

# Pressure is mounting for advanced students

By Nate Hawthorne

In just under two weeks a heavy weight will be lifted off the shoulders of many of the upperclassmen. For the past seven months students have been dutifully reading their textbooks, taking practice tests, and preparing for the dreaded AP tests in May. For those who are unaware, the AP stands for Advanced Placement, and is a collection of tests put together by the College Board. These exams test one's aptitude for a certain subject at a college level.

If one succeeds on one of these tests, and achieves a 3 or better out of 5, they can potentially gain college credit that will transfer with them. Although there is a relatively hefty fee involved with each test, the possibly of having a multi thousand dollar college course in college waived seems like an immeasurable benefit. While obtaining a 3 may not sound like much of a challenge, the sheer

amount of material and depth covered by each test is vast.

Mrs. Ryan, the AP calculus teacher said, "AP tests are normalized national exams that students have spent a great deal of time preparing to take. These tests are very important for the student's futures, because they provide college credit. These tests are challenging, lengthy, and mind bending, but most students feel a sense of satisfaction once they are done."

On their preparation for these tests, many students are getting mentally ready to tackle this challenge. Senior Casey Fraser said, "AP economics, I'm not too worried about it. I'll get a 4 or 5. Calculus, I'm stressed about, but if I study, I'll pass." On the same topic, senior Danielle Stone said, "AP calculus I'm a little worried about, but I got a 5 on the midterm so it's not as bad as I thought it'd be when the course started. I'm not worried about AP economics that much. If I do re-

view I'll be fine."

Commonly considered one of the hardest AP tests, the AP biology students are in the last hundred pages in their textbooks. Maddy Clark said, "I feel it has been a long time coming, and I'm really excited for it to end. I've learned a lot though; it's been a long ride." The teacher for AP biology, Mr. Gillard, commented on the upcoming tests, saying, "It's unfortunate we have to give the exams so early. It's a nationwide test and as some states end in May and start early in August, they have to be taken by then. We lose a month of instruction, but our students have done traditionally well."

At the moment these students may not be able to see past their upcoming tests, but soon enough they will be a thing of the past, and the long hours of hard work and dedication will pay off, with the feeling of having completed some of the hardest courses this school has to offer.



# RaiderNet Daily



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## Student loans become a major political issue

By Vanessa Langdon

As the seniors here at G. Ray Bodley High School narrow down their possible school selections and turn in all their scholarship applications, the time to take out loans for the remaining costs are starting to become a reality and interest rates are becoming inhibiting. The student loan issue is also becoming a hot topic in the upcoming presidential election.

The CBS Evening News discussed the story on Tuesday night when they interviewed RaeAnn Roca, who graduated with \$70,000 in student loans five years ago. With interest her debt has grown to 106,318 thousand dollars! This debt has led the 28 year old Roca to put 28% of her income toward her student loans and has prohibited her from marrying her fiance, buying a home with him, and eventually having children. Her story, however, is not a rarity, as this is happening all over the country.

This issue is a hot topic in the election

because President Obama got much of his support from young college age voters, and to keep it that way he is touring colleges to speak directly to the students and trying to win them over by championing their plight to maintain low interest rates for student loans.

The loan issue is on the rise as congress is called on to keep reduced interest rates on subsidized Stafford loans from expiring this summer as scheduled. The rate on the federal loans, which are often taken out by low-income and middle-class students, would double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent on July 1, the expiration date set after a Democratic Congress halved the rate in 2007. President Obama is taking a stand to maintain the lower interest rates, but party lines are not skewed with this push to maintain the low interest rates as Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney also agrees with the initiative to maintain the lower student loan costs.

The real issue with the election and the

student loans is not that one party claims that they will maintain lower interest loans under the Stafford Loans, because both parties, Democrat and Republican, promise to urge congress to extend the lower rate but which one, Romney or Obama, understands the plight of the massively indebted graduates.

President Obama took aim at Romney while visiting the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on Tuesday, claiming that he knows what the students go through in regards to student loans as he himself only paid off his own loans eight years ago! "Check this out, all right. I'm the president of the United States. We [Michelle and I] only just finished paying off our student loans about eight years ago."

In doing this, Obama is showing his home-grown, worked his way through school, not spoon-fed attitude, indirectly attacking millionaire Mitt Romney. "[Michelle and I] didn't come from wealthy families. When we graduated, we had a mountain of debt,

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## Opinion

# Being a good friend can be a difficult job

By Laura Perwitz

A big part of high school is making new friends and reconnecting with the ones you had from elementary school. It isn't always easy making new friends, and it's hard letting the old ones go. People can change and it's a part of life that we have to accept. If someone has changed and you don't like it, then end the friendship. Old friends can turn mean and new friends can turn on you.



The friends that you make in high school will often stick with you through college and even through life. But then you have those friends who say something out of line or do something out of line, and it can ruin the entire friendship. Don't let someone ruin high school for you. Let them go as a friend and just move on.

Clearly if they could not keep the friendship, it wasn't meant to be a true friendship. Old friends swear that they will never turn on you, but what happens when they do? When something goes wrong and you try to be a good friend, sometimes they don't always listen.

**"The friends that you make in high school will often stick with you through college and even through life. But then you have those friends who say something out of line or do something out of line, and it can ruin the entire friendship."**

They take things out of turn and mess the entire friendship up.

If a "friend" is making you miserable, it's best just to drop them. It is also best that you don't have anything to do with them any longer. Friends should be by you no matter what. If they cannot be, well then they are missing out on what your friendship could have been. Trying to be a good friend can be tough, but you should feel a sense of pride after. You may not be friends with them any more,

but you will feel as though you did the right thing. Initially, you may feel as if you did the wrong thing, but in the long run, they will be thanking you for telling them. Friendships are tricky, but it's your job to try and make them work to the best of your ability.

## Quote of the day:

**"All the art of living lies in a fine mingling of letting go and holding on."**

*Havelock Ellis*

## Bizarre news of the day:

### When you wish upon a fish...

Fisherman in Croatia are rushing to catch a large gold-colored fish that reportedly grants a wish each time in exchange for being put back in the water.

Fisherman Vlatko Pecavor, 25, from the central town of Ozalj says the 10 kilo fish had been fun to catch and added, "I had not had a bite all day and I was about to go home when I hooked the fish. It was a fun catch because I had never seen anything like it, it is a beautiful golden color.

"I took a picture and put it back in the water, saying I hoped to catch it again. And I did. My pal told me it had probably granted me a wish, so as a joke I wished for something improbable - and it came true.

"I have now caught the fish seven times and each time I made a wish it came true. I know that if I say what the wish is it will break the chance that it comes true, so I am keeping what I asked for a secret - but it really is a magic fish."

Local fishing expert Mutimir Hrvat said: "It's a type of carp that is not native to these waters, I don't know how it got there but maybe it was thrown away by someone when it got too big for their pond.

Ozalj which is located north of Karlovac and southwest of Jastrebarsko on the Kupa River, is a popular local fishing resort.

*By Morgan Firenze*



## Reflections

-THE- Salon & More

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## In the News

**The Adventures of 'lil Bodley**

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

The Adventures of 'lil Bodley

Due to the cold weather, we regret to inform you that the quality of today's 'lil Bodley is lacking due to the illustrator's cold hands.



Sorry Bodley, my hands are frozen.  
It's 40 °F out!



The Adventures of  
'lil Bodley....  
\* cold hands \*  
edition! \*

What are you doing? Drawing with mittens on?



... May be...

***Think, research, apply: it can change your life***

By Maddie Olon

Have you thought about scholarships for college? While you're applying, visiting, and choosing a college to attend in the fall or in the future, you should be thinking about applying for scholarships.

To be honest, I thought I had all the time in the world before college, which is not true at all! As I was thinking about scholarships, I realized that college starts in less than four months, which is a short amount of time.

I have recently started researching and applying for scholarships, and I'm learning a lot that I didn't know before. First, I learned that my mom was right when she said you need to start taking action for college in December. Second, I learned that a lot of deadlines



were in March and I missed out on a lot of opportunities to apply for fast and easy scholarships. Last, you still have time to apply for some scholarships, but through research you will learn that a lot of the last scholarships left have a deadline in June.

If you research scholarships through Google you will find a lot of useful sites that you will have to go more into depth and research through to find scholarships that haven't ended yet. Personally, I signed up for a few websites and searched through their scholarships and options. The most useful, in my opinion, is Fastweb.com. When I visited colleges previously, Fast web was mentioned to me on multiple accounts as I talked to advisors.

All you need to do is make a profile and Fastweb matches your information with scholarships that personally match you! You are then able to scroll through many scholarships and read about each one. If you are interested in applying, there are links to further in-

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**Beyond Bodley**

# The Great Outdoors

## Coyotes becoming a major problem in Salina

By Daniel Summerville

In Central New York, the sound of howling coyotes has become very common for people to hear just after sunset. Coyotes have been present in New York since at least 1920 when they expanded their territory in accordance with the eradication of the eastern wolves. Ever since then the canine's population has been exploding, and problems between coyotes and people have been happening more and more often.



Coyotes are the top predator in Central New York, and they will eat just about anything. Lately, the increase in population and their affinity for urban areas have gained them the attention of a local town. Salina is a well-known suburb of Syracuse, and they are experiencing coyote problems. One town of Salina resident's cat was killed by a coyote, and now residents are starting to worry for the safety of their pets and children. A suburb savvy coyote could pose a lot of problems. Despite the problems that the coyotes could potentially cause in Salina, there is not much that residents can do, as discharge of firearms is prohibited in the suburb. The only thing that citizens can do is to try and get the town to allow a wildlife professional to come in and get rid of the coyotes.

To date, the coyotes in Oswego County have not been causing too many problems, but that does not mean that it will not happen. If it can happen in Salina, coyotes could start being more of a problem

in all areas. While it is not likely that a healthy coyote will mess with people, it has happened in western states and the coyotes that live in the east are even more aggressive.

Coyotes have a season in New York, which means that they are safe from the end of March until October. Unless the canine is actively causing trouble, it is illegal to get rid of it out of season. And even then, the person who takes action may be subject to a fine. It may be time for coyote season to become a thing of the past, and to qualify them as an unprotected species. In many states this has already happened, but the idea is still in the early stages in New York. Right now, the residents of Salina are on their own. Until coyote season starts again, these canines have free reign.

### **Student loan battle**

(from page 1)

and there were a lot of liabilities-basically in the form of student loans." Romney's camp did not take these attacks lying down, commenting that, "[Obama] forgot to mention that he failed to address student loans the past three and a half years and skipped a vote in the senate on the very same issue."

As the 18 year old seniors here at GRB go to the polls in November of 2012, they should be aware that their debt could be controlled by the next president. They will need to consider several important questions, such as, which one truly understands your ideals and struggles, and who "gets" what you are about to go through in the next four years of your life? No one wants to graduate college with hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt to start their lives as adults.

## **Start your scholarship search early!**

(from page 3)

formation and it brings you right to the site to apply.

As I was researching I learned that the scholarships are available to students through grades 9-12. I never realized nor thought about applying for scholarships in ninth, tenth, or eleventh grade. It probably would have been more convenient and a smart decision to start researching and applying for scholarships then.

If I were you, as in underclassmen, I would start to look for scholarships and start making frequent trips down to the counselor's office now. It may seem silly now, but if I could go back, I would have started putting together my college portfolio in ninth grade. It will

enable you to apply for more scholarships because you will have time to read books if the scholarship requires a report, and as more scholarships become available you will have years to prepare and apply to them. The money will be there when you are ready to attend college, don't worry.

I know how it feels to think you have all the time in the world, but you really don't! Time flies by and if you are proactive, scholarships will take a lot of financial stress away, especially when you're older and you accumulate all that college debt. Education is important; make it more attainable and less stressful by applying for scholarships early.



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## Americorps spring cleanup set for today

Get ready for the most eventful Arbor Day celebration ever here in Fulton, because it's just around the corner! The day of tree celebration gets a new exciting twist today at 2:30 pm right next door to G. Ray Bodley High School at Recreation Park.

The celebration, part community service, part good olí fashion fun, is sponsored by Oswego County Americorps member Jessica Naioti, with help from GRBís own Environmental Club. It is sure to offer up lots of experiences, while bringing a smile to all volunteers and attendees. Those who choose to attend are welcome to enjoy food, drink, live music, kidís activities and of course, tree planting.

When asked if a large turnout was expected, Environmental Club boss Mr. Mainville enthusiastically replied, "Yes!" The GRB sci-

ence teacher also noted that Fulton Mayor Ron L. Woodward and other various local leaders would be in attendance. Also scheduled to be in attendance are the New York State Department of Forestry and local venders. Mr. Mainville was also sure to note that volunteers should "Bring a rake and some will power." Attendees should also dress for the weather and bring appropriate foot wear. The event welcomes any volunteers to pitch in and aid the effort.

Mark your calendars and be prepared for what is expected to be an exciting Arbor Day afternoon! What could be a better way to spend your Friday afternoon than giving back while having a blast? Those interested can see Mr. Mainville in room 202 or contact Jessica Naioti (event coordinator) at 561-7861 or jessicanaioti@yahoo.com.

*By Madeline Clark*

## Spartans foil the day for Fulton a second time

The boys and girls varsity lacrosse teams once again faced the same fate by a similar foe in East Syracuse-Minoa, with both teams losing by three.

When the boys faced off against the Spartans earlier in the year, they lost in a one goal decision where the girls had an identical result.

This night was no different when the boys lost 8-5 and the girls fell to the Spartys 11-8.

A solid effort from the terrific trio of Erica Knaub, Kate Rothrock, and Amelia Coakley kept the lady Raiders in the game as long as possible. Knaub totaled three points; all on goals, while Rothrock matched her output with two goals and one assist and Coakley scored two of her own. Julia Ludington scored on one goal and assisted for another. Senior goalkeeper Torrie Whelsky finished with 11 saves.

Sam Dooling continued her scoring ways against the Raiders by leading ES-M with three goals. Rachel Toole, Nikki Devona, and Alex McEachron all scored two goals apiece while Courtney Notaro turned back nine saves for the 5-2 overall, 5-3 league Spartans..

The loss drops the Raiders to 7-3 overall on the season and 6-2 in league play and will surely be a good test of their resilience.

The boys were led by senior captains Joe Sutton and Ross Maxam on a night where once again, the Raiders dropped a game due to a bad half. Sutton tallied four points, all on scores while Maxam had two points on a single goal and one assist. Steven DeLisle added

an assist of his own and netminder Colin Blake stopped 12 shots in a good performance as the Raiders fell to 4-6 overall and 3-3 in league play .

ES-M was led by Nolan Garris who tallied three points on two goals and one assist while Jarret Temple tallied two goals. The Spartans had two goalies split time in the cage with 13 combined saves.

The boys team will be back in action Saturday at 2 p.m. against the Corcoran Cougars in a must win game. The girls travel to Mexico on Tuesday to face the Tigers, who they tamed earlier in the year in a one goal game.

*By Ross Maxam*

## This week in Raider Sports

**Today:** Baseball vs. Cortland (4:30); Softball @ Cortland (4:30); Tennis @ ES-M (4:30).

**Sat. April 28:** Boys Lax vs. Corcoran (JV-noon/V-2 pm); Girls Track @ Marcellus with Skaneateles (10:30 am).

**Mon. April 30:** Tennis @ Cortland (4:30); Baseball @ Mexico (4 pm); Softball vs. Mexico (4 pm).

**Tues. May 1:** Softball vs. ES-M (4:45); Tennis @ ES-M (4:30); Girls Lax @ Mexico (JV-4:30/V-6).

**Wed. May 2:** Track @ ES-M with Phoenix (4:30); Tennis vs. Mexico (4:30); Baseball vs. Phoenix (4 pm); Softball @ Phoenix (4 pm).

**Thurs. May 3:** Boys Lax @ J-D (JV-4:30/V-7 pm); Girls lax @ J-D (JV-4:30/V-6 pm).

**Fri. May 4:** Baseball @ Chittenango (4:30); Softball vs. Chittenango (4:30); Tennis vs. J-D (4:30); Boys Track @ Oswego County Invitational (3:30 @ Oswego).

**Sat. May 5:** JV Softball vs. Oswego (2 pm); V Softball @ Oswego Tournament (3 & 5 pm); Girls Track @ Oswego CCounty Invitational (2 pm @ C.Square).



## Late surge fuels Raider win

Making the most of a five hit attack and taking full advantage of three Chittenango errors, the Fulton varsity softball team scored three times in the final two innings on Thursday to claim a 6-4 victory. Evening their record at 3-3 overall and improving to 2-3 in league play, Fulton snapped a 3-3 tie with one run in the sixth inning and then scored twice more in the top of the seventh to prevail.

Lindsey Larkin picked up the win on the hill despite surrendering a triple and home run to Kayleigh Koegel, part of a 10 hit Chittenango attack. Ciarra Chapman had a pair of doubles and drove in one run for the Raiders, who also picked up RBI performances from Lauren Snyder and Keisha Pierce.

## How much are you going to spend for prom?



"Two-hundred dollars on tickets and stuff."

Nick Britton



"Prom is over rated."

Jordan Baldwin



"Nothing, I borrowed my dress."

Michaela Whitman



"Three hundred bucks."

Jesse Ives

## Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



### Today:



Partly cloudy.

**45°**

Average: 62°  
Record: 91° (2009)

### Tonight:



Partly cloudy.

**26°**

Average: 41°  
Record: 28° (1993)

### Tomorrow:

Sun and clouds.  
Chance rain.

**50°/27°**

Average: 63°/41°  
Rec. high/low: 92°  
(1990)/30° (1972)

### Sunday:

Partly cloudy.

**53°/28°**

Average: 63°/41°  
Record high/low: 85°  
(1962)/27° (1977)

*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.*