

GYM CLASS HEROES

Physical Education No Longer Requirement for Athletes

Due to Governor Christie's cut all of state funding to Ridgewood Public Schools, the Board of Education voted to revise the physical education requirement for RHS students. On March 13, the district announced that beginning next year, student athletes will no longer have to take gym.

The Board of Ed decided that since the state is no longer subsidizing the school budget, Ridgewood no longer has to meet state curriculum standards and rationalized that since the vast majority of RHS students are not in danger of obesity, RHS can afford to relinquish part of its gym program.

For years, RHS students have been complaining about the dreaded 20 minute run, especially athletes who are tired from the previous day's sports practice. Frequent parent phone calls regarding these runs, along with other physical activities like weight lifting and pickle ball, caused the Board of Ed to reevaluate the importance of gym class.

Gym teacher Ed Venture says, "A physical education program is good for some, bad for others. Let's

face it. Athletes don't need extra time dedicated to physical fitness. If anything, they need to spend that time

JULIA CORBETT
news editor

seasons also qualify. For example, a spring athlete training for lacrosse during the fall or winter seasons does not

miss in his or her training. While athletes rejoice, the rest of the student body is preparing a peaceful student protest for April 17. "Why should we have to run if athletes don't?" questions freshman Johnny Rockets.

But PE teachers believe that the program is still important for non-athletes. Venture states, "It's simple, if you don't play a sport, you take gym. 'If you don't play, you pay,' as I like to say."

As a result, those solely involved in New-players, Asian Fest, The High Times, Math-letics, or who even simply work after school must continue to endure those tedious runs.

Senior Emily Voigt, who participates in New-players, says, "I know a lot of my friends who are not involved in sports are very upset about this latest development. We don't voluntarily exercise for a reason."

Like Voigt, many non-athletes feel that the verdict is unfair. As sophomore Pytha Gorean states, "Why should the athletes get special treatment? Math-letes still have to take calculus!"



The 20 minute run is a thing of the past for RHS athletes like sophomore runners Colin Halvey, Tyler Hanson, and InHo Hwang, pictured above.

indoors, with a tutor working on their intellectual fitness, if you know what I mean."

Several criteria must be met in order to be eligible for the "gym pass." A student must be currently involved in an RHS sport. Any outside teams or club sports do not count. Any athletes who consistently train during their off

have to take gym. However, if the athlete is not consistently training in the off-season, they are required to take gym up until their sport begins.

Coaches will keep tabs on their athletes to ensure they train year-round; however, teammates are encouraged to rat each other out if someone is being re-

Bored of Ed Creates New Policy for Make-up Days

VICTORIA PAN
features editor

Superintendent Daniel Fishbein recently announced that on April 8 and 9, the final two days of Spring break, Ridgewood Public Schools will open in order to make up for the cancellations on March 15 and 16 caused by the power outage.

According to the law, it is mandatory that the Ridgewood Public Schools are in session for two extra days this year in order to meet the mandatory 180 day requirement. However, at a recent Board of Education meeting, it was decided that a makeup day will not count if less than 50% of students are present. The plan was passed by a slim margin. On Monday, March 22, 2010."

March 2010						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6 School today!	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 School today!	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 School today!	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 School today!	28
29	30	31				

RACHEL CHUN / the high times

Students may need to attend school on Saturdays in order to fulfill requirements.

Though details still need to be worked out, it is that certain this plan will be put into action if necessary. On April 8, each school will submit its attendance to the Board of Education which will calculate the percentage of students present. If less than 50 percent of students are accounted for, the Board of Ed has decided that the school day will be made up again on Saturday, April 17. If the same thing occurs the following day, April 9, the district will hold another makeup day on the following Saturday, April 24.

If there is not a sufficient number of students present on either of the Saturdays, they too will not be counted; in this case school will be held each Saturday until a sufficient number of students is present. School can be held every Saturday for the rest of this year if need be.

Many students are upset over the announcement. When Katrina Vital, a sophomore, heard about it, she stated, "How can they punish us over

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GRADUATION TO-DO LIST

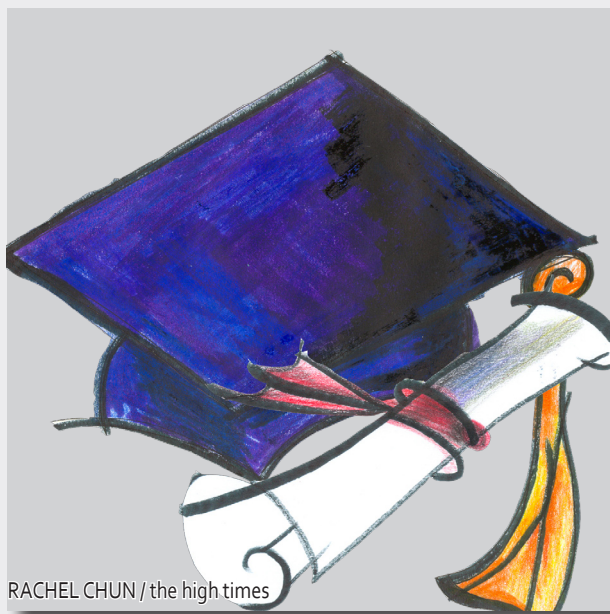
New Graduation Requirements

SIDNEY KANELL
news editor

On March 19, the Ridgewood High School administration released a series of new requirements students must meet in order to graduate. The new requirements, which will force students to become more involved in community service, extracurricular programs, and academic opportunities available inside and outside of school, were put in place to ensure that all RHS graduates truly live up to "A Tradition of Excellence."

The new graduation requirements include independently raising a minimum of \$500 dollars for charity, logging 100 study hours in a subject of the student's interest with a private tutor, and belonging to a minimum of three RHS clubs for at least eight consecutive months each.

Other requirements include spending a total of 20 hours with teachers during period 9 or lunch, and spend-



RACHEL CHUN / the high times

The new requirements will force students to work harder in order to receive their diplomas.

ing 20 hours tutoring elementary or middle school students.

According to Principal Jack Lorenz, "Every Student at RHS has capabilities that they fail to exercise. As a result, we have created these new requirements in order to ensure that each and every RHS student reaches their potential. The

changes are by no means intended to make the graduation process more difficult; they are simply there to make our students stronger human beings."

According to current plans, the new requirements will go into effect at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. Therefore, the current 11th graders will be the first to have to fulfill these requirements upon graduation.

Junior Liz Deplaut states, "It isn't fair that we have to meet these requirements because that means we only get a little over a year to catch up on everything we haven't already completed whereas incoming freshman will get the whole four years. I think that the current 8th graders should be the first class to have to meet the requirements."

Even younger students are disappointed with the changes.

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continued on page 2

Caution: Stress-Free School Zone

Board of Ed Proposes Creating Student Relaxation Center at RHS

On March 21, the Ridgewood Board of Education introduced a new proposal in response to increased stress levels among Ridgewood High School students. The plan, which is designed to counteract the escalating stress levels of ninth through twelfth graders, involves creating a student relaxation center, which RHS students can access during free periods, lunch, and before and after school.

Over the years, school-related stress levels have slowly been rising. Sophomore Christine Bushell says, "I get so stressed out over my schoolwork, I feel like it takes over my life, I really just want some time to relax once in a while."

Many high school administrators rightly believe that students unitize Unit Lunch and their free periods in order to relax. And Principal Jack Lorenz suggests, "Students are encouraged to go to the Campus Center to socialize with friends or play games when they feel overworked."

Still, for many this does not do the trick. Freshman Rebecca Suss insists, "Just being in school and seeing the people around me doing work makes me think of school, I wish I could go to town or something but since that's not an option for freshmen, my stress just keeps building up

as I sit around school reflecting on all of the work I have to do."

As a result, the Board of Education has proposed creating what will temporarily be referred to as The RHS Student Relaxation Center. The Relaxation Center will include a lounge area, a big screen TV, a spa,



Students such as upperclassmen Ellen Chiu, Manushi Desai, and Omer Bakshi, pictured above, will be able to enjoy professional massages in the new relaxation center.

a hot tub, and a juice bar. In order to create a space that will accommodate all features included within the plan, Gym 1 will be expanded and transformed into this new facility. Physical Education classes, sporting events, and other functions which would normally be held in Gym 1 will be relocated to Gym 3 according to the plan. Senior Julia Corbett says,

SIDNEY KANELL
news editor

"The Relaxation Center seems really cool. Now if they could just get a Starbucks in there, I'd also be relieved of the stress of having to walk downtown for coffee!"

Assuming the plan is passed, the Board of Education aims to begin construction in early July in order for the facil-

jor stressors for students and stress is what we are trying to prevent in the first place."

Ridgewood residents will vote on the passage of this plan on April 27. Some voters are hesitant to vote for the plan considering it will cause a rise in taxes. On the other hand, many voters, specifically parents, advocate for the plan. "I will definitely be voting for this plan. I either pay for my daughter to go downtown and get manicure or I pay for her to get it here," says the mother of an anonymous RHS freshman.

Sophomore Sofie Coopersmith insists, "We all went crazy when we found out, it's going to be so much fun. My hopes are that it will improve our attitudes about school and improve our grades as a result."

Sure enough, high schools throughout the country that have created similar facilities have experienced remarkable results. The principal of a high school in Kentucky stated, "Creating an area in the school where students could relax definitely reduced their stress levels and boosted their grades. More importantly, however, our students just seem to smile a lot. Who doesn't like a smile?"

If all goes as planned, the Relaxation Center will make RHS a more positive place for its students, in turn making them happier and more successful in the long run.

MAKE UP DAYS from page 1

something we have no control over? This is by no means fair to the students who do show up on the 8th and 9th."

Students are not the only ones unhappy with the arrangements, teachers are unsatisfied as well.

"My Saturdays are dedicated to fantasy baseball, sorry," stated English teacher Matt Cheplic who went on to say, "If we do have to come to school on Saturday, I plan on showing up in my pajamas with a plate of waffles on hand; after all, that's how Saturday mornings should be."

The problem with hav-

I plan on showing up in my pajamas with a plate of waffles

ing school on a Saturday is that it would interfere with many people's schedules.

According to sophomore Derek Sung, "If I have to go to school on Saturday I

School can be held every Saturday for the rest of the year if need be

will miss my cooking class!"

Unfortunately however, the Board of Education has no other option but to hold any necessary makeup days on Saturdays; days cannot be made up at the end of the school year since graduation plans have already been set.

Even so, students remain incredulous. Miles Silva, a sophomore simply stated, "I don't mind make up days, but I will never go to school on Saturday."

Senior Nina Montgomery insists, "There's no need to get all worked up over something that isn't set in stone yet, we can easily prevent the problem if we all show up to school on the two scheduled make up days!"

GRADUATION from page 1

"I have enough on my plate. I know graduation is three years away but the only way I'm going to get this done is if I start now! I'm stressed out over it already," says Freshman Margaret Ekblom.

Many parents are also upset about the plan. One anonymous father complained, "I don't think my child is capable of putting all of this time and effort into these new requirements. Not all students are miracle workers; this is a lot to ask. How am I supposed to get my son to join a club or raise money for charity when I can't even get him to take a shower?"

On the other hand, some embrace the changes. Sophomore Colin Halvey states, "I think these changes could be for the better. A lot of the new requirements will look good for college and therefore being forced to complete them will probably benefit students in the long run. And maybe it will be fun, who knows? As far as the minimum number of hours we need to spend with teachers on our own

time goes, over the past couple of years I've probably almost reached that already."

While most students are worried about the extra work they will have to accomplish, others fear the consequences of not fulfilling these requirements on time.

Sophomore Sarah Shea states, "I'm worried I won't have enough time to do it! I'm prepared to try but what if I can't?" Lorenz insists, "I am aware that students are worried that they will fail to meet the requirements, however the fact of the matter is, most students are beyond eager to graduate and will do anything they must in order to make sure that they can. The requirements have been designed so that every student is capable of achieving them."

Although the requirements will not officially go into effect until the beginning of the next school year, any recorded proof that students have completed or partially completed any of the requirements prior to the date in which they become policy may be counted toward the total fulfillment.

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iTeach-A Groundbreaking New Method

Simulated teaching is the future of education

We can all agree that the teachers work way too hard. Who can blame them? They're stuck in a confined area with hundreds of wild teenagers, forced to somehow feed information into these unruly beings. It is unjust that teachers are not paid or appreciated enough. And with the current state of educational funding, they are bound to feel even more over-burdened.

The solution? Get rid of teachers all together.

Many educators are being fired while those who remain employed have to pick up the slack with bigger class sizes and larger workloads. If we just fire all the teachers no one will be over-burdened with the stress of more work or wondering if they will even have a job come fall.

Teachers will get a well-deserved break and time to re-invent themselves and to try their hands at something new.

Instead of teachers, districts could simply give stu-

dents a syllabus for the entire year and set them up on computers—a system called iTeach.

This new pedagogical practice is not just a play on words—students will be responsible for teaching themselves through the use of the internet.

This will do more than simply open a new window of possibilities for students to utilize their technological skills to the fullest extent. It will make them more independent, better communicators, and self-directed learners.

The world is already so technologically dependant that this advancement was bound to occur sometime. And since students

BEN LYON
opinion editor

extra motivation to do well and work hard in class. Instead of

going through the hassle of constantly taking such devices and services away, why not encourage students to use them in a manner that actually allows them to learn something instead of simply waste time? A laissez-faire approach could be the answer to our prayers.

Detractors of this pedagogy maintain that student-teacher contact time, face-to-face interaction and varied modalities of learning are all necessary components of a

sound educational environment, but these thoughts are as old-fashioned as the books made of paper in which they

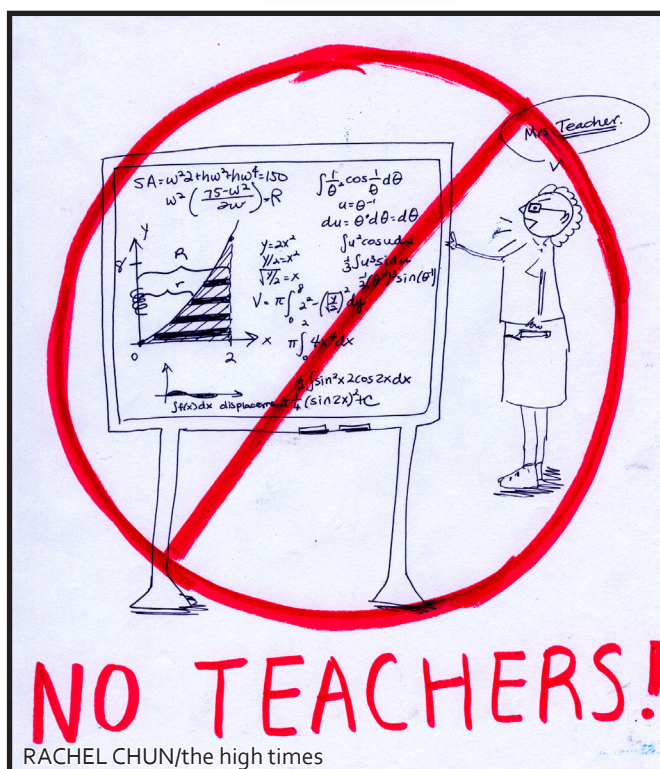
are written.

What could be more pedagogically sound than emailing a biologist with a question about biology or texting your friend to come over to your computer to help with a math problem? Such practice encourages cooperation and collaboration, two skills teachers always yammer about.

Sure, professionals may not have time to respond to email or the emails they receive may be a jumble of IM-speak because formal English classes will have gone out the window, but this mishap will teach students to be patient and to try-try again.

It is my conviction that this plan must immediately be put into action. Although teachers will need to find new occupations, I am sure this will be no problem with the diverse job market our economy is currently offering. I mean, the economy *is* on the mend.

Students and educators of America, iEncourage you to embrace this proposal with arms wide open.



CUTTING EDGE BUDGET

Extreme budget cuts cure financial woes

Recently, Ridgewood learned that it would not be receiving the expected state aid for its 2010/2011 school year, meaning that the town's Board of Education has to make cuts totaling to \$2.9 million dollars. This amount of money is so hefty that it is only reasonable to propose extreme budget cuts. Although it may be difficult for the Ridgewood students to "rough it", the end result will outweigh the initial hardships and Ridgewood will be rid of its money woes for good faster.

"The end results will outweigh the initial hardships and Ridgewood will be rid of its money woes."

The first major cut that should be put into effect concerns the bathroom. Almost every student utilizes the bathroom at least once a day, which means roughly 1600 flushes a day. An average flush consumes about 1.6 gallons of water, which would indicate that on a typical day, the high school wastes 2560 gallons of water. With the slow economy and the

rising water prices, it is essential that Ridgewood must actively work to conserve the toilet water.

We would save a stupendous amount of money if each toilet in the high school is only permitted one flush a day. Not only will this drastically cut the water cost, but Ridgewood High School could continue its "go green" efforts by becoming more environmentally cautious. Toilet

paper, another pricey commodity, should also receive a budget cut. Most students do not think about how much toilet paper they waste when they use the bathroom. To stop this abuse and be economically prudent, each student should receive one roll of toilet paper for the entire year. This is an excellent solution to the tremendous amount of waste.

Ridgewood High School has been providing locks to their students each year to keep their things safe in lockers. However, throughout the months, many locks had to be cut or be replaced, draining the school treasury. To

RIFF RAFF
high times reporter

means higher gas bills for the schools. With this bill taking a large portion of the budget, I propose

that we get rid of the heating system altogether. Instead, Ridgewood High School could replace these pricey installments with simplistic fire pits. Ridgewood will be the first in the nation to have these in the classroom, an honorable and ground-breaking

feat. It is important to remember that the fire pit has many uses besides to provide heat, such as provide chemistry classes with an extra-large Bunsen burner, de-frost some Lean Cuisine, practice potion making, burn the gifts and love letters give by your ex-boyfriend, and, obviously, to provide the perfect place where students can gather and sing camp fire songs during math class—its uses are countless.

Currently, in Ridgewood High School, the lights are always on, even at night when no one is at school. The electricity costs have become quite a burden on

the budget over the years. To decrease

the bill, the Board should permanently shut all the lights off in the school. Instead, students will be provided with light-up sneakers to use as a source of light. This will cut the electricity bill one hundred percent. And honestly, who does not want to wear the light-up sneakers, especially during gym class; it will make every jump, every kick, and every stumble that much more epic. Also, to add on to the light provided by the sneakers, each teacher will be given a flashlight, which comes as a secondary benefit. Having no harsh, fluorescent lights will cause a much more intimate experience amongst students and teachers. It is also much more relaxing and tranquil, and studies have proved that students work much more efficiently when they are less stressed out and tightly wound.

I am aware that, at first glance, it is easy to look at these cuts and immediately think of the negative repercussions. However, there are many more positive effects that outweigh the minor negative ones. It is guaranteed that Ridgewood High School's tradition of excellence will continue. The only regrettable thing is that the seniors this year will not be here to experience this incredible renewal.



Although provisions seem drastic, these changes are exactly what Ridgewood High School needs.

solve this huge dilemma, we should start a "Share-the-Love & Locker" program. This would pair ten random students together to share a locker for a full year. Using fewer lockers would mean fewer locks, which allows the school to save money. Also, it is an excellent opportunity to meet some new people around the school! Knowing that a stranger is looking through your belongings and placing their old gym clothes by your jacket is an exciting feeling that each student can look forward to every morning

Every winter, New Jersey seems to be getting cooler, which

KIRTANE MAKES WHITE HOUSE BID

RHS history teacher sets sights on 2012 election

In a stunning announcement last Friday, Ridgewood High School's own Ms. Medha Kirtane has declared her candidacy for the President of the United States.

A product of our very own town, Ms. Kirtane progressed through the Ridgewood School system leaving each grade behind with a flare of scholastic mediocrity.

"Kirtane? Yeah I think she was in my class once,"

an English teacher tries to recall. "I seem to remember her sitting in the back of the class, always with her hood up, usually getting a 3:15 for vandalizing my desks."

Notorious for her apathy, Kirtane hated discussing current events and instead became an avid fan of the hit band "N'SYNC", She attended many of their concerts and can recite the words from "Bye Bye Bye" to this day.

Kirtane worked the college system taking advantage

MERRILL ANOVICK
TESS THOMAS
high times editors

of one of her favorite organizations, College Board inc, and earned a scholarship to play center for the Amherst basketball team, her school.

Kirtane received a minor suspension after kidnapping the Williams mascot and abandoning him in Massachusetts wilderness. She recovered, earning a degree in Forest Protection with a minor in Interior design, Kirtane continued onto Yale University to pursue

her newfound passion for politics.

After graduating with a degree in political theory, Kirtane went to work on Wall Street as a hedge fund manager volunteering for the future New Jersey governor, Chris Christie, on the weekends.

Kirtane quit her job at Goldman Sachs claiming that they were too focused on the "humanitarian" side of business and that she needed a company more concerned with profit. Kirtane became interested in education and sought to become a teacher to shift the focus of the classroom back to the textbook.

"Discussion based learning is just a fad that Kirtane recognized and sought to reverse", says her good friend Karl Rove. Rove also turned Kirtane on to her latest and most savored weekend activity: political campaigning. Rove encouraged her to run for public office and Kirtane figured why not President?

With no one else yet to declare their candidacy, Kirtane is the clear front runner to take the oval office in 2012.



Candidate Profile

NAME: Medha Kirtane
OCCUPATION: History teacher
EDUCATION: Amherst College (go Lord Jeffs!), Yale University
LIKES: ambiguous statements, Facebook, Tupperware
DISLIKES: research, current events, conditioning
STRENGTHS: giving compliments
WEAKNESSES: un-informed, procrastinator, pushover
HOPES: students will utilize social networking cites more often
FEARS: society places too much of an emphasis on reading
SUPERSTITIONS: cutting fingernails on either Friday or Sunday brings bad luck
INTERESTS: free-style rapping
HOBBIES: Civil war reenactments
HABITS: Saying "like" or "um"
PET PEEVES: when Tess goes to the gym
SKILLS: rapid texter
FAVORITE BOOKS: Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants
FAVORITE MOVIES: From Justin to Kelly
FAVORITE TV SHOWS: Gossip Girl, Desperate Housewives
FAVORITE STUDENTS: Merrill Anovick, Tess Thomas, Joey Mullen
LEAST FAVORITE STUDENT: Eddie Martinez,
FAMOUS QUOTES: "The team has been doing great so far, and we are all very proud."

Campaign Platform

- Sell the White House and move the capital to Topeka, Kansas to guard against global warming and potential Chinese invasion
- Use an Executive Order, deem USA the winner of the 2010 winter Olympic ice hockey championship and seize all gold medals. Charge Sidney Crosby with indecent exposure
- Stage a fire at the Federal Reserve and when foreign countries ask for interest on their loans claim that all records of debt
- Claim Antarctica as the 51st state in the union
- Use an Executive Order to officially declare George Clooney "Sexiest Man Alive"
- Shorten the school day and instead require school age children to participate in mandatory tree planting in an effort to curb green house gases
- Provide higher education by building taller schools
- Change US currency to bubble gum, so it can be inflated or deflated

SPRING CLEAN YOUR CLOSET: THE TOP 3 MUST-HAVE ITEMS

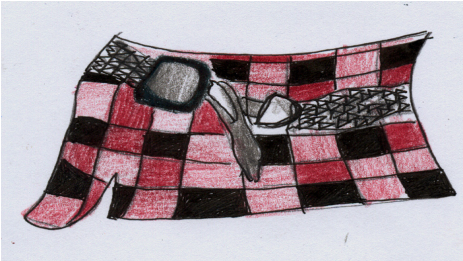
TODAY'S COCO CHANEL
fashion columnist

Every new season marks the beginning of new fashion trends. This spring, update your wardrobe by investing in the following clothing items or accessories. Almost instantly, you'll become as high-fashion as a runway model!

School girl plaid skirt

The classic school girl plaid skirt has made a comeback this spring, but with a rocker girl edge. To get the acquired style, jazz up your plaid skirt with chains and a studded belt. Finish off the look with a solid colored t-shirt, cropped short-sleeved leather jacket, and a pair of lace-up black boots.

*Available on-line at:
www.antiboringschooluniforms-duh.com

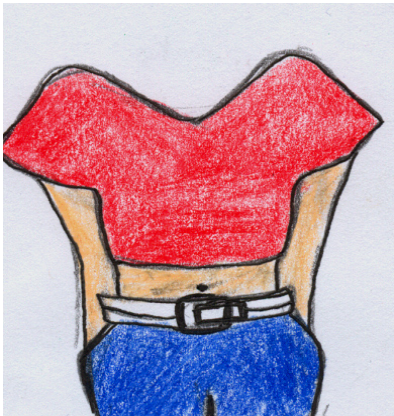


RACHEL CHUN/the high times

Belly shirt

Say hello again to the 90's because belly-shirts are a must for this spring. Mix and match your belly shirt with a long, patterned skirt to look boho, pencil skirt to look professional and elegant, etc. There are so many different combinations to try and they're all 100% chic. However, remember to adhere to your school's dress code and wear your belly shirt appropriately via layering.

*Available on-line at:
www.90'sfashions-musicvideoworthy.com



RACHEL CHUN/the high times

Lace gloves

Add a touch of old-fashioned charm to your wardrobe with lace gloves. Vintage is always in and now it has reached a high-point with the latest designs from fashion week, which featured skirts with petticoats, hats decorated with arrays of flamboyant feathers, and—of course!—lace gloves. Along with 90's fashions (oddly enough), styles from the late 1700's to early 1800's are quite suitable for spring 2010.

*Available on-line at: www.iwantjaneaugusten'scloset.com



RACHEL CHUN/the high times

The Best & Funniest Ways To Prevent the Classroom Z's

...HEY, DO I GET PAID FOR THIS?
struggling comedian

Admit it—we've all been in a class where sleeping sounds more entertaining than what's being taught. Unfortunately, if you do decide to take a snooze, it's very easy to get caught...and all for no reason! So why not entertain yourself with some small classroom pranks? They're easy, simple, and guaranteed to get a kick out of everyone. Not only will you get away with them (for the most part), but learning will never be viewed the same way again!

WARNING: All students are held accountable for their own actions. I do not endorse any of these pranks; they are merely suggestions.

1. Address the teacher as "your honor."
2. Sing your questions to the class.
3. Chew on your arm until someone notices.
4. Page through the textbook scratching each picture and sniffing it.
5. Ask for an extra copy of each handout, for your invisible friend sitting next to you.
6. Stand to ask questions. Bow deeply before taking your seat after the teacher answers.
7. Laugh loudly at everything the teacher says. Be sure to snort and make weird noises while you laugh.
8. Get everyone in the class to start humming softly, and gradually hum louder.
9. Put your hand up, and when the teacher acknowledges you, just say "I'm pointing at the ceiling."
10. Raise your hand as if to ask a question, and then say "buh buh buh buh buh buh?" or some similar nonsense. Then act like the teacher should get it.
11. Have each student say "chop!" when the teacher calls the roll; then, when the last student's name is called, the class yells "Timber!" and they all fall out of their desks onto the floor.
12. Pick one of your teachers that constantly uses a specific word (ex: "Okay?", "Like"). Get everybody in the class to stand up, clap, and sit down every time that word is used.
13. At a completely random time, put up your hand to ask a question. When the teacher picks you, ask a question about a different subject and pretend you thought it was that class.
14. When the teacher turns their back to the class, scream and bang desks, then when they turn around act normal and get on with your work.



ESTEE LIM/the high times



ESTEE LIM/the high times

BRINGING DECET TO DESSERT

ASPIRING BETTY CROCKER
food experimenter

With April Fools' Day lurking in the imminent future, one must be prepared at all times for an attack. The best way to protect oneself is to stay vigilant and to go on the offensive. However, there are many traditional pranks that, honestly, most people are already aware of. To really get someone, you must be innovative. In the past, there have been a variety of ways to use food as the basis of an April Fools' Day prank yet this year is time for a new era of food-fooling. If you can master the element of surprise, you can ensure your sweet April Fools' Day victory over whomever you chose as your victim. Though there are endless possibilities of food pranks to explore, here is one option: a seemingly delectable cupcake that when bitten into will reveal itself as a cupcake of meatloaf and potatoes—surprising and yet scrumptious nonetheless!

Ingredients/Materials:

- The ingredients for your chosen meatloaf recipe
- The ingredients for your chosen mashed potatoes recipe
- Extra milk
- Food coloring

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.
2. Place 12 foil cupcake liners into muffin trays.
3. Prepare the meatloaf recipe of your choice.
4. Divide the meatloaf mixture into your cupcake liners until each is about 3/4 full.
5. Place trays in the oven and cook for approximately 15 minutes or until the "cupcakes" looked cooked all the way through.
6. While the meatloaf is in the oven, make a batch of mashed potatoes. Alter your regular mashed potato recipe by adding a little extra milk and by whipping with an electric beater until the mixture appears fluffy and spreadable—this will be your frosting.
7. Separate the mashed potatoes into separate bowls. Add food coloring as desired and mix until completely incorporated.
8. Spread the mashed potatoes onto the meatloaf as if they were real cupcakes.
9. Watch in amusement as the victim takes that crucial first bite—that one look of surprise will be worth the effort!

RACHEL CHUN/the high times

REALITY IN RIDGEWOOD

The New Laguna Beach

Creators of MTV's hit show "Laguna Beach" are looking to make a move—to Ridgewood.

"Laguna Beach," which followed the lives of several

ALICIA CHO
editor-in-chief

after much consideration, they decided that Ridgewood best suited their needs.

been added, "We will actively market and sell any air time within the Ridgewood Public School District. We have to make up for budget cuts somehow."

With permission from the school and town, the producers are currently looking for a group of around ten to fifteen high school students, preferably seniors, to participate in the show. They will make several visits to our school throughout the month of April to scout out students who are interested.

"We are looking for drama

kings and queens," DiSanto explained. "Since we are looking to give the show a face-lift, we would prefer kids who are mainly vacuous, college-obsessed, who have a tendency to wear polo shirts or who feel as though they need to dress like they are going clubbing instead of to school. Overly-zealous lacrosse players would be a bonus."

During May, producers will audition about thirty students. From there, they will narrow the candidates down through an interview and pick the final cast.

When the news got out to the students, they showed a lot of interest and excitement. "I'm really hoping to be cast in the show," said sophomore Spencer Gellman. "This seems like the perfect opportunity to break into Hollywood."

As the date of MTV's arrival approaches, the anticipation of the students can be felt and also seen. It may only be a coincidence but recently True Religion jeans, Tory Burch flip-flops, and Jordan sneakers are becoming easier to spot on students.

Although anything can happen during the casting and the filming, one thing is sure: it will be a one wild ride!

Students who already know they are interested in participating can email the producers at thenewlaguna@mtv.com.

they [producers] first came to me, I refused, believing that it would become a burden and inconvenience. However, after they offered us \$1 million, how could we say no? That's one third of our budget gap."

Superintendent Dan Fish-



photo courtesy of YoungJai Jung

The site of massive amounts of future drama, to be aired on national television.

wealthy teens who lived in Laguna Beach, California, included interesting love triangles, intense rivalries, and typical high school experiences. Although the first two seasons were successful, the third season was not able to produce similar ratings. After debating whether to cancel the show or to give the show a makeover, the producers finally decided that a change of scenery was necessary.

Once that decision was made, they picked several locations across the country including Greenwich, Connecticut, Aspen, Colorado, Palm Beach, Florida,

When asked why Ridgewood was chosen, Tony DiSanto, the executive producer, commented that "In New Jersey, Ridgewood is famous for its wealth. Just type Ridgewood in Urban Dictionary and you will see what I mean."

With that final decision, they visited the high school once again to speak to the principal and the Board of Education. At first, the Board of Education members and Principal Jack Lorenz were hesitant. After producers offered to pay the district \$1 million if they agreed, Lorenz and Board Members eagerly agreed.

Lorenz admits that "When



jameslogancourier.org

No one can predict who will be the Stephan of Ridgewood on the new MTV television show.

Kenilworth, Illinois, and our own, Ridgewood, New Jersey as possible locations for the revamped show.

The show's producers came to Ridgewood last month to tour the high school, town, and surrounding areas;

RHS Zooplayers

The Little Theater Goes Wild

The New-
players
program

BRANDI \$CANDALOUS
undercover reporter

has long been one of Ridgewood High School's extracurricular crown jewels, churning out countless stars-in-the-

mals need homes, and if Ridgewood High School has extra space and students willing to tend to them, it would be sensible to house them here. Feeding them will also be no



ponyrentals.org

Julia Koo has loved animals from a young age (especially pandas), and is pumped to work at the the Newplayers petting zoo.

making. Helmed by talented faculty members and theater professionals alike, the program has achieved considerable notoriety and is looked upon as one of the premier high school theater programs in the tri-state area. B U T NO MORE.

Under threat of impending budget cuts of considerable magnitude, the Newplayers Company has decided to head a near-certain extermination at the pass and take matters into their own hands. "We know that our program will be one of the first to go," explains head lighting designer and RHS senior Rebekah Gould. "So we figured we might as well turn the Little Theater into something fun instead of letting those stuffy Board of Education people have their way with it."

Starting next year, goats will roam where students once tap danced. Llamas will graze on the catwalk. Chimpanzees will swing from the stage lights. Yes, that's right. The Little Theater is being turned into a petting zoo filled with desolate creatures misplaced by flood and famine across the globe.

"We had a lot of options," said senior, Giselle Boresta. "We thought about turning the theater into a karaoke bar, or maybe a giant closet. But in the end we thought to ourselves, 'Everyone loves animals, so let's make a petting zoo!'"

This option makes the most sense for a number of reasons. Not only are llamas and tigers and monkeys adorable, but they appeal to a wide audience beyond what the Newplayers ever drew. This is also a humanitarian and financially sound choice. Misplaced ani-

problem. Animals aren't that picky when it comes to food choices, so they can just eat the old Newplayers costumes.

"We thought to ourselves, 'Everyone loves animals, so let's make a petting zoo!'"

The Ridgewood High School community awaits the animal's arrival this August, after the summer Newplayers musical, which will be its last performance. Students are already volunteering their time to care for and feed the animals before school even starts. Senior Julia Koo, one such student, said "I'm especially excited to play with the pandas!"

As the Newplayers program comes to a close, current Newplayers express a multitude of mixed sentiments. They look to the past with misty eyed wistfulness and to the future with hope and joy.

"We're all really sad that the Newplayers is not going to exist anymore," said sophomore Rachel Goodgold. "But we're trying to see this as a new beginning. We not be able to act or sing on stage anymore, but we can cuddle and bond with animals. If you ask me, that's nearly as good."

Who's up for Wood-Stack?

Ridgewood High School Cup Stacking Makes Its Debut

This past week, news was leaked that the Ridgewood High School Athletic Department reached a decision that is sure to shake up the sports scene at RHS for years to come. Watch out "Wood-lax," "Wood-nastics," and "Wood-friz." Make way for "Wood-stack."

Beginning next year, RHS will offer its latest addition to the slate of varsity sports: cup stacking. The decision arrives on the coat-tails of the last decade's cup-stacking craze, after the sport became competitive in 2000. Since then, a full set of rules and regulations have been established. Athletes can compete in either 10-cup or 15-cup competitions, in which teams vie for the lowest combined time taken to stack the cups. To those who cannot fathom the excitement of a sport dedicated to stacking cups, all enthusiasts will say the same thing. "You just got to try it."

In addition to national tournaments and backyard recreation, cup-stacking has found its way into physical education curriculums in all fifty states. Despite lobbying from students and parents alike, RHS's physical education department has resisted the pressure. Chuck Johnson, head football coach and P.E.

Teacher, has but a few words to say on the matter: "You can't be serious."

In its inaugural season, the helm of Wood-stack will be entrusted to new coach Sean Turkington, a math teacher at RHS. Though Turkington admittedly lacks first-person experience in the sport, he is confident that he can lead RHS Cup-Stacking to National recognition. "I can't say I'm an expert, but I've Tivo'd tons of competitions," says Turkington. "I've also developed a rigorous training program that will optimize our athletes' coordination and discipline. It's going to make Navy SEAL Bud-S training look like summer camp."

Turkington will mandate that his athletes allot their summer vacation to preparation and team building. "Our training will focus heavily on strengthening the wrist and hand muscles, some of the most neglected muscles in the human organism."

According to the head coach, training will involve a combination of finger curls,

deep hand tissue massage, online gaming, and his own brain child--Turkingfest. "Turkingfest will be a week long

CHRIS GIVEN
sports editor



A young world record holder displays his coordination and intensity.

event, in which athletes build a home out of stacked cups. It's the only way to get ready for national competition."

Turkington is also lucky to have the help of three seniors who have elected to take a break in their education to jumpstart the program. "Alex Scibetta, Yoon-Ji Nam, and Laura Poole will all be

assistant coaches next year. They have all competed on club teams, and possess the expertise that this program needs," says Turkington. "I really appreciate their willingness to take a year off before college to channel their passion for the sport to RHS's new team."

Some project that the inception of cup-stacking as a new varsity sport is a response to the increasing number of concussions sustained by RHS athletes in contact sports. Henry Forseman, chairman for the National Committee of Head Injuries and Prevention, was available for comment: "Cup stacking is a phenomenal alternative to traditional contact sports. It contains the intensity and excitement of sports like football and basketball, but without the danger of life-threatening injury. It's one step that we hope schools will take to counteract the 21st century concussion epidemic," he states.

Unlike existing high schools sports, whose seasons are limited to either fall,

winter, or spring, cup stacking will require its athletes to be "in season" all year round. "Unfortunately, Bergen County is not known for its cup stacking," says Turkington. "We're going to have to travel across the country to find tournaments with competitive teams, and these tournaments are held from September to June."

Chris Chersi, a Ridgewood high school junior who has already been named captain for the 2010 season, has assumed the role of ambassador for the new sport. "I'm just excited to be part of the team next year," offers a giddy Chersi. "But I know that there won't be a team unless we fill up the 12-man roster."

When asked how he plans to advertise the extensive commitment that is Ridgewood High School Cup Stacking, Chersi smiles: "I tell them about the International High School Championship in Amsterdam. It's going to be wild."

For students who are interested in participating next year, see Mr. Turkington or Chris Chersi before the end of the school year. If you are someone who just can't get that adrenaline rush from traditional sports, cup stacking may be the fix you're looking for.

From Backyard to Big Stage

RHS's Home-Grown Legend Heads to UNC

It was like any other afternoon for Jacob Levitsky outside Benjamin Franklin Middle School. The courts were flooded with high school students playing pick-up basketball, while others simply came to appreciate the sheer talent and raw athleticism of the players. Levitsky had played for the high school team his freshmen year, but since then had not played for Ridgewood. Still, he knew he was good enough to be offered a Division I Scholarship, and nothing could hold him back.

Constantly in the weight room, a look at his trapezius muscles may lend one to believe this young man was crafted by Hephaestus himself. As for basketball, Jacob

needed no coaches to help him achieve his goal. If not



Levitsky's championship game performance with the Jae Joo Crew sparked interest from college programs.

working on his game during Biddy season, Jacob's court at his home parallel any type of practice John Calipari could formulate.

As Jacob arrived at B.F., a familiar figure greeted him as he stepped out of his car. Roy Williams, the current head coach at the University of North Carolina was present on hand with a few other scouts.

JACK SIMMONS
sports editor

Jacob's mother Sharon had been sending Roy video for the past five years of Jacob playing in his backyard.

To say Williams was impressed would be an understatement. When I asked Williams how Levitsky stacked up to other UNC legends he responded, "Combine Michael Jordan, Vince Carter, and Tyler Hansbrough's game all in one, times it by ten, and you are about half way there."

From his ball handling skills, to his ability to dominate in the low post, Levitsky simply cannot be stopped at the offense end. Yet, Williams added, "Some players get to college with unbelievable offense talent, but can't play a lick of de-

fense. What separates Jacob from others is his passion on the defense end." Jacob often can be seen waving the classic "Mutoumbo finger" at his father Kenneth after a trademark block.

Williams and Levitsky started talking before Jacob got on the court, and when I asked

such an esteemed program."

Jacob will be joining the likes of the number one high school recruit in the nation, Harrison Barnes. In his mind, the two will be unstoppable on the court. "Harrison will do his thing and I respect that. But, when the rock is in my hands, it's show time baby!"




Friends and fans celebrate Levitsky's commitment to UNC.

Levitsky about their interview, he could not help smile. He proclaimed, "Although I would not consider myself a huge fan of UNC, I am ecstatic to continue my basketball career at

itsky. When asked what advice he could give to those pursuing a college career in basketball, Levitsky simply responded, "Just do what it do".

From backyard legend, to eventual college superstar, Levitsky gives hope to all young boys around the nation. Hard work truly has paid off for this amazing young man, and the sky is the only limit for Lev-

APRILL 21210

SUNDAY	MONDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY
				1 April Fools Day	2 Wear-a-bag-over-your-head day	3
4	5 Punch-Merrill Anovick-Day	6 Herbology with Professor Sprout at CC afterschool	7 Free Screening of Harry Potter Rm 112 @ 6 am	8 Wear-your-favorite-Quid-ditch-shirt-day	9 New Play-ers Production: Harry Potter @ 8pm	10 New Play-ers Production: Harry Potter @ 8pm
11 New Players Production: Harry Potter @ 8pm	12	13 Hug-A-Muggle-Day	14	15 Optional School Day	16	17
18	19 20% discount on all wands @ Olivander's	20	21 10% Solar Eclipse	22 Seminar class leaves for Australia	23 European-American Australian Canadian Festival CC All Day	24 North AAA Division Ping Pong Competition
25	26 Bring-your-owl-to-school-day	27 	28	29 Hogwarts' Open House	30	

April Fools!

We hope you enjoyed this issue. Please remember that all the articles are jokes!

Thanks!

UPCOMING MEETING FOR THE HIGH TIMES

If you are interested in writing for The High Times, please attend our next meeting!

May Issue



Meeting: 5/3

Staff meetings will be held at Unit Lunch in Room 199 to assign articles. Unique article ideas are encouraged!