



Artists' vision to be displayed on front pillars

Marissa Vaillant-staff reporter

Motivated artists consisting of students and teachers collaborated together for the project of painting four white cement pillars in Riverside's lobby. Many believe that painting the pillars will contribute to a unique, welcoming atmosphere upon entering the school.

The entrance of Riverside has four plain cement pillars, and for years students have been pondering the idea of painting them. Unfortunately, due to funding restraints and a need for an assembly of artists that would blend together well, the project had been temporarily halted. Recently, however, funds raised by Riverside's PAC, and the formation of a new art club are making it possible for the project to go ahead as planned.

A group of artists consisting of students from art clubs,

Leadership, Green Shirts, and Ms. Schmidt have all come together to construct the basis of the project. The participants felt that the pillars in the entrance did not reveal to our guests what Riverside is about. They felt that we needed to express our school spirit and diversity, and distinguish ourselves from all of the other schools. Hans Seo, an art student, said, "It's going to give our school distinction and make people new to Riverside look at this as an art piece and symbol distinct to our school." The artists would like the painting of these pillars to be thought of as a deliberate piece of art, instead of only as structural support.

An array of students have been assembled to produce the final product. For months, the participants have been meeting on the scheduled art club Wednesdays, and discussing what they wanted to express through their art, and which



K.Shong/eddy

Hans Seo and Rianne Brown discussing the plan for decorating the front pillars.

elements they wanted to incorporate through such an expressive piece. After deciding that they wanted Riverside to be viewed as a diverse and different

community from other schools, they agreed to incorporate aspects of masculinity and feminine qualities. Technology, being masculine in appearance, is going

to be a vital component, as well as nature and organic materials being feminine and soft. The artists believe this will make a cohesive atmosphere for the lobby.

Multicultural Club celebrates the year of the Ox

Teresa Ly-staff reporter

Friday, February 20th, 2009 presented yet another chance for the students and teachers of Riverside Secondary to experience the diversity of other cultures. Three students from Riverside's multicultural club, Justin Cheng, Ken Do, and Tsuyoshi Hamanaka, performed a lion dance to celebrate the year of the Ox in the Chinese New Year.

Although Chinese New Year was on January 26th this year, the spirit of the lion dance was not lost in the students' energetic performance. Cheng, Do, and



T.Ly/eddy

Ken Do and Tsuyoshi Hamanaka performing a traditional lion dance.

Hamanaka practiced for slightly more than two weeks before their performance in the school's front foyer. When asked how she came up with the idea, Ms. Yamamoto, the head of Riverside's

multicultural club said, "I wanted to celebrate with our multicultural club all the holidays and special events for each culture, and New Years is very important in any culture." Even though the idea was brought up in January, the event had to be delayed due to Chinese New Year falling on exam week this year. Yamamoto said she would definitely like to organize another event like this next year, but perhaps have something "more elaborate or spectacular."

In addition to the lion dance, there were also other students from the multicultural club handing out fortunes and lollipops which

seemed more appropriate than the traditional money packets. Yamamoto had her Japanese classes write the fortunes in both Japanese and English in an attempt to incorporate as many different cultures as possible. As a final remark, Hamanaka had this to add, "If Ken and I do this again next year, which I'm sure we will, we would like to do it with less lettuce." The meaning behind the lion dance is to bring good luck into the buildings or houses it is performed in. Hopefully Do and Hamanaka's lion dance will bring good fortune and prosperity to Riverside.

Robbert Goes to the top of the Sheraton

Maya Reddy-Thom-staff reporter

On February 22nd, Riverside's own Robbert Goes climbed Vancouver's Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel in full fireman's gear to raise awareness and funds for lung research and cleaner air. This was Goes' third time participating in the *Stairclimb for Clean Air*, a forty eight storey hike up one of the tallest staircases in B.C.

"I really believe in making people aware of lung disease and smoking," said Goes, "especially working with kids." He and his team, all volunteer firefighters, did the seven hundred and thirty nine step climb in full fireman's gear. The whole outfit weighs

twenty five kilos in total.

To participate in the event, every member of the team had to raise a minimum of one hundred dollars. Goes raised two hundred and fifty dollars, and as a team they raised four hundred and thirty. "At first I was just hoping to raise the one hundred, five here and five there," said Goes, "so two hundred and fifty is awesome!"

To be a volunteer firefighter, being in shape is a necessity. Training for and doing the climb helps Goes keep his personal goal of staying fit and healthy, as well as supporting a good cause.

"I had great support from our staff," said Goes, "about 90% of my money came from

them." Over 550 climbers participated in the event, including a significant amount of firefighters. "It was a really cool experience," said Goes, "I'll definitely do it again next year." Some local radio and news personalities also participated in the climb, such as Lynn Colliar and Steve Darling from Global BC, a sponsor for the climb, as well as a team from Rogers' radio stations, such as Jack Fm and News 1130, also sponsors.

Up to date the event has raised over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and fundraising continues until March 20th.



Photo Courtesy of Robbert Goes

Goes and his team suited up in full gear.



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Parents, teach your children well

Rudolph Szaernyes, Chad Sigsworth - staff reporters

There has always been gang violence throughout the lower mainland, but the recent violence within its communities is unprecedented. Over the past few weeks, there has been an increased amount of shootings, and the death toll has climbed rapidly.

It hadn't been this fierce of a problem before, but the shootings are starting to happen in more public areas like parking lots, apartment buildings, and in the streets.

One of the solutions suggested is for the government to provide tougher gun laws. That's what everyone says this society needs, but this may not be the case. Gang members are not going to stop just because of a little law; they use illegal guns anyways.

A lot of the blame has been put on the police force. They just haven't been doing a good enough job bringing gangs down. So the government is spending lots of money to hire and train police officers, but this may not be the problem they need to solve. The main issue has been that the officers have their specific zones where they have to work. They need to make a regional force, not just the Task Force. That way, it won't matter where these crimes take place, one unified force can investigate the crimes committed.

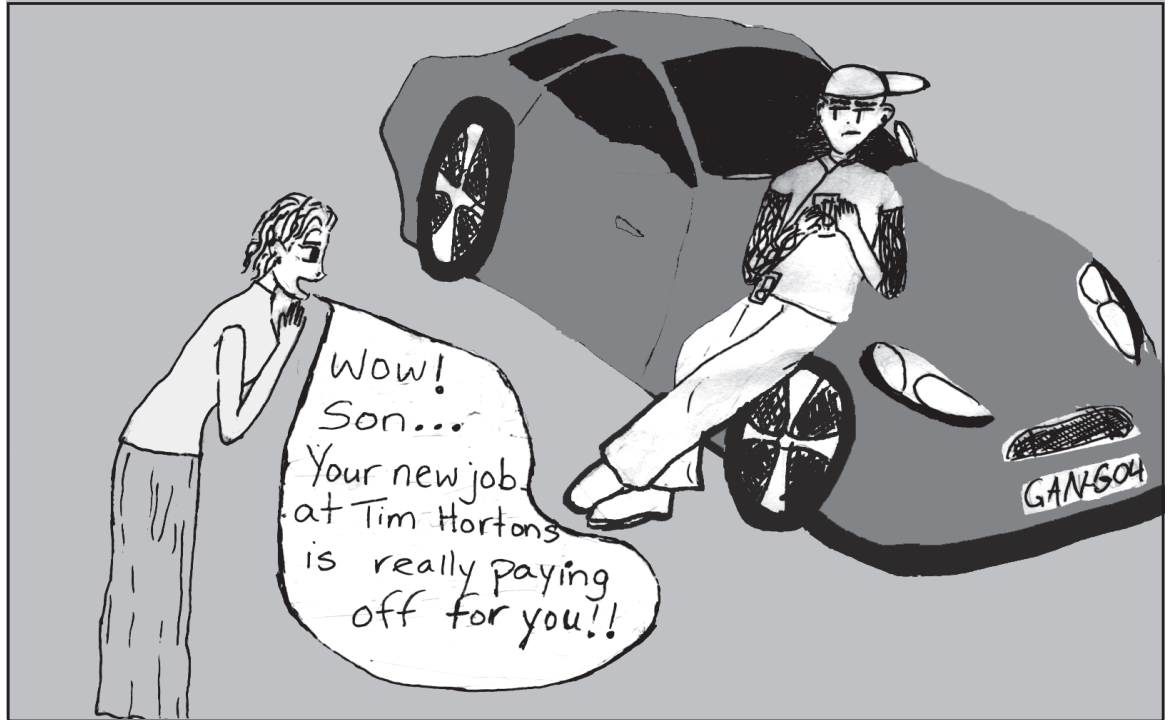
Another one of the solutions the government is proposing to do is spend millions of dollars on creating new jails. A current problem has been jail space to keep criminals. Some of them are being let free just because there is no where to keep them. But just making new jails won't help solve the issues. The courts need to create harder and tougher sentences. Lots of these criminals are getting off too easy for the crimes they have committed. They need to actually be punished for what they've done. Or else, when we let them out too early, they will just go right back to their gangs. So if the current laws don't punish these people like they deserve to be, and they hardly have to stay in jail, then why bother sending them in the first place?

There has also been a lot of talk about making some illegal substances, such as "pot," legal. The theory is this would reduce the amount of violence in the streets. But this may not help. The gang members will probably make the pot stronger, and then it becomes illegal again.

But the problem with all these solutions is that they are reactive. We need to be proactive. Gang activity has increased rapidly because young people are getting a distorted view of the lifestyle and all the gang's cars and clothes through TV, movies and lots of other ways. Young people are beginning to find gangs cool and want to join. Society needs to start educating people about gangs from a young age. They need to know that gangs are not exciting and cool, but dangerous and deadly. Parents also need to take responsibility for their teenagers. Many of the gang members still live at home with their parents. They go out and cause violence and chaos, and their parents think they're working at Tim Hortons. Parents need to be aware of what their children are doing.

With a current spike in gang violence in the Lower Mainland, most residents, even those who have not been affected, all agree that it needs to stop. The time for change and being proactive is now.

The editorials that appear in this space represent the opinion of the Eddy. They do not necessarily represent the personal views of the writer. The positions taken in the editorials are arrived through discussion among members of the Eddy staff.



POINT COUNTER POINT

New TV's were needed here



Most of you have noticed the 8 new LCD TV's around the school already, but have you actually paid attention to what's being played on the TV's? Many students in the school complain that they can't hear the lunchtime announcements because of their chatty classmates, or that they just don't listen to the announcements at all. The new TV's are designed to help students get more information so they can get more active in the school and the community. The LCD TV's are displaying school based information to help you, the students, get involved and realize what is actually going on in the school on a daily basis. Why not use the old TV's, you ask? The old TV's were very old, approximately

12 years old according to principal, Mr. Robinson. In fact, the old TV's were so old and ruined that they were almost incapable of working; they would start turning funny colors such as green or purple and go static, making it hard to read. Frustrated PAC parents decided that they wanted their children to be more aware of what's going on in the school and suggested that there should be some sort of alternative to getting school information directly from the announcements. Only two of the eight TV's were working at the time, and that's when the idea of new TV's came to mind. The first set of TV's were supposed to be almost \$14,000 which was more money than the school had in mind; the school was not going to spend such a large portion of the budget on that. The search for TV's ended when they found the LCD flat screens that are energy efficient, which is great for the environment. The school got close to a 45%

discount on the TV's which makes them even better at a cost of around \$7000! "The old TV's were a bit of a danger to have," Mr. Robinson added. The old TV's were less sturdy and much heavier than the new ones. The new TV's have also energized the Leadership class to come up with new ways to get students to pay attention to the TV's. The TV's have been displaying students' birthdays along with the other regular announcements such as sports information, school plays, school trips and promoting school events. It has been stated that perhaps in the future the TV's will be used for raffles; a code word will flash onto the TV screen for students to write down and enter in a draw to win a small prize. Overall the TV's are a good investment because they're making students more aware of what's going on in the school and community.

New flat screens are futile



Recently at Riverside, 8 new LCD TV's have been installed around the school. These 8 TV's cost the school a lot of money, so why did they decide to install them?

The PAC and Mr. Robinson had a meeting about the different ways to get kids interested in things going on at school. I understand that the announcements haven't been very successful, but couldn't they have chosen a less expensive way of communicating with students?

Some parents were complaining that they didn't know about the

many things going on around the school. So why don't they take a minute and subscribe to the monthly electronic newsletter. Instead of a monthly letter, why not a weekly one? Parents could read about the events going on around the school and then relay them to their children.

If that's too difficult, why not take a page from the Gossip Girl book and get an automated machine in which students could send a text message to the machine and they would get a message back of all the different things going on around the school. The school is trying to be technologically 'with it' well, everyone has a cell phone.

Just because there are things that are constantly displayed on the TV's doesn't mean students are watching them. We have 5 minutes in between classes to go to our

locker and book it to our next class. We don't have the luxury of watching moving pictures in a box. During lunch "hour" we are socializing, c'mon were teenagers!

The only exception to the power point of birthdays and events is whatever video/ instructional YouTube movie is on during RAP on Wednesdays. What the school seemed to overlook is that everyone is supposed to BE in RAP class watching the TV's in the classroom. So I guess Riverside Secondary is now catering to the 'ditching elite'.

The PAC cannot spend money on things like text books or library books, but what about some new cameras for the photo department or new machines for the tech wing or new computers for some of the labs? The point is, the money could have of been spent better.

the eddy
riverside secondary

The Eddy has been the independent voice of the students of Riverside Secondary since 1996 and is produced monthly by the Journalism class. Journalistic styles and standards conform to those of the Canadian Press. The Eddy welcomes letters to the editor. Letters, however transmitted, must be signed and free of libel. Additional articles, writing, and opinion pieces are accepted and will be published as space allows. The Eddy reserves the right to edit all submitted material for brevity, and style. Advertisers can reach the Eddy at eddy@sd43.bc.ca or by contacting Riverside Secondary.

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Beauty and the Beast

Eric Willmott - staff reporter

Those present at the February 26th matinee were absolutely blown away by the Riverside Musical Theater Department's performance of Disney's classic *Beauty and the Beast*. The matinee performances on Thursday and Friday afternoon were for some local elementary schools, and it gave the cast an opportunity to fine-tune the performance for opening night, Friday, February 27th.

Beauty and the Beast is the classic tale of a beautiful young girl named Belle who becomes trapped in a castle owned by a hideous beast who is actually a handsome prince cast under an evil spell. Over time, the two grow very close together and eventually fall in love. Despite being a very heartwarming and funny production, the story has a lot of lessons and morals that we can all learn from. "The biggest lesson being taught is that beauty is really deeper than the skin and don't judge people by the surface," David Secunda said; "In the play, the Beast is so hideous that any



Myles McCarthy and Isabelle Sagard begin to fall in love as *Beauty and the Beast*.

T. Macklin/eddy

normal person would be frightened. But Belle, because of her character strength and patience, is able to see the goodness inside the Beast." The best thing about *Beauty and the Beast* is that there are many large roles. "There are a lot of people in

Musical Theater, so the maximum number of students are allowed to participate. There are about 13 very huge parts. Even the beast is a very big part, but the other big roles are shared among a large number of people," said Secunda. Myles McCarthy plays the role of the

Beast, and twin sisters Marybelle and Isabelle Sagard take turns as the young and beautiful Belle, not to mention the notable performance of Ryan Scramstad as the macho and arrogant Gaston, who also longs for Belle's love. Then there's Kristen Durand as the lovable Mrs.

Pots, whose beautiful singing voice is certainly a highlight of the musical. "The cast works really well together," said Mr. Secunda, "the way that specific people fit their specific roles works very well." Aside from the acting, the musical numbers are eye catching and perfectly synchronized, considering the difficulty of getting the timing just right when singing along to recorded music (all evening shows will be accompanied by the senior band).

Another notable part of the musical would be the elaborate costumes and sets used. Throughout the nearly two-hour play, the cast and crew had to go through several costume changes and rotate the major sets: the village, the castle, and the tavern. "Some of the costumes were rented," said Tara Macklin, costume designer, "difficult ones like the Wardrobe." The rest were either hand-made by the crew or were re-used from previous plays." There will be shows on March 6th and 7th at 7:30 P.M. Tickets will be \$12.00 at the door.



Down by the Riverside



What is your favourite class of Semester II, 2009 ?



Alex Seamen, Grade 11

"Jazz band because I get a mark for doing something I love."



Michelle Jacobs, Grade 12

"Art or English because I am really artistic and am excellent at English."



Marco Autelitano, Grade 11

"Auto 12 because I have a good teacher and it's really fun."



Sahar Sharelo, Grade 10

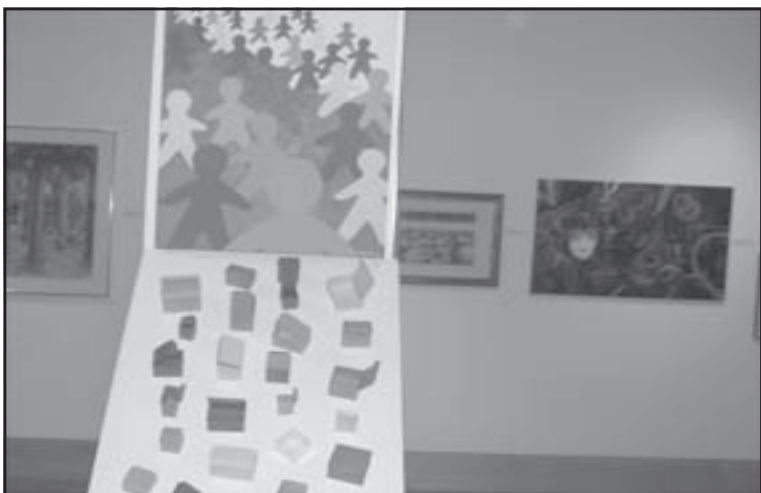
"English because I made new friends and you get to use computers."



Brad Davis, Grade 12

"Culinary 12 because it's a leadership class and you can showcase your talent."

Riverside Artists shine at Art Show



L. Lidher/eddy

Art from Riverside being showcased at the Evergreen Art Show.

Lorraine Lidher - staff reporter

At the Evergreen Culture Center, students from across School District 43 have had their art work featured in the Emerging Talent art show. The show features work from grade 12 students committed to pursue post secondary studies

in fine art, graphic art, ceramics, and photography. The show went on from January 16 to February 14.

Riverside had the most students with art work in the show. Riverside has participated in the show since it started eleven years ago. To enter into the show Riverside students had to attend meetings with art

teachers Ms. Seldom and Ms. Schmidt. "I'm extremely proud of my students," said Ms. Schmidt; "I'm in awe at the talent, creative, and skills of my students." The students had to hand their work in before Christmas for the teachers to decide if it would be submitted to the judging process.

The student's art is judged on talent, creativity, and originality. The show is judged by three retired art teachers. Work that is judged to be superior is featured in the show. There were 70 pieces of art work submitted into the show out of 130 submissions. Over 7 schools and 43 students were represented in the Emerging Talent art show. Students whose work is in the show are considered high quality artists for their age. The Evergreen art show is a great opportunity for talented Riverside art students to have their work exposed to the community.

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Friday, March 6, 2009 Vol.13 No. 6

Michelle Fitzgerald goes to Nationals



K.Shong / eddy

Mandy McMeeken - staff reporter

Michelle Fitzgerald is a grade eleven student at Riverside. Recently she came in thirteenth place out of sixteen, at a skating tournament in Calgary.

To qualify for Nationals, Michelle had to attend two other competitions as. The first competition is called Sections. It took place in Nanaimo and was for all competitors from across British Columbia. After she finished Sections, she went to Mississauga, Ontario to compete in the Western Challenge. Once she finished this competition, she officially qualified for Nationals and went to Calgary to compete.

Michelle skates in singles and doubles; however, these specific competitions that she went to were doubles with her partner, Qwynn Dalmer. This was her first time going to Nationals as well as her first major competition.

When Michelle is not skating in a competition, she and her partner, Qwynn can be found practicing their routines at either The Dome in Vancouver, or occasionally at 8 Rinks in Burnaby. Michelle trains every day on average 3 to 4 hours. "Even though I started skating at 10, and most people start at age 3, I feel I have caught up," said Fitzgerald.

Riverside bids farewell to senior basketball players

Alison Mullock - staff reporter

Rheo Ceniza, Khalil Ibrahim, Dj Chuy and Matty Gerwing played their last home game on February 6th. The final score in the game was a tough 78-65 win for the Rapids. The game was against the Port Moody Blues who have also had a successful year. The Rapids have won 5 games and lost 5 games throughout the season. Chuy and Gerwing lead the team with a total of 32 points combined. Chuy had 8 defensive rebounds and 6 offensive rebounds and Ibrahim got 4 defensive rebounds and 2 offensive rebounds. Rheo Ceniza, being a quick ball handler, had 8 assists and scored a total of 8 points. The four seniors are all leaders in the stats and leaders on the team.

"Having a bigger bench gave coach [Jeremy Neufeld] more variety of players to put on the floor, which

allowed lots of rest for the players," Gerwing said. Gerwing does not sit on the bench much; throughout the school season he scored a total of 241 points. Gerwing has played since grade 6; he played on JABOGS coached by his dad to get prepared for the high school season. He would love to play on a college team one day.

Chuy, being the rapids most dominant post player, has a total of 159 defensive rebounds and a total of 59 offensive rebounds. He has also racked up an outstanding 177 points throughout his final year at Riverside. He started playing basketball in grade 6 at his middle school and he has also played on a U14 provincial with Gerwing. The quote Chuy lives by is, "I am what I am."

Ceniza was the Rapids starting point guard. He contributed to the team with many points scoring a total of 88 points throughout the year and with a total of 48



K. Shong / eddy

Dj Chuy, Khalil Ibrahim, Jeremy Neufeld, Rheo Ceniza and Mathew Gerwing pose with photos taken of them throughout the season.

assists. He just loves playing the game and nothing would stop him from diving on the ground to go after a loose ball. Ceniza started playing ball in grade 6 at his middle school; he also played JABOGS coached by Steve Roth and Gene Gerwing before high school. His favorite quote is, "There is no "I" in team, but there is

in win." – Michael Jordan Ibrahim played a supporting role to the rest of the boys on the team. He wasn't the highest scorer or the biggest rebounder, but his assists and "I want it now" attitude brought a sense of spirit to the team. He got hurt in the middle of the season which left him on the bench with an ankle injury. Khalil started playing

in grade 7 for his middle school and also played on a JABOGS team. His favorite quote is, "If you can't fly, run. If you can't run, walk. If you can't walk, crawl, but by all means keep moving." - MLK Jr.

The boys wonderful talent and leadership will be missed and we hope for the best for them in the future.

Kate Ronald - staff reporter

Riverside said good bye to five senior girls February 18th during "Senior's Night" at Riverside. There was a short ceremony held to see off the five senior girls that have greatly contributed to Riverside basketball with 21 combined years of senior play. Speeches were given and each senior player received an acknowledgement of their contribution to the team.

Karla Josefson, Hayley Dwyer, Kristina Collins, Taryn Buchannon and Gaby Alvero were joined by the rest of their team mates to play in their last league game as high school basketball players. The ceremony

commenced with a meaningful speech by long time coach Paul Langford. The Rapids then took on the Byrne Creek Bulldogs and dominated them throughout the game. The Bulldogs were high in spirit, but the Rapids crushed them 75-50. Collins shined as usual, wracking in the most baskets for her team. "It was a fun game," said Collins. "The Bulldogs were really enthusiastic and it made for a great final game for us as seniors." The bleachers were filled with friends, family and teachers as each senior was awarded for their contribution to the team over the years.

Collins, Buchannon and Josefson have all played

with Riverside since their grade seven year while attending Citadel Middle School. Collins has been a starter for five years on the team and was ranked the number one Team All-Star at the Provincials. She plans on attending Simon Fraser University next year playing on their woman's basketball team. Dwyer played basketball for her grade nine and ten year at Maple Ridge Secondary, but switched to Riverside and became a huge asset to the team. Alvero played on Port Moody Secondary school's team for grades ten and eleven, but brought her skill to the Rapids in her grade twelve year.

Also being commemorated



K.Ronald / eddy

Coach Langford, Hayley Dwyer, Taryn Buchannon, Karla Josefson, Kristina Collins and Gabby Alvero after a game. during Senior's Night was Fatima Aziz, the manager of the Rapids for her grade twelve year. She has contributed immensely to keeping the team running.

The girls went on to compete in the Fraser Valley Championships where they played an extremely exciting game against Elgin Park (the team they lost to in

provincial finals last year). The girls started off slow, down 16-0, but slowly gained momentum. With only 10 seconds left in the game Emily Sall shot and scored to bring home the win 79-78. Collin was given the MVP of the tournament and the girls are now moving on to the provincials next week at Capilano College.

Spirit Assembly celebrates everyone

Obstacle course, gladiator tournament, cheer team and a tribute to our basketball seniors, this year's spirit assembly was a success.



K.Shong / eddy

Staff and students both participated in the activities at the spirit assembly



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