

Down the Hall

What would you like for the prom theme to be?



"Just Breathe, because it's our last prom and we should just breathe and take it all in."

--Lindsey Hall, senior

"Do a Little Dance, Make a Little Love, Get Down Tonight, because it's a pretty catchy title, and a song goes with it."

--Matt Brown, senior



"Rock Into the New Millennium, because we're the rock and it's the millennium."

--Jessica Cobb, senior

"A New Beginning, because it's the end of the school year, and next year will be a new one."

--Leslie Morris, junior



"Party Hard, because it's fun."

--Eric Denney, junior

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to start out by saying that I love *The Rocket*. I think that it is great for our school and it seems to me like the whole student body, as well as the faculty enjoys catching up and finding out what goes on at RCHS each month.

This past issue was great. One article that comes to mind as being fantastic is the one written by Stephen Hopkins. The article about being "old school" was great. It gave me a chance to stop and reflect on my childhood, which started back in the 80's. It reminded me of so many things that I watched, listened to, and did.

I especially liked the pieces about Saturday morning cartoons. As a kid, I remember getting up on Saturday and watching cartoons until lunch.

Stephen only forgot one thing: What about all the Hulkamaniacs?

Sincerely,
Thomas Coffey

Dear Editor,

I would like to say that this issue of *The Rocket* is magnificent. The storylines were interesting and funny. You make it not seem like just another newspaper with boring headlines. It's about what we as teenagers need to know about. It also relieves stress and tension from a long day at school.

I especially love the list of the top 10 things to do at the mall. Only if someone would actually do them would, it would make it that much funnier.

Keep up the good work and continue doing whatever you think will keep us reading *The Rocket*.

Sincerely,
Jessica Bullock

Dear Editor,

In the recent March 2000 copy of *The Rocket*, I read an editorial titled "Blooming ideas wilt Valentine's errors."

I agree with this article. I also thought that the announcement caused a problem with many students.

The announcement left many empty handed who had received flowers but had no idea they had.

I think they could have solved the problem by making a list of the names. Then at the end of the day announce for those students to go to the cafeteria and pick up their flowers.

I also agree with the solution that they give, but many people might not be able to make it to the cafeteria to look at the list. Then you are left with the same situation, but both solutions to the problem are effective.

Sincerely,
Mattie Carpenter

Have a comment? A suggestion? Write to the Editor - we'd love to hear from you!

Should underclassmen be allowed at prom?

by Tara Cox

As you zip up your dress, or fix the collar on your tux, you look into the mirror and, for one fleeting moment, you think that tonight might be wonderful. Maybe even magical. Then you notice that something is missing.

All of your friends will be there laughing, dancing and having fun. You've known these people for years and love spending time with them, so why are you dreading the prom?

Could it be that you're nervous about how you look, or that you'll end up as the star of a prom horror story that begins with, "I had just raised my arms in my strapless dress..." or, "As I came out of the restroom, I noticed that people were staring..."

No. It's neither of the two. Well, maybe just a little bit.

The thing that is missing in the reflection and the main reason that you're dreading prom is because the person that you want to spend the night with the most won't be there.

It's not because you're boyfriend or girlfriend is out of town or can't make it, but he/she is an underclassman, and therefore not

allowed to accompany you to what is supposed to be one of the best nights of your teenage life.

Because of this, several upperclassmen skip the prom as a form of boycotting this rule. Instead, they spend the night with their significant other and miss out on the special event.

True, most juniors and seniors do not want lowly freshmen and sophomores at their prom. It is a special night away from their immature, self-centered, ill-thought-out acts. Wait. That's us.

Would it actually hurt anyone if these people came? No. Would it mentally scar you for life? No. Chances are, you probably wouldn't even notice that they were there. So what's the big deal about allowing underclassmen to prom, if by invite only?

Granted, freshmen should not be allowed to go unless a senior invites them because it is the seniors last year. If invited, they must escort someone of the opposite gender, to avoid an overwhelming number of underclassmen attending with friends.

Juniors have one more year to attend, so if they are going with a

freshman, they can wait one year.

Since it will only be one year until sophomores could go to prom, and there is hardly a huge age gap between sophomores and juniors, I really do not see a big deal with them going. If they are allowed, invited, and decide to go, then it's their fault if their Junior/Senior prom isn't as special.

Supposedly, the reason the administration will not permit underclassmen to attend the prom is because they want it to be a special night with only upperclassmen and a sort of reward for staying in school for at least three years.

However, people from any grade level outside of our school district may attend, and also people who have graduated. This makes it not just an Upperclassman Prom, but a "Junior-Senior-Alumni-and-Outside-of-our-School-District Prom" (aka. Anyone-Who-Wants-to-Come-Except-the-Two-Lower-Grade-Levels-of-the-Hosting-School Prom).

The point is, some upperclassmen either miss out on prom or

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