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Senior Melody Lin wins a trip and travels to Germany. page 6



Read about the girls tennis team as it starts league. page 7

TEMPLE CITY HIGH SCHOOL

RAMPAGE

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HELICOPTERS SOAR AS FIRES ROAR

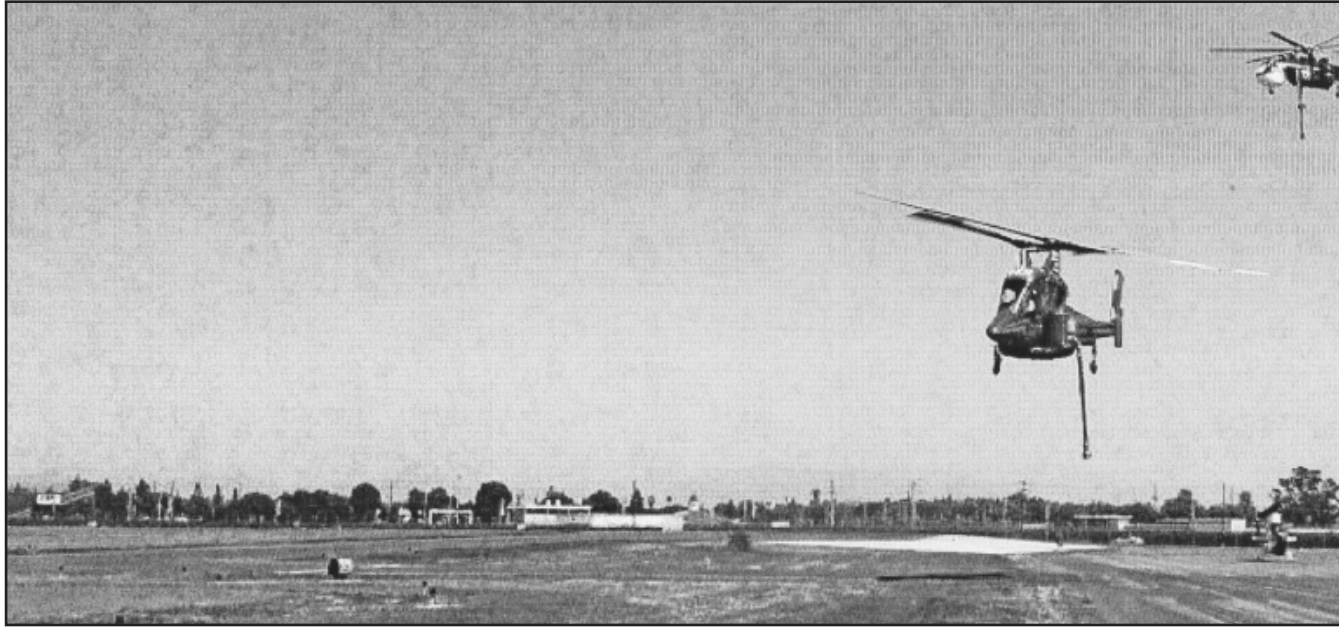


PHOTO COURTESY/ Mr. Chien Nguyen

Two large SkyCrane helicopters dropped water on the San Gabriel Canyon Morris Fire, which scorched 2,168 acres, on Wednesday, Aug. 28. The San Gabriel Canyon Morris Fire is one of the many fires raging through Southern California.

New school year brings new roles for teachers, staff

By Jessica Meza
 Staff Writer

Teachers are taking on additional responsibilities this school year in response to faculty members leaving or retiring.

Mr. Kyle Douglas left to become vice principal at Alhambra High School this year and Mr. Michael Kidd, who teaches Pre-Calculus and Dragonflicks, took over as the Associated Student Body advisor.

"I wanted to try something different," Mr. Kidd said. "To see if I could use my expertise to make things better."

With the addition of ASB to his schedule, he now leads four different classes in three different departments. Mr. Kidd is not the only teacher taking on more this year.

Mr. Ryan Hoague and Ms. Sarah Penalora now co-chair the English Department after Ms. Clare Marquardt retired.

"We have a vision for the English department," Mr. Hoague said. "A vision for student success."

With academic and campus improvements in mind, these teachers are facing this school year with some new challenges. Mr. Dale Smith took over Ms. Marquardt's two sophomore honors English classes and like the other teachers, he is taking it in stride and views it with optimism.

"It's a challenge and I'm looking forward to it," Mr. Smith said. "It's positive because everyone changes and grows."

With budget cuts to public schools, teachers are working together to ensure this school year is as normal as possible for students. Mr. Kidd, Mr. Hoague, Ms. Penalora, and Mr. Smith are amongst the many staff members taking on additional classes.

Ms. Dawn Neufeld is now the Yearbook advisor and Mr. Chris Sewell has been promoted to assistant principal. Also new to the staff are Pep advisor Ms. Marta Bourjeili, Spanish teacher Ms. Sarah Dean, and Social Science teacher Mr. Anthony White.

Dr. Kate Franceschini left to work at the district office and the administration is currently in the process of hiring another assistant principal.

NEWS BRIEFS

By Ashlee Nguyen
 Staff Writer

Rose Court Presentation

Senior girls gathered in the Senate Room on Thursday, Sept. 17 during lunch for information on eligibility for the Rose Court. Tryouts for the Rose Queen and the six Rose princesses are held every year. If chosen, the girls will attend over 150 public and media functions as well as ride on a float in the Rose Parade.

Station Fire

The arson-caused Station Fire, which started on Wednesday, Aug. 26, has scorched 160,557 acres of land, making it one of the largest fires in Los Angeles County history. The cost of fighting the fire has already exceeded \$92 million and is estimated to reach \$100 million. The fire has claimed the lives of two firefighters, injured eleven people, and destroyed 209 properties. It

is currently 91% contained and a hundred homes remain threatened.

Fall Spirit Week

Students showed their class spirit the week of Sept. 13. On Monday, students formed words for Scrabble Day and dressed up as their favorite superheroes on Tuesday. Wacky Tacky Day was on Wednesday and Decade Day was Thursday. Students ended the week wearing their class colors and attending the Fall Spirit Assembly.



PHOTO/ Erica Lee

September/October Ram Calendar						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17

Sept. 19: Band/Auxiliaries Car Wash
 Sept. 22: Back to School Night, PTSA Bake Sale
 Sept. 25: Staff Development Day, Football @ Arcadia
 Sept. 29: High School 101
 Sept. 30: Lifetouch Make-up Pictures
 Oct. 1: College Rep Night
 Oct. 2: Club Day, Football @ Rosemead
 Oct. 5: PAB General Assembly
 Oct. 6-7: CAHSEE, grade 12
 Oct. 9: Football @ Home

API performance exceeds previous year's; score goes up 16 points

By Maggie Liu
 Staff Writer

Students are eagerly awaiting the promised rewards that come with improving the school's Academic Performance Index (API) score by 16 points.

API scores, which range from 200 to 1000, are based on the California Standardized tests (CST) taken in April and are indicators of the school's academic growth. Schools are ranked based on their index scores and are also compared to other schools statewide, including ones in surrounding cities such as San Marino and Arcadia.

"In the past, the CST tests may not have been the most accurate measure of our students' intellectual abilities," Assistant Principal Mr. Kevin Herington said. "It isn't that our students have improved the API score, as much as it is that the students are actually taking the test seriously."

For the past four years, the high school has been above the 800 mark, but has struggled to get a score past 810. In

2008, the school's API score shot up to 822 and this year, students exceeded expectations and hit 838.

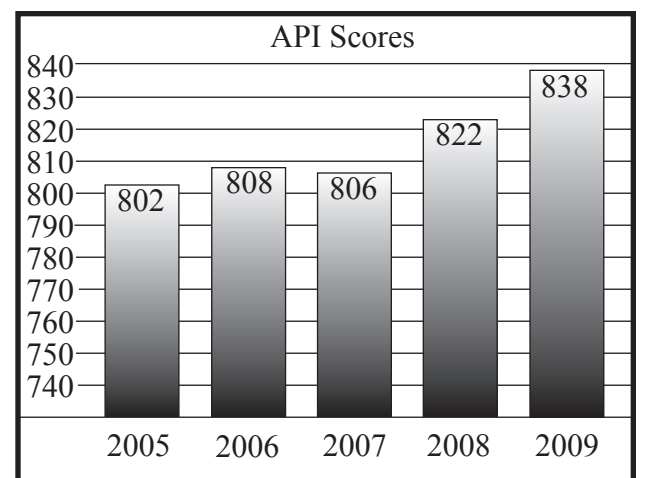
"It's hard to get an increase if your API score is above 800," Principal Ms. Mary Jo Fosselman-King said. "So 16 points is a big attribute for our school and it was above our expectations."

The administration and the Associated Student Body (ASB) are still planning the rewards. There has been talk of giving gold reward cards and prize raffles to individuals who made outstanding improvements in their test scores. The class that improved the most was announced at the Spirit Rally and will receive t-shirts. Extended lunches will also continue this year. Prizes were not the only reasons for the dramatic score increase.

"The accreditation process helped everybody have heightened awareness about the importance of the CSTs," Ms. Fosselman-King said. "Teachers also implemented test taking strategies to let students take their time."

The Kiwanis Club has donated \$1000 to sponsor the

school's rewards program so that students can get better prizes. The administration is also asking other organizations for sponsorship.



Students display style on First Day of School

Compiled by Jennifer Su
Staff Writer

First day outfits say a lot about a person. Are they the kind of person who plans in advance or do they not care what they wear on the first day? Two students, Senior Candice Tran and Sophomore Cory Matter lets us in on the scoop of what they think fashion is.



Senior Candice Tran

PHOTOS/
Charlene Choo

1. What is your definition of style?

Style is a way of expressing who you are through what you wear.

2. What other elements contribute to a person's style?

I believe hair says a lot about a person, and can make you look like a completely different person.

3. What do you think of the latest fashions?

I recently saw on "E" that these sandals with little ruffles on the front are "in," and I just thought it was the ugliest thing in the world! So to me, the latest fashion isn't very fashionable at all.

4. Can style be learned? Or must one be born stylish?

Nobody is born stylish. It is definitely something people learn. For example, I use to wear little Asian pajamas with like images of an imitation Hello Kitty on it, in public, but I would never wear that now.

5. Name five clothing or accessories that everyone should have.

Every girl should have long jeans, shorts, Rainbows, UGGS and of course a simple t-shirt.



Sophomore Cory Matter

1. How would you describe your personal style?

My style is the hard-rock, dirt bike, party scene!

2. Who are your fashion icons?

Travis Barker (drummer of Blink182). He has the rebel style that I like, and he inspired me to play the drums.

3. Do you think it is important to have a personal style?

Yes! I think it's important to have your own personal style because it shows who you are as a person. I think you should pick your own style and forget about what everybody else thinks. Be your own person and choose your own style.

4. How did your personal style change over time?

I used to be into the punk rock scene but since I started racing BMX, I got into BMX clothing.

5. Name five clothing or accessories that everyone should have.

Vans, piercings, button up shirts, skinny ties, and hats!

(Bonus question for the ladies)

6. Are you single?

Yes

Refreshing Indie flicks blow away clichés

By Jessica Meza
Staff Writer

Paper Heart

You wouldn't think a film called "Paper Heart" could take you on a journey about real love. But Paper Heart is a different yet charming movie in which an average girl tries to find the definition of love.

Charlyne Yi goes on a cross country adventure with director Nicolas Jansenovic (Jake Johnson) interviewing couples, scientists, a divorcee, bikers, and children—while capturing her experience on film. Main characters Charlyne Yi and Michael Cera are a real life couple, and they sometimes improvise upon their scripts.

Yi's personality is so awkward it makes the audience uncomfortable at first, and I wondered how I could sit through the movie. But later on I realized her unfashionable clothes and unkempt appearance add the edge of reality. Real sto-

ries and experiences of love are illustrated by handcrafted puppets to boost creativity in the film. The interviews are undeniably adorable, and add insight from people from all walks of life.

They first meet at a party, and Cera takes an immediate liking to Yi. Cera's assertive personality deviates from his shy image we are so used to seeing in other movies. Friendship blossoms into romance, and this is where the off screen couple's chemistry makes the viewer root for Yi to believe in love. It's hard to tell where the documentary is real or if the majority of the film is scripted.

Movies generally give audiences the taste of perfection, but "Paper Heart" is refreshingly different because its authenticity draws you in. Ultimately, the film revolves around Yi's odd character. Your take on the film depends on whether or not you fall in love with Yi's personality. Take "Paper Heart" for what it is—a creative look into someone's love learning experience.

By Raymond Tran
Staff Writer

500 Days of Summer

With the arrival of summer's end, many crave a movie that will offer quality along with a lasting impression; and the movie "500 Days of Summer" is arguably the film that delivers both.

"500 Days of Summer" focuses on the roller coaster relationship between Tom Hansen and Summer Finn. Tom struggles with his childish belief in true love but Summer views love as a mere fairy tale. These clashing personalities cause minor problems in the relationship, as seen through their awkward conversations and moments.

Although I hate sitting through romance movies, this movie involved a more light-hearted, humorous outlook on romance, and gave the movie more appeal than I had

originally anticipated. The dance number and movie parodies make the film assert the presence of a comedy over a mushy romance.

Despite the humor, the most surprising aspect of the movie is the sense of reality it retains. Characters relentlessly express emotions such as anger, frustration, and fear. In the end, the realistic moments on screen leave the audience with lingering thoughts.

The storytelling devices which transition the movie are also creative. The "500" days Tom spends with Summer are not in chronological order, and the movie has captions indicating the day number. There is also a split-screen presentation of "expectation" and "reality," and brought the movie fresh, innovative charm.

Although this movie has its tacky chick-flick moments, even romance-haters such as I can appreciate the creative storyline and appeal.

By Jason Wu
Staff Writer

Adam

My interest in drama stops where most guys do, but even I can see why "Adam" is such an excellent movie. In an age that lacks originality, "Adam" brings to you a classic love story that does away with the abhorred clichés.

Hugh Dancy plays the title character, Adam, who is afflicted with Asperger's syndrome, a type of autism. It is not a mental retardation and his intellect is shown in his longwinded talks about space exploration (he went on and on about it, but believe me—he knows his stuff). Love between a school teacher and an introvert is very unlikely, but the movie makes it happen so.

Adam's new neighbor Beth is attracted to him although

his condition actually makes communication, let alone relationships, downright difficult. Their relationship blossoms quite awkwardly and humorously as Adam's condition causes him to struggle with his bluntness and lack of understanding.

The interactions between the characters are embarrassing at times, but add humor to the story. The genuine struggle of the character and his lust for human relations while dealing with social retardation is what truly defines its role as a drama. You can actually "feel" for the character and his down-to-earth fight against his one setback in life.

I highly recommend this to anyone who really wants to see a good drama. Guys, bring your girls to watch it and keep the tissues handy. She might have tears trickling down her cheeks, or who knows? Maybe you would be the one in tears.

Charlene's Choice FRIENDS & DESSERT

Cloverleaf

I have always put more importance on price and quantity when it comes to food; however, the newly opened "Clover Leaf" proved to be a temptation too hard to resist. With its clean, modern atmosphere and creative menu, it is booming with customers even before its grand opening.

Unlike other cafés that are cramped next to stores, the white square building stands isolated from crowded Las Tunas Drive. It provides a calming environment to enjoy dessert with a few friends, and it is definitely preferable to the other noisy cafés I am normally accustomed to.

The frozen yogurt is from "Tutti Frutti," which isn't exactly my favorite place for frozen yogurt. So I decided to get something else.



PHOTO/ Charlene Choo

It was in the middle of the hot afternoon, so I ordered the iced blueberry matcha green tea. It turned out to be just the right flavor and sweetness for this green tea lover, and effectively quenched my thirst. The price ranges from \$3 and more, which is a bit expensive considering the small size of the drinks. However, their menu is one-of-a-kind and is perfect for someone who likes to try different flavors.

From the pastries I decided to try the Flower Blossom, which is a soft pinkish bread with cream cheese inside. The bread has a sweet aroma, which blended perfectly with the smooth cream cheese. Some people may think that their desserts are overpriced, since one piece of any pastry costs \$2 or more; however, it is definitely recommendable, especially since the manager comes up with a new menu almost every day.

On a breezy day, it's also nice to step outside and sit under the parasols. Because the café isn't right next to the side walk you can actually enjoy the surroundings without pedestrians bustling by.

I have a feeling that "Clover Leaf" is going to be one of my favorite spots for after school hangouts.

Students face new schedule problems



By Alice Wang
Co-Business Manager

On the second day of school, I walked into the counselor's office and almost fell over. There were more people in there at one time than I've seen in the roughly 543 days (three years worth of school days) that I've spent at TCHS.

"But soft! What crowd in yonder office waits?" I wondered, or would have had I not already known the answer—the tidal wave of walking scheduling problems that has swamped the counselor's office over the past week.

Just about everything that could go wrong went wrong—students complained of missing periods, unwanted classes, and conflicting schedules. True, these blips do happen every year, and yes, they are inevitable in a school of this size. But no, to say that the number of problems last year is anywhere near the magnitude of this year's is like comparing a bottle rocket to a nuclear bomb.

It's even more irking that more than a few seniors were adversely affected along with the underclassmen, an irony when the fourth and

final year of high school is often said to be the best. As a senior, I find that disappointing. It's as if I spent three years clawing my way up the Himalayas to reach Shangri-La, only to find a hippie commune. I know of two seniors who had to ditch AP classes because their schedules didn't work out, another who had to drop a sport, a couple who had no choice but to take unwanted electives to fill in holes, and at least five who were forced to choose between two favorite classes that were conflicting.

An example of schedule conflicts: when administrators switched the sole period of AP Calculus BC to sixth, also the territory of *Rampage*, Yearbook, and Honors Orchestra. For students participating in Calculus BC and one of the three original classes, it spelled trouble—they had to drop Calculus or an elective into which they had invested a great deal of time and effort. While most decided to keep Calculus BC, two intrepid people took the other tack and dropped it in favor of an elective instead.

In all fairness, the counselors have done their best to accommodate every student. But since the schedule was so flawed to begin with, there's not much they can do to fix it, be-



CARTOONIST/ Veronica Lin

sides tossing everything into the recycle bin and starting over from scratch.

Nothing else can be done for us seniors this year. The only thing left for underclassmen to do is to cross their fingers and hope against hope that somehow next year, things will be better.

No remedy to universal healthcare



By Christine Keung
News Editor

If universal health care were a glass of milk, I would say I'm a glass half full kind of person. However, just because I am optimistic does not mean I am not realistic.

I was moved emotionally by President Obama's speech on health care reform, especially when he mentioned the Ted Kennedy tidbits, but my political stance was not. The problem with universal health care is that it is both a moral and political issue.

Of course I want everybody to be able to afford health care, and I'm sure most people with beating hearts do too. I understand firsthand how difficult it is for people who are not covered to get treatment.

My dad was not insured when he was diagnosed with diabetes and it is ridiculous that he had to pay over a hundred dollars for one dosage of medication. What's even more ridiculous is that he is one of 45 million Americans who are uninsured due to the ludicrous cost of health care.

However, the pragmatic side of me wonders if this

country is capable of establishing this kind of system. Obama mentioned that we are the last advanced democracy to not have universal health care—basically saying that if they can do it, so can we. That is a nine-year-old philosophy; the American government is a lot more complex and the population size is a lot larger than that of those in other countries. If it were so easy for America to be like others, we might as well build an Eiffel Tower in the middle of Times Square.

Obama's proposal to spend 900 billion dollars over the next ten years on setting up universal health care has its pros and cons. The main con is green and does not grow on trees. If the president keeps his promise of not dipping into medicare funds, where is he planning on getting all that money? I admire the fact that he is trying

to reform the corrupt health care system. I like how his plans involve creating 53 new government bureaucracies since that means more jobs. On the other hand, there is not a single government agency that runs efficiently (Al Gore probably did more with a powerpoint presentation than the EPA did with billions of our tax dollars), and that inefficiency is going to translate into the health care plan.

Does Obama have a remedy for universal health care? Only time can tell. One diagnosis we can be sure of is that Congress needs to do more than just slap a band-aid on it.

If it were so easy for America to be like others, we might as well build an Eiffel Tower in the middle of Times Square.

Shenanigans

By Michelle Shen
Editor-in-Chief

This week in American news, we have Joe Wilson's spontaneous and inappropriate "You lie!" outburst, Serena Williams' inappropriate, profanity-laced tirade, and, as a cherry on top of a pleasant week, Kanye West's inappropriate behavior at the VMAs.

That is a lot of inappropriate news. Of course, they each apologized, but there is still another question that remains: Why did they do it?

Before anything else, we can probably rule out any chances that their reactions were intentional or the results of juvenile missteps. Wilson, Williams, and West are veterans of the media limelight, so it's highly unlikely that they wouldn't know how to differentiate between firing up a good debate to having the odds stacked against them.

These incidents are merely several footprints in the sand of a social change that is occurring throughout America. Although ubiquitous throughout history, the freedom of expression has become more prevalent in the lives of the average American. But this is not necessarily a bad thing. It started with the most recent presidential elections, when a record number of 131.2 million votes were cast, and after the "Great Recession of 2009" hit home, we have shifted into a rising movement of responsible buying to help better our economy.

Generally speaking, the public is becoming less apprehensive about asking questions and demanding answers. The rising popularity of talk shows, such as "Larry King Live" and "The Jay Leno Show," reinforces this new vision. Although they're usually in it for the ratings, the producers know that the most controversial topics are the ones that will reel in the most viewers. Usually, when something newsworthy occurs, people don't have the details and end up squabbling on Facebook or Twitter about it, but when a talk show host brings in a person related to the situation, it becomes a Q&A session that sheds light on many previously unanswered questions.

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ILLUSTRATION/ Erica Lee



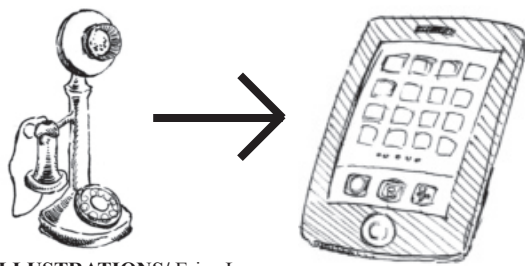
Technology changes *So yesterday, now* throughout the ages

By Humphrey Lin
Staff Writer

Telephones

The first telephones were about as far as you can get from those fancy texting phones most students carry around in their pocket. These things were incredibly expensive and only had one sound hole, so you had to switch the receiver between your ear and your mouth every time you wanted to say something. They also didn't have ringtones, so you had to whistle into the receiver if you wanted the other person to pick up.

Scientists think that phones will become more advanced in the future. Phone technology is now so advanced that in the near future, you will be able to use phones to replace wallets and even keys. Just hold your phone up to your lock, and it unlocks it. Pretty handy for people who are forgetful.



ILLUSTRATIONS/ Erica Lee

Toilets

To the early people, the simplest solutions were the best. Instead of toilets, they just used a pot whenever they felt like going to the bathroom. Of course, without flushing systems, people would just throw their waste out the window when the pot got full, so walking outside was not advised.

Nowadays, however, we try to keep waste to a minimum. A Japanese scientist developed the "perfect" toilet that just might solve your problems. It literally does everything for you. This thing boasts hand-free and paper-free features (yes, it does that for you too) and even adjusts the height according to your gender. Don't get too excited though. These things have been known to catch on fire and would probably not be available for a while.

Computers

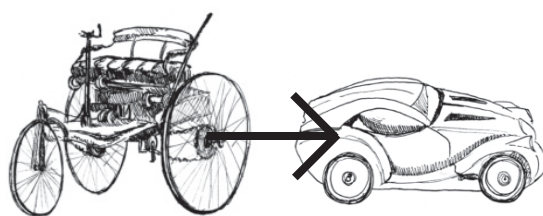
The first computer ever built made its grand entrance in 1946. Apparently, the word "portability" did not exist in the computer world at that time. The machine weighed about three tons and was more than twice the size of your living room! It wasn't very fancy, either. Everything it did could be done on an average scientific calculator. People nowadays don't like computers that big or "dumb."

Right now, scientists are developing super advanced artificial intelligence computers, kind of like the ones you see in science fiction movies. At this moment, computers are capable of basic speech recognition, but this feature will improve in the future, with the ability to take advanced commands from all different kinds of voices. Essentially, you'll be able to have your own robot slave.

Cars

When the car was invented, it marked an era of faster transportation (and less work for street cleaners). Early cars were pretty effective, until the British government decided that they were too dangerous and passed a law that said cars on public roads must drive behind a guy waving a red flag and blowing a horn. As expected, car development stopped until the late 19th century when the law was removed. Those early models drive around four mph and had about 0.024 horsepower.

Right now, the major concern about cars is fuel efficiency. Chemical engineers at UCLA have developed a car that runs on nothing but water but still achieve those high speeds you love. These cars should be available to the public in the next two decades, so fill up on water because you'll never have to visit another gas station again.



By Jennifer Su
Staff Writer

1) Feather Accessories

Feather headbands have been spotted on models walking the runway. From feather headbands to earrings, there are many options to choose from. From peacock feathers to pheasant feathers, they all add a different edge to an outfit. Scared of PETA stripping you of your feather headband? No worries, buy the faux ones. They're cheaper!

2) Messenger bags

Tired of having the same old Jansport backpack that everyone has? Get rid of yours and switch to a messenger bag! They look good on both guys and gals, so no need to worry about being laughed at. Also, you don't have to go through the trouble of putting on a backpack; just swing it onto your back!

3) Fedora hats

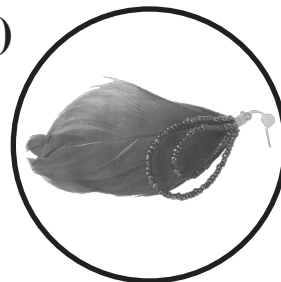
The sun is no longer shining as brightly as it did in the summer. Tuck your fedora hats in a safe place and wait until next summer. Unless you're a serial treasure hunter, let's just leave it to Indian Jones to work the fedora hats.

4) Maxi dresses

What makes Maxi dresses no longer in style anymore is the fact that the rain season is just around the corner. You wouldn't want a long, wet, and heavy dress clinging to your legs as dirt builds up on the bottom of it.

IN:

1)

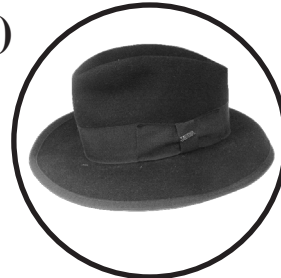


2)



OUT:

3)



4)



Stuck in past, living in moment, heading for future?

By Serena Smalley
Feature Editor

Do you remember that time your really hot honey buns cheated on you with the new hottie in school? Do you also remember that it happened three years ago? It's time to get over it now, and I would like to say that you are better than them and you must move ahead with your life. Take this quiz to find out if you are someone stuck in the past, living in the present, or yearning to be in the future.

1. One of your parents decide they have had enough of your attitude, so they lock you in your room for the night. You...

- go tell them how much you hate them.
- tell them you're sorry and negotiate a punishment.
- lie in your room and think about next weekend.

2. You didn't get accepted to the college of your dreams and your only "B" was in Honors Biology. You...

- run to your teacher and beg them to do something.

b. write an appeal to the college ASAP.

c. pick the best backup school you applied to.

3. It's the biggest game of the season and you land on your face in the midst of a huge play. You...

- sit there and bash your fist into the ground.
- immediately get up and get into action again.
- get up, dust yourself off, and position yourself for the next turnover.

4. Your view on politics is...

- you're still feeling sorry for Hilary.
- something needs to be done to cut your college tuition.
- will the day come when the crazy little man with the Asian fro presses the red button?

5. Your favorite type of music is...

- old school jazz
- alternative rock
- trance

Mostly A's:

Sorry, but you're living in the past, honey. You constantly are in a huge hang-up about what happened weeks and weeks ago, and you seriously need to move on. Shed your tears, punch a hole in the wall, whatever, but just get over it.

Mostly B's:

You are a very realistic and reasonable person who is living in the present time. You are down to earth and very aware of your surroundings. You know what's going on and voice your opinion, deal with it, and keep going with life.

Mostly C's:

Hold on there! It's one in the afternoon and that oh-so-fine individual hasn't called you yet. It must mean they don't want to hang out with you tonight, and they hate how you sipped your soda the other night so that's what turned them off right?! No, calm down and live in the moment. Look around before you jump into the future so quickly.



Mystery of tarot card unfolded

By Veronica Lin
Exchange Editor/Co-business Manager

Fairy tales have always held a special sparkle for me, and I have always hoped that some of the magical luck and “happily every after’s” would rub off on me. It was this flickering fantasy and desire to know the future that brought me to wander the urban streets of Temple City and flip through the Yellow Pages in search of a perfect psychic. I dragged along a fellow *Rampage* buddy, but our search certainly was not easy.

The first psychic we visited was closed, and the second required an appointment. I called in vain two other psychic readers, but one was too expensive, and the other, an old lady in El Monte whom I could barely understand, gave me the feeling that it was probably not the best place to go for safety reasons.

I was disappointed and on the verge of giving in to the idea that a psychic both close and safe did not exist when we suddenly sped by a black “Psychic 10 Dollars” sign on Rosemead Boulevard. Jerking to a stop, we made a U-turn and veered eagerly into the parking lot.

Sweaty and intimidated, we stood awkwardly outside the white building, hardly believing our luck. I was very surprised when a relatively middle-age Caucasian lady, instead of the croaky ancient I was expecting, opened the door. In a friendly, raspy voice roughened by frequent smoking, she led us in.

The walls were blank, and there was a simple glass table with pale crystals and a couch. On the table was also a strange looking device with rods. I was still getting over the fact that the psychic of my imaginations had so forcefully been dethroned when she asked me to sit on the

couch. Picking up a solid black deck of cards from the table, she spread them out and asked me to choose three in no particular order. The three cards would answer any three questions that I had.

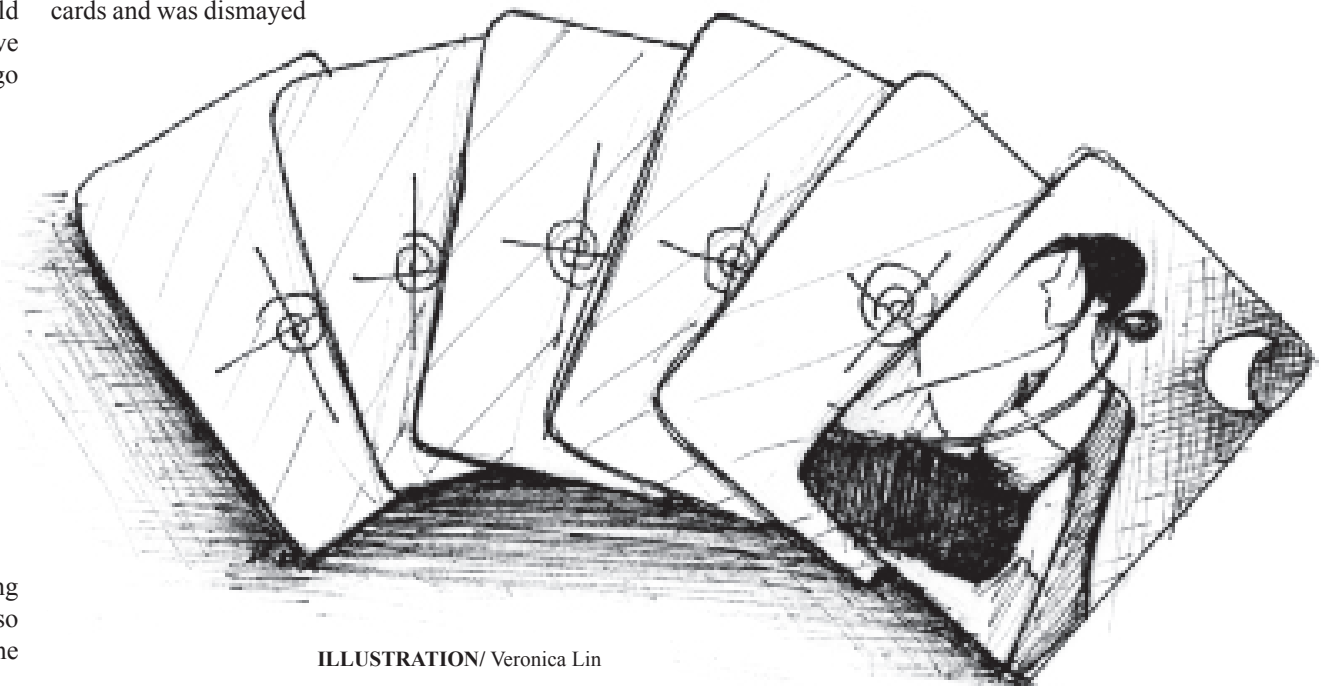
It was hard to think of three questions right on the spot since most normal people live through an average day without contemplating the future, but I managed to think of three eventually. Extremely nervous, I chose the cards Dragon Witch, White Magick, and Nightfall. I had no idea what they signified, but my psychic was patient and explained whatever I needed, so I was free to prattle and subtly ask a little more than three questions.

I looked closely at the smooth elegant cards and was dismayed

when I did some research later that they did not exist in the standard Tarot deck at all. Her set was a very unique one, of that I’m sure.

Although I am not inclined to share the content of my answers, I can say that my psychic was pretty accurate. How she discerned my dream job from the back of a simple card, I have no idea, but I am content to leave that mystery for you to unravel.

Ms. Michelle Miller—Clairvoyant
5604 Rosemead Blvd., Temple City, CA 91780
Palm Reading, Tarot Reading, Chakra Blancing



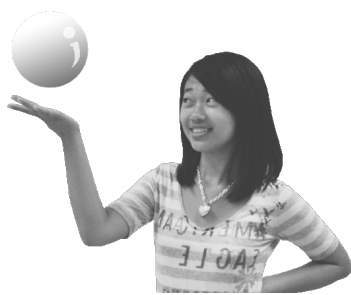
ILLUSTRATION/ Veronica Lin

Sneak a little peek into the world of tomorrow

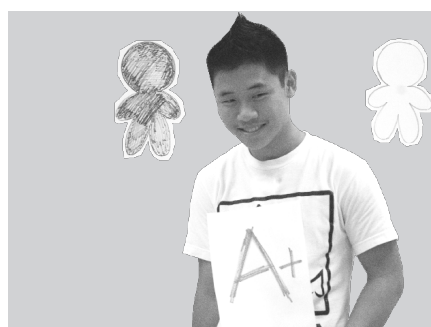
Compiled by Angela Li
Staff Writer

“I want to see teleporting bubbles instead of cars in the future. You wouldn’t need gas; you could use fans to power them. When the bubble hits something, it wouldn’t burst. It would just bounce off. It would be like flying because you’re up in the air, and you would be able to see everything.”

Freshman Catherine Tsai



PHOTO/ Vicki Chang



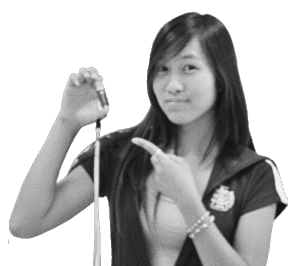
PHOTO/ Vicki Chang

“I think I want less diversity issues in universities and colleges because in California, there are a lot of Asian immigrants. There are many Asian students in school, but not everyone can make it to their dream school...With the economic crisis right now, Asian students have to work harder.”

Junior Daniel Yee

“I would like to see a computer in the size of a flash drive. It would be cool if a hologram would pop out of it, like exactly how a computer would function but with no monitor or keyboard—everything is just holographic. It would be more convenient because you could carry it whenever and wherever you go.”

Senior Addie Liang



PHOTO/ Vicki Chang

By Jason Wu
Staff Writer

It would be funny to see what happens when a caveman comes to present day New York. It’d be even funnier if historic events were caused by the tampering of people from the future. Below are some of the most accurate and hilarious accounts that I have come up with for some of these scenarios.

A caveman in present day New York

Completely bewildered by his surroundings, he would wander around grunting and speaking in very primitive garble. Of course, no one would give second thought after seeing him (hey, it’s New York). However, after almost being hit by a car in Manhattan’s infamous traffic, he would bring down his wooden club and dent the automobile into the worst shape possible. Good luck to the poor man who would have to explain this to his insurance company.

The Terminator during the fall of the Soviet Union

In a parallel universe, the son of the Russian czar, Alexei, actually does die, causing the Communist revolution to speed up and events to change. In order to prevent this, scientists from the future send a reformed Terminator

droid back to the time period in order to save Alexei. Assassination attempts on his life fail because of his extremely hard exoskeleton. We now know this droid as Rasputin.

A futuristic teenager in Salem, Massachusetts during pre-revolutionary America

Armed with the latest in electronic gear, he would run around, unsure of how to survive in a world where he can’t walk into a Mickey D’s for food or free Wi-Fi. He would have to survive on just his animal instincts. As he is about to roast insects over a pathetic fire, he suddenly remembers he has a phone. Dialing the number for the closest Pizza Hut, he realizes that phone lines are not yet invented.

A once-in-a-decade genius from the future in early 20th century America

Without any money (his futuristic money is thought to be counterfeit), the genius is forced to teach at a university. Bombarded by persecution for his supposedly insane claims that is eventually proven true in the future, he goes insane and lives on the streets without any money, food, or shelter. As he requests alms, he attacks his patrons with his vast knowledge, much to their dismay. Thus, the modern hobo is born.

Passport to Germany, free of charge

By Julia Chen
Staff Writer



Illustration/ Erica Lee

Attending an open-air concert in Berlin, touring Checkpoint Charlie, and visiting the homes of writers such as Goethe and Schiller – sounds like a fancy travel program, but it is just a part of Senior Melody Lin's summer adventure.

Lin heard of the AATG's – American Association of Teachers of German – all expenses paid Germany trip from Frau Judy Graunke. Participants must first take the National German Exam and score in the 90th percentile in order to qualify for an interview. If the participant does well on the interview, they are nominated for their chapter and their name is sent to a committee. A handful of students are chosen for the trip and Lin found herself among the lucky few.

"I tried out sophomore year but the interviewers told me that going to Germany with just two years in the bag would be pretty hard," Lin said. "So I tried out again junior year and got the trip."

The AATG mailed plenty of information to Lin prior to the trip, including an itinerary and contact information for everyone in her group. She would be spending her three-and-a-half week stay in Germany with a host family and would be immersed firsthand in a thrilling new culture.

"I was mostly nervous about meeting people whom I've never met and staying with a family I hardly knew," Lin said. "I was also worried about eating in Germany because I'm a vegetarian and homesickness in general because I've never been away from home for more than a night."

Lin's host family welcomed her warmly. Her host mother was a bookseller and her host father was a pastor. She also had two host sisters and a host brother who was in college. The family spoke English fluently and was always willing to lend a hand when Lin had any questions about the German

language. They were not only friendly and hospitable, but an ideal match for Lin.

"[My host sister] was a vegetarian too, which worked out really well for me because my host mum knew how to cook a lot of veggie stuff," Lin said. "She even worked around my not being able to eat cheese, which was really sweet."

When she was not touring the cities of Germany, Lin attended classes with one of her host sisters. The German high school is called a Gymnasium and classes begin at 7:40 in the morning and end at around 12:30 in the afternoon. There are eight years in the high school, so students are nineteen when they graduate instead of eighteen.

Lin reveled in every moment she spent overseas, intent on making the most of the month she had been given to enjoy what Germany had to offer – from its historic cities to its hard-rock polka music.

"If you're tired, you can sleep when you go back home to America; if your feet hurt, well you can rest them tomorrow," Lin said. "Because if you decide that you're just not feeling it that day and want to go home, you're definitely going to be missing out. You're there to have experiences, so live in the moment!"

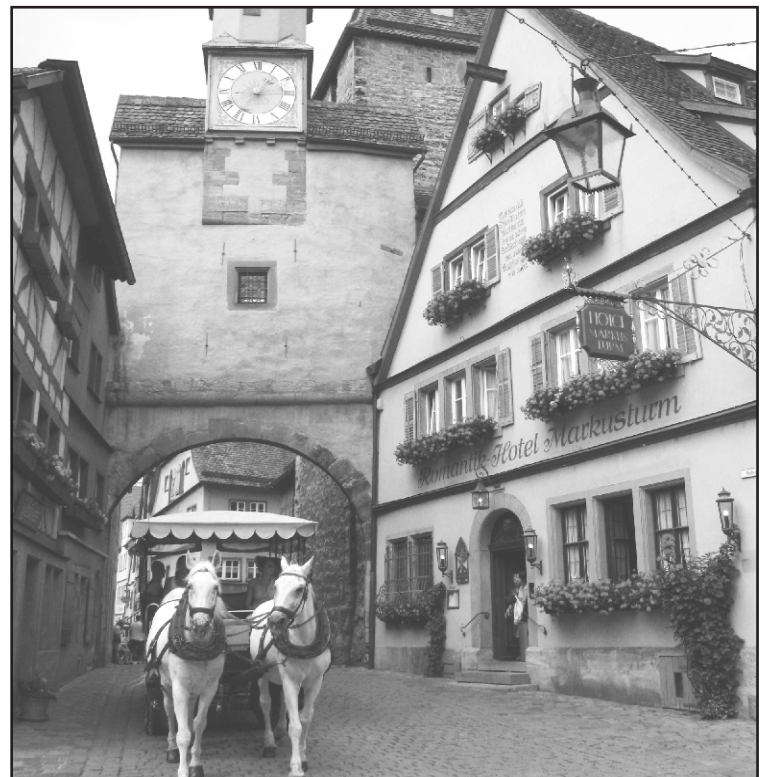


PHOTO COURTESY/ Melody Lin

Ms. Clare Marquardt retires, leaves many memories behind

By Erica Lee
Photo Editor

From her snappy wit, her exact impersonations of celebrities and people in general to her love of the Irish, Ms. Clare Marquardt brought uniqueness full of humor and laughter. She retired this summer due to health complications.

Ms. Marquardt, during the last quarter of the 2008-2009 school year, took leave of absence as her health plummeted – she had been diagnosed with liver failure. The liver regulates chemical levels in the body and cleans out waste products such as alcohol along with about 500 other vital bodily functions. Obtaining a liver transplant in California is near impossible and Ms. Marquardt can only wait and eat healthily to slow down her liver's deterioration. Unfortunately, in order to move up on the liver transplant waiting list, her health needs to worsen.

As she waits, Ms. Marquardt constantly thinks about her years as an English teacher and the students she had taught and would have taught had she not retired. She instructed at TCHS since the '70's for a

total of 38 years, was head of the English Department and the advisor for the Cancer Society.

"I want to stay connected with the Cancer club," Ms. Marquardt said. "Because that's kind of my baby along with the breast cancer stuff that we do."

Mr. Ryan Hoague and Ms. Sarah Penalora now share the position as of the English Department and Mr. Dale Smith is the new teacher of Sophomore Honors English.

"I'm doing a lot of tutoring with some of the teachers who took my classes," Ms. Marquardt said. "And once you've taught a lot of classes, you find as a teacher that the longer you teach the better you know."

Beyond her retirement, Ms. Marquardt does not know what will happen and what she will be doing, however, teachers such as Ms. Wendy Van Thiel and Ms. Vickie Park have asked if she would come in from

time to time to lecture for their classes. She also considered becoming a substitute, a position that one of her sons, Mr. Marty Marquardt now fills.

Although she misses teaching, Ms. Marquardt does not miss the multitude of essays and papers she grades and corrects every year, all accumulated from her Humanities, regular and honors

"I think we have wonderful teachers who give their best, to take care of this high school."

-Mrs. Clare Marquardt

Sophomore English classes. Beside her dislike of grading papers until midnight each day, she sincerely loves all the students that she mentored during her absence, all she could think about were her students.

"The fact that I knew these kids, I've been wanting to ask about this kid's dad who just had surgery," Ms. Marquardt said. "And that this girl has this problem, her grandma passed away two months ago and ask 'How's she doing?'"

Her students passed the last quarter of the '08-'09 school year without trouble

and during the last week of this summer vacation, the English Department gave Ms. Marquardt a retirement party and presented her with a gift of a breast cancer ribbon-shaped necklace studded with diamonds.

But Ms. Marquardt acknowledges her retirement and she wishes to leave a parting word for the people of Temple City High School –

"I hope the people who are here the teachers and even the students will love this school as much as I do," Ms. Marquardt said. "I think we have wonderful teachers who give their best, to take care of this, this is a jewel, this high school."



PHOTO/ Erica Lee

Cross Country starts season on the fast track to success

By Aaron Chua
Staff Writer

Cross Country's season started on Thursday, September 10, with their first meet against Rosemead and Alhambra. The team is off to a good start; the top four positions claimed by runners from T.C. and another two runners making it into the top 10.

Running in the summer heat, dust rolling up in clouds, sweat dripping off in waves, the Temple City Cross Country team started practice over the summer as a way to get new and returning runners into shape.

"Due to CIF rules, we couldn't meet up with coach [Tomasulo]." Senior Dennis Deng said, "The team captains organized the practices for three weeks."

Practices were usually held in the morning to avoid the summer heat and special attention was paid to the team's new freshmen runners.

"We tried to get [them] adjusted," Senior Sharon Lai said, "so we started them off on 30 minute runs and then lengthened the time to get them adjusted to running long distances."

Many of the runners were unfamiliar with the long distances, and the training runs proved to be a much needed help in their meets.

The practices were bonding sessions for the team as new runners were introduced and returning runners taught them the tricks of the trade. With ice breakers and team building exercises, the members became a team.

"We try to set aside time during and out of practice for games and activities," Lai said, "We even got into teams and pretended to play Quidditch (A popular game played on broomsticks in the world of Harry Potter)."

Last year, the Girls Cross Country team placed second during CIF. With the graduation of their top four runners last year, Jim Lee, Angus Leong, Benny Kuang, and Daniel Gee, the team is still optimistic on its placement this year in CIF and Rio Hondo League.

"Since we lost our top runners, I don't expect us to make it to the very top this year," Senior Dennis Deng said. "But we should still place high."

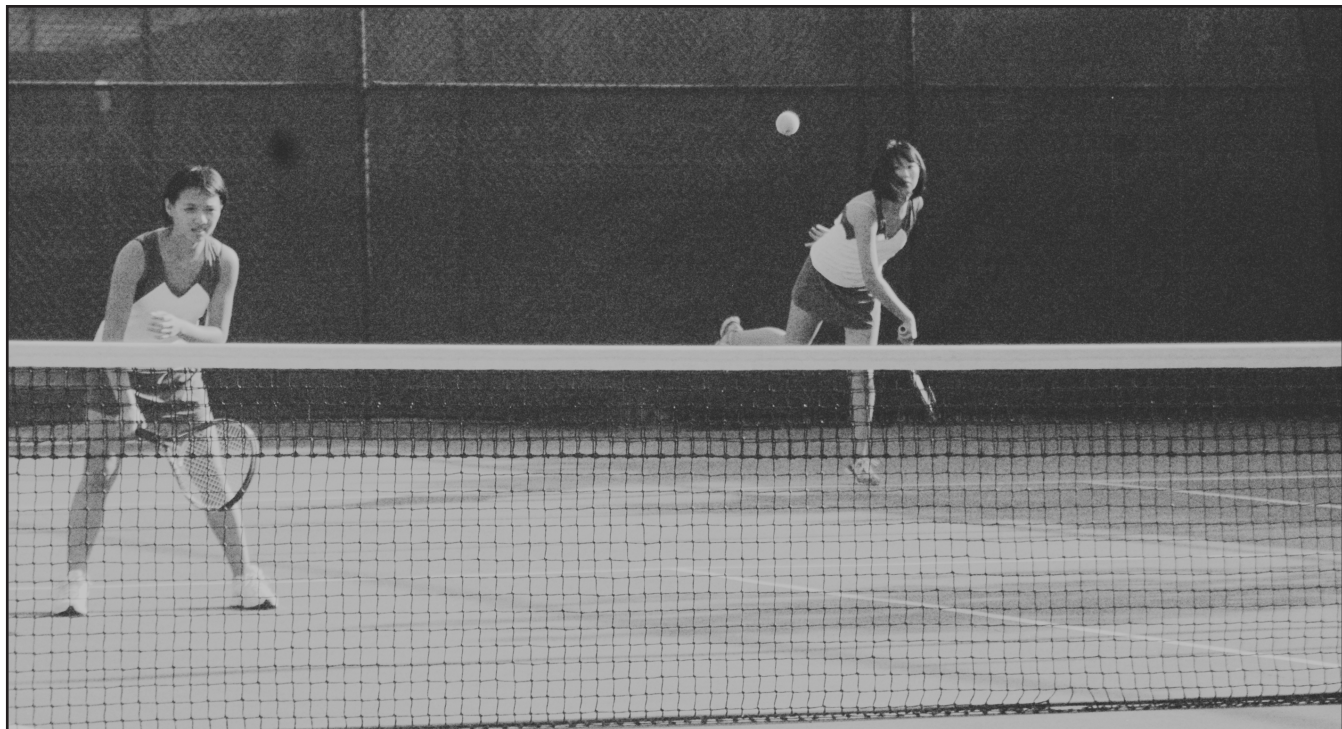
Last year, Cross Country had several runners who joined for the sake of being on the team. Since then, changes have been made to ensure that such does not happen again.

"Coach [Tomasulo] is looking for people who want to be on the team," said Lai, "[He] is now cutting people that aren't devoted to Cross Country, but we still have a really big team, total, we have 77 runners."

Although many of the seniors that comprised the varsity team left, many of the younger runners are stepping up to the challenge.

Come out and support Cross Country in its upcoming meet at Woodbridge on Saturday at 7:30 am and continue to cheer for them as they push for the top.

Girls Tennis team starts with high hopes



PHOTO/ Raymond Tran

Senior Jaimie Wan serves the ball to an El Monte player as her partner Senior Diana Zhan looks on in anticipation for the return. Many of the doubles teams are comprised of new partners, but this particular team was able to pull off a 6-0 win for the Rams.

By Raymond Tran
Staff Writer

With the renewed opportunity to get ahead of the competition, the girls varsity tennis team eagerly starts its season off with high expectations.

Despite not qualifying for CIF last year, the tennis team expects more this season. The team this year is composed of 14 seniors and one junior. The youngest player on the team, Junior Stephanie Wei, believes that this upcoming season offers more difficulties in match play.

"Since I was in JV they [the schools played against] were pretty good, but we still beat them," Junior Stephanie Wei said. "So their varsity will probably be a lot harder this year."

After defeating Temple City in numerous encounters throughout last year, tennis teams from schools such as San Marino and Arcadia are the heavy favorites of the season.

"San Marino, La Cañada, and South Pasadena are always a challenge," Senior Christine Be said.

Although players on the team expect the season to be a test of racquet skill and physical fitness, Senior Jessie Huang is uncertain about the possibilities the season will hold.

"We lost our number two singles player this year," Senior Jessie Huang said. "So we don't know what to really expect this season."

The season started off strongly for the girls' varsity team, defeating Schurr, Pasadena, and El Monte. The scores are 11-7 against Schurr, 15-3 with Pasadena, and 18-0 with El Monte. Yesterday, the Rams were supposed to play Sierra Vista, but due to the opposing team's difficulties, the match was forfeited to the Rams. With this great start to the season, Coach Savay Lieu is excited for the future.

"Tennis is more than winning or losing," Coach Lieu said. "But I'd like to see what our seniors can do this year."

Rams' Football: a new team, a new beginning

By Richard Kim
Sports Editor

With a new head football coach from Rosemead, the Rams are ready to start their new season. Although their grid iron roster is younger than the norm, their showing in the El Monte scrimmage Sept 4, 2009 showed great potential. Although both sides did not keep score during the scrimmage, with the multiple touchdowns scored by the Rams, it was obvious that the Rams were clearly the better conditioned team.

Many of the football players can be seen during seventh period with workout shirts that say, "Why not us?" This motto is used to unite all the players as one team with one goal.

"Many people seem to not expect anything out of us this year," Senior Justin Sutton said. "The team is strong, and we are ready to go all the way this year."

During their first preseason game against Arroyo, the Rams fell short of a victory but showed promise.

In the first play of the game, the quarterback for Arroyo through a bomber to an open receiver, taking it for sixty yards. However, the Rams did not give in. The Rams' defensive line had six QB sacks in the game, demonstrating speed as well as cooperation. Although many of the starters were Juniors and Sopho-

mores, experience was not a weakness. The Rams lost the game 24-27.

"Our team is closer this year," Senior Max Ruckle said. "We all like each other, and that's what makes us have such good chemistry."

Last year, the Rams finished second in league, losing in the CIF quarterfinals against Paraclete High School. However, the Rams plan to end season differently this year.

"We plan to win it all," Ruckle said. "We are a faster and stronger team this year, and we'll do better."

Anthony White, the former defensive coordinator for Rosemead High School became the head coach this year for the Rams. In addition to his new leadership, he brought along seven other coaches to help out with the team.

"We have a lot more coaches this

year," Steven Fei said. "The larger staff makes it easier on the players."

Last year, the staff was comprised of around five coaches. With twice the number of coaches, the offensive and defensive plays can be monitored separately and improved at a faster rate.

The upcoming game versus Alhambra will be the first home game of the year. The first game was a loss, but the away game factor played into the players' nerves. The upcoming home game will provide the players with a more comfortable atmosphere.

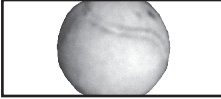



"The game against Alhambra will be an offensive game," Fei said. "But it'll come down to the defense to win it."

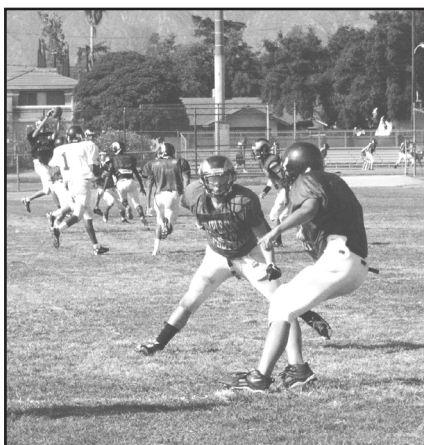
The team hopes to start strong in contrast to Arroyo's game. Although the Rams' defense held strong through most of the game, the faulty opening plays were the determining aspects of the game.

Next week, on Sept. 25, the Rams will face the Arcadia Apaches, who are lead by past head coach Backus.

But make sure you show up tonight for the first home game as the Rams take on Alhambra.

Class of 2010 for the win.

Sports Schedule	
Tennis TODAY @ 3:15 TC vs. San Gabriel HOME 	Cross Country Saturday, Sept. 19 8 A.M. @ Woodbridge Invitational 
Football TONIGHT TC vs. Alhambra HOME 	Volleyball Saturday, Sept. 19 8 A.M. @ Arcadia Tournament 



PHOTO/ Jennifer Su

The intensive full-gear practices provide the players with an edge during games.

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