



Operation
Smile
pg. 7



Girls tennis
back to CIF
pg. 11



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MALIBU HIGH SCHOOL

November 2012

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Obama victorious

By Zena Kesselman
STAFF WRITER

An incessant year-and-a-half long campaign, driven by almost 3 billion dollars, finally ended when Barack Obama won a bid for re-election with well over the required 270 electoral votes necessary to win.

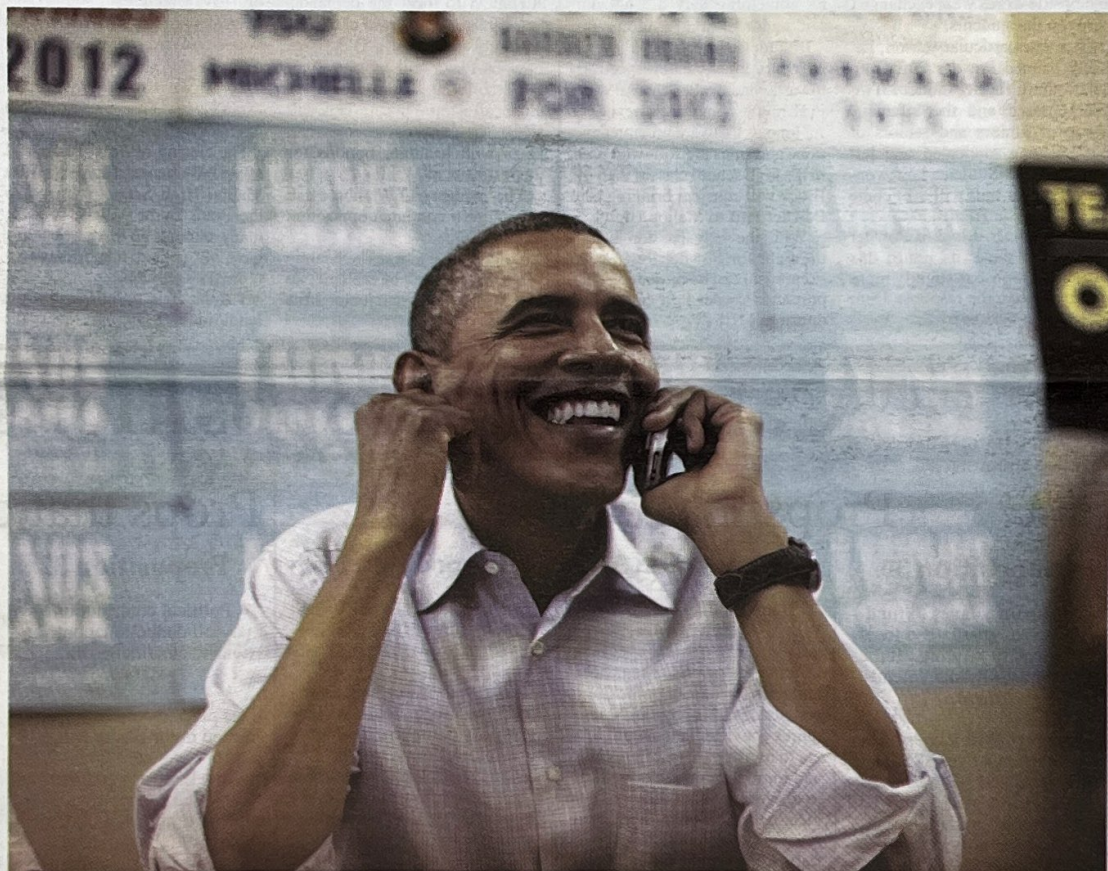
The Democrats have left the election with vague victories, the most prominent being the re-election of an incumbent in a particularly bad economic landscape. The Republicans, having found themselves in the same position they started in two years ago, must now review their strategy to prepare for a new political season. Nothing has changed and everything has.

Election night started out innocuously enough. There were no surprises as the solid states provided predictable returns. Analysts brushed over these easy predictions to reiterate for the last time in 2012 the importance of swing states in this close election.

The first of these was Pennsylvania, a long-shot for Mitt Romney but still potentially in play. It was called for Barack Obama in the beginning of a series of very good news for the president and disappointments for his challenger. Thereafter, toss-up after toss-up was called slowly but surely for the incumbent. It was a much better result than the Obama campaign was predicting.

Mitt Romney's campaign was betting on a few key states to kick-start a victory. This outcome was not impossible, but Lady Luck would have to be rooting for Romney, foam finger and all, for it to happen. In the end, only North Carolina swung his way, and Mitt Romney's bid for the White House ended as Ohio, his last chance, was called in favor of Obama. A couple of hours later, Romney conceded briefly and graciously, with rhetoric that contrasted the bitter partisanship of the last few months. This marked the end of his attempt to become president, after two consecutive campaigns.

The battleground state of Florida was not decided until several days later on November 10, 2012, when Florida's 29 electoral votes were given to President Obama. The incumbent finished with 332 electoral votes compared to Romney's 206.



WELCOME BACK MR. PRESIDENT: November 6, 2012, incumbent President Barack Obama was re-elected.

In the aftermath, conservatives in the Republican Party have cited Mitt Romney's history of being a moderate as a serious impediment to his campaign. His scramble to capture all of his base, from the emerging far-right to the more centrist Republicans caused his message to be distorted. Obama, therefore, was able to take advantage of Romney's efforts to simply win the support of his party. Obama marked Romney him as a target early and through advertising and an effective characterization of Romney was able to discredit his campaign. Thus, Romney was unable to clearly articulate and present to the entire country the conservative platform as a meaningful alternative to liberalism. In short, they claim that he was not the best spokesman for the party.

The Republican Party, in reeval-

uating itself, will recognize its need to appeal to a more diverse base in order to stay relevant. Specifically troubling to the GOP is the diminishing white majority in the United States, which has been historically supportive of the Republican Party. They will put forth the new faces of conservatism in rising stars like Marco Rubio, Chris Christie, and Jeb Bush.

The Democrats have much to celebrate. Despite the conditions of a bad economy with a less-than-thrilled target audience, the Democratic Party managed to re-elect the incumbent. However, the complaints raised against the party since 2008, and especially during the last two years, have reflected an increasingly annoyed constituency. If they hope for any continued victories, they have to erase their current public image,

that of an electorate with no backbone. The continued Republican control of the House of Representatives will present a problem to Democrats, as will claims that Obama's slim popular majority indicates that he does not have a mandate to pursue all of the policies he's been running on.

Notably, the Democrats gained three seats in the Senate. Key Senate races like Elizabeth Warren (Dem.) versus Scott Brown (Rep.) in Massachusetts, and Richard Murdock's defeat in Indiana destroyed hopes of a Republican-controlled Congress.

This election also illustrated the changing America ideas of social liberalism. It was a historic night for gay rights, with the election of America's first openly gay senator and gay marriage supported for the first time in Washington, Maine, and Maryland by popular

vote. Controversial popular decisions in Colorado and Washington to regulate the purchasing of marijuana as alcohol are certainly notable steps in favor of recreational distribution.

Going forward, both parties have to rebound from this election with a new sense of energy and purpose. Stumbles in both parties gave the election the feeling of closeness, one that would not have been present had everything gone as planned. And the Democratic and Republican parties will have to respond, or the American public will retaliate in the next midterm.

It must now be appreciated that for the 56th time in our nation's history, a leader has been selected by popular decision and without bloodshed, just as the founders intended.

Powderpuff girls

By Rachel Purewal
STAFF WRITER

With football season coming to an end many people are wondering if Powder Puff is going to start. Powder Puff, intramural girls flag football, has not been at Malibu High for the past two years.

The class of 2010 was the last senior class to participate in Powder Puff at Malibu High School. During that powder puff season many problems rose between the junior and senior classes. The students in both grades were taking a friendly rivalry and competition to an extreme level that was not liked by the students at Malibu High. Cars were being vandalized and hostile words were exchanged between the students.

After that particular season, Dr. Kelly banned Powder Puff from MHS until further notice. Two years passed and the infamous group of juniors and seniors of 2010 having graduated and left Malibu High. Students now wonder if Powder Puff will ever come back to Malibu High.

ASB asked Mr. Block if Powder Puff would make its return this year, his response is slightly more optimistic than the response from Dr. Kelly in past years.

"I have not said no to ASB about it this year. I gave them some guidelines, so for example to draft what they think those rules would be for...I asked them to talk about what the consequences would be for breaking those rules and to submit it to the administration," said Principal Block.

"I think that enough time has passed and we have seen what the consequences for bad behavior are," said junior Ricky Alba.

Students who had no part in causing the ban of Powder Puff feel they are being unfairly punished.

"It isn't fair that the students who were not involved in the reckless actions that the past students committed are being penalized for something they did not do," said junior Emma London.

If students show that they can act appropriately and respectfully towards each other then Powder Puff might come back next year. As long as there are no violent actions and rules are followed within the high school classes then Mr. Block will consider bringing back Powder Puff to Malibu High.

With the new passion behind the fight for Powder Puff maybe skepticism can be turned into support and Powder Puff can make a return to MHS.

Students continue to fight for Point Pizza

By Lauren Louks
ARTS & ENT. EDITOR

It has become common knowledge that one of Malibu's most beloved restaurants, Point Pizza, is closing. Point Dume Village owner Zan Marquis supposedly refused to renew their lease with Point Pizza as they failed to create healthier options. Owner of Point Pizza, Hye Song Oh, was given the choice to either fulfill a list of demands to create healthier options, or otherwise leave. Reportedly, Oh made some of the changes such as offering some organic options, but could not complete the entire list of demands. Furthermore, Marquis doubled the rent for the owner of Point Pizza. Although Oh attempted to meet the demands, unfortunately she could not.

Marquis says that a D'Amores Famous Pizza will replace Point Pizza, offering gourmet, all organic, all natural pizza. This will fulfill Marquis' goal of creating a plaza with healthier options for the residents of Malibu.

The students of Malibu High have shown continual opposition to this change.

"Its not like D'Amores is 'healthy pizza' I mean let's be realistic; no pizza is healthy," said junior Jane Sidley.

"I think it's a good idea to try and put healthier restaurants, but it doesn't mean that it will appeal to the younger generation," said sophomore Mia Green.

Many Malibu residents believe chain restaurants should not replace local Malibu businesses. Most recently, Malibu faced the closing of Savory due to the fact that they could not continue to pay the high rent at the Point Dume Village. Furthermore, the owner of Savory, Paul Shoemaker, had reportedly been having problems with Point Dume Village owner, Marquis.

"It's another local restaurant that has been here for years that is turning into a chain restaurant, which we already have enough of," says Green.

Residents of Malibu show their opposition in rallies, Facebook groups, and petitions. The Facebook group titled "Save Point Pizza" now has almost 2,000 members.

"The closing of Point Pizza will affect the amount of students from Malibu High School who go to the Point Dume Village because many students go there when they have off campus lunch," says junior Ari Taublieb.

"I think it is pointless that the landlord is trying to make the

center healthier because most of the people who go to the center are students and most students don't really care about nutrition," said junior Danica Downing.

On Friday, October 19, protesters met for a second rally outside of D'Amores Pizza on Pacific Coast Highway, with signs that said "D'Amores have a heart, Malibu loves Point Pizza too!" and "Malibu wants both Point Pizza and D'Amores Pizza". About 300 protesters gathered to share their opinions about the closing.

On Friday, November 9, protesters met for a third rally at the Point Dume Village. They attempted to sway the decision of Marquis to replace Point Pizza. In addition to the rallies, protesters have also begun making phone calls and writing letters to Marquis.

"I really hope that Point Pizza doesn't close because many Malibu residents are putting a lot of support behind the restaurant and I really hope that the owner of the Point Dume Village realizes how important this restaurant is to the Malibu community," says Sidley.

After almost 25 successful years of running a local business, the service of Point Pizza is coming to a close on December 31st.

California propositions

By Gabriella Grahek
BUSINESS MANAGER

Props that passed

Proposition 30

= temporary taxes to fund education, guaranteed local public safety funding. Initiative constitutional amendment.

This prop. Will increase taxes on earnings over \$250,000 for 7 years and sales taxes by 25 cents for 4 years. This will fund schools, guarantee public safety funding, and will average about \$6 billion dollars over the next 6 few years. This will halt the funding cuts scheduled for 2012-13 from occurring.

Proposition 39

= Tax treatment for multistate business. Clean energy and energy efficiency funding. Initiative statute.

This prop. seeks to eliminate a loophole that businesses are currently able to use to pay less in taxes and could possibly bring in about a billion dollars. Also, revenues over the next five years will also be dedicated to clean/efficient energy projects.

Proposition 35

= Human trafficking. Penalties. Initiative Statue.

By increasing prison sentences and fines for human trafficking convictions, this prop. Now requires convicted human traffickers to register as sex offenders and for registered sex offenders to disclose Internet activities and identities. This prop. dramatically increases penalties for human trafficking, raising the current maximum 8 year sentence to 12 years to life. Fines will also increase to \$1.5 million dollars.

Proposition 40

= Redistricting. State senate districts. Referendum.

Approves new State Senate district lines. Rejecting it would have resulted in a one time cost of about \$1 million to the state and counties.

Proposition 36

= Three strikes law. Repeat felony offenders. Penalties initiative statue.

Amends the "three strikes law", the life sentence will now only be imposed when new felony conviction is serious or violent. If the third strike is not serious or violent, re-sentencing may be a possibility.

Proposition 31

= State Budget. State and local government. Initiative constitutional amendment and statute.

This prop would have established a 2 year state budget and set rules for offsetting new expenditures. Local governments would have been able to alter the application of laws governing state-funded programs. Would decrease state sales tax revenues of \$200 million annually.

Props that didn't pass

Proposition 32

= Political contributions by payroll deduction. contributions to candidates. initiative statute.

This prop. would have prohibited unions from using payroll-deducted funds for political reasons and would be applied to corporations and government contractors. Also prohibits union and corporate contributions to candidates and their committees as well as prohibiting government contractor contributions to elected officers or their committees. Would potentially increase costs to states and local governments by \$1 million annually in order for the requirements to be implemented.

Proposition 33

= Auto Insurance companies. prices based on driver's history of insurance coverage. Initiative statute.

Would have changed the current law to allow insurance companies to set prices according to the driver's insurance history and whether or not the driver previously carried auto insurance with any insurance company. Would also allow proportional discount for drivers with some prior coverage. Would most likely have no fiscal impacts on the state.

State and Local Election Results

C	Prop. 30: Raises taxes to fund state budget, primarily for education *Yes: 63.9% *No: 46.1%	S	School Board: -Ben Allen: 24.6% -Maria Leon-Vazquez: 19.6%
A		A	-Jose Escarzo: 17.8%
L		N	-Craig Foster: 16.0%
I		T	-Karan Farrer: 12.8%
F	Prop. 34: Abolishes the death penalty *Yes: 47.2% *No: 52.8%	A M	-Seth Jacobson: 9.5%
O		A	
R		M	
O		O	
N	Prop. 37: Regulates labeling of genetically modified and natural foods *Yes: 46.8% *No: 53.1%	N B	Measure ES: 385 million dollar bonds for SBAUSD facility repairs and renovations *Yes: 67.4% *No: 32.6%
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Hurricane Sandy breaks records in the Northeast

By Kelsey Borenzweig
ONLINE EDITOR

Hurricane Sandy, which touched down in the Northeast in late October, had staggering repercussions. It is the largest hurricane to ever form in the Atlantic Basin according to the National Hurricane Center, reaching 1,000 miles in diameter. Although the entirety of the Northeast felt the wrath of Hurricane Sandy, the fury of the storm was primarily concentrated in New York and New Jersey.

Hurricane Sandy made records for the destruction and intensity of the storm, as early analysis of the storm suggested that it could possibly rank as the fifth-costliest hurricane in history. While this postulation has not maintained its validity, it is clear that the astonishing repercussions of the storm deem it one to not take lightly. The death toll of the storm amounted to 110 deaths in the areas affected, with the majority of these fatalities occurring in New York and New Jersey.

Not only this, but the physical damage caused by Hurricane Sandy was also noteworthy. While floods produced by the storm destroyed entire communities, fires further damaged infra-

structure. For instance, in Breezy Point, Queens, a fire burnt down nearly 100 houses. In addition to the damage done from flooded tunnels, this physical destruction of Northeastern cities, particularly those in New York and New Jersey, rank Hurricane Sandy as significant.

As a result of flooding, power lines were down in the lower part of Manhattan and there was a major power outage in Long Island. The usually bustling subway stations of New York City were also flooded and they were banned from use for several days.

The damage inflicted upon the Northeast was not limited to a

loss of life and physical destruction. Rather, the grief of those exposed to the wrath of Hurricane Sandy demonstrated the horrific nature of the storm. The financial losses that resulted from Hurri-

cane Sandy also received political attention. President Barack Obama upheld disaster declarations for New York and New Jersey. This permitted government financial assistance headed

tims of Hurricane Sandy in New Jersey and offered his condolences, while also promising that all available resources. Due to President Obama's actions toward the storm, many have suggested that Hurricane Sandy influenced the outcome of the 2012 Presidential Election.

While it is often common for citizens to favor the current president in the wake of crisis, the states that were most greatly affected by the storm were ones that were previously democratic, such as New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. So even though Sandy influenced voters in these two states it did not substantially impact the election.

Despite the general stagnation in polls in the weeks following Sandy, Obama's response to the crisis did help to improve his image. Not only this, but Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York City openly endorsed President Obama.

Hurricane Sandy will not only make history for its size, its destruction has clearly had a devastating impact on the Northeast and our nation as a whole.



SANDY BIGGEST HURRICANE TO FORM IN THE ATLANTIC BASIN: *New York (shown above) and New Jersey were hit hardest by the storm.*

cane Sandy are incalculable. As reconstruction of major cities will be necessary following the storm, contributing to the overall costliness of the storm.

by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) for the processing of rebuilding the infrastructure.

President Obama visited the vic-

Nationwide electoral votes

332 Obama

0 undecided

Romney **206**

62,338,608 votes

270 to win

58,968,495 votes



Battleground states are called by New York Times editors. Other states are by The Associated Press

The
Current

First Place with Special Merit:
American Scholastic Press Association
2005-2004

Outstanding Investigative Reporting:
American Scholastic Press Association 2005

Outstanding Photography:
American Scholastic Press Association
2004

Best Staff Editorial, First Place:
L.A. Times Student Journalism Awards 2004

Best News Story, Second Place:
L.A. Times Student Journalism Awards 2003

Best Sport Photo, Second Place:
L.A. Times Student Journalism Awards 2003

Outstanding Sports Reporting:
Quill and Scroll Society, 2005

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The stupid scare

By Madison Webster

OPINION EDITOR

On May 3 at 11:07 am, Malibu high school received a call that no school wants to get: a suspected teenager who claimed there was a group of students planning to place a bomb on the campus.

One moment, students were sitting in their third period classes. The next, an announcement came over the loud speaker informing the students and faculty to report to the black top for a fire drill. Confused students and teachers began filing out of classrooms and walking up to their designated spots. What came next was shocking. Helicopters began to circle overhead the football field. The swat team arrived shortly after dressed in official gear, armed and ready. All of the iphones were whipped out to take the prime instagram photo. Excited, scared, and confused expressions were seen on the faces of the students and teachers. No one knew exactly what was going on, but everyone suspected it was serious.

After several hours of waiting, everyone began to file into the new gymnasium. Former principal, Dr. Mark Kelly came out and thanked us for our cooperation

and informed us that we could go back to our third period class and stay there for the rest of the school day.

Meanwhile, in the parking lot, many nervous parents were lined up waiting to take their children home. Earlier in the day, Dr. Kelly had sent out an email informing them of the situation and the threat of a bomb being placed at Malibu High School.

Now months later, police say they are still investigating and as of right now, no one has been held responsible.

Why would anyone call the school claiming a bomb was going to be placed on campus? Was this someone's idea of a practical joke? The bomb threat wasted the time and energy of the Lost Hills Sheriff Department, as well as the time of the students and teachers who had to spend most of their day waiting. And what's more is the fact that another incident took place less than a year later.

On Wednesday, November 7th, during 6th period, less than an hour before the school day was over, teachers received an email to keep a watch out for a male student wearing a grey sweatshirt. Minutes later, another announcement came over the loud speaker telling students and teachers to

report to the blacktop. Again, the same confusion erupted from the student body, reminding them of the bomb scare that had occurred in May. Waiting less than an

were that a tall male had threatened that a bomb was going to go off.

"No suspicious activity or devices were found" according to the



Sabrina Parra

THE SHERIFF FLIES IN: Malibu High School watches as law enforcement try to control the situation

hour, students and teachers were able to leave at 3:00 at the regular dismissal time. Again, police were informed and were parked in front of the school. The rumors

the Malibu Times.

Why does this keep happening? I feel there is no purpose to these "bomb threats" and they are just wasting the time of many people.

The revival of Arrested Development

By Eloise Massett

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

The time has come; open up the banana stand, pull out the jean cut-offs, and fire up the segway, be-

cause Arrested Development is back. After the underrated show was cancelled in 2006, the cast and crew of Arrested Development have reunited and production is currently underway.

When the show was running from 2003 to 2006, it received widespread critical acclaim, including six Emmy awards, a Golden Globe, and even attracted a cult following. Despite the major professional appraisal, Arrested Development was never able to attract an adequate audience while on the air, and was forced to cancel after three short seasons.

In addition to the shows low ratings, the creator of the show Mitchell Hurwitz explained he was ready to move on, and that "he has told the story he wanted to tell."

Since 2006, the series has been available on Netflix instant play, making it accessible for millions of viewers. Netflix has allowed the show to gain an even bigger fan base than it had while on T.V., and has created the popularity the show deserves. Now, almost ten

years after the show was created, Arrested Development is back by popular demand and in production for a fourth season.

As of now, the fourth season will be from 10 to 13 episodes re-

brought back most of the original cast like David Cross (Tobias Funke), Jason Bateman (Michael Bluth), Will Arnett (Gob Bluth), Portia de Rossi (Lindsay Bluth), Michael Cera (George Michael),

tery, Terry Crews, Erin Moran, and Isla Fisher.

Malibu High school fans of Arrested Development are excited for the show's revival.

"I like how you can watch every episode a bunch of times and still notice new jokes. (like how George Michael found George Senior exactly like how they found Saddam in Iraq)," said senior, Jordan Alexander, an Arrested Development enthusiast. "It's the best show ever," said Alexander. The show's return is widely anticipated, as it has extremely high comical standards to live up to. If you don't have a Netflix account you should get one now. If you've never

seen the show, you should think about adding some culture to your life. Tobias Funke is a God.



THE BLUTHS ARE BACK! Get ready for some laughing and crying as this show makes a comeback.

leased all at once, and premiere in the spring of 2013. Filming began on August of this year and has

Jefferey Tambor (George Sr. Bluth) and others, as well as some new actors, including John Slat-

GUEST COLUMNS AND
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Is college worth the cost?

By Catalina Wrye
FEATURES EDITOR

With college tuitions increasing exponentially each year, parents and students are now wondering, is it worth it? With emaciated savings and loan options, students and parents are forced to make tough decisions and trade offs when choosing the right college. For some families, the dream of going to an elite or legacy college is falling through the cracks due to high costs. Many parents wish they had started saving and thinking about college sooner so that they would be able to send their child to their dream school.

A study done in 2011 showed that the cost of in state tuition rose 5.4% in one year, from about \$1,100, to \$21,447. Economists believe the chief cause of this rise in price is the 8.3% boost of tuition at public universities around the country. In 2011 the cost of private schools rose 4.3% to \$42,224. Between 2008 and 2012 the average university cost rose a staggering 15% and in some states 40%. In 2012 the average college tuition is climbing to almost \$60,000 a year.

"Universities and colleges don't compete on price, in fact, some college administrators fear lowering their tuition prices will hurt their image", said Dr. Losco, chairman of the political science department at Ball State University in Indiana.

With the country's economic recession and high unemployment rate, many families are unable to pay for their children to receive this higher education. It has become increasingly common for high school seniors to attend community college for two years, while completing GE requirements, and then transferring to a university. Some attend community college for all four years, while others decide to get a job right out of high school. These increases in tuitions has made for a different demographic of 18-22 year olds that are currently in the work force.

Student loans and increased debt are not uncommon for graduates, especially those attending a private university or graduate school. Student loans can amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars and can take a lifetime to pay back. Some people going to medical or law school believe that their future paychecks will free them of this encompassing debt. However, with the increase in tuition

they are wrong. It can take years, sometimes a whole life time to pay off student loans.

According to a recent Sallie Mae study, parents and students are borrowing less for college and many middle-income families

a better job and a better future. Studies have shown that college graduates earn about 38% more than students with just a high school diploma. Students who attend college are not only more knowledgeable about their profession, they are exposed to more opportunities, resources, and connections than students with just a high school diploma. In recent years, studies have shown an increase in salaries of students with a BA, and a decrease in salaries among high school graduates. Because of the high unemployment rate, the increase

in population, and the recent recession, jobs are hard to come by and very competitive. Students who exhibit a better knowledge, more impressive resume, and a higher education are more likely to be chosen for the position than someone with little experience and only a high school education. Senior Emma Sittig believes

that a college education and degree will enable her to go far in her future career.

"There are so many skills, and so much knowledge I need to learn before I enter into the work force that I think college will give me. Having a college education not only allows numerous connections and opportunities, but it fully prepares you to be successful in the real world", said senior Emma Sittig.

With this in mind, many families are doing whatever they can to send their children to a top tier college because they think it's worth it.

"There are so many skills, and so much knowledge I need to learn before I enter into the work force that I think college will give me. Having a college education not only allows numerous connections and opportunities, but it fully prepares you to be successful in the real world", said senior Emma Sittig.



THE PRICE TO PAY FOR SCHOOL: Many students nationwide are faced with the inevitable costs of attending college

are sending their children to state schools. Lower income students are forced to attend community colleges in order to avoid mountain high debt.

"We should expect to see an even greater shift next year" said a spokesperson for Sallie Mae.

Despite this impeding debt, a higher education is essential for

California, forever blue

By Annaleah Eisner
STAFFWRITER

Millions of voters will be heading to the booths this November to take part in the presidential election between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney. Many of these voters are already inclined to vote one way or the other, and analysts can predict how some states will end up voting. However, there are several states across America that can vote either way in the election. Such states are known as swing states. California is not one of them.

In past elections that the people of California have voted in, many electoral votes have gone to the democratic candidate. Polls this year reveal that the state will follow the same trend, calling California a "safe Obama" state.

"The balance of party identification has remained largely unchanged, with Democrats holding roughly a 10-point edge" according to the Pew Research Center.

This trend has discouraged many Republican voters from voting, because they feel as if their votes will not count in the election. Their votes most likely will not change the state's political preference.

"I think it's stupid that Califor-

nia always votes liberal. It does not represent everyone in the state's opinion," said senior Harris Wilson.

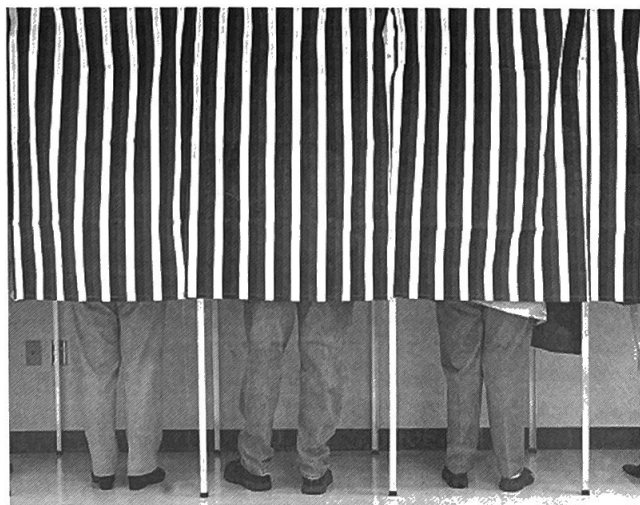
"The number of Californians registering as Republicans fell from 33.45 percent of all voters in January 2008 to just 30.36 percent in January 2012. Meanwhile, the number of Democrats jumped from 42.71% to 43.63%" according to CBS News in Sacramento, California.

This creates a sort of paradoxical situation for America: we are supposed to be a country in which every person's voice matters. Although there are Republicans in California, we ap-

pear to be an entirely left-minded state because that is what the majority is. That is where the rest of the country gets the image of the vegan hippie environmentalist Californian. Although this is not

everyone living here.

"More than anything, it's people following what their parents believe. I think it's a lack of exposure to what's happening on a national



THERE'S NO SURPRISE HERE: As Californians go to vote, there's no doubt that the results will favor democrats.

level and only focusing on what they see daily." said senior Eden Concoff. The Electoral College that altogether wrong for some Californians, it is a stereotype that cannot be applied to everyone.

In the same way, although California looks to be blue on an elec-

tion map, this may not apply to everyone living here. America has implemented is an establishment that creates this concept: a person's vote will not matter in the presidential elections if the majority of the state

votes a certain way.

The idea is to get everyone to vote, but it's slightly difficult when we are considered a state opposed to individuals. Every vote should be weighed equally, however given the trends, the Republican vote never seems to matter in California. If these trends continue, and the amount of Republican voters declines further, how will this affect the decisions and policies of

"More than anything, it's people following what their parents believe. I think it's a lack of exposure to what's happening on a national level and only focusing on what they see daily." said senior Eden Concoff.

our state government? What will be the impact? Will it not make a difference? Or will there be negative consequences?

J.K. still Rowling

By Amber Collins-Parnell

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Leave behind your wands and broomsticks, J.K. Rowling has written a new novel—this time for adults. Her new book, *The Casual Vacancy*, has been classified as a tragicomedy. As her first publication apart from the *Harry Potter* series, this is definitely a major change.

In regard to the plot, this novel takes place in a town called Pagford, which is considered to be suburbia West Country. The novel opens with Parish Councillor Barry Fairbrother's death, thus leaving a vacant seat on council. Just before the successor election occurs, war breaks out and factions emerge. Furthermore, those running for a spot on the council soon find their deepest inner secrets unraveled amongst the council forum. This hidden information becomes public when the candidates' children decide to post their darkest sins.

As one can guess, the election is left in ruins. The major themes of the novel include politics, class structure, and various social issues such as prostitution, rape, and drugs.

In comparison to the infamous children

stories, one cannot help but see the huge plot difference.

Ironically enough, the book is split into seven sections. Those familiar with Rowling's series know that the number seven is not just a coincidence. In the *Harry Potter* series, there are seven books, seven horcruxes, seven ghosts, seven floors at Hogwarts, and seven years of schooling, just to name a few. Rowling may be done writing the *Harry Potter* series, although her frequent allusions prove that she is still the same author many fell in love with as children.

In all fairness to Rowling, change should not be suddenly looked down upon. The change from a children's adventure to adult literature is

quite extreme, although after ten years of the same story, it would be only natural to want something new.

Many critics questioned whether dedicated fans would be drawn to her new book as a result of the drastic genre change although Rowling

proved quite fearless when comparing her new work with that of her old. She

Kingdom, it was the second biggest adult opening of all time and also became the fifteenth best selling book of 2012 throughout its first week of release. The publisher, Little, Brown and Company announced that within the first three weeks of total sales, the book reached one million copies.

Overall, reviews of the book have been fairly good, although more impressively, Rowling's reflection was commendable. When discussing her new book, she noted her need to write and the feeling of pride consumed as a result. Initially, Rowling was going to publish the novel under a pseudonym

although ultimately felt that it was more courageous to continue and use the name J.K. Rowling. She even continued to the extent of the worse possible scenario.

"So, yeah, I'll put it out there, and if everyone says, 'Well, that's shockingly bad—back to wizards with you', then obviously I won't be throwing a party. But I will live. I will live," said Rowling.



FROM WIZARDS TO POLITICANS: Released September 27th, Rowling stands proud of her new work apart from the Potter series.

"I'm a writer, and I will write what I want to write."

-J.K. Rowling



Catchiest songs of 2012

By Samantha Semler

STAFFWRITER

1. "Call Me Maybe"—Carly Rae Jepsen
"Call Me Maybe" is a peppy teenage ballad that depicts the story of a girl who sees a boy whom she finds very attractive and decides to give him her number.

2. "Baby"—Justin Bieber
There is not a single teenager in the United States of America that has not heard this song. This track was Bieber's first truly sensational hit. The song again wins over its listeners by its repetitive chorus. Although some may find this incredibly annoying, Bieber has whined, or sung, his way in to the obsessive hearts of many.

3. "Sexy and I Know It"—LMFAO
This track was only really made famous by its music video. The video shows LMFAO traipsing around in Venice Beach, California wearing leopard print pants and "shuffling". The song is so blatantly ridiculous it finds its way into your head and repeats and repeats.

4. "What Makes You Beautiful"—One Direction
The boy band, One Direction, got third place on the X-Factor in 2010. They sing about a girl and about how perfect she is, yet she fails to realize it herself.

5. "Starships"—Nikki Minaj
"Starships" came out in 2012 and was much the summer anthem for many teenagers. While the song is fairly straight forward, the music video highly suggests otherwise.

6. "Boyfriend"—Justin Bieber
As the second more recent song of Bieber's, to make the list, "Boyfriend" has a much more mature sound to it, though still relatively obnoxious. In the lyrics, Bieber pleads a girl to "let him be her boyfriend" and he claims he'll do all the right things.

7. "Love You Like A Love Song"—Selena Gomez
As one of Gomez's more well known songs, she sings about how she has some sort of stereotypical yearning for a boy.

8. "Last Friday Night"—Katy Perry
Last Friday Night tells the story of a really big party that happened and how she has little recollection of the details that went down. The music video for this song shows what happens to "nerdy" girl when she ventures out of her shell into the world beyond, A.K.A. a party.

9. "Gangnam Style"—PSY
"Gangnam Style" was originally released in South Korea and was such a big hit it meandered its way to the listeners in the U.S. With words that are mostly in Korean the song is mostly famous for its melody and the dance that is portrayed in its music video.

10. "Live While We're Young"—One Direction
This song is the first single release from One Direction's new album and was released only a few short weeks ago.

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Why y'all hate country

By Annie Thacker

STAFFWRITER

If you asked students at Malibu High School what kind of music they were interested in, many would most likely respond with "anything but country."

If you asked them why, many would say something along the lines of "because it sucks."

It seems as if the people of our Malibu culture, as well as many other subcultures in America, are generally disgusted by country music.

Surprisingly, there are deep-rooted reasons for this, as a study at the University of Texas at Austin found. In "The Do Re Mi's of Everyday Life: The Structure and Personality Correlates of Music Preferences," researchers found that country music was positively correlated with traits of self-described conservatives, such as conscientiousness, and was negatively correlated with personality traits of liberals, such as openness. They used the popular five-factor model of personality in this study, which includes the traits of conscientiousness, which we traditionally refer to as character, and openness to experiences such as art and unusual ideas. They proved that the upbeat and conventional country music was best suited for conservatives, as most of the songs deal with simple topics and the

singers describe their simple pleasures, like seeing their children grow up or falling in love with the girl next door. The study found that liberals, on the other hand, were more interested in music describing complex experiences, or sang with more complex and interesting lyrics. Depending on one's other personality traits, the study concluded that liberals, who are described as reflective and complex, would be more suited with types of music such as folk, blues, or jazz.

However, the biggest reason that numerous students as young as eleven years old would passionately say that they hate country music is because they hear everyone else saying the same thing. It is not their emerging political ideologies that make them dislike it, but rather a fear of being uncool or different, which should not be the case.

"Everyone likes country music—they just don't want to admit it."

-Country Music Association director, Scott Stem

This genre is too huge and too popular in our country to not even be given a chance, especially by open-minded liberals. If you're up for the country music challenge and want to prove just how open-minded you are, try listening to the most popular artists right now, like Brad Paisley, Zac Brown Band, and Jason Aldean. The Country Music Association's director Scott Stem got it right when he said, "Everyone likes country music—they just don't want to admit it."

HIGH SCHOOL MOVIES THAT GAVE ME COMPLETELY UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS AND PROBABLY RUINED MY SOCIAL LIFE FOREVER

By Olivia Cerio
STAFF WRITER

1. **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL** – Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens play two teenaged lovers in this painfully wholesome, musical version of Romeo and Juliet. In this movie, high school appears to be some musical walk in the park (literally and figuratively). The term “homework” is universally unknown and the hardest thing you’ll ever have to do is wear a sequined hat and scarf set while providing backup vocals for your more popular classmates.

from Starbucks with them.

4. **MEAN GIRLS** – Lindsey Lohan plays a new student from Africa in the film that teenage girls and uninspired Internet memes have been quoting since 2005. The film’s main point is that teenage girls are vicious beasts and it’s really funny when you ruin people’s lives. I had to think that over for a while because I was so positive

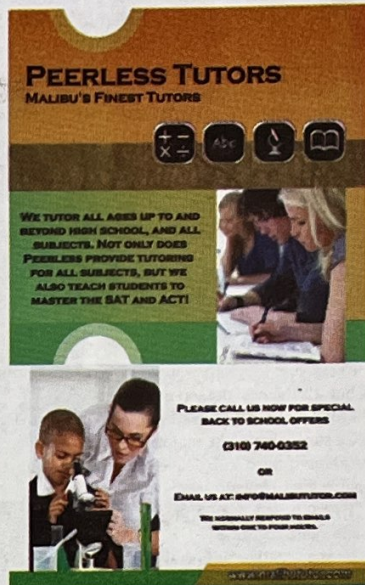
Contrary to popular belief, jocks aren’t always outgoing jerks, and nerds can have friends (I’m a shining example). But, while most people might disagree with these stereotypes, it doesn’t mean they’d get along. The truth of the matter is, if you put all these different, polar opposite kids in an isolated location for a long period of time, you’d find that they’d have nothing in common and probably would not talk unless forced to.

6. **SKY HIGH** – This film centers on a young guy with a lot to live up to; his parents are famous superheroes and he hasn’t even developed his powers by the first day of his hero high school. Fortunately, for us humans at Malibu High, we won’t get violently beaten up by a guy with flames coming out of his hands.

7. **HARRY POTTER** – JK Rowling’s world-famous franchise is about Harry Potter, played by Daniel Radcliffe, who must learn the ways of wizardry and find out about his past. If this movie didn’t make you cry hysterically on your eleventh birthday, then you and I have had very different experiences. If only kids could be sorted into cliques by a magical hat, I’m sure life would be much simpler.

8. **FERRIS BUELLER’S DAY OFF** – The most popular boy in his entire school decides to play hooky with his girlfriend and neurotic buddy. Hilarity ensues! Honestly, Ferris Bueller is a self-indulgent fantasy of a teenager who thinks people are documenting every detail of their life. In reality, no one would bat an eyelash if you or I missed a day of school, except Laurie who works in the office.

9. **GREASE** – After a summer of love, two sweethearts are reunited at their high



school – where everyone solves their problems through song. The belief that a song could change Grease Lightning from a sad piece of junk to a true racing machine, is misleading and makes my life feel disappointing. While a good sing-along to a Broadway show tune does cheer me up, it isn’t going to make that big exam coming up go away, or undo that time I accidentally threw a dodgeball at a stranger’s face.

10. **CLUELESS** – This movie tells of a spoiled rich girl who’s vapid, naive personality leads to many humorous but dysfunctional situations. As someone who lives in Malibu, I am sick of being represented in the media by heiress airheads.



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL: The perfect school where all sadness and petty drama are swept away with a show tune.

2. **THE HEATHERS** – A clique that kills is the central point of cult classic Heathers. Wionna Ryder has grown tired of her controlling “friends,” all named Heather. When enigmatic Christian Slater blows into town, the popular kids begin to pay –with their blood. First of all, I do not recommend murdering kids that bother you. It’s messy and illegal in most states. Maybe not Kentucky, I don’t know. Anyways, it gave me unrealistic expectations for my hair. Ryder’s coif is flawless even when covered with internal organs. But I digress. The main problem I have with this movie is that one group of girls couldn’t possibly have that much authority over their entire school. My friends and I don’t even get off-campus lunch.

3. **CINDERELLA STORY** – Hilary Duff is an invisible high school student with a job waitressing at the local diner, a gay best friend, and a ruthless stepfamily that hates her guts. Duff has the inner depth and body structure of a Barbie doll, not to mention an album or two. She doesn’t need to pretend to be someone she’s not (or in this case some super cool girl in a sparkling dress and dainty white mask). In our high school’s case, being who you are is a pretty good idea. Do you listen to obscure bands and dress like Billy Holiday? I would be surprised if the people here haven’t already asked you if you’d like to get a low-fat decaf mocha frappuccino

that Mean Girls had a more uplifting message. This teaches you to be scared of the “popular” girls and go out of your way to hate them. In reality, these girls are just normal everyday teenagers, and you can’t hate them just because puberty hit them early or their wicked sense of humor is different from your own; you just have to ignore them or learn to live with them.

5. **THE BREAKFAST CLUB** – In this John Hughes film, five high school students, embodying various stereotypes, are brought together by Saturday detention. This film emphasizes how social caste systems can be deceiving and untruthful.

STUDENT WORK



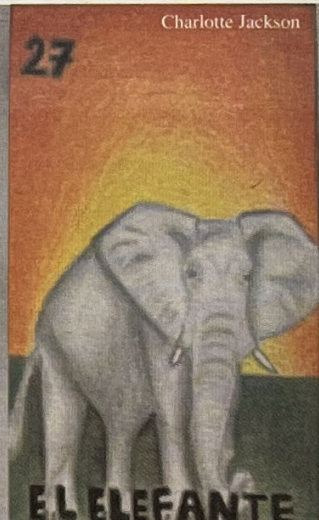
Sarah Larson



Isabelle Anderson



Nelly Alvarez



Charlotte Jackson



George Savas



Jose Guzman

Thanksgiving

By Lara Kiefer
STAFF WRITER

Students at Malibu High eagerly await the fun annual traditions that come with Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving has become not only a day to give thanks, but also a day for family and delicious food.

Governor William Bradford organized the first Thanksgiving in 1621, that lasted three days. However, the food eaten was much different than it is today. Their feast included of fish, lobster, rabbit, squash, carrots, and dried fruits. Today, turkey is certainly the most popular main course and, as a result, about 280 million turkeys are sold for the Thanksgiving celebrations. Thanksgiving has become such a celebrated event, that in 2008, even astronauts aboard the Endeavor joined together and ate Thanksgiving meals that were sent to them.

There are many different ways to celebrate Thanksgiving, which make the holiday special. Many families have unique traditions that make Thanksgiving much more than just a four-day weekend. From traveling across the country to staying home, it seems to be that there is no typical way that people celebrate this holiday.

"I always go to the Cowboys football game in Texas," said senior Logan Beitler.

"Every year I go to Houston, Texas to visit my family. And we have a huge Thanksgiving dinner," said senior Skylar Steinberg.

Usually turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie are the popular foods for a Thanksgiving dinner, but many families have changed up the traditional menu, and personalized it.

"My favorite thing to eat on Thanksgiving is my grandma's rice pudding with cinnamon sugar on top," said senior Allison Hahn.

"Every year I look forward to my grandma's 'pumpkin mush'," said senior Jordan Clarke. "I don't know how she makes it, but it's the best dessert ever".

"I love a nice big slice of pumpkin pie with a ton of whipped cream," said senior Brennan Cassone.

Not surprisingly, the majority of people are most excited about the dessert, not the dinner.

Although most kids leave the cooking to their mom or grandma, many students at MHS make a contribution to their Thanksgiving meal.

"Every year I bake a pie with my mom," said sophomore Chelsea Bostwick, explaining how this has become a very memorable tradition.

Getting together with cousins, siblings and friends on Thanksgiving, is bound to create many memories. For many, it is the traditions that make the holiday so great.

"I like to count all of the decorative turkeys at my aunt's house," said senior Olivia Thorne.

"My cousins and I go to the sand dunes at Zuma Beach on Thanksgiving morning," said junior Danica Downing.

"The morning after the big Thanksgiving dinner, I wake up on Black Friday really early and go shopping to get good deals," said Steinberg.

The students at Malibu High clearly have a lot to look forward to, and a lot to be thankful for.

"At the thanksgiving table, we always read a book called *What I'm Thankful For*," said Clarke.

"I look forward to seeing my extended family and my brother Grant," said Thorne. "I also like spending time thinking about how fortunate and blessed I am."

The students in Malibu have many different ways to celebrate the big holiday. While some host a big meal, others travel across the country to see extended family. Almost everyone is excited about Thanksgiving and anticipates the upcoming holiday.

Dating Advice from the Master

By Josh Corrigan
SPORTS EDITOR

Question:
When do I know to stop pursuing my lover?
(When does it get creepy?) -Nicolle

Answer:
I say never stop. There is nothing a girl loves more than persistence. And since when is pursuing someone creepy? Everyone knows that there is someone out there stalking him/her on Facebook anyway. In fact, I'm sure your lover will appreciate being stalked on a more personal level. So keep it up Nicolle.

Question:
How do I get out of the friend-zone? -Julian Paige

Answer:
The answer is a lot simpler than you probably thought Mr. Paige. Just pour boiling hot water on them, you will find that you get out of that friend zone. I'm sure that person will understand how you feel and respond accordingly. Also, I'm sure they will enjoy your spontaneous action. However, the judge may not.

Question:
I've been watching this woman over these past months, these past dozen years, should I, shouldn't I, can I, bequeath my burden of love onto her delicate shoulders? -Klaus T.E

Answer:

My advice to you to leave post it notes all over her house. I mean literally everywhere. Write as sloppy as possible in red ink, "I'm in the basement, waiting to bequeath my burden on your shoulders." Obviously she will assume that your burden is your love and you will find that she will notice those notes and immediately panic from all the excitement to meet you.

Question:
How do I get boys to notice me? -Kate

Answer:
Wear lots of neon spandex. Everyone knows that guys can't stop staring at bright colorful things, especially when on any object as pretty as a woman. Also, be sure you are as loud as possible, so the entire room can know what your talking about and tell them everything that is on

your mind. And I mean everything. Just remember, there is no such thing as TMI.

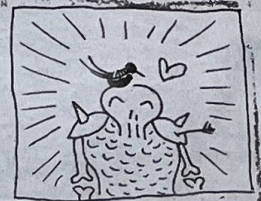
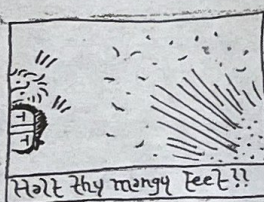
Question:
I'm trying to diversify my portfolio, but my numero uno is suggesting that I invest in traditional standards. Do I compensate or do we call it a banana split? -Ry. M.

Answer:
Well, Dr. Ry. M., it is certainly nice to see someone else using the Mitt Romney technique. Whether it is binders or portfolio, organizing your women is a great idea. Also, just like Mitt Romney, why not do both and tell conservatives that you care about your traditional standards, while diversifying at the same time. That way, you appeal to both sides. Sure you may have disapproval coming from both sides, but there is nothing money can't fix.

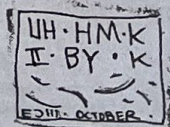
10 Things You Didn't Know About Disneyland...

By Lauren Louks
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CO-EDITOR

1. There is a hotel room above the Castle and room above The Pirates of the Caribbean.
2. There is a half basketball court inside the Matterhorn.
3. There is a real diamond somewhere hidden in the treasure of the Pirates of the Caribbean.
4. Disneyland now has a Starbucks.
5. If you stay on the ride of the Haunted Mansion after you are supposed to get off, you go through several computer rooms.
6. If you stay at the Disneyland hotel, Disneyland is opened to you an hour before it is opened to the public.
7. Around 20 people have died at Disneyland since it has opened, but most of the deaths were due to guest negligence and suicides.
8. There are hidden Micky Mouses all around Disneyland and people try to find as many as they can.
9. Located within Disneyland is a club called Club 33, which is only open to members. The club offers special events, food, and other benefits.
10. The Mad Tea Party, located in California Adventures, is the only place in either of the parks that sells alcohol.



By Evan McGiffert
STAFF WRITER



Brennan Cassone: rising star

By Josh Corrigan
SPORTS EDITOR

Although Malibu High is a small beach town school with more surfers than hard-core jocks, the school's football team has surprisingly produced California's number one wide receiver, Brennan Cassone.

Of the twenty three varsity players on the football team, Cassone has managed what was previously not possible in such a small school—a number one state rank, no laughing matter in one of the most competitive athletic states in the country.

Cassone, a Malibu High senior, has thrived both on the defense and the offense. Cassone earned this prestigious rating while being one of the team's biggest tacklers—ranking as a Stat leader in almost every category. Cassone even managed to return a punt for a touchdown over eighty yards against Santa Clarita.

As well, Brennan scored fifteen touchdowns in only ten regular season games. But his most im-

pressive statistic is his 150 yards receiving per game average as well as 1500 receiving yards totaled for the season which placed

demonstrate Cassone's superior and dominant role in the sport of football.

Cassone's seemingly God-given

one and the rest of the team put in three hour practices, often six days a week.

"I would have to say it's a com-

well as he does it's obvious that there is more involved than a player who works hard. Cassone brings an infectious passion to the



Akana Ozawa

BRENNAN CASSONE IS A CATCH: Brennan Cassone knows that college football is in his future.

him thirteenth in the nation, a mere 500 yards from first place. To put Cassone's performance in an NFL perspective, no wide receiver has ever gained more than 1000 yards or caught more than nine touchdowns. These statistics

talent has not come easily. Lots of long hours and dedicated work has gone into perfecting his sport. During pre-season he spends hours lifting weights and performing speed drills.

Once the season began, Cas-

bination of a lot of hard work in the off season and at practice during the summer, with also having the opportunity to play a complete season at just one position," said Cassone.

Watching Cassone play as

"I would have to say it's a combination of a lot of hard work in the off season and at practice during the summer, with also having the opportunity to play a complete season at just one position,"

- Brennan Cassone.

game, enthraling the crowd with his larger than life enthusiasm for the sport.

One noted example occurred in Malibu's game against Chadwick when Cassone caught almost every single pass, including a touchdown, in a drive that won the game.

Cassone sees football in his college future, but where, for how long, and at what level is yet to be decided. But what is clear is that Brennan Cassone's athletic talent is a shining star at Malibu High.

Malibu cheer is here

By Kate Kiefer
STAFF WRITER

The Malibu High cheerleaders bring spirit to our school in so many ways. They support almost every sports team and bring school spirit to make Malibu High a fun place to be.

"School spirit is important because it brings everyone together, it creates

a close community where everyone encourages each other, and people are more successful," said senior and MHS cheerleader Jessica Murray.

A cheering crowd gives the team the energy they need to give it their all in a game, and represent our school. When people show their pride for a player, they will feel appreciated and important, and therefore play a better game.

MHS cheerleaders role's extend to more more than just support for MHS's sports teams.

"I think our biggest contribution within school goes far beyond being at the games but also getting the players amped up and being a

consistent representation of what spirit at Malibu could be like," said senior Eden Concoff.

Our cheerleaders lead by example to show unity and spirit.

"The girls on the team all act like sisters. They all agree that they are a family. They are happy to cheer for us. They make Malibu a fun place to grow up," said freshman Lauren Murphy.

"School spirit is important because it brings everyone together, it creates a close community where everyone encourages each other, and people are more successful." Jessica Murray, fellow MHS cheerleader.

The cheer team has numerous methods to create excitement among the players.

"On Fridays, we bring candy to the football players to wish them luck for the game," said junior Jade Collins-Parnell.

Although we have a steady cheer team at our school now, MHS was once without cheerleaders. The team started up on a whim after the first successful year of middle school cheer. The goal was to make the team as traditional as possible. Since then, the team has become more unique and the girls have created their own identity and traditions.

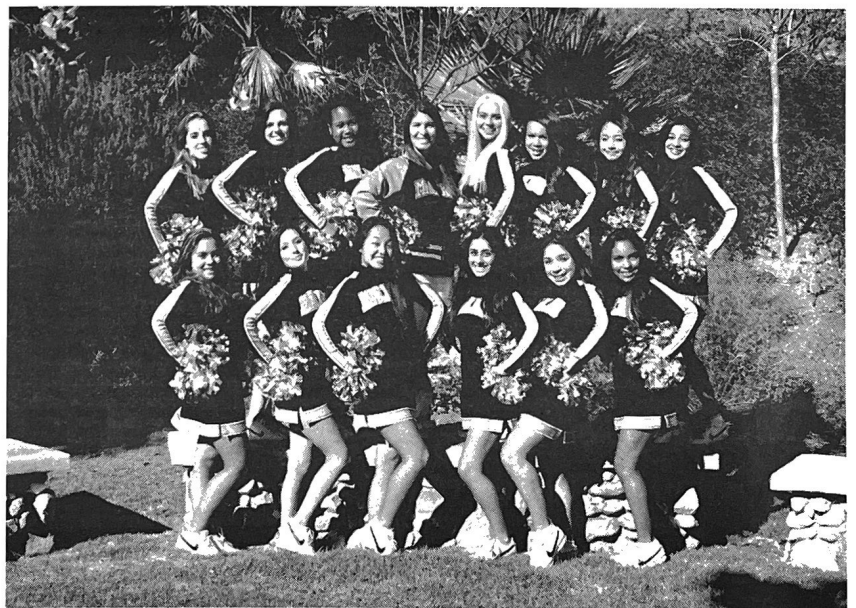
An obstacle for the team was getting the rest of the students at MHS used to the cheer team.

As the team got more comfortable and experienced, they gained respect and the school started to

gained supporters from all of their hard work. This was a big accomplishment. Now cheerleading is treated like any other sport on campus.

As senior Concoff leaves the

The amount of dedication shown by our cheerleaders is amazing. So make sure you say thank you to our cheer team for giving all the athletes energy for their games. Appreciate the team for bringing



CHEERLEADING: Malibu High School's 2012-2013 cheer team is excited for the year ahead and to cheer under the lights.

embrace the idea of cheerleaders. Sports team like basketball, helped encourage students to become excited about having a cheer team. Eventually, the team

team and goes to college, she is proud of how far the team came. She is confident the team will carry on and grow, and bring home awards and recognition.

spirit to our school every day. The team truly makes our school come together and consistently create a happy environment at all Malibu High sporting events.

MHS seniors go on medical mission

By Elena Clarfield
ARTS & ENT. EDITOR

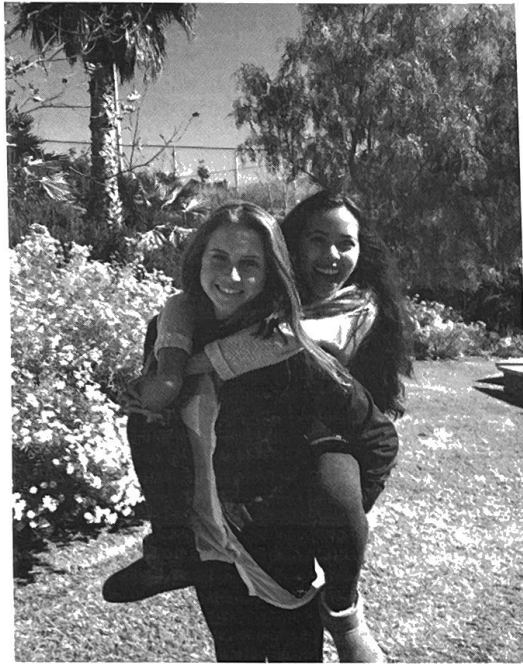
this mission is Operation Smile's happening in the Philippines in

Operation Smile is a non-profit organization that provides free surgeries to children suffering from cleft lips, cleft palates, and other facial deformities in developing countries around the world. Founded by Bill and Kathy Magee in 1982, the organization has expanded enormously and includes countless student clubs across the United States and in many foreign countries.

Ever since it was created, Malibu High School's Operation Smile Club has been one of the most distinguished clubs both at the school and in the nation. A few years ago, it won the Club of the Year Award for being extremely successful in leadership, service, education, awareness, and fundraising. Additionally, members from the club often go on medical missions as student volunteers. The club's advisor, high school teacher Sarah Ryan, has gone on missions herself, as has middle school teacher Brigitte Leonard.

This year, senior co-presidents Taylor Colby and Britta Mosser are going on a mission together. They are going to Dasmarias Cavite, which is located just outside of the capitol of the Philippines. Their mission is very special.

"The Philippines is where Operation Smile held its first mission so



ON A MISSION: Seniors, Taylor Colby and Britta Mosser show their excitement for their medical mission with Operation Smile.

30th anniversary mission," said Mosser.

Mosser and Colby's mission is one of the eight missions that are

November. They are the only student volunteers on their specific part of the trip, but they will be travelling with some of the other

teams that are going.

Student volunteers have a very specific role on these medical missions.

"We educate the patients and the parents of the patients on five seemingly basic concepts: oral hygiene, hand washing, nutrition, burn care and prevention, and oral rehydration therapy," said Colby.

Teaching the children and parents these skills can make a huge difference in their lives.

Along with leading presentations, in which they are aided by a translator, student volunteers play an important part in the hospitals as well.

"It is very hard for the parents to leave their children with the doctors and nurses, who are total strangers," said Mosser.

The student volunteers help in making both the children and the parents comfortable before the operation by assuring the parents that their child will be okay and by playing with the children before their surgery.

Mosser and Colby are both very excited for their mission. Colby is looking forward to meeting all of the people and hearing their stories.

"I think this will, if anything, make me realize where my place is and what I should be doing with my time and energy," said Mosser.

Mosser is also looking forward to seeing how much of a difference she can make.

"I am excited to see so many lives transformed. I know I will be inspired by every child that I meet," said Mosser

After attending mission training, they both have an idea of what is to come.

"I've heard the most amazing part of a mission is seeing the parents faces when they see their children after surgery with a fixed lip. I also can't wait to see the children's faces when they see their new smile in the mirror," said Mosser.

Both of the current high school seniors have plans to continue their journey with Operation Smile in college, and hopefully go on another mission.

Mosser and Colby will probably not be updating about their mission while they are on it, but they will share photos and videos when they return. They departed for the Philippines on November 20th, and will be gone for two weeks including travel days.

Additionally, they are happy to accept any donations of toys or bubbles to bring with them.

Malibu lacrosse rides solo

By Jens Cole
STAFF WRITER

In the upcoming 2012-2013 Lacrosse season, many schools are starting the process of transferring their Lacrosse teams into divisions in which their football teams are. In the last few seasons, the Malibu Lacrosse

team was kicked out of that league play and ultimately have become an independent team.

"Teams in the 101 High Way Division like Newbury, Westlake, and Agoura are trying to match up their lacrosse team with their football teams divisions. We don't play them in football, so we've been kicked out of the

there is a chance they can be.

"We may be placed in another league but we might just start playing other, harder teams, such as Loyola, Harvard Westlake and Cate," said Wetton

Although it is unfortunate that the team has been disbanded from their league, it gives Malibu the opportunity to play stronger

said Wetton.

With returning seniors Brennan Cassone, Daniel Levin, Cooper McDonnell, Jackson Perlmutter, Will Rosenthal, Sean Ryan, Gianni Rivetti, Riley Smoller, Chris Sol, Patrick Wetton, and Jake Wexler, the team hopes to go further than they did last year and win a CIF title. This strong group of seniors not only will have an affect on the over all skill and play of the team but will be leaders for their teammates, as well. With basically the same group of play-



THE BOYS: Varsity lacrosse boys (from left to right) Patrick Wetton, Brennan Cassone, Nick Carlson, Riley Smoller, Harrison Smart, and Chris Sol, pose for the camera.

team has played schools such as Newbury, Westlake, and Agoura; yet the issue for the Malibu Lacrosse team is the Malibu Football team does not play teams in that high of a division, Divisions 1-3. And as a result the Lacrosse

league and now we are going to be independent." Said senior Patrick Wetton.

At this point the team does not know whether or not they will be placed in another league, although

continuing their good season into the next.

"We will do better than last year because we pretty much have all seniors and we have some good juniors stepping up to varsity",

"We've been kicked out of the league and now we are going to be independent"

-senior, Patrick Wetton

ers, the team will not struggle picking up where they left off last

year. This team brings a strong and quick offense, with a solid defense that other teams are going to struggle with, when matched up against the Sharks. These returning players know what it takes to go far in CIF, but as for all sports teams it is going to take hard work and practice to create a CIF championship caliber team for the 2012-13 season.

The Sharks have started off-season practices and their games start in the spring. Don't forget to come out and support your classmates. Go Sharks!

Pietryk Qualifies for State

By Kate Keifer
STAFFWRITER

The cross country team's season came to a close recently, except for one runner, sophomore **Caroline Pietryk**, who is the only member of her league to move on to CIF and now has qualified for the statewide competition.

Pietryk has been a dominant runner, and to be the best female runner in the league is impressive enough, but doing so as only a sophomore is even more. The team also had many other good runners this year including juniors **Dyer Petijohn** and **Eric Rosenberg** in the boys division, who were constantly trying to out do each other's times meet to meet.

Still, out of the entire league, Pietryk is only person who qualified to move on to CIF.

Even more impressively, Pietryk was able to finish third place in her CIF meet, and now is able to compete in the state wide CIF this Saturday in Fresno.

This type of performance is unprecedented and Pietryk will be representing her entire league in the state championship.

Pietryk's CIF run also broke a school record with the best school 29 mile time the school has ever seen. After posting such a fast time, Pietryk looks as if she could do well in the State competition especially when considering that she was the third fastest runner for the entire Southern California division 4 area.

Pietryk and the rest of the team put a lot of work in this season and the work ethic put in is seen in the daily life of sophomore Jena Weinberger.

Jena Weinberger is a sophomore at MHS, and is on the Cross-Country team as well. Jena shows us how a runner lives by describing her typical day.

Jena wakes up at 7:20 am every day for school. The first thing she does is get dressed, and of course into aerodynamic clothes so she can move faster.

Jena's life is all about speed, so she can succeed in her sport.

She speedily packs her cross-country bag, to work on her speed dexterity. She then has a protein filled breakfast to improve her strength. Her day-to-day breakfast is a piece of toast.

At 7:45 she is off to school, where she continues her routine.

When it is time for English class in first period, Jena races to the classroom. When that task is complete, Jena does not quit. She whips out last night's math homework, and as if it were cross-country practice, she races through it.

Now it's almost time for her next class, math. This is where Jena gets most of her science homework done. Jena keeps her mile time shorter by doing her homework fast. It puts her in the racing mindset.

Once it is third period, it is time for science where Jena gets inspiration from her mentor, Mr. Perry.

Then on to the part of the day that was made for Jena, lunchtime. Jena's lunchtime is a mixture of running from place to place, and attending three different clubs: Best Buddies, Operation Smile, and Mali Jew.

The athlete says the rest of her lunchtime is spent fueling up for practice. Her "fuel" foods consist of brownies, goldfish, chips, and crackers. Protein filled foods like these is what gives Jena that extra boost when she runs.

After three more exciting classes, school is finally over.

As soon as she is released from school, Jena goes to her favorite time of day, practice time. Jena loves the days when her team goes down to Zuma because it is nice and she can collect sand dollars, or dendraster excentricus.

Jena reveals her secret collection of these creatures by saying she has a whole bowl of the sand dollars from the season.

When Jena gets home, she does homework, watches TV, and eventually goes to bed.

Such is the day in the life of a cross country runner.

The truth about sports injuries

By Emma Kelly
STAFFWRITER

Ask anyone who participates in organized sports about getting injured and undoubtedly you'll hear some gruesome stories. While a scar or bruise can be seen as a badge of honor, it's important to know the truth about sports injuries.

The STOP Sports Injuries Campaign reports, "high school athletes account for an estimated 2 million injuries, 500,000 doctor visits, and 30,000 hospitalizations each year."

Even more unbelievable, "62% of sports related injuries occur during practices rather than games," according to Safe Kids USA, a nationwide network of organizations working to prevent childhood accidents.

"My teammates and I always have to be aware of what's going on or we'll get hurt," said **Gianna Chaisson**, a freshman volleyball player. Chaisson said that many of the people she plays with have been injured.

"Most of the time, you just look silly [when you are injured]. But some girls have had serious accidents during our season," said Chaisson.

Her advice is to always concentrate on the game and make quick decisions when needed.

One of the most common injuries in sports is a muscle pull. This happens when a sudden, severe force is applied to the muscle and its fibers are stretched beyond capacity.

Fortunately, the treatment is very simple: apply ice until pain and swelling subside (about twenty minutes). Repeat this everyday until there is no aching whatsoever and the muscle can be fully stretched.

Another typical but more serious injury is a concussion. WebMD describes this as, "a type of traumatic brain injury that is caused by a blow to the head or body."

Contrary to popular belief, you do not have to lose consciousness or show visible signs to have a concussion. Symptoms of a concussion range from mild to severe and include memory loss, sensitivity to light, headache, or nausea. Seek emergency care immediately if you or someone you know has received a concussion.

Fortunately for you and your team, many of these ailments are easy to prevent. Before practice or games, you should prepare by stretching thoroughly or taking a light jog. A good warm-up is generally 15 to 30 minutes. Remember to always wear the required protective gear for your sport and keep hydrated.

By taking simple precautions, you are guaranteed a healthy and safe athletic career.

Girls Tennis nets a good season

By Nicole Harper
STAFFWRITER

The girls varsity tennis team had a stellar season this year, they were undefeated until CIF where they were upset in the semi-finals by Laguna Hills.

The girls won easily in the first two rounds and it was looking as

if they were going to be able to win CIF with ease.

However, the surprising strong performance from Laguna ended the team's season, beating the Sharks 11-7. Unfortunately, the girls lost the toss and were forced to play at Laguna. Perhaps the results may have been different

if they had played at Pepperdine, their home site. Although the girls did not achieve their goal of winning, CIF they had an overall great season.

Their loss against Laguna, was the only defeat that the Sharks had experienced all season. In the regular season, the Sharks dominated their league, going undefeated. The closest margin of victory for the Sharks before CIF was winning eight points.

The Sharks were also able to beat Oaks Christian in both their meetings 14-4 and were clearly the best in their league.

The girls say that their success had a lot to do with their new coach, **Doug Olen**, who helped them improve throughout the season.

Olen introduced a new program to the girls tennis team. The girls worked hard to come as far as they did, working out almost every day after school.

He introduced new drills and led the girls to work harder than they ever had before in previous years. Olen had the girls play against each other almost every day to help them to improve as a team.

During their matches he coached the girls during the matches, giving them great advice, which often led to their great success.

The girls are very grateful for his great help this year on the team, and hopes that he will return next year.

These hard working girls practiced nearly every day, getting whipped back into shape by their new coach.

Although Olen trained the same players that had been on the team last year, with the exception of one senior, he was able to turn the previously great Sharks into one of the strongest teams in the Valley. The girls improved tremendously, and did incredibly well.

The team clearly felt the impact of a new coach and were able to improve on a team that already seemed to have reached its potential beyond the level of almost every other team in the area.

Unfortunately, when tennis player **Raven Odian** was asked if she was excited for some new players to join the team next year, she said that she doesn't believe there's going to be any new talent joining the team.

But despite the lack of incoming teammates to replace the talent that the team had this year, Odian is hopeful at another shot at CIF. The girls are confident that if they get to go to CIF, they will conquer.

Looking back on the season, the

team still views it as a big success, but are still distraught about their final defeat.

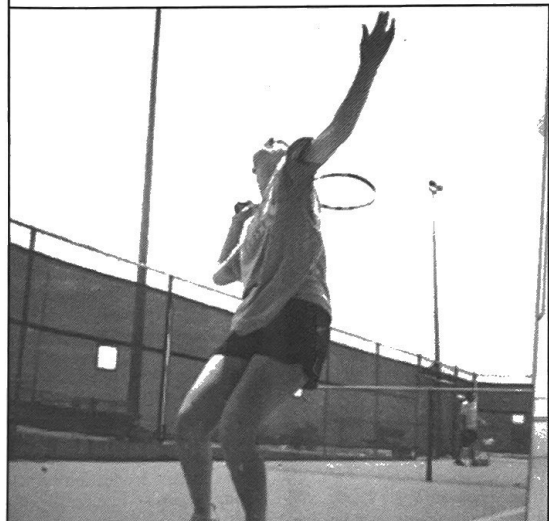
The girls hope to continue with the same intensity that the team had this year. The girls tennis team made it semifinals the last two years, however, they were not able to make it to the finals.

Because the girls were expected to do well, with their high seeding in the CIF tournament, their loss was especially heartbreaking. Hopefully next season the girls can do even better next year and achieve their goal of winning CIF.

"This season I think we did really well. We were undefeated before Wednesday and that was definitely although this was a big blow to the spirit of the team," said Odian.

Despite being upset by Laguna the team to be able to get another shot at those CIF rings. The girls intend to try just as hard, if not harder, next year. As Troy Bolten once sang, they gotta get their heads in the game.

A few of the girls are still competing individually in CIF and it will be interesting to see how far any one of these Malibu girls can go.



Serving up success: Senior Britta Mosser winds up her serve during a practice at MHS.

Football's record breaking season earns CIF qualification

By Josh Corrigan
SPORTS EDITOR

The Malibu High school football team ended its season last Friday their first CIF match in five years against Linfield Christian.

Unfortunately for the Sharks their historic season was concluded after losing away to Linfield, 44-21. However, the result of the game did not come from poor play or a superior opponent, the game was really decided by what continuously plagued Sharks this season; injuries. After letting up

a touchdown about half way into the first quarter, the Sharks quickly worked their way up to Linfield goal line.

However, the Sharks run was quickly halted after a failed quarterback sneak left quarterback junior Chase Gardella, who had already had a concussion this season, with a what would end up being game ending injury.

However, Gardella was able to take a few more snaps. On a crucial fourth and goal he was able to complete a pass to junior George Savas, who was almost imme-

diately hit helmet to helmet by a Linfield defender near the goal line.

This led to a scary moment for the Sharks as Savas had to be taken off the pitch by stretcher and was immediately taken to the hospital by an ambulance. Also, in the time it took for the paramedics to arrive, team doctors took another look at Gardella and decided that he would not be able to return to the game.

Junior Dylan Miller was able to take over at quarterback and almost immediately complete a touchdown pass to star player senior Brennan Cassone, the momentum stayed with Linfield for the rest of the match.

Despite ending the season with a loss, the Sharks were able to surpass expectations and produce one of the best seasons the team has ever had.

In almost every game, the Sharks were able comeback even when it seemed impossible. This was seen most in their final regular season game against Santa Clarita.

With their playoff hopes on the line, the Sharks found themselves down by 17 points. Even after hope started to fade away, the Sharks came up with another huge fourth quarter comeback and scored 26 unanswered points to win.

The Sharks were able to finish the regular season with a record of 7-3 and finished second in their league. After only going 5-5 last



Akana Ozawa

Kudo's for Kodo: Junior Anthony Kodomichalos jumps to make a big catch close to a first down.

Another one bites the dust: Senior Brennan Cassone breaks a tackle with a stiff arm and accelerates up the open field.

Awkana Ozawa



year and losing almost all of their away games, the Sharks improve dramatically this year.

The team was also only able to go 1-3 in their league matches and finished third, missing CIF. However, this year was a different story and the team was able to perform both at and away from their home pitch and turned their league performances around to earn a 3-1 record.

Whether or not the team can have this type of success next year after losing players like Cassone, who is ranked 13th in the nation,

and senior Alden Quartz, is very much under question.

Still, the team has many upcoming players that could lead the team to similar success with Gardella returning as quarterback, Savas depending on his condition, as a defensive player and sophomore Matt Vincent as a running back the team may be able to impress fans with back to back CIF qualifications.

Boys Water Polo defends title

By Emma London
STAFFWRITER

This year the boy's water polo team, coached by Mike Mulligan, defended their title of winning league by beating Oaks Christian in an overtime match 9-8.

They sought to replicate last year's victories in league, and go on to win CIF. After winning their first two rounds of CIF, they ended up falling short of the CIF finals, losing to La Quinta 10-6 in the semifinal.

The Sharks started playoffs with some dominant performances. In the first round against Xavier Prep was won 11-3. Again the sharks dominated against Santa Ynez 15-7.

The Sharks previously had only one other loss, which was to Oaks, and were expecting to get some CIF rings this, but the strong performance from La Quinta stunted the Sharks run at a neutral pool in Mount Sac.

Regardless, the boy's water polo team still had yet another successful season this year and won yet another league title for MHS.

The team was able to accomplish most of its goals. They were able to beat Oaks Christian in an overtime match to retain their title and they also put yet another strong CIF performance that earned them a spot in the semi-

Although the members of the

team wanted to end the year with a CIF banner, the team still has a lot of positives to lack for their future.

There are many factors that attributed to the team's strong perfor-

"The seniors [Emmet Pierson, Jordan Clarke, Dane Sartorius, Morgan Hathorn, and Shaan McPartlin] have shown great leadership and have created a mantra of 'We Not Me' that has

Bell.

The team credits the immense senior leadership and overall team bonding to be one of the main causes of their motivation to win this sometimes-unforgiving team

were able to perform as a team, win as a team, and celebrate as a team.

"Whatever happens in the semifinals and the finals, I'll always remember how, despite adversity, the seniors helped us to stick together all season and exemplified what being a good teammate is all about," said Bell.

Last year the boy's team lost two crucial offensive players to whom the ball could be fed with trust.

However, the depth of the team showed, as they were able to retain their title.

"There are many more versatile players allowing for a more well rounded and strong team," said junior Jens Cole.

The team suffered yet another loss going into CIF with the removal of its first string goalie, Sartorius.

As a result, junior Jack Thompson, previously second string, stepped into the big shoes of being goalie for CIF and was overwhelmingly successful.

Thompson was even able to save a crucial penalty in the first round of CIF, which was a major turning point in the game.

The team's great season was not surprising. The water polo teams at MHS continue to impress by continuing to bond as a team and their constant production of new strong players.



Dasha Iarikova

SHARK ATTACK: Senior Morgan Hawthorne lifts himself out of the water and winds up for a shot on goal over an unsuspecting defender.

mance, but the biggest came from the senior leadership.

trickled down throughout the other players," said junior Cooper

sport. The team stuck strong with this belief the entire year and they