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Riverdale High School celebrates its 40th annual football homecoming October 17-21, with events such as Faculty Frenzy, Powder Puff Football, Dance-Off, and Fall Festival.

In addition to these events, students can also look forward to Warrior Week, the pep rally, the crowning of the homecoming king and queen, and of course, the homecoming football game in which the Riverdale Warriors face off against the Cookeville Cavaliers on Oct. 21 at Tomahawk Stadium.

This year's football homecoming theme is "Warrior Television: Let Us Be the One You Watch." This theme is reflected on the homecoming t-shirts, the tickets, and on the float during halftime at the game.

Warrior Week also incorporates the theme, so students have television-themed dress-up days for each day of homecoming week. Warrior Week is a class competition; the class with the most participation will win a prize after the week is over.

Warrior Week is a student favorite. Senior Sarah Leshner says, "I love the dress-up days, and I'm especially looking forward to this year's homecoming because it's [my] senior year, and pretty much all of the seniors participate in the dress-up days."

On Tuesday of homecoming week, students have the option of attending Faculty Frenzy. Faculty Frenzy is a relatively new event for football homecoming. Inspired by Warrior Hysteria during basketball homecoming, Faculty Frenzy is a class competition in which certain freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior teachers participate in ridiculous competitions against each other. For example, the teachers that participated last year raced tricycles and played

blindfolded musical chairs in front of an audience of screaming students.

"Faculty Frenzy is pretty cool because I like seeing teachers make fools of themselves," says sophomore Jessica Patel.

Then on Wednesday of homecoming week, the Powder Puff football games are held. For this event, girls play against each other in a game of flag football while boys from each class act as the cheerleaders using real cheers and routines. Like all other homecoming events, the classes face off, so there are football teams for each class. However, all of the boys that choose to cheerlead will cheer together throughout the Powder Puff games.

Students who participate are not chosen for the Powder Puff game based upon their athletic abilities or by how much spirit they have; they're chosen at random after signing up in advance--so every student has an opportunity to participate.

On Thursday, the dance-off is held in the gym. Just like the Powder Puff game, there is a dance-off team for each class. The four teams compete against each other in a dance competition, and are judged in several different categories, including crowd reaction, so classes are encouraged to bring their class spirit.

The Dance-Off also incorporates the Warrior Television theme. Each team is required to include a song that's relevant to the homecoming theme in the medley of songs they choose to dance to. For this theme, the teams will choose from a list of theme songs of popular television shows.

Friday is generally the most highly-anticipated day of the week. Wearing their class colors with plenty of school spirit, students attend a pep rally in the morning. Then during lunch, students get to experience Fall Festival, an event where

RHS clubs get a chance to earn money for their group. Many RHS clubs set up a booths to sell food to students; it's an excellent chance to fundraise and raise awareness for clubs.

Fall Festival is many students' favorite homecoming event, because students are given a longer lunch, and they usually take advantage of this time by playing music in the pavilion, working the club booths, or sampling different types of food the clubs offer.

Senior Reema Patel says, "Personally, my favorite event is Fall Festival. There's a variety of diverse foods to choose from, and I enjoy eating."

This year, RHS Student Council organized Carnival, an all-new event for homecoming week in order to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. This event is similar to Fall Festival because it also gives RHS clubs a chance to contribute and earn money. However, unlike Fall Festival, Carnival is an event focused on games--as opposed to food. For example, the RHS newspaper staff is hosting a "Pie-in-the-Face" booth during this time. Additionally, students are encouraged to invite their families to attend Carnival.

Carnival begins at 4 p.m. and continues until everyone heads to Tomahawk Stadium for the crowning of homecoming king and queen. Immediately after the homecoming court is presented, the football game starts and the Riverdale Warriors play their 40th homecoming game.