

Biology teacher leaving RCHS

BY JESSICA DENNY

Next year will mark the start of a new era for a new biology teacher. With this news comes a sad fact; after three years at RCHS, Mrs. Belinda Corder is leaving.

"I try to give everything I have to everything I do, and right now I want to give everything I have to my family," Corder said. "As opposed to trying to do my very best at my job, and putting my family on the back burner in order to get things done at school that needed to be done."

The fact that her husband Terry, a captain in the US Army Reserves, was mobilized during the war in Iraq played a key role in her decision to make this her final year. He was supposed to go to Iraq, however these plans fell through and he is now stationed at Fort Campbell. The absence of her husband made her look at her life and reorganize her priorities.

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Championship banners replaced

BY CALEB BLAIR

The next time you're in the gym, look around. Do you notice anything missing? Chances are you will.

The 21 blue banners that once hung from the gym's rafters have been replaced by eight "recognition" signs. The original banners represented regional championships, as well as placement in state competition.

"The change was primarily due to the amount of space," said RCHS Principal John Hale. The red signs take up less space, and look much neater, he added.

Each sign represents each sport/organization that has won a regional championship. It includes the year(s), and has room for more years (and more championship titles) to be added. Mr. Hale sees this as another advantage.

"I believe that it will send a statement to other schools, saying that we anticipate getting a lot more."

Summer school gets an early start

BY ALLISON ANDERKIN

Each year many RCHS students have to attend the dreaded "summer school" for one reason or another, yet now it's not so much a part of the summer.

Traditionally, summer school begins immediately after the regular spring semester ends. However, this year's summer session began May 1.

Why the change? "We intend for it to give students more of a summer break," explained David Riddle, the coordinator of extended school services.

The decision to alter the schedule as made after the school board's decision to begin the 2003-2004 school year August 6.

Summer school requires students to complete 60 hours to earn half a credit, and 120 hours for a full credit.

In order to meet these requirements, students have been attending after regular school hours from 3 to 5 pm. This schedule will continue until May 30 when summer school students will attend four hours. This will help students to accumulate 48 hours.

The remainder of the hours will be earned during the summer, beginning June 6 and ending June 19.

The new schedule "also helps to get the school building ready for the next school year," said Riddle.

Although this year's schedule for summer school probably will not be repeated next year, Riddle says there are plans being made for the 2003-2004 summer school to be only in the spring semester and not have any during the summer.

The idea "really resembles the credit make up," is how Mr. Riddle tried to describe the plans for next year's summer school. He also says it will be flexible.

For example, if someone needs it during the fall after failing a spring course, then there will be arrangements made for that to happen.

The new schedule seems to be working out well; however, there are concerns about how the students feel about it.

"I don't feel like students like it because they have to go so long now after school, but in the end

they will have more of a summer," said Mr. Riddle. Most students who are attending agree with Mr. Riddle. They don't like it very much.

"I would rather just go in the summer. I don't like the long days now," said junior Steven Coffey.

Brandon Campbell, also a junior, prefers the old schedule, as well.

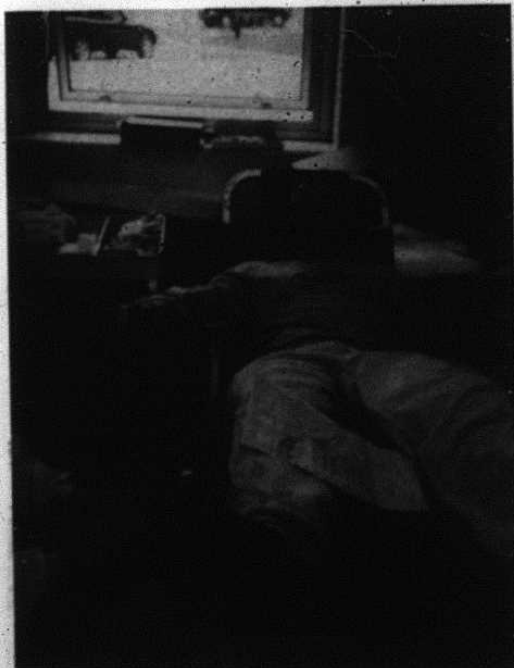
"I don't like how students who are failing this (the spring) 18 weeks can't make it up with this schedule."

Campbell also said that even though he hasn't attended summer school before, he still thought the old way would be more beneficial to help students who are failing in the spring semester.

Though many of the students don't like the schedule, science teacher Debbie Cash, who has taught summer school for several years, does like it better this year.

"I like it because we have more of a summer and because when we have situations like this year when there is an extremely short summer anyway, it still gives us a break."

Blood Center collects 47 pints of blood



Almost fifty people turned out for a blood drive sponsored by RCHS's Key Club Friday, May 23. According to sponsor David Vorbeck, the Central Kentucky Blood Center collected 47 pints of blood. Senior Ross McClure was donor #14.

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