

Student standout of the month



Photo by Chelsey McKinney, Ridgeway
Greenberg shows his school pride in a RHS shirt in class.

Joshua Greenberg, a junior at Ridgeway High and was recently diagnosed with Ewings Sarcoma Cancer last year. This strain of cancer can start in any bone in the body, but usually in the pelvic bone, thigh, lower leg, upper arm or rib.

Who are your influences?

Barack Obama

What do you do in your past time?

Play guitar and listen to music. My favorite bands are The Mars Volta, The Fiery Furnaces, Caribou, and The Cardinals.

What got you interested in playing guitar?

I'm not sure really; I just really like it

How long have you been playing guitar?

Three or four years now.

What college do you plan to attend?

Illinois University to study musicology and jazz guitar.

What do you have to say to teens to motivate them?

The education you receive in high school will benefit you later in life.

— Interview by Chelsey McKinney, Ridgeway

Double-time German teacher *Pilschke-Van Zile travels through town each day*

By Sara Barton

Cordova High School

Many want to believe that their last few years of high school will be the easiest. For many juniors



and seniors at Cordova High School that is a different story. One of the problems students and the Principal Anthony Frigo had to face was lack of German teachers. If a student wishes to go university path, he or she has to complete two years of the same foreign language in order to graduate. Frigo stated he tried everything he could to make sure he would find a German teacher.

The problem was fixed when Kendra Plischke-Van Zile of Ridgeway High School stepped in to teach German 2. Before she even worked for Memphis City Schools she worked for two years as a teacher teaching the children how to read and write in English.

After two years teaching there she moved to Memphis and got a job at Evans Elementary in Memphis. There she taught kids how to read and write in English.

"It was hard because I had to teach children that didn't even know English so we have to start from the very beginning," Pilschke-Van Zile said.

Pilschke-Van Zile stated that this job was very rewarding. Very shortly after working at Evans Elementary she was sent over to Ridgeway High to teach German. Then the second week of school she was sent to Cordova High School to teach German 2.

She said it was very stressful working at both high schools.

"I have to teach German 2 second period then drive back to



Photo by Sara Barton, Cordova
German teacher Kendra Plischke-Van Zile teaches a German 2 class at Cordova High School.

Ridgeway to teach classes fourth through seventh period."

Before she started to work at Cordova High School the old plan was to have the German 2 students take the class online.

Two students who were affected by this change were junior Carter Brinkley and senior Sarah Atkins.

"I found out the first week of school that there is a chance there might not be a German 2 class." Brinkley later said then goes on to say if they didn't have a German 2 class at Cordova his parents were going to sign him up for classes outside of school.

Atkins who is a senior at Cordova was very worried about the lack of classes. "It was very stressful since it's my senior year and I took German last year and I know I need to credits to graduate"

The students who are taking this German 2 class were very appreciative that Plischke-Van Zile stepped in at the last minute to save their credits.

Unfortunately according to Mr. Frigo this will be the last year for German and even Latin this year at Cordova High School unless there are changes in Memphis City Schools.