

THE BLACK RIVER CURRENT

Volume I, Issue III

February 2010

Check This Out:

- Valentines Day History
- Monthly Horoscopes
- Gift Guide for your Sweetheart
- Inside Look at Science Olympiad
- Volleyball coach Ms. Wright resigning from 6 year coaching run
- Black River's own Tessa Perez releases her 1st CD

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Haiti Firsthand

Rachel Chase and Tessa Perez, Seniors



From January 13 through 20 of this year, Tessa Perez and Rachel Chase witnessed firsthand the amount of love and compassion one nation can have for another. Just one day after the horrific earthquake in Haiti, we flew down to the Dominican Republic, Haiti's neighboring country. Our original plan was

to work in a Haitian Refugee camp (called Batey Central) in Barahona, helping at Ebenezer, a school established in this area almost 15 years ago. The area is stricken with poverty, and the amount of help and support Ebenezer brought to the area is incredible. However, our original plans drastically changed as we landed in the Dominican in the midst of chaos after the earthquake hit. Haitians flocked over the border, seeking medical attention and care in the Barahona hospital. We visited the hospital and saw a devastating amount of patients with untreated injuries, and many children who had lost their

parents. The Barahona hospital does not have nurses, like a typical American facility, but relies on families of the patients to feed and clothe them. Because the majority of the Haitians in the hospital lost family members in the earthquake,



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The Loving Work of St. Valentine

Bekki Rinckey, Junior

Candy hearts, pink decorations and handing out cards. All of these are common for the holiday of love, Valentine's Day. Today, some celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th as a way to show love to each other. For others, it is an excuse to eat obscene amounts of candy and think about why you do not have a loved one to share the holiday with. So, in turn, Valentine's Day creates a mix of emotions for everyone depending on their facebook relationship status.

But as you encounter Valentine's Day 2010, perhaps it is time to ponder the histori-

cal evolution of this holiday. Although not as well known as perhaps Christmas Day or Easter, Valentine's Day does have an interesting historical significance.

Valentine's Day derives from Christian and Roman traditions, based on the Catholic saint, Valentine. The history begins in 270 AD in Rome, where the ruler, Claudius II had officially banned marriage. St. Valentine however began to secretly hold marriage ceremonies in the ruler's opposition. Many young lovers came to the benevolent saint; however it was only so long until his secret

was discovered.

Valentine was soon arrested and incarcerated for his secret marriage ceremonies. Soon enough he was sentenced to death for his refusal to renounce his belief in God, something that displeased Claudius II greatly, as he was an official pagan god worshipper. However, it is told that he befriended his jailer, Asterius, who had a blind daughter and also became friends with the saint. It is said that perhaps Valentine had fallen in

Valentine was exe-

Continued Pg. 4

Haiti Cont.

they were left to lie uncared for for days on end. The majority of our trip was spent trying to gather supplies for the Haitian patients, and spending time with people who had lost their family. Because Ebenezer school is in the middle of a Haitian refugee camp, almost every family in the area had lost a family member or friend in the earthquake. One woman from the community had lost nine members of her family. However devastating and extremely painful it was to see these suffering people, it was amazing to see the overwhelming response by the people who lived in Batey Central to help at the hospital. They worked day and night, helping transfer patients to the hospital and making lists of necessary supplies for the patients. Some of these already impoverished people gave up almost everything they owned to the hospital.



If you are interested in donating to patients in this hospital, please contact Rachel Chase at rachel.chase92@gmail.com or Tessa Perez at tessarayperez@gmail.com and we will give you more information.

High Schoolers:

You think you can stay awake for 24 hours??

Test yourself at Black River's First annual



24-Hour Dance Marathon!!

May 14-May 15, 8pm to 8pm

A charity event to raise money for building a school in Africa through Me to We. Dancers who raise \$60 dollars will promise to stay on their feet for 24 hours, participating in fun activities, dancing, and organized events.

See Ms. Davis or a Student Council member for donation forms and more information

Science Olympiad

Maria Misovich, Freshman

Science Olympiad is a competition that lets you test your scientific skills. This is Black River's fourth year participating. A team is composed of up to 15 people and a school can even have more than one team. Both go to the invitational in February, which is preparation for the regional competition in March where only one team from each school can compete. They will go up against many other West Michigan schools. The top ten teams go on to the state competition in April.

Science Olympiad is organized into multiple

different events that involve taking a test or constructing something. Most teams will participate in three events. When competing, each event takes about an hour. All the events are scored by a panel of judges, and at the end of the day there is an awards ceremony. At the invitational, the top six finishers for each event and the top six school overall are recognized. Events Black River is competing in this year include Fossils, Ecology, and Trajectory.

Last year Black River placed sixth at the invitational and fourteenth at the

regional meet. We also placed first in individual events. We considered it an accomplishment as last year was only our first year doing Science Olympiad.

In past years, Black River has only had a middle school team but this year we have our first high school team. "I'm very excited to be coaching both high school and middle school," says Mrs. Miskelley, the coach. "The students are very enthusiastic and excited." Practice for both teams is after school on Tuesdays in the basement science lab. There is also high school practice

during CAP on Thursdays in Mrs. Miskelley's room.

Competition day. It's a Saturday, and you wake up early (not fun, but worth it) and meet the rest of the team at the school building. The team gets on the bus and heads to the competition site. The invitational is at a high school and the regional meet is at Grand Valley State University. Different events are located all over the building, or if you are at GVSU, all over the campus. Your events might not be back-to-back, and between events you

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Spotlight on Exchange

Alena Leshner, Sophomore

ราชอาณาจักรไทย (Thailand)



Name: Nutt Samitinan **Hometown:** Bangkok, Thailand **Age:** 16 **Exchange Organization:** STS

Host Family: Jessica & Peter Kiwiet

For those of us who don't know much about Thailand, it is a country located in central Southeast Asia, to the east of Cambodia and Laos, bordered by Burma and Laos in the north, and by Malaysia and the Gulf of Thailand in the south. With an overall population of about 63,723,953 people, the country's capital city is Bangkok, the largest and most central city (population estimated 9,100,000 people). Bangkok was founded as the capital city on April 21, 1782. Thailand's most revered man, their king Bhumibol Adulyadej, has reigned since 1946, making him the longest-serving current head of state in the world.



1. What's your favorite thing about the U.S.?

The language. I like learning English, the main language in the world.

2. What is your favorite class? What is your least favorite class?

Art class is my favorite. It's fun and very relaxed class, so I like it. I don't like math or science: gives me a headache. I don't like math because I'm doing different work than my class. They do pre-calc while I do algebra.

3. What is the biggest difference between Thailand and the U.S.?

Religion. I'm Buddhist but I study in Christian school in Thailand. But Christian religion in United States is so different from Christian in Thailand; more people go to church here, and it's funnier and less serious at services. In Thailand, church is very serious, you come and sit and listen. When I first come here I sing in the church choir here with my first family. I don't sing in church in Thailand.

4. What's your favorite sport?

I love ski and snowboard! Since I come here, I learn how to ski; we don't have snow in Thailand. Before I come to U.S., I like soccer and play on town team, called "Bungkrom."

5. What do you miss most about Thailand?

Not the food; there's a lot of Thai food here, I can go anywhere and find it. I miss my friends and family. I'm afraid when I go back that my friends can't remember me because I'm changed so much in the States. My friend come to the U.S. in 7th grade, he come back and no one remember him. I'm afraid of this.

6. How would you describe Thailand, climatically and culturally?

Thailand has a lot of Buddhist Temples, more than church. About 80% of Thailand is Buddhist. We have a very

beautiful land, and very different. Have beaches, mountains, forest. We doesn't have snow like here but the north of Thailand is very cold in winter. Everybody like to go there in winter. We have a lot of rain in Thailand about September.. Some years we have too much rain, the water come from the mountain, and a lot of people die, get hurt in accident.

7. Why did you decide to come to the U.S.?

I come here to learn more language. Need to teach people about Thailand-no Taiwan, no China. We don't speak Chinese, we speak Thai! I'm very bored of that question. It's kind of funny, you know? But I get tired of people asking me if I'm China or from Taiwan.

8. What's an interesting fact about Thailand?

Thailand is second highest rice producer in world. China or Vietnam produce most rice. American people like to eat rice, but they don't know where it comes from.

9. If you could be any animal, what would it be?

Bird, I think eagle. Eagle gets to be free, and you at the top of the food chain. You have power when you're eagle. People respect the eagle.

Students Abroad

Lexi Petter, Junior



Pamukkale, Turkey

I am very lucky because very recently I had the opportunity to visit a very picturesque and historical site in Turkey called Pamukkale. This town is in the South-Western, or Aegean, region of Turkey and is famous for two major attractions: the ancient Greek city of Hierapolis (2nd century B.C.E.), and the hot springs that caused a major carbon-deposit, similar to that of the Mammoth Cave hot springs in Kentucky.

Hierapolis was once a major city, including aqueducts, a sewage system, a cemetery, a theatre, churches, temples, and a trading outpost. The hilly

area is very green and fertile and held in a valley; in the distance, one can see snow-capped mountains from the ancient location.

Near the ancient Greek village, there are carbon mineral deposits that are caused by hot water surfacing due to underground volcanic activity. The result is a cliff-like structure, stark and white, and constantly wet due to the running hot springs. Walking on this formation is a very memorable experience; the old carbon deposits make a wave-like hardened surface, and the new deposits squish under one's feet like clay. The whole phe-

nomenon is very unique: there are only three similar places on the entire planet.

After seeing these places, it becomes very apparent how unique and fantastic Turkey is as a country. There is history, modern culture, natural variances—seas, mountains, forests, fields, desert, and more—and Turkey has a warm, kind people and culture. I was halfway finished with my year officially on February 2nd, and I can't help but want to stay in this wonderful country, Turkey.

Valentine Cont.

with the girl, and days before his execution he sent a love note to her, signed "From your Valentine", thus the traditional signature for Valentine's day began.

Valentine was executed on February 14, 270 AD. However, the tradition in celebrating the "Day of love" as Valentine's Day began in the 14th century in honor of the work he did to spread the love of young couples. However, it was not until 1840 that love notes and care cards began to be distributed on this day as well.

Pop Cans for Haiti

Support the earthquake victims by donating your pop cans through United Way!

February 13th

12-4

Black River Main Parking Lot

Science Olympiad Cont.

can eat (Science Olympiad parents make sure to bring snacks, and there is a cafeteria) or go to the campus bookstore. There are usually movies showing in the auditorium as well.

I joined Science Olympiad when I was in sixth grade, the first year that Black River had it. At the invitational, we all felt overwhelmed and didn't expect to win any awards. However, for one of my events, Metric Mastery, Black River was announced as the second-place finisher. We also placed third and sixth in two other events. Whether you get an award or not, Science Olympiad is great for anyone who likes science, competing, or someone who wants to get better at both.

Alyssa Pinkham, a ninth grader in Mrs. Overdorf's CAP, says Science Olympiad is good for people who like science and math, likes how it doesn't count for a grade, and thinks it's a lot of fun. This is Alyssa's second year doing Science Olympiad. One of her events this year is "It's About Time", which Black River is competing in for the first time this year.

Diana Curtis, an eighth grader in Mrs. WindemueLLer's CAP, is doing Science Olympiad for the third year in a row. When she was in sixth grade she won first place in "Reach for the Stars". That was Black River's first time placing first in an event. "Science Olympiad is a fun after-school activity be-

cause you can explore your interests more thoroughly and compete with your friends and classmates." she says.

Parents can help out at practice along with teachers. My dad, a chemical engineering professor at Hope, helps out a lot and often brings some of his students with him. Mrs. Shipley-Mellon is also a regular Science Olympiad helper.

The high school team will be going to an invitational at West Ottawa on February 20. The middle school team's invitational is at Allendale High School on February 27. Both teams will be going to regionals at GVSU on March 27. Wish both teams some scientific luck!

Valentine's Day Gift Guide

Bekki Rinckey, Junior

Are you in love? Close to it? Valentine's Day is a wonderful time of year to express feelings of appreciation to those close to your heart! Yet, some of us might be stumbling upon ideas in which to get for each other. Not wanting to be cliché, here are some new ideas to spark up your February 14th!

For Guys:

I-tunes Gift Card
Movies (Guys love Action and Comedy!)
Homemade Cookies or Cupcakes (what guy doesn't love food?)
Game for his X-box or other gaming console
Gift Card to his favourite store or restaurant

For Girls:

I-tunes Gift Card
Movies (so you can watch them together!)
Gift card to her favourite store
Candy hearts, stuffed animal, chocolate (it's definitely overrated but every girl will be happy to receive it)
Jewelery (keep it simple, nobody likes that gaudy stuff)

While these are some ideas, you know your girlfriend/boyfriend the best, so get them something you are sure they will like!

Looking to buy a yearbook?

They are on sale now for \$45!

Turn your order forms into the front office!

February Book Review

Maria Misovich, Freshman

In *Charlotte Sometimes* by Penelope Farmer, thirteen-year-old Charlotte Makepeace goes away to boarding school. Her first day she feels awkward and out-of-place, and has a hard time sleeping that night. When she wakes up, everything seems more old-fashioned, and her roommate (who does not look like any of the four girls she shared her room with the night before) calls her Clare. The next day everything is normal again, and she

soon realizes she is trading places with a girl named Clare every other day. Clare lived forty years ago. For a while Charlotte enjoys this unique experience. But what happens if she gets stuck in Clare's time?

I received this book as a gift a couple years ago. The first time I read it, I planned to only read for half an hour. But when the time was up I wanted to find out what happened next. I ended up reading the whole book in one day.

That year, I had to give a book report for my English class. I did mine on *Charlotte Sometimes*. Penelope Farmer writes with vivid description and really paints a picture in the reader's mind. A chapter is often cut off in the middle of a conversation, causing you to want to continue reading. This story is a tale of time travel without being science fiction. Rather, it seems more believable than most time-travel books.

Sports

End of Coaching Career for Wright

Interviewed by Hannah Poindexter

Brooke Kolendorfer, Junior

As many former varsity volleyball players already know, a sad change has occurred to the coaching staff. The head volleyball coach, Ms. Wright, has announced that she will no longer be coaching the girls varsity volleyball team because, as she states; “The administration wants me to focus on getting seniors into college as my first priority”

For six straight seasons, she has been the head coach here at Black River coaching and teaching many skills, students, and throughout many different gym locations. She says that this year was probably the highlight of her coaching career. “We had a great record, everyone worked well together, and there was a good team

effort” She said.

Having been coached by Ms. Wright for even just one season, it is still a sad and disappointing feeling knowing that she will not be the coach next year. However, as she was telling some of the players and myself of her unfortunate resignation, she also had a spirit of optimism and hopefulness. As Wright reflected on her coaching career she recollected that “It was a lot of fun over the years. Even when we didn’t always have good seasons we still had a lot of fun. I can’t think of a season that wasn’t a whole lot of fun for me as a coach.”

She also commented on her high hopes for the future of the program; “I hope the program

stays strong and the teams are full and have a lot of interest, lots of Middle School players to build up the High School teams. I also hope that our teams stay competitive not only in our league but also in our district. We proved this year that that is possible and I hope to see that continued in later years.”

Coach said that she feels that her biggest accomplishment was playing a hand in the developing competitiveness of Black River’s volleyball teams. “I am proud of the progress that the program has made from the first year with 32 girls who had barely any volleyball experience to a great winning season this year. Creating this sort of program was an accomplishment that I am

very proud of.”

As for next fall’s coach, Wright doesn’t know where exactly the school will look or who it may end up being. “I know they will look for someone internally first (inside the school) but if nobody is interested they will then look externally. I may be involved with the interview process, I would be happy to do it” she told us.

She hopes to stay very much involved in the upcoming seasons but, “I *will* miss it, and I hope to be a part of the seasons in the future as much as I can by doing the book if they need me to and I will also always support the players.”

You can help the development of a school in a struggling Costa Rican neighborhood!

Buy authentic Costa Rican jewelry made of stones, beads, and shells all for under 8 dollars!

Every cent of your purchase will go towards buying books and scholarships for children to attend school.

Contact Rachel Chase, rachel.chase92@gmail.com, if you are interested.

Music on the Brain

Anja Freigang, 8th Grade

One of the smartest men who ever lived was Albert Einstein (you know, the E=mc squared guy). But one little known fact about him was that when he was growing up, he did terribly in school. His teachers told his parents that they shouldn't even bother sending him to school because he was "too stupid to learn". Obviously, his parents didn't listen to the teachers.

So, Mom went out and bought Al a violin. He was taught, and actually became very good at playing. Albert claimed that it was the music that helped him become such a genius. One of his best friends said that he improvised on the violin to help him solve his way through harder equations and mathematical problems. Even the Greeks sang their dramas because they realized it could help them remember things (O'Donnell).

Coincidence? I don't think so. I did some research and found out a few things that proved to be very interesting.

First, ever noticed that when you go to a rock concert, you feel energized and excited? And when you go to an orchestra concert, you feel

calm and relaxed? Carol Krumhansl of Cornell University says that different types of music can have different effects on your mood: fast paced music in a major key causes happiness, while slower music in minor keys cause a sad feeling (Stewart). Music has also been proven to reduce the hormone that makes you feel stressed (Cortical), and increase the "feel-good" hormone (endorphins) that makes you feel happy ("How Does Music Therapy Work?").

Secondly, everybody has experienced it and almost everybody hates it: getting an annoying song stuck in your head. Ever wondered why it's so easy to pick up an irritating tune? Research shows that the rhythm in music triggers the left and right sides of your brain which helps with learning and comprehension. A Bulgarian psychologist named Dr. George Lozanov decided to test this theory. He taught his students 1,000 required foreign words and phrases in one day. These phrases were supposed to take the entire term. 92% of the students received a passing grade for the class. His method in-

cluded using classical music from the Baroque period to help his students memorize the words and phrases. After four years, the students came back, and almost 100% of the students remembered the curriculum (O'Donnell).

Finally, music is used a lot in hospitals and emergency rooms. People who have suffered from neurological problems can benefit from something called Musical Therapy. People who have suffered from strokes find this type of therapy extremely helpful. The process is called entrainment. As the patient is listening to a highly rhythmical song, the rhythm synchronizes their muscle movements, and eventually helps improve their motor skills. It is also known to induce sedatives if the song is slow and steady in rhythm ("How Does Music Therapy Work?").

So the next time you need to study for a history final, or are in a hospital bed waiting for the sedatives to kick in, or just plain in a bad mood, pop in some Mozart or Beethoven. It may just prove to be the smartest thing you've ever done.

February Chatterbox

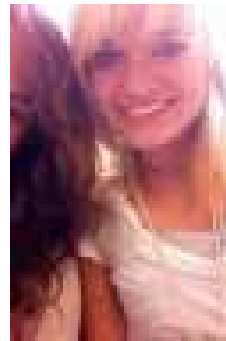
Morgan Temple, Junior

What kind of effect do you think Obama's State of the Union speech had on the morale of the American people? What part of the speech stood out to you?



What left the biggest impression on me was how Obama addressed the conflicting parties. In his speech, he stated "What [American people] deserve – is for all of us to work through our differences; to overcome the numbing weight of our politics." This it is exactly what all Americans need to do; we need to work together in order to get through these hard times.

-Liv Duesterberg, Junior



Obama had some good points in his speech and has good ideas. However, he fails to put them into action. Just like with economic crisis that he is going to "fix" he has yet to put that into action.

-Tyler Spencley, Sophomore



In general, I support what Obama wants to do, but I think that some of the things like healthcare would be better off when we weren't in the middle of a huge recession. I think that his stimulus is working, we are moving in the right direction even though it is putting the country in a financially strained position.

-Dan Chamness, Sophomore

I really thought that, as always, Obama had an excellent speech. His way of relating to the public never ceases to shock me. The part that I really admired, was when he said that both parties need to start working together in congress, instead of constantly wanting to compete, so things will get done in America.

- Theo Munch, Junior





Alena Leshner

Favorite Subject: My favorite classes are German, art, English, and AP European History. We get a lot of homework in AP Euro, but I really love history, especially when it covers countries that are so much older than the United States.

Future Plans: I plan to go to college and study within the medical field. I also want to travel a lot and see the world, so maybe I'll consider something having to do with international relations.

Activities: I enjoy playing my violin and electric guitar, as well as spending time with friends, drawing, and listening to music. I also love learning languages. Right now I'm learning Italian and German.

If you could speak to any kind of animal what would it be?: A wolf. They're really intelligent and I admire their pack instincts.

Why did you join the Newspaper?: I joined the Black River Current so that I could contribute to the school by giving students and faculty something interesting to read.

What would you do with 1 million dollars?: I'd invest part of it for college and then travel around Europe with a couple of friends.

If you could eat at one restaurant for the rest of your life, where would it be?: Thai Palace

Spirit Week is February 15-19

Monday: Pajama Day

Tuesday: Copycat Day

Wednesday: Superhero Day

Thursday: Color Day

12– Blue

11– Red

10– Orange

9– Black

8– Yellow

7– Green

6– Pink

EI: Tye-Dye

Friday: Black River Day

High School Pep Rally

Color Day– February 18th

During G-Period

Class Wide Competitions:

Tug-of-War

Relay Races

Mock Rock!!

January Horoscopes

Chara B-P, Senior



Aries (March 21-April 19)-
This month will prove to be a challenge, push through the work load and success shall be yours.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)-
You will be involved in a mystery soon...be cautious with who you trust.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)-
New friendships will spring up from old hatred. This will surprise you, but go along with it

for it shall yield good things.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)- You shall travel in the near future...the gods will be with you, do not fear.

Leo (July 23-August 22)- Love can come from the most unexpected places, and this month it will sneak up on you.

Virgo (August 23-Septmeber 22)- You may be intrigued by your current investment, but soon you shall lost interest and your fickle fancy will move on to the next thing, so don't get too attached

Libra (September 23- October 23)- You shall misplace an important object...but don't look too far, for it may be closer than you think.

Scorpio (October 24- November 21)- You will be rewarded for your compassion and everyone will treat you with the upmost respect

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)- Valentine's Day is coming up. You have caught someone's eye. Await the oncoming affection.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)- Your week will be spoiled by one bad comment, but don't let it get you too far down.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)- Lately you have been stuck in a rut, but don't worry, Valentine's Day will turn your frown upside down.

Pisces (February 19- March 20)- Your usual strong will shall falter this month. So beware of those that want too much out of you.

Tessa Perez Releases Her First CD!!!

Want one??



\$5

7 Tracks

Contact Tessa Perez to get yours TODAY

Tie-Dye For Toys!



Roseland is a poverty stricken neighborhood in the south side of Chicago.

Proceeds from all T-shirts sold will go to the Womens and Children's Shelter in Roseland.

Everyday necessities such as toilet paper are scarcely available at the shelter. Every purchase of a T-shirt will greatly benefit this community.

T-Shirts cost \$8.

For more information contact Lauren at laurenoverkamp@gmail.com

Editor's Page

Hannah Poindexter

Dear Readers,

Hooray for the 3rd issue of the Black River Current! I hope that since break has ended everyone has had a smooth– or at least as smooth as possible– transition back into school. This is the long stretch of the winter, everyone is sick of the snow and there is nothing too thrilling to look forward to throughout February unless you start the countdown until Spring Break (6 1/2 weeks!!). So, with this issue of the Black River Current, take note of the Calendar of events and maybe you can find something to cheer up your dull February days.

Some may notice that this issue is a little bit shorter than our previous issues and this is indeed true. We cut down our length by a few pages because of some article confusion. Though I still think everyone can find something of interest to read, I am quite certain we will be back to our original length next month.

With this month's issue we have also finished our middle school staff interviews as there are no 6th graders on staff, but the March issue will include our freshmen writers.

I would again like to thank everyone for reading and spreading the word about The Black River Current and I would encourage everyone, at any stage of their writing to submit something to the paper. We are open to any sort of contributions– poetry, photography, song lyrics, comics, anything! So no matter your idea, let everyone see your work through publication in the Black River Current!

- Hannah Poindexter

Want your voice to be heard?

Letters to the Editor, Opinion articles and Article Responses are welcome from all students. Simply email them to me by the 16th of each month and they will be considered for publication.

We are always in need of more writers!

Any event or story you would like to cover would be welcomed! We are also open to suggestions and article ideas if you want them covered but do not want to construct them. Contact me with any ideas or concerns at school, through Facebook, or email:

hannah.poindexter.14@hotmail.com

February 2010

Hannah Poindexter, Senior

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	- Boys JV 5:30 - Boys Varsity 7:00	-Groundhog Day		-Girls MS 5:30 -Boys JV 7:00	-Boys Varsity 7:00 -Girls Varsity 5:30	
7 -Rock and Glow Bowling* -Superbowl XLIV*	8 -Girls MS 5:30 -Boys Varsity 7:00 -Girls Indoor Soccer 8:00*	9	10	11	12 -Boys Varsity 7:00 -Girls Varsity 5:30 -Winter Olympics*	13 -Winter Olympics -Pop Cans for Haiti*
14 -Valentine's Day <3 -Teen Night* -Winter Olympics* -Rock and Glow Bowling*	15 -President's Day -Pajama Day* -Winter Olympics* -Girls Indoor Soccer 8:00*	16 -Copycat Day* -Winter Olympics* -Mardi Gras	17 -Superhero Day* -Winter Olympics*	18 -Color Day* -High School Pep Rally (G-period) -Girls JV 5:30 -Girls Varsity 7:00 -Winter Olympics*	19 -Black River Day* -Boys JV 5:30 -Boys Varsity 7:00 -Winter Olympics*	20 -Winter Olympics*
21 -Winter Olympics* -Rock and Glow Bowling*	22 -Winter Olympics*	23 -Girls MS 5:30 -Winter Olympics* -Girls Indoor Soccer 7:00*	24 -Winter Olympics*	25 -Winter Olympics*	26 -Winter Olympics*	27 -Winter Olympics*
28 -Winter Olympics* -Rock and Glow Bowling*						6 (March) - Rat Race 10:00 am

Calendar Explanations

Black River Spirit Week

When: February 15-19th

What: Pajama Day (M)

Copycat Day– Dress just like someone else (T)

Superhero Day (W)

Color Day– 12:Blue, 11:Red, 10:Orange, 9:Black, 8:Yellow, 7:Green, 6:Pink, El:Tye-Dye (Th)

Black River Day (F)

Superbowl XLIV

When: February 7, 6:30 pm

Who: Indianapolis Colts vs. New Orleans Saints

Pop Cans for Haiti

Where: Black River main parking lot

When: Saturday, February 13th, 12-4pm

What: Black River's chapter of United Way is leading a pop can drive to raise money for those suffering from the earthquake in Haiti

S Club Teen Night Valentines Party

Where: S Club, Lakewood across from KFC

When: Sunday, February 14th 5-9pm

Rock and Glow Bowling

Where: Century Lanes Bowling Alley

When: 2 pm, February 7,14,21,28

What: Sunday afternoon bowling with black lights, disco balls, laser lights and rocking music.

Lemonjello's Open Mic Night

Where: Lemonjellos, Downtown

When: 8-10 pm, February 3rd. Every first Wednesday of the month

What: Come share your music, poetry, short story, comedy, etc. from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm!No sign up ahead, just show up!

Girls Indoor Soccer

Where: Soccer Stop, Behind the north-side Family Fare

When: February 8, 15, 23 at 8 pm

What: The Black River girl's varsity team created an indoor team to warm up for the outdoor season in the spring. Games are played against West Ottawa and Zeeland teams.

Black River Basketball

Where: Black River Gym

When: Throughout the month of February

Winter Olympics

Where: Vancouver, Canada

When: Daily February 12th-28th

What: National competition in games such as skiing, bobsledding, figure skating, hockey, and snowboarding