



Athletes rely on superstitions

Sam Kupiec
Staff Reporter

A superstition is an unjustified belief in supernatural causation leading to certain consequences of an action or event, or a practice based on such a belief, according to Merriam-Webster.com. People of different cultures, regions, and upbringings believe in different superstitions. For example, in Spanish speaking countries instead of Friday the 13th, it is Tuesday the 13th. In Ireland, instead of a black cat being bad luck it's seeing a lone magpie, magpie is a small black and blue bird. The sports world is no exception. There are odd beliefs that athletes live by in order to give themselves the best chance of winning. In basketball, wiping the bottoms of your sneakers is good luck. In fishing, don't tell

a soul how many fish you have caught until you are done or you won't catch another. In tennis, walk around the outside of the court when switching sides for good luck. All of these are widely believed in their respected sports. Perhaps the most universal superstition is, do not speak about how good you will do or you will do bad. RHS athletes are superstitious themselves. Junior and varsity basketball shooting guard Aaron Hunter was raised superstitious, learning to 'pay it forward' in order to have good luck. Before and

during a game Hunter refuses to talk trash to the opponent. He feels it will change his outlook on the game which will ruin how he plays. Maybe Hunter's beliefs are for good reason considering the boys varsity basketball team had a great season last year ending the season

16-7. "I never talk trash," Hunter said. Junior and varsity football running back Daivon Lowman has a few sports superstitions to help lead him to victory. Years ago, Lowman scores 20+ points in a basketball game wearing a pair of red Ethica's.

Ever since then he wears them on every game day. Seems like the Ethica's work considering Lowman has crushed multiple rushing records and has had a spectacular season so far this year. Besides the game related superstitions Lowman is a superstitious person, he refused to cross a pole. He says he made up most of his own superstitions as well as learning some from his family. Junior and varsity volleyball right back Stephanie Owens on the other hand does not believe in superstitions. Owens just plays her game

clear minded, grinding to find a win. Owens plays multiple sports and has found success over the years with no secret rituals or pregame "mumbo jumbo," does that mean that these superstitions are meaningless? Unlike Aaron, Owens did not grow up in a superstitious home, nor has she ever adopted any superstitions over the years. "I just play with my best effort," Owens said. Whether all of these superstitions have actual truth to back them is unknown. For some, these rituals seem to work. For others, just playing with pure focus leads them to victory. I think it is good for athletes to do what they need to for them to play at their best. Whether they wear colorful underwear, or do not talk for the whole day.



Junior Isiah Collier wipes his shoes during a basketball game for good luck.

Akeel Ahmed

District changes and what they mean for students

Savannah Burke
Staff Reporter

On the Nov. 6 ballot, Roseville Community Schools placed the Non-Homestead Millage renewal. The Non-Homestead Millage makes businesses and rental property owners pay taxes on their properties to assist with funding for the city. This millage is not unique to Roseville—every district in Michigan relies on non-homestead operating millage for funding. For Roseville, this millage accounts for an essential amount of the district's operating budget each year. In the end, the renewal passed by 65.8%, benefitting Roseville in the long run. This renewal will not affect homeowners whose primary residence is in Roseville. Personal property, typically machinery and equipment used in businesses, is included in the new millage. First-time home buyers hear a lot about homestead and property taxes, but they should not be scared of this renewal. Many people, from regular citizens to district officials, were pleased by it being passed. "The results of yesterday's Non-Homestead renewal in Roseville left us all with smiling faces," Kment said in an email. "...We want to thank all of



Chelsea Bacci

Roseville businesses will help contribute to the districts operating budget.

you for what you did in making this renewal a success." Another change for the Roseville Community is the state safety grant. RCS will be making upgrades to school security in all 10 district buildings thanks to

the state grant from Michigan. The school district was awarded a grant of \$243,078 from Michigan's 2018 Competitive School Safety Grant Program. This program is run by the Michigan State Police (MSP) who have awarded \$25 million to schools across the state. This safety grant is more focused on the improvement of the school grounds for a more secure environment for all students, staff, and parents. "There's three main components [we will be using these funds for]," Mark Blaszkowski, Roseville Community Schools deputy superintendent, said in the Eastsider weekly community newspaper. "One is door monitoring systems, which notifies us when a door is open or left open. The second is emergency locking systems on certain doors that will be able to be closed quickly and remotely from the office. Third, we want to label certain doors so first responders can better gain access and more quickly orient themselves." The district could apply for either a matching grant or a non-matching grant, and Roseville was awarded the highest amount in the non-matching funds grant category of all Macomb County recipients. These changes to Roseville may seem small, but they mean a lot to the students.

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