**NEWS FEATURE**

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**Devildog Sports Network continues to grow**

***Reagan League***

*editor*

It all started with a conversation with TRHS principal Lou Lavely and a meal at Zaxby’s. 2014 Travelers Rest alumni Matt Dehart, while filming a football game at TR, asked why there wasn’t a network/radio station to cover sporting events at Travelers Rest High School. Along with his response to the question, Lavely gave Dehart the green light, and from there on, Devildog Sports Network took off.

“Once I got everything started, I immediately thought of Alex Dodd, who is a student here at TR,” said Dehart. “I actually saw him at Zaxby’s and Kendall [Silvers] told me to go talk to him because of all of his experience and his wealth of knowledge in the media world, and I thought, ‘well that’s a no-brainer.’”

“I love sports and have ever since I was little. I remember even as a kid muting the TV and trying to do play-by-play for different games. So when Matt approached me about doing this, it was a match made in heaven,” said Dodd.

When Dodd, a junior at Travelers Rest, jumped on board, the network began to cover Devildog basketball games. For their first broadcast season, it was just Dodd and Dehart. Since then, they’ve added sophomore Adam Hayes to the crew, as well as 2015 graduate of TRHS Dalton Kelly and Bob Jones basketball player Marshall Riddle to help out during football season.

Devildog Sports Network covers both girls and guys varsity basketball, football, baseball, softball, and soccer through the radio. If a sport is not covered live on the radio, it’s covered through social media on the network’s Twitter and Instagram pages, @devildogsn.

The network has become like a full-time job according to Dehart. He has worked out his schedule at Greenville Technical College, where he is now majoring in journalism/mass communications, so that he has no classes on Fridays in order to prepare for the broadcast of the football games.

“The Devildog Sports Network really started for me as a hobby. It started as something I wanted to do for the school because I really have a passion for TR,” said Dehart. The network has provided many opportunities for both Dodd and Dehart. Internships in both California and New York have been offered to him, though he was not ready to take them at the time. “It’s really opened up a lot of doors for me.”

“The future of Devildog Sports Network is to be left up to God,” Dehart said. Right now, Dehart is happy with the group of guys he has. Both Dodd and Dehart describe the network as “a well-oiled machine,” and based on the network’s success and growth in the past year, the term fits perfectly.