

Volleyball's "Mother Hen" was more than a coach

By Nicole Hansen

Editor's note: The entire Fulton community was saddened on Saturday morning when word came forth that longtime G. Ray Bodley Physical Education teacher and Red Raider Volleyball Coach Caroline Richardson's fierce battle with ovarian cancer had come to an end. RaiderNet Daily's Nicole Hansen, a member of the volleyball team, gives us her memories of the winningest girls coach in school history.

Each athlete can shamelessly say that they have had a coach who changed their life forever, and for the girls volleyball team that person was Coach Richardson. As a player of hers I can say that I've never had a coach push me the way that she did, sometimes telling me the same thing 100 times until I finally realized "oh, I'm still doing this wrong." Each practice she would come in with a smile on her face, excited to see us. Even after having chemo treatments during the day, at 3 pm she was always in the gym waiting. She told us that we were the reason she fought, to be able to coach us. As a team we knew that meant every game we were going to have to fight as hard as she did to be able to win.

The one memory I will never forget happened on picture day this year. She came into the gym a little embarrassed, not wearing her wig and just a bandanna (The chemo treatments caused hair loss). She was going to ask us which wig she should wear and we all just froze and looked at her. We asked "Why would you wear a wig? What's wrong with a bandanna?" She looked back at us and smiled and asked if we were sure that she shouldn't wear a wig.

The thought had never even crossed our mind, as she rarely even wore one to practice. Seeing her smile light up from our encouragement really made us realize that as much as we needed her, she needed us too.

One of coach's favorite things was the "Life is good" shirts. She wore one every day to practice. No matter how bad things



Longtime Fulton Volleyball Coach Caroline Richardson, center, saw her battle with cancer come to an end on Saturday morning. Her teams compiled more than 400 victories and four sectional titles during her tenure on the Red Raider sideline.

seemed to get, she always smiled and said "life is good". Another famous thing of hers were "Richardson Theories," little things that she knew would always be right such as "cross court is always in," and she always told us to "open your book and don't miss this serve."

As a team we considered ourselves to be her children, and we always referred to her

news of coach passing. This was devastating, and the other part of it was that we had a tournament the next day. A team vote decided that we would go to the tournament and play. Coach always had a rule that if she signed up for a tournament then we were going to it no matter what, and we weren't about to break that tradition.

Usually at these tournaments we play

"Seeing her smile light up from our encouragement really made us realize that as much as we needed her, she needed us too."

as our "mother hen." One tournament we heard another team starting to get mouthy about coach and we said no one messes with mother hen.

Almost every day she would tell us that she loved us and we knew she meant it. As a team we could mess up the drill over and over and she would say, "I love you guys, but you can't pass like you're in middle school any more." That is what makes this so hard for our volleyball team, she was more than just a coach to us.

Saturday morning the team found out the

against super club teams who spend thousands of dollars to travel and play, while we are just a measly school team and we do not usually get past the first round of playoffs. For the first time ever this weekend, a Fulton volleyball team won a club tournament in the gold division.

We played for coach and we know that she was cheering for us the whole time. From now on we will play every game like she is watching and remember everything she told us. After all, no one messes with mother hen and her chicks.

Entertainment

Huge weekend ahead with several blockbusters



This weekend will see the release of some long-awaited movies, including *Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice*, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2*, and *Miracles from Heaven*.

Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice stars Ben Affleck as Batman, Henry Cavill as Superman, Amy Adams as Lois Lane, and Diane Lane as Martha Kent.

All of your most burning questions will finally be answered: why

are they fighting each other? What is Wonder Woman doing here? And who will emerge triumphant?

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 is the long-awaited sequel to the highest-grossing romantic comedy of all time. The entire original cast is getting back together for an even bigger and Greeker wedding.

Miracles from Heaven is a religious drama that tells the true story of Anna Beam, who was diagnosed with a very rare and possibly deadly intestinal disorder. After her family's futile attempts to find a cure, she fell to the bottom of a hollow tree, and her illness vanished. This movie just might restore your belief in miracles and a higher power.

Nottingham High School's Pippin performance a success

Musical season may be over here at G. Ray Bodley, but last weekend Nottingham High School presented their spring musical, *Pippin*, and magic was done. This show concerns an enthusiastic and very talented troupe of circus performers who act out the story of the life and times of Pippin, son of Charlemagne, for the audience. The musical numbers include "Magic to Do," "Corner of the Sky," and "No Time at All" (my personal favorite).

This show featured my cousin Lauren as Catherine, a widow whom Pippin lives with for a time (and falls in love with). She gets yelled at by the Ringmaster whenever she strays from the script and tries to make her character into what she thinks Catherine should be (which happens a lot).

My cousin was a fantastic actor and an accomplished singer, but she was not alone. The other characters pulled off outstanding performances, especially Pippin, Charlemagne, Pippin's grandmother Berthe, Catherine's son Theo, and the Ringmaster, a character who could be played by a boy or girl and happened to be a girl in this show.

The acting was perhaps the best part of the show. *Pippin* is a very hilarious show, and all the laugh lines got nailed with the same comic timing exhibited by the cast of *What the Rabbi Saw*. There was also a scene where the ensemble members rolled in two big exercise balls for Pippin and Berthe to sit on, and Berthe's ball bounced right off the stage and into the house. Berthe asked for someone to toss her ball back onto the stage, and it was. I had no way of knowing whether that was scripted or ad-libbed, because she handled it so well. The fourth wall gets broken a lot in this

show anyway, so it all worked out.

I do not mean to offend my peers by saying this, but *Pippin* is not the kind of show that Quirk's Players could perform. The main reason for this is that this musical is under the guise of a circus performance, and that calls for juggling, unicycle riding, aerial acrobatics, human pyramids, knife throwing, and a few magical illusions. The Meadowbrook Harlequins (Nottingham's drama club) were lucky enough to have Circus Culture (Ithaca's resident circus academy) come in to coach the young thespians and teach them how to pull off the moves and talents required for many of the show's musical numbers. "We couldn't have done it without them," said director Bill Ralbovsky in the show's playbill.

This rendition of *Pippin* was just as good as-and in some ways better than-a Quirk's Players musical. Congratulations to the Meadowbrook Harlequins for pulling off this complex and challenging show.

By Zachary Almeter

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

The next meeting of the **Fultonian Yearbook** is Monday, March 28 after school in room 102.

The next **Student Senate Blood Drive** will be held on Wednesday, March 30th from 8 am-3 pm in the LGI. You must be 16 or older to donate blood. See Mrs. Ferlito in room 115 to sign up for your slot. Save a life, become a blood donor!

The **International Club** will have a meeting open to all GRB students and faculty on Monday, March 28 at 2:30 in room 219. International students from LeMoyné College will be presenting information about their countries and culture as well as answering questions. Anyone interested in attending is asked to sign the sheet posted outside room 219. Snacks will be provided for those who attend.

What's for lunch?

Today: Cheese pizza, broccoli, butternut squash and mixed fruit

Thursday: Staff development-no lunch served

Monday: BBQ pork ribbie on a bun, green beans, carrots, pears

Tolkien reading day March 25

J. R. R. Tolkien is famous for his books on the land of Middle-Earth. The most famous are the Lord of the Rings trilogy and The Hobbit, both of which have been made into movies. They are fantastic adventures set in an expansive, detailed world that Tolkien devoted much of his life to. Much of the history behind the more popular books is established in other volumes edited and published after Tolkien's son Christopher after his death.

The most significant of these books, The Silmarillion, tells the most about the history of Middle- Earth, including its creation story, an Atlantis- like tale of the most powerful ancient men, and the wars with a dark lord worse than Sauron (the villain of The Lord of the Rings). Some of the book contains facts, lineages and historical accounts like those in a textbook, which are interesting simply because they show how much time and thought Tolkien put into his world.

For those not interested by histories, The Silmarillion also tells grand tales of adventure at least as compelling as those in The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings. Each is contained within its own section, and can be read as a new story. The same can be said for another later book, Unfinished Tales. Both are must- reads for anyone into Tolkien.

If anyone wants to read these books or others by Tolkien, now is a good time, since Friday, March 25 is the annual Tolkien Reading Day. This is an event promoted by the Tolkien Society to encourage reading of Tolkien's works. If you are reading Tolkien around that time, don't miss out on books like the Silmarillion. They will provide more enjoyment and insight into Tolkien's world.

By Caleb Almeter

Music in Our Schools Month

Tues. March 29:

GRB Chorus Concert
(7:30 pm starting time)

This week in Red Raider Sports



Today: Boys V lax scrimmage vs. South Jefferson (6 pm)

Thurs. March 24: Girls V lax scrimmage vs. Watertown IHC (6 pm)

Sat. March 26: Boys lax scrimmage vs. LaFayette (10 am)

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Batman vs. Superman: not as one-sided as it seems

By David Houck

Fans have pitted them against each other, comics have seen them face off, but for the first time in live-action film history, Batman and Superman will brawl it out on the big screen for 2016's most anticipated film of the year: *Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice*. Now as anyone who has seen the trailers can tell you, the film title is slightly misleading.

The Caped Crusader (Ben Affleck) and Man of Steel (Henry Cavill) will not be engaged in a bloody battle for the entire duration of the film. As the trailer reveals, perhaps prematurely, they will eventually have to put aside their differences to fight an even greater threat.

Nevertheless, Batman and Superman will be fighting, and fans have been arguing about the outcome for years.



At first glance, the outcome seems obvious. An alien god with unlimited powers versus a billionaire in a cape? With one punch the former could knock the latter into oblivion. Unfortunately for Sup, that's not the full story.

Despite possessing powers beyond the traditional laser vision, super strength and flight, Superman does have an achilles heel: the green crystal from his home planet, Kryptonite. When Superman comes within close proximity of Kryptonite his powers are weakened, and with a strong enough dose, he could be killed. In the comics, Batman has always had a small supply of Kryptonite to use if Superman ever went crazy, becomes mind-controlled, or even if Batman just gets tired of him. It would not be a shock to see the Dark Knight recover a crystal in the film.

This is not the only way Batman could win, however. Bruce Wayne is a billionaire and a genius, so his resources are pretty much limitless. Over the years we have seen Batman develop a heavily armored exoskeleton suit, and in Frank Miller's



comic series *The Dark Knight Returns*, Superman took quite a beating from an armor-clad Batman.

Batman is also intelligent enough to know that Superman gets his powers from the Sun. If kept out of the Sun for a long period of time, Superman's powers are weakened. Batman could easily lead Superman through a series of underground tunnels and caves long enough to weaken him.

Furthermore, Batman's resourcefulness extends far beyond his gadgets and tech. He can be very persuasive, and he has a large number of allies who would be willing to give him a helping hand. After Superman destroyed nearly all of Metropolis in the last film, *Man of Steel*, it's unlikely that Batman is the only person with a grudge against him. It's not too far out of Batman's reach to team up with villains, either.

It's also not too far out of Batman's reach to exploit some of Superman's other weaknesses. It's no surprise that Superman has a soft spot for Daily Planet reporter Lois Lane. Who says Batman wouldn't use that against him? In one storyline, Batman dropped Lois Lane off of a skyscraper in order to snap Superman out of a mind-controlled state. In another storyline, Superman continually tried confronting the vigilante while he pursued a serial killer. In order to get him off his back, Batman told Superman that his suit contained a trigger that would blow up Metropolis if he punched him. Was it true? No, but Batman knew Superman would not risk it.

Some people claim these methods are cheating or unsportsmanlike.

Well, it's a fight. Superman clearly has the upper hand, so of course Batman is going to use any means necessary. That's who the Batman character is. In one comic series, *Hush*, Batman noted the following about Superman:

"If Clark wanted to, he could use his super speed and squish me into the cement. But I know how he thinks. Even more than the kryptonite, he's got one weakness. Deep down, Clark's essentially a good person. And deep down, I'm not."

The most important thing to realize about the film is that it's not simply a cage match between two titans. It is a clash of ideologies. Superman is Metropolis's all-powerful yet naive savior, and no one is strong enough to question him. Batman is Gotham's vengeful guardian. Killing is not an option for the Dark Knight, but anything up to that point is fair game. Superman sees the light in people, Batman sees the dark.

In this film, fans will see an older, darker, and rougher Batman. At this point in Bruce's life, he has his battle scars. Rumor has it that the Dark Knight will be more brutal than ever.

In this war of ideologies, it wouldn't take much for the Bat to win. As seen in the previous film, Superman is unstoppable and uncontrollable. No earthly authority is willing to stand up to him. In this case, Batman doesn't have to win to be the victor. All he has to do is make the Man of Steel bleed, to show that he is not invincible, and that humanity could stand a chance against him, if need be.

Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice hits theaters Friday, March 25th.

How do you think Syracuse will do this weekend?



"I think they can beat Gonzaga."

Mr. Leece



"Great, they're going to win!"

Tim Holden



"They'll beat Gonzaga and lose to Virginia."

Mr. Lyons



"I like the women's chances against South Carolina."

Mr. Senecal

Meteorology and you

Today:



Rain showers

42°

Average: 46°
Record: 68° (1906)

Tonight:



Rain/snow

34°

Average: 26°
Record: -19° (1984)

Tomorrow:



Rain showers

55°

Average: 46°
Record: 68° (1906)

By Carson Metcalf



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.