is interested in attending, visit Mrs. Windsor in room 235 to sign up or for more information. The trip will be to Lake George. The cost for the trip is about \$175 and a deposit of \$50 is due as soon as possible. Don't miss this opportunity, act now.



## Reflections

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## Features

## The Adventures of 'lil Bodley

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



## The Great Outdoors

*Food plots can benefit both hunters, game*

By Daniel Summerville

Fishing is a favorite pastime of outdoorsmen throughout the country. In New York, most fishing seasons are not open until May.

On the first Saturday in May quite a few fishing seasons open, including walleye, pike, and Muskie. Once these fishing seasons open up, anglers will not be trying to catch much else.

However, on May 15 there is another fishing season that opens, one that is nothing like any other New York season; bow fishing season.

Bow fishing does not involve a fishing pole, but rather a specially rigged bow. Anglers fit their bows with a spool of string and a special carp arrow and then head out to the lake. Carp can be shot from land or from a boat, giving bow fishermen a wide range of methods to use.



While it may seem easy, shooting a slow moving fish can be very difficult. Depending on how deep the fish is, anglers need to aim at different spots. Water refracts the waves of light, meaning that the fish is not in the exact position that it appears to be. For the most part, anglers compensate for this phenomena by aiming low on the fish, sometimes even below it.

Anyone who is new to bow fishing should not underestimate the carp. These fish can grow to massive sizes, and anglers who snag a giant will be in for a fight. Experienced fishermen can kill a carp instantly with a bow, cutting out the fight, but that takes a good shot that not everyone is capable of accomplishing.

Bow fishing season opens on the fifteenth. Anyone who has a small game or fishing license can legally bow-fish, taking carp of any size and number. All waters are open to carp shooting, unless posted otherwise or where discharge of a bow is prohibited. Bow fishing season ends in September, so anglers have all summer to try it out.

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## Weekend releases offer plenty of diversity

### At the Movies

By Alex Bawarski

They say that variety is the spice of life. At least that's what they are saying in Hollywood this weekend when a trio of new movies hit the cinemas.

**Chimpanzee:** The film entitled *Chimpanzee* is to hit the theatres today. Other movies that have been in theatres that were produced by DisneyNature were *Ocean*, *Earth* and *African Cats*.

DisneyNature is working with the

Jane Goodall Institute to produce this movie. A portion of the sales during the first week will go to the Jane Goodall Institute to help support chimpanzees and other wildlife.

This heart-warming story follows a baby chimp named Oscar and how he bonds with some other chimpanzees. The only character to be mentioned for starring in this film is the baby chimp himself, of course! If you have ever watched any of the other DisneyNature films and are a fan, or you are just interested in monkeys, this film may entertain you.

**The Lucky One:** The highly anticipated film *The Lucky One* is joining *Chimpanzee* in theatres today. This movie is based on the romance novel with the same name by Nicholas Sparks, who is accredited for other successful films like *Dear John* and *The Vow*. The *Lucky One* is a love story about a soldier in Iraq who discovers a picture of a woman and knows that he has to meet her. After attaining a job at her family's kennel, the soldier, Logan, and the woman in the picture, Beth, may start to develop a special romance. The film stars Zac Efron as Logan and Taylor Schilling as Beth. If you and your special someone are going out to the theatres this weekend and need something to go watch, you might want to consider this.

**Think Like A Man:** Also coming to theatres today is *Think Like A Man*. *Think Like A Man* is a comedy movie based on the book by Steve Harvey. This film follows four men and how their lives are made complicated after they buy Harvey's book. These men find out that they must obtain the book and use its knowledge to get back at their women. Starring as the four men are Michael Ealy, Jerry Ferrara, Terrence J and Romany Malco. This film looks to be a riot and could entertain anyone interested in it. Go out to the theatres this weekend and give this one a chance.

## New York State Fair announces first shows

As everyone knows the Great New York State Fair is a place to hang out with friends and family, see the exhibits or check an animal show. It is also another famous place for all the entertainers who come to the Grandstand and Chevy Court. Last year Trace Adkins graced the Grandstand with an amazing show, even for non-country fans. The shows at the Grandstand are so thrilling and loud that you can hear them all the way at the front of Chevy Court.

Grandstand shows generally start around 7:30 pm and can end at any time during the night. So far this year the only show that is scheduled to play the Grandstand is Jason Aldean with opening act Luke Bryan. It will be expected that Luke play his most famous singles for the opening act such as "All My Friends Say," "We Rode in Trucks," "Do I," and "Rain Is a Good Thing."

Following his performance, Jason Aldean will be appearing on stage to keep the night rolling with some good wholesome country music. Jason is also expected to be a crowd pleaser, performing some of his latest hits including "Dirt Road Anthem," "Crazy Town," "Hicktown," and "My Kinda Party." They will be performing on Friday, August 31 at 7:30 pm. Tickets, which are priced at \$45, \$55

and \$65 will go on sale on May 19.

On the same night at 8pm in Chevy Court the Commodores will be making an appearance. Many people know the band from one of their hit singles such as "Brick House," "Easy," and "Three Times a Lady."

Other Chevy Court acts that have been announced are, Neon Trees, 8 pm on Aug. 23, Matt Nathanson, 8 pm on Aug. 24, The Buddy Rich Big Band at 2 pm on Aug. 27, Victoria Justice at 8 pm on Aug. 29 and Mike Posner at 2 pm on Aug. 30. There are still 18 more acts to be announced for what promises to be another excellent edition of the Great New York State Fair, which opens in 125 days

By *Michaela Best*

### Quote of the day:

"If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes."

*St. Clement of Alexandra*



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## Tennis racks up third win to match 2011 total

The Fulton boys' tennis team is on its way now. With a win 4-3 against Syracuse-East on Thursday night, the tennis team has already tied its win total from last season at three wins. With some of the positions going undefeated, they are going into today's match against Syracuse-West with some momentum.

Taking home a win for Fulton at first singles was Mitch Lalik, playing against Justin D'Antonio, 6-0, 6-1. Senior captain Eric Naioti won at second singles, outscoring Syracuse's Jhuelandra Bhattarai, 6-2, 6-2. Nathan Deavers, another of Fulton's senior captains, brought his team a clutch win in a three set showdown, going 6-2, 3-6, 6-3, against Jesse Negrotto, at third singles.

In his first match at fourth singles, Fulton's

Brian Garrett lost to Dinesh Ghimirey, 3-6, 0-6, but played a very hard match with some dominant points.

Winning their third match of the season at first doubles was senior captain Alex Bawarski, who paired with Joseph Medico, pushing through a tough match against Ran Rai and Shagar Subba, 6-3, 6-3.

Moving up from third doubles to second doubles was Nathan Hawthorne and Brad Crofoot, holding their own in a 4-6, 4-6, loss to Syracuse's Adrian Joseph and Nicolas Saralequi. Logan Carvey made his starting debut for Fulton on Thursday, playing at third doubles with Neil Devendorf, but taking a tough 1-6, 3-6, loss from Max Kricks and Raiss Muya.

This tennis team has the skill and deter-

mination to have a very productive season this year, and they are proving it. During the match on Thursday night one set of bleachers next to the courts was packed with fans, including many fans who were sitting on the ground. The roar of the crowd helped the Raiders pick up their heads after some tough points. This team may not get a lot of viewers, but they really enjoy the ones they get and strongly encourage others to come and watch.

Fulton's next home match is Friday, May 4 at 4:30 against Jamesville-DeWitt. Before that match, however, Fulton has an important five-game stretch of away matches, starting tonight against Syracuse-West, where Fulton hopes to break the season open with another win.

*By Alex J. Bawarski*

## Break up the Nats! Washington off to hot start

The Washington Nationals are on a hot streak and one of the hottest teams in the major leagues. They have been winning the most games, as shown by them reaching ten wins before anyone else in baseball.

They have had great pitching and hitting, especially in late games or in the clutch. The Nats, Nationals, are one of the best teams and many people never would have expected them to be playing this well. There are not too many fans of this team from Washington but if they keep playing like this then they are sure to get more people to "jump on their bandwagon."

The pitching for the Nats have been the best in all of the major leagues, leading the league in ERA (Earned Runs Allowed) with 1.92, strikeouts with 121, and BAA (Batting Average Against) with an average of .191 as of Tuesday. Stephen Strasburg, Gio Gonzalez, Edwin Jackson, Jordan Zimmermann, and Ross Detwiler have combined to emerge as a solid starting pitching staff for these pesky Nats from Washington. The bullpen is also very solid, consisting of Tyler Clippard, Ryan Mattheus, Sean Burnett, Henry Rodriguez, Tom Gorzelanny, Craig Stammen, and Brad Lidge. The closing duties have been given to Rodriguez and Lidge, after losing their star closer Drew Storen, who was placed on the 15 day DL on March 28. Storen had 43 saves last year for the Nationals.

Adam Laroche has been a hot bat for the

Nats, leading the team homeruns and RBIs. The Nationals also have Jayson Werth performing well after Washington signed him for a monster deal last year. Another monster came during the offseason as the Nationals traded for starting pitcher Gio Gonzalez. Gonzalez was a star pitcher for the Oakland A's and now is 1-0 with 21 strikeouts and four runs allowed in three starts.

There is some youth on the team in the middle of the infield with Desmond and Espinosa, and the team hopes for these players to progress as the season continues. Ryan Zimmerman, the face of the franchise ever since he came to Washington, is also one of the better third basemen in the league.

Their two big prize possessions are Stephen Strasburg and Bryce Harper. The Nationals drafted these two players in consecutive drafts and they were not the ordinary prospects, having the talent to become truly great. Strasburg had to have Tommy

John surgery and just came back to the team at the end of last season, but is pitching dominantly right now for the team, notching two wins with nineteen strikeouts and giving up just three runs in three starts. Like Strasberg before him, Bryce Harper is now in Triple A, playing for the Syracuse Chiefs, and is expected to make his debut sometime during the season, but this nineteen year old excites the team and it's fans very much.

Washington is a team that is playing really well right now. They had some big acquisitions in the past couple of years and are improving each year. With some young talent coming up through the system or improving with the team, the Nationals will become even scarier. No one can predict how they do for the rest of the season until it actually happens, but the team is sure to put some pressure on their rivals in the NL East division. Philadelphia, NY Mets, Miami, and Atlanta should all look out for these pesky Nats.

*By Nathan Deavers*

### This week in Raider Sports

**Today:** Tennis @ Corcoran (4 pm); Softball vs. Syracuse-West (4:30); Boys Lax vs. Whitesboro (JV-5/V-7:00); Girls Track @ Tully Invitational (4:30).

**Sat. April 21:** V Baseball @ C.Square (11 am); JV Baseball vs. C.Square (11 am); Softball @ F-M (11 am); Girls Lax vs. J-D (JV-10 am/V-noon); Boys Track @ B'ville Relays (10 am).

**Mon. April 23:** Baseball vs. Bishop Ludden (4:30); JV Baseball @ Bishop Ludden (4:30); Softball @ Chittenango (4:30); Tennis @ J-D (4:30).

**Tues. April 24:** Boys Lax @ Cortland (JV-5/V-7 pm); Girls Lax vs. Cortland (JV-5/V-6:30); Baseball @ ES-M (4:45); Softball vs. ES-M (4:45).

## What is your favorite month and why?



"July, I get to spend two weeks on the beach every year."

Danielle Stone



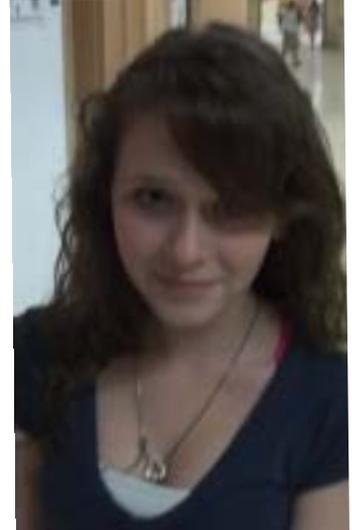
"No Shave November!"

Brian Garrett



"January- post break."

Emily Ervin



"I'm fond of October, it's my birthday."

Katie Salmonsens

# Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



**Today:**



Mostly cloudy.

**72°**

Average: 59°  
Record: 85° (1957)

**Tonight:**



Increasing clouds.

**46°**

Average: 38°  
Record: 26° (1974)

**Tomorrow:**

Cloudy with rain.

**58°/38°**

Average: 60°/39°  
Rec. high/low: 87°  
(1954)/24° (1981)

**Sunday:**

Cloudy with rain.

**50°/40°**

Average: 60°/39°  
Record high/low: 85°  
(1954)/25° (1984)

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.