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THE WY-NEWS

Roosevelt High School

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Wyandotte, Michigan

Student goes undercover

BY SHAWN LYNCH

Due to the recent rise in school crime and numerous threats at RHS the Wyandotte Police Department has enlisted help from an officer that has staged himself as a student in order to keep the peace.

"I was really surprised to find out that someone I thought was my friend was really an undercover cop," said junior Janel Philips.

The police officer was put undercover to break up numerous crimes such as large narcotic deals that averaged costing over \$100,000 and other felony crimes. There were also around 200 threats that were sent into the schools since the beginning of the school year. The administrators believe that it is just kids sending in the pranks but they would rather be safe than sorry.

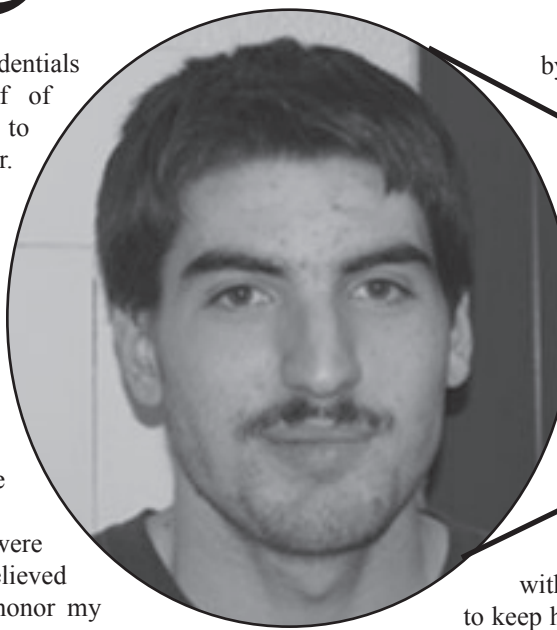
"I have been a police officer for about six years now," said Officer Thomas Hatley.

Hatley was believed to be the best person. His young appearance also helped him excel at the job.

His lengthy list of credentials also helped the chief of police in his decision to send Hatley undercover. The credentials range from being a retired Marine, where he served active duty in Kuwait, to being on call with the secret service in order to keep the president safe. He is also an expert in surveillance and technology.

"My tours of duty were all voluntarily and I believed that it was a way to honor my country," said Hatley.

Hatley also received the congressional medal of honor which was given to him personally



by the President of the United States before he was responsible for assisting the secret

service.
"The medal was probably the most memorable moment of my career so far,"

said

Hatley.

Officer Hatley also trains year-round with the secret service in order to keep him sharp in the event that he is needed. He may be needed in the case that the president is harmed or even attempted to be harmed coming via a threat.

"In 2004 I was assigned to stay with former President Bush due to the fact that he was highly in danger. He was in danger from Anti-War protestors and the Taliban alike. Both groups sent numerous threats and my surveillance techniques were brought out to protect him," said Hatley.

Hatley uses Google programs, along with numerous cameras, microphones, and other locating devices in order to keep track of his accused criminals.

"I do my best in order to keep the peace," said Hatley.

Since Hatley has been attending RHS as an undercover police officer he has busted up 34 Heroin deals, 16 Cocaine deals along with other illegal crimes such as underage gambling, and counterfeiting.

"I see this as my deed to society. I also feel good at night knowing that my hard work results in those bad things not making it on the streets to sell to younger kids," Hatley said.

When Hatley revealed himself as the undercover cop he got two very different ways of feeling from the students.

"Most students came up to me and thanked me for doing well in the school and making it safer," Hatley said. "At the same time there was a group of students involved in the crime that did not appreciate the advantage that the undercover cop had on them."

Hatley has had bricks thrown through his windows, his tires slashed on his car and other numerous items defaced in an act of intimidation. Although he cannot say for sure who it is, he suspected that it was one of these students.

"I will take these because I know that it could be worse and I am doing good in the process," Hatley said.



Officer Hatley is trained to handle any situation. Photo: Shawn Lynch



Officer Thomas Hatley specializes in martial arts. He is prepared to apprehend any student who poses as a threat. Photo: Shawn Lynch

Officer Hatley Bio

- Been on the force since 2003
- Retired from the Marines
- Retired from the Secret Service
- Master martial artist

Operation Open Online; new internet policy

This new school policy is to let students have free range of internet during school hours

BY SAMI MICHAEL

The RHS administration has decided to get rid of all the internet filters and allow students to go on any website they please.

"We all got together and realized that the students just can't survive on the school's internet with just Blackboard and the school's website," Assistant Principal Jason Krajewski said.

The staff is calling this new change Operation Open Online (Triple O). This allows students to access any website on the internet. Favorite sites of students include MySpace and Facebook.

"Facebook is my favorite. After school, I go home and sit on the computer all night," senior Jasper Richardson said. "I'm really glad the school is letting me go on it in the day, the earlier I'm on it, the better."

Those sites and others that students request will be automatically put under the favorites tab.

"Operation Open Online is a great idea because I get more freedom to search sites I like," sophomore Nicole Boyle said.

Students will be given twenty minutes in every class and a C.O.W. (Computers on Wheels) to search freely.

The administration feels that this is a great idea because they are listening to the students' requests

about "Triple O".

"Students have been complaining because they are addicted to MySpace and they cannot access it at school. Now, we let them go on the site, they do not go crazy starving for MySpace," Krajewski said.

Another supporter of this internet change is English teacher Sean Soules.

"My students work hard all day to do their English. They deserve a few minutes of good 'ole internet surfing," Soules said.

Even though most of the staff and student body agree that "Triple O" is a great idea, Secretary Alana Paluszewski does not approve.

"Students really need to focus on school, not MySpace. Giving them time in class to browse the evil internet will only lead them to search for my MySpace," Paluszewski said.

Although Paluszewski is the only one who disagrees about "Triple O", she just has to brave it out while students search freely.

"I think teachers need to realize that MySpace is as much a part of our lives as school is. By letting us search the web at school uncensored, they are helping us," Boyle said.

Now the student body can kick back and MySpace all day.



Students such as junior Bianca Cerasuolo will now be able to enjoy the internet at school. She is happy to get on MySpace and Facebook while in class. With very little protests to this policy, "Triple O" is a go. Photo illustration by Sami Michael