

TEMPLE CITY HIGH SCHOOL Rampage

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PHOTO/ Stephanie Shih

"Although the training took up the entire weekend, I think what they were teaching us was very useful," Senior Aaron Phan said. "I learned how to perform search and rescue and bandage people up in a major disaster."

CERTified to save the day

By Michelle Zhang
Staff Writer

Beams of light scanned a dark room as voices in the distance cried out for help. An 8.0 earthquake had just struck Temple City, leaving behind trails of destruction and injured people at the City Council Chambers. Even though the scenario was a simulation, the newly trained CERT members were ready to save the day.

On Jan. 8-10, Temple City Youth Committee partnered up with CERT, the Community Emergency Response Team, to hold a three day training workshop for the youth of our community for the first time.

The program educates and trains students to provide efficient care and assistance to people during the first 72 hours following a disaster, and includes lessons on Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, Emergency Medical Operations, Light Search & Rescue, Disaster Psychology, Terrorism and Disaster Simulation.

"The CERT program is beneficial because people can learn the skills necessary to deal with disasters," Senior Patrick Yeh

said. "The difference between CERT training and First Aid training is that CERT training teaches you how to deal with large groups of people rather than individuals."

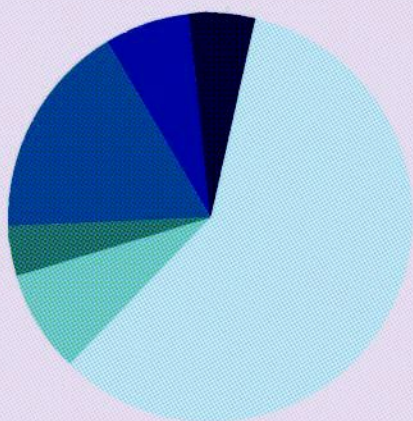
To become part of the CERT program, participants had to be between 13-17 years of age and needed to attend all three days of training. The program was based on a first come first serve basis due to the limited size of the class, but all who signed up were able to attend.

"The goal of CERT is to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible," Sophomore Andy Tao said. "I was most looking forward to learning about saving people."

After the three day program, participants all received a certificate of completion and over 20 community service hours. Based on their hands on experience and training, CERT members are now able to assist others in their community and workplace immediately after an emergency when no emergency personnel are available to facilitate.

"The Temple City CERT Team really did a great job planning this with Youth Committee," Yeh said. "It's a wonderful program and we really need to let it grow."

Winter Formal Breakdown



- Venue/Food: \$7,500
- Decorations: \$1,000
- Court: \$200
- DJ/Music: \$2,000
- Favors: \$800
- Drug Dogs: \$200

Winter Formal is on Jan. 30 at Mountain Meadows Country Club. This year's theme is *Giovane Amore*, which means young love in Italian. Tickets are \$55 with ASB and \$60 without. Sales end on Jan. 25. All funding for the dance came from the sophomore class.

NEWS BRIEFS

By Aaron Ding
Staff Writer

New Laws Regarding Earbuds

The Transportation Committee's new traffic law, SB 491, prohibits any person driving a vehicle or riding a bicycle from having earphones, earplugs or headsets covering or resting on both ears at any time. In other words, drivers cannot have both ears impaired. The ticket for violation could cost up to \$160.

Track and Field Yard Sale

Temple City Track and Field hosted its first yard sale on Saturday, Jan. 9 at the lunch shelter from 7:30 to noon. The goal of the event was to fundraise for new uniforms for the upcoming season, and the team raised \$500 from the sale. Track donated all unsold items to the Elizabeth House in Pasadena.

Dance Into Oblivion

The annual Dance Concert on Jan. 15 at the San Gabriel Mission Playhouse featured Choreo, Auxillaries, Pep, Fusion, Beginning and Advanced Dance, Oak Avenue Auxillaries and included a Dancing with the Teachers segment which spotlighted Mr. Harrison, Mr. Saxon, Mr. Smith, Ms. Singh and Ms. Selders.



PHOTO/ Janeth Inatomi

One major highlight of the night was Choreo's performance of Adele's single, "Turning Tables".

January/February Ram Calendar

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13

Jan. 19-22: Finals week

Finals Schedule

- Jan. 19: Per. 0 (Minimum Days)
- Jan. 20: Per. 1 & 2
- Jan. 21: Per. 3 & Per. 4
- Jan. 22: Per. 6 & Per. 7
- Jan. 22: End of Sem. 1
- Jan. 23: SAT
- Jan. 25: 1st day of 2nd Sem. (Pick up schedules at 7:45)
- Jan. 29: Fun Food Friday
- Jan. 30: Winter Formal

Fashion fixes to survive El Niño

By Aaron Ding & Samuel Kim
Staff Writers

Behold, El Niño, soaker of shoes and damager of textbooks. Some have made efforts to combat the destruction of their shoes by wearing flip flops or just dealing with the biting cold, but to no avail. Here are a few fashion musts to follow to survive these upcoming weeks, unless you wish to lay trembling in the wake of El Niño and it's cold, wet wrath.



Rain boots don't necessarily have to be ugly and bulky. Senior Grace Pu found well-styled rain boots with neutral tones that can be incorporated seamlessly into her outfit.



Raincoats can be colorful and fashionable. Freshman Pauline Bao wears a bold blood orange rain coat that nicely accentuates her warm skin tone.



Umbrellas are more than just for blocking the rain and protecting your backpack. Freshman Kaitlyn Tran uses this bright umbrella to show her fun personality.



Raincoats are not only available in bright colors. Sophomore Alex Castro dons a dark, hunter green thigh-length rain coat for a more masculine look.

Bask in the glorious awe of J. Law

By Candace Tan
Focus Editor

While I've found that Jennifer Lawrence continuously slays the box office, award shows and, quite frankly, your life—many have not seen her movies. If you want to understand the hype, here are a few recommendations.



"The Poker House" (2008)

A coming-of-age story, "The Poker House" portrays a day in the life of 14 year-old Agnes, played by Lawrence, who cares for her sisters Bee and Cammie in their mother's brothel.

As problematic as Agnes' life seems, the story struggles to establish any clear conflicts in the beginning, which makes the first half of the film quite dreary. Luckily, Lawrence's poetic narration of the tale and the poignant scenes in the second half pick up the pace.

Although it was her first leading role in a film, Lawrence's performance in "The Poker House" is by far one of my favorites from her.

She perfectly captures the evils of teenage naivety, Agnes' longing for her mother's love and, a female's defiance of obstacles.



"Silver Linings Playbook" (2012)

A perceptive and darker spin on the romantic comedy genre, "Silver Linings Playbook" manages to combine a problematic yet humorous family dynamic and the tragedies of mental illness and the beauty of hope into an artistic masterpiece that hits me with all the feels. While the film depicts the life of Pat, a man in his thirties struggling to cope with bipolar disorder and a recent divorce, it still has an overall uplifting message. The film captures an endearing love story that always makes me warm and fuzzy inside, thanks to Lawrence and Bradley Cooper's incomparable chemistry. After watching the film for the first time, not only was I amazed by the entire cast, but I actually felt blessed to be alive at the same time as Jennifer Lawrence. Although I should have questioned my sanity, her ability to make her character Tiffany such a multilayered individual simply through her acting initiated my career as a #lawsbian4life.



"Joy" (2015)

While the film's odd structure made "Joy" not as joyous as it would seem to be, I found it to be an inspirational biopic of entrepreneur Joy Mangano, who invented the Miracle Mop.

The dramedy is classic David O' Russell filmmaking, but its comical family quirks sometimes get in the way of illustrating Mangano's path to success. Despite what may seem hard to mop up, the cast livens the script. Lawrence's portrayal of Mangano's development from a struggling mother to the Beyoncé of the QVC Channel is raw and moving. So, regardless of a waver-ing story, I was rooting for Joy until the very end.

Pasta: my one true amore

By Elizabeth Liu
Staff Writer

To prepare for Winter Formal's Italian theme, here are a few restaurants located right in Tenmple City to check out if you're looking to try something other than Olive Garden or Di Pilla's.

Mama Petrillo's

Walking in, I didn't have any huge expectations. However I was surprised by the atmosphere. The restaurant, located on Las Tunas Drive, was on the smaller side but had a homey, safe feel to it.

The servers were helpful. Mama Petrillo's offers a large variety of items on its menu that will satisfy the pickiest of eaters. Patrons can order everything from a basic pepperoni to the PMS, a specialty creation consisting of pasta with peppers, mushroom, and sausages in a signature sauce.

Mama Petrillo also offers other items aside from pizza such as sandwiches, specialty dishes and non-meat dishes.

Carmine's Italian Restaurant

Carmine's Italian Restaurant was not what I was expecting. I found the busy dining room to be quite cramped.

When I walked through the door, it was a bit strange to find alcoholic beverages lining the entrance. Being that the restaurant was extremely busy, I found myself waiting for a couple of minutes before finally being addressed by one of the servers and I could also sense that I was being rushed aside so that other customers could be addressed.

Carmine's menu does show a more appealing side. The menu's sections were written in Italian which made it difficult for me to locate what I wanted and although I do appreciate the restaurant's attempt at being classy, it was not worth the frustration. Carmine's offers a menu with dishes ranging from a light salad to house specials like the gumbi.

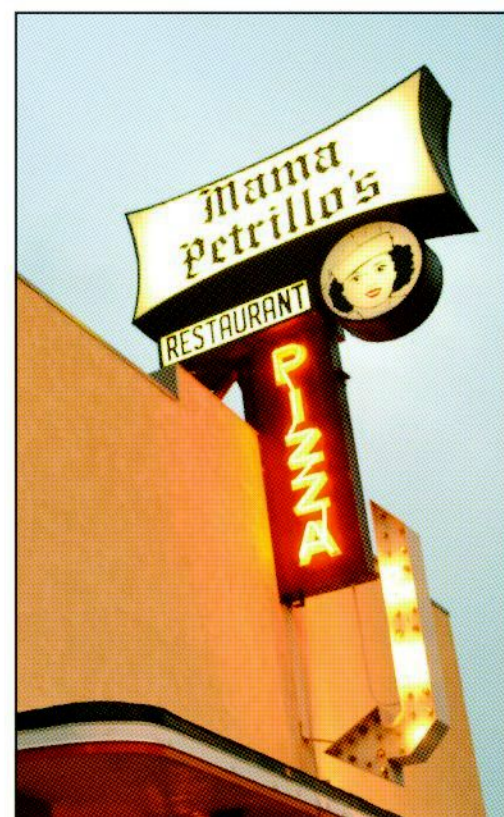
Alex Di Pepe's Italian Restaurant

Alex Di Pepe's Italian Restaurant, located on Live Oak Avenue, pleasantly surprised me. This restaurant was well lit and had a friendly atmosphere.

With a more modern feel than the others, this restaurant was one of my favorites. The servers were helpful and patient, which made the experience more enjoyable.

Alex Di Pepe's Italian Restaurant's menu was simple and straightforward. The menu offers many typical Italian food items such as pastas and sandwiches, making it a perfect place to eat throughout the day.

The menu was sectioned off and patrons are able to order items ranging from a green salad to specialty veal dishes.



PHOTO/ Elizabeth Liu

Located at 9082 Las Tunas Drive, Mama Petrillo's is a mere four minutes from the high school.

Reasons to root for Rubio



By Max Clark
Exchange Editor

In early June, 18-year-old seniors will have their first opportunity to be involved in the political process and vote in the California presidential primary elections. For me, choosing a candidate to support was relatively simple. It wasn't long before I realized that I would be voting for Marco Rubio in the primary election.

While only a few students here are outspoken about their political beliefs, sharing every opinion they have on social media, the majority that I have talked to have no interest in the political system and absolutely no idea who to vote for. I feel that a misconception exists among high school students that it takes hours of hard work and a complex understanding of every political event that has ever happened in the U.S. to pick a candidate to vote for. In reality, it is not so difficult.

The first and probably most important thing to consider when searching for a president is whether or not he or she is in line with your political beliefs. While many have a basic idea of different conservative and liberal views from listening in government class, it may take a little bit of extra research to decide where you stand on every issue,

and what is really important to you. For me, especially in the beginning, I was sure that Rand Paul was my man. I agreed and still agree with almost every policy idea he has created and everything he stands for, but as time passed I found he had flaws that I couldn't look past.

The thing that Rand didn't have, in my opinion, is the ability to compromise and lead the nation. While I personally like the ideals he is fighting for, none of these ideals will be implemented if he is not willing to compromise with the other side of the aisle, as well as his own party. Rand unfortunately reverts to insulting other candidates and pointing out problems with no solutions. When a president is able to compromise with those he disagrees with, not only does he or she get more accomplished, but politics and public opinion becomes less polarized. This results in less arguing and more thoughtful solutions to problems.

This is where Marco Rubio really appeals to me. In every interview and debate, he doesn't point fingers or unfairly place blame on anybody without outlining exactly what he would have done or what he will do to fix the problem. Instead of being a pessimist, like so many current candidates, he exudes optimism and inspires me with every speech. On top of all this, he appears to be a strong leader, something important to me, and does not allow others to push him around in debates.

Chill guys, it's not a proposal



By Charlie Dodge
Staff Writer

With winter break ending and finals week coming for our GPAs, the mood around campus might have flatlined. Fortunately, Winter Formal is right on the horizon, accompanied by a surplus of creative, elaborate, sometimes hilariously ridiculous asks.

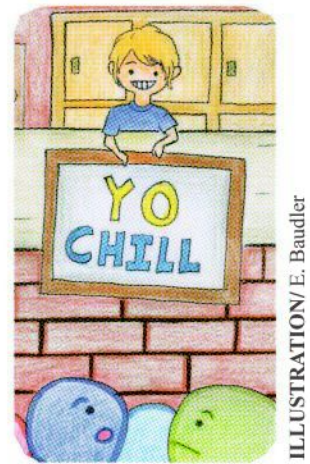
What used to only apply to the 'prom-posal' has unfortunately come to affect every dance the school has to offer.

The most common dance proposal goes a little something like this: the asker approaches the askee, holding a giant poster with some sort of pun off the askee's name written on it in ASB font. The asker presents the askee with the poster and various other extravagant items at (insert any extremely public setting). Everyone around them "awwws" and the askee says "yes." They hug. Wasn't that a cute moment? Perhaps, but there are a few things about the situation that people usually don't stop to consider.

The person being asked doesn't always want to be the center of attention. They could be the type of person who turns beet red and hates it when waiters sing them happy birthday in a restaurant. The stress of being asked in front of their friends, the asker's friends and sometimes even teachers could lead them to say yes when they would never do so otherwise.

Although these gestures may seem nice on camera, they put a lot of pressure on the person being asked. So much emphasis and focus has been put on the simple act of asking someone to a dance, that it is no longer about the romantic gestures. Instead it's all about the show.

The point of a school dance should not be how someone gets asked out. Instead I would encourage people to just go, have fun and enjoy their night. By God, you've already shelled out a wad of cash for tickets and an outfit, so don't feel like you have to spend even more on the simple act of asking your date out.



ILLUSTRATION/E. Baudler

Outrage culture triggers me



By Jason Xie
Staff Writer

I'm not trying to trigger any feelings, but it's time for us to acknowledge a troubling trend: major media outlets becoming catalysts to an age of outrage culture clickbait.

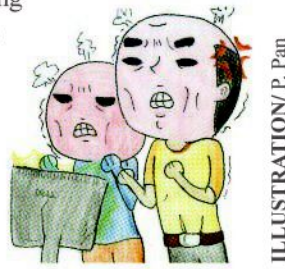
To define, outrage culture is when the threshold of tolerance in a community drops due to overexposure to anger-inducing content. This content usually comes in the form of controversial news articles, videos or blogs that exploit viewers' emotional weak points. Anger-inducing content, according to the Social Science Research Network, is not only shared more than other content, but also sticks to the brain the longest.

Most people affected by outrage culture will hear controversial topics and won't be able to contribute to the conversation without a tantrum. Don't get me wrong, fighting for civil liberties or environmental changes is a reasonable cause, but that's not what outrage culture is affecting.

We're strictly talking about how the smallest inconvenience can be blown out of proportion due to anger-inducing media patterns.

So, how do we solve this? We can try to change the way we consume media content to keep our brain smart and healthy. Let's face it, arguments over the internet and tempting listicles are fun, and that's never going to change. But rather than going on a binge about "Six things Disney foodie lovers would enjoy" or "Seven things you didn't know about ISIS, number six will blow you away!!!" we can spread our range of media outlets out across less clickbaity and more reasoned sources.

Check the New York Times instead of BuzzFeed for your daily news, for example. It's your brain, so keep it emotionally active but also logically cool.



ILLUSTRATION/P. Pan

DEFINITELY REAL EL NIÑO BRIEFS

By David Brackbill
Opinion Editor

Bare feet flood El Niño fashion

Sudden flash flooding from El Niño storms swept through the Southland earlier this month. Those without waterproof shoes, apparently unaware California had weather, experienced what scientists call precipitation.

The winter storms, although talked about for months beforehand, struck TCHS cripplingly unawares.

"Los Angeles gets rain? LOL we're in a drought though, how does that work?" Junior Bumpkin Jones said. "I honestly thought El Niño was a meme."

A clear shift in mood occurred on the second day of the storm, when some students with canvas shoes (year-round staples, according to folk knowledge) opted to bare their toes rather than strapping down with plastic bag galoshes.

A few intrepid rain survivalists even went barefoot to



PHOTO COURTESY/Wikimedia
One enterprising boyfriend attempts to win the Winter Formal asking competition by "pulling the Odysseus."

save their Vans.
"I draw fashion inspiration from Bilbo Baggins,"

Sophomore Jay RR Toking said. "I'm actually training for the Mt. Doom Iron Man, so this was good practice."

Whirlpool monster Charybdis kills six

In a twist nearly as fantastical as California's discovery of the concept of humidity, students happened upon the mystical Greek monster Charybdis in a campus drain pipe during the fabled El Niño storm of early January.

Charybdis swallowed several maintenance workers and students amidst efforts to drain its lair.

"I saw the first casualty splashing around fearlessly next to the rain grate," Freshman Homer Chen said. "He thought his rain boots made him immortal."

Freshman English teachers, our foremost experts on Greek mythology, cited the tragedy as a failed effort for real world connections with the English curriculum.

A memorial for those that died and all students who got wet during El Niño will be held Thursday.

Temple City High School Rampage

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The articles published on the Opinion page reflect only the views of their respective writers. In the case of an unsigned editorial, the article reflects the views of the staff as a whole. Articles do not reflect the views of the student body or the administration. Letters to the Editor are welcome, but Rampage reserves the right to publish these at the discretion of the staff. They may also be edited in regard to space.



CA passes new hoverboard rules

By Melody Lo
Staff Writer

As the popularity of hoverboards rise, so do the concerns of the safety of these advanced skateboards. In Oct. 2015, the California State Legislature passed a bill that set limits to these electrically motorized boards; it went into effect starting on Jan. 1.

There have been many incidents of hoverboards catching on fire while charging and situations where people have sustained fractures from falling off their boards.

The new rules for electrically motorized boards, which are under law AB 604, are somewhat similar to those of bike and skateboard laws. These regulations are primarily set to legalize electronic skateboards, which allows people to use segways on public streets.

Users must be of 16 years or older in order to be eligible to transport themselves on a segway. Riders must wear helmets when riding in public places such as highways, sidewalks or public bike lanes. The maximum speed users can ride at in public is 15 miles per hour, and riders can only use their hoverboards on streets with maximum 35 mile per hour speed limits.

Like driving rules, it is illegal for people to ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs. These motorized board must have lights and reflectors when used at night. If



PHOTO/Melody Lo
Rampage received permission from Assistant Principal Mr. Aaron Chang before taking pictures of students on their hover boards. Riding hover boards at school is not tolerated.

people are caught violating these laws, they will have to pay up to a \$250 fine.

For riders like Sophomore Kiara Luu, riding her board is a source of entertainment, but she still remains wary of the new regulations. She received her first board in early Sept. 2015, and has been riding it for about the past five months.

"Laws will apply to everything just as it has in the past decades," Luu said. "Before this law became in effect, many injuries have occurred for this law to pass."

However, people like Junior Marcel Pan, who recently obtained his hoverboard on New Year's Eve, have their own input on these laws.

"They are overdoing it by having us be 16 or older and where we have to ride it now," Pan said. "I don't see the point of making something for everyone when only a few can ride it."

Just like the state, our school has its own rules for hoverboards. The school's regulations on skateboards also apply to hoverboards. Students are not allowed to ride their boards at anytime on campus, even after school is dismissed.

Hoverboards cannot be carried around school and must be locked away somewhere safe or possibly hung on the skateboard rack.

The next time you are riding your hoverboard, take these regulations into consideration and be a responsible rider.

Walk right by entry fees with season passes to theme parks

By Katie Burke
Staff Writer

Whether you prefer the magical atmosphere of Disneyland or the exciting roller coasters of Knott's Berry Farm and Six Flags, an annual pass to any amusement park can be a fun escape from the stress of school.



Disneyland

By far the most expensive amusement park of the three, Disneyland attracts over 16 million people a year, and many of them are annual passholders. Recently the park raised the prices of many of their passes, the highest price being \$1,049, due to a number of reasons including demand, overcrowding, parking and the upcoming Star Wars Land. Disneyland's less expensive passes also have a large amount of blackout dates, but all their passes provide admission to Disneyland and California Adventure. Some people, like Senior Kat Michael, enjoy the magical atmosphere that Disney manages to create.

"I like Disneyland the most because it just has such a good vibe and it never fails to make me smile," Michael said. "My favorite rides are Space Mountain and Splash Mountain."

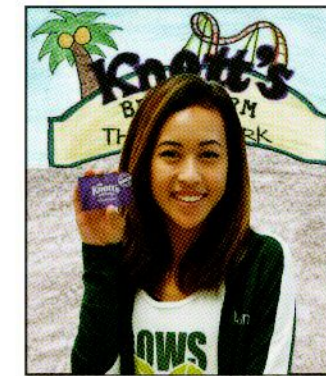
Disneyland may not have the scariest rides, but if you aren't really into roller coasters, then this place is for you.

Knott's Berry Farm

Knott's Berry Farm's annual passes give pass holders many benefits, including guest passes and discounts on food and merchandise. Knott's three available passes are all very affordable when compared to other amusement parks.

"I got a Knott's pass because it was cheaper than a Disneyland one," Junior Amanda Esparza said. "Knott's also has rides that are more for older people than Disney's, which are aimed at younger people."

For those who crave more exciting rides than the park's neighbor Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm offers exciting rides like Esparza's favorites, Silver Bullet and Xcelerator. However, one downfall to this park's passes is that they are excluded from Knott's Scary Farm events.



Six Flags Magic Mountain

This park is a long drive away, but this park's low prices and exhilarating roller coasters make it worthwhile. The passes all come with benefits like special days to bring friends free, discounts on tickets, food and merchandise, and admission to Fright Fest and Holiday in the Park. Senior Maddy Martinez appreciates the intense rides and fair prices at Six Flags.

"I chose Six Flags over any other amusement park because I love crazy rides," Martinez said. "Also, Six Flags passes are the same price as a one day admission."

Six Flags is full of extreme roller coasters such as Martinez's favorite ride, X2, or other fan favorites like Goliath and Green Lantern. Unless you don't enjoy roller coasters, there is really no downside.

PHOTOS/ Katie Burke
ILLUSTRATIONS/ Pamela Pan

Liu's Clues

Lactose intolerance:
Passing unnoticed

Alex Liu
Editor-in-Chief



There is a serious health epidemic sweeping through the human population and it's passing unnoticed right in front of our eyes. Lactose intolerance affects about 65 percent of all people and, unfortunately, I am one of these victims.

Growing up, dairy was a part of nearly every single one of my meals. I had milk in my cereal for breakfast, a cup of yogurt in my lunch box and a stick of string cheese for a snack. In my kindergarten classroom, my teacher taught me to get 3-Every-Day of Dairy. I pretty much got five and passed by without any trouble.

I slowly lost my ability to digest dairy products as I grew older. I am forced to pass on a nice steamy cup of clam chowder on a rainy day and I can't even get a Caramel Macchiato from Starbucks without paying an additional \$0.60 for soy milk. I have to truly think about what I am eating and look at the labels to ensure that there is no dairy in any products that I eat because there will be hell to pay otherwise.

Everyday, I need to carry lactase enzyme pills in my wallet and backpack just so that I can have some of the most popular foods at school and at restaurants, but it is difficult to consistently remember to bring them with me wherever I go.

On far too many occasions, I have forgotten to bring my pills while going out to eat with my friends. The pain of passing on ordering a pizookie and watching my friends devour their beautiful concoction of cookie and ice cream nearby brings a tear to my eye.

Living this lactose free lifestyle has made me question why milk based products are so popular in our society. Why do humans continue to drink milk past the age of infancy and why do we drink milk from another animal? The fact that most people would cringe at the thought of even tasting a woman's breast milk shows that it is pretty weird that milk is a large part of the average adult's diet in Western society.

The mass consumption of dairy products began after 1862 when French microbiologist Louis Pasteur successfully conducted the first pasteurization test and revolutionized the safety of milk and, in turn, the ability to store and distribute milk well beyond the farm.

However, human evolution has not been able to keep up with the rapid rate of dairy consumption, which results in the suffering of people like me.

As years passed by, I grew accustomed to not having dairy in my diet. Many of the foods that I used to enjoy I now find to be pretty gross. Take cheese for example. What the hell is cheese? If you really think about it, it's just a block of rotting milk and bacteria. Sounds gross if you ask me. And yogurt is just essentially the same thing but in puree form with probiotics. The way I see it, cheese and yogurt are just the Western dairy version of stinky tofu. Knowing all these things and given my lactose intolerance, I'll pass on the cheese the next time I'm going to BJ's to get a burger, but I'll make sure to bring my pills and order myself that chocolate chip pizookie.



Gun control: You shall not pass

By Kimberly Calderon
Staff Writer

While mass shootings have fueled the debate on gun control, passing more restrictions is unnecessary and will bring far more trouble than it's worth.

President Obama and other supporters of strengthening gun control have proposed that more restriction on gun rights correlates to a lower gun crime rate.

However, take Mexico for example. The nation possesses a strong restriction on guns where any type of firearm is illegal. Currently, the country is struggling with an enormous gun homicide rate of 121 deaths per million. No matter how strict gun laws may be, they're not going to protect you from criminals. They are criminals for a reason—they don't abide laws.

Along with Mexico, on a more relatable level, the mass shooting last month in San Bernardino was one of the deadliest

mass shootings since 2012, yet California has some of the strictest gun laws in the country. San Bernardino is only an hour away from here, given that a mass shooting could happen anywhere.

A mass shooting could occur here, but putting a stronger grip on gun control removes our ability to protect ourselves and others entirely.

Firearms are life-saving in serious emergencies. Last month in Detroit, the owner of a restaurant stopped a group of serial criminals known for committing crime sprees in Mexican towns.

After being shot in the leg by one of the men, he shot back with a legally concealed weapon. Two out of the three suspects were caught and arrested.

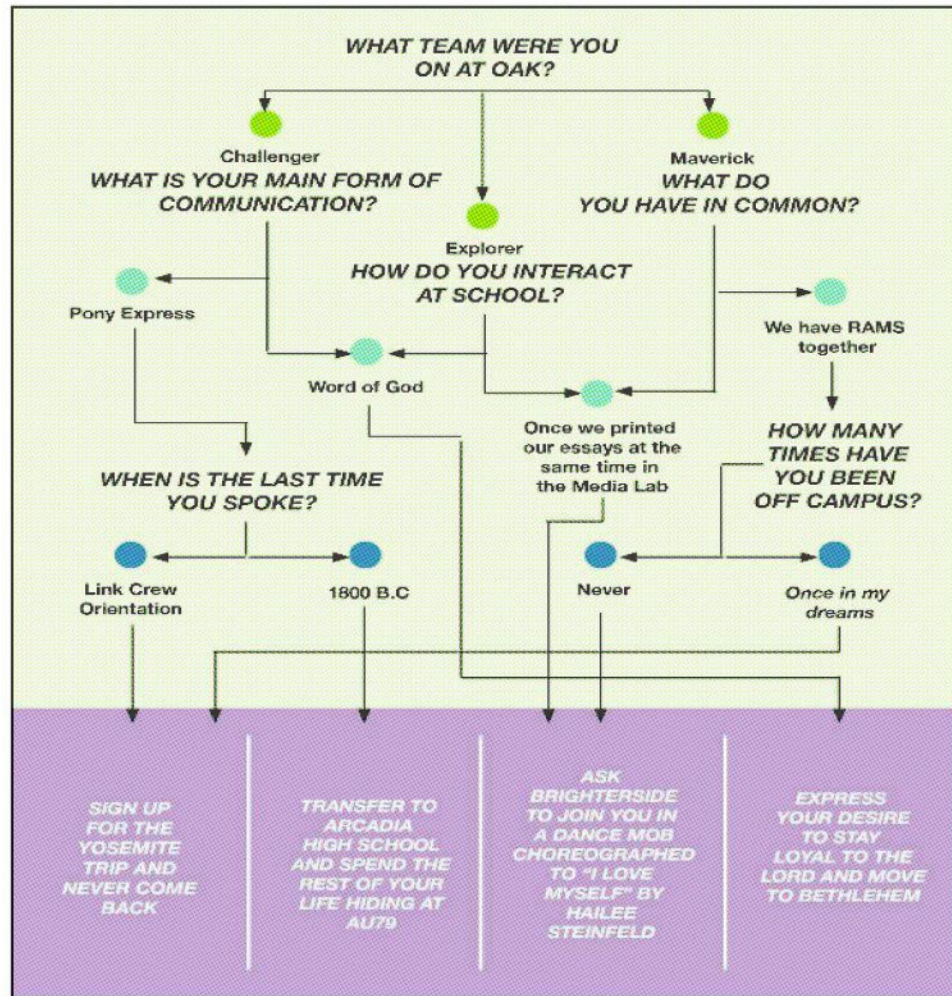
At absolute best, law enforcement can take five minutes to arrive at a destination, but anything can happen in that time frame.

Citizens need another resort if the police cannot get there in time.

How to pass up dates

By Amber Lee
Business Manager

Throw out the old "my dad won't let me" and "I have a girl/boyfriend that lives in Wisconsin" excuses — it's time to turn your no into a ñö. Take this personality quiz to see which spicy way to say "I'll pass" when the wrong person asks you to Winter Formal.



Q & A: Take a backstage pass into Winter Formal

By Andrew Rhee
Staff Writer

With Winter Formal nearing, Sophomore Class President Christian Palomares reveals why you should not pass up the opportunity of attending the dance.



PHOTO COURTESY/ Hailey Fawk
Mountain Meadows, where the dance will be held, is located at 1875 Fairplex Drive, Pomona, CA 91768.

Rampage: How did the committee come up with the theme Young Love?

Palomares: Italian is the ultimate language of love and young love is an experience that almost every high school student, at one point in their time here, will go through, whether it be a friendship or a relationship.

Rampage: What are some of the ways the theme will be incorporated into the event?

Palomares: The catering will feature different delicacies from Italian cuisine, including baked chicken parmesan and pasta marinara with tomato herbs and spices. People can have the pasta with or without meat. The colors of our dance are maroon and gold, a scheme reminiscent of the golden sunsets of the Amalfi coast of Southern Italy. Market lights will be strewn all around the venue, ensuring that one can go outside to enjoy gorgeous views.

Rampage: Why did the committee choose Mountain Meadows as the place for the dance?

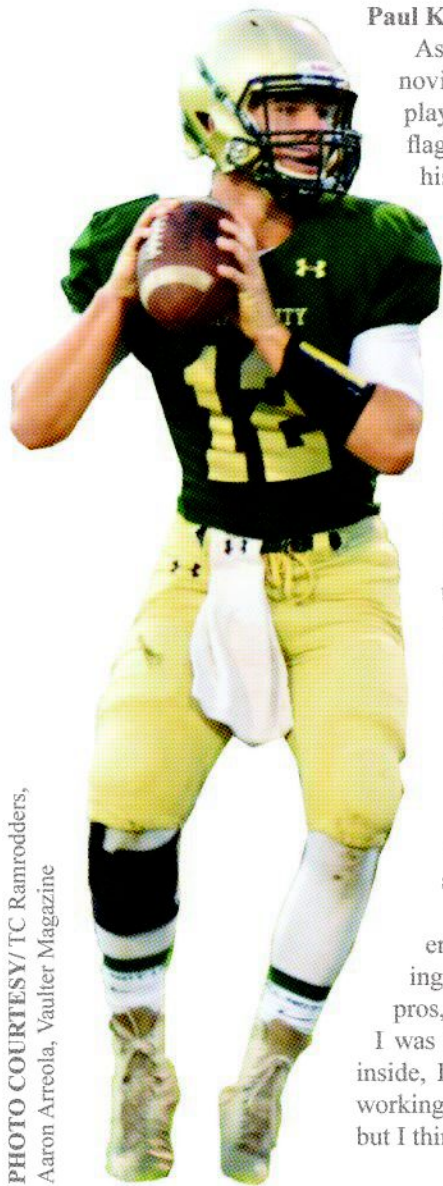
Palomares: Sophomore Class Vice President Drake Fan and I actually chose Mountain Meadows last year before all the planning really began. Mountain Meadows is an awesome place with a great space to hold a dance. It is tucked away into the hills near the Fairplex and is ultimately the best place we saw, offering our peers something unique and very fun.

Rampage: What are some of the special activities planned?
Palomares: The event will include a photo booth, which has shown to be a crowd favorite. The committee and I have worked hard to provide the best experience possible for our friends and fellow students. This, of course, starts off with the music, provided by DJ Herrick. Herrick is an acclaimed DJ that has played for several celebrity parties. Next, we brought in a state of the art lighting, laser and vapor system to make the dance floor truly pop the night of the dance. We have a delicious buffet with some of the best food I have ever had at a dance and the best part is that there will be a cookie and ice cream bar.

Rams enter recruitment season

By Pamela Pan
Staff Writer

As high school seniors finish submitting their college applications, some students already have an idea of where they're going. College recruiters have found several talented TCHS athletes.



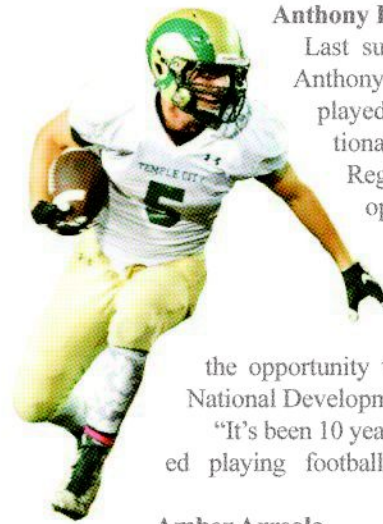
Paul Kosanovich

As a versatile athlete, Senior Paul Kosanovich plays both baseball and football, playing baseball since he was four and flag football in elementary school. With his impressive talent at sports, Kosanovich attracted the baseball team of University of California, San Diego and football teams from many colleges, including Division II schools like Colorado Mesa and Colorado State Pueblo and several other NAIA schools like University of Jamestown. So far, Kosanovich is most interested in going to University of Oregon, which is a Division I school.

"Of course, I'm really blessed for the opportunities I've been given," Kosanovich said. "I'm just really excited that I stand out. You get to realize how good of a player you are, but at the same time have to hold yourself to that standard. You have to keep good work ethic and maintain that status."

Kosanovich also wishes to become a professional football athlete after college.

"Everyone who grows up in whatever sport they play has that dream of making it to the next level and getting into the pros, and I've had my mind set on that since I was little," Kosanovich said. "Deep down inside, I know that I have a chance if I keep working. It's going to be a difficult run ahead, but I think I can do it."



Anthony DeGravina

Last summer, Senior Anthony DeGravina played for US National Team at the Regional Development Camp at Claremont McKenna College, and earned the opportunity to play in the National Development Games.

"It's been 10 years since I started playing football," DeGravina

said. "Ever since my first game in third grade I could never get enough of it. Football to me is the best sport around. It means having comradery and having a second family of brothers."

Sterling College, Occidental College and few other schools in the east coast had also reached out their hand to DeGravina. With availability of his major and a relatively small school size, Sterling became DeGravina's first choice.

"Sterling College attracts me because they have my major, and it's a small college which makes it easier to get to know people," DeGravina said. "They are also a part of NAIA, which is like a DII college that can offer scholarships."

Amber Arreola

While seniors are preparing for colleges, some underclassmen significantly display their readiness for future. For Sophomore Amber Arreola, being part of Varsity Softball is a gift of experience, challenges and friendships. Moreover, it draws colleges' attention to an enthusiastic student like her.

"The experiences that the sport gives me is what makes me dedicated," Arreola said. "Softball also

gives you a sense of conquering a challenge with hard work and enjoying the win with 13 of your best friends."

Arreola is in process of recruitment by Wagner College, Bradley University and other schools. Knowing softball recruiting can start early, Arreola began applying for colleges she would possibly attend back in eighth grade.

"For me it's still making sure to put the academic side of a school before their softball program," Arreola said. "A lot of times I might really like a school but they don't have my major."



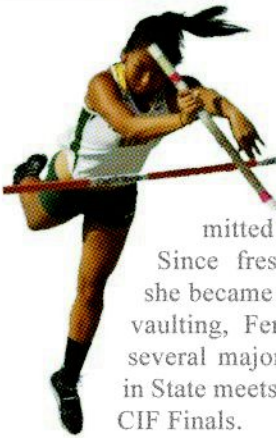
Karlyly Feng

Near the end of October, Brown University recruited Senior Karlyly Feng, who eventually committed herself to the school.

Since freshman year, in which she became firmly engaged in pole vaulting, Feng has participated in several major competitions such as in State meets and placed at the 2015 CIF Finals.

Feng had always been interested in Brown University, but Brown was not responsive to her profile. Without hesitation, Feng gripped onto the chance of introducing herself to Brown's Head Track and Field coach when she was visiting the campus, and successfully caught his attention.

"The whole recruiting process was such a great experience for me," Feng said. "I learned that sometimes you need to go that extra mile to get what you've been working so hard for."



Robotics Team rolls in first at Regional Qualifiers

By Eva Baudler
Staff Writer

Up mountainous ramps and over metal rods, a robot rolled onto the plane and collected points for its human companions. Through its strong efforts, the TCHS Robotics Team Ramroids took home the LA First Tech Challenge Palm Desert Qualifier Winning Alliance award on Jan. 9.

The team has been developing the robot since September during club and after school meetings. Members were divided into subteams such as the scouts, who basically advertised the robot's capabilities, interview team, which contributed to judging, and pit team, which fixed the robot or changed parts.

Junior William Xu is co-captain and driving coach of the team.

"During the first four qualifying rounds, our tank treads kept breaking, which caused the robot to break down," Xu said. "But once we got the problems figured out in the fifth round, everything went according to plan with dumping debris into the buckets with the robot."

In the arena, one of the ways in which teams could win points was through picking up debris and sending it up the mountain. With its shovel, the Ramroids' robot efficiently lifted debris onto its inner conveyor belt and into the buckets, which allowed the team to proceed to the next stage. When it came down to creating an alliance, the team collaborated with Heritage High School's team in order to outlast the last few contestants.

Every year, before members can compete, their robot must follow the assigned theme and a set of regulations, such as fitting an 18 by 18 by 18 frame and containing no liquids, loose wires, or raw materials.

Alongside the robot's adjustments, the team compiled an engineering notebook, which detailed the machine's progress and inner mechanics.

"Since there were a lot of communication errors with our electronics, it cost us matches where we could have won," Senior Ryan Chu said. "I think if we did more testing, we could have prevented the issues that had happened."

Though the team brought home a trophy, it has yet to qualify for the regionals coming up on Feb. 27 in Monrovia. There were categories involved in the First Tech Challenge that the Ramroids left unfulfilled, which they are now amending through practice and teamwork for the approaching qualifying competition on Jan. 24 in Hemet.

"During the challenge, the team did really well when the pressure was on," Computer Science teacher Mr. Tim Harrison said. "The members had developed a good team mentality and it will carry them into the next competition."



PHOTO COURTESY/ Henry Cheung

The robot's best quality was its tank treads, which allowed the robot to climb the mountain effectively.

Chiu shoots for stars in archery interest

By Jennifer Siu
Staff Writer

As he stretches back his bow string, Sophomore Nathan Chiu draws a deep breath and releases his arrow to let it fly through the idle target lying yards away.

Chiu is part of the Pasadena Roving Archers, a non-profit organization welcome to anyone interested in archery. Chiu first discovered his passion for the sport in 2014 during a family retreat and has been pursuing competitive archery ever since.

"I have tried several other sports, none of which I have genuinely pursued," Chiu said. "This sport caught my interest because of its mentally challenging aspect. I also like the fact that archery is mostly an individual sport, where the outcome is based solely on the archer's focus."

With his PRA membership, coaches and training teams mentor Chiu for upcoming tournaments. He returns to the shooting range three times a week, mainly practicing aim and form continuously for two to three hours.

In a recent competition in Van Nuys, Chiu placed second within his age division. He also plans to enter national and international competitions within upcoming years.

"My first competition was a local competition which was more of an introduction to competitive archery and I didn't do that well," Chiu said. "However, after my parents and I found a coach, I was able to sharpen my skills for future competitions."

Despite nearly two years of archery, Chiu has already experienced several misunderstandings people have about the sport stemming from Hollywood.

"There are plenty of misconceptions about archery mostly from movie characters like Katniss Everdeen, and even Robin Hood," Chiu said. "Even though I don't shoot flaming arrows or hunt, archery is a surreal sport nonetheless."

Soccer faces strong competition

By Joy Hsu
Sports Editor

The Girls Varsity Soccer team is maintaining an overall record of 5-5-2, with its most recent victories against Alhambra and Arroyo and its most recent loss against Cajon. Throughout the season, the team assesses itself and looks for aspects or game-play that can be improved.

"This is a young team that has a chance to do great things in league finals," Coach Joe Franco said. "I encourage everyone to come out and support them."

During the game against La Cañada on Jan. 13, the Rams lost 2-0. The Spartans scored in each half of the game with bursts of speed that the Rams could not match.

Unfortunately, the away game at San Dimas, which was scheduled for Jan. 5, was cancelled due to the rain. However, during the second away game at Alhambra, the Rams won to the Moors, scoring one goal throughout the course of the entire game, resulting in a score of 1-0.

"The key to the victory was an outstanding goal by [Freshman] Meghan Knowles, but what was even more impressive was that the team played a solid game after a lengthy hiatus due to Winter Break, with the additional element of the recent rain," Coach Franco said. "I also felt that the return of [Juniors] Taylor Ruiz and Kristen Chen sparked good energy in the team."

On Dec. 19, the team won 2-1 against Alhambra, but lost 1-0 against Cajon in back to back games due to lack of communication.



PHOTO/ Samuel Kim

After finishing their last season fourth in the Rio Hondo League, the Lady Rams are looking to improve and possibly advance to C.I.F. They will face the South Pasadena Tigers on Jan. 22 and Feb. 9 and the San Marino Titans on Jan 27. and Feb. 11.

To work together better, the team goes over drills and exercises that help hone in and sharpen skills as well as develop its teamwork.

"During practices the team starts with a warm up, and then we go into ball skills and passing," Junior Amanda Avila said. "The team then moves into a scrimmage game to get accustomed to the playing field and positioning."

Avila tore her ACL during a preseason match, so the team was forced to replace her on the playing field.

"It was hard to lose a player like Amanda because she plays so hard and loves the game," Coach Franco said. "Her ability to play different positions well will be missed most."

The Lady Rams have high hopes for this season. Many, if not all the team members

hope to make it to C.I.F. playoffs this season. Some of the players have additional goals in mind that they hope to see fulfilled before the season ends.

"One of the team goals, as with any sport, would be to make it to C.I.F.," Avila said. "One of my more personal goals would be to help the freshmen develop their skills so they can contribute to creating an even stronger team next year."

Basketball shoots high in League

By Samuel Kim
Staff Writer

Supporting an 11-6 overall record, the Boys Varsity Basketball team is confident about the season despite fierce competition. After placing second in the Azusa Tournament and third in the El Rancho Tournament, the Rams lost their final preseason game

to the Alhambra Moors and lost their league opener to La Cañada.

The Rams hosted the Spartans to open league on Jan. 13. After keeping it close in the first quarter, the Rams gave up 21 points while only managing to score eight in the third quarter, losing the game by a final score of 76-52.

Although they had beat the Moors on Dec. 12, the Rams were unable to achieve the same success and finish the preseason with a victory. The team only scored 15 points in the first half, but came storming back in the second, scoring 23 and 25 points in the third and fourth quarter, respectively. Despite their valiant effort, the Rams fell short, losing the game 67-63.

"We shot the ball really well and managed to stay close," Senior Jeremy Wong said. "But unfortunately they made a go-ahead shot with three seconds left to give them the win. We were disappointed that we lost but knew we showed great effort."

The team won its first three games in the Azusa Tournament against Gladstone, Charter Oaks and Covina from Dec. 14-16. However, they were unable to beat Gabrielino because of the Eagle's presses and defense, losing by a final score of 77-59.

"Most of the games were kept at a fast tempo with lots of energy, and the games that we lost were usually because we didn't come out with energy," Junior Michael Chen said. "We're strong from the outside and perimeter shots, but our main problem is breaking a press."

To eliminate weaknesses and enhance strengths, the team goes over plays or scrimmages two hours a day in the gym.

"This season we're trying to improve the way we play," Senior Richard Hollinger said. "We want to play harder, faster and with more energy. If we play hard then we have a good chance."

Despite recent setbacks, the players are still hopeful that they will finish the season near the top of the league standings, and hopes to advance in C.I.F..

"This year is going to be really tough because all the teams in our league have improved from last year," Wong said. "But I think this year we will do better than last year. This year our team shares the ball more and is less selfish. We did lose some very good players from last year but I think everyone this year has stepped their game up. This year we get along with everyone on our team. Our team is a bunch of brothers in one big family."



PHOTO/ Aaron Ding

The Rams trailed the Spartans by a single point after the first quarter, but trailed 56-34 after the third. Looking to improve league standings, they will face Blair on Jan. 20.

Put a spin on dance



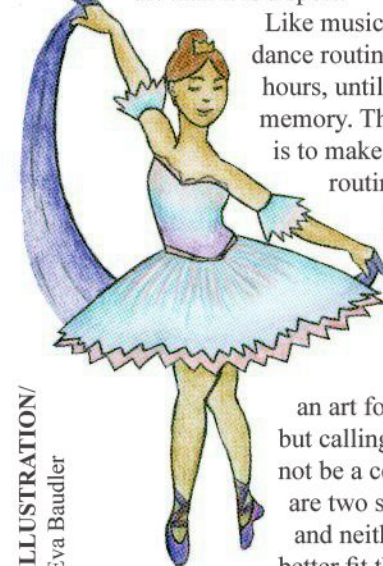
By Catherine Tran
Web Editor

As a dancer, I think I am qualified to say that dance is not a sport. But no, it's not because we don't work as hard as athletes and no, it's not because we don't compete, and it's definitely not because dance isn't mentally and physically demanding like a sport.

Dance can be extremely competitive, and some may even argue that dance requires more athletic ability than other sports. Some moves require features physiologically unnatural to the body, such as "turn-out," which is a rotation of your leg so that your knees turn outwards away from the center of the body.

Sports are governed by a strict set of guidelines. There is no concrete scoring in dance because it is too subjective for an official scoring system that everyone will agree upon. Although you may be able to score aspects like timing and formations, there is always a factor of subjectivity. One judge might look for synchronization and another for musicality and expression.

Although technique is a big part of dance, how well a dancer communicates with an audience is what turns a good routine into a beautiful routine that can bring an audience to tears, which is why dance is more of an art than it is a sport.



ILLUSTRATION/
Eva Baudler

Like musical performances, dance routines are rehearsed for hours, until it becomes muscle memory. The goal of a dancer is to make it seem as if the routine is effortless. The performance should be expressive and artistic. Yet dance is not exclusively an art. So calling dance an art form is not an insult, but calling it a sport would not be a compliment. They are two separate categories and neither is necessarily a better fit than the other.



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