

RAMPAGE

TEMPLE CITY HIGH SCHOOL




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Entertainment

Opinion

Focus

PHOTOS/ E. Wu, C. Luk & D. Ma

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Perry explains state's budget for education

By **Jessie Chen**
Staff Writer

Education consultant Ms. Mary Perry explained where public schools get their funding and where that money goes at "School Budgets 101" on March 21.

She wanted to educate people about how budget cuts affect our schools and what people can do about it.

Perry compared our school's various statistics to other schools' and analyzing the differences.

Nineteen percent of our students are English language learners, whereas the state average is 25 percent. This would account for some of the differences in funding because schools with more students in special programs receive more money.

Other factors that could change funding are special education, class size reduction, daily attendance and student and school characteristics.

Ms. Perry showed how California's funding is significantly less than the other states in the nation. She stated that Californian schools receive \$2,162 less per student than the national average of \$10,591, and with adjustment for regional cost of living the difference

would be around \$2,998. Another difference was the ratio of staff to students.

"In California, for a school with 1000 students, there are only 48 teachers," Ms. Perry said. "Whereas the average of the United States is 64 [teachers]."

You can find these statistics and others at www.ed-data.org.

Ms. Perry also explained the roles that the state and district leaders play in dividing the budget.

"State leaders decide how much money is allotted annually. The state allocates funds to school districts and some parts are earmarked," Ms. Perry said. "Local districts have little ability to raise revenue. But, districts decide how to spend the funds."

She spoke about the petition from "Our Children, Our Future," which calls for a bump in taxes and putting the money for schools in a lock box. The organization wants to create a dedicated fund that would only be used to benefit public education and improve academic achievement. Control over spending would be local and based on requests from the schools themselves.

You can find Ms. Perry's PowerPoint slideshow and the video of the whole meeting on www.tcsf4students.org.

Amp Radio shouts out to TCHS



PHOTO/ Bryan Wu

Amp Radio came to TCHS during lunch on March 28 to promote its station. Sophomore Johnny Huang sang in one of its competitions and won a t-shirt, sunglasses and a wristband.

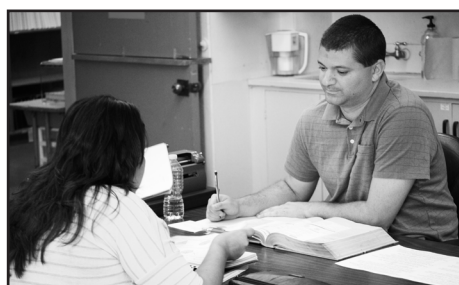
April/May Ram Calendar							April 2-6: Spring Break	April 16: ASB Interviews
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S	April 8: Easter	April 16-19: Auxiliary Clinics
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	April 9-10: Brighter Side Auditions	April 19: District Choral Festival
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	April 10: Dragonflicks Interviews	April 20: Day of Silence, Auxiliary Tryouts
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	April 10-12: Drama Tech Performance	April 23-25: CST Testing
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	April 13-14: Adv. Drama	April 24: Senior Assembly
29	30	1	2	3	4	5		

NEWS BRIEFS

By **Kyle Evanko**
Focus Editor

Pink Slips

TCUSD passed out pink slips district-wide on March 15. The district handed out 11 pink slips, which is less than half the 23 from last year. Mr. Phil Bailey, Instrumental Music Director, and Mr. Nathan Slaymaker, teacher for the visually impaired, are the two high school staff members with pink slips.



PHOTO/ Bryan Wu

Mr. Nathan Slaymaker works part-time and teaches visually impaired students.

Missing Sex Offender

Authorities have been searching for James Randall McCain, a registered sex offender and resident of Arcadia, since March 13. McCain is a 58-year-old white male with brown hair and green eyes who suffers from dementia.

New Vending Machines

Vending machines with snacks appeared around campus at the beginning of March. There are two next to the boys' locker rooms and one near the portables. Profits from the machines will help pay transportation expenses. The district and student contributions to the transportation fund are down this year.



PHOTO/ Bryan Wu

The three new vending machines contain various chips and trail mix for \$1 or less.

Alhambra Bomb Scares

Alhambra High School has had six bomb threats since the beginning of 2012. On March 16, police arrested two individuals for the threats, one former and one current student. The school has had several lockdowns in response to the threats and has found an empty backpack which was said to contain a bomb.

Addition of three new classes evokes interest from students

By **Bryan Wu**
Staff Writer

The high school has added AP Government and AP Psychology to its curriculum next year, and Speech and Debate which will only be offered in the summer.

The History and Social Science Department will now have AP Government and AP Psychology, taught by Mr. Michael Shore and Ms. Kyla Hjertstedt, respectively. The two classes will replace Psychology and Government Honors.

AP Psychology gives insight on the development and behavior of the human mind. It is also a college-level course that requires students to have a basic foundation in scientific research and writing techniques, whereas regular Psychology does not.

AP Government will be a semester-long course paired with AP Microeconomics for seniors which will examine the legal ideologies of the United States government and fundamental rights and responsibilities of an individual. The class will contain a more intensive study of the structure of government and the processes of the political system, policy-making and law implementation than Government Honors did.

"I want to take AP Psychology because

it will help me in my future career in hospitality management. Hoteliers interact with a lot of people so it's helpful to know how to communicate with others," Junior Joy Chen said. "Also, being part of FBLA got me interested in business so I am excited to apply for AP Economics and AP Government next year."

The English and Communication Arts Department will offer a Speech and Debate course, only available in the summer and taught by World History teacher Ms. Stacy Rudzik. The school considered it for the 2012-2013 school year but deferred the class due to budget constraints.

"Although I'm happy Speech and Debate is being offered over the summer, I was very surprised and disappointed to find out it was not on the registration sheet for the regular school year," Ms. Rudzik said. "Most interested students do not have the time or money to take it over the summer."

The course will focus on public speaking skills, analytical research, writing techniques and discussions about current events. It will be an interactive class with oratorical interpretations, expository speeches, eulogies and informal debates.

Students can find more information for these courses and their prerequisites in the curriculum guide.

A silent throwback *Find unique items* of a lost art in film

By Cody Luk
Photo Editor

In the swarm of countless three-dimensional computer generated movies and high-definition IMAX films, the silent black-and-white 2011 award winning French film, "The Artist" certainly stands out.

As someone who has never seen a black-and-white silent film, I experienced something entirely different when I watched "The Artist." The movie begins with old-fashioned opening credits with orchestral music in the background. For those familiar with classic Hollywood films in the past, this would bring back a sense of nostalgia.

The movie is set in 1927 and the protagonist, George Valentin, is the silent film star of the time. A young woman, Peppy Miller, accidentally bumps into Valentin and he sees acting potential in her. She dances with Valentin as an extra in a film and their chemistry is evident to many. He also assists her in becoming a rising star and she has bigger roles in films as time progresses. However, when the era of silent films ends two years later, Valentin's career dies out while Miller becomes a major Hollywood star of sound films.

Overall, the movie did a decent job at going back to the origin of the film industry and bringing back the style of the 20s silent film era. The movements of the shots and the different angles capture the time period perfectly. It was also beautifully portrayed with elegance and a vintage feel. A memorable example of this was the scene when Valentin and Miller are dancing for a movie they are in. In the film, Miller reminds me of a classic Hollywood actress, especially with her glowing smile and her beauty mark.

The musical score plays an important role in conveying the story. The humorous parts come unexpectedly and the music adds dramatic effects. The two non-silent scenes in the movie

are also significant because they remind the audience of the difference between silent and modern films.

However, the movie lacks substance. The cinematic style was weighted more heavily onto the film than the actual plot. Although it is more difficult to depict a complex plot in a silent film, "The Artist" dragged out longer than needed. Unfortunately, the movie turned out to be somewhat of a disappointment, especially after watching an exciting trailer. A slight twist in the plot at the later part of the movie would have been a much better conclusion.

The audience must watch it with an open mind. Even though the content is lacking in some parts, the stylistic elements and the distinctive silent film aspect pulled through and left a remarkable impression on me. For those that enjoy seeing a variety of movies and anyone who has never seen a silent film, I recommend watching "The Artist" and getting an insight into the silent film era.

This film opened on Oct. 12, 2011 in France and on Nov. 25, 2011 in the U.S. The DVD and Blu-ray release date is set for April 24.

"The Artist" Awards

Academy Awards:

Best Picture
Best Director - Michel Hazanavicius
Best Actor - Jean Dujardin
Best Original Score - Ludovic Bource
Best Costume Design - Mark Bridges
Best Film Editing - Anne-Sophie Bion and Michel Hazanavicius

Golden Globe Awards:

Best Motion Picture
Best Actor (Motion Picture Musical or Comedy) - Jean Dujardin
Best Original Score - Ludovic Bource

By Michael Collins
Staff Writer

Welcome to the wonderful world of *Wanelo*, an online boutique with a plethora of assorted goods to satisfy every hipster's fluctuating desires. Fret not young iconoclast, www.wanelo.com has all of the handmade items that you could possibly covet.

The site references to the original listings from other sites, creating a database of unique items. It's a great source for earrings and other quaint, girly accessories. Each page shows about 50 search results, and with luck, maybe one of those items will have a hint of masculinity.

While perusing the shop, you will find trinkets that no other places have. The site is well-known for its strange listings; by just browsing, you'll notice oddities that you've never encountered before, such as SPAM lip balm. To fully comprehend the peculiarity of the items on *Wanelo*, you'd have to search by yourself.

You can make an account and follow your favorite stores and users, to make finding items easier later on. Also, link your Facebook or Twitter profiles to your *Wanelo* account to share products. You can search contents by most popular, trending, new or even stores and people you follow.

When you click on an item that interests you, an assortment of related items appear at the bottom of the page. If you're really intrigued with certain items, you can add them to your wish lists for convenience.

Through *Wanelo*, you're able to share or embed a link of the item onto your profile, regardless of what social network it is. The site also operates with Pinterest and Stumbleupon, sites that allow users to share their findings,

allowing for notifications of new and amusing merchandise.

A great aspect of *Wanelo* is the affordability of all the user-posted items. You can buy a full-body spandex Spider Man outfit for a measly \$32.99! Regardless of the fact that there's no practical use for an adult to have a superhero costume at his or her disposal, it's awesome nonetheless. If you wish you had a moustache pacifier as an infant, do not deprive your newborn and purchase him or her one for \$10. For something more useful, one might consider buying a bubble wrap calendar for \$20, so you can pop your way through your hectic schedule.

Also, when you find an item on another site that entertains you, you can add it to the *Wanelo* archive, allowing other users to see your discovery. This sharing is not advised if you are a true hipster, though, as your finding will become popular, therefore rendering you as "trendy," a taboo word in the hypothetical hipster dictionary.

Nevertheless, I'd suggest visiting *Wanelo* if you enjoy online shopping, are a stylish teenager or enjoy discovering new and innovative things.



PHOTO COURTESY/ www.wanelo.com
Find a neat gift for someone, such as this Camera Lens Mug for \$24.

Add a splash of seasonal flavor to an average salad

By Elliot Wu
Chief Financial Officer

One of the most painful sights I see in a restaurant, cafeteria or the dinner table is a dish with great potential watered down by the demand of immediate eats. Perhaps the greatest sufferer of such damage is the salad, which has become a hastily thrown together mess of leaves drowned in bottled dressing. It seems like the only people who can get it right are the chefs at a gourmet restaurant.

With this crash course of the ins and outs of a salad, you can make a salad at home similar, if not superior, to the five star restaurants, just in time to hop on the trainloads of seasonal fare.

The way I see it, there are three major components of a salad.

Vegetation

Ditch the iceberg and romaine of questionable quality and turn over a new leaf. High quality salad greens provide an extreme boost of deep flavors and nutrients. Flavors range from tender and mild to robust and peppery.

- Arugula
- Kale
- Fennel Fronds
- Watercress
- Radish Sprouts
- Alfalfa Sprouts
- Mung Bean Sprouts
- Baby Spinach

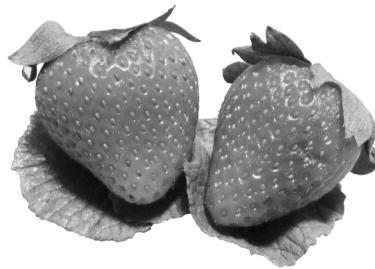


Toppings

Like those of a good pizza, a selection of toppings can provide textures and flavors that can't be obtained from any kinds of vegetation. Properly prepared,

such toppings can integrate smoothly with the salad instead of just being chunks that get in the way when you are trying to eat. Julienned the radishes means cutting the vegetable into thin strips. To hull the strawberries, cut off the green stems.

- Radishes (Julienned)
- Strawberries (Hulled and thinly sliced)
- Peas
- Pears (Diced)
- Basil chiffonade
- Crumbly cheeses such as goat, blue and feta
- Cilantro
- Sesame Seeds



Dressing

Perhaps the most overlooked of the salad trio, the dressing is the deal maker or breaker of the salad. Proper quantities of the right dressing can elevate mediocre ingredients, while gross amounts of the wrong kind can devastate even the greatest vegetables. Here are a few suggestions:

- Vinaigrette made from Dijon mustard, extra-virgin olive oil, balsamic vinegar and black pepper
- Yogurt dressing made from plain yogurt, chives, lemon juice and Dijon mustard
- Raspberry sauce made from pureed raspberries, lemon juice and fresh chopped parsley.

Tossing

Correct tossing of the salad is key to evenly coating each individual leaf and prevents overuse of dressing. The most important part about tossing is keeping the ingredients cold, as this slightly thickens the dressing so it sticks

to the leaves better and keeps the leaves crisp.

This can be attained by filling a large ceramic bowl with ice, and nestling a slightly smaller metal bowl onto the ice and tossing the salad in the metal bowl to wick away heat from the greens.

Less is more when it comes to adding the dressing, as a surprisingly small amount of dressing is enough to delicately coat every leaf.

The tossing itself is a snap; simply add ingredients and dressing, and fold the leaves gently over themselves, taking care not to tear anything. Place onto a chilled platter and serve.



PHOTOS/ Elliot Wu
Add a touch of spring by topping your salad with juicy, chilled strawberries which add a burst of hidden sweetness.

Reevaluate MPAA's R-Rated Definition



By Kelley Yao
Staff Writer

The Motion Picture Association of America's decision to give an R rating to the educational documentary "Bully" has raised controversy across the nation. The movie, which targets school children, intends to raise awareness about the dangers of the different forms of bullying that occur among students. Producer Harvey Weinstein has attempted to appeal the rating but failed to do so despite enlisting the support of stars including Meryl Streep and Ellen DeGeneres.

"Bully" contains six swear words, which is the reason why it received its R rating. The MPAA policy on swearing dictates that one F word results in a PG-13, and any more than that causes the film to receive an R rating. This results in films like the "King's Speech" being given an R rating, while films like "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" receive a PG-13 rating.

Which, really, makes the matter completely ridiculous. Was I more traumatized at seeing Colin Firth sputter out the F word in his achievement to speak without a stutter, or was watching Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt have "almost-yet-not-really" sex more detrimental to my pure 13 year old mind?

It isn't to say I can't understand the MPAA's stance on its ratings. No one really wants to see a movie with a scene in which a boy on the bus is threatening to shove a

broomstick into a particularly undesirable area of his victim's body. Quite frankly, that's just not mass entertainment.

Why does it matter how many F words are used? I highly doubt there is one student above the age of 13 in America who has not heard vulgar language. It's even become somewhat of a trend to use it in everyday speech, either to denote strong feelings towards a subject or just as an interjection. The fact that it has become so ingrained into our culture is one of the reasons why the MPAA's ratings should be changed.

The connotations that the word has pales in comparison to what the children actually see onscreen. The implications of sex, partying and drugs are more serious than just someone offhandedly using a word to be more emphatic or to stress what they are saying. The MPAA should revise the way it rates things to reflect how the times have changed. An educational documentary would certainly have more value than a vapid, feel-good movie like "The Hangover."

It may be easy to pick and choose what you see and hear, but at least we should all be offered the opportunity to learn something new about adolescent cruelty. It's a much more serious matter than just mindless entertainment and should be treated accordingly. Take someone to watch this documentary. The most important thing is that the film reaches the students that need the strength it offers—so that they may find the courage they need to endure and become the people they will be.



By Jessica Meza
Opinion Editor

Jess Sayin'

Coming to a compromise regarding the Renaissance Assembly

Through the headaches, sleepless nights and countless tests, the light at almost every high-achieving senior's tunnel has been the long awaited Renaissance Assembly, where seniors celebrate their post-high school plans in front of the entire student body.

After dissatisfaction following last year's rowdy assembly, ASBL has been looking for options to create an assembly that meets the needs of both seniors and administrators alike.

A compromise I support would be one that keeps the assembly both respectable and fun for seniors and non-seniors alike. This year's Renaissance Commissioners have proposed of having a "spirit tunnel," in which seniors with the same post-high school plans will run through, replacing the usual recognition in which seniors cheer together. Keep in mind they will still be able to sit together afterward. Not only that, but the portion of the field that seniors will be on will be covered with a plastic tarp so that cleanup is easy and efficient for everyone, especially because ASBL will provide seniors with approved supplies to celebrate. -

The rest of the assembly would remain mostly unchanged, where all non-seniors would remain in the stands watching the staff and administration recognize students and staff alike. For the past four years, members of the class of 2012, like me, have longed for the day of the Renaissance Assembly, when we would be on the football field instead of cheering in the stands. By celebrating everyone's choices, it reaffirms the fact that, regardless of students' high school plans, they are equally important and respectable to society, which is something that should be important to everyone.

I understand that students bring things that might litter the field or that they can even get rowdy on occasion during times that administrators and teachers speak. However, if all seniors agree to sign a contract beforehand agreeing to conduct themselves in a mature manner during this assembly and adhere to using approved supplies, the issues of disrespect and messy cleanups after previous assemblies can be avoided. And at the same time, all seniors will have the chance to celebrate their choices.

The Renaissance Assembly is where all students can celebrate their decisions for the future, not a place to brag about where they're going for the next four years. Seeing that we are at the point where we should all be approaching adulthood, it is important that we support a compromise that retains the aspect of the Renaissance Assembly that we have been looking forward to, but at the same time respect the wishes of the administration to be respectful role models for younger students.

FOR THE RECORD

Feature: In the article, "Performers bet high with 'Guys and Dolls,'" *Rampage* misquoted Junior Curtis Tang, referring to "Nathan" as "Sky."

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Disclaimer: taking this seriously may result in apoplexy, high blood pressure and low sense of humor. I would like to address Mr. Collins' article [Issue 08] on roller backpacks and how their use should be prohibited. I argue that banning roller backpacks would constitute a violation of the second amendment, the right to bear arms. In our school, almost all other viable weapons are already banned, or otherwise simply not as potent as the hell-on-wheels. Lockers are unfortunately not portable, don't have quite as much power behind them and are not well-suited to carrying textbooks. Instruments of musical destruction don't quite hit the right note. Simply put, there really are no viable alternatives to a roller backpack for those who want to be prepared for a rogue teacher attack.

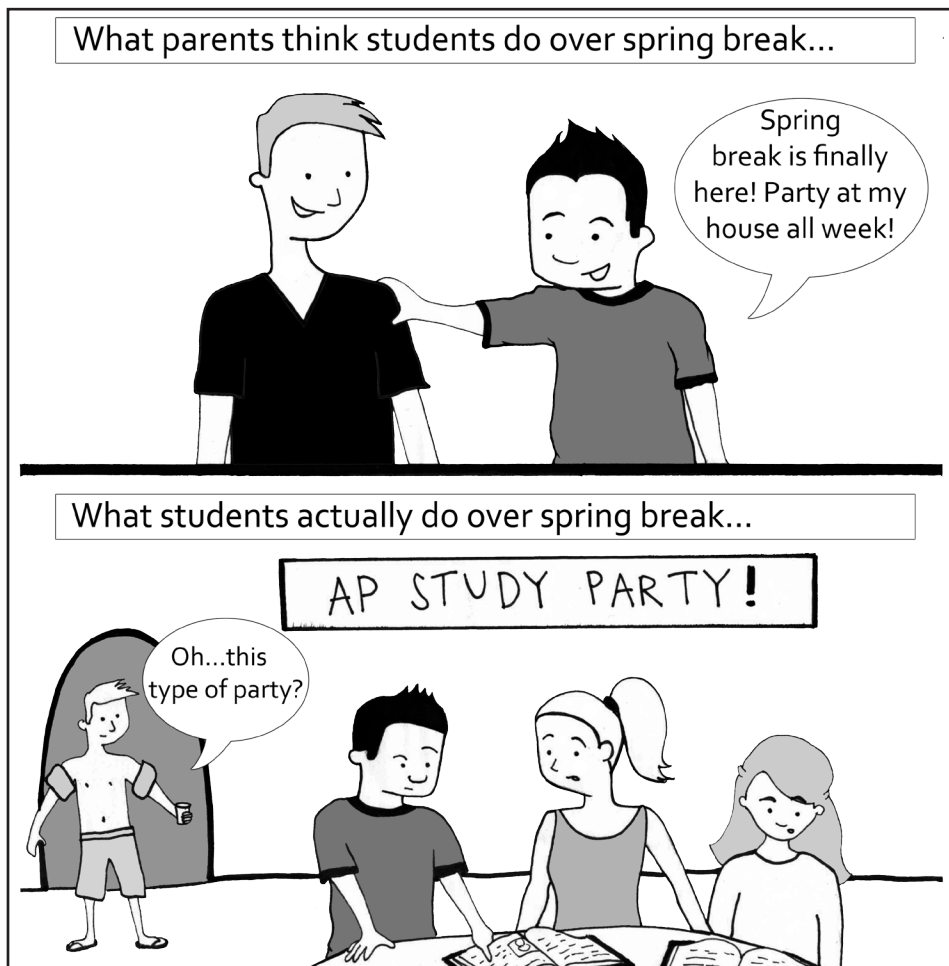
Though at first glance it may seem that roller backpacks are simply a way of carrying luggage in a way convenient to the owner and inconvenient to everyone else,

in reality it is much more glorious: roller backpacks are a manifestation of our proud, patriotic youth exercising their constitutional rights. To be sure, it may be unappreciated by nearby peers, but effective weapons that prevent them from efficiently depriving you of your lunch money generally are.

So I say, keep rolling fellow students of TCHS! Show those pacifists what you're made of! Do not allow our constitutionally ensured rights to be abridged at any cost! Remember, please, that only when everyone is capable of knocking each other six days past staff development days at a moment's notice is everyone safe. Otherwise, only those who were not prudent enough to arm themselves shall suffer the consequences of being the weak.

P.S. Lockers are dirty. I once spent half an hour helping a friend clean one out. There's no way I'd keep my stuff in there.

Anonymous



CARTOON/ Jacqueline Wong

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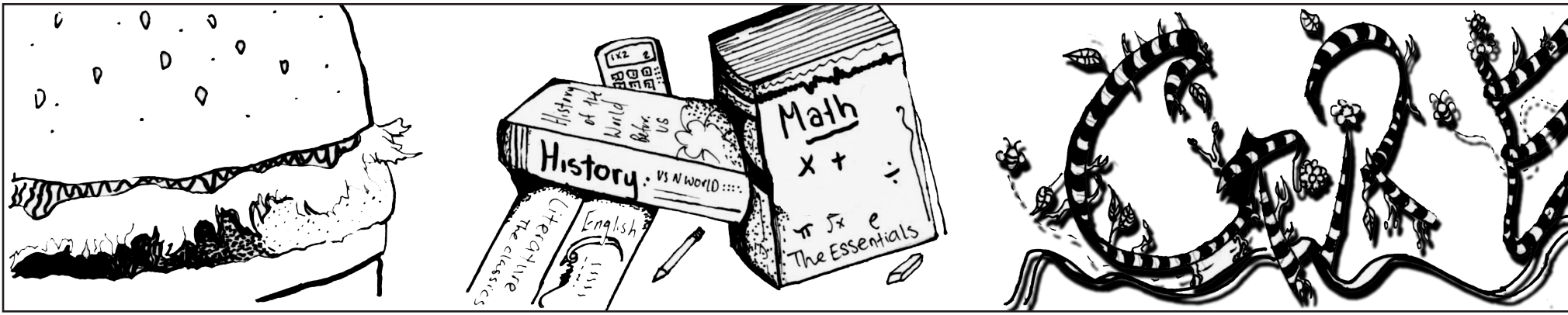
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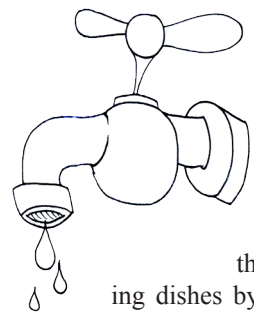


Go green, make a difference Get out, get a job, earn some green to spend

By Michael Collins
Staff Writer

In a world of over-consumption, a few individuals stand out as guardians of our natural resources. But we all can play a role in being environmentally friendly, and there are several ways to do so.

Every day, we waste a considerable amount of water. Each minute we shower, we use up to four gallons of water, depending on your shower head and pressure. Little things such as washing dishes by hand can make a huge difference.



“We [the Environmental club] were trying to see whether washing dishes by hand or using a dishwasher used more water,” Junior Whitney Ngo said. “We found out that washing dishes by hand wastes much less, so I try to do that now.”

One of the most overlooked water wasters are our toilets. You can easily minimize the waste of its water.

“You can fill a bottle full of water and put it in the toilet tank,” Junior Tiffany Lee said. “It reduces the amount of water that you use when you flush the toilet.”

Another manner that people waste water unknowingly is by improperly timing their sprinklers.

“[Use your sprinklers] early in the morning or late in the afternoon,” Lee said. “It’ll absorb more water and it won’t evaporate as much.”

Try to minimize sprinkler leakage as well. If you notice that it’s leaking, fix it, as a broken sprinkler head can waste 40 gallons of water per minute. Also, try to reduce your sprinklers’ distances if their

water is hitting the sidewalk or driveway.

Aside from saving water, you can limit textile and paper usage by using recycled materials daily. Recently, clothing lines and other conscientious brands like H&M have implemented recycled fabrics.

“You can make a bag out of recycled materials,” Junior Brittney Chau said. “I know someone who made one out CapriSun pouches, and it was really cool.”

Doy Bags, an eco-friendly brand, makes all of its colorful jewelry and accessories entirely out of materials such as juice pouches or magazines.

Students from Environmental Club and Happitat are practicing their ingenuity by taking part in Operation Sprout, growing plants indigenous to California on campus, outside of Mr. Randles’s room.

“We’re using plants native to California because we know that they don’t use that much water,” Junior Rachel Dong said. “This can be done at home too, which is a good thing.”

Also, to conserve electricity, besides simply turning off your light or unplugging your electronics, you can install energy efficient light bulbs, such as compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and light emitting diode (LED) for 75-80% in energy savings.

A difference that we can all make daily is reducing the use of the fossil fuel gasoline. By walking, biking or even carpooling to school, we can save precious resources, as well as reduce harmful emissions.

Eco-friendly behaviors begin in the home, where we can make an enormous difference, easily and effectively.



ILLUSTRATIONS/ Cynthia Lee

By Benjamin Chan
Exchange Editor

Paying for dances, AP tests, snacks and other expenses often leaves high school students scrambling for cash. One way to make some green is to do what most students plan to do after high school and college—get a job.

Although the current recession has the economy and job market in a bad state, job opportunities mainly in the food and retail industries still await willing students.

Senior Ashlee Nguyen for example, was able to find a job as a model at the Santa Anita Mall Abercrombie & Fitch.

“I was recruited there a couple times but I wasn’t interested in it until I needed the money and had to help out my parents,” Nguyen said. “The scheduling was not difficult at all since they are very, very flexible by allowing you to choose your own availability.”

Local newspapers and job hunting websites are useful sources. The career center has information about work permits and employment opportunities available for the Westfield Santa Anita Mall.

“Be diligent, your job search needs to be like a job,” Career Center Coordinator and ROP Technician Ms. Amy Cunningham said. “Search every day for openings. Put your best foot forward when you meet with employers, dress nicely, be outgoing and approachable.”

For some people, having contacts can aid the job search. People you know may be able to help hire you, or at the very least inform you of an employment opportunity. A connection helped Senior Cora Bapties land a job at an El Pollo Loco.

“I heard about the job opening from a

family friend who helped me get [the job],” Senior Cora Bapties said. “I still had an application and went to an interview.”

A more accessible job opportunity exists right here at school. Starting from freshman year, students can work as lunch shelter workers during RAMS or lunch for minimum wage. There is no prerequisite or interview for the positions aside from a work permit, although jobs are offered on a first-come, first serve basis.

“I decided to work at the lunch shelter because I wanted to get extra spending money,” Junior Evangelina Dzit Tam said. “Since I enjoy helping others, I find this job rather fun actually. I’m able to earn money during school hours while still being able to have a 30 minute lunch.”

An alternative to finding official employment is to work doing odd jobs. California labor laws state that no work permit is necessary for odd jobs in private homes such as gardening or babysitting. Senior John Wardlaw does yard work for neighbors and friends to earn spending money.

“I haven’t had to go get a work permit, so I can work many hours without being limited,” Wardlaw said. “Since I’ve been working at this job for a while, I don’t need to worry about age limits, now since I’m 18, if I want to get an official job.”

Anyone under the age of 18 must have a work permit in order to begin working legally at an official job. You do not need one until you are officially hired by an employer. To be eligible for a permit you must have satisfactory attendance, minimum 2.0 GPA and no more than one “F.” You must submit an application for a permit (available in the career center) to be reviewed by the ROP counselors for evaluation.

Spring’s the time to develop a green thumb

By Debra Ma
News Editor

With spring breezing in, now is the perfect time to start a garden. If you have never tried it before, starting a garden may seem daunting, but don’t worry. Here are some tips to help you with your horticultural endeavors.

The first thing you need to do is buy a pot

Larger pots are better choices as they give whatever you choose to plant more root space. The pot should have drainage holes and a saucer to catch water that runs out of



PHOTO/ Kyle Evanko

You can easily start seeds in small containers. Just be sure to transplant the saplings when they grow to a reasonable size.

them. If you are leaving your pot indoors, put it in an area with ample sunlight. When starting plants by seeds, you can use smaller containers about the size of a bathroom cup. It’s a better choice if you are short on space and want to start a bunch of different plants by seed and still save room. Still keep in mind that you’ll need drainage holes.

Next you need to pick out some soil

If you are growing in a container, you should use potting soil; there is no need to worry too much about brand. You’ll use quite a bit of soil to fill your pot, but you can save some by putting empty soda bottles at the bottom of the pot and pouring soil on top of that. Make sure not to pack the pot too tightly or water will have a hard time flowing through it. But you can also use some soil from your backyard, but it may not have enough nutrients for starting plants from seed.

Now you’re ready to plant some seeds

Lettuce grows really well in pots, as do baby carrots, along with most herbs and dwarf tomatoes. However, if you do plant tomatoes, or anything with branches and fruit, you’ll have to use stakes to make sure the branches don’t droop too far.

Make sure you water your plants every day. The best time to do so is in the morning, when the heat doesn’t cause the water to evaporate as quickly. If you don’t have

time in the morning, late afternoon is another good time to water them.

And that’s really all you need to get started. You can get all of these materials at Home Depot, or any similar store.

Things to keep in mind

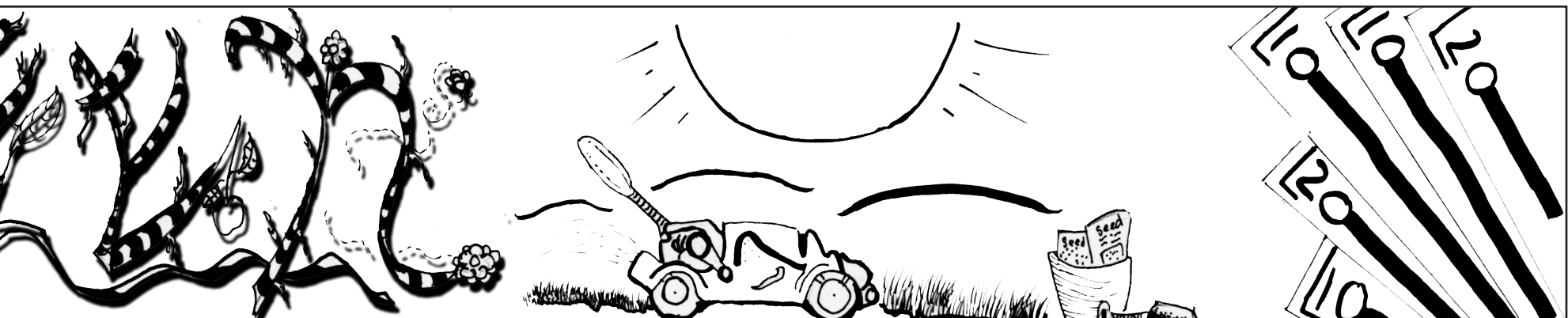
Allot enough room for your plant to grow. Do some quick research to find out how tall your plant will get. The rule of thumb is that the roots will need as much room below as they do above the soil.

Keep with it. Don’t forget to water your plant. If you aren’t sure if it needs water or not, feel the soil. If it’s damp, it’s good, and if it’s dry, give it a quick water.



PHOTO/ Kyle Evanko

Herbs are great to grow together in pots. They don’t need as much room as other plants like flowers or tomatoes.



ILLUSTRATION/ Daniel Xu

Loving Hut offers light, delicious vegan food

By Adrian Dang
Staff Writer

As I entered Loving Hut, a vegan restaurant located at 621 W. Main Street in Alhambra, I immediately noticed a fresh, light scent of pan fried vegetables. The waitress kindly greeted me and allowed me to pick my own table. Once I was seated, I noticed how the entire restaurant had a fresh, clean feeling. The tables, chairs and ceilings were a clean white, while the walls were painted a creamy, light green. The floor was a dark, maple wood brown, and classical music softly played in the background.

A vegan restaurant does not use any animal products such as milk, cheese or meat in its cooking; vegan foods revolve around plants and are easier on the environment, meaning a “greener” diet.

The waitress waited patiently until I finally decided to order the Bliss Chow Mein, Green Bean Delight and a Classic Vegan Burger, which I had to order simply because this was the first time I had ever seen an Asian restaurant offer a burger of any sort. When I asked my waitress what was substituted for the meat, she politely informed me that all the patty was made from soy protein, which is isolated from a soybean.

The Green Bean Delight came first and I could not wait to completely devour it. I



PHOTO/ Adrian Dang

Loving Hut gets its dishes out relatively quickly as the burger was out in less than ten minutes. The service was very attentive and was sure that I was enjoying the meal.

I didn't notice any sort of oily or thick aromas coming from the dish that I usually found in other restaurants' variations of the beans. The green beans were coated with a special, sesame sauce and sprinkled with bits of sautéed soy and onions. Each bean tasted perfectly salted, amazingly fresh and had a satisfying crunch as I bit into each one. The dish also comes with a bowl of either white or brown rice at the additional cost of one dollar.

The Bliss Chow Mein arrived shortly after the beans, and I was eager to try the noodles since I was so satisfied with the beans. I wasn't disappointed. The dish consisted of noodles, cilantro, bok choy, shredded carrot, broccoli and thin slices of soy protein. The noodles were soft, but not slimy, and tasted of a sweet and salty soy sauce. I was amazed at how the soy protein had the identical texture and taste of sliced beef, and all the fresh vegetables were well

cooked and had a satisfying crunch and crisp taste.

I was delighted when my vegan burger arrived as my nose was filled with the amazing aroma of the soy protein patty, which smelled quite similar to meat, and my mouth watered as I stared at the burger and fries. The burger contained a soy protein patty flavored with soy sauce, lettuce, pickles, tomatoes, mushrooms and onions. All the vegetables were fresh and crisp. The dish also came with a generous serving of fries. Each fry was lightly salted and golden brown. The quality of the fries left me with high expectations for the burger, but I was slightly disappointed when I took my first bite and discovered the patty to be far too salty for my taste. Overall, I enjoyed the Classic Vegan Burger, but the saltiness of the patty kept it from being my favorite dish.

My experience at Loving Hut was pleasant, and I discovered that vegan food is just as good, if not better, than my regular animal-product filled meals. The food runs a bit pricy at around seven dollars per dish for the serving size, but the quality and taste of the food is money well spent. I plan on returning to Loving Hut and strongly recommend the restaurant to those who are on vegan diets, and also to individuals who are genuinely curious as to what a vegan meal tastes like.

Turning green with envy

By Angel Gonzales
Staff Writer

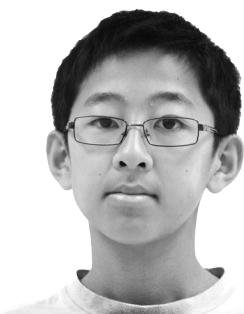
You don't feel it initially, but when you see yourself turning green, you know you're envious. Another person's wealth, popularity or even grades are objects of envy. These students tell us what makes them so envious.



“I am so envious of Song and Choreo girls because they are so good at what they do; they perform with passion. I aspire to be like one of them by the end of the year.”
~ Sophomore Angela Chen

“I'm envious of my brother because he is the kind of person who people always want to be around; he has good looks, an outgoing personality and a sense of humor. Being envious of my brother encourages me to rise above him.”

~ Junior Kevin Frazier



“I'm envious of Luke Walton [pro basketball player] because he gets paid five million dollars a year to sit on a bench in the NBA. I have to wash my parent's car four times a month and get paid only twenty dollars for it.”
~ Freshman Calvin Wang

PHOTOS/Angel Gonzales

Off the Wall...

Anecdotes and Observations

Humphrey Lin
Editor-in-Chief



During the American Civil War, the U.S. government issued a paper currency colloquially known as “greenbacks.” Ever since, the green complexion of the American bill has remained a prominent and culturally significant feature of U.S. currency.

Those who know me know that I come from a mythical, faraway land known as Neverland, or by its alias, Canada. In Neverland, five dollar bills are blue, 10 dollar ones are purple, 20 dollars green, 50 dollars red and 100 dollars brown. Although many of my American friends, upon discovering this fact, instantly dubbed Canadian bills “clown money,” colored bills present two significant advantages: they are easily identifiable and harder to counterfeit. Just about every other country in the developed world have jumped on this bandwagon, but America, being the hipster of the world, just refuses to change.

Well, I guess having an all-green currency does have its upsides. First of all, it's great for magic tricks. Thanks to the virtually identical hue of all the bills, transforming a one dollar bill into a Benjamin is more realistic. Secondly, the art of deception has never been easier. A Discovery Channel feature on con men enlightened me on how to fold a \$10 to look like a \$100. And you don't even need to change the color!

Ok, but all joking aside, I really think that having all of your nation's bills the same color is rather inconvenient. Countless times I have rummaged through my wallet, thick with ones, for that elusive master of camouflage, the \$20 bill. And on more than one occasion, I noticed too late that the hotdog guy gave me a \$5 bill as change instead of a \$10.

Well, after all is said and done, the inconveniences that the greenbacks cause are grossly insignificant. However, America's hipster attitude extends beyond the boundaries of annoying currency. While the rest of the world has gladly adopted the metric system, based on the convenient multiple of 10, the United States has obstinately stuck with the ironically named “standard” system. Twelve inches in a foot, three feet in a yard, 1760 yards in a mile. Doesn't make a whole lot of sense, eh? And I can never remember how many ounces are in a pound or even what the heck a quart of water looks like.

Don't get me wrong, I love America. In-N-Out was the best thing that ever happened to me, and whoever thought that fried chicken and waffles would taste good together is a genius. But seriously, America, you're already a superpower. You don't need to establish your superiority (or hipness) by defying what the rest of the world has already deemed convenient.

Jazz Band plays pure gold

By Cynthia Lee
Staff Writer

Smooth, clear notes ring through the brisk early-morning air as the Gold Jazz Band practices in Room 701.

The Gold Jazz band is a branch of the normal marching band and a tier above its Green Jazz Band counterpart in terms of skill and is comprised of musicians with a passion for the freedom, emotion and soul that characterize jazz music.

"What makes us unique compared to, let's say, marching band, is that we have the freedom to play with a little more heart. We get to improvise, which is where we just play whatever comes to mind," Senior Damien de la Cruz said. "It teaches us to be more creative with our playing, and although it may seem tiring, it isn't, at least not for me because I get all energized and excited."

Each year, the Gold Band participates in approximately eight performances, both inside and outside of school, the most recent being in the quad at Fun Food Friday on March 16. It also performs in the annual "Jazz in the Park" concert at Temple City Park along with Green Band and the Oak Avenue Intermediate School Jazz Band. In the past, the Gold Band has performed at the USC Medical Center, St. Luke's Carnival and San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, going wherever its presence is called upon.

"Being in the Gold Jazz Band gives me the opportunity to do what I love and enjoy," Junior Donna Hernandez said. "We play instruments such as trombones, trumpets, drums, bass and saxophones."

Unlike the marching band, the Gold Band requires an audition in order to gain membership and does not compete in field shows due to scheduling conflicts. The Gold Jazz musicians practice diligently despite already being in the advanced group and learn new things from Director Mr. Bert Ferntheil every day.

"I have learned to be more confident in doing solos and become more of a group player. I can respect the skills of all the players and instead of being a closed-minded musician, I have found the power of being able to perform in a group," Senior Felix Liu said. "Mr. Fern-

theil taught us how to stay in tempo, listen to each other, perform confidently and improve our intonation and improvisation skills."

As part of the Gold Jazz Band, the musicians are required to play significantly more difficult pieces that explore different melodies and rhythms that often warrant extra practice.

"Some people would say that practices are tiring just because it's during zero period, but the music we play is relaxing and sounds nice, so it's worth waking up an hour earlier," Junior Ashley Lau said. "It also beats taking a normal class, in which you just listen to a teacher go over a lesson."

Although it is hard work, the members do not complain but instead channel their energy into their true passion: jazz music.

"My favorite part of being in Gold Band is seeing the audience enjoying what we play," de la Cruz said. "Then you know you're doing your job."



PHOTO/ Hugo Wong

Members of Gold Jazz Band wear polos during concerts and other formal performances such as the Big Band Dance.

First ever King crowned at Sadies

By Jaqueline Wong
Staff Writer

Dressed in a button-up and jeans as John Smith from "Pocahontas," Senior Randy Lam makes his way to the stage to be crowned Temple City's first Sadies King with the crowd's cheers ringing in his ears.

"I'm really happy and excited about being the first ever Sadies King. I think it's really cool," Lam said. "The thing I liked most about being on the court was participating in all the activities and whatnot."

In addition to the usual tradition of girls asking guys, the annual Sadies dance this year sports a new idea, with five candidates competing for the title of Sadies King.

ASBL originally planned to introduce the title last year. However, the dance's busy planning schedule meant that it was forced to postpone having a Sadies court until this year.

"This year, I made it a priority to have a Sadies court," ASBL Activities Commissioner Senior Kelsey Sih said. "I was extremely excited about having a Sadies King this year."

Lam and the other Princes, Seniors Brian Chen, Brian Truong, Ivan Tu and Kevin Wu, participated in various games such as limbo during the week before the dance. To celebrate the court, ASBL dressed up the Princes in mish-mashed outfits much like those worn by the Homecoming Princesses. Afterwards, ASBL made a special breakfast to celebrate the court.

"During the games, it was pretty fun being in the spotlight where they summon you," Chen said. "I'm usually on the side helping to plan the game, but actually getting to play the games was a different experience."

Although there was a Sadies court this year, having it as a tradition in the future is still uncertain. Whether or not this year's court was a success, it depends on the activities commissioners and ASBL to decide if it will continue on and become a tradition.

"I wanted to find a way to showcase the boys since Homecoming is specifically for girls only," Sih said. "Winter Formal and Prom have both males and females on their court, and since Sadies is 'girls ask the guys,' it's the best dance to show off the boys."

Oak Ave. club helps Uganda

By Hugo Wong
Staff Writer

The hallway outside Schools for Schools advisor Mr. Aaron Loomis' classroom at Oak Avenue Middle School is full of students hard at work painting promotional posters for a fundraising Easter egg hunt.

Schools for Schools is a fundraising program created by Invisible Children, Inc., a nonprofit organization that helps spread awareness about Ugandan rebels led by Joseph Kony and Ugandan children kidnapped to be used as soldiers or sex slaves. The founders of the group want to organize an international effort to capture Kony and have him tried in the International Criminal Court.

With the help of Invisible Children, Mr. Loomis founded the Schools for Schools club eight years ago to raise funds and inform middle school students about the atrocities happening in Uganda.

"I show the students an Invisible Children movie every year and they get pumped for the cause," Mr. Loomis said. "This is the first time that Invisible Children posted one of their movies online, so it created a huge reaction among viewers."

Schools for Schools at Oak Ave has about 25 members who plan events such as the Easter egg hunt, which occurred on March 29. They charged \$2 per person; all proceeds will go to Schools for Schools and Invisible Children.

"I think Invisible Children is a great way to know more about the world," Seventh grade club member Gabi Sicant said. "It's a fun way to be with friends and raise awareness for Uganda."

Besides the fundraiser Easter egg hunt, Schools for Schools also has a week when the members placed donation boxes in Oak Avenue classrooms to raise funds.

In addition to the donation boxes, club members have five to 15 house viewing parties, in which members who have the Invisible Children DVD show them to their friends. Schools for Schools wants to start a club at TCHS to spread the message to more students.

Botello takes over Yearbook

By Janelle Capwell
Staff Writer

Seated in the back of Room 704, current English 2 teacher and incoming Yearbook advisor Ms. Elizabeth Botello listens intently to the editor-in-chief interviews for next year's Yearbook staff.

"When you graduate, that's what you have, your yearbook," Ms. Botello said. "You have people writing in it, you have your picture that will [always be] the same, however old you are when you are looking at it."

With years of journalism experience and a Master's degree in Print Journalism under her belt, Ms. Botello is more than ready to take on the challenge of being next year's Yearbook advisor. She first became interested in writing when she was in high school. She started from the bottom and worked her way up, and eventually became co-Sports Editor of the Walnut High newspaper "The Hoofprint."

Along with writing, she is also passionate about sports. She continued to write sports articles, ranging from track and field to baseball. After graduating from UC Irvine, Ms. Botello continued on to graduate school at UC Berkeley.

"It was a good experience," Ms. Botello said. "I realized that even though I thought I knew everything about certain sports, I really had room to grow and that was okay with me."

Just like in high school, Ms. Botello worked her way up the ladder at the UC Irvine newspaper. During her senior year of college, she finally reached her goal and

became the paper's Sports Editor. She later applied for an internship with Major League Baseball, and shortly thereafter, got accepted and started covering the world of professional baseball.

During her exclusive internship with Major League Baseball, Ms. Botello soon learned that it was quite intimidating to cover a world dominated by men.

"It pushed me to be a better writer, you couldn't not try. There were so many things you had to do and you

were in a professional setting," Ms. Botello said. "I definitely felt how much of a female I was amongst the men and how I had to fight for my little spot and the edict that goes with covering men and sports."

Being a part of the Templar staff requires a creative writing edge and a taste for journalism, and Ms. Botello can excel at both because of her years of writing experience and passion for the written word. Along with her background, she will also bring some minor changes to the way the upcoming Yearbook staff will work. She will enforce tighter and shorter deadlines as well as communication among the various sections of the Templar.

"It's all about flow," Ms. Botello said. "There has to be more collaboration between the section editors and the other staff members."

Her passion for writing and working with students makes her eager to begin her daunting new task of Yearbook Advisor. She views the position as a positive and challenging task, but nothing she can't take on. Surrounded with her mentors, she is quickly creating new ideas and methods for the Yearbook staff.



PHOTO/ Janelle Capwell

Ms. Botello works with Sophomore Hannah Cervantes' essay during one of her sophomore English classes.

Bandwagoners ruin the value of favorite teams

By Justin Ulley
Sports Editor

Every type of sport has them, the people who all of a sudden start rooting for a team because it had just won the national championship, or cheer on a player who performs extremely well. They might follow one team, then a year later they'll move on to the next "top" team. Yes, I'm referring to all the bandwagoners out there.

Linsanity is one of the more recent examples of people following the next big thing in sports, only for us to hear very little about Jeremy Lin a few weeks later. Granted, he is a good player, and he definitely proved himself to be a valuable asset of the New York Knicks. However, when Lin came out of nowhere this season, almost everyone was hooked on Linsanity. All you would hear about is Jeremy Lin and how amazing he is, and he suddenly became everyone's favorite player. Then slowly his popularity began to die down, as Lin's amazing stats decreased.

Another example would be this year's Superbowl winners, the New York Giants. When the Giants made it to the playoffs, I started to notice more and more Giants fans popping up. When they won the NFC title, all I saw on Facebook were excited posts about how the Giants were going to the Superbowl. Finally when New York won, everyone was cheering them on. I wonder if next year those same people will be cheering on the Giants too.

I understand why people would want to be part of the next big sports thing, but when those people begin to act as though they've been with a team, or player, through thick and thin, or are constantly mentioning that they're a fan of whatever team's winning, it begins to get annoying. People should pick a team that holds some importance to them. Take the New York Giants for example. That might be someone's team because he or she lived in New York and the first football game he or she went to was a Giants game. It just doesn't seem right for a person in Los Angeles to say that his or her team is the Giants after it won the Superbowl, even though he or she can't name a single player on the team and has absolutely no connection to New York.

Baseball to compete in tournament

By Daniel Xu
Staff Writer

Continuing the season strong with a record of 10-1-1, the Varsity Baseball team aims to continue the momentum at the Blazer Sport Company Classic tournament in Las Vegas from April 1-4.

The Rams will compete against 31 other baseball teams during spring break. All teams will play four games in Las Vegas. Also, if the teams do well and win three out of four games, they will play a fifth game in the semi-finals of their division.

"This gives us good competition before the playoffs," Coach Barry Bacon said. "It is also going to be a very fun experience because we will meet new teams and coaches on the road and we have a good group of kids."

Durango High School in Las Vegas organizes this competition annually and invites schools throughout the Western United States. This year, there will be a total of 32 participating teams, so the event will require the facilities of 15-20 different schools in Las Vegas in order to have enough fields for the games during the tournament.

This is the Rams' second time competing in this event. Four years ago, they did not do so well, returning with one win and three losses. Since this defeat, the coaches and the team have worked hard to im-



PHOTO/ Angel Gonzales

Getting Ready: Senior Corey Copping gets ready for another pitch against San Marino. This win will better prepare the team for the BSCC Tournament.

prove their overall performance.

"We played many solid teams last time we went," Senior Jonah Jarrad said. "This year, I'm sure we'll come out on top."

After seeing how the season has been progressing, including so far going undefeated in league, the Rams believe they will do well in the tournament.

In addition to an outstanding record of 10-2 in league last year, the team has had vigorous training during this year's off-season. Also, the Rams won the Arcadia Elks Tournament for the first time in 11 years, which included beating out neighboring rivals, Alhambra and

Monrovia. The team is eager and pumped for this upcoming event.

"I'm very excited about the tournament," Senior Kyle Starling said. "It has been four years since the first time I went, and we've been talking about it every day during practice. We are well-prepared for the game."

The Rams will jump back into league after the tournament, playing against South Pasadena.

"I think we can go all the way this year because we have a good coaching staff that has prepared us well," Senior Christian Li said. "Also, we have a lot of talent this year."

Volleyball sets up for league title

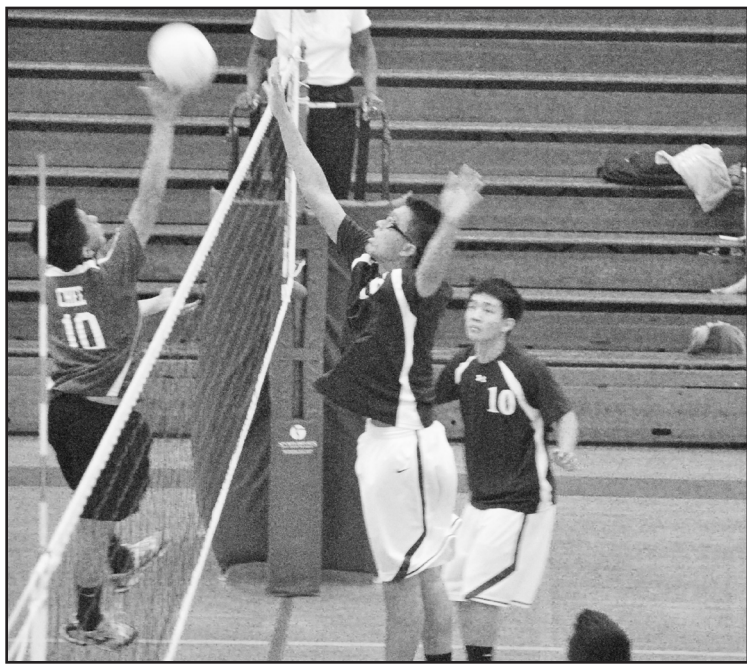
By Jonathan Aguilar
Staff Writer

With sweat dripping down the players' faces, the Boys Varsity Volleyball team comes out of the huddle with confidence that it will secure the victory, keeping its goal of winning Rio Hondo League within reach.

The Rams had three wins and five losses during pre-season, and performed well at the Arcadia High School Tournament on March 10, playing five games and placing fourth out of 12 teams.

"We ran our plays efficiently and our hitters were on top of their game," Sophomore Brian Tang said. "Playing in the tournament helped us gain more experience and better prepared us for our first league game."

The Rams team bounced back from a loss against South Pasadena, defeating Gabrielino last Thursday in three sets. The Rams are preparing for the next game against



PHOTO/ Angel Gonzales

Practice makes Perfect: Sophomore Brian Tang blocks a shot from the San Marino hitters. The Rams claimed a victory this game.

South Pasadena, wanting to redeem themselves and defend their league title from last year.

"I think South Pasadena is going to be our toughest competition," Senior Victor Hsieh said. "But if we want to accomplish our goal of winning league, we are going to have to beat them the second time we face them."

The team is focusing on perfecting its fundamentals this year. Hitters have been working on their form and power while passers are developing their ball placement to a position that will favor their teammates when slam-

ming the ball to the opposing team.

The Rams will have the advantage of having a team that consists of eight seniors and two sophomores. Even though this experience will help the Rams, the lack of hitters will be an obstacle they will have to overcome.

"The strengths of the team are that we have a lot of experience and many great passers," Senior Brandon Barudi said. "The only weakness is how our main hitters graduated last year."

However, the team hopes to make up for it by playing a strong defense and taking advantage of every opportunity to score.

"We want to come out strong this season and defend our title," Sophomore Andrew Pau said. "The team has been working hard to improve this year and to fill the positions that were left by graduating seniors last year."

The Rams hope the countless hours spent in the school gym and their strong dedication will help them come in first in Rio Hondo League for the third consecutive season.

The team won their past two games this week, defeating La Cañada and San Marino, keeping up a strong winning streak. The Rams started the season losing only their first game but then rebounded back, winning their next three.

The Rams will continue to perfect their skills as they wait to redeem themselves against South Pasadena.

Sports Schedule

	Win:	Loss:	
Boys Baseball 10-1-1	Apr. 01-04 BSCC Tourn. @Las Vegas	Apr. 11 v. So. Pasadena 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 13 @La Cañada 3:30 p.m.
	Apr. 20 @San Marino 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 27 @So. Pasadena 3:30 p.m.	May 02 v. La Cañada 3:30 p.m.
Track and Field N/A	Apr. 12 @Blair 3:15 p.m.	Apr. 19 @San Marino 3:15 p.m.	Apr. 26 @So. Pasadena 3:15 p.m.
	Apr. 28 San Gabriel Championship	May 01 RHL Finals @So. Pasadena	May 04 RHL Finals @So. Pasadena
Softball 5-8-0	Apr. 07 v. Mira Costa 10:00 a.m.	Apr. 11 @So. Pasadena 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 13 @La Cañada 3:30 p.m.
	Apr. 20 @San Marino 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 21 v. La Salle 10:00 a.m.	Apr. 24 @Monrovia 3:30 p.m.
Boys Volleyball 6-6-0	Apr. 12 v. So. Pasadena 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 17 @Gabrielino 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 19 v. La Cañada 3:30 p.m.
	Apr. 24 @San Marino 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 27 CV Tournament Away	Apr. 28 CV Tourn. Away
Swim N/A	Mar. 28 v. So. Pasadena 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 12 @San Marino 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 19 @La Cañada 3:30 p.m.
	Apr. 26 v. Blair 3:30 p.m.	May 02 RHL Finals TBA	May 04 RHL Finals TBA
Boys Tennis 7-1-0	Mar. 30 v. San Marino 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 10 v. La Cañada 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 11 v. So. Pasadena 3:30 p.m.
	Apr. 13 @La Cañada 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 20 @San Marino 3:30 p.m.	Apr. 24 @Monrovia 3:30 p.m.
Golf 3-4-0	Apr. 10 v. So. Pasadena 3:00 p.m.	Apr. 12 v. La Cañada 3:00 p.m.	Apr. 17 v. Monrovia 3:00 p.m.
	Apr. 24 v. San Marino 3:00 p.m.	Apr. 26 v. So. Pasadena 3:00 p.m.	May 05-03 RHL Finals TBA