



# RAMPAGE

Richland High School  
One Academic Ave.

**2008: IN REVIEW**  
**BY: ALYSSA KELLEY**

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This past year several Richland Rams have experienced great success. There have been record breaking seasons and major success stories demonstrating what we take pride in at Richland.

In April of this year, Adrienne Lazer was honored by being named Cambria County's Outstanding Young Woman. Not only did she win the title, but she also won the Scholastic and Achievements Preliminary award. Adrienne also went on to States in Reading, Pennsylvania where she won the Interview competition and was Second Runner-Up. However, Adrienne wasn't the only accomplished woman that night.

Catherine Janisko was the First Runner-Up, winning Interview and Presence & Presentation. Kelly Maher received the Aerobic & Fitness award.

On June 8, 2008, the new Richland Senior High

graduated its first class. This class consisted of diverse and accomplished students that future classes will be measured by in years to come.

The class of 2009 got off to a great start in the athletic arena as our football players made history this season. They qualified for the post season in consecutive years for the first time in twenty years. They were led by all-state players Timothy Ripple and Giovanni Ramires.

In addition to our success on the gridiron, for the first time in Richland's history the Rams had a girls district 6 tennis champion. Annika Bethan, an exchange student from Germany, was crowned this fall, making Ram history.

On the volleyball court Chloe Devett was selected for the all-state volleyball team in 2008. She has participated in the volleyball program for six years and has always been an awesome outside hitter.

Soccer may have offered the greatest highlights of all in the fall season. Girls senior, Laura Stayrook broke the school record for the number of goals scored in one season as she finished her senior year with 43 goals, totaling an amazing 127 for her high school career. Another soccer star, Dylan Horne was a selection for Pennsylvania all-state soccer team. He rocks the field as one of Richland's forwards and is only a sophomore. The highlight for both squads occurred at the end of the district playoffs as both the boy's and girl's soccer teams captured the LHAC District 6 Titles. This is the first time in school history that both teams have won districts in the same year.

As a whole, Richland has had an amazing year and we hope that next year will be even better.



## HEART & POWER OF THE SWIM TEAM

BY: KELLY PROZIALECK, TIFFANY BURNOSKY, KRISTI MCCLELLAN

It's winter time again, and that means it's time for caroling, presents, snow...and winter sports. This gruesome weather is a sign of one of the most grueling sports seasons of the year. Winter sports are some of most intense sports to watch. One of these sports – Varsity Swimming — is going strong this year. Starting off with a win against Tyrone, the Richland Varsity Swim Team, with a team of 30 + girls and boys are on a mission to prove they are contenders.

Although they may have been seen as a small team compared to other schools, the Richland swim team is out to prove that their strength and heart will lead to

victories. Currently standing with their girls scores at two wins, one loss, and boys with one win and two loses, the swim team wants to show they are prepared to face the challenges ahead. Facing top ranked teams such as Hollidaysburg and Altoona, the team has to work hard to come out on top.

In order to prepare for these competitions, the team practices for two intense hours a day working on everything from basic skills to perfect stroke technique. Knowing how to do the four basic strokes: butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke, and freestyle is the key to a successful race. At a point in the season where winning is

everything, the team is hard at work everyday and are constantly encouraging each other to do his or her best.

In these next few months of the winter sports season, practices will be more challenging and the pressure to win will be at its peak. But with a team like the Richland Swimmers, the season will fly by and the victories will be shown. Nothing can be won without a heart and dedication and the Richland Swimmers prove they have what it takes.



## I U 8 READING COMPETITION

BY: TIFF SHOMO

Richland's Junior High Reading Team, also known as Richland Red Hot Dino - RAWRS, has obtained a few ribbons since it began in the fall of 2007. The team leader, Mrs. Tipton appointed Elizabeth Boyce, Jessica Brown, and Annie Rifilato as team captains. After competing in a spring competition in 2008, they received a third place ribbon. At the beginning of the 2008 school year, they competed again and obtained a second place ribbon. RA reading competition consists of three rounds with forty

questions each round. Each of the students from all of the schools read forty two books that they are asked questions about. Competitions start around 4:30 and last until 8:30.

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, approximately nine hundred people filled the auditorium of Richland High School to watch and compete in the I U 8 Reading Competition. Richland Red Hot Dino - RAWRS won the first and second rounds of the competition, but fell to Windber in the third and final round, re-

sulting in a second place finish.

Mrs. Tipton would like to thank Mrs. Rifilato, Mrs. Weiland, Mrs. Ambrose, Mrs. Kehl, and Miss Murphy for all of their help with the team and on competition night- you're the best!!



## HOLIDAY MUSIC PERFORMANCE

### BY: RICHELLE HORNE

To participate in the holiday season, the Richland High School Band, Orchestra and Chorus present their annual Christmas performances. These are shows that friends, family, and relatives look forward to every year. Their performances bring in the holiday spirit and get everyone ready for the upcoming days of Christmas and New Years.

To start off the extravaganza of music, the chorus took center stage first. With great joy, excitement, and tradition, the chorus sang "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." This is a classic song that everyone knows and could sing along while they performed; having music that everyone has known since they were young allows people more enjoyment in what they are listening to and gives them the opportunity to relate to their children as they watch them sing. Also, the chorus put on a great array of music such as "Carol of the Bells", "Fum, Fum, Fum", and "This is Christmas to Me." These are mix of classic, traditional pieces and more contemporary pieces which appeal to both older people and the youth. Chorus can always be counted on to give a good performance with a professional appeal.

Following the chorus, it was the orchestra's turn to do their thing. They started off with a jazz rendition of "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer," which allowed for a classical song to be viewed in a more contemporary and up to date

manner. The Orchestra also put on a classical piece, "I Wonder as I Wonder." This is a beautiful piece of music that is not overly popular for most, but is well liked by many after it is heard. Hearing Christmas tunes with the string instruments definitely allows for a different sound and adds a very calming affect to the pieces that were chosen to be performed. The Orchestra always brings a sophisticated atmosphere to the Holiday Concert.

Continuing the music fun, to show the talents of both the orchestra and some of the multi talented band members, they came together to play a few tunes. They played an old classic of "Oh Come Emmanuel" and "Christmas Sing Along" which also showed a good mix of both familiar music of a song that combined a whole bunch of traditional Christmas music. This group gives several students the opportunity to show off the fact that they not only have great success in playing one instrument, but their love of music leads them to take on learning multiple instruments.

Lastly, to pass the time between the different musical performances, the newly put together Jazz band showed us a fantastic medley of jazz inspired pieces. They smoothly played their rendition of "Baby It's Cold Outside" and a not so traditional version of "What a Wonderful World." This collection of both students and teachers showed us a fun and up to date way to listen to old music. By adding a little jazz to

the music department of the school, it has definitely given the students with an individual taste to express their opinion of what music is and what it should sound like. This group has been fun for many students and will continue in helping open the eyes of people that have never seen or heard music performed in this way.

As a whole, the music talent at Richland High School is out of this world! The time, effort and heart that the students put into one of their passions shows a great amount of commitment and desire to get better at what they do and excel in their extra activities. In the future, there will be a tremendous amount of great things to come for Richland High School and the tremendous music department that has been created here.



## TREASURES FOR CHILDREN

“Treasures for Children” is a program done through the Salvation Army to help families that aren’t as fortunate and to give them a joyful Christmas. For the past couple of years, Mr. Wenturine and the Richland Key Club have helped spread this joy. This year there were two hundred tags ordered and about one hundred and seventy five of them were taken. The tag gives the information such as the child’s first name, gender, age, clothing size, and idea for toys. There is a due date for the program, which is also on the

tag. This year the due date was December 1<sup>st</sup>. After a tag was picked, the donor could go out and buy their child a Christmas present. The spending limit this year was twenty-five dollars. The children of the program range between the ages of newborn and thirteen, and the family must reach minimum poverty requirements. “Christmas is all about giving not receiving. It feels good to be able to help children not as fortunate as us,” says senior Cory Pollagi, who is a member of Key Club. An interesting

fact about “Treasures for Children” is that it also benefits senior citizens. The High school students were not offered this, but senior Brittney Lees and others volunteered at the Salvation Army and sorted out the presents for the many families and senior citizens.

The students love picking their own child to buy for and then actually going out and shopping for them. It is an experience that feels good to help make everyone’s Christmas the best it can be.

## WRESTLING TOURNAMENTS

BY: JOE FETZER

Richland wrestling is a sport that has rapidly grown this year. As the season is still in progress, Richland has participated in two tournaments to date. The first one was the Conemaugh Township tourney. Richland came to this tournament to battle. As a team, the Rams took second place. Seven of the wrestlers made it to the finals and two finished as champions to help the Rams get off to a good start. The next tournament they had was the Penn Cambria tourney. The team fought hard and took a sixth place finish. Richland wrestling still has two more tournaments that they will be participating. Coming up next is the

Richland Duals that will be held at our building. The last tournament of the year is the Thomas Chevrolet tourney. This season Richland is definitely improving and hopefully the best is yet to come for our wrestlers.



## DEL BORGIO

### BY: LEXIE PATRICK

During the month of December, the Del Borgo Chamber Strings, directed by Mrs. Neville, traveled to different locations to perform their holiday music. Del Borgo is an elite group of string players, normally the first, second, and sometimes third chair of each string section. Katie Jackson, Jamie Riffalato, and Bethany Biesinger play first violin; Brittany Friedman, Jamie Jaber, and Amy Varnecky play second violin; Matt Ross, Kevin Jackson, and Kiersten Robertson play viola; Lexie Patrick plays the cello; and Kaila Henrey plays the bass. The Del Borgo Group has played at the Atrium in down

town Johnstown, The Portage Mainline National Bank, and The Galleria. A few songs include "The Glory of Christmas", "Silent Night", "Jingle Bells", and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." We all are proud of the way this elite group of musicians helped to spread the holiday cheer.



## NEW CELL PHONE POLICY

### BY: KATIE FRANKLIN & SEAN HALEY

For years schools nationwide have been torn between allowing the usage of cell phones and banning them. In most cases, the decision was made to ban cell phones in school but not Richland. It is believed that Richland School District is the first in the Cambria County area to allow the use of cell phones in school.

This new policy on cell phones will have a trial run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to January 16<sup>th</sup>. If it succeeds, then the school will continue to use its

progressive approach to allow students the ability to use phones during non-class time, but if it is abused, the school will just ban the use of cell phones altogether. In this new policy, students are allowed to use cell phones in between classes, at lunch, and during non-instructional time. If a student fails to meet these requirements, it will result in the phone being taken away and the student will receive a four hour detention. If a student violates the policy again, further punishment will

be taken.

In conclusion, the cell phone policy is heavily favored by the students and even some teachers like it. With this new policy, many students believe that this can be a useful tool to keep in touch with family and friends during the school day. Having this constant resource in our pocket can be very useful in the classroom and in times of emergencies.



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