



KEC Uncovered

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Vol 2

Black History Month: Staff vs Students Game

NOTHING BUT NET: THE KEC TEACHER VS. STUDENT BASKETBALL GAME

The energy in the gym this week was on another level. To celebrate Black History Month, KEC held a basketball game that turned into a full-on showcase of talent and teamwork. It wasn't just about the points—it was about the music, the atmosphere, a chance for the whole school to celebrate together! — bragging rights were also on the line.

The Game: A Total Nail-Biter

The teachers' team came out swinging and put a massive amount of pressure on the students from the first whistle. It's clear they didn't come to just play around; they had some surprisingly good plays and a defensive hustle that kept the score tight the entire time.



However, the students stayed locked in, using quick improvisation and fast passes to keep the lead. It went right down to the wire, but the student team secured the win by just 2 points. A shout-out goes to the players on both sides—while it was clear everyone was having a ton of fun, you could see the effort and training put into the game

The Halftime Show was the Highlight

If you left the gym during the break, you missed the highlight of the day. The atmosphere completely shifted for the performance: The dance crew took the floor, dancing to Victoria Monét's "On My Mama." Instead of a typical routine, they went with a smoother, more effortless vibe. The dancers looked amazing, and the performance was absolutely clocking it. The choreography was full of cool, controlled moves that flowed perfectly with the beat. When the chorus hit—"on my hood, I look fly, I look good"—the dancers brought a level of confidence and style that had the entire room watching.



SHOUT OUTS AND SUPPORT

An event this big takes a lot of people behind the scenes to make it happen. We want to acknowledge:

The MC & Players

Damisi handled the mic for the afternoon, keeping things moving between quarters with some quick jokes that kept the crowd on their toes. We also appreciate the players who put in the work to make the game competitive and exciting.

The Promo Crew

If you saw the promotional video leading up to the game, it definitely did its job getting people hyped to show up.

The Ticket Team

A huge thank you to everyone who worked the tables and sold tickets. Because of your work and everyone who bought a seat, the money raised is being sent to help with the ongoing conflict in Sudan. It's great to see KEC coming together for such an important cause.

Keep a Lookout

The basketball game was a major highlight, but the celebration isn't over yet. Keep a lookout for more stuff happening around KEC for the rest of Black History Month. Happy Black History Month, KEC!



KEC Valentine's Day

SWEET VIBES: KEC'S VALENTINE'S WEEK

RECAP

Love was definitely in the air at KEC this past week. Leading up to Valentine's Day, the halls were buzzing with students showing some appreciation for the people in their lives. It wasn't just about the typical romance either—it was about friends, partners, and even those low-key crushes.

A Quick Trip Back in Time

While we're all about the candy and the mascot deliveries today, Valentine's Day has some pretty wild roots. It actually traces back to Ancient Rome and the festival of Lupercalia, but it eventually shifted into a day named after St. Valentine.

Legend says he was a priest who performed secret weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry.

By the Middle Ages, people started associating the day with the "lovebirds" of spring, and eventually, the tradition of sending "Valentines" became the holiday we know now.

The Candy Bag Tradition

The main event throughout the week was the Valentine's Candy Bags. Students had the opportunity to put together custom treats to send out. It was a chill way to get creative, whether you were putting something together for your best friend or trying to drop a hint to a crush.

It was great to see people taking the time to do something nice for someone else and keeping the positive energy moving through the halls.

The Ultimate Delivery

There were a lot of cute moments, but the one that definitely took the win for me was the most wholesome. Samori decided to go all out with his delivery, he even had the KEC mascot, Reiver Retriever, personally bring his candy gifts to his girlfriend, Joy.

Watching the school mascot head through the halls to make a special delivery was hilarious and sweet at the same time. Since they're both friends of mine, seeing it happen in person was a total highlight. It's definitely one of those high school moments that you'll remember when you're grey and old.



Why It Mattered

Valentine's week at school can sometimes feel like a lot of pressure, but this year it was just about the vibes:

Showing Appreciation: Taking a few minutes to make a bag for a friend made a huge difference in the mood of the week.

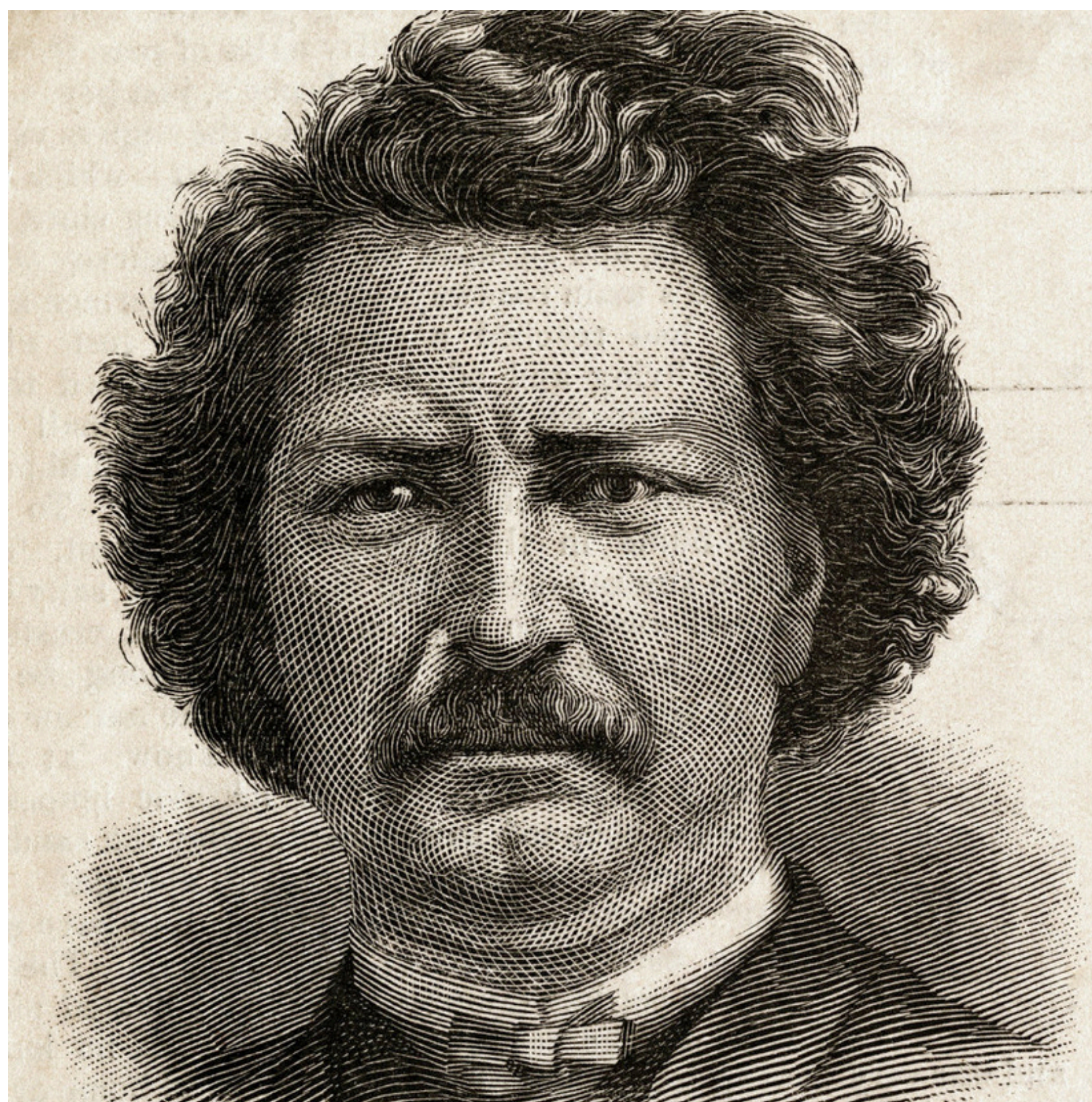
School Spirit: Having the Reiver Retriever involved made the whole thing feel uniquely KEC.

Good Energy: After a busy start to the month, it was just nice to see everyone smiling and sharing some candy.

Whether you spent the day with a partner or just raided your own candy bag with friends, Valentine's week was a success.



Louis Riel Day



RESPECT THE ROOTS: CELEBRATING LOUIS RIEL DAY AT KEC

While we've been busy with basketball and Valentine's vibes, this week also gave us a chance to pause and recognize a major figure in our province's history. On February 16, Manitoba observed Louis Riel Day, a day dedicated to the Métis leader who literally put our province on the map.

The Founder of Manitoba

Louis Riel wasn't just a name on a holiday; he was the founder of Manitoba and a fierce advocate for the Métis people. Born in 1844, Riel emerged as a central figure in the Red River and North-West Rebellions.

Why We Recognize It at KEC

Louis Riel Day is more than just a day off school; it's a reminder of the ongoing struggle for recognition and the importance of unity. For us at KEC, it's a time to reflect on:

Inclusivity: Understanding that our province was built on the contributions of diverse cultures.

Courage: Learning from Riel's example of standing up for what is right, even when the odds are stacked against you.

Future Generations: Ensuring that his story continues to inspire us to build a more equitable and respectful community.

Whether you spent the day learning about Métis history or just taking a moment to appreciate the culture that surrounds us here in Winnipeg, it's an important part of who we are. Keep that energy going as we continue through Black History Month—there's a lot of history to honor this February!

He stood up against colonial oppression at a time when it wasn't exactly popular to do so, fighting to ensure that marginalized communities had a voice in the growing country of Canada.

His vision went beyond just politics—he was fighting for the preservation of culture, language, and land rights. Because of his courage, he laid the groundwork for the conversations we are still having today about Indigenous rights and reconciliation.

A Legacy That Travels

While Manitoba is the heart of Riel's story, the respect for his legacy stretches across the country:

Manitoba & Saskatchewan: Both provinces officially observe the day on the third Monday of February, focusing on promoting understanding and respect for Métis heritage.

Across the West: Alberta and British Columbia hold various events to recognize Métis culture, even if it isn't a "stat" holiday there.

Out East: Ontario communities also host local celebrations, emphasizing that Métis history is a vital part of the entire Canadian narrative.





Black History Month: Fashion Show

CULTURE ON THE RUNWAY: THE KEC BLACK HISTORY FASHION SHOW

If you thought the energy in the gym was high for the basketball game, the Black History Month Fashion Show took things to a whole different level. This wasn't just a walk down a runway; it was a powerful celebration of identity, heritage, and pure confidence.

The Showstopper: Damisi Pulling Double Duty

Once again, Damisi was on the mic, and he basically made the entire show. This time, he wasn't just the MC—he actually took part in the show himself. He played a huge role in making the event a success by empowering the walkers as they came out.

He used his platform to speak on the bigger picture. He spent the time hyping everyone up, while simultaneously educating the crowd on the significance of the clothing we were seeing. He spoke about how these cultural garments aren't "just clothes"—they are pieces of history. He reminded us that there is a story and a piece of love in every single stitch, turning the runway into a living history lesson that felt both personal and proud.

The Journey Across the Continent

The show was a beautiful breakdown of the diversity within our school, moving through different regions with style:



Prunelle Tevabungie



(Left to right) Blossom Ugochukwu & Jesudamisi Oshinowo

Nigeria: Kicking things off with bold patterns and undeniable presence.

Democratic Republic of Congo: Bringing vibrant colors and that signature energy to the floor.

South Sudan & Sudan: Showcasing elegant silhouettes and deep cultural pride.

Eritrea & Ethiopia: Closing out the journey with stunning traditional fabrics and distinct heritage.

Watching the transition between these cultures showed just how much variety and beauty exists within the Black community here at KEC.

Behind the Scenes: The Diversity Alliance

An event this polished doesn't just happen by accident. We have to show massive appreciation for the Diversity Alliance. These students and staff have been working overtime all month to organize the activities we've been enjoying. From the logistics of the fashion show, to the basketball game, and everything in between, their hard work is the reason Black History Month at KEC has been such a massive success.

Why It Matters

The fashion show was a reminder that excellence isn't just about what you do, but how you represent where you come from. It gave students a platform to:

Reclaim the Narrative: Showing the depth and beauty of African cultures.

Build Confidence: Seeing our peers walk with that much pride was inspiring for everyone in the audience.

Celebrate Unity: Bringing different backgrounds together under one roof to share one message of respect.

Huge props to the walkers, the organizers, and the crowd for making this an unforgettable afternoon!