



Olympics bring opportunities for Riverside students

Maya Reddy-Thom
staff reporter

This February, the 2010 Olympic Winter Games came to Vancouver, bringing several once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for Riverside students to take advantage of and show their Canadian spirit, while getting involved in our country's efforts.

Dylan Siegle, a grade 11 student, participated in the Olympic torch relay on February 11. Chosen because of his numerous volunteer hours with Port Coquitlam Parks and Recreation, he ran it from Queens Park in New Westminster to City Hall, where the flame was passed on.

Siegle was asked by administration to share his experience with several classes throughout the school. "If I could describe the experience in one word, it would be amazing," said Siegle, "I got to carry history through New Westminster." Siegle



Dylan Siegle holding his Olympic torch.



Students Live reporter Emily Chan

also has Olympic aspirations one day, as a snowboard cross competitor.

Another student who was involved to a large extent in the games is Emily Chan, grade 11. One of the 24 students chosen from throughout the lower mainland, she represented *Students Live* as a student reporter using social media, such as a personal blog, and twitter, etc, throughout the Olympics.

"It was a great way to experience a once-in-a-lifetime event," said Chan.

The students had four prominent mentors to assist them in their reporting, including a technical assistant to teach them how to use their networking tools. They were interviewed by CBC and CTV, and did their own interviewing as well.

"It was an amazing experience, and a great way to make lots of new friends," said Chan.

Riverside staff get golden jobs at 2010 Olympics

Maya Reddy-Thom - staff reporter

Riverside's own Randie Shen and Coquitlam teacher-on-call Kara-Lee Thomas experienced the 2010 Olympics first hand on the ice with Canadian athletes.

Thomas, who has worked short-term contracts at Riverside as a teacher, applied to volunteer as a participant at the opening ceremonies. She went for a brief audition and later received an email stating that she had not been selected. Only a few days later, she received another email with some good news. "I was asked to be a Medal and Flower Bearer for the Victory Ceremonies," said Thomas.

Thomas worked most nights at the Victory Ceremonies at BC Place Stadium. Thomas was the Gold Medal Bearer for Canada's first gold medal winner, men's moguls winner Alex Bilodeau. As exciting as that experience was for Thomas, she got to spend the last four days of the Olympics bearing the medals at the women's and men's Gold medal Hockey games. "Being on the ice with the players and the crowd going wild is something that I'll never forget," said Thomas. Thomas got only two days off during the seventeen days

of events, but she said "it was well worth it." And she got to keep the pretty scarf and sweater set.

Randie Shen, the Information Technologist at Riverside, worked for the Olympic Broadcast Services, which sells their feed to carriers such as CTV and TSN, at the 2010 Olympic Games as a freelance Television Graphics Technician. Shen was part of a production crew on the ice sheets to produce the graphics, such as players statistics, scores and animation for the all the curling events.

Shen was originally scheduled to work the hockey games, but was later asked to switch to curling as he is also a high level competitive curler, and has curled with and against curlers such as Kevin Martin, the skip for Canada's gold medal winning team. Shen's unique set of skills makes him the perfect candidate for the job. "As a player, I am also able to offer the production team some insight and analysis into the match," said Shen. As a curler himself, Shen recognized the specialness of 2010. "These games and the enthusiastic crowds, which sometimes weren't aware of curling etiquette, really put curling on the map; curling on NBC sometimes even outdrew hockey," said Shen.



Olympic volunteers Ms. Thomas and Mr. Shen.

2010 wasn't Shen's first Olympic experience; he also went as a member of the Broadcast team to Athens in 2004 for the Summer Games to work as a Graphics Technician for basketball. Shen is off again in early April, as a technician, to the men's Worlds for curling in Cortina, Italy.

Vancouver French festival flows fantastically

Brendan Williams - staff reporter

The French Canadians of the world were yelling, "Vive Vancouver," as popular French musicians *Les Trois Accords* performed on Granville Island for the Olympic French festival "Place De La Francophonie" on February 23.

Many popular bands representing Canada performed during the Olympics, such as *Alexisonfire*, *Hedley*, *Marianas Trench*, and *deadmau5*, but the Olympics also showed off their French influence with famous

French Performers including *Garou*, *Éric Lapointe*, and *Les Cowboys Fringants*.

"It was a great concert, I really enjoyed the francophone atmosphere, like a little piece a Québec right here," said grade 11 French student Kaitlin Pelletier.

More than one hundred different musicians and dancers performed, and over four hundred hours of entertainment and games took place.

"I really thought that the French festival was a huge success. It was nice to see that the French

community of Canada didn't go unnoticed," said grade 11 French student Nicole Goddard.

The festival was one of the most visited areas in Vancouver during the Olympics, with attractions such as a sports bar, an agritourism pavilion, five separate stages, and three exhibition locations.

"It sounds like it's an interesting Canadian experience and a great celebration of francophone culture," said French teacher Ms. Diandra Price.

Another event that brought many spectators was the *Grand*



Quebecois Band Les 3 Accords performing at la Place Francophonie.

Défilé of Big Nazo, where wonderfully weird creatures come visit Granville Island to dance, sing and joke around with the fans.

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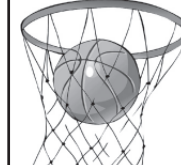
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The good, the bad, and the gold

Tessa Quayle - staff reporter

Before the 2010 Winter Olympics even began, a wave of criticism crashed down on Vancouver, its athletes and organizers. It began with the announcement from VANOC that the budgets for security and the Olympic Village were more than five times over, and the disapproval only snowballed from there.

From the announcement of Vancouver 2010 more than five years ago, many citizens of Vancouver seemed to have disapproved of the games. Many people claimed that it was an insane idea to host such a large and worldly event in a small city like Vancouver. Others wondered why problems like homelessness and poverty were still ongoing, but there was enough money to fund the construction of million-dollar condos for single Olympians. It wasn't until the final weeks before the games that the city really started to come alive with 'Olympic fever.' Every other person one passed on the street was wearing Team Canada gear, and Vancouverites became proud of the city they called home.

Despite the fact that the people of Vancouver were quickly warming up to the Olympics, the criticism started to ebb back in. The day of the opening ceremonies, Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili was killed in a tragic accident during a practice run in Whistler. With the gruesome pictures and video being released to the public, fingers immediately pointed at VANOC and the track's builders. Reporters claimed the track was too difficult for the athletes. Others stated that the Canadian team had more practice on the track and that the unfair advantage was all a plan to win the gold. While it was determined that the accident was an athlete error rather than a problem with the track, the world seemed a little unsure about watching the luge competitions.

From that point, things continued to go wrong: technical difficulties in the opening ceremonies, the unusually warm weather which forced snow to be trucked to Cypress Mountain, and many events had to be cancelled or postponed. Reporters continued to dub Vancouver 2010 the 'worst Olympics ever'. But any Olympic event is sure to have its criticisms. The 2002 Salt Lake City had bribery allegations circulating the IOC judges. The 1994 Lillehammer Games had the whole Nancy Kerrigan attack. Things happen.

The Olympic Games are not supposed to generate negativity or hate, but bring the world together in one location for one cause. Focusing on the negative things takes away from the whole experience of the games: the athletes that have worked so hard to get where they are. Canadian figure skater Joannie Rochette is living proof of focusing on the positive, her Olympic spirit shone through in her skating performance, only days after losing her mother. The truly important things to focus on are the stars of the show, the Olympians.

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 POINT

Protesting: a powerful form of free speech



Giselle Chiu
COLUMNIST

With every major event comes disagreement and controversy, and the 2010 Olympic winter games were no different. From day one, protesters knew that the first few days of the Olympics would be the perfect time to publicize their message. While, many feel that the protesters created a tarnished image of Vancouver, the protesters were just exercising their right of free speech in the only way that they knew would get the attention they needed to support their cause. The protesters knew that they had to draw attention to their cause, and the only way they could do so was to protest during torch runnings, where there would be a

lot of people around to see. In the weeks preceding the Olympic Games the protesters held peaceful protests at various locations around the city of Vancouver. As soon as the games began the protests turned violent. It is important to note that the individuals who smashed the store windows of merchants that carried Olympic merchandise were mostly (if not all) violent protesters, Americans that had travelled to Vancouver from both Seattle and Chicago. The Canadian protesters had no intent of becoming violent or causing mischief. Although they were blamed as the cause of the violent protests. The message of the protesters was not that the Olympics shouldn't be in Vancouver, it was just that they felt that the money spent on the Olympics could have been put to a better use, such as helping fighting homelessness or reducing

the number of people who live in poverty. The protesters never meant to cause harm or disrespect to anyone. They simply felt the need to exercise their democratic right to free speech. On March 2nd 2010 the Province announced the budget for 2010. Questions began swirling about how the 2010 winter games would be paid for, how much they cost and how long they would take to pay off. The Provincial budget showed the it would take around 10 years for the games to be paid off. Vancouver's mayor Gregor Robinson said that he would like to see the city of Vancouver pay for some of the costs. In total the city will be responsible for paying off \$30 million of the total cost of the Olympics. With \$30 Million of the city's money going to paying off the Olympics protesters are surely planning to take action and voice their opinion once again.

Protesting: shameful and should be put away



Olivia McMullen
COLUMNIST

As the 2010 Olympics began on February 12, the public's eye was entirely focused on Vancouver. During the games, many who were protesting the Winter Olympics decided that it was the perfect time to convey their message. The protesters tarnished Vancouver's image to tourists, and wasted taxpayers and private property owners' money due to the damage caused by their actions. Some protesters even began to turn violent, and went to lengths such as using barbed wire to block off torch bearers and breaking store windows that carried official Olympic merchandise.

The actions of the protesters created disappointment for many, including children who lined up along the designated routes of the torch carriers. These routes had to be changed at the last minute, denying the children the chance to witness seeing the torch. There were riots downtown, and innocent bystanders and tourists were chastised for showing support for the games. This is not the kind of image that should have been portrayed to the world. If the protesters wanted Vancouver to change into an ideal city, they should have wished for the games' success. Projecting Vancouver in a negative spotlight to the world did not bring benefit to any of us whatsoever.

Having freedom of speech is one thing, but to abuse this right and incite violence and chaos is disrespectful and dishonourable..

The Olympics finished unaffected and were heralded as an immense success. The protesters should have shown much more respect and gratitude, as hosting the Olympics was a huge honour to the city and its people. The main focus during the events should have been to enjoy the atmosphere and be gracious hosts to the many people who had travelled far to the city to witness the games. Problems and financial difficulties are prevalent everywhere, but the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics provided all a fantastic opportunity to experience a remarkable sense of patriotism usually so unseen. Despite the protesters' best efforts to hamper our spirits, the heartfelt outbursts from our country's denizens showed people from around the globe that Canada is truly one of the greatest countries in the world.



The Eddy has been the independent voice of the students of Riverside Secondary since 1996 and is produced monthly by the Journalism 11 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.

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Riverside students show humanitarian efforts

Lorraine Lidher - staff reporter

"Thank you to the students and staff of Riverside for supporting our Haiti campaign; your generosity was greatly appreciated."

J. Blaxland

Riverside secondary has always had a tradition of participating in humanitarian projects, and this year has been no different.

Ms. Joni Blaxland, Ms. Georgina Hudon and 16 students went down to Cuba for eight days on a humanitarian trip. They visited many different places to learn about Cuba and interact with the Cuban people.

The students visited an orphanage three times during their trip. They played and interacted with the orphans. "It was uplifting to see how happy they are. They never complain, and love going to school," said Kelsey Stuckert. They visited a school for students with Downs Syndrome, and other disabilities. At this school, the students learn to express themselves through art. "It was a humbling experience," said Ivannah Veloso Zelay

Riverside students also brought supplies and donations with them to give to the people they visited. "The majority of the contents in our luggage

were donations," said Ivannah Veloso Zelay. They bought clothing, crafts, and medical supplies. "It's one thing to be inspired by seeing others helping, but it is such a moving experience to do it yourself. It's worthwhile," said Ivannah Veloso Zelay

Students had a variety of reasons for going to Cuba. "I wanted to do something to contribute, to go out and help people," said Ivannah Veloso Zelay

They were also involved in a number of activities to learn more about Cuban culture, religion, history, and geography. They visited museums, took a walking tour of Old Havana, a tour of a local ecosystem, an underground cave and visited some churches. "The trip was an amazing experience. The students we bought were incredible ambassadors for Riverside. I'm proud of the way they interacted with the Cuban people and the children," said Blaxland.

Riverside students also responded to the needs of the people in Haiti after the tragic earthquake. Riverside Leadership organized a bake sale to raise funds for Haiti. The Leadership students made all the baked goods, and sold them for a minimum of one dollar donation. "Although, we have a variety of students, we always come together to make a difference in the world. I'm really proud to be a student of Riv-



Kelsey Stuckert and Hannah Henney play with orphans in Cuba.

Photo Courtesy of Ms. Blaxland

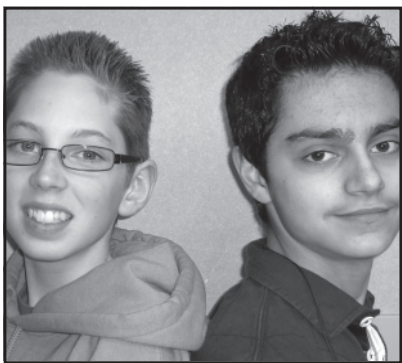
erside," said Kelsey Stuckert.

On Friday February 19 when Spencer West, from the *Me to We foundation*, came to the school, Leadership students sold balloons to raise money for the *Free the Children* Haiti Development Fund. They sold sixty balloons at first, but had to prepare about thirty more because of the demand by students. Inside the balloons were tickets so students who bought balloons could win prizes donated by the administration. The prizes included an autographed tee-shirt by Spencer West, gift cards for Mega Pizza, and three books on *Free the Children*. They sold about 90 balloons in total, and raised six hundred dollars for Haiti.



Alexis Boleak and Justine Lam selling balloons for fundraising efforts for Haiti.

K Shong/Eddy



Michael Seaman, David Terzis, Larissa Martinovic
present...

POTSHOTS

TOUGH TALK FOR A TOUGH WORLD



No more Shakespeare!

Walking in the hallway to your English class, I am dreading to open that old English catastrophe that teachers call a book. Every year we crack open these ancient half ripped books to learn about old English writing, but why is this necessary? Students have been studying Shakespeare for practically as long as education has existed, and I think we've reached a point in society where we should ask ourselves, is it time for an educational change?

After studying Shakespeare, I found that it was just another book with old English. We could use the time to broaden our vocabulary and study new novels. But instead we are stuck with these ancient books that are so old we should learn about them in history class. So really I am not ranting because I have to learn Shakespeare, I'm ranting because I don't learn anything FROM Shakespeare.

What can I do in 40 minutes?

There are some great things about Riverside, but the amount of time for lunch isn't one of them. So I decided to check out the other schools lunch breaks, and sure enough, Riverside has one of the shortest lunch breaks in the entire school district.

Riverside's lunch break is only forty minutes long. At Charles Best, the lunch break is an hour and fifteen minutes long. Imagine all the things that you can do in that extra thirty-five minutes! Next, I looked at Port Moody Secondary. Their lunch break is fifty five minutes long. Imagine how much more you could do if our lunch was longer. Some of us, like myself, would like to have the choice and time to walk home and have lunch. For others, maybe more time to study, or even more time to play intramurals. The worst of it is trying to inhale my lunch, and find something to do before the bell rings.

Less Baggage Please!

I don't know about you, but I hate when people have giant size backpacks and walk around the school very slowly. Honestly why are their backpacks so big? They could take up the size of two other people?! I don't see why they can't just carry less in their bag, that's what a locker is for people. For instance, when going up the stairs, an over loaded backpack can hit you in the face, and you know that hurts! What do people carry in them? Bricks?! We don't have that many big textbooks. Now, I have had some experience with getting hit with a huge backpack. Let's just say it was embarrassing. Not only can these people hit you in the face with their backpacks, but I've seen people get knocked off their chairs and near misses down the stairs. Also, think of the back problems these kids are going to have, or already have! When they're older they are going to have hunchbacks. Come on people! Use a locker!



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Film critics find plenty to critique in *Avatar*

Emily Nomland - staff reporter

With the release of the blockbuster film *Avatar*, there has been a lot of controversy directed towards the 3D sensation. Many people have been online on forums and reporting that they are feeling depressed because Pandora, the moon that *Avatar* is based upon, isn't real and that we as humans aren't doing our part in creating an environmentally acceptable lifestyle for ourselves. Others



Zoe Saldana as Neytiri and Sam Worthington as Jake Sully in *Avatar*.

find that the movie was somewhat racist in its treatment of the Na'vi, the tall blue natives on Pandora, and that most are coincidentally voiced by black actors.

On www.avatar-forums.com, there are many topics about poster's feelings after watching the movie. All of the posters have one thing in common: the fact that we as a society have messed up our planet ecologically and they are feeling depressed about being part of the human race. Some posters

even report serious thoughts about suicide.

Although this is a serious issue, certain people who have been clinically diagnosed with depression see this as a joke and that these feelings aren't actually signs of depression, just obsessive feelings towards a movie. This may seem harsh, but in a way these critics are correct. To be clinically diagnosed with depression, you must have symptoms for at least two weeks.



Courtesy of Google

Since the symptoms for "Avatar Depression Syndrome" appear right after watching the movie, it may just be a state of mind combined with strong feelings towards the movie. But if the intense sadness and suicidal thoughts persist, it could develop into a serious problem.

Another controversial point that critics bring up is that the Na'vi are portrayed as stereotypical earth-loving natives getting

conquered by invading members of the technologically elite.

Jake Sully, played by **Sam Worthington**, is the protagonist in the story and he enters the Na'vi realm to learn their secrets and use it against them to obtain a precious mineral, called Obtanium. But after learning their ways, he turns against his original mission and tries to save the Na'vi from exploitation. With this storyline, some critics compare it to *Pocahontas* or *Tarzan* because of the common theme of a "white savior."

Sully even falls in love with a Na'vi named Neytiri, voiced by **Zoe Saldana**, and this may be connected to the storylines of the two previous movies, John Smith and Pocahontas in *Pocahontas* and Tarzan and Jane in *Tarzan*.

With "Avatar Depression Syndrome" and the persistent theme of a "white savior," *Avatar* stirs up a controversial storm with critics and viewers of this record-breaking franchise.

Despite the critics, *Avatar* still has a good message

Emily Nomland - staff reporter

With its mind-blowing 3D effects, meaningful storyline, and relatable characters, it is little wonder how *Avatar* has become the top grossing movie of all time. It has gained a lot of criticism, but ultimately those are overshadowed by the movie's social, spiritual, and environmental messages.

The storyline is mainly about being socially connected with everyone and everything around you. The movie shows that every living thing, whether it be plant, animal, or human, are all connected and everything has a soul. In the Na'vi's case, the common ground between these substances is Eywa, the deity on Pandora. The key sentence, "I see you," is also significant because it doesn't

mean that the person sees you only as a body, they see your soul as well. The Na'vi show this connection by using their long braids to physically "connect" with each other.

Another point that **James Cameron**, the director of *Avatar*, wants to relay is that we aren't leading a healthy lifestyle, and we aren't being reverent enough to what the environment provides for us. The Na'vi always give thanks and pray to Eywa for what life brings. As a society, we aren't thanking Mother Nature for anything; instead, we're thanking Apple for our iPods. Because technology has become such a large priority in our lives, it's difficult to imagine a life without it. But as we see the way the Na'vi live peacefully without it, *Avatar*



Photo Courtesy of Google

A scene from the blockbuster film *Avatar*.

has audiences questioning their obsession with technology.

Overall, with such a meaningful plot and motivating morals, people should be able to see past the controversial points and take the movie for what it's meant to be about: social connection, unity

between all life forms, and being more concerned about the condition of the Earth. After all, **James Cameron's** ideas weren't meant to be controversial, they were meant to shed light on Earth's problems. And of course, it is a visual feast for the eye.

Avatar

Fact:

Contrary to what many websites and news articles report, *Avatar* isn't actually the top movie of all time; it's the top *grossing* movie of all time, meaning it brought in the most money. But with price inflations on tickets, this is not an accurate way to measure. By measuring how many tickets were sold at the box office, *Avatar* currently stands at number 17. So what movies sold the most tickets of all time, you ask? Well here's a list from 1 to 20.

- 1 "Gone With the Wind" (1939) 202,044,600
- 2 "Star Wars" (1977) 178,119,600
- 3 "The Sound of Music" (1965) 142,415,400
- 4 "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" (1982) 141,854,300
- 5 "The Ten Commandments" (1956) 131,000,000
- 6 "Titanic" (1997) 128,345,900
- 7 "Jaws" (1975) 128,078,800
- 8 "Doctor Zhivago" (1965) 124,135,500
- 9 "The Exorcist" (1973) 110,568,700
- 10 "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (1937) 109,000,000
- 11 "101 Dalmatians" (1961) 99,917,300
- 12 "The Empire Strikes Back" (1980) 98,180,600
- 13 "Ben-Hur" (1959) 98,000,000
- 14 "Return of the Jedi" (1983) 94,059,400
- 15 "The Sting" (1973) 89,142,900
- 16 "Raiders of the Lost Ark" (1981) 88,141,900
- 17 "Avatar" (2009) 86,205,800
- 18 "Jurassic Park" (1993) 85,571,400
- 19 "The Graduate" (1967) 84,825,800
- 20 "Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace" (1999) 83,043,500



Down By The Riverside

What is your opinion of the movie *Avatar*?



Margret Fletcher, grade 12

Although the movie was clichéd, I still enjoyed it. A good movie to have fun watching.



Andrew Staines, grade 12

I've been working and sleeping too much to take the effort to go see it.



Ms. Schmidt, teacher

Visually the most beautiful movie I've ever seen. Amazing that they used New Zealand and Oceania as locations for filming.



Wesley McGuffin, grade 12

I looked at the trailer and it wasn't my type of movie. It also had too much hype about it.



Tiffany John, grade 12

Excellent effects, great new actors, but extremely drawn out and predictable.



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Work Experience works for students

Iris Wong - staff reporter

Work Experience is a course for grade 11's and 12's students throughout the Coquitlam School District where they get to experience what it is like to have a job in the area of their choice. Students spend the first weeks learning about the particulars of any given career of their choice. Work Experience is lead by Ms. Selden, Ms. Nordheimer and Ms. Chin. Students get to choose what field they want to work in: Art, Business, Carpentry & Joinery, Children Services, Culinary Arts, Drafting & Engineering, Fitness & Recreation, Health Sciences or Journalism. There are three main areas the teachers focus on, Art for Ms. Selden, Science Co-Op for Ms. Nordhemier and Humanities for Ms. Chin. But they are able to work in other co-op areas. Students spend a hundred hours in the workplace to earn course credit and do what their working employer

teaches them. "It's just like any other course, you get 4 credits, you go to class, except you have to work for 90 hours and then you get references for your resume," said Ms. Selden.

Danielle Bigolli was one of many students who experienced a good work experience; she worked at the Vancouver Aquarium for a week. "It was really fun and I got to do a lot of different jobs there, for instance the question booth, the 4D theatre and so much more," said Bigolli. She spent time working with little kids, helping them with crafts and face painting. "Since we were workers there, we got to go behind the scenes and look closer at the animals which was a really good experience," said Bigolli. Bigolli feels her job placement helped her gain more experience, add on to her resume and grow more mature.

Candace Redmond also experienced a good work opportunity at Kerrisdale Cameras



Work experience in the photography field

K. Shong/the eddy

in Coquitlam Center. "My job there was really good; it taught me a lot of things, including if I want to pursue photography as a career in the future," said Redmond. Her job consisted of taking passport pictures, working at the till, cleaning up the general store, selling high end cameras, and filling out transfer forms and deposits. "I worked with a lot of people that were very inspiring and helpful to me, plus I got to use the equipment there!" said

Redmond. Redmond does not get paid but Kerrisdale cameras is donating her commission to Grad 2010. The experience helped Redmond determine that she would do well in the workplace she had predicted for herself. "I would recommend people to take this course because if you are uncertain about your job choices, it wouldn't hurt to try out the Work Experience program to make sure you won't make any mistakes later on in life," said Redmond.

In your face with...



Evan Sinclair

Eric Bruchmann - staff reporter

Grade: 12

Would you say that you're one of the most popular students in the school?
I am definitely one of the most popular kids in the school.

What is your proudest achievement at Riverside?
Becoming the captain of the Riverside soccer team.

How did you obtain this position?
It just came up. It's because of my excellent skill level and my leadership determination.

How long have you been playing soccer for?
Since I was ten.

What inspired you to join the sport?
Well, I don't know.

What are your plans after high school?
To go to Capilano College and play for the soccer team.

How long have you had your faux-hawk hairstyle?
Excuse me?

What would you define your hairstyle as?
Courageous.

What sort of music do you like to listen to?
All types of music, you name it - country, well, no, not really. Rap.

What's your favorite band?
I don't have a favorite band.

Do you smoke?
No, I do not. I would not do such a thing like that.



J. Bryant, K. Mcleod & C. Kalman of the Entrepreneurships program

2010 grad order biggest ever!

Taylor Green - staff reporter

Riverside's 2010 order of grad clothing was the biggest ever recorded at the school. Close to 200 students lined up to purchase hoodies, sweaters and shirts, among other items, from Riverside's The Wave. When asked why she thought this year was so successful, Jauna Bryant from the Entrepreneurship class simply replied, "We brought in more options." Bryant thinks the real key to their success was that they brought in a variety of styles, "This year we decided to bring back the vintage sweaters," Bryant said, "We also kept the original styles so that people can really have whatever they like." Whatever your style, the Riverside 2010 clothing line will have something for you.

REACH committee commits to making change

Jordyne Bird - staff reporter

The Environmental committee for Riverside (REACH) has many upcoming activities happening before the end of the school year. Some of the upcoming campaigns are a "no-idling campaign" and a paper reduction campaign.

The "no-idling" campaign is to get parents to turn off their cars when they are just waiting for their kids to come out of the school. If every driver of a light duty vehicle reduces the idling by 3 minutes a day we would save 630 million liters of fuel, over 1.4 million tonnes of greenhouse gas, and \$630 million annually in fuel costs. When a person idles the car on for

too long, green house gases are produced and contribute to climate change. REACH is doing this so that they can get a grant from the city to put up permanent signs that say "No-Idling". To do this they will be campaigning a few days throughout the year by knocking on car windows and bringing awareness to the cause. "This is an important issue that can be tackled on a student level," said grade 12 student Nina Karimi.

The paper campaign is simply to get teachers to use less photocopying in their classrooms.

Another familiar one is the "litterless lunch" which happens every



Shong/the eddy

Reach members displaying their No -Idling posters

Thursday. The REACH students give out treats to students who bring lunches in reusable containers promoting awareness to reduce garbage.

An event that is happening later in the year is environmental day. The REACH students will be having lunchtime activities on this day to promote awareness for the cause of helping the Earth.

Nina Karimi is planning on doing elementary school presentations to

promote awareness of helping the environment, such as recycling. REACH has also done some work outside of school around the community, such as going to the Hyde Creek fish hatchery and having a tour of their facilities. They also went with the Coquitlam Environmental club to pick out invasive species plants in the local ecology.

The REACH club meets every Wednesday at lunch.

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Digital Immersion continues to engage

Carson Bradley - staff reporter

Riverside's Digital immersion class had a successful first semester with the science component of the course under the direction of Mr. Brown. Now, the same group of students is taking English and Social studies with Ms. Bancroft. Once again Digital Immersion means no text books or binder, but a laptop and a digital knapsack. Instead of one source of information in the form of a textbook or the teacher, students learn how to use the internet to access multiple sources of information and to organize the websites. Students use the information to work collaboratively on projects, such as a recent one using Google Docs. Ms. Bancroft had students contribute to a chart on for a Socials project. Bancroft comments that the most exciting thing about students learning this way is that "they are not each in isolation, but collaborating on a shared product."

Students learn to set up their own Blogs and to write their responses about literature and historical events. The blogs also allow them to read and comment on other people's work. "Student's work is now real in the sense that it's out there on the web; it's published," said Bancroft. A possible upcoming social studies project for the class is to have students create and publish an online current events magazine. Bancroft envisions students taking a current event or issue and researching its origins. For instance, with the recent tragic events in Haiti, discussions arose around as to why Haitians speak French. Learning about how to build online products, and Colonialism at the same time is a unique opportunity for students.

The course has its challenges: a slow network sometimes, and Facebook and games are a constant temptation for students. But the possible benefits of the students forging new ground in their learning outweigh the distractions.



Students in Ms. Bancroft's English/Socials Digital Immersion class.

Shong/the eddy

"I think when students have a choice in their learning, they become more engaged, and by doing it online, they have the choice to find information from

thousands of sources," said Brown. It's an innovative course that is gaining some media attention and piquing more students' interest. The course will

be offered again next year, so this year's group of students can take Digital Immersion 10 while new students can sign up for Digital Immersion 9.

Riverside Hockey Academy shoots and scores

Taylor Green - staff reporter

This was the first year of the hockey academy at Riverside Secondary. The academy featured two 30 minute classes, one at 7:15am in X block and one at 8:15am in A block. "It really wakes you up and gets your day started," said grade 11 goalie Jean Galipeau.

It was an experimental year for the academy, but it has already been deemed a success by students. "It finally gave me a reason to wake up," said Mitch Genovese, grade 9, "getting on the ice everyday really helped my game."

The hockey 10 program is run by RPM, a hockey instruction group based out of Maple Ridge, who placed two instructors and one goalie instructor on the ice for each session. "They were good teachers and really knew their



One of the Hockey Academy classes huddles up before morning practice.

T. Green/eddy

hockey," said Mike Anderson, a grade 11 defenseman. "We were able to improve our skills in all aspects of the game."

This year the students went on

two field trips, one to a hot yoga session, and the other to the Grouse Grind. Students endured over 100 degree temperatures in hot yoga and spent forty eight

minutes to two hours sprinting up the side of a mountain on the grind. "It was tough at times," said Genovese, "but it's important if you want to perform at a high

level."

This is a split program between boys and girls, combining different genders and ages in to two different groups. They were split based on skill level and experience. "There was a bit of a skill difference, but it didn't disrupt us from improving" said Galipeau. Parents paid close to one thousand dollars for this course. The costs included trips, ice times, dry land, instructors and clothing items.

The school stated that the course will definitely be running next year, and there is talk of adding another Advanced Hockey 11 course in addition to the two Hockey 10 classes.

"I thought this was hugely beneficial, and I would for sure do it again next year," said Anderson, "I look forward to it."

Dr. Ursu is a good fit for Riverside Secondary

Alisha Knowsley - staff reporter

As the 2010 school year began with new students and classes, there were also many new staff members—among them, a new music teacher. Although he started out six months ago as a new member of the Riverside community, there are still some facts about Mr. Catalin Ursu that are unknown to the student body.

Inspired by his father, a composer and conductor, Ursu began playing instruments at age 3. His brother is also musical and played for the German Symphony. After many years of playing instruments, Ursu started composing music at the age of 12.

Ursu's years of teaching and involvement with music culminated in him earning a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Education and a Masters in Music Composition.

"That took a long time; my thesis was almost 300 pages," said Ursu

When asked about his motivation to become a teacher, he stated that he believed that teaching was building the future; and that he either wanted to go into teaching or medicine. "While teaching helps the spirit and mind, medicine helps the body," said Ursu.

Dr. Ursu has been and is very involved in music and teaching outside of his teaching job at Riverside. He taught music history for more than 7 years to adults in Vancouver. He also founded an adult chorus, the Crescendo Choir, 12 years ago. "Composing is the highest level of music. I compose a string quartet, symphonies, and choral ensembles," said Ursu. "I'm also a member of the Canadian Music Centre, a member of the

European League of Composers, and I'm in the musical dictionary. I was surprised, they usually only place dead composers in there," said Ursu.

As part of his teaching load in replacing Carol Sirianni, Ursu also was required to teach the Social Justice course that Sirianni piloted last year. Ursu knew he was replacing a much loved teacher, but felt that the Social Justice course "fit him like a glove." Social Justice is very important to Ursu because of personal experience. "The first twenty-nine years of my life were spent under a communist dictatorship in Eastern Europe. In other words, I could bear witness anytime for what social INjustice could do to a nation; therefore, I know first hand how important it is for any society to keep an eye on all actions of and proposals of



Students debating in Mr. Ursu's Social Justice course.

K. Shong/eddy

government and interest groups, said Ursu.

Grade 12 student, Allison Mullock signed up for Social Justice because she heard it was a great course. "Mr. Ursu really

encourages a debating atmosphere; I especially enjoy Ursu as a teacher because he is really passionate about the course, and he expects you to be too," said Mullock.



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Shutter Island in rough water, but stays afloat

Christian Fowler - staff reporter

Award winning director Martin Scorsese has teamed up with Golden Globe winner Leonardo DiCaprio, for the fourth time since their hit film *The Aviator*, to bring audiences an exciting psychological thriller. *Shutter Island* is based on the 2003 book of the same name by author Dennis Lehane, and it will keep you guessing in a state of nervous anticipation.

The movie begins with a large ferry boat bobbing through an ominous grey fog towards Shutter Island, a hospital for the criminally insane on an island in Massachusetts. The scene pans over to the main character, U.S. Marshal Edward "Teddy" Daniels (DiCaprio) getting seasick before going on deck to meet his new partner Chuck Aule (Mark Ruffalo).

The two marshals arrive on the dock where they are told to relinquish their firearms and are to obey all island protocol. The two Marshals are brought before the hospital's chief psychiatrist, Dr. John Cawley (Ben Kingsley) who explains that a patient named

Rachel Solando (played by both Emily Mortimer and Patricia Clarkson) responsible for drowning her three kids, has escaped from her cell and is somewhere on the island.

Instantly you are brought into the sinister and mysterious grasps of the eerie film that Scorsese does a first-class job at directing. As always, he ensures that viewers have a fun yet terrifying experience. His use of symbolism and foreshadowing as well as his ability to play with atmosphere ensures that this film is a stellar five out of five, and the amazing cast lineup, guarantees a box office hit.

This movie is a must see for any thriller fans or anyone who just wants to see a good movie that will make you contemplate your own sanity when you saunter out of the theater. Scorsese has a talent for making you see the layers of his characters and making you feel for their losses and triumphs.

The one drawback to this film is that the final twist is very obvious about halfway through, but once you think you have figured it out



Photo Courtesy of Google

Leonardo DiCaprio stars as Marshal Edward "Teddy" Daniels

you start to look at the character in a new light, and can enjoy the film as a thriller instead of a mystery.

The director chose to use flashbacks of Teddy's past to convey why the character acts the way he does. The flashback of Teddy's World War II Liberation

of a German concentration camp and the haunting memories of his deceased wife reveals why DiCaprio's character is quite livid and chooses to listen to his reasoning over other main characters on the island.

Shutter Island is a well directed movie that will captivate audience

imagination and play on their deepest fears. The movie really makes spectators feel like they are careening through the halls of "Ashecliffe Hospital for the Criminally Insane", and experiencing the thrills and frights of the secrets locked deep within its dark, dank, and evil walls.

SPOTLIGHT: The Latency

From Maple Ridge, BC, The Latency is a pop-rock band that has gained immense popularity over the past few years.

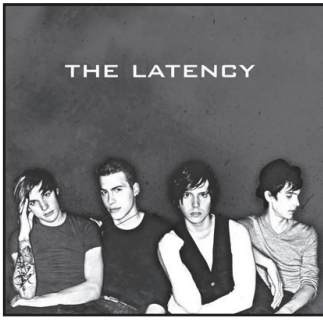


Photo Courtesy of Google

Forming in

2006, the members were from the remains of 3 separate bands. They were largely unknown until Ryan Stead (guitarist) met up with Tommy Mac, bassist of Hedley. Tommy saw much potential in the small town band and began to manage the band, later helping produce their full-length album. After opening for Hedley on tour, The Latency began to gain popularity (specifically through their first

single, "Tonight, I Love You"). The song was requested heavily on local radio stations and fans pushed it to be played on major radio stations, and the music video hit

#1 on MuchMusic's daily countdown multiple times. The band saw incredible success independently before signing with Maple Music, who re-released their EP *CHOMP!!* and the song "All You Wanted" in the summer in preparation for their album's release in September. Their self-titled full length album *The Latency* was a major success, and 85% of copies were sold out of stores.

What's on the music charts?

Daniel Jung - staff reporter

Whether we realize it or not, music surrounds us and is part of our everyday lives. If you're like me, you probably couldn't survive a day without some kind of music! As we enter 2010, we can only wonder where music is going. Last year, the Black Eyed Peas made a huge comeback with the release of their new album and the hit singles "Boom Boom Pow" and "I Gotta Feeling", which took over the airwaves for the most part of the summer. Other artists in the spotlight were Jamaican sensation Sean Kingston and British-Indian singer Jay Sean, and both singles released by these artists quickly became chart-toppers. Female artist Lady GaGa exploded into

success, with nearly all of her songs reaching #1 on the top 100. Miley Cyrus also became incredibly popular with her infectious pop ballad "Party in the USA". Kesha Rose Serbert, better known by her stylized stage name, Ke\$ha, became incredibly popular and well-known due to commercial success following the release of her debut single, "TiK ToK". In the words of Kid Carson, radio host on the Beat 94.5, "That song is the anthem for, like, everything!"

In Canada, Stereos (from Edmonton, Alberta) made waves after their successful experience on MuchMusic's popular TV show "DisBand". Faber Drive, the pop-punk quartet from Mission, BC, released their second album

entitled *Can't Keep a Secret*. Also, Hedley (from Abbotsford, BC) released the fantastic album *The Show Must Go*, which is their third album to date. Post-Hardcore band Alexisonfire shone with their fourth album, *Old Crows/Young Cardinals*. Their title track became a hit, with the music video debuting on MuchMusic and gaining radio popularity. Last but not least, straight out of downtown Vancouver, the band Marianas Trench rose to success after the release of their second album *Masterpiece Theatre*. Their three singles, "Cross My Heart", "All To Myself", and "Beside You" received major airtime on the radio, one after each other, respectively.

Lightning Thief strikes a chord with readers

Livia Turnbull - staff reporter

Percy Jackson is just an ordinary boy, (albeit one diagnosed with ADHD and dyslexia) who keeps getting moved out of schools a lot due to his difficulties in learning. As a result, he has only one friend who understands him, a boy with a slight limp named Grover. When strange occurrences begin to happen, Percy learns that he is a "half-blood", a child of one of the Greek gods.

Percy goes to a place called Camp Half-Blood, run by the surly director Mr.D, where half-bloods

must train in order to fight the monsters that will attack them in the real world. While there, Grover tells Percy that he is actually a satyr and that satyrs must accompany half-bloods in order to get a searchers license. But Grover hasn't successfully completed a mission yet. Percy also meets a girl named Annabeth, who is the daughter of Athena and, eventually, he learns that he is the son of Poseidon, one of the "Big Three" gods (Zeus, Poseidon and Hades).

The "Big Three" gods are at war because Zeus's master bolt is

stolen and Poseidon is blamed for the theft. Poseidon, in turn, accuses Hades of stealing it. The master bolt must be returned by the summer solstice, or a terrible fate will behold the earth. Together, with magical pens, baseball caps, and sneakers, Percy, Annabeth and Grover must work together to save the world from certain doom, while encountering various mythical creatures along the way.

Percy Jackson, sandwiched in between *Harry Potter* and other similar fantasy novels, is pretty underrated. The novel takes the Greek myths of old and puts a

modern twist on them, which are fun and are a great way for young people to learn about them. Also, the portrayal of Percy's ADHD is realistically done, for the author's own son has ADHD.

This book is silly, the characters are a little dull, and it is a bit dated, but it is a fun, adventurous and suspenseful romp that makes fun of itself.

I would even have to that, you'll laugh, cry, and learn something about yourself, but that's a little too cliché. So, I'll just close with saying that for all its faults, it's an unforgettable ride.



Photo Courtesy of Google

The Lightning Thief.



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Senior girls place 4th at the AAA Provincials

Robert Klimowicz - staff reporter

The Riverside Secondary senior girls basketball team had an excellent season. They headed to the Provincials at Capilano College March 3 to 6 with high hopes. The girls beat their old nemesis Elgin Park 74 to 57 in the quarter- finals, but lost in the semi-final round to the Handsworth Royals. Riverside then went on to play Claremont in the Bronze medal match on Saturday March 5, but lost 58 to 69. A fourth place finish is not what the girls wanted, but it is an accomplishment with all the



2010 Senior Girls Basketball team.

Photo courtesy of L. Hiebert

changes the team has gone through. The make-up of the team was quite different from last year with the loss of the team's

top players Kristina Collins and Karla Josefson. Last year's team went to the Provincials as well, but lost to Handsworth in the

Gold Medal match and went home with a Silver. Coach Paul Langford was confident that this year's team would come together. "Every player has stepped up to fill those shoes; it is more of a balanced team than last year," said Langford. Despite the unique make-up of the team with five grade 12's and seven grade 10's, and that this was the first year they had played together as a team because the 10's played junior basketball last year, Langford felt that the melding of them together went well. "The grade 12's showed great leadership with the experience of

playing in previous provincials, and six of the 10's are familiar with the pressure of this level of competition as they have played for provincial teams," said Langford. With the way the 10's have played this season, Langford felt they all deserved the spot on the senior team. This was the fifth time Langford has brought his team to the Provincials. With the young make-up of this year's team, and the experience they have gained from this tournament, they are assured to continue to be one of the top girls teams in the province for years to come.

Canucks score at Olympics

Chris Wallsmith - staff reporter

The Vancouver Canucks had seven players on Olympic hockey teams, three of whom won medals. Sami Salo, who plays for Team Finland, won a bronze medal when his team decisively beat Pavol Demitra's team Slovakia 5-3. Ryan Kesler's Team USA lost in the gold medal game to Roberto Luongo's Canada 3-2 in overtime. The other Canucks in the Olympics, Daniel and Henrik Sedin and Christian Ehrhoff, did not qualify for any medals.



Photo Courtesy of Google

Luongo with the enormous glove save.

The Vancouver Canucks hit the ice as a team again on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 as they attempted to finish off their road trip with an above .500 win percentage. In their first game back from the Olympics, the Canucks started off on a high note with a thrilling 4-3 overtime win against the lower ranking Columbus Blue Jackets. The Canucks continued to keep the

fans happy with a solid 6-3 win over the playoff bound Detroit Red Wings. Considering that the Canucks started the season with three straight losses, they have been one of the better teams in the entire Western Conference, and currently hold the number one spot in their always difficult Northwest Division. On the injury front, Canucks star "defensive"

defenseman Willie Mitchell's injury has become more severe than they anticipated, as he is still out at the moment with a concussion, which he suffered on January 16 against the Pittsburgh Penguins. Another starting defenseman, Kevin Bieksa, is still recovering from a tendon laceration. He is expected to return within the next several weeks.

Free running for fun and fitness

Erika Gebhardt - staff reporter

Free running is a form of urban acrobatics such as tricking and street stunts. Free running is commonly practiced on streets that are cluttered or in gymnasiums. Some participants jump from buildings to roof tops. Thomas Duncan is a twelfth grade student who has been doing free running for approximately a year and a half. He does it to improve his cardio and for fun.

Thomas started as normal runner, but after a while he found it boring. He then decided to start something new called "free running." "Free running is a lot more fun the normal running," said Duncan. Free running mainly consists of running, jumping, climbing and balancing. Two important characteristics of being an accomplished free runner are speed and efficiency.

Being a free runner also requires consistency, discipline, strength, balance, creativity and control.

Free running was founded in France where it is called "Parkour." Free running is at a non-competitive level in Canada and the U.S, but there are competitions in Europe called The World Competition.

One day Thomas hopes to get into the World Competition in Europe. "In order for me to accomplish that and to get into the World Competition in Europe I have to practice and improve a lot," said Duncan.

Free running is not a mainstream extreme sport yet, but just as skateboarding and



E. Gebhardt/eddy

Teen Free runner doing a backflip.




BMX racing started small and grew to what it is today, so can free running become more popular at a competitive level.

SPORTY SHORTS

Rugby
Mr Thies' Senior Rugby team entered a Exhibition tournament (3 games) on March 4th to kick off the season.

Lacrosse
Riverside Went to the 2010 "Lower Mainland Tournament." They went 1-1, but lost 8-7 in the quarter finals.

Wrestling
Riverside made the provincials on March 5th and 6th.
Wrestlers:
- Matt Harrison
- Anastasiya Shults
- Nina Karimi
- Gordie Frank

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