



The Riverside University High School Foundation

Serving alumni, friends, and families of Riverside University High School

June, 2013

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Jazmin Rowe

This Year's Best of the Best



Jazmin Rowe is graduating from Riverside this year having achieved a 3.9 grade point average (out of a possible 4.0). She is just one of many Riverside seniors who have taken full advantage of what Riverside has to offer in terms of academic rigor, a

wide variety of extracurricular and athletic activities, all within a culturally diverse setting.

Jazmin was not shy about taking on the toughest academic courses at Riverside. In addition to the basic math, science, social studies and physical education courses, she also took four years of French, Advanced Placement World History, Advanced Placement English Language/Composition, Advanced Placement Calculus, Web Design, Clay Design (Art), and Advanced Placement Micro Economics.

As if her academic pursuits do not sound daunting enough, it should be noted that Jazmin also played on the Girls' Basketball Team for four years, including this past season

when the team won the State Championship. She served as Junior Class President. She has also been active in the National Honor Society and the Student Council where she is spearheading the Council's efforts to convince the City of Milwaukee to take steps to reduce gun violence in the city.

Jazmin's commitment to community service is exemplified by her leadership in organizing the Riverside Blood Drive the last three years, her participation in Box City (see article elsewhere in this publication) for four years and her registration this past Fall of 200 Riverside 18 year olds to vote.

As is typical of many of Riverside's best students, Jazmin managed all of these academic, extracurricular and community service responsibilities while also holding down a part-time job.

One of her teachers said, "I have been in education for 25 years and have never met a harder working student in that time". Another teacher said, "Jaz is a natural leader that is well respected by her peers as well as her advisors".

If you want to read about the other 2013 Riverside University High School Foundation scholarship winners, please visit our web site at www.riversidefoundation.com.

Scholarship Winners – 2013

The Foundation received a record number of applications from Riverside seniors for its limited supply of scholarship money this year. Thirty-nine applicants were personally interviewed by the Foundation's four person Scholarship Interview Committee. Forty (40) students were awarded scholarships totaling \$20,000. All of this money was donated throughout the year by Riverside alumni and friends.

Riverside continues to produce some of the most academically talented, ethnically/culturally diverse students in the state. These students are highly sought after by colleges and universities in Wisconsin and around the country. Many of the very best of the best of them are offered full tuition, room and board by these schools. Riverside also produces a large number of academically talented students who do well in the school's rigorous academic environment, but



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Riverside Girls Win State Basketball Championship

Riverside University High School – 55, Mukwongo – 41

On March 16, 2013, the Riverside Girls' Basketball Team won the first state basketball championship for the school. Although the score was close during most of the first half of the championship game against Mukwongo, the Lady Tigers dominated the second half with a smothering defense and key baskets by several of the seasoned players. Senior center, 6'5" Breanna Lewis, and Junior guard, Brionna Simond, received all-tournament honors. Lewis will play at Kansas State next year on a full athletic scholarship.



The team started out the season with a 1-4 record but then proceeded to win every one of its remaining 23 games leading to the state championship.



The school held a spirited and pride-filled pep rally for the team prior to their leaving for the State Tournament at the Resch Center in Green Bay,

School Principal, Dr. Dan Donder, shows his enthusiasm for the Lady Tigers at the student body pep rally.



The Girls Basketball Team State Championship was a fitting tribute to Dr. Donder's leadership of the school for the past six years. He retired effective April 1, 2013 after serving as a teacher and administrator for the Milwaukee Public School system for the past thirty years. Dr. Donder is not finished with

his efforts to positively influence public education in the Milwaukee metro area. Effective this next August, he will assume a new post as an Associate Dean in the School of Education and Leadership at Cardinal Stritch University.



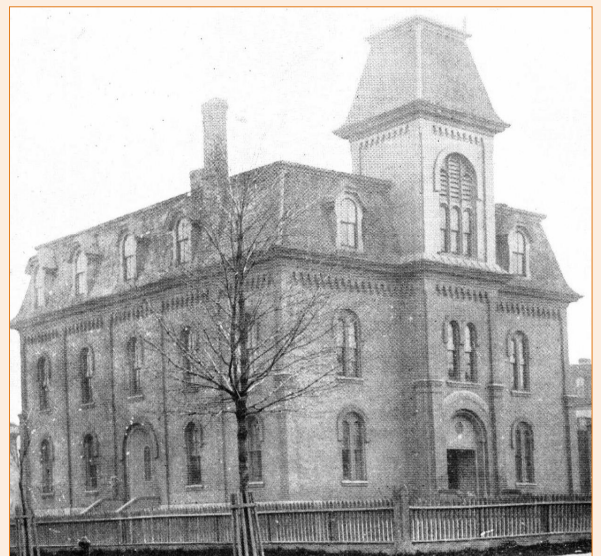
The Girls Basketball team was honored by members of the Milwaukee Common Council with Nick Kovac, one of three Alderpersons who are Riverside graduates, presenting the plaque recognizing the teams accomplishments. Mr. Kovac represents the east side of Milwaukee which includes Riverside University HS. The girls spoke with members of the Common Council before the presentation.



Riverside High School History Project

As has been noted in previous issues of this newsletter, the Foundation is in the process of preparing a comprehensive history of the school beginning with its establishment as the very first high school in the city of Milwaukee in 1868. We are preparing for the 100th anniversary of the current building in 2015 and the 150th anniversary of the original school in 2018.

We have begun to establish a collection of school memorabilia which will be displayed at the school for these important anniversaries. We are asking all alumni to search their storage areas and see if you can find old Riverside yearbooks, student newspapers, pins, medals, athletic jackets/letters that you would be willing to donate or loan to the Foundation. We will guarantee safe keeping for all memorabilia. We intend to create a space in the school where alumni can visit and reflect on their time at the school. You can contact us at jangibson@riversidefoundation.com.



Riverside Graduate Made Aviation History

Lester Maitland of Riverside High School accomplished the longest flight over open water in the history of the world.



Lester Maitland graduated from Riverside High School in 1917. He played first violin in Riverside's orchestra and also took part in the many activities of the Orient Debating Society. He was remembered by faculty and fellow students as a more or less retiring student who was characterized by perseverance, energy, and persistence. The Class Prophecy of 1917 contained this statement concerning Maitland. "Lester Maitland" has risen much higher than any other 1917 graduate. He is known as the most daring aeronaut of his age".

Maitland enlisted in the Army Air Corps three days after the United States entered the war. By age 19 he had become an army flight instructor. He served as one of the army's first test pilots. He also served as an aide to fellow Milwaukeean General Billy Mitchell. He was part of the group that bombed the German battleship "Ostfriesland".

On October 14, 1922, Maitland became the first United States pilot to fly faster than 200 miles per hour and on March 29, 1923 he broke the world's absolute speed record at 244.94 MPH.

In June, 1927, one month after Charles Lindbergh's history-setting trans-Atlantic flight, Maitland made the first trans-Pacific flight spanning 2,416 miles and covering 26 hours and 49 minutes between Oakland, California and the Hawaiian Islands. He and his navigator, Lt. Albert Hagneberger, used only a compass, a drift meter, and a sextant during their flight. This feat earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Mackey Trophy for 1927. In honor of this feat, the City of Milwaukee named its first airport "Maitland Field". Today, the original lakefront sight of this airport is the home to Maier Festival Park, commonly referred to as "Summerfest".

Maitland Field was one of the first downtown airports in the United States. The airport's proximity to Lake Michigan prompted Kohler Aviation to begin regularly scheduled seaplane service between Milwaukee's lakefront and Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Maitland Field never did live up to its modest potential averaging only seven planes a day. In 1956, the U.S. Army turned Maitland Field into a Nike anti-aircraft missile base, one of eight designed to protect Milwaukee from a Soviet bomber attack.

By the late 1960's long-range bombers were less a threat to America's security than long-range missiles. The Nike base closed and in 1970, Summerfest moved in establishing a permanent site for Milwaukee's music festivals.

See the Foundation website at www.riversidefoundation.com for the story of East Side High School 1905 graduate, Captain Franklin Van Valkenburgh, who went on to serve as the commanding officer of the USS Arizona and who lost his life along with 1,176 of his shipmates when Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese on December 7, 1941.



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who do not have the superior qualifications to attract full college aid. They must rely on other public and private grant and scholarship money and on their own student loans to fund their higher education.

The cost of college continues to soar. The typical annual tuition/room/board cost at UW-Madison this year is \$24,200 for a Wisconsin resident. Locally, at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, the cost next year will be nearly \$20,000. The cost at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater will be in excess of \$13,000 per year. Every dollar a deserving student can get in the form of grants and scholarships is important.

The Riverside University High School Foundation has determined that one of its primary mission will be raising money for scholarships for deserving graduating seniors. We want students to know that their hard work at Riverside has not gone unnoticed. **They did what the adults in their life told them that they would have to do to be successful at Riverside and they made it!**

For those Riverside alumni who have previously donated to the Foundation, please consider donating again and in an even larger amount. For those Riverside alumni who have not previously donated to the Foundation, please consider "giving back" to the school that gave you the opportunity to be successful in life. We need your help. The current Riverside underclassmen are depending on you!

New Outdoor Sign

Once again, we asked and you came through. Our solicitation of donations for a new digital outdoor sign for the school resulted in over \$10,000 in donations. We have worked with the Milwaukee Public Schools Central Office Building and Grounds personnel to prepare a budget and the project has now been sent out for bids. The projected completion date is currently estimated to be December, 2013. The new sign, to be located on the Locust Street side of the building, will highlight the college preparatory focus of Riverside and will provide up-to-date information concerning school activities and achievements. The Riverside University High School Foundation Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Gibson is pictured here turning over a check for \$10,000 to Interim Principal In Charge, Ms. Maria Gonzalez-Edwards.



Riverside Students Raise \$60,000 For Habitat Homes

Riverside students have been raising funds to support Habitat For Humanity for the past twelve (12) years. Their primary fund-raising activity is called Box City. Students seek pledges and donations to support them as they spend one night sleeping outdoors in a cardboard box in recognition of the need for more affordable housing for low income families in Milwaukee.

This year, Riverside students really outdid themselves contributing \$60,000 to support the construction of two new Habitat homes, to be built in July in either the Washington Park, Park West or Harambee neighborhoods.

Opting Out of the Foundation Newsletters

In an effort to reduce newsletter printing and postage costs, the Foundation is asking any recipients who no longer wish to receive our twice a year newsletters to please let us know so that we can take you off of our mailing list. See the enclosed "Donation Form" for the way to do so.

**This Newsletter is published by Jan Gibson, President, Jim Gibson, Editor.
We're on the web: www.riversidefoundation.com**

As you requested, you are receiving this Newsletter via E-mail. If you wish to make a donation to the Foundation, you can do so by going to our web-site at www.riversidefoundation.com and click on the "Donations" section. Then you can either download the donation form and mail it to us or you can make your donation by clicking on the PayPal "Donation" button. We greatly appreciate your continued interest in Riverside. We desperately need your financial help.

Thanks.

Jim Gibson, Secretary/Treasurer
The Riverside University High School Foundation