

# The Technocrat & Chronicle

## THE TECH MEETS MR. LARKIN

### DATES OF INTEREST:

- 5/30- Memorial Day Holiday (All Facilities Closed)
- 6/1- State Practical Exams begin
- 6/1- State & Regents Exams
- 6/13- Last Day of Classes
- 6/14-6/22- Regents Exams
- Memorial Day Weekend- Senior Trip
- 6/25- Graduation

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By Joshua Wood

Things came full circle for Mr. Larkin, Edison High School's principal, this winter. Once upon a time, he attended Edison, as a student. Today, he is the school's leader. You can go home again. I recently sat down with him to get his thoughts and ideas about Edison and its future.

**Q: Tell me about your profession and background.**

A: I'm from Rochester, NY. I attended #44 Elementary School and Jefferson Middle School. After, I attended Edison and took Photography as CTE. I'm a 1993 alumni and my profession is principal. Additionally, I am a mentor and track coach.

**Q: What was Edison like when you attended?**

A: My experience was excellent. [I had] great teachers and good, opportunistic classes. I was the newspaper editor. I [participated in] track & field and made lifelong friends.

**Q: What do you think is needed to improve this school?** A: I think we need to take stronger interest in our students' lives. We start with helping basic needs. We need to be strict and fair. Our rules are there to keep students safe. We want to create a secure environment. Students need to feel safe and secure in order to learn. We need dedicated staff and stu-

dents to play their roles. We [need to teach the students] academic success must come first; all other things are secondary. Students must understand school is a place of learning.

**Q: Do you believe Edison should have more classes? If so, what classes would you add?**



A: We offer a variety of classes and, in the future, will look for work and career trends to make sure we are offering the correct and contemporary C.T.E pathways for our students. I think we need a collegiate career course for seniors who need to complete pre-requisites. For instance, we could offer an "edit kit" for FASFA (financial aid). A financial management and job readiness class are things to be considered.

**Q: What are your hobbies?**

A: I like track. I love to eat, lift weights, bowl, and shopping. I enjoy watching TV and movies; and spending time with my fami-

ly and friends.

**Q: What do you envision for the future of the ED HS?**

A: I see a 100% graduation rate for Edison. I see students in a safe learning environment. I see students and staff engaging in learning. I envision a school without fights and students being good to each other.

**Q: What your favorite super hero?**

A: I watched Superman and He-man growing up, but I don't have a favorite.

**Q: Do you like comedians?**

A: Yeah, I love comedians. I love to laugh. It's good for the soul.

**Q: What your message to your students?**

A: I have a few quotes. "It's never too late to be what you might have become." That's one of my favorites. "When you get, give and when you learn, teach." Maya Angelou said that and I feel it's my duty to live a life of servitude. I want to give back to others. It's our responsibility.

**Q: Any last words?**

A: I feel truly blessed and honored to be the principal and an alumni of Edison Tech.

## REDD EARNS MVP IN ALL-STAR GAME

*By Joshua Wood*

Edison Tech's Raliek Redd earned the "most valuable player" award for Boys Basketball at the annual Ronald McDonald House Section V All-Star charity game in March.

The game was full of high-light plays, as some of the best in Section V showed off their skills with deep 3-

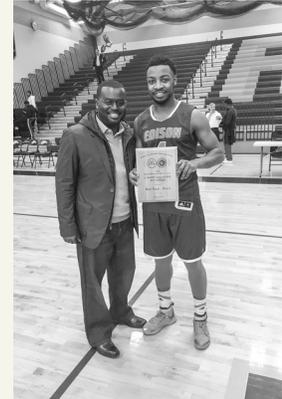


pointers and monstrous dunks.

The "Gold" team led 60-59 at the half. However, the "Red" team pulled away with a barrage of 3-

pointers from Raliek Redd in the latter half of the game.

Both the girls and boys games stayed close until the end and left the fans with one more exciting day of basketball until next season. Congratulations Raliek! You made Ed Tech proud!



**Caption describing picture or graphic.**

## PRINCE: THE PURPLE ERA IS OVER.

*By Justin Jackson*

Someone once said, "A strong spirit transcends rules." This quote encapsulates Prince. He transcended every rule. He was rock, pop, soul, gospel, rhythm & blues all at once. One no more than the other. He was brilliant. He was an artist. He was a musical icon, pioneer, and genius. When Prince died inside his Paisley Park residence, at the age of 57, on April 21st, I was shocked. He was found dead in an elevator. Prince was hospitalized the week before he died after his plane was forced to make an emergency landing in Moline, Ill. He was released a few hours later. Pending a full report of his autopsy, a lot of rumors are circulating. Regardless of how he died, how he lived is more important. One of the most iconic musicians in music history, Prince's extensive career grew out of the music scene of his native Minneapolis, where he lived his entire life. His 1978 debut album, *For You*, and self-titled second LP, released in October 1979, kicked off an incredibly



prolific run of albums that included 1999, *Purple Rain*, *Around The World In A Day*, *Sign O The Times* and the soundtrack to 1989's *Batman*. Throughout the 1980s, he released music at a clip of nearly one per year, evolving with each release. It was 1984's *Purple Rain* – his first No. 1 album on the Billboard 200 – released in conjunction with the film of the same name, that cemented him as one of the greatest artists of his generation. It earned him two Grammys and Oscar. His album was victorious over Michael Jackson's *Thriller* for "Favorite Pop/Rock Album" at the 1985 American Music Awards. In total, he received seven Grammy Awards from 32 nominations between 1984 and 2010. Along the way, he worked with several bands under a series of pseudonyms, including *The Time*, *The New Power Generation* and *The Revolution*, as both front man and producer. "He did not want to be a black artist, he did not want to be a white artist, he didn't want to be thought of as a crossover artist. He wanted to be an artist," Gary Levinson, Prince's first manager, said. "He looked at the whole demographic that was available to him

and I'm sure, this is an opinion ... but I think that Prince looked out and decided that this would advance what he was up to. He did it very creatively. He's a very focused, very focused. Ruthless isn't the right word because that's a negative thing, but he was so singularly focused. So incredibly driven. He had a sense of what would appeal to people. Over his 35-plus-year career, he released 39 solo studio albums and never stopped releasing new material; since September 2014, he put out four new full-length records with his latest band, *3rd Eye Girl*, continuously experimenting with psychedelic rock and intergalactic funk. Prince's legacy as a musician, a singer, a style icon and an endlessly creative mind is nearly unparalleled, and his influence stretches from pop to R&B to funk to hip-hop and everywhere in between. At the end, he lived a great life and he inspired so many people, including me. A couple months ago, in *Urban Poetry*, we were given an assignment that asked us to research a great contemporary poet or lyricist. I chose Prince. I feel like I lost a best friend or a cousin. But I know that his music will go on forever- literally. It has been reported he recorded constantly and has a vault of unreleased material larger than his published catalogue. His legacy will not be forgotten.

INSIDE STORY HEADLINE

Justin Jackson

Last month, the Edison Tech library hosted an art show featuring student work. The sculptures, large scale "Pop Art" pieces, were inspired by the work of artist Claes Oldenburg. Oldenburg is an American sculptor, best known for his public art installations typically featuring very large replicas of everyday objects. Another theme in his work is soft sculpture versions of everyday objects. Students used plaster gauze, paper mache, cardboard, newspaper, tape, fabric and acrylic paint to create large scale

replicas of objects that are popular in our culture today... putting the "pop" in Pop Art. Some students worked in groups, while others chose to work on their own. The event was hosted by the artists and Mr. Hoose, Ms. Wilcox and Ms. Niederpruem.



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## TOP SENIORS HONORED FOR ACHIEVEMENT

A “Top Ten Ceremony” was held earlier in May to recognize the highest achieving seniors. Here are Edison’s Top Ten seniors in rank order:

### Class of 2016 Top Ten :

1. Ricardo Marrero-4.663
2. Sakoi Bowman-4.642
3. Anthony Dash-4.638
4. Jessica Goodwin-4.595
5. Antonio Morlaes-4.467
6. Remone Williams-4.454
7. Alexis Watson-4.426
8. Cashauna Love-Robinson-4.264
9. Mu Gay-4.255
10. Jovevany Nelson-4.242

Tech representatives Ms. Lovejoy and Dr. Gaither organized a wonderful setting in the school café and provided dinner and prizes. Congratulations to the seniors. You are one step closer to wonderful futures.

Mr. Marrero and Ms. Bowman will each address the class of 2016 and audience with, as is the custom, at

commencement, a speech.



Ricardo Marrero is the Class of 2016’s valedictorian.

