



Swim season ends in a flurry of meets

By Caleb Almeter

The swim season came to a roaring finish last week when the Raiders took part in the Section III championship and the state qualifying meet on consecutive days. And when the last waves had settled at the Nottingham pool, the Raiders finished their season well.

The team had spent weeks preparing for this meet, most had shaved their whole bodies and done everything to ensure that they would swim the fastest they had in their lives. At the sectional meet on Friday, the vast majority of the team dropped their times significantly. Everyone swam extremely well, and Fulton had individuals or teams place (in the top 8) in every event.

In the 200 medley relay, the team of Justin Grower, Tim McAfee, Andrew Distin and David Tallents took second. Caleb Almeter and Dakota Stoutenger placed sixth and eighth in the 200 free. Distin took third, and McAfee fifth, in the 200 IM. David Tallents, Justin Grower and Sage Hourihan placed third, fourth and sixth respectively, in the 50 free.

Andrew Distin and Ryan Morehouse placed one, two in an amazing heat of the

100 fly while Josh Hotaling, David Tallents and Caleb Almeter took fourth through sixth in the 100 free, all within .09 seconds of each other. Mark Tallents and Alex Semchenko placed third and fifth in the 500 free. The relay team of David Tallents, Andrew Distin, Sage Hourihan and Justin Grower took second in the 200 free relay. In the 100 back, Hotaling, Grower and Morehouse took fifth, sixth and eighth.

Tim McAfee, Mark Tallents and Sage Hourihan placed second, fifth and seventh in the 100 breast. In the final event, the 400 free relay, the team of Caleb Almeter, Sage Hourihan, Dakota Stoutenger and Josh Hotaling took third. Overall, Fulton finished third behind New Hartford in first and Mexico in second. However, discounting diving (since the Raider sectional team had no divers) the Raiders took second, beating rival Mexico in the swimming.

Due to the moving of Sectionals from Thursday to Friday, the state qualifying meet

was only one day later. 10 Raider swimmers attending were Caleb Almeter, David Tallents, Josh Hotaling, Alex Semchenko, Mark Tallents, Sage Hourihan, Tim McAfee, Ryan Morehouse, Andrew Distin and Justin Grower. On Saturday, against the entirety of Section III, Andrew Distin took sixth in the IM and eighth in the 100 fly, one place behind Ryan Morehouse. The 200 free relay team took eighth, the final podium finish of the season. For more results from both meets, visit highschoolsports.syracuse.com/boyswimming.

With no swimmers making a state cut time (a feat typically managed only by the top 0-1 swimmers at the state qualifying meet) the season ended there. It was actually an incredible season for the team, with far more swimmers achieving sectionals and state quals than most years. Those leaving the team will be missed, and those who can return will be eager to do so next year, for a season just as good or better!

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Days until
Quirk's Players present:
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GRB Auditorium



Fulton sent a strong contingent to the recent Section III qualifying meet at Nottingham, where the Raiders put in a big performance to cap a successful season. Pictured clockwise from the top are Coach Lacey, Andrew Distin, Josh Hotaling, Mark Tallents, David Tallents, Ryan Morehouse, Alex Semchenko, Tim McAfee, Justin Grower, and Caleb Almeter, with Sage Hourihan in the middle. (Tracy McAfee photo)

Opinion

Website keeps track of political falsehoods

By Julia Polly



With the upcoming presidential election this November, it's almost an afterthought when you hear candidates say outrageous things. But what is truly difficult is to determine whether these statements are true or not. This is where political fact checking comes in. Sadly, not many people actually look into the fact checking to actually see statistics of who is the most honest and accurate, and perhaps that is why the politicians continue to say the things they say.

The Tampa Bay Times and their website, Politifact, a website which is based upon giving its viewers the truth in Politics, brings many statistics to the table from which to refer to. Some are surprising, while others not so much. There is one true statement to say for everybody though, and that is that all politicians lie.

How bad are their lies though? Well the website ranges from True to Pants on Fire False!

Starting with a general overview, let's look at the top candidates so far for the Republican Party"

Ted Cruz, the winner of the Iowa Caucus, was caught with a lie that angered many Ben Carson supporters. Allegedly, on the mobile app for Ted Cruz 2016, a message was sent out to all supporters to inform other caucus goers who supported Ben Carson that the candidate would stop campaigning after Iowa! This led to many news stories where Ted Cruz himself apologized, but then went on to blame CNN for the mishandling of information. This, of course, was proven otherwise according to transcripts of what aired on television.

His general statistics overall show that out of 84 statements that were fact checked on this website that 24 of them were mostly false, 28 were false, and six statements were pants on fire false. Over half of his statements were shown to be false, which includes the above event.

Next candidate in line is Donald Trump, whose stats shows nothing better with 88 statements where 15 were mostly false, 36 were false, and 17 were pants on fire false!

Most of the statements that Trump makes that ring false tend to be about illegal immigrants, or generally just about any immigrants

for that matter. One of his pants on fire false statements was claiming the number of illegal immigrants in the United States was over 30 million. When fact checked this was proven false according to other statistics made by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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and their website, Politifact, a website which is based upon giving its viewers the truth in Politics, brings many statistics to the table from which to refer to. Some are surprising, while others not so much. There is one true statement to say for everybody though, and that is that all politicians lie.

Jeb Bush, another candidate who was running for the Republican party nomination did not fare any better as out of 79 statements 14 were True, 24 Mostly True, 17 Half-truths and 17 Mostly False, 5 statements False, and 2 statements downright Pants on Fire False.

One of his statements that was noted as Pants on Fire false was a statement he made way back in August of 2015, where he is quoted as saying that Planned Parenthood shouldn't be funded because "they're not actually doing women's health issues," and that "They're involved in something way different than that."

Marco Rubio, who on Politifact was shown to have 135 statements recorded, proved to be in the grey area most of the time with 31 being Mostly Truths, 29 Half Truths, and 32 Mostly False. The others include 18 Truths, 21 False, and 4 statements that are Pants on Fire False.

At least two of his statements in the Pants on Fire category involved Obamacare, one is his hyperbole of saying "75 percent of small businesses now say they are going to be forced to either fire workers or cut their hours," which he cited from a study that actually showed that only 10 percent of small businesses believed that they were going to be forced to fire workers or cut hours. This represents a strong 65 percent difference shown between Rubio's statement made back in July of 2013 and the actual numbers.

(continued on page 3)

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Reflections

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Fact-checkers are busy during current election

(from page 2)

On the Democratic side there are only two main combatants in Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. Both serve a surprisingly nice slate of statistics in how often they speak the truth or not.

Hillary Clinton and her statistics were shown to weigh nicely on the side of Truth with 40 Truths, 42 Mostly Truths, 34 Half Truths, 23 Mostly False, 20 False, and only 2 Pants on Fire Statements. This totals out to 161 facts checked on the website. While many

would have the opinion that she lies a lot, the figures seem to disagree and show how often she actually tells the truth in reality.

Out of the two Pants on Fire Statements which dealt with the topic of Violence, they tend to be mild in terms of one being about how she landed under Sniper Fire in Bosnia of March 1996 when reflecting back to a foreign policy speech on Iraq in 2008. The other was about how President Obama, back in the Democratic debate of 2008, "basically threatened to bomb Pakistan, which I don't think was a particularly wise position to take." This was also shown to be a distortion of a speech made by Obama back in 2007 about targeting Terrorists.

Finally with Bernie Sanders, he impressively carries no Pants on Fire False out of the small number of 64 statements recorded with 10 Truths, 21 Mostly True, 13 Half Truths, 10 Mostly False, and only 10 False. His statistics were shown to generally lean on the side of the truth, albeit being a small demographic of statements compared to many other candidates.

As shown on the website, Politifact reveals that most of his False statements were about something involving in the Republican Party or something that is Capitalistic in nature such as mentioning the Koch Bros. His statement that Americans work the longest hours of any people around the world was disputed as Americans may work longer than most, but certainly don't work longer than all.

Again it is echoed that many Americans, instead of just believing statements on the TV or Internet, would be smart to check Political Fact-checking sites, as there are many out there. People have jobs where they take statements Politicians make, and they go into and research whether or not they ring true. It would be smart to reflect on their findings since they are easily found online with official websites and more and sources to show whether or not it is true. With one of the most important elections in decades now starting us directly in the face, it seems that now, more than ever, voters should be seeking the truth before they head to the polls.

What's happening at G. Ray Bodley High School?

The next meeting of the **Fultonian Yearbook** is Monday after school in room 102. New members are welcome.

The Future Business Leaders of America will be sponsoring its first annual "**Snow Ball**" semi-formal dance on Friday, February 26 from 7 to 10 pm at the high school. Tickets are \$7 at the door and refreshments will be served with music provided by Mystic Music DJ Service.

Any student who would like to help decorate for the dance will receive a \$2 off admission coupon to get into the dance for \$5. See Mrs. Ferlito in room 115 for more details.

All boys and girls interested in participating in **out-door track** need to sign up next Tuesday, March 1 after school in room 207. Students need to have an up to date physical.

What's for lunch?

Today: Popcorn chicken with sweet potato fries, peas and fresh apple

Wednesday: Cheese pizza with green beans, butternut squash and pears

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What did you do over winter break?



"Took a ski trip with my son to Europe."

Mr. Ward



"I went to the mall four times!"

Devon Ruckdeschel



"Nothing."

Devon Robison



"Went snowboarding."

Seth Baum

Meteorology and you

Today:

Tonight:

Tomorrow:

By Carson Metcalf



Increasing clouds

35°

Average: 36°
Record: 67° (1984)



Rain/snow mix

30°

Average: 19°
Record: -7° (1914)



Rain showers

42°

Average: 36°
Record: 65° (1906)



Former GRB student and current SUNY Oswego senior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist. Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.