



ROCKETIMES



November, 2009

New Direction for Hot Lunch Program

By Danielle Mishkit

The Rochester hot lunch program hasn't really changed much until this school year. Now everything has changed from the food to the people making it. Kristi Fuller has inspired these changes, after she was brought on board to replace Elaine Roth as Food Service Director.

Even though Kristi has subbed at the Hancock and Granville schools in the kitchen, and caters on the weekends, she doesn't actually do the cooking. Kristi helps prepare the food for cooking, organizes the menu, orders the food, keeps track of the accounts, does the paperwork, and she says, "some days I actually do get to help cook." The other mastermind in the kitchen, the one who does most of the cooking, is Joyce Gendron. Kristi commented "we compliment each other very nicely. We have a lot of fun." They teach each other their different cooking techniques.

Kristi has gone out of her way to ask the students exactly what *they* want for lunch which is why there has been a huge increase in the amount of students *and* teachers getting lunch. She described what changes they made this school year explaining, "we got a smaller salad bar so that the Kindergarten through third grade students can actually reach it. We have gone back to cooking from scratch, and on days when kids have an away game, they can order a bag lunch for the bus ride." The students love the new changes.

Many students think that the lunch program has improved immensely this year.

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Kristi and Joyce take the last pizza out of the oven.

"FROSTWEAR" - RHS STUDENT TAKES BUSINESS ONLINE

By Lauren Pratt

Frostwear. Rochester junior Montana Bowman's business that he started in 5th grade is developing into a web-based entity with increasing sales.

Montana describes his business as "a hand drawn, hand designed, 'one-man-band' clothing company based in the middle of Vermont." He goes on to say that, "the clothing I design is specifically made for men and women of the skater/graffiti artist culture."

Bowman's inspiration for the idea started when he was in elementary school and would take trips to New York City with his family. "When I was a kid, I went to New York with my family and thought the graffiti was really cool. When I was in 5th grade I drew a lot and one day I saw a mega cool design on a shirt. My mom got me a couple of shirts with my designs on it and I decided to keep it going."

Montana's art style has inspired everyone who has seen his work. He says, "my stuff gets publicized through word of mouth and other free swag stuff, like stickers. I hope to be more public in the future by going to fairs and such; but for now my friends are doing *(Continued on page 7)*



Montana Bowman, "Frostwear" entrepreneur.

Rochester School After-School Program

By Anna Brown

The Windsor North West Supervisory Union recently received a grant from the 21st Century Community Learning Center for \$231,703 towards after school programs. The first three years are fully paid for, but in the 4th year WNWSU has to pay 25 percent of the money granted, and in the 5th year WNWSU has to pay 35 percent.

The 21st Century Community Learning Center has four goals for this program:

- Participants will increase academic achievement and behaviors that support school success.
- Participants will develop positive social and personal skills.
- The WNWSU ExCeL program will increase community and parent involvement in the schools.
- The WNWSU ExCel program will design and deliver high-quality programming in a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment.

This program offers many opportunities for everyone. From the arts, to tutoring services, drug and violence prevention programs, expanded library hours, and recreational activities, many students are looking forward to doing most of these activities. One student, sophomore Rhianna Graham-

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CLASS MEETINGS

By Anna Brown

Rochester School students had their first class meetings September 16, where they elected their class officers.

Freshmen-

Class Advisers- Mr. Pezzulo, Mrs. Bushnell

President- Clay Walker

Vice President- KC Monger

Secretary- Brittini New

Treasure- Alex Wardwell

Representatives- Tanner Pratt, Caedin Ostro-Remy

Sophomores-

Class Advisers- Mr. Bretschneider, Mme. Orliac, Ms. McPhetres

President- Madison Fuller

Vice President- Danielle Mishkit

Secretary- Abbey Hybl

Treasure- Jordan Hubbard

Representatives- Gavin Curtis, Mal Smith

Juniors-

Class Advisers- Mr. Moltz, Sra. Gomez

President- Lauren Pratt

Vice President- Miranda Shepard

Secretary- Hannah Domas

Treasure- Hannah-Mollie West

Representatives- Daley Crowley, Bennett McPhetres

Seniors-

Class Advisers- Mr. Graziadei, Mr. Mitchell, Terry Paquette

President- Allyson Paquette

Vice President- TJ Purdy

Secretary- Danny Novotny

Treasure- Jace Curtis

Representatives- Hugh Randall, Jackie Potter

The next class meeting will be held Monday November 23.



Class Presidents
(left to right)
Allyson
Paquette,
Lauren Pratt,
Madison Fuller,
and
Clay Walker.

Rockband in Rochester Debut! Our Very Own “School of Rock!”

By Dylan Tate

The Rochester music program has received a recent boost in popularity which can be attributed to a new class offered to high school students. “Rockband”

This new class has a very fluid structure, allowing students to pick the songs they want to learn including selections from today’s leading artists. Students are also permitted to record their own original compositions.

The class is offered at two different times in the day to accommodate students’ schedules. The third period class is composed of juniors, all at the intermediate or advanced level. They are given free reign to pick and play songs they know to perfect their skills. The fourth period class is split up into two groups. A pre-existing student band called “Just Fools” writes, practices, and records their own songs in one room. TJ Purdy says “it’s great for my band to have a period, four days a week, to use as time to practice and record our songs. If it wasn’t for Rockband class we would hardly have any time for ‘Just Fools’, with all the other time demanding things in our lives.” The second group is beginners who are taking an introductory course on the guitar and choose songs that are at their skill level to learn. “Everyone is working really hard,” Mrs Cronce says. “I’m glad we have a whole year to cover many aspects of rock.”

Students are taught through a variety of methods including instruction from Mrs. Cronce, computer lessons, YouTube videos, and by teaching each other.

The fourth period class played at a conference at the Killington Grand Hotel on October 16. “I’m really pleased that everyone came in with clear goals of what they want to learn. I hope this becomes a regular part of the Rochester curriculum,” Mrs. Cronce commented.



Jace Curtis, TJ Purdy, Hugh Randall, Harlan Hopkins, Dylan Tate, Matt Brown, and Tyler Schnabel.

New School Schedule

Rochester School is experimenting with yet another schedule this school year, in an attempt to offer more high school courses, and allow part-time staff to teach the maximum amount of courses possible.

Last year Rochester had a simple six-period a day schedule, with all classes an hour long on a trimester system. The problem was, with only six periods a day, many students were unable to take the classes that they wanted – or, had to take those classes as independent studies, which was problematic.

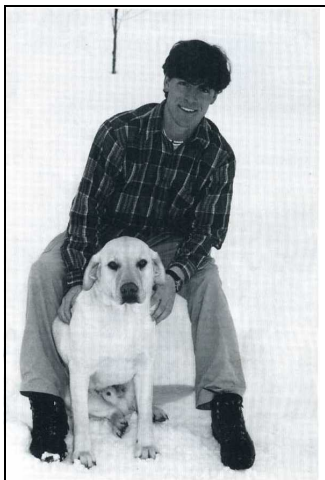
The new schedule allows for eight class periods, but only seven periods meet every day. Morning classes are dropped on a rotational basis, but still meet for enough minutes a week to meet state requirements. Afternoon classes meet every day.

Perhaps the biggest change is in the lunch schedule – the middle and high school do not eat until 12:40 under the new schedule.

Senior Harlan Hopkins commented that “I love the shorter afternoons after lunch. Adding the break in the morning helped make the mornings more enjoyable.” Allyson Paquette added “I like how it works, this way we’re not bored with the same classes every day at the same time.”

Where are They Now?

This month: Trevor Klein



By Rhianna Graham - Frock

Where are they Now will be a regular feature of the new *Rocketimes*, in which we hope to track down former graduates and teachers to catch up on their lives since leaving Rochester.

With the first snowflakes in the air, the *Rocketimes* staff began thinking of skiing and snowboarding – which led us to this month’s feature on Trevor Klein, RHS Class of 1999.

In the 1999 Rochester yearbook, on his senior page Trevor described his future plans as hoping to “go to college, have a successful soccer career, move west, get a good job (preferably skiing for Warren Miller), live the high life, SKI, and then settle down and have a loving family, and SKI.” *Rocketimes* found Trevor living in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and asked him about the accuracy of his quote. Trevor responded, “wow, I almost hit the nail on the head with that except for the family part – at least so far.”

How did Trevor make his dream reality?

Trevor John Klein was born on April 30, 1981, and graduated from Rochester School in 1999. He played soccer, basketball, and baseball all four years of his high school career. Klein was captain of his soccer and baseball teams his junior and senior years, as well as basketball captain his senior year. He scored two goals during the championship soccer game in 1998 to help the 17-0 Rockets win states for the second year in a row. Along with school sports, Trevor also loved to ski.

Trevor graduated from Keene State in 2003, and shortly after moved to Jackson Hole - he has been there ever since. This winter will be his 7th season in the Tetons. During the nights his job on the mountain is “Lift Operations Supervisor,” which lets him spend his days skiing. It seems his dreams are really coming true. In the summer he also works construction with a close friend, but skiing is what he most enjoys doing. He guessed he spent “probably 150 days” last winter doing the sport he loves most.

Trevor has also earned ‘ambassador’ status for two companies, Cloudveil “Inspired Mountain Apparel” and Moment Skis - you can find Trevor at www.cloudveil.com (Continued on page 6)

New Teachers

By Rhianna Graham - Frock



Sean Tully is a new teacher at Rochester School this year. He is the Information Technology Technician. Sean grew up in Brandon Vermont and when to Otter Valley High School. After he went to College at VTC. He has a bachelor’s degree in computer technology. Before he came to work at Rochester he was in Lowell Mass working at a bank. About the drive to work he says “so far so good but it’s a little weary.”

When asked how he liked working here at Rochester his reply was “it’s a lot of fun so far. I like everything and the people are great.”

Hot in the Lot

By Cassidy Johnson



You can see it coming from a mile away. No one can mistake the color of that car for something else. As the car heads into the parking lot and takes its rightful spot, out jumps senior Harlan Hopkins.

The *Rocketimes* sat down with Harlan and asked him about his historic ride.

Rocketimes: "What model and year is your car?"

Harlan: "It's a 1991 tan Volvo 240 Sedan."

Rocketimes: "Where did you get it from?"

Harlan: "I got it from a random guy in Brandon who said 'it's a good car'. In my opinion I'm surprised it's still alive."

Rocketimes: "Have you had any accidents or breakdowns have you had with your car?"

Harlan: "None, (knock on wood)."

Rocketimes: "How much did it cost you?"

Harlan: "\$1,100, however it has had over \$2,500 in repairs."

Rocketimes: "Why did you buy it in the first place?"

Harlan: "I needed a car, and my parents wanted a crummy car because it was safe and I couldn't go fast, yeah sure it can't go fast."

Rocketimes: "Any last things you want to say about your car?"

Harlan: "After pushing my car to its limits, I've decided to never push it there again."

Harlan and the entire school are waiting to see if his car can actually make it through his senior year.

Fall Hike Day!

By Cassidy Johnson

On Wednesday September 23rd the entire Rochester middle school and high school student body participated in Fall Hike Day. Lead teacher Mary Sue Crowley organized the day around the theme "Rediscover Rochester." She envisioned the day as an opportunity for teachers and students to get to know each other better in a relaxing atmosphere.

The 6th graders and sophomores hiked all the way up Mt. Cushman, while the seniors enjoyed an easy afternoon with a picnic at Texas Falls. Meanwhile the 7th grade and the juniors were hiking up Brook Street and the 8th graders and freshmen walked in Bingo.

Senior Jackie Potter exclaims that "I had fun, excluding the time when I fell into the river and soaked my whole leg, and also excluding the time when I ran too fast, and tripped over a root playing capture the flag."



Junior P.J. Parrish stakes his claim as king of the mountain.

21 Century Grant

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Frock said, "I think that the after school programs are a really good idea to get students involved in school activities.

Windsor North West Supervisory Union hired a district director and a local coordinator. For the program director they hired John Torkarski, and for local coordinator they hired Ausra Brooks.

Rocketimes sat down with Ausra and asked her a few questions about the after school program she is involved with. Ausra explained that her goals for the program were insuring that "all the children's overall physical, social, emotional well being are met. Most importantly that the kids have fun and interact with people that they thought they would never become friends with. We are also trying to tie in what the kids are doing in school, so it is not just a fun time, but also a learning experience." She also commented on what she was looking forward to, "I would like to touch on something every child likes to do. I'm hoping each week gets better and better, but only time will tell."

The after school programs are already under way, and so far are going really well. Mr. Bretschneider's "Shooting Club" meets every Monday after school. Students can use the computer room before school from 7:30 am to 8:00 am. Monday through Thursday "Homework Support" is offered from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Tuesdays there is a "School of Rock" class for all musicians.

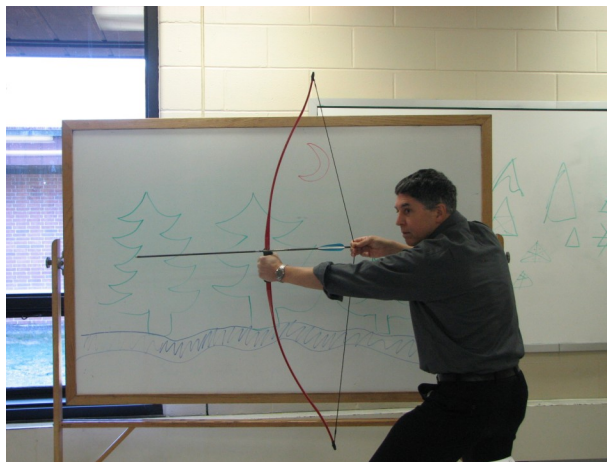


Trevor Klein

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representing Cloud-veil's "Bearclaw" and "Four Pines" ski jackets. For Trevor, working as an ambassador for Cloudveil means "I get lots of free stuff in return for talking it up a lot."

Trevor has no problems with his life at this time, explaining "we love it here, there isn't even a thought of leaving, that's how good life is for us." And, as for the family part of his high school dream, Trevor has been dating his girlfriend, Sarah Mosley, for quite a while - she works as a special education teacher at Wilson, Wyoming School. In addition, Trevor's younger brother Tristan, who graduated from Rochester in 2006, has joined his brother for the winter in Jackson. Shawn Settlers and Rylan Lynam, two other RHS graduates, are living in Jackson Hole as well.



Mr. Bretschneider demonstrates his expertise with the bow.

Food Program and Kristi Fuller

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A junior, Hannah-Mollie West says "the lunch this year is a lot better than last year. If there is something that someone doesn't like, there are many more choices for them to choose from. There is a huge variety." Both students and teachers would agree that Kristi is a hard-working, lively addition to the Rochester Staff.

Kristi is a resident in Granville, Vermont. She lives with her husband Doug and her daughter Madison, a sophomore at Rochester. She has a son Taylor who now attends Norwich University.

You can find Kristi at any Rochester sporting event. She loves to attend and cheer on the teams, home or away, rain or shine. You will see Kristi at any town event in Rochester, Granville, or Hancock.

Young Writers Project

By Danielle Mishkit

On Thursday October 1, 2009 Curriculum Coordinator Andy West, Social Studies teacher George Moltz, 3rd Grade teacher Lisa Cruikshank, and 5th Grade teacher Faye Severy met with the director and editor of the Young Writers Project, Geoffrey Gevalt, to discuss bringing the Young Writers Project back to Rochester School.

The Young Writers Project is a non-profit organization that encourages students, kindergarten through 12th grade to write stories, poetry, etc. It helps them develop writing skills, and gives them an audience for their work. Students all over Vermont put their writing on the website, and other students can comment about it. In addition, the Young Writers Project has student work published each week in an array of newspapers across the state.

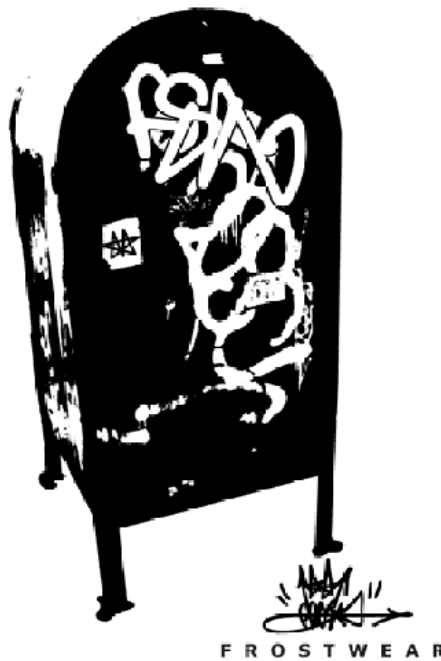
Rochester School is in the process of bringing back the Young Writer's Project, so that students can discuss and comment about each others work, along with all the other students in Vermont. The teachers had a follow-up training session with Mr. Gevalt in Bethel on October 19, and hope to introduce the Young Writers Project in Rochester classes soon. The YWP website has been significantly improved, enabling teachers to engage students online beyond responding to writing prompts.

Frostwear

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a good job of spreading the word."

Montana is just 16 years old, and right now his business cannot sustain itself. When asked how he paid for his printing costs,



he said, "I work a lot of odd jobs; I get most of my money mowing lawns. I get some money from my previous shirts, but the company isn't big enough yet to support itself."

His aspirations for the future? He hopes to do this for the rest of his life, "I can definitely see this going as far as getting its own store and hopefully that it will self sustain and get bigger or another company will buy it out. If that happens, I'll come up with another company because I'm always coming

up with new ideas."

Bowman has changed a lot over the years and so has his art. He said, "I've seen myself get a lot better. I didn't really have much artistic skill when I first started, and I found that if you just draw a lot you'll get better. So for future artists, keep practicing and you'll get better. I mean, when I was younger things were easier and my work was easier; but now that I'm older, my stuff has gotten harder. Though I haven't gotten to the point of interfused meanings of my art, I'm sure I will and my artwork will continue to get more detailed and intricate."

He sends his thanks out, "I really want to thank my parents – they've helped me so much with everything; but also I want to thank my friends who keep buying shirts even when they already have 7."

Montana invites all of you to visit his website, www.frostwearyt.com where he has pictures of his shirts, designs, and much more. "I freehanded the designs and collaged them all together on the computer. I did most of the website myself, but I would like to thank Norm Christianson for helping me get the website up on the web."

CVL / VPA Realignments to Impact Rochester Sports

By George Moltz

Local sports fans and Rochester High School athletes are seeing some new wrinkles in the fall sports schedule, as changes in the Central Vermont League and the Vermont Principals' Association have changed the face of Division IV sports in the state.

Perhaps the biggest news is that the latest VPA realignment has caused numerous schools to drop down a division due to declining enrollment.

VPA figures state that any school with an enrollment of less than 85 students per gender qualifies as a Division IV team for tournament play. Thus, Rochester will now be joined by the likes of Mt. Saint Joseph's Academy; Richford; Rivendell; South Royalton, and Williamstown in the D IV brackets. Moreover, the Twin Valley boys are also now a Division IV team.

Why does this matter? The record of the Black River Presidents speaks for itself. Since the VPA approved Black River's drop down from Division III, the Presidents have cleaned up at tournament time. The boys from Ludlow won the state soccer title in 2007 and 2008, and the baseball crown in 2008. Black River also lost in the baseball finals this spring. The "Lady Presidents" have won consecutive titles in soccer and, as the Rochester girls will attest, softball championships in 2007 and 2008. Quite simply, schools with almost twice as many students as Rochester will most likely provide tougher competition.

In addition, there's now the reality that some Division IV teams will not make the post-season tournament at all. Presently there are 23 boys' and girls' soccer teams in Division IV. Only the top 16 teams qualify for the state tournament, so the Rockets must have a decent win-loss record just to get in, and it will be a real challenge to earn a good seed and get one or more home game. For example, despite their fine 9-4 regular season record, the Rochester girls only ranked seventh in the VPA standings, earning just one home playdown game against West Rutland.



Cross Country team at U—32: Tyler McIntyre, Ethan White, Abbey Hybl, Lauren Pratt, Jackie Potter, Corey Robicheau, and Tyler Schnabel.

The changes in the Central Vermont League impact both the regular season and the state tournament. With Thetford withdrawing from the CVL, and Rivendell and South Royalton dropping down, every team in the league is now a Division IV school. The addition of Williamstown and Canaan to the league threw the previous scheduling system into total chaos.

As a result, the athletic directors have returned to a north / south concept. Rochester is joined in the southern division of the CVL by Whitcomb, Chelsea, South Royalton, Sharon Academy, Rivendell, and Blue Mountain. The Rockets will now play each of those schools twice, home and away, in every sport. Former foes seen on a regular basis, such as Twinfield, Cabot, Craftsbury, and Concord will now only rarely appear on the schedule.

Boys' soccer captain Jace Curtis admitted to having "mixed feelings" about the changes. "It's nice that we don't have to spend our Saturdays driving around the state, but they were usually easy wins. It's a benefit to play these teams for harder competition, which could help in the playoffs. We haven't beaten any of them yet, but we have the ability to."