Behind the Scenes of the Reb X Live Broadcast

Like the preparation for a big game or any big show you have to have a person with a vision. That person was Mr. G. Wight. A little over a year ago he pointed out an opportunity for the students that put on the daily announcements should do a live basketball broadcast of the Bolivar-Richburg vs. Cuba-Rushford rival. The wolverines always come to town bringing their characteristic ferocity and strength when they play the Rebels.

The visionary pointing the way

With that challenge a team of people came together interested in delivering a solution that could be scaled. There are a few key elements to a successful live broadcast. The event needs to be captured, mixed and broadcast. The students in the Video Creation and Editing were excited to do just that.

The cameras and microphones were gathered prepped, wired and tested by many of the students that are in Mr. C. Cappelletti’s Video Creation and Editing class. They worked out the location and requirements of the three cameras and the announcer’s desk. They made wires to connect them to the “trailer”. Then they manned them for the two games. The students rotated positions to have experience at the different responsibilities.
Testing the mixing and broadcasting

A key piece of the hardware in sports telecasting is the “Trailer”. When I watch ESPN I see a nice big trailer. Lacking one of those CRCS has the “cart that Paul built”. Paul Austin for last year’s live broadcast of the BR vs. CR B-Ball game put together monitors (that use TV tubes) and other outdated but still working equipment that was available so the video and sound could be pulled together and mixed. With a student at the controls as the producer he or she tells the announcers and cameramen and women what they want. From there the video and audio signal needs to be broadcast. BOCES, Vic Ozogar and his team set up and tested the outgoing signal on uStream so people from all over the world could tune in. And they did.

Filming the game from camera B

Building the announcers table

Hands on and getting the shot from camera C
Then as the action heats up in the “Wight House” they choose between the feeds to give their audience the feel for the game.

The producers view of the game. Students pack the Wight House to cheer on the Rebels

Then there is the talent. Students volunteered to work the announcer’s desks alongside some staff members. They gave the play by play, the color commentary and handled the constant flow of “shout outs” that streamed in by text and email from all over the nation. Family, friends, alumni and servants of our community let us know they were watching and greatly appreciating the great job the students were doing.
The talent that covered the men’s game

Every great show needs a great ending. The men and lady Rebels delivered on both cases. Coming from behind to win! Just as the teams on the court prepared for their match so did the students of the Reb X. And they also delivered a win!