



## XC standout Brandon Harvey keeps his focus on the course

by Levi Higgs  
*Smoke Signal Sports Editor*

Sophomore Brandon Harvey is taking big steps (literally, he stands well above 6 feet) for the Riverdale High School's Cross Country team. With a best time of 17:25, Harvey continues to train for improvement in these 5k races. "I try and run about 40 miles a week," says Harvey.

Before every race, Harvey runs through the course and checks the mile markings to make sure he knows when to pick up his pace and when to stride it out. After he goes through the course, Harvey can be seen in his pre-race headband--a soft foam like headband--listening to Lil Wayne.

He carries his determined attitude from practice over to the actual races "[During the race] I think of my stride and what place I am in." Harvey usually tries to approach each race by finding his stride for the first mile, picking it up to a fast pace for the next two miles, then going on an all-out sprint for the last .2 miles. This seems to be working for Harvey, who is starting to become a well-known name for Middle Tennessee high school cross country fans.

Harvey means more to the team than just for his fast times. He is also a vital part of the team's morale. "Brandon is very energetic and looked up to," says cross country coach Mrs. Stephanie Curfman.

"He is always jumping around and going crazy during the pep rallies," says junior Todd Huber.

"Brandon may be a goofball, but he is still a good leader," says Curfman.

Harvey was named the Daily News Journal and First Tennessee cross country team's most valuable player as a freshman in 2010. Harvey will try to continue to

progress and improve his race times over the next two years. This is good news for RHS's Cross Country team.

## Warriors set to keep historic record alive against Oakland

by Levi Higgs, *Sports Editor*  
Riverdale High School (9-0, 4-0)  
beat the Cookeville Cavaliers 44-7 Friday night at Tomahawk Stadium.

Sophomore Mariko Odom was a strong component to the RHS victory contributing well over 100 all-purpose yards in the first half alone.

Senior Adam Davenport rushed for a 1-yard touchdown, set up by a 54-yard punt return by Odom. On the next drive Odom had a 20 yard punt return and caught a 37 yard pass, which put Davenport in prime position to score another touchdown.

The third drive lasted 5 minutes on 80 yards and 11 plays. Odom accounted for 33 of those yards and the scoring run. Touchdown number four was a 56 yard 10 play push by the Warriors which was capped off by a point blank run by Junior QB, Dillon Woodruff.

After touchdown number four, junior Scotty Boykin quickly forced a fumble and senior William Cantrell recovered the ball. Woodruff again ran it in from close distance to give RHS their fifth touchdown.

Woodruff connected a 26 yard scoring pass to senior Michael Wigfal to give Riverdale a 41-7 lead over the Cookeville. Woodruff was 11-of-13 passing for 106 yards. Then, senior Josh Arman hit his sixth extra point of the game to make it 42-7. RHS got the final two points off a safety with about half the fourth quarter left in the game.

The Warriors play the Oakland Patriots this Friday for the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual "Battle of the 'Boro". RHS has a record of 30-11 all-time against the Patriots in the 'Battle of the 'Boro' and they are 8-2 in the past decade; one of the two losses came in an intense triple overtime game in the 2010 season. Riverdale (9-0, 4-0) is ranked second in the state and 24<sup>th</sup> in the nation and

is already guaranteed the number one seed going into the playoffs.

Oakland (6-3, 2-2) is already in the playoffs for having six wins. It is no secret that neither of these team needs these logistics to get ready for this game. This rivalry dates back further than students can remember and it is sure to prove that as many alumni, students, and fans from all over the county pack into Tomahawk

Stadium at 7:30 p.m. Friday night.