

RAMPAGE

TEMPLE CITY HIGH SCHOOL

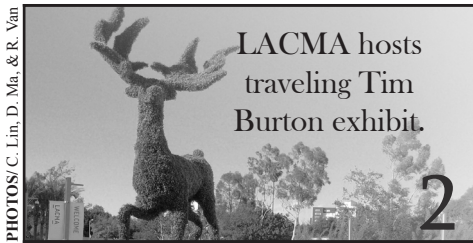
Volume 57 Issue 01 Thursday, June 09, 2011 tchsrampage@gmail.com

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LACMA hosts traveling Tim Burton exhibit.

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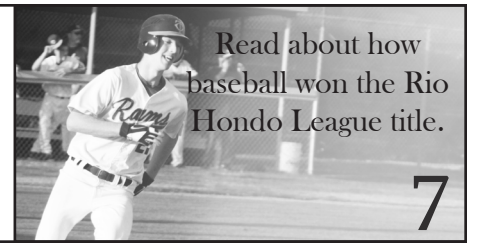
Find out where all the seniors are going for college.

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Senior Jane Huang becomes valedictorian at 16 years old.

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Read about how baseball won the Rio Hondo League title.

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Students protest in support of teachers



PHOTO/ Debra Ma

Some of the many students who participated in the protest include Junior Hugo Wong, Sophomore Jessica Killackey, Junior Stephen Rosebrook, and Sophomore Michael Zhong.

By Debra Ma
News Editor

Students protested teacher layoffs outside the district office on May 25.

About 20 students demonstrated at the district office at 6 p.m., an hour before the board meeting. Junior Kimbria Mitchell had made signs that read "HONK IF U LOVE TEACHERS" and intentionally had incorrect grammar in another sign that read "Is our children learnin'?"

"We brought the public's attention to the teacher crisis," Sophomore Kyle Evanko said. "They honked to show their immediate support."

Evanko made the protest event on Facebook but canceled it after Superintendent Dr. Chelsea Kang-Smith came to school to speak about the budget and the reasons for cuts. After the talk, Evanko decided to reinstate the protest, as he felt that students should still express their opinions.

"I felt that students owed it to the teachers to show how much we cared and wanted to express their views in a more powerful way," Evanko said. "And I felt that if I didn't do it, no one would."

The purpose of the protest was not just

to demand that the board rescind all pink slips but to make sure that the board knew that students think that teachers should be their first priority.

"The district isn't in a position to save all teachers at will, but I think we reinforced the idea that teachers should be the first thing saved," Evanko said. "It wasn't a success or a failure because the protest was to show our views."

Immediately following the protest, the students attended the board meeting. Board members addressed them and applauding their passion, but asked them to learn more about the budget, while the board tries to communicate better with students.

"I know you're trying to learn the budget in a short amount of time. We're more than happy to educate," Ms. Kang-Smith said at the board meeting. "We're all on the same page. We really want to rescind those pink slips too."

So far, the district has rescinded Ms. Dawn Neufeld's and Mr. Phil Bailey's pink slips. Other teachers' pink slips have not yet been rescinded, but the legislature should finalize the budget on June 15, at which point the district can decide what to do with other pink slips.

Groups on campus fundraise for needy

By Hugo Wong
Staff Writer

Students from clubs and sports team have been working hard to raise money for charitable causes.

Red Cross Club has been helping earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan by organizing fundraisers with all the proceeds going to the cause. They held a dine-in at Pho Basil Leaf. They sold \$5 vouchers, and the club received \$1 for each one. In another event, also sponsored by Pho Basil Leaf, the restaurant will donate \$1 to the earthquake and tsunami victims for every bowl of pho sold until June 30.

"This is important because everyone believes Japan is old news, but while we are sitting here, some people still don't have water and electricity," Red Cross Club President Junior Teresa Chen said. "[We] are trying to raise the money for them."

The tennis team also held a fundraising event for Japan. The players collected donations from their family and friends in tennis cans and also received permission from ASB to put the tennis cans in classrooms so students and teachers could donate as well. The proceeds came to a total of \$2,285. English teacher and tennis coach Mr. Savay Lieu plans to donate all the proceeds to Red Cross.

"The donations started out in the portables and I told the tennis team to fill the tennis cans as much as possible," Mr. Lieu said. "We have a good tradition of being generous in helping others."

Key Club recently held a fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network. This organization uses the money to improve equipment and programs for kids in hospitals. The organization has 173 children's hospitals across the nation and Key Club members helped raise \$95 for the closest hospital, the Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The cabinet members gave teachers envelopes to pass out, in which people put donations. Those who contributed to the cause had their names written on paper balloons, which are on display at the office. Key Club is also planning events for summer and other events for next year.

"We push the fact that these donations to the community give back to the community," Key Club President Junior Stella Yuan said. "It feels good to help and give back to our community."

NEWS BRIEFS

By Caroline Sun
Entertainment Editor

Honors Painting

Students in Honors Painting started their annual chalk drawings in the quad on May 23. They used the week to polish their drawings for a participation grade. Ms. Mihee Kim allowed students to draw anything they wanted as long as the artists created a surreal picture that popped out.



PHOTO/ Debra Ma

Honors Painting students drew pictures in the quad with chalk.

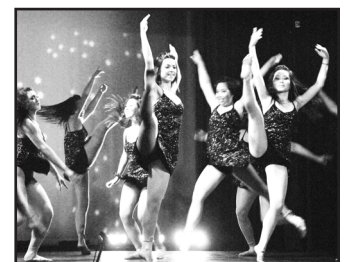
TC Library Closing

Temple City's public library closed on May 31 due to remodeling. The library will remain closed until July 18. However, activities such as children's story time or teen programs will not be discontinued. The Temple City Community Room will serve as a replacement for those activities.

Choreo Showcase

Choreo's final show, "World of Color," was on May 26. Along with Choreo, Pep and a group of select dancers performed. Junior Leticia Catalan sang "The Colors of the Wind." All the performances were color themed; there were routines such as "Geek in Pink," "Green Light," and "Color of Your Love." This show was

the first performance for all new members but the last show for all seniors.



PHOTO/ Debra Ma

Choreo performs to "Fireflies" by Ron Pope to close their first act.

Teacher of the Year

This year, Spanish teacher, Ms. Monica Rodriguez won the title of Teacher of the Year. Instead of just voting in the quad, students also used Edline to cast votes. Students found out the results at the Renaissance Assembly.

June/ July Ram Calendar							June 13: Period 1 Finals & Senior Finals 5 & 7	June 17: Commencement, Grad Nite
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S	June 14: Finals Periods 3 & 6, Minimum Day	June 19: Father's Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	June 15: Finals Periods 2 & 4, Minimum Day	June 20: Summer School Begins
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	June 16: Finals Periods 5 & 7, Last Day of School, Minimum Day	June 21: Summer Begins
26	27	28	29	30	1	2		June 22: TCUSD Board Meeting
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		July 4: Independence Day
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		

Tim Burton comes to life at LACMA

By Chloe Lin
Feature Editor

How your ticket to the doorman, take a right, and duck through the opened mouth of a demented creature who could have only come from the imagination of film director, producer, writer and illustrator Tim Burton.

Welcome to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's latest special exhibition, simply titled "Tim Burton." New York's Museum of Modern Art originally put together this traveling retrospective which includes all different aspects of Burton's long career, from a burgeoning college student to the world-renowned artist that he is today.

Burton is well known for his darkly amusing movies, including "A Nightmare Before Christmas," "Edward Scissorhands," and the recent "Alice in Wonderland." His unique style is instantly recognizable in each of his works.

Costumes, props, storyboards, sketches, even the college assignments of the young Burton are all on view, and what a sight it is to behold. The exhibit shows a startling and intriguing range. With such a wide variety of work to draw from, in many different mediums, visitors are kept constantly satisfied. The exhibit weaves through multiple rooms, and it takes a good amount of time to see all that is on display.

If you tire walking about and admiring Burton's sketches and paintings, there are plenty of short films on display,

spanning almost the entirety of Burton's prolific career, including his first forays into film and animation as a young adult.

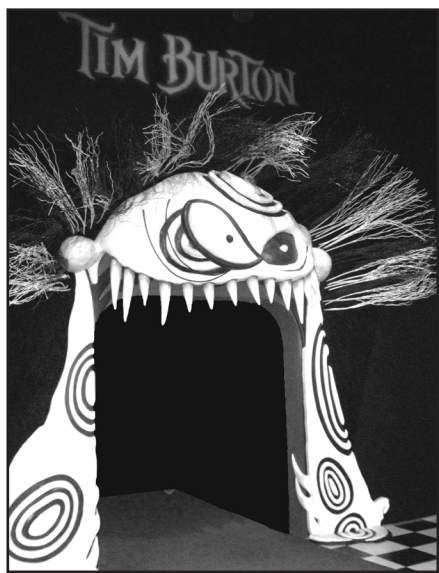
Fans of Burton's films will be satisfied with the costumes and concept art that the exhibit provides. Whether its masks from "Batman" or decapitated head props from "Mars Attacks!," this place has it all.

One doesn't need to have watched Burton's films to enjoy his artwork, as there are plenty of stand alone pieces on display to enjoy as well.

Black curtains closed off a room that was a highlight of the exhibit. Inside, a glowing carousel of fantastic, Burton-esque creatures revolves around the center of the room. A life-sized statue of the scarecrow from "A Nightmare Before Christmas," is another highlight, as are the beautifully detailed puppets from "Corpse Bride."

"Tim Burton" is on display until Oct. 31. Children 17 and under are allowed into the exhibition free of charge, and adult tickets cost \$20. Be sure to reserve your tickets ahead of time, as space runs out quickly. Tickets for "Tim Burton" may also be used to view other LACMA galleries. An entire afternoon could be dedicated to this sprawling museum, which houses works of art from the Ancient World all the way up to the works of contemporary artists.

To coincide with the exhibition, LACMA also is showing a series of Burton films throughout the summer. Movie tickets range from \$5 to \$10, and must be bought separately.

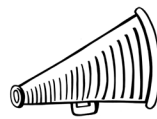


PHOTO/Chloe Lin
The LACMA exhibit featured over 700 pieces of Tim Burton's work.

ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

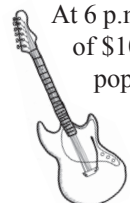
By Cody Luk
Photo Editor

Spring Spirit Week



The last spirit week of the year was from May 31 until June 3. On Tuesday, students had a chance to express their funky side and wear mismatched or inside out clothing for Wacky Tacky Day. The following day was Disney Day and students arrived to school clad in Disney attire. On Thursday, students sported summer clothing for Beach Day. Friday was College Day and students wore shirts and sweaters for their favorite college and seniors wore the college gear for the school they will be attending. At the Renaissance Assembly, seniors cheered when Counselor Ms. Julie Jorgensen and ASB advisor Mr. Michael Kidd read the names of colleges the students will attend. Also, seniors won Spirit Week and sophomores prevailed at the Powderpuff games.

Battle of the Bands



At 6 p.m. on May 31, Room 601 came alive when student bands competed for the prize of \$100. Seven groups performed music that ranged from ska, reggae, rock, rap, and pop. The judges, English teacher Mr. Smith, Counselor Ms. Deanne Sciarrotta, and Science Skills teacher Ms. Judy Forbes chose White Tiger as the winner of the competition.

White Tiger, Seniors Kevin Gong, Sophie Gonzalez, Kareem Mohsen, Amer Quilala, Jonathan Ting, and Junior Cesar Luevano, sang a mashup of Cee-Lo Green's "Forget You," Adele's "Rolling in the Deep," and Rolling Stones' "Gimme Shelter." Darker Side, Brick House, Lockout, The Rasta Socks, The Wolf Pack, and The Bag Fries also performed.

Temple City's Best Dance Crew



Sophomores Brendan Lam, Josh Chun, Steven Diep, and Samuel Lee, the members of the Vision Crew, received the title of Temple City's Best Dance Crew along with \$80 as prize money. As a part of their performance, they handed out roses to the audience. They danced to a medley which included Mike Posner's "Cooler Than Me," and Rebecca Black's "Friday." Jerk 2 Fresh and D.R.A.M.A. also participated in the competition and they performed break dancing and hip hop.

Spring Cavalcade



On June 1, the Performing Arts Department performed its annual Spring Cavalcade in the quad at 6 p.m. Performing Arts groups Brighter Side Singers, Concert Choir, Honors Orchestra, Wind Ensemble Concert Band, and Green and Gold Jazz Band showed off their hard work through music and dance performances. Additionally, English teacher Ms. Janice Murasko played the bells at the concert for Wind Ensemble while her husband played on the bagpipes.

This event marked the final performance for several performing arts groups, and lasted approximately two hours.

Miss Temple City

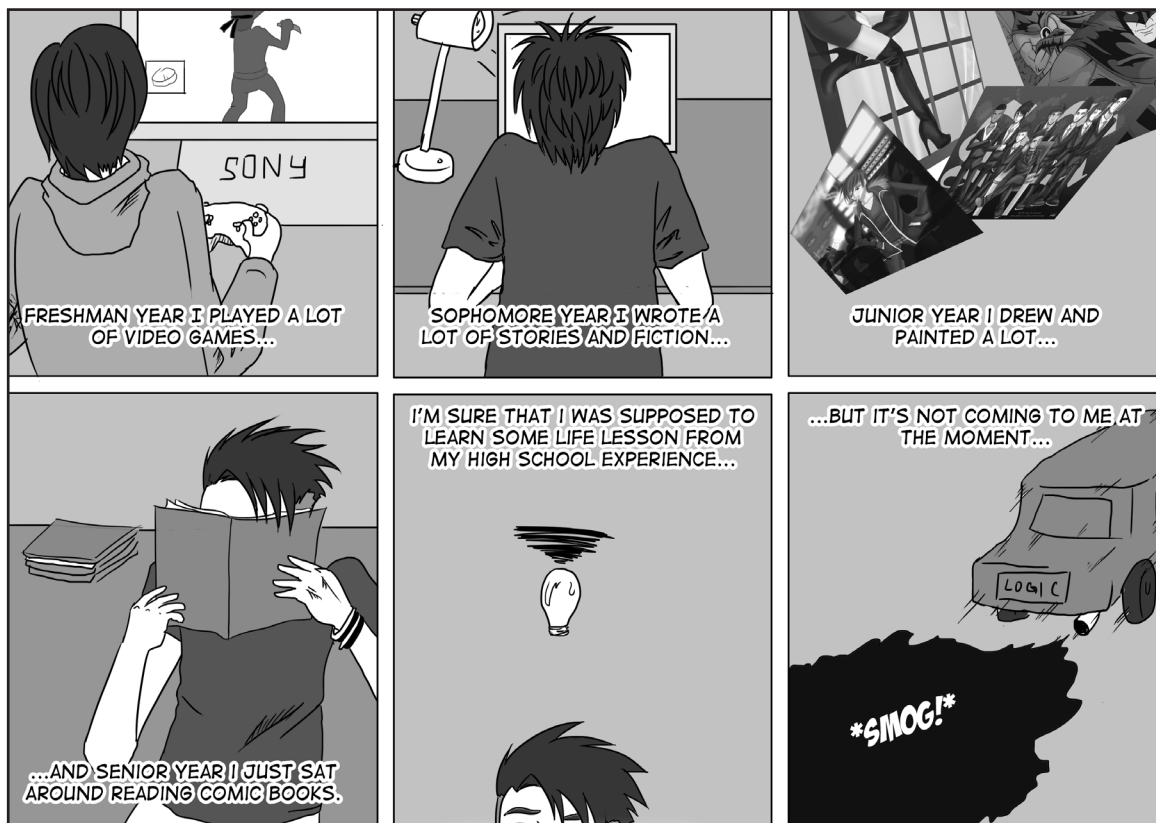


Junior Nikki Chan won the title of Miss Temple City 2011 on June 2 and Juniors Esther Wong and Yan Chen are the first and second runner-ups, respectively. Juniors Claudia Chen, Haley Johnson, and Kelsey Sih also participated in the five-month program sponsored by the Temple City Chamber of Commerce. The 43rd annual Miss Temple City Ambassador Pageant was in the Parish Hall at St. Luke Catholic Church at 7 p.m. The pageant included an opening dance number, a talent portion, interview sessions, and more. The participants learned etiquette, self-representation, and public speaking skills. The program is designed to be an opportunity for young women to learn about the city government and to gain a better understanding of the business world.

ILLUSTRATIONS/B. Vargas and J. Wong

My High School Life and Lies

By Jason Wu
Graduating Senior



Rampage Dineout
June 30th
From 12-10 PM

@ The Santa Anita Mall

Ask Rampage Staff For Flyers to Redeem at the Restaurant

All Are Welcome

Letter to the editor: *Planting the seeds of my blooming life*

We all love to complain. Really, don't you? Complaining is something we all do in either moments of venting or by natural character. But seriously, I'm exhausted of people creating these half-assed immature excuses for why the world hates you. You all know those people who complain about everything in their lives and never once concede to the fact that their pitfalls are by their own doing. No, the world doesn't hate you. So own up to your inabilities, your laziness, and your failure, and stop making excuses for things that are your own fault.

Let's talk about college. You didn't get into your dream school because the system is rigged and it favors minorities. So stop telling me that I only got in because I'm Mexican—I'm Puerto Rican in case you didn't know. Did you start your essays in the summer? Did you self study for countless hours on your SAT review book? Did you work a summer job to pay for application fees? Did you even go to information meetings and contact the officer that reads your essays? Probably not. So stop ranting at the world that doesn't appreciate all your effort. Truth is, you probably didn't put in the effort. Not everyone succeeds at everything he or she tries. It's okay, despite what your parents may think, you will survive at a college without ivory walls.

Moreover, opposed to popular belief, your teacher doesn't hate you. They gave you an "F" because you probably turned in a paper you wrote the night before. They benched you because you didn't show up to practice. Their goal in life is not to fail you, but obviously your goal in life is to get by with mediocre work. My bad grades and my inability to perform are my own doing. So the next time you storm out of third period, try not to pollute the air with your ignorant rant at your teachers. First, ask what might have you done wrong. This doesn't mean all teachers are godsent; they need to face reality too.

Like the complaining students, some teachers spend more time detailing the strenuous aspects of their lives rather than doing their jobs. Adults may have more responsibilities at times, but that does not mean they have greater ordeals than my peers. We live day in and day out with secrets of abuse, genetic disease, family disputes, and financial woes, yet we don't lecture them on how society is "screwed up," to quote one teacher. What are they doing to improve their own conditions? Do they wallow in self pity or take strides to better their atmosphere. Instead, I encourage them and you students to learn from those staff members on campus who do everything—and more—and don't let life ruin our lives. You know them: the Hoagues, Graunkes, and Bulgins of the school. They work, work, and work but don't spend our entire class time complaining. Of course everyone can share his or her opinion and everyone needs to vent (see I'm doing it right now).

But instead of blaming other people or the world in general, ask the person in the mirror: what can you do to improve your own circumstances? Seniors, it's the end of our high school years, and someone had to tell you the blunt truth.

Senior Gabriel Jimenez

By Vicki Chang
Graduating Senior

High school. The home of many procrastinating students, heaping piles of homework and never-ending AP classes, heartwrenching break-ups and emotional make-ups, but most importantly, it is the home of everlasting friendships and eternal memories.

Coming into high school, I was so unsure of myself as to what I truly wanted to accomplish during what was to become the next four unforgettable years. I struggled over choosing the right AP classes, joining the right clubs, and participating in the right extracurricular activities.

From *Rampage* to Auxiliaries to ASB Leadership, I always seemed to be contradicting myself in terms of which paths I decided to take. Was I the devoted journalist in the back of every Starbucks or was I the school-spirited drill team member cheering in the stands of every football game?

In the end, I realized that all the struggles and hardships were all part of the essential high school experience.

Rather than just focusing on the continuous drama between you and your best friend, or which teacher is more lenient on homework, or who wore which prom dress better, high school is essentially about, as cliché as it may sound, looking deep within yourself and truly taking a grasp on who you are and what you plan to pursue in the future to become an inspirational person.

"Look for the dream that keeps coming back. It is your destiny." Ever since I first read this saying after cracking open my Panda Express fortune cookie, I became aware of exactly what my dreams and goals are and what I would like to accomplish in the future. Just taking a look at all my extracurricular activities and school functions I participated in, I realized that everything seemed to revolve around one essential theme: inspiration.

Through ASB, I was able to inspire people with my leadership abilities. Through Auxiliaries, I was able to inspire people with my school spirit, and through *Rampage*, I was able to inspire people through writing as a form of self-expression. Only after dipping into a variety of activities was I able to realize the bigger picture here: the idea that I wish to pursue a career in which I am able to inspire people and to touch the lives of many people in this world.

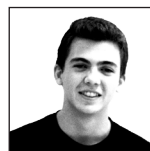
High school to me is like a small seed planted deep in the ground of our hearts. In the beginning, we are just tiny, unopened buds waiting to be watered by the sprinklers of knowledge and experience. Once we have basked in the warm sunlight of self-understanding and self-expression, we will blossom into mature, aromatic flowers just waiting to brighten up the world and to make it a better place by exhibiting each and every one of our special traits and characteristics of our personalities.

I am now the senior blossom that I have always hoped to become, and I am ready to move onto a new field where a new seed will be planted.



PHOTO COURTESY/Lanpi Ho

Remembering the things that matter most



By Taylor Evanko
Graduating Senior

High school is hell. As students, we are expected to take on AP and honors courses, SATs, sports, extracurricular activities, community service and other responsibilities if we are to excel and stand out above everyone else.

Those obligations alone are enough to consume a great deal of your time, and I haven't even mentioned spending time with family, having a social life, or sleeping.

Unfortunately, we are sometimes forced to choose between enjoying high school and building an impressive resumé for colleges.

High school is too short to constantly stress through it. What's sad is that you hardly realize it until it's almost over. Perspective is a difficult thing to maintain when you're distracted by so much schoolwork and stressed out worrying about your future.

Although I can't say I have too many regrets about how I've spent the past four years, I do wish someone older

than me told me to not worry so much. Sometimes we worry so much about doing well in school that we forget what we are working for.

Joining *Rampage* has been unforgettable, the experience I've gained as president of JSA is invaluable, and the education from my classes will help me forever.

But above all, what makes high school worth it is the people you meet. You only have four years to spend with the people you really care about, some of whom you've known since kindergarten. It's a really special experience that may only occur once in your life.

A teacher of mine told us to ask ourselves the question, "Why do you do what you do the way that you do it?"

What is our motivation in high school anyway? What do we consider to be success? What is it that really makes us happy? Are we working for money in the bank, a Lexus in our driveway, an iPhone in our pocket?

What are we going to remember the most 10, 20, 50 years from now? Will we treasure the accomplishment of a 4.0 GPA, or will we cherish the memories we've made with our closest friends? Will we regret that we got a low grade in one of our classes, or will we wish we spent a

little more time with the people we care about, the people we will never forget?

Please don't read this article and walk away feeling good about being lazy. Nothing annoys me more than wasted potential, academic or otherwise.

Instead, try to remember that high school, although important, is just part of our education, which is again just one aspect of our lives. We are taught to work hard in exchange for a better life, but if you never stop every once in a while to enjoy yourself, what's the point of it all?

By all means, take the initiative and challenge yourself while you can. Take advantage of the fact that in reality, you are among the luckiest people in the world who have a real shot at a world-class education. Just remember to keep things in perspective.

Enjoy high school. Have a blast. Do as much as you possibly can, but don't kill yourself. However busy you are or how down you are feeling, remember that your family and friends will always be there for you; seize the opportunity you have now to spend time with them. Spend your life doing what you love and with what is important to you. That includes high school.

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Rampage

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Andrew Anda Filip Dajkovich

Work

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Nick Curleo

Military

Air Force

Marlin Varney

Army

Norris Chiu Chuan Lin Jason Lopez

Marine Corps

Christopher Huang Kevin Mark



PHOTO/ Cody Luk

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Vicki Chang	Kristi Hsiao	Vincent Wong
Tracy Chen	Tara Loveland	

University of Southern California

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Pasadena City College

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Gabriella Anjani	Carlos Garcia
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Romeo Ramirez	Andy Wu
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Lourdes Salmeron	Clifton Wu
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Paul Sanchez	Eric Yip
Nikolas Sanchez Wong	Dexter Younger
Yuliana Sanchez	Shu Eva Zhang
Rhianna Seery	Angus Zhao
Jason She	Jiajing Zhou
Tony Shen	
Susana Shum	
Zhen Sun	



PHOTO/ Cody Luk

Partners in crime bid high school adieu

By Jennifer Su
Graduating Senior

High school. A place closely resembling a minimum security prison with a little more perks. As a pessimist, I believed four years ago that I would not survive high school. Entering, I was surrounded by cliques, none of which I fit into perfectly. I am not a smarty pants, nor am I athletic or any of the other stereotypes. So where did I fit in? I found myself constantly drifting from group to group in hopes of finding something more permanent. However, four years later, I still have not. Fortunately, I have realized over the years that in high school, restricting yourself to just one group of friends really shelters you from all the other amazing experiences that others may bring. I have met so many incredible people, all of which have made significant impacts on my life. They have all provided me with some sort of advice or suggestion, a whole lot more beneficial than anything here.

If it was mandatory for me to leave some sort of advice or whatever, it'd be that high school is what you make of it. I used to freak out when I forgot to do an assignment because I thought, "There goes my chance at college." However, I learned that one missing assignment or even a couple won't sabotage my chances at college. So, just chill out. Don't take yourself so seriously. Your time in high school will end a lot faster than you can imagine. You're a student, not a CEO. The world isn't going to end...yet.

If you are reading this for some profound, life-changing advice, I'm sorry I wasted your time. I wish I could leave you with some words of wisdom, but I need to hoard all the knowledge that I've gained. I heard that college is difficult, just another reason why you should cherish your time here. So the next time you're working on one of those tedious worksheets for chem-

istry or history class, stop complaining. They are 10 times easier than anything your college professors will throw at you, no doubt. Who knows, you're probably going to be one of those students who wishes that they were back in at TCHS the second they step foot in college.

Anyhow, thanks to all of the people that I've met in high school who have taught me everything from how to use the word "obfuscate" in a sentence to how to get out of swimming for P.E. You have shaped me into who I am proud to be and I couldn't ask for anything better. As for all the teachers that I have had, my life has been enriched significantly because of you. Please continue doing what you have done for me for other students. Without you guys, we would all be running around this town, expecting to miraculously become moguls. Just kidding, that's only me.

Since this isn't really "goodbye" (and I turn into a sappy mess when saying goodbyes), see you later. Oh yeah, if you become famous or obtain close ties to the Jonas Brothers, please don't forget me. I'm the girl who wasted three minutes of your accomplished life.

By Bram Vargas
Graduating Senior

Familiar, day-to-day cadences mark time's march through high school as we all establish routines, but don't let them coddle you. Meet friends at a certain spot and time; let the crowd of students convey you to your next class; and remain ignorant of an oncoming rut.

In my senior year at TCHS, I have noticed a recurring theme: risk. Now, while some might say that it's better to play it safe with routines, and that risks are dangerous, let me offer you my reflections.

I am a four-year member of the Pride of Temple City Band and Pageantry Corps; during marching season, all

you know is repetition. Repeat the song, go over the field show, and meet every Thursday night from six to nine. I was in Cross

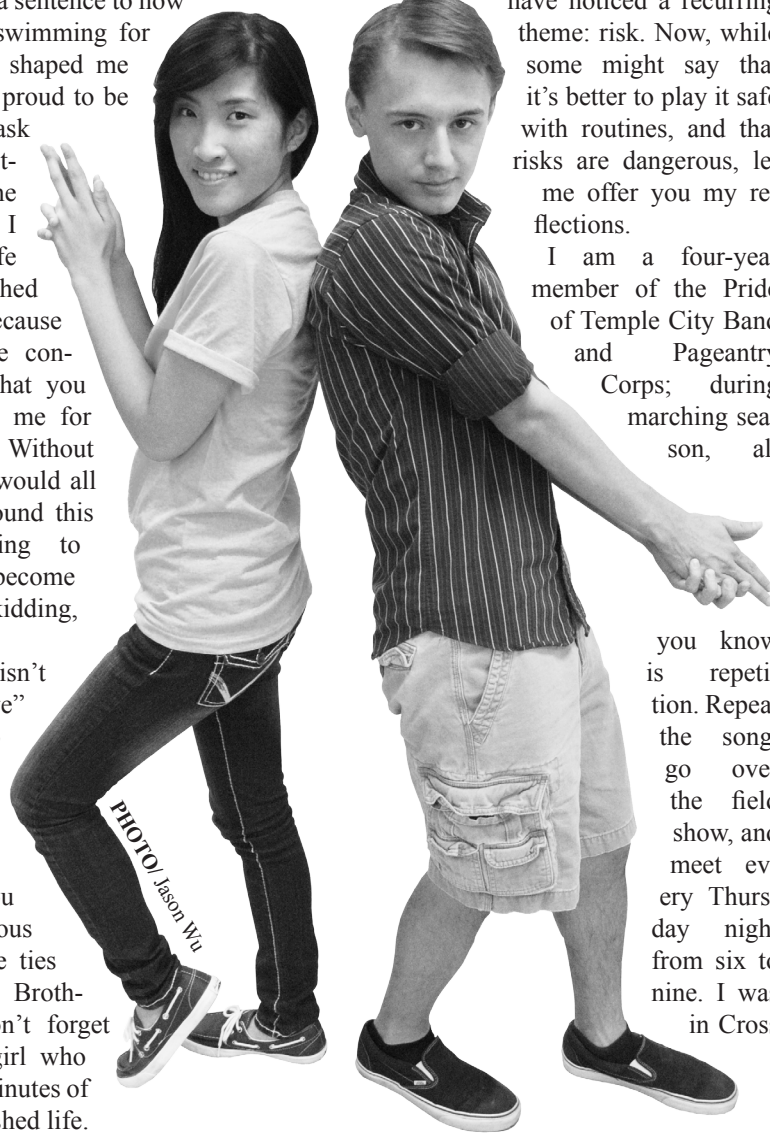
Country for three years and Track and Field for four. These programs, like most programs, rely on consistent practices and predictable policies. But this can quickly get monotonous after the 50th lap around the track or the 20th repeat of your march.

Ennui affects not only sports, but also academics, which are my primary concern. When classes become scheduled sleep sessions that don't stimulate students, valuable teaching and learning potential is wasted. I encourage all underclassmen to take a risk and try out for a club or class they're interested in for the experience, not prestige or ranking.

I quit the familiar territory of Cross Country to make room for *Rampage*. Despite being in top English classes here at the high school, I never had the courage to try out until last year. At the end of this year, I realize how much another year could let me grow and retain friendships I made. It's cliché, but I wish I tried out sooner. And one of the few reasons why I did not was because I didn't want to disturb my established schedule – I didn't want to mess up my routine.

And if you fear rejection, get over it! Ten out of 10 times you will get a "no" if you hold back on applying to something potentially wonderful.

My parents encouraged me to apply to an extremely exclusive, but fascinating joint college degree programme. Easily, I could have backed out, claiming incompetence on my part. For perspective, the programme only offered five openings per degree in five different degrees. After sitting on a waitlist for over a month, I got an acceptance several weeks ago. My point is that unless you attempt to reach, and push yourself to pursue your interests, to break that routine, you will find your high school life more fulfilling and that you will feel better prepared to handle college and life beyond.



Club of the Year

By Chloe Lin
Feature Editor

E.Y.E.S. Club

As the crowd roared and clapped, President Junior Raymond Van accepted Club of the Year award for the service club Even You Enlighten Souls at the Renaissance Assembly.

Over the course of a very busy year, E.Y.E.S. averaged two events per month, with approximately 20 members attending each event. Club meetings, every Monday during lunch, gathered an average of 40 members.

Among other activities, they participated in both Alzheimer's and AIDS Walk, and volunteered at the Los Angeles Food Bank. They raised \$2,650 dollars towards relief for the Japanese Earthquake and Tsunami crisis. The club has teamed up with other groups throughout the school year, including the American Cancer Society.

To keep on its toes, E.Y.E.S. has been hosting monthly sandwich projects, where members make 200 sandwiches for homeless people. Their efforts go toward Downtown Los Angeles' notorious Skid Row. Next year, the club's use of sandwich projects will continue to focus its efforts on improving conditions on Skid Row.

Although E.Y.E.S. is a service club, many members volunteer to help with good causes, not just to gain community service learning hours.

In addition to the emphasis on helping the less fortunate, the club develops a sense of community among club members.

"The work all the members in E.Y.E.S. put toward all the events directly reflects the reason why we were chosen club of the year," Van said. "A club is not a club without its members."

E.Y.E.S. beat out 10 other clubs for the nomination. Over 200 students participated in the online voting through the Edline website. Club of the Year is an old accolade, but this year marks the first time when students could vote.

Sixteen-year-old Jane Huang receives honor of Valedictorian

By Jacqueline Wong
Staff Writer

With butterflies dancing in her stomach and a crumpled speech in her trembling hands, Senior Jane Huang rises from her seat and steps toward the podium to give her final words to her peers as this year's Valedictorian.

"Our class has so many tremendously intelligent and talented individuals that I feel extremely honored to receive this recognition," Huang said. "But I feel humbled at the same time because I know there are seniors at our school who are so much smarter than I am."

Huang built a solid foundation in her academics and clubs that helped bring her to where she is today. Although Huang's nine advanced placement classes and her participation in clubs such as Future Business Leaders of America, American Cancer Society, Key Club and Christian Club may have set her apart from her peers, her self-motivation and her diligence to excel in education and balance her extracurricular activities are the main drive to her success.

"At first I didn't really know how to react [to being valedictorian]. I mean, even though I've known since first semester what my class rank is, there's still some sort of uncertainty," Huang said. "But when it hit me, I was really happy and I was excited. It's because after everything, like all those AP classes, it's nice to know that it actually paid off."

Graduating at just 16 years old is an amazing feat for the average high school student, but graduating as the valedictorian as well is an even greater accomplishment. Huang overcame many challenges to receive this honor. Moving to the United States from the Philip-

ines at the age of nine, Huang more than settled in to her new surroundings. She rose above the ranks of students and also distinguished herself from her peers with her exceptional grades and standings.

"In terms of my education, moving to California has opened up so many opportunities for growth outside of the classroom, including clubs, community service, orchestra and other extracurricular programs," Huang said. "I honestly don't think I would have been the person that I am today if we hadn't moved."

Although she is currently undecided as to what career she will pursue, Huang is leaning towards a future in the business field and will continue her studies at Azusa Pacific University, majoring in business and pursuing a minor degree in psychology.

"Make the most out of the opportunities you have available to you," Huang said. "Don't let your circumstances dictate and limit what you can and cannot accomplish—be pro-active, take responsibility for your life, challenge yourself, and make things happen."



PHOTO/ Kyle Evanko
To top her accomplishments, Valedictorian Jane Huang also devotes time to learning musical instruments.

NFL lockout needs to move out of stagnancy

By Justin Ulley
Sports Editor

On Mar. 12, the NFL went into a lockout, an exclusion of employees by their employers from working until an agreement is settled. This dispute between the NFL players and the NFL team owners began due to failed agreements upon how to split the \$9.3 billion revenue the NFL receives annually. If the players and the managers do not reach an agreement soon, not only will the players and managers be affected, but the loyal NFL fans as well.

Currently the owners receive an initial \$1 billion from the revenue. What remains of the revenue is then split, with the players receiving 40 percent and the owners receiving 60 percent. However, the owners now want to make a new deal that consists of them receiving an initial \$2 billion from the revenue generated. The owners then want the remaining money split 50/50 between the players and the owners. The owners claim they need the additional revenue to combat the rising costs of owning a team.

On the other hand, the players want more of the revenue coming their way. They believe they need more money going toward health care and retirement funds. The players were willing to consider the owners' proposition under the circumstances that the owners showed the official financial statements for the past 10 years to prove they did need the extra money. The owners, however, refused to show these documents.

These disagreements between the managers and players must be solved soon. Everyone, including the players, the managers, and the fans, will suffer from this lockout. The 2011-2012 season hasn't even started yet and there are already significant drops in traffic at *NFL.com*. This year's draft picks saw a decrease of about four million viewers compared to last year. There's even an extremely high chance that there will be games lost in the upcoming season. The players and the managers need to stop bickering over who gets more money and settle this issue, or football isn't going to be the same.

My life as a deck of cards

By Raymond Tran
Graduating Senior

As the final week of high school winds down in what seems to be the fastest four years of my life, I find myself looking back on moments of self-discovery and opportunity. Among the passions that I discovered, one obsession continues to not only define who I am in the scope of a continuously changing environment, but also teach me valuable lessons that I'll carry throughout my life.

One of my favorite quotes is from the movie "Forrest Gump," Tom Hanks utters the famous words, "life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you're going to get."

Well for me, life is more like a pack of Yu-gi-oh cards. You never quite know what you're going to pull, but either way you'll get your share of triumphs and mishaps in high school.

Entering high school, I was suddenly thrust into an environment where the pressure to

meet my parents' expectations was overwhelming; I had to make the best honors classes, join as many clubs as possible, and get the best grades.

High school is a time of stress but also one of discovery and identity; you face the pressures to be at the top of class, succeed in the most challenging courses, and make the best schools.

But even if you don't reach these fleeting goals, you still have the cards in your hand. Make the most of them; failure is a concept that is only tangible when we decide to stop short and quit.

One of the most important lessons that I've learned is that it's not the cards in our hand that are important, but how we use them when the game begins.

In high school, there's a strong possibility that you will endure one of the most academically demanding years of your life thus far.

Make sure that you keep focused and avoid all-nighters; trust me, they're not

desirable in any manner and leave you with a horrible headache for the rest of the day.

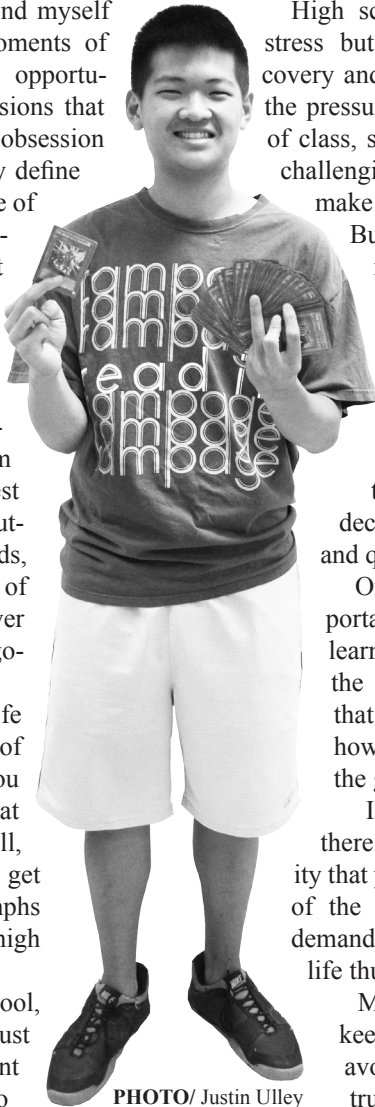
But more importantly, watch out for that growing sense of complacency that might fester among your peers. Stay diligent and don't procrastinate; save it for your second semester of senior year.

The best thing I've learned from Yu-gi-oh is unquestionably the concept of perseverance. In a duel, one draw can change the tide of the entire game. In the span of one turn alone, a player can go from losing all the cards on his/her field to a position where he/she can win the game.

Having this mindset to wait on the next draw is something I feel is necessary for every teenager to know; because part of the high school experience is marked by recurring failure.

My advice: don't scoop, or quit early, because there will always be another opportunity that can turn things around for you. Remember, academics is never a means to an end, but rather a part of the beginning.

As I continue my studies at the University of California San Diego, I am thankful for the memories that I've had writing for the school newspaper and especially bothering everyone with my Yu-gi-oh cards. Of course, this is just a game, but at the same time it has helped me grow as an individual. Thanks for the memories and don't forget to hang in there.



PHOTO/ Justin Ulley

Baseball takes league title from rivals

By Benjamin Chan
Exchange Editor

The Varsity Baseball team achieved an unprecedented victory by taking first place in league for the first time since 2004.

The team overcame heavy competition from four other finalists in the league, including San Marino and previous league champion Monrovia.

"[The victory] will let everyone know we're not a pushover team and give us more respect," Senior Julian Jarrard said. "I felt great; I wanted to win since freshman year."

The impressive victory has propelled Temple City forward 73 places in the national rankings, and 8 places in state rankings. Although suffering a loss in the first C.I.F. game, which ended their season, the team triumphed with a stellar record of 10 wins and only two losses. This past season has been one of the team's best, even aside from the league win.

The team's domination in league has boosted the players' confidence and optimism that they will climb the ladder to victory once again. There are high expectations for the returning and incoming members of the team.

"I knew we were going to win this year without a doubt. The players on our team are magnificent ball players; no one out there is better than us," Junior Jonah Jarrard said. "We worked extremely hard in the off season and during the season. It paid off. Championships are won in the off season."

This year's lineup is extremely impressive and versatile. The team has greatly improved in many areas such as hitting and pitching. Many of the premier players'

batting and pitching averages have increased dramatically.

"Our pitching has greatly improved over the year," Julian Jarrard said. "Over the year we got stronger and threw better."

Much of the team's success is owed to the chemistry between the players. The team is a tightly knit group of friends that bring a diverse set of skills to the playing field that complement each others strengths and weaknesses.

"I'm proud of how our whole team came together and worked as a team," Jonah Jarrard said. "We mixed and matched, and when a team mixes and matches, they become unstoppable. I'm proud of our beastly defense and hitting."

Another important factor of the Rams' success was the long hours they put into practices. In addition to the crucial daily practices throughout the week, Saturdays were dedicated to casual team growth games with the Junior Varsity team. Varsity players helped to train the younger players as well as form stronger relationships with their successors.

"It was a bonding practice to us," Julian Jarrard said. "It gets pretty competitive sometimes too."

To complement the rigorous practices the team went through day in and day out, the team acquired a variety of new equipment, such as new jerseys and bats. Switching to new bats helped the players focus on improving batting averages.

"Our main focus was to hit," Senior Taran Braxton said. "You need to have a nice pop to hit a ball with those bats."

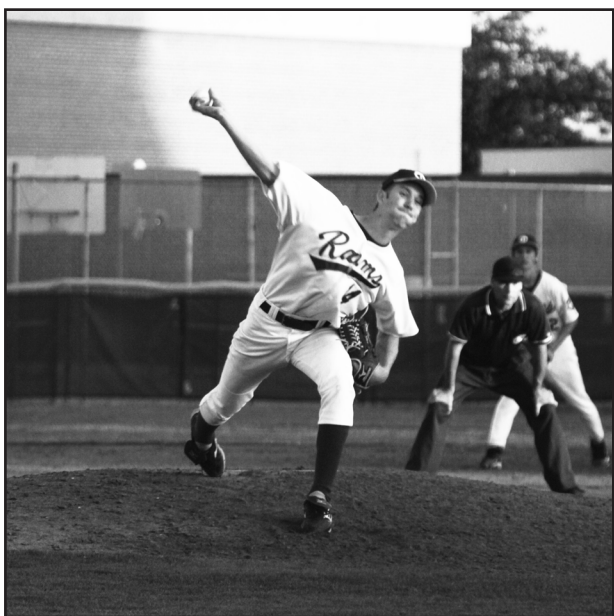
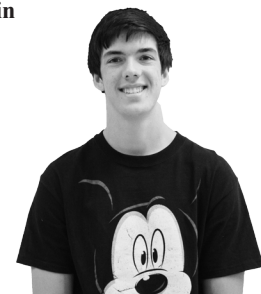


PHOTO COURTESY/ Raymond Van

Perfect pitching: Junior Benji Sanderson strikes out the competition. The team's pitching has improved greatly.

Athlete of the Month

By Humphrey Lin
Editor-in-Chief



PHOTO/ Humphrey Lin

Team captain Senior Tim Sanderson earned the high distinction of Most Valuable Player for volleyball in the Rio Hondo League. A coalition of six schools in the San Gabriel Valley area, the league annually selects an athlete who has displayed exceptional skill and leadership abilities throughout season.

Boys Varsity Volleyball coach Eric Chin nominated Sanderson as a candidate for the award, and after deliberation from the league coaches, Sanderson came out on top.

"The MVP award is the highest distinction in Rio Hondo League," Sanderson said. "[Coach Chin] told me that he nominated me, and I was really excited."

Last year, the Boys Varsity Volleyball team went undefeated in league, a never-before achieved feat in the history of Temple City High School volleyball. Alumnus Kevin Jih, who led the team to the astounding victory last year, also received the Most Valuable Player distinction.

This year, under Sanderson's leadership, the team repeated the achievement, going 6-0 in season, continuing the team's legacy a second year. Sanderson was on the team both years, and partook in this historical accomplishment two years in a row.

"This is definitely one of the proudest moments of my high school life," Sanderson said. "It makes me proud to have been part of volleyball."

Apart from being a star volleyball player, Sanderson plays on both the varsity basketball and varsity football teams and has earned distinctions for his playing. Although he wishes to pursue music in college, he also aspires to continue with volleyball.