

School News

GDHS Report

Turmoil at Rebels roost

By MARK TUFFORD

Over the past week and a half, there has been considerable controversy over the alleged replacement of the Rebel flag at Georgetown District High School.

According to G.D.H.S. Principal, Bryn Davies, there is no danger of the flag being replaced. Apparently it was all just a nasty rumor started by concerned students. The only thing Mr. Davies rejected was the idea of mascots carrying firearms (the school is currently running a mascot contest and some designs featured the mascots carrying weapons).

If, however, these nasty rumors are true, I would like to take the time to clarify what the flag means to us, the students. We accept what the flag means and what it stands for, and respect the fact that some people are concerned with the public image for Georgetown and the high school.

Unfortunately, these same people seem to forget that the rebel flag has been the high school symbol for nearly 28 years, and in all that time there has never been a serious outcry against it.

This flag, this symbol, has survived some of the most

tumultuous years in our history, and is now being threatened in one of the most tranquil eras this country has ever seen.

I can understand why people think the way they do, racism is a horrible thing that might possibly exist in every person. Fortunately, prejudice exists in amounts, a little in one person and a lot in another.

I may be optimistic but I truly believe that the majority of the student population is anti-racist. I'm not saying that every student at G.D.H.S. is entirely virtuous. What I'm trying to say is that just because we want to keep our symbol, doesn't mean that we are aspiring to lowness by being bigots.

The flag, to us anyway, means a great deal of things, all of them good. I think of all the athletic championships won under that flag, all of the students who went to school at G.D.H.S., and were proud (and still are) to call themselves Rebels. I don't see the flag as a negative symbol, I see it as an embodiment of school spirit, something to look up to and respect. The flag has earned a lot of respect in the past 28 years, and deserved every ounce of it.

So for those people who feel

that the flag is offensive, I have no problem with that. Everyone is entitled to their own distinct opinion.

Of course, those people who are saying, "Why bother?", it's just a flag," should maybe consider why they are bothering, if it truly is just a flag.

Letters

The flag means tradition, Rebel pride in the school. I never even thought of the flag as being racist to people. We should be able to wave the flag at sports meets without people associating it with the civil war and slavery.

People should try to let go of the past and not think of the flag in that way today.

The flag is used for team spirit and it gives students determination and pride to participate in team activities at GDHS.

Name withheld by request

To us, the flag signifies a lifetime of commitment towards our school. We strongly feel that Mr. Bryn - the rebel - Davies is far too concerned with the issue. By taking away our flag it takes away our pride in our school. We are proud of our flag - so deal with it.

Name withheld by request.

Student organization looks for recruits

Interculture Canada, the country's leading international student exchange organization, is presently recruiting next year's class of young Canadians aged 15 to 18, who will study abroad for a full school year.

Students interested in living this cultural and personal challenge of a lifetime are urged to apply now for one of the placements available in approximately thirty different countries.

The participants have the opportunity to enrich themselves by living and learning in an environment completely different to their own. They live with a carefully selected family and complete a full year of studies in the language of their host country. They also benefit throughout the experience from the support of a local volunteer counsellor.

Participation fees are comparable to the amount often spent on an adolescent over a one year period. For financially disadvantaged families, assistance is available.

If you want to live the adventure of a lifetime, apply now to the Interculture Canada's Year Program Abroad.

Interculture Canada is a non-profit organization promoting intercultural understanding and international development. As a member of AFS Intercultural Programs, it is part of the largest high school exchange network in the world.

For more information, please call Interculture Canada's national office, toll-free at 1-800-361-7248.

Bishop Reding parents meeting

Bishop Reding Secondary School Parents Association will be holding its monthly meeting Nov. 5. Parents and students at the Milton school are cordially invited to attend.

Guest speaker for the evening

will be Pat Mason who will be dealing with the topic, 'Helping parents create a learning environment at home.'

The 7 p.m. scheduled meeting will be held at the school's Resource Centre.

Bishop Reding Report

Enriching experience at Art Gallery

By KARYN MCGILVRAY

ART TRIP

On Tuesday, October 23, a bus full of Grade 10 art students and four chaperones ventured to the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto for the day.

The first part of the trip was spend doing a critique of a painting of the student's choice.

After the critique the students were involved with a hands-on seminar.

Half of the group went to a sculpture seminar at which they experimented with clay.

Meanwhile, the other group used acrylic paints and created a painting on canvas.

The day was enriching and a great learning experience for all who attended. The students were co-operative and made a good impression for our school.

SPORTS UPDATE

Our sports teams are continuing an excellent season. The teams are letting other schools know that even though we are a relatively new school we do have skill and spirit.

On October 23 the senior girl's field hockey team played in Hamilton winning their match 3-1.

Goals were scored by Sara Hughes, Maria Sweeny and Joanna Miller. Keep up the good effort!

fort!

Also, on October 24, our cross-country team competed at the GHAC race. Our qualifiers for the OFSAA meet are Mike Wyman and Ian Anderson. Congratulations! Good luck in London on November 3rd at the OFSAA meet.

On October 25, the junior girls basketball team defeated Acton, 41-40. The senior girls basketball team also defeated Acton.

Another victory on the 25th was recorded by the junior boys volleyball team who won both games against Acton.

The senior boys volleyball team would like to thank all their fans who assisted the team in their winning effort against Acton.

This past weekend the senior boys hosted the Bishop Reding Invitational where they placed third.

Lastly, congratulations to our athlete of the week who represents our school well and will be running at the OFSAA meet, Mike Wyman. Mike has been in, at least, the top 10 of each race in his division. Great work Mike!

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Great news for the environment! It will now have some of our students under the advisory

board of Mr. O'Carroll, Ms. Olivieri and Mr. Hurrigan trying to save itself.

Bishop Reding's Environment Club (B.R.E.C.) has already had a few meetings at which some goals have been set.

Mr. O'Carroll believes that "a group of students will be more effective than a group of teachers." Mr. O'Carroll continued by suggesting that we display posters around the school, put special "environmentally-friendly" messages on the announcements, and his main concern is to get students involved in protecting the environment.

B.R.E.C. is welcoming new members and ideas. The more people that get involved, the more of a chance we have at saving our earth.

TIDBITS

On Friday, November 9, our school will be holding a dance.

The dance, sponsored by the school band, will feature a live band, "Three Cool Guys". Tickets are on sale now.

Today, being October 31st, our school will be having several special activities. Students have been encouraged to wear a costume instead of their uniform.

There will be a pumpkin carving contest and a costume contest for the home room classes.

Happy Halloween!

SHOP LOCALLY & WIN!!

LUCKY LICENCE NUMBER

HERE'S HOW TO WIN:

Each week The Herald will select a licence number from the parking lot of a different Halton Hills retailer and publish that number in this feature. The owner of that vehicle then has seven (7) days to claim his/her prize of a FREE Lube Lube, Oil and Filter.

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8:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.

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