

THE ROCK TOWER REVIEW

Friday, November 7 2008

Cross Roads High School

Issue I

JSYK: *(Just So You Know)*

By Kara

Teens Today: Pleasing Authority is Priority

"Terrible, atrocious, disturbing, horrendous, repulsive." -All words of the hard-to-please Simon Cowell. Simon is known for his constant disapproval given to contestants on the popular singing contest show, American Idol. While contestants see Simon as a superior authority, his words can sometimes bring a contestant's confidence level down. Like those contestants, teens today are often beaten down by such negative comments. Try to remember a time when a parent, grandparent, teacher, principal, or boss has given you disapproval. How did it make you feel? Many teens, usually ages 12-19, dwell on the approval of those they look up to. Some teens that lack parental guidance or a good home structure may be effected more than others. A girl with a father that is extremely critical might be mentally paranoid to make him proud when he may never show pride in her accomplishments. Teens that are neglected or never receive approval are more likely to have drug or alcohol abuse, anger issues, lessened effort in school, emotional distress, or even thoughts of suicide. On the other hand, teens with plenty of encouragement and support are more likely to resist peer-pressure, succeed in their schoolwork, maintain a healthy mentality, and over-all well-being. Where can you get this approval? The first place is church. There are dozens of pastors, youth ministers, and other church leaders that are waiting to give you encouragement. Another place is at school. Almost every high school has some type of counselor. Helping you increase your confidence is their job, so take advantage while you can. One other is at a crisis center. These centers are established all over the United States and are purposely built for your use. Although the resources may be helpful, the most important thing to remember is to keep control of your thoughts. Don't let your



hunger for attention run your life. You are who you choose to be, not what your peers make of you. When you let this mind-controlling disease get the best of you, you become self-conscious which leads to bad decisions and a poor lifestyle. Soon enough, this new, unworthy way of life will change who you are and who you want to be. Take a moment and decide who you'd like to become. Your life is like a storybook, unwritten and untold. The decisions you make today decide where your story will take place, the characters involved, and ultimately how it ends. How will your story end up? Will it be sealed with a happy ending? You are the author of your own story and now is the time to pick up the pen and begin writing.

Believe it or not, you are bound to be an authority yourself. Somebody in your life respects you for your strength and integrity. Ask yourself who this person may be. Perhaps a little sibling or cousin looks up to you. Put yourself in their shoes. When they look at you and your accomplishments, what do they see? Is it positive or negative? Imminently, the decisions you make will effect those who idolize you.

Everyday is an opportunity to overcome the obstacles that life brings. Strive to keep a positive mindset and you will eventually see progress in your life. Don't let the Simon Cowells in the world get you down. Be your own judge and use words like admirable and extraordinary to describe yourself. Ultimately, what you think of yourself is what you are. Keep in mind that the number one authority to please is yourself. When you've succeeded in making yourself happy, you have overcome one of life's biggest challenges.

Sports News

With Steven, Michael, and Tristan



Football Highlights

The Cross Roads Bobcats fell to the Grapeland Sandies in class 20-A District play. The Bobcats did not show up to play in the first quarter Friday night allowing 37 points. The defense stepped it up for the next three quarters, allowing only two touchdowns in thirty-six minutes of play. Cross Roads didn't get much offense going, "We couldn't get a push up front on the offensive line, therefore we couldn't generate a powerful offense" says left guard Michael. The Bobcats have been putting in much effort these last two weeks in practice getting ready for the Overton Mustangs, who they will be playing this Friday night at 7:30 in Overton. This will be the last game of the season so come and support your Bobcats as they try to finish the season strong.

District 20-1A Records and Standings—Football

1. Cayuga	5-0
2. Alto	5-1
3. Grapeland	4-1
4. Carlisle	2-3
5. Overton	2-3
6. Cushing	1-4
7. Cross Roads	0-5

Two to change:

Michael Garcia

With only one game left in the district season, the Bobcats hope to end the season on a better note. With their upcoming opponent, the Overton Mustangs, the Bobcats are going to need to come out mentally prepared for the adversity they will face. As a senior, I feel it is necessary to come out and play like we've never played before. My boys showed some heart against Cushing, and have played hard every game since then. Yet in this past week at Grapeland we were out of it in the first quarter and showed that same fire the rest of the game. I, as well as my other teammates are fed up with the losing streak and want to change. Yet there has been more want and desire than doing so. For the remainder of the season the team and I need to play like it will be the last time we ever play for in reality it will be. And for my juniors and the rest of my team, come out and finish the season with the pride you all hold within deep of yourselves for the team and school. This year has taught me a lot, seeing as in passed seasons I've either been injured or in surgery. It seems that when a group of close friends hit the field, you know they are going to have your back and fight that battle right by your side. Even though we didn't win at Carlisle, we still played hard in the second half. The game started out rough, with I myself not recovering an onside kick, just added on to the slump. Yet after some half time adjustments, we came out and did our best to finish up the game with pride and class. Coaches asked one last thing of us after the game, they asked us to challenge ourselves, to play the game it was meant to be played. Go out and play with our hair on fire for four quarters, and have some fun while you do. With this being our last week to practice, that's just what I and the rest of my team intend to do. Practice like we will play this week, then on game day go out and finish this thing right. I as well as many of my fellow teammates would like to thank each and every one of you for your support this year; it may have not gone the way a lot of us wanted, but thank you. It means a lot to know that we had our school behind us, win or lose.

Lady Bobcat Volleyball

The girls came out ready to play to their potential against the opposing Coolidge Yellow Jackets, and brought home a victory. The Lady Cats are now preparing for their upcoming playoff game against Milford on Tuesday November, 4th 2008, in Corsicana.

Stats from the Coolidge Game

Kenzi: 17 kills 12 service points
Kinlie: 27 assists
Anna: 19 service points 24 out of 24 serves
Chelsey: 7 digs, 7 serve points
Courtney: 4 kills
Britney: 5 digs
Audrey: 4 service points
Keslyn: 3 kills
Haley: 2 service points
Reanna: 1 service point

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As Reported by Trystyn:

Coach Durham says he is excited about our playoff game[s].
"If we come out and play good fundamental volleyball and execute, I feel our chances are good against Milford [and the rest of our playoff opponents]." – Coach Durham

Corner...

Staff Sports Predictions...

PREDICTIONS			
	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0
GAMES	STEVEN	MICHAEL	TRISTAN
CRB VS. OVERTON	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CRL VS. MILFORD	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CAYUGA VS. GRAPELAND	CAYUGA	CAYUGA	CAYUGA
CUSHING VS. CARLISLE	CARLISLE	CUSHING	CARLISLE
UT VS. BAYLOR	UT	UT	UT
ATM VS. OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA
TEXAS TECH VS. OK ST.	TEXAS TECH	TEXAS TECH	TEXAS TECH
TCU VS UTAH	TCU	TCU	TCU
TEXANS VS. RAVENS	RAVENS	TEXANS	TEXANS
	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0

How do you match up?

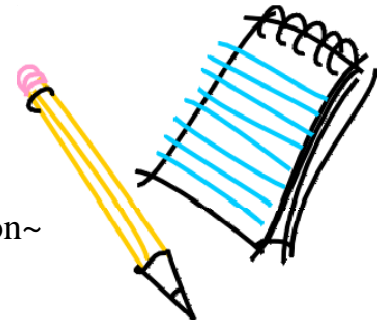
GAMES	CODY	KASEY	KENZI
CRB VS. OVERTON	OVERTON	OVERTON	CROSS ROADS
CRL VS. MILFORD	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CAYUGA VS. GRAPELAND	CAYUGA	CAYUGA	CAYUGA
CUSHING VS. CARLISLE	CARLISLE	CARLISLE	CARLISLE
UT VS. BAYLOR	UT	UT	UT
ATM VS. OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA
TEXAS TECH VS. OK ST.	TEXAS TECH	OKLAHOMA ST	TEXAS TECH
TCU VS UTAH	TCU	TCU	TCU
TEXANS VS. RAVENS	RAVENS	TEXANS	TEXANS
	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0

GAMES	NIC	JON	HUNTER
CRB VS. OVERTON	OVERTON	OVERTON	CROSS ROADS
CRL VS. MILFORD	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CAYUGA VS. GRAPELAND	CAYUGA	CAYUGA	CAYUGA
CUSHING VS. CARLISLE	CARLISLE	CARLISLE	CARLISLE
UT VS. BAYLOR	UT	UT	UT
ATM VS. OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA	ATM	ATM
TEXAS TECH VS. OK ST.	TEXAS TECH	TEXAS TECH	TEXAS TECH
TCU VS UTAH	TCU	TCU	UTAH
TEXANS VS. RAVENS	TEXANS	TEXANS	TEXANS
	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0	

GAMES	TARA	HALEY	AUDREY
CRB VS. OVERTON	OVERTON	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CRL VS. MILFORD	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CAYUGA VS. GRAPELAND	CAYUGA	CAYUGA	CAYUGA
CUSHING VS. CARLISLE	CARLISLE	CARLISLE	CARLISLE
UT VS. BAYLOR	BAYLOR	UT	UT
ATM VS. OKLAHOMA	ATM	OKLAHOMA	ATM
TEXAS TECH VS. OK ST.	TEXAS TECH	TEXAS TECH	TEXAS TECH
TCU VS UTAH	TCU	TCU	TCU
TEXANS VS. RAVENS	RAVENS	TEXANS	TEXANS
	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0

GAMES	ANGEL	KARA
CRB VS. OVERTON	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CRL VS. MILFORD	CROSS ROADS	CROSS ROADS
CAYUGA VS. GRAPELAND	CAYUGA	CAYUGA
CUSHING VS. CARLISLE	CUSHING	CARLISLE
UT VS. BAYLOR	UT	BAYLOR
ATM VS. OKLAHOMA	ATM	ATM
TEXAS TECH VS. OK ST.	TEXAS TECH	TEXAS TECH
TCU VS UTAH	UTAH	TCU
TEXANS VS. RAVENS	TEXANS	TEXANS
	RECORD:0-0	RECORD:0-0

He Said...She Said...



They may not always agree...but they will always share their opinion~

Dear You Guys,

I am having trouble passing Spanish, and I really wish he had extra credit. Do you have any suggestions on how I can get my grade up?

Signed,
Troubled Alum.

We Say: You have two choices. One, you could get a friend who is doing well in Spanish to sit down with you and tutor you, or you could ask your teacher if there is any way you could get your grade up. If no one will consider helping you with this problem, you could try asking one of your other teachers who are familiar with Spanish, such as Mrs. Lassiter or Coach Johnson.

Dear He Said She Said,

So There is this girl I've liked for a long time, and she said that she liked me back. So we started talking or whatever and all the times her and I hung out she acted like she liked me, but then when I went to church later that week and she was there her and this other dude were together like they were dating or something. When I asked her what the deal was later she couldn't give me a straight answer. I'm confused as hell. This probably doesn't sound like much, but it has been going on for a while and I don't know what to do. Am I just getting played or what?

Sincerely,
Confused in Cross Roads

We say: If she is not dating him then you have nothing to worry about. I think she is trying to push you into dating her. She probably thinks that you are taking too long to ask her out. It's a test. She is either trying to see how much you like her or she may be just pushing your buttons. If you really like her as much as you say you do and she likes you I say go ahead and ask her out (before the other guy does).

Dear He Said She Said,

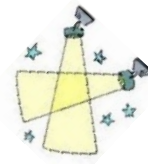
I met a really cute boy the other night and he asked me to go to the movies with him this weekend. The problem is I have a boyfriend. I love my boyfriend and I don't want to hurt him but I really want to go out with this other guy. Every time I mention seeing other people my boyfriend freaks out, but I'm too young to be tied down to just one person. What should I do?

Cheatin' Heart

We say: On one hand, you are completely right about being too young to be tied down. But if your boyfriend was to say he wants to see other people wouldn't you freak too? I understand you want to "play the field" and he has a hard time seeing why. I would say ask your boyfriend what he thinks about you just going to the movies as friends with this other guy. Also you might want to bring "girlfriends" along with you. Keep in mind, if you two go alone then it does seem suspicious.



Teacher Spotlight



Everyone knows that Cross Roads High School is full of hardworking individuals. Here's a congrats to all of our A & AB Honor Roll Students!

Freshman

A-Anna, Kyler, Kara, Kolton

AB- Brittany, Randi, Phillip, Josey, Zach, Chelsey, Garret, Dylan, Jayme, Taylor

Sophomores

Brittany, Taylor, Rance, Angel, Taylor

AB- Meciah, Kathi, Stephanie, Lance, Shawn, Cassondra, Justin, Kinlie, Jordan, Keslyn, Kaylee, Devin, Dancey, Kolton, Taylor, Montana, Taylor, Nic, Colton, Joey

Juniors

A-Haley, Reanna, Cody, Steven

AB- Shayla, Heath, Courtnee, Andrew, Bethanie, Kody, Viviane, Jessica, Lane, Jo, Chelsea, Caitlin, Allen, Audry, Scott, Cheyanne

Seniors

Casey, Lauren, Michael, Stewart, Manuel, Tara, Eric, Kanyon, Dustin, John

AB- Makenzi, Marha, Dustin, Megan, Gerry, Kevon, Jerrod, Anna, Viola, Whitney, Kasey, Megan

* Teachers please contact Mrs. Lassiter or Angel if you would like to give any special recognition to an individual or class as a whole in future editions of The Rock Tower Review.

Campus Organizations

Student Council—Selling Cookie Dough; Order forms due November 12

Ag-Meat is in; Fruit sale will begin after Thanksgiving

Band- Makeup sale

Culture Club- Sells sweet tea at lunch; Boo Grams were successful!

Art Club- Movie Tickets Fundraiser; working on school murals (office, library, auditorium)

Beta Club- Put together buckets of supplies to send to Galveston

Student Council & FFA- Canned food drive, competition against student body

Senior Bash- Sells sweets at games; Monthly Feed the Teachers; Glider Raffle

The Final Word

So Close Now

Senior Pep Rally by: Tara

Friday the 31st was a very emotional and special day for the seniors of our school. The pep rally was the final one they would attend as students of this school, and for the band members, cheerleaders, and football players, it was the last time they would be able to 'do their thing' at Rock Tower Stadium. Tears were shed and pictures taken, as the seniors reminisced on the past, and took a few moments to be with friends. Some of them have been together since the first day of Kindergarten, however many faces have joined the clan over the years. Memories and emotions flooded as they swayed looking into the faces of the friends they've grown with, who have had such an impact on the people they've become. The seniors chose the song 'So Close Now' by Eli Young Band to play during this special moment, listening to the lyrics that seemed to be written for them.

**'I should've known how hard it'd be
leave this town,**

I am, So close now to walking away
About to walk a path I've gotta take
I am packing up heading out

**I can't sleep I'm dreaming way too
loud**

I'm so close now to getting out'

This group of students were sure to add their own 'flavor' to this tradition as they began a 'wave' around the circle. However, as the song ended tears and smiles were on most faces as they all came together, giving hugs and high fives. If anything, the Senior pep rally was a turning point, as the seniors realized that this really is the end, it is sure that the remainder of the year will be cherished.

Happy Birthday to...

October

Zachary

Brittney

Kolton

Taylor

Chelsea

Hunter

Kaylee

Brianna

Tristyn

Steth

Justin

Savannah

Shown

Bennie

Courtnee

Haley

Reanna

Adam

Eric

Michael

Coach Lackey

The Rock Tower Staff:

Fun And Games

Number to you by Kelly Reilly

	7				8		
			2	4			
		6				3	
			5				6
9		8			2	4	
	5			3		9	
		2		8		6	
	6		9			7	1
4				3			