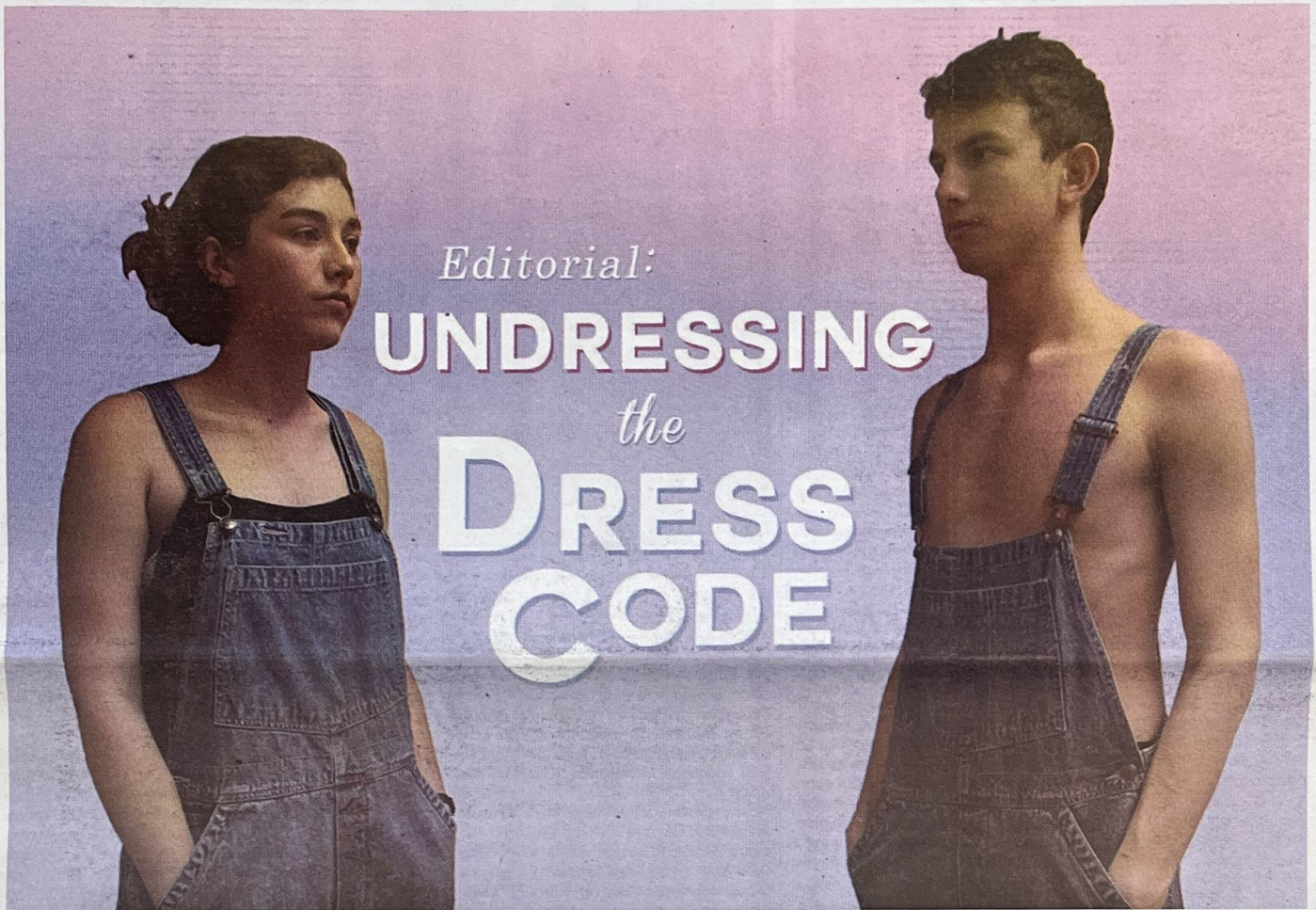


# THE CURRENT

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Editorial:

UNDRESSING

the

DRESS  
CODE

Kai Brady  
NEWS EDITOR

At Malibu High School, the dress code is often a controversial topic among students and faculty. The dress code prohibits straps that are too thin, exposed stomachs and backs, shorts that go above fist-level, and skirts that go above the fingertips. Students who violate any aspect of the dress code face the threat of being removed from class and forced to change into large t-shirts, often discarded from the Physical Education department, that are kept in a bin in the attendance office. In my opinion, the impact of this dress code is resoundingly negative. This sexist and illogically enforced policy needs to be heavily altered in order to ensure fair treatment for all students.

Notwithstanding its provisions, the dress code is clearly enforced in an unequal manner. It is common to see male violators of the dress code go unpunished. One example can be seen in Mr. Carrier's Toga Day for sophomores, during which male students often go shirtless under their togas. If a female student attempted this,

even if they were wearing a bra or bandeau, it is almost certain that they would be forced to change. Proponents of the dress code may say that this is because girls have "something to hide," but this argument is irrelevant to the point at hand. We are talking about shoulders, backs, and legs. There is nothing inherently sexual about any of those things and any attempt to legislate them out of view is archaic and pointless. Note that I have no problem with the lack of enforcement when it comes to male students; I loved participating in Toga Day and I couldn't care less what people choose to wear. But if the dress code is so seldom enforced for boys, the same should apply to girls.

The punishment for violating the dress code is also completely illogical. Not only does removal from class disrupt the victim's most basic education, but wearing a P.E. shirt forces them to partake in a ritualistic form of shaming as they put on the shirt hand-picked for them by the office attendants. While wearing a P.E. shirt is low on the embarrassment scale, it remains true that this consequence

is a school-sanctioned form of public humiliation. Enforcement does not happen as often in higher grades, but the fact that this system exists in the first place is enough of a problem. Is what someone wears really more important than their education? Is it really more important than their own dignity, comfort, and pride?

Another harmful aspect of the dress code policy is the reasoning behind it. The second paragraph of the code itself states, "Clothing may not disrupt the learning environment. A student's dress and general appearance should not be so extreme that it draws attention to the student, nor should dress and appearance detract or interfere with the teaching and learning in the classroom." Looking past the technical language, this passage is simply a rephrasing of the classic refrain: "If girls show too much skin, it will distract boys." Although that concept is not explicitly stated in the passage, the dress code's sexist enforcement and ridiculous punishment system reveal that boys' educations are prioritized over girls' educations at Malibu High School. This is not something that

should continue in the twenty-first century.

The inherent sexism of the dress code also translates to the enforcement of stereotypes of male students. By assuming that boys will be distracted, it operates under the presumption that we as males are incapable of controlling our most basic urges. Are we that primitive and sex-crazed that the slightest glimpse of a shoulder or a thigh will completely derail our educational experience? I find that insulting. First of all, the assumption that men have no self control is simply not true. It is the product of antiquated gender roles that harm both men and women. Second of all, being attracted to someone is a natural thing, and it is likely to happen regardless of the clothing choices of the individual in question. Trying to arbitrarily define the exact width at which a tank top strap will "distract" people is absolutely pointless, and it achieves the rare feat of simultaneously marginalizing both genders.

My final criticism of the dress code is a more philosophical one. Why is it so important for a governing body to regulate what

people choose to wear? I believe I can speak for the vast majority of the student body when I say that no one really has a problem with short shorts or a low-cut top, and if someone does get distracted over others' clothing choices, that is a personal problem. It is time for the school governance to stop trying to regulate morality to the finest detail. Obviously some guidelines are necessary, but despot requirements based on fist and fingertip lengths suggest a desire for further power over the individual rather than a genuine concern for the students.

No one is calling for an end to the dress code. Some regulation is needed to prohibit hateful messages on clothing, but the major details of the dress code are flawed, along with its enforcement. I call directly on the school administration to take action and do the right thing. I call on them to modify both the provisions and consequences of the dress code to better reflect the equal and fair community in Malibu. This is the only way that we can preserve equality and protect freedom of expression for all students, no matter who they are.

## Flowing Water Found On Mars

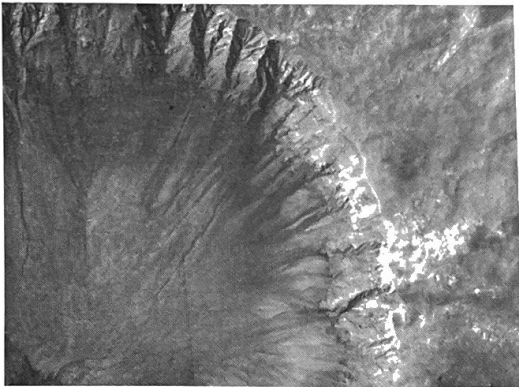


Image from *National Geographic*

**Cooper DeNicola**  
STAFF WRITER

On September 28, NASA confirmed the existence of flowing liquid water on the surface of Mars. While NASA did confirm water's existence on the Martian surface, they also noted that the water isn't near what is seen on Earth as flowing water.

For years it has been known that water exists on Mars in the form of ice caps at the planet's northern and southern poles. The idea of liquid water on Mars first emerged with the discovery of dark red streaks that appeared to flow over time, leaving scientists puzzled over their origins. The recent discovery answered this question, proving the common hypothesis that there is liquid water on Mars.

Malibu High sophomore **Kendrick Rivard** said, "this discovery brings a very interesting dynamic to the possibility colonizing Mars in the future. I can only imagine the future of humans in space." It is true that the discovery of water

would greatly affect the colonization of Mars. If the amount of water on Mars was substantial enough, it would greatly reduce the amount of water that would have to be sent to Mars to support human life.

The liquid on Mars is not so much flowing water as it is moisture in soil that is capable of causing the soil to flow. As the average temperature of Mars is below zero degrees Celsius, water in a liquid state is only possible because of hydrated salts that lower the freezing point of water. It is because of these salts that liquid water is able to exist on Mars, albeit in low quantities and for a short period of time.

Out of fear of contaminating or destroying possible Martian ecosystem, the regions with water are off limits to Mars rovers and future missions. Still, the discovery of extraterrestrial water revitalizes the discussion of life on planets other than our own, giving a new depth to the question: are we alone in the universe?

## CIA Hacked by 13-Year Old

**Sorin Moore**  
STAFF WRITER

On October 12, CIA director John Brennan had his personal AOL account hacked. A thirteen year old boy known as "Cracka" is the hacker claiming responsibility.

"Crackas with Attitude," Cracka's hacking group, explained that Cracka had socially engineered his way into the director of CIA's personal AOL account. To do this, Cracka had to trick Verizon into giving him John Brennan's personal information. Then he used that knowledge to reset Brennan's AOL password.

Once he had hacked into his account and collected information, Cracka called Brennan's cell phone using voice over IP (VoIP) and informed him that he had been hacked. Brennan answered, and after a brief talk, he asked how much Cracka wanted. Cracka told him that "Crackas with Attitude" wants him to stop

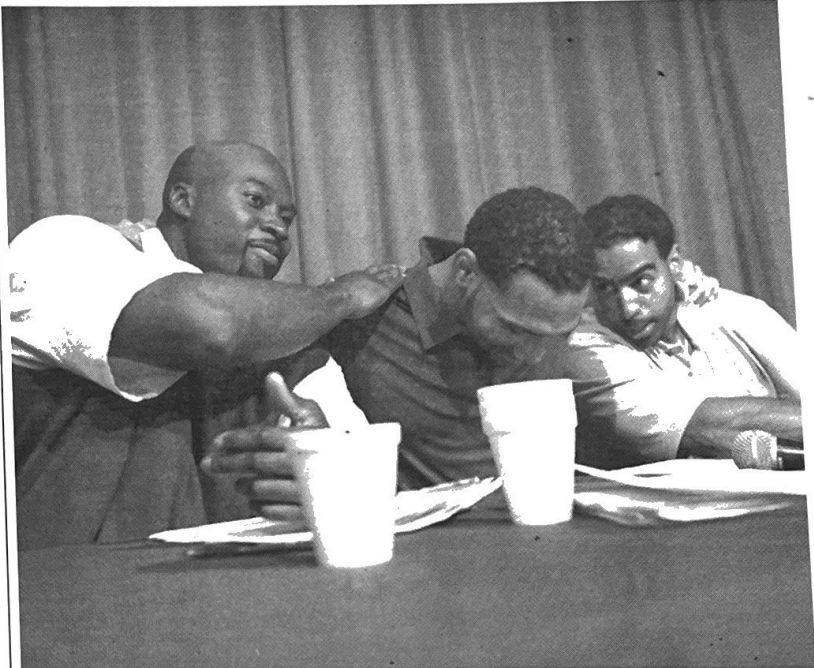
killing innocent people and to free the Palestinians.

After reading emails and gathering information, Cracka posted his findings on Twitter and passed on emails to WikiLeaks to post. One of Cracka's postings includes a list of high profile government employees and personal information such as their Social Security numbers.

"I would appreciate it if you didn't tell anybody I was still alive... Because [Crackas With Attitude] are going dark, don't tell anybody I spoke to you..." Cracka said, when the *Daily Dot* asked him why he wanted to keep it a secret that he was alive.

Cracka said that he thinks that "Crackas with Attitude" is going to be "vanned," or raided by law enforcement, sometime in the near future. This news has made people question the government's security. Numerous interviewees have said that this event has caused them to wonder just how safe their private information is.

## New York Inmates Defeat Harvard Debate Team



**VICTORY AT LAST:** From left, prison inmates Carl Snyder, Dyjuan Tatro, and Carlos Polanco embrace after winning the debate. Image from Peter Foley for *The Wall Street Journal*

**Koa Mack**  
STAFF WRITER

Inmates from the Eastern New York Correctional Facility defeated Harvard's prestigious debate team in September as part of the Bard Prison Initiative, a program run by Bard College to provide a college education to prisoners who qualify.

The prison debate team had invited the Harvard College Debating Union to participate in a debate. It would have been easy to underestimate the capability of the debate team from the New York Correctional facility. However, the prison debate team had already accomplished a lot. Incredibly, the inmates had already defeated a nationally ranked team from the University of Vermont and the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York.

The inmates had to defend a point of view that they fiercely disagreed with, which is a common exercise in debate competi-

tion. The topic was "Resolved: Public schools in the United States should have the ability to deny enrollment to undocumented students."

Following the debate, Carlos Polanco, one of the convicts (who is in prison for manslaughter) told the *Wall Street Journal* that he would never want schools to deny any child from receiving an education and that he was grateful for his chance to attend Bard College in prison. "We have been graced with opportunity," he said. "They make us believe in ourselves."

The Harvard club took the loss with grace. "Three members of the HCDU had the privilege of competing against members of the Bard Prison Initiative's debate program," the Harvard team posted on their Facebook page. "There are few teams we are prouder of having lost a debate to than the phenomenally intelligent and articulate team we faced this weekend, and we are incredibly

thankful to Bard and the Eastern New York Correctional Facility for the work they do and for organizing this event."

Inmates face numerous challenges while preparing for debates, which includes a lack of access to the Internet and a requirement for prison administration approval of necessary written materials, which can delay access to information about the debate topic. But they have perspective that undergraduate college students may not have. They know their Bard education is an opportunity most prisoners are not given, and know it can save lives.

According to *CNN*, the Bard Prison Initiative, has 300 students enrolled across the state of New York and reports that less than 2% of its inmate students released return to prison. By comparison, nearly 68% of prisoners in the U.S. are rearrested within three years of release, and more than half of them return to prison.

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# How to Prepare for El Niño



**Ashley Wallach**  
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

**E**l Niño's harmful weather has been negatively affecting Californians over the past few months and will continue to throughout this upcoming winter.

Picture the Equatorial Pacific with Australia and South Asia on the left and South America on the right. Pacific trade winds normally flow from east to west, pushing warm surface water with them. The warm water evaporates, adding moisture to the air and bringing the annual monsoons to Australia and South Asia.

The eastern Pacific gets all of the cold water as a result of the warm waters flow to the west. The cold water keeps South America's climate dry. This is what normally occurs in Earth's atmosphere and

hydrosphere.

During El Niño, this whole process is reversed. Scientists are still unsure of the reasoning behind it. However, when this event occurs, the warm water unexpectedly approaches the east. That is when El Niño takes hold, reversing the pattern of rainfall. Asia and Australia suffer from drought, while coastal South America is hit by storms.

"There's a favorable chance that this winter will be wetter than average in much of California -- from San Diego to San Francisco. The greatest chance for wet conditions is in Southern California," said Mike Halpert of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center.

Additionally, the ocean temperature is increasing. On July 15, a

key benchmark (testing) location in the Pacific Ocean was 3 degrees Fahrenheit above average. There is also the possibility of hurricanes, although it is rare.

"We could see upwards of 200 percent of average rainfall event," said Bill Croyle of the California Department of Water Resources.

So how can you be prepared during this El Niño?

1. Open drains and keep ditches and other water collection ways clear of leaves and debris.

2. Store up plenty of flashlight batteries and store several gallons of bottled water.

3. Also store some "long life" non-refrigerated items. Localized flooding, mudslides and fallen trees may prevent you from moving about the community by automobile until local public works and emergency services workers

can mobilize and get roadways cleared.

4. If your property is low lying or is impacted by high runoff volumes, know where to find sandbags as an emergency provision.

5. Check with local emergency service agencies when you have an emergency, such as a falling tree or closed roads, and know where to tune for emergency broadcasts and official information.

6. Purchase a heavy duty umbrella.

7. Stay out of the ocean while it is raining and 72 hours after it rains. Rainfall can lead to harmful bacteria in the ocean.

In all, El Niño is not just a term that Ms. Murawski, Ms. McKenzie, or Ms. Auer had you memorize. It is also a global issue that you can defeat by being prepared.

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# Paul Ryan in the House

**Alec Rascoe**  
STAFF WRITER

**O**n the October 29, Paul Ryan was sworn in as the 54th Speaker of the House. The search for a new Speaker began when John Boehner announced his resignation from his position earlier that month. The race has been affected by weird wording among the Republicans, as shown when supposed frontrunner Kevin McCarthy dropped out of the race earlier in the month.

Paul Ryan started as an aide for the House but has built his career in politics. Ryan's next role with the House of Representatives was as a representative for Wisconsin, and served there for 16 years. Ryan also served as chairman on the House's tax writing committee. This led to Mitt Romney choosing Paul Ryan to run as his vice president in the 2008 election, which made Paul Ryan more recognizable to the American public.

Ryan has promised the House several goals for him to accomplish as Speaker. The New York

Times reported that Ryan's goals include 800 billion-dollar cuts in Medicare; big tax breaks to the wealthiest people; and block-granting Medicaid.

In order to give Ryan the ability to legislate as much as he can, before leaving Boehner and the house created new legislation that, as CNN reports, "eliminates the possibility of a default and decreases the chance of a government shutdown".

Ryan plans to use this time to fix the house, commenting in his first speech as Speaker "We are not solving problems. We are adding to them. And I am not interested in laying blame. We are not settling scores. We are wiping the slate clean."

As Paul Ryan looks forward with his role as a speaker of the house, he affirms, "We will not always agree -- not all of us, not all of the time. But we should not hide our disagreements. We should embrace them. We have nothing to fear from honest differences honestly stated. If you have ideas, let's hear them."

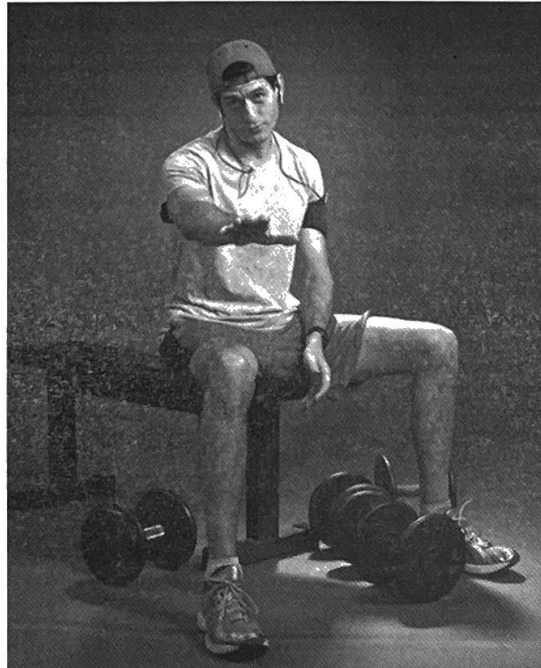


Image from TIME Magazine

# Scholar of the Month: Lance Good



**Cubbie Kile**  
STAFF WRITER

**S**enior Lance Good is known among her teachers and peers as a dedicated student.

*What is your favorite subject in school and why?*

I've always found English to be a really interesting subject because there's so much you can learn about the world, yourself, and others from literature. Literature can be interpreted in so many different ways, which makes the class a lot of fun.

*Who is your favorite intellectual and how has he/she inspired you?*

Honestly, I don't have a favorite intellectual.

*What are your plans for the future?*

I'm not entirely sure what my plans are for the future but I

think I may want to teach high school or college. When I was little, I used to prop my stuffed animals onto little stools and teach them math on a white board. Granted, I no longer aspire to teach stuffed animals, but the same passion for teaching has stayed with me over the years.

*What tips could you give your fellow peers for doing well in school?*

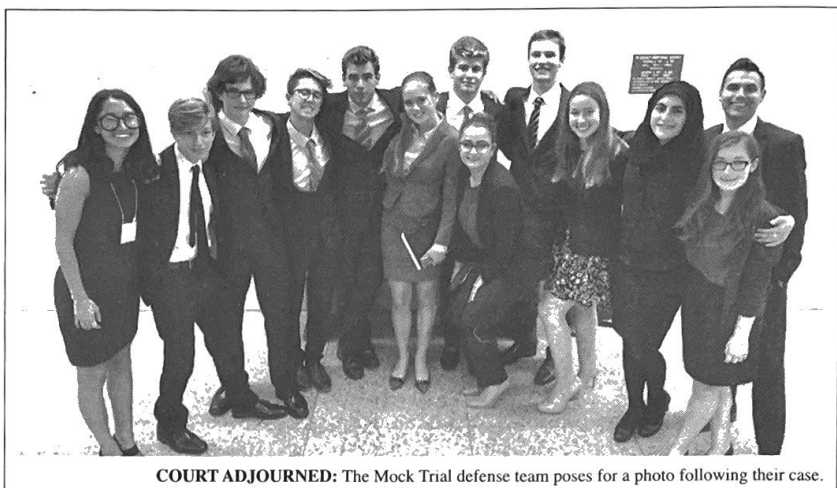
Try hard and don't take short cuts. Laziness never ends well.

*What class or teacher has shaped you the most and why?*

Mr. Panish has shaped me a lot. Through his classes A.P. U.S. History and A.P. Government, I've his improved as a writer, but more importantly, I've learned that I can't take short cuts and merely skim over the chapter. His classes have taught me that in order to do well, I need to work hard.

*When you are not studying, what do you like to do outside of academics?*

I love to bake. I love baking pies, breads, cookies, and pastries. It's a lot of fun to come up with new recipes and experiment with ingredients I normally wouldn't use.



COURT ADJOURNED: The Mock Trial defense team poses for a photo following their case.



ET TU BRUTE: MHS sophomores reaches for Mr. Carrier during the Toga Day tradition.

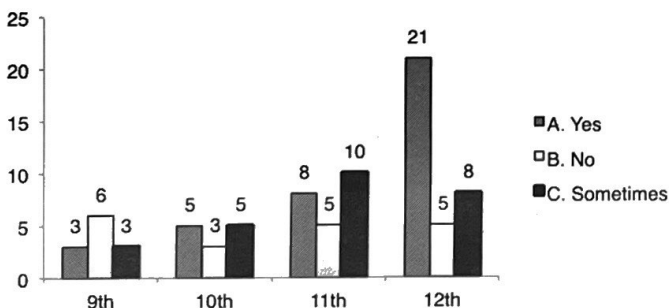
# A Quantative Measure of High School Boys' Uncomfortabililty in the Urinals

**Alec Rascoe**

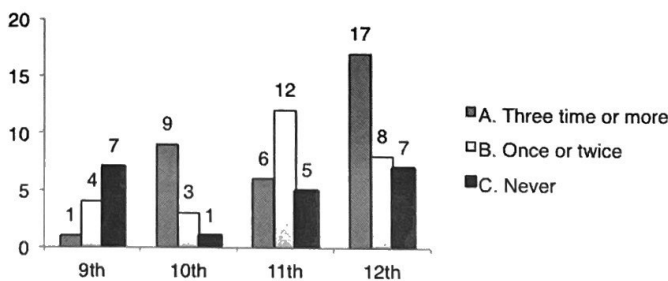
STAFF WRITER

While most people would not consider the lack of dividers between urinals in the main boys' bathroom an issue for Malibu High School, it is interesting to see how significant it is for students. A survey was conducted out of 13 freshmen and sophomores, 23 juniors, and 33 seniors. Based on these findings, it is clear that discomfort with urinal use increases with age, and that freshmen and sophomores have no shame.

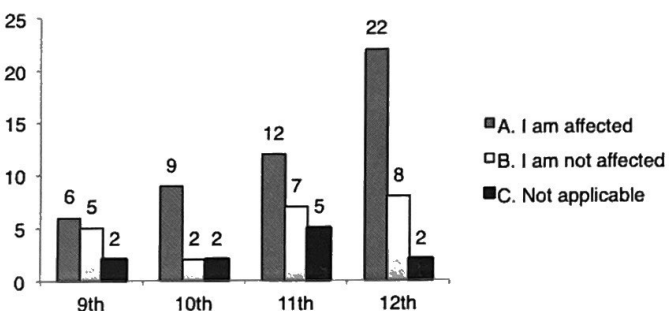
**Do you feel uncomfortable using the urinals because of the lack of stalls?**



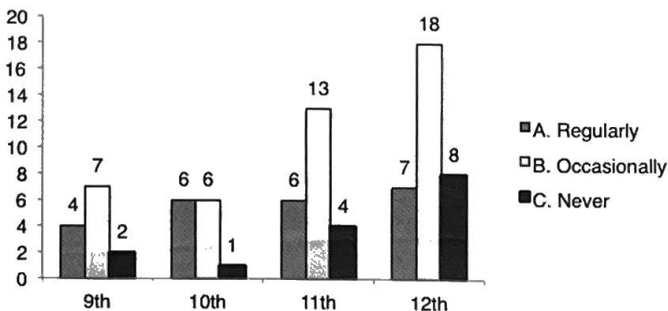
**Have you ever had to wait an extended period of time to use a stall because you did not want to use the urinals?**



**To what extent are you affected by there being no stalls between?**



**Do you use the urinals in the boys bathroom?**



# HUMANS OF MALIBU



"[If I could change one thing about the world] I would take away the idea that everyone and everything needs a label because that has started a lot of hurt and chaos on both a small, and large scale." - **Emely Tario**, sophomore



"When my grandmother passed away, my grandfather was extremely sad for a long time. They were married for over 40 years. One day, when I sang a classical piece for him called 'O Mio Babino Caro', I brought tears of joy to his eyes. He said that I reminded him of the music my grandma used to love. It was that moment that I realized that I could bring joy to people through my singing." - **Maggie Valdman**, senior



"It's not fame, it's not glory, it's not recognition, it's seeing the rest of the world and really experiencing all of life instead of just in one corner in one continent in one country. Climb mountains not so that the world can see you but so that you can see the world." - **Jason Leow**, sophomore



"[Hardest part of my life?] Leaving my mom's womb? Being homeless after our house burned down." - **Wyatt Jebef**, freshman

## Cooking with Clause: Apple Tart Recipe

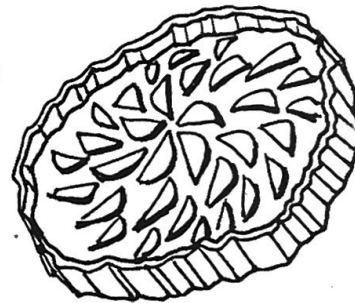
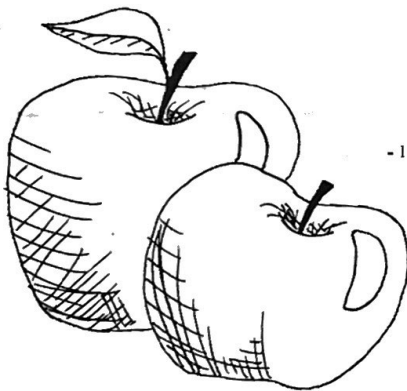
### Ingredients

#### For the pastry:

- 2 cups of all-purpose flour
- 1 cup of sugar
- 1 stick of butter (at room temperature)

#### For the apples:

- 5 apples (Fuji or Pink Lady)
- A pinch of cinnamon
- 1 pinch of salt
- 1 egg



### Directions

- First preheat your oven at 360 degrees Fahrenheit

#### For the pastry:

- Cut the butter into small pieces and put it in a mixing bowl with the sugar.
- Mix the butter and sugar using your hands and gradually add the flour to the mixture. The dough should stay thick throughout the whole process.
- Add the egg and salt to obtain a homogeneous mixture.
- Knead the dough until you make a flat disk, which you will use to make the crust of the tart.
- \* To spread the dough more easily, leave it in your refrigerator for about ten minutes.

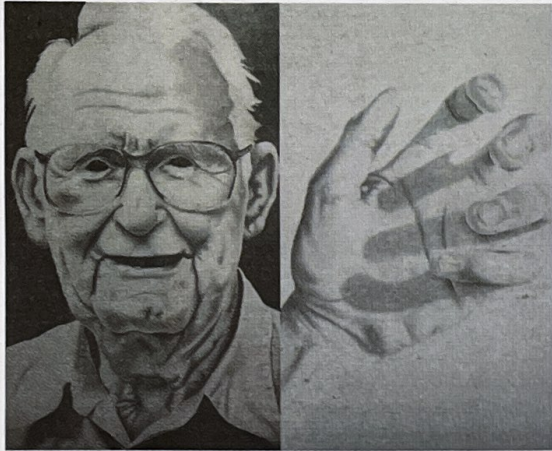
#### For the apples:

- While the dough is in the refrigerator, slice the apples into 1/2-inch cubes.
- Take out the dough and roll it out on a flat surface with a rolling pin.
- Place the dough in a pie pan and arrange the apple slices carefully on top.
- Finally, add the pinch of cinnamon and put it in the oven for about 40 minutes.

**And voilà! You now have the perfect apple tart to share with family and friends!**

**Recipe submitted by Rebecca Clause**

# Artist of the Month: Hunter Pearson



**Claudia Lane**  
STAFF WRITER

**W**hat is your favorite piece of art you've created and why?

Recently, I did a drawing of an old man in Hacker's class. It's my favorite because it's probably the best shading I've ever done in a picture, and the drawing has a good overall composition.

What was the hardest piece of artwork for you to create?

A few years ago, I did an oil pastel, and I was trying to reproduce a masterpiece. It was hard to create because of the medium and it was difficult to get used to and work with oil pastels.

How long have you been an artist for? Have you always been interested in art?

I've been drawing since I was young, about two years old. My mom would set me up with a little playpen and give me

colored pencils and art supplies. Art has just always been an interest of mine.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

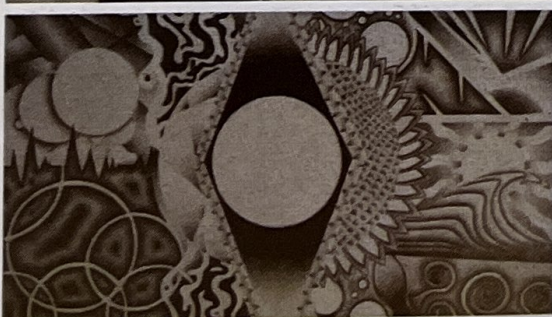
Hopefully I will either have my own t-shirt company, which I am working on right now. Or, another company will also hire me so I will be able to create artwork for them as well.

I saw that you illustrated a book, *Marty Twinkle Toes*. Did you enjoy the process of creating work for someone else?

Yeah, it was definitely a wake-up call for me. When you are drawing for yourself, it's different than if it's for someone else. It was interesting for me to work for someone other than myself and to have to draw what they are envisioning. It was a different perspective than my own.

What are some of your hobbies?

I play basketball and I bodysurf.



# What's App with Sam Burton?

**Maverick Baglietto**  
STAFF WRITER

**M**ost kids play computer games and use apps in their free time, but **Sam Burton**, a junior at Malibu High actually creates them.

Since February of last year, Burton has designed five apps that are now available for free on iTunes. His most popular game, *Galaxia Wars*, places the player in a sci-fi themed landscape where he must defend himself against belligerent extraterrestrials. *Galaxia Wars*, as well as Burton's other games *Floppy Fish*, *Plummet*, *Zap Those Cows*, and *GyrosSpin* are intellectually stimulating, as they require quick reflexes and advanced problem-solving skills, and have bright, cartoonish graphics.

Burton is able to program his games by writing code, which means using complex "languages" such as C++, Python, or Java to connect the player input from the control pad to the action that's happening on the screen.

Game programming requires

substantial skill in software engineering as well as specialization in simulation, computer graphics, artificial intelligence, physics, audio programming, and input. These concepts are difficult to learn and it can take a novice anywhere from six months to a year to grasp the basics.

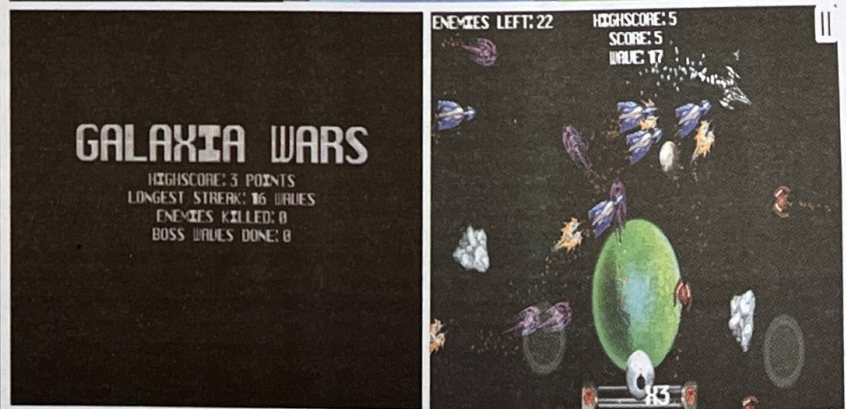
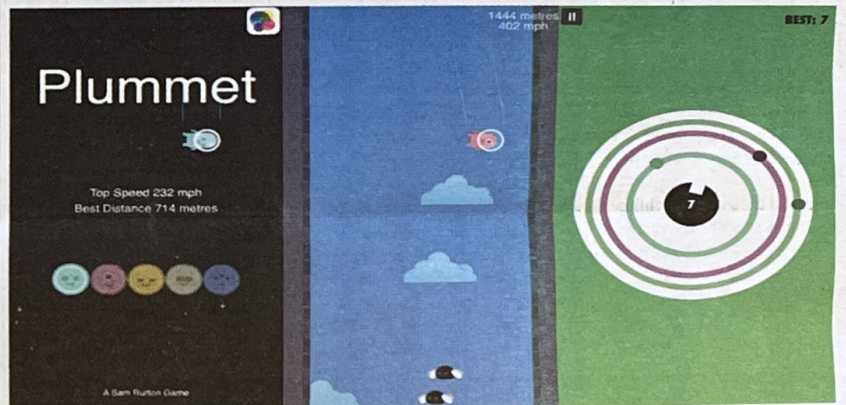
Burton said of his background in programming, "My dad is a computer programmer, and he introduced me to coding when I was young, though it was very basic language coding."

If Burton pursues programming, he can almost guarantee himself a lucrative career in that field. Video game programmers have, on average, the highest salaries of any development job in the game industry. Game programmer salaries start at around \$40,000 annually for entry-level engineering positions. But they can grow to well over \$120,000 per year for senior programmers or programmers who are leading teams.

A successful game programmer must be, first and foremost, a creative person. The alternate

worlds they create depends solely on the scope their imagination. Video game design is prone to glitches, bugs, and other problems that must be quickly spotted and fixed. This area calls for constant innovations as technology improves and video games are able to be more accurate and realistic. Working well in a team, especially when working for large gaming companies, is important in order to meet deadlines and launch the game on time. A programmer must also have excellent communication skills in order to persuade fellow teammates of an alternate method that is more efficient, or introduce new methods that may prove to be useful to the game design.

Burton seems to have most of these qualities already and he is improving in the field every day. Burton said in an interview with the *Malibu Times*, "Last summer I had to apply myself more to make these games ... I was more challenged to outdo my previous best achievement."



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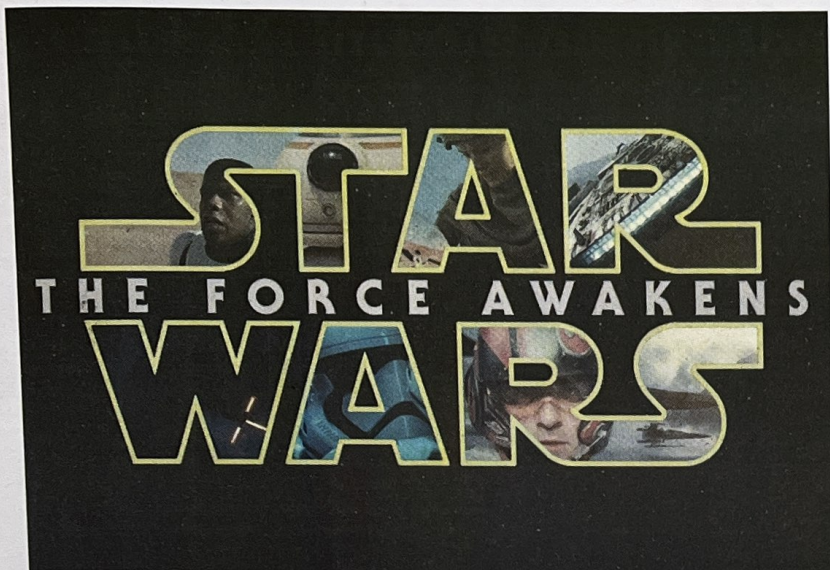


Image from PRNewser

**Gabriel Deibel**  
STAFF WRITER

**S**tar Wars Episode VII: *The Force Awakens* has received its fair share of hype from fans and critics alike, with the third and final trailer and the poster for the film being revealed on October 19.

Ever since Disney's acquisition of Lucasfilm, the company that made the original *Star Wars* films, all serious *Star Wars* fanatics can talk about is if Disney will produce a film that will do justice to George Lucas's original trilogy. With a franchise that stretches from household appliances to thousands of children's toys, the *Star Wars* series has made a significant impact on the popular culture around the world.

The first film in the original trilogy, titled *Star Wars*, was released in 1977 and later re-released. The film was an unbelievable success, generating buzz across the world with its revolutionary special effects and retelling of the classic hero's journey. It thundered across the big screen, changing the course of Hollywood forever, and ushering in a new era of Sci-fi Action films. Even today, the film holds a 94% fresh rating on Rotten Tomatoes, and influences many girls and boys. A universe was created where sci-fi geeks and nerds could find refuge and acceptance. It was a tale for the ages and defied all odds and expectations.

Following the success of the original film came two sequels, *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* and *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi*. Both of these films were similarly successful and furthered Lucas's career as both a director and a cinematic icon. The *Star Wars* trilogy is now considered cinematic royalty, as no series prior to or following has been able to create the impact that the series was able to.

When George Lucas released his first film of his prequel trilogy, *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace*, many of the girls and boys who had grown up on the original trilogy left the theatre disappointed and utterly distraught.

According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, "Mr. Lucas's new opus

is only a movie. This revelation has touched off shock waves in a cultural climate (much stranger than Naboo's) where anything short of the biggest, splashiest and most moneymaking qualifies as a galling flop. And the reception of *The Phantom Menace* has not been helped by spoiler-sport tie-ins that make it". *The Phantom Menace* received many criticisms, including that it had little to no character development, the most racist stereotypes seen in film in recent history, and a storyline that lacked any drive or real purpose.

Two follow-up sequels in the early 2000s could not save the series, and now many people consider the prequels to be nothing more than hogwash. The films ruined the *Star Wars* mythos and canon.

However, with this much publicity and anticipation, *The Force Awakens* is destined to succeed, whether or not it is a good film. J.J. Abrams, director of the film, said he has been a fan of the series since he was young. Abrams succeeded in bringing life back to the *Star Trek* series, so audiences can expect great things for *The Force Awakens*.

Although not much has been revealed about the film, Abrams said he is not relying heavily on Computer Generated Images (CGI), and is instead focusing on practical effects enhanced by CGI to carry out the action. For many fans, this is quite a surprise. One major complaint about the prequel trilogy was its heavy reliance on CGI.

Abrams secured a few of the older actors from the original trilogy to star in the film. Harrison Ford as Han Solo, Mark Hamill as Luke Skywalker, Carrie Fisher as Princess Leia, Peter Mayhew as Chewbacca, Anthony Daniels as C-3PO, and Kenny Baker as R2-D2 are all set to make appearances.

The studio has kept most of the plot of the film a secret, audiences know the film takes place 30 years after the original trilogy. The two factions of The First Order and The Resistance are pitted against each other, reflecting the conflict between The Empire and The Rebels from the original *Star Wars* trilogy.

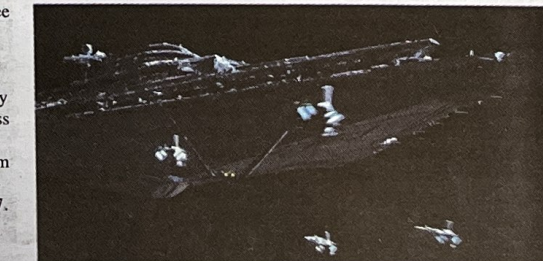
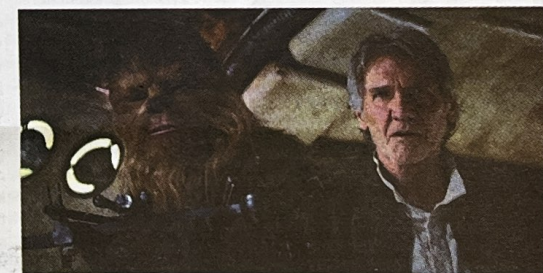
The new trilogy is also canon (meaning that it is official to the series) and will erase most of the expanded universe that was released after *Star Wars VI: Return of the Jedi*, which was usually confined to comic books and novels. New original characters will take the leading roles away from the older actors, including John Boyega as Finn, Daisy Ridley as Rey, and Adam Driver as Kylo Ren.

Fans of the *Star Wars* film trilogy at Malibu High School were at first apprehensive towards the new film, but have since warmed up to the idea of a third trilogy that sequels the original trilogy. Senior Tanner Carter said "At first I didn't think it was going to be very good, since they have a new director and everything, and the fact that Disney took over it, but based on the trailers I'm really excited for it".

Senior Austin Steele said "Over the years I've been a little indifferent to *Star Wars*, though every time I watch it, especially the original trilogy including *A New Hope* and *The Empire Strikes Back*. I feel a little anxious about the new one considering not a lot of information has been leaked out, and the stuff that has been a little inconsistent implies a bigger story, so I'm a little afraid that they might have too much to juggle like the original trilogy did".

History teacher Mr. Ryan said, "I think that fans of the original trilogy always want to protect the quality of that, and the second trilogy that was made didn't seem to live up in the eyes of many of the fans, but I feel like it's okay for a new generation to own their trilogy. It's been a full generation since the first one came out and the people who grew up with those are making these. So I'm more excited to see it, than worrying about it being successful as long as Jar Jar Binks is not involved".

*The Force Awakens* has already sold out tickets in theatres across the country since tickets were released on October 19. The film opens on December 18 with select screenings on December 17.



Images from Disney

# American Horror Story: Hotel Gets Gaga

Taylor Mathews  
STAFF WRITER

On October 7, *American Horror Story: Hotel* premiered on FX. There were high expectations for the opening of this season, the fifth installment of Ryan Murphy's hit TV show.

The anthology has been running since 2011 with each individual season containing completely different elements, characters, and locations, and every installment successfully integrated these new elements into a well developed and well liked season, all scoring above 60% on Rotten Tomatoes. Each season has pleased audiences with characters ranging from aliens to homicidal clowns, and the diversity and unexpected twists of the show have hooked audiences nationwide. With the overwhelming success of the show so far, the new season is expected to go above and beyond the prospects created by the past seasons.

Senior Hannah Gruendemann said "*American Horror Story* is unlike any thing on television and



I'm excited for the new season. The new sets and costumes look really cool. I'm looking forward to what *Hotel* has to offer".

The recruitment of Lady Gaga as the lead actress for *Hotel*, a blood drinking countess of the hotel, also attracted attention towards the show. Gaga has a lot of performing experience and a reputation that suits the shameless nature of *American Horror Story*. From her meat dresses to her scantily clad music videos, Gaga suits the sexually explicit nature and dismissal of cultural taboos that *American Horror Story* has maintained during its five year run. With this being her first major television drama role, Gaga attempts to move beyond the music industry and build an expansive career that *The Weinblog* calls the "Renaissance of Lady Gaga".

Images from *Entertainment Weekly* Ryan Murphy said in an interview with *E! News*, "I think when people see her in *Horror Story* they are going to be so blown away by her acting, by her presence, what she brings to it, and how beautiful she looks".

The premier of *Hotel* was visually stunning, especially with its period fashion. Gaga wears the wardrobe wonderfully, perfectly fitting into the newest season. Award-winning costume designer, Lou Eyrich, who has assisted with the show since season one, wanted to combine iconic styles from time periods all throughout the 20th century. Gaga wears long flowing dresses, hooded gowns, complex headdresses, crop tops, and gloves outfitted to kill, combining to create a unique persona which embodies the vision behind Murphy's *Hotel* and his reasoning for the recruitment of Gaga.

*The Hollywood Reporter* said Gaga is "initially just being asked to embody a visual conceit, which she does convinc-

ingly. She struts in high fashion with confidence", and *The Verge* said "Gaga is a fantastic match for the show, projecting an electric combination of danger and lust that sets the season's heart pumping triple-time".

Overall, Gaga's premier in the series and initial performance was met with consistent, positive reviews.

Senior Kendall Jordan said, "I love the unique style of the show, and I like the addition of vampires this season. I'm really enjoying Lady Gaga. She's very creepy".

The show itself, however, cannot be dependent upon new actors and visuals for its success. Many believe the show has been unable to meet the level of accomplishment expected based on its previous seasons.

*Vanity Fair* described the season so far to be "astoundingly bad, jumping erratically between about nine different plot threads, arbitrarily slowing down and speeding up in such a way that it was impossible to stay focused on whatever was happening" and a "cheap, poseur nihilism masquerading as risqué taboo flouting. It's a joke, one we've heard too many times and has been told far better elsewhere".

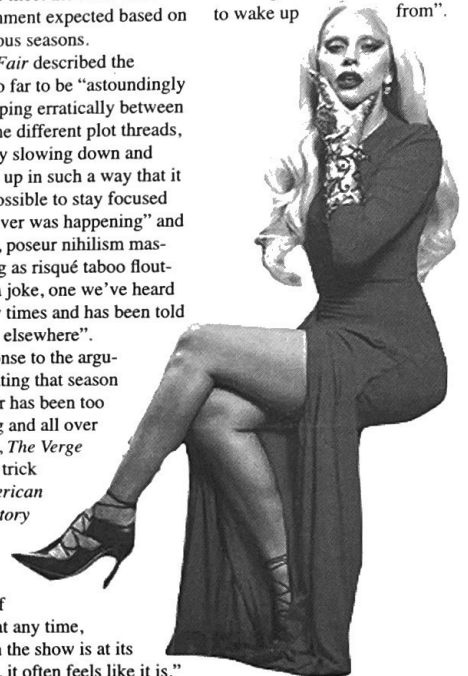
In response to the arguments stating that season five so far has been too confusing and all over the place, *The Verge* said "the trick with *American Horror Story* is that it can all go wildly off the rails at any time, and when the show is at its very best, it often feels like it is."

It is the insane tendencies of

the show and the unexpected nature of it that drew audiences in the first place. *Hotel* just seems to be taking the formula of shock and awe from the past seasons to a new level.

*American Horror Story* is known for its graphic violence and sexual material, but *Hotel* takes the violence and sexuality of the past show and increases it to incredible levels. Sexual violence, extensive torture, child abductions, blood fetishes, mentally disturbed characters, vast drug abuse, and shocking murders mix into a brewing pot of horror, creating a season truly above and beyond the show's past history.

Overall, according to *The Verge*, *American Horror Story: Hotel* is a "nightmare you won't want to wake up from".



Images from *Entertainment Weekly*

## New Twilight Book

Megan Lickhalter  
OPINION EDITOR

On October 6, Stephenie Meyer released a new addition to her bestselling *Twilight* series in honor of the first book's tenth anniversary.

The new book, *Life and Death: Twilight Reimagined*, is a retelling of the original *Twilight*, but with the genders of the characters swapped. After facing harsh criticism for her characterization of the protagonist, Bella Swan, as a typical damsel in distress, Meyer felt that this version of the story was important to prove that the book does not play into gender stereotypes.

"It's just a love story, it doesn't matter who's the boy and who's the girl," Meyer said in an interview with *Good Morning America*.

In *Life and Death*, Bella Swan is named Beaufort, or Beau, Swan and Edward Cullen is Edyth Cullen. Not only did

Meyer switch the genders of the main characters, but also all of the minor characters, such as Carine instead of Carlisle, Earnest instead of Esme, and Archie instead of Alice.

However, in her attempt to disprove gender roles, Meyer did the opposite by altering the personalities of the characters to conform to gender stereotypes. She made Beau much less emotional than Bella and added extensive physical descriptions of female characters from his point of view, suggesting that men notice the physical appearance of women more than women notice the physical appearance of men.

Aside from the gender swap, the new book is almost exactly the same as the original, even using some of the same lines from the previous books. The only other change is that the books have very different endings. At the end of *Life and Death*, Beau is turned into a vampire, which does not happen

to Bella until the fourth *Twilight* book, *Breaking Dawn*.

"I feel like it's just a tactic to make more money," said Malibu High senior Izzy Chavira.

Meyer knows that the original *Twilight* fan base has grown up and has most likely lost interest in the series, as the last movie, *Breaking Dawn Part 2*, was released in 2012. Her goal with *Life and Death* is to target the new generation of YA readers and reignite the popularity that *Twilight* once had.

"I would read it. I read some reviews that said it was good," said Malibu High senior, Trey Cotwright.

The book currently has a rating of 3.2/5 stars on GoodReads, a website on which users can rate and review books.

"For me, this anniversary is a celebration of the fans, with all of their incredible passion and dedication. I'm excited to get to spend time with them again," said Meyer.



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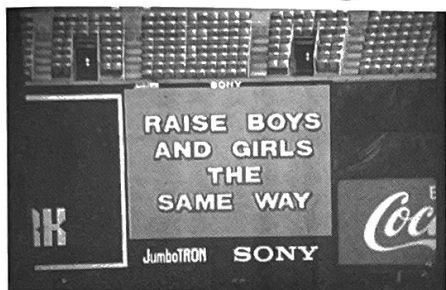


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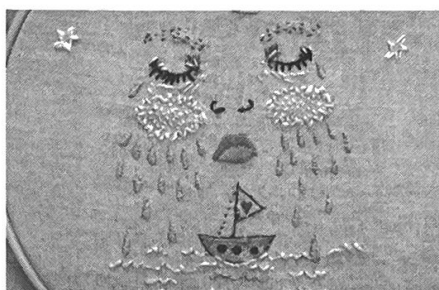
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# Brandy Melville and Plagiarism



Images from Jenny Holzer and eBay



Images from Tumblr and The Fashion Spot



Images from Daisy Jar and Vinted

Zoe Detwiler  
A&E EDITOR

Clothing company Brandy Melville has repeatedly stolen multiple artists' work without their consent to be printed on their "one size fits most" t-shirts.

The company, which promotes their "California-inspired apparel" primarily through Instagram, sold a graphic tee bearing the phrase "Raise Boys and Girls the Same Way" in red, capital letters. That phrase first appeared as a part of American artist Jenny Holzer's series *Truisms* (1977), in which she posted declarations in simple fonts around New York City. In fact, Holzer makes her art widely accessible by issuing her statements on printed merchandise, such as t-shirts, mugs,

and hats. There is no attribution anywhere on Brandy Melville's website to Holzer, nor indication of any profits going to her. Holzer has not commented on the shirt.

Multiple other artists, particularly ones based on Tumblr, have also accused Brandy of stealing their work without attribution. Last year, Isabella Rose Taylor, a teen fashion designer whose line debuted at New York Fashion Week, pointed out the similarities between her t-shirt design of a cloud with raindrops and one Brandy began selling soon after online. *Seventeen Magazine* took notice of the controversy and published an online article about Taylor's post, yet Brandy did not comment.

Tasmanian artist, Laura McMahon, who works under the name

Brain Foetus, noticed her original design of a girl crying raindrops on a Brandy t-shirt last year. McMahon, who has a large following on Tumblr, wrote in post on the website, "After contacting Brandy Melville, I was confident that the issue would get resolved. However, after months of chasing them for a resolution, all the while having faith in their professionalism, I must out them as a company that is making profit from someone else's hard work and creative thinking — while no credit or financial compensation has been provided."

In 2013, Tumblr-based artist, Sara M. Lyons, made a post calling out the company for lifting the text from one of her designs and printing it on a t-shirt. Lyons had posted her design of two hands in the shape of a W with a

banner reading "Whatever Forever" underneath. Brandy soon carried a shirt with a black-and-white photograph of hands in the W shape with the same text banner. Junior Violet Finn, who follows Lyons on Tumblr and is a fan of her work, noticed the shirt while shopping and took a photo to message to Lyons.

Finn said, "The shirt looked so much like Sara's design, but she never said anything about releasing a clothing line. I took the chance of messaging her and it turned out I was right and that the design had been stolen. Sara said that she never ended up going to court because she didn't have the money, but they agreed to stop selling the shirts." Lyons now sells her design in her own shop.

Brandy Melville has great

influence over teen girls across Los Angeles, and particularly in Malibu. For a global company to steal from lesser known artists and designers is absolutely ridiculous. Brandy's actions tell its customers that the artists do not deserve to be compensated for their artwork. Taking artwork without permission is nothing more than exploitation. As they are a girls' and women's clothing line that sells shirts with seemingly empowering statements such as "Girl Power" and "Girls Bite Back," the company's stealing of multiple female artists' work is particularly galling. If the company truly wanted to emulate the ideas it promotes in its merchandise, it would get permission and compensate the artists, instead of plagiarizing their intellectual property.

# Sidley

## LAW GROUP

# Malibu Sharks Football End Season Strong

Logan Moore  
STAFF WRITER

This year, the Malibu Sharks ended their season strong with a streak of entertaining games, including their 38 to 26 point victory against the Verbum Dei Eagles on October 9, 2015, their first homecoming victory since 2011.

The Sharks entered the game with great intensity, although they had inauspicious start when Indiana McAlpine dropped the ball on kick return, but still managed to get the ball on the 25 yard line.

The Eagles would capitalize on the Shark's rough start by punching in the first score of the game, setting the score to 0-6; with Verbum Dei's kicker missing the extra point.

By the end of the first quarter Malibu's defense locked down the Eagles, not giving up any points, with #51 Matthew Rafeedie making major tackles.

Malibu would continue to gain momentum at the start of the second quarter when #7 Luca

Marinero scored a touchdown, tying the game 6-6. With the Sharks kicker Quemars Adli making the extra point, the Sharks took a 7-6 lead.

Malibu continued to fight on with a massive run made by Indiana McAlpine, followed by another touchdown by McAlpine. However, the Eagles would counter with their own massive play, slipping a pass through Malibu's defense for a touchdown. By the end of the half, the Sharks were tied with the Eagles 14-14.

The Sharks would be the first to break the pressure of the tie at the start second half, when McAlpine scored another touchdown for Malibu, crippling the Eagle's momentum. Verbum Dei suffered an even more severe blow when defensive lineman Jeffery Navarro won the Sharks a scoop and score, bringing the count to 26-14.

The game drew on as the Sharks continued to fight, with notable performances made by Jordin Taylor and Chase

Murrell giving the Sharks an impressive amount of yardage on offense. Defense also continued to fight off Verbum's attack, with performances made by linebackers #20 Trevor Simonian, #21 Keaton Brewster, and #4 Rocky Morris keeping up field control and lineman Logan Moore making major plays in Verbum's backfield.

By the fourth quarter the Sharks led 32-20. Tensions were still high when an Eagle's player fouled #7 Luca Marinero, sparking conflict between the two teams. Despite this skirmish, Malibu would continue to play on, and eventually ended the game 38-26, bringing Malibu its first homecoming win in four years.

After a bye week the Sharks returned, defeating Santa Clara 48-0.

After a close game on Friday October 30th against Santa Paula, the Sharks lost 27 to 21.

The Sharks season ended after playing Grace Brethren, losing 51 to 0.

# Athlete of the Month: Philip Campanella



NICE SHOT: Philip Campanella takes a shot during a water polo game. Image from *The Malibu Times*

Nicholas Kianpoor  
SPORTS EDITOR

College. The Coach for Pepperdine wants me to try and play for Pepperdine next year. The only condition is that I have to do well on the SATs.

Philip Campanella is a senior at Malibu High School who has been involved with the Malibu High School water polo Program for all four years of his High School career.

Is there anything special about water polo you want to tell us about?

It brings my friends and I closer together. We bond when we play, and it forges a stronger relationships between individuals in the team and just the team as a whole.

Looking back on your seasons at Malibu High, what is your fondest memory?

Probably being with all my friends and hanging out while we play. It was really familial and we were really close with one another.

How did you feel after you won your CIF title?

It felt great because it was the first time ever we won a CIF title for Waterpolo. The whole team was very excited to have finally won one.

How long have you been playing water polo?

Well I started as a 12 and under, and then I stopped to play soccer, and then I went back to play water polo. So altogether I've probably been playing for around six years.

What position do you play?

I mainly play set [offense].

What's your favorite thing about water polo?

I like the intensity of the sport. But really, water polo is just fun to play.

Do you want to play water polo in college?

Yes I hope to play water polo in

# NBA Pre-Season Predictions

Dane Marshall  
FEATURES EDITOR

We are two weeks into the 2015-2016 NBA Season, however I am writing this 5 hours before opening tip off. Here are my predictions, team by team for the upcoming season:

Cleveland Cavaliers - 59-23 - 1st in East. Will win the NBA finals.

When healthy this is the best team in the NBA. The Cavs were runner ups last year and they managed to keep Tristan Thompson, and over the offseason they added veteran leadership with Mo Williams and Richard Jefferson. Plus, they have three of the fifteen best players in the NBA, including the best player in the world: LeBron James. LeBron lost his first season in Miami too, before winning back to back titles. I see similar things happening in Cleveland.

San Antonio Spurs - 67-15 - 1st in West. Will lose in the second round to Thunder.

Last year the the Spurs had the perfect team, they could not get any better, right? Wrong. The Spurs added superstar power forward Lamarus Aldridge as well as veteran forward David West to an already star studded lineup that includes Kawhi Leonard, Tim Duncan, Tony Parker, and Manu Ginobili. Not to mention the fact that they have arguably the best coach of all time in Gregg Popovich. Their only chink in the armor is age which I predict will finally catch up with them in this year's playoffs.

Miami Heat - 58-24 - 2nd in

East. Will lose in the second round of playoffs to the Bulls.

The Miami Heat have recovered amazingly from the loss of the chosen one (Lebron James). The team was good last year but they did not play a single game with all five starters. This year, with everybody healthy and the additions of Amar'e Stoudemire, Gerald Green, and Justise Winslow the Heat are back and almost as good as ever.

Los Angeles Clippers - 66-16 - 2nd in West. Will lose in second round to Warriors.

The Clippers have the best power forward, point guard, and center in the NBA. They also have one of the best shooters in the NBA in their starting lineup. Their bench boasts the modest Paul Pierce (16th leading scorer in league history) and Jamal Crawford (two time sixth man of the year). Not to mention Lance Stephenson, Wesley Johnson, and Josh Smith. The Clippers are no team to mess with. Until the playoffs.

Chicago Bulls - 56-26 - 3rd in East. Will lose in the Eastern Conference finals to Cavaliers.

Chicago will have to adjust to the loss of their Coach, but the adjustment should be quick. The big x-factor is Derrick Rose's health. If he can stay healthy the Bulls have Championship potential. Pau Gasol and Joakim Noah are solid as always and returning most improved player Jimmy Butler is turning into a super star. But I just do not see them getting past the Cavs.

Golden State Warriors - 63-19 - 3rd in West. Will Lose in NBA finals to Cavaliers.

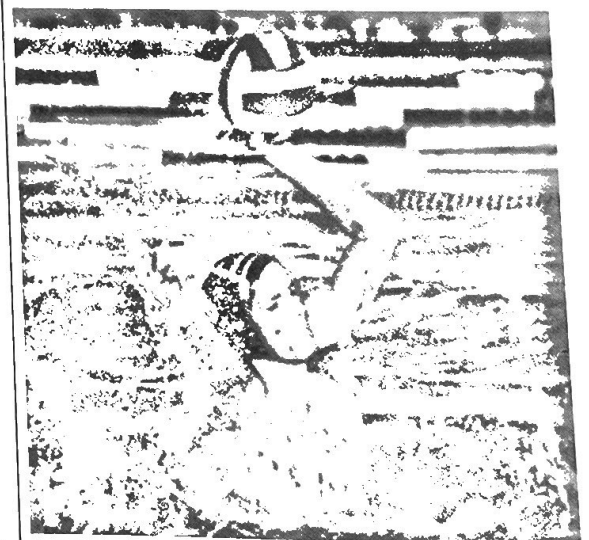
You could easily argue that the Warriors are the best team in the NBA and they very well might be. The top four teams in the west along with the Cavaliers are a level above every other team in the NBA. Steph Curry is unstoppable and honestly Klay Thompson is close. Add a great coach in Steve Kerr along with the myriad of role players and you have a team with a legitimate chance at retaining their title as NBA champions.

Toronto Raptors - 52-30 - 4th in the East. Will lose in the first round to the Bucks.

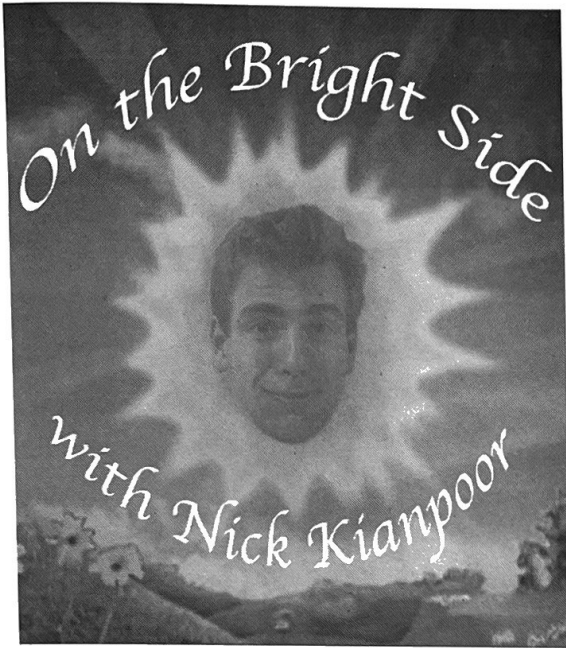
After last season Kyle Lowry is officially a stud. The Raptors frontcourt will struggle after the loss of Amir Johnson but the addition of home-town kid Anthony Bennett will help to heal this wound. Demar Derozan is capable of scoring at will and if Drake's success in hip-hop in 2015 is any indication of Toronto's success in the '15-'16 season (which i'm pretty sure it is) the Raptors are ready to win.

Oklahoma City Thunder - 60-22 - 4th in West. Will lose in Western Conference finals to Warriors

Neither Kevin Durant nor Russell Westbrook are Michael Jordan, but in terms of dominant duo's, I don't think it's crazy to draw Jordan-Pippen comparisons. Neither player is guardable and few teams have defensive specialists capable of even slowing down one of the two superstars. The Thunder are one of five teams capable of winning it all this year, but their health is the factor that will decide whether their championship aspirations can come to fruition.



IN FOR THE LONG RUN Philip has played water polo for six years. Photo by the Malibu Times



**Nicholas Kianpoor**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The world today is, to put it mildly, a mess. With the Paris attacks, the impending El Nino, the continual rise of ISIS, and the plethora of other tragedies unfolding in the past weeks, it hasn't exactly made reading a newspaper the most enjoyable activity. In an attempt to maintain some sort of hope among the student body of Malibu High School, I have submitted the following news stories as a form of comical reprieve from all the chaos.

1. Of course, like every other media outlet, the first place we look to for something funny these days is the 2016 presidential election race. Recently, Donald Trump's supremacy among the Republican is finally being challenged. This is especially good news if you're of foreign descent/have are salary less than three million dollars a year/aren't keen on the idea of having the first orangutan president. The slightly less good news is that this is a pretty hollow victory for liberal America, considering the new frontrunner, Ben Carson, believes in some... interesting... theories. Among these ideas is that federal prison makes inmates gay and that Obamacare is the worst thing that has happened to this country since slavery, though Carson later apologized for both of these remarks. The remarks that he didn't take back, however, include his belief that Joseph (of biblical fame) built the pyramids and God gave him the answers to his college Chemistry final.

2. Elsewhere in the world, the Indonesian Government has a new plan to use crocodiles as guards in a special prison for inmates convicted of drug related crimes. They're the exact type of tough skinned, intimidating looking officers that Indonesia needs. The Indonesian official who presented the plan recommended crocodiles because of their strident moral convictions, or in other words, "they can't be bribed," although there are some

reports that some prisoners have literally given an arm and leg for freedom.

3. There also seems to be some questions regarding the humanitarian considerations of the plan. Many worry that the new officers will be a little cold blooded in their interactions with the inmates, and their reptilian disposition will affect their ability to really rehabilitate inmates in the new prison. However, there are obviously some cost benefits to the program, with the Indonesian Government saving on meal plans for both the guards and inmates of the new prison.

4. Back at home, law enforcement in the United States is also undergoing some new changes. Due to the outcry against fatal police abuse in the last few weeks, the Anderson Police Department of Anderson, CA, has decided to issue 20 of its officers with nunchucks. Hopefully, the Police Department will also provide their officers with Go Pro cameras, so the public can watch the endless amounts of hilarious footage that is bound to result from that plan. I'll tell you what though, the Anderson Police Department Chorus is about to get about 20 new Sopranos. Nunchucks? More like numb nuts.

5. According to the *New York Times*, Guatemalans have elected James Ernesto Morales Cabrera, a well known comedian, to be their next President. Cabrera has no political experience, and ran simply on the platform of conservative values and anti-corruption policies. This is great news for America. Finally, another country may finally understand the genuinely American experience of politics being the most entertaining aspect of daily life. The only difference is, in Guatemala the politicians tell the jokes, and in the U.S. the politicians are the jokes.



# Thanksgiving Word Search

J G N I F F U T S Q Z L H H S  
 G D H R J S D N E I R F G A M  
 R F G R A C E L D N A C M L A  
 A M A Y F L O W E R D H Y S Y  
 V C X C N V B Y C L R T R M P  
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 T V O I L A R T E A I S W H T  
 I E Q C H G N U W R D E D Q O  
 Y S F A X S I A P T E D V A P

## Word Bank

- |           |           |             |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Turkey    | Candle    | Friends     |
| Cranberry | Autumn    | Blessing    |
| Stuffing  | Leaves    | Traditional |
| Yams      | Pilgrims  | Cozy        |
| Potatoes  | Mayflower | Fireplace   |
| Pumpkin   | Plymouth  | Wampanoags  |
| Grace     | Cider     | Genocide    |
| Gravy     | Thankful  | America     |

## Sick Day by Violet Finn



# The MHS Wrestling Team Grapples with an Existential Dilemma

Emma Kelly  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Superintendent Sandra Lyon announced Tuesday that Malibu High School would be forced to cut the wrestling program, effective immediately, due to an ongoing investigation being conducted by the school board of whether or not the team actually exists or is merely a figment of our collective imagination.

In a press conference held later that day, Superintendent Lyon said, "This has not been an easy decision for anyone involved. Especially me. I mean, I love the Malibu wrestling team more than I love my own flesh and blood. I still cry thinking about the fateful round at last year's spring regionals when sophomore Tony Ramirez flipped that Oaks Christian joker on his back and won the gold. I'm crying right now. God, what a day. What a victory. It was one of those beautiful fleeting moments where the universe seems to operate by divine design, instead of the disorganized, writhing chaos we know it to be. O, a moment of bliss! If only it could last a lifetime!"

At that point, Superintendent Lyon became too agitated to continue the press conference and had to be led off the stage by a few kindly onlookers, all the way muttering "why, why" and misquoting Dostoyevsky.

The school board also released an official statement of their findings. Through careful metaphysical calculations crunched by a team of scientists at Cal Tech and parent volunteers, they were able to conclude that the wrestling team, which practices in the old gym every weekday from three to five thirty, does not exist here on Earth with the exclusion of all other parallel timelines. The document claims that the wrestling team was "not there" for most of the games they were thought to have attended and, for the most part, the Malibu community was "totally making up" their existence all together. As of now, it is unclear whether or not Malibu High School will retroactively forfeit the many titles, trophies, and championship victories the team has "won" in the past.

This revelation has shocked students and staff members alike at MHS. English teacher Rachel Stowell said she feels "heartbro-

ken" by the turn of events and is struggling to put the pieces back together.

"How could the wrestling team have been a false conception this entire time? I mean, I saw Alex "Fiasco Rasco" Rascowitz execute a perfect dropkick on his opponent during a scrimmage with my own eyes. I mean, yeah, it's widely acknowledged that the brain takes 13 milliseconds to process what the eye sees, so in a sense we are all living 13 milliseconds later than we think and time as we know it is an illusion, but, gosh, I thought I could trust some things in life!"

Recently *The Current* asked the wrestling team's head coach, Thurgood P. Grabb, the question that has been burning in the hearts of humanity since the first man first glanced up to the primordial gloom: Is the wrestling team real?

"Well, technically no," said Coach Grabb. "The wrestling team is not real in the literal, third-dimensional sense of the word. But it shouldn't matter. The boys and I might not occupy a physical state of being in the realm of everything that is and has been, but we still honor and uphold the great sport of high school wrestling, despite what a few close-minded people might think."

Coach Grabb is not a particularly tall man, nor is he particularly short. *The Current* can't recall his face very well, or at all, which is strange considering that it spent an afternoon in his company and is currently holding a photograph it towvwok of him in its hand. *The Current* is assuming Coach Grabb must've been in possession of a nose, a mouth, and two eyes but only because it is also assuming if he was lacking in any or all of these things, it would've taken notice. Wouldn't it?

*The Current* does remember that around the outline of his person, if one was to define a shared group delusion as a person, there was a faint flickering. A vibrating, almost. As if he was partially present in the time and space it (*The Current*) was viewing him, but not entirely. He looked like what it thinks a wrestling coach would look like, but it is increasingly unsure of what that is.

# From the Frontlines of the Skeleton War

Kieran Andrus & Jason Leow  
STAFF WRITERS

The Skeleton War is a battle of endless death between the skeleton armies that commences annually during the month of October. No mortal knows why these ghoulish fiends duke it to the death with each other. Maybe its their endless desire to feel pain again, which they have longed for over the millenniums. All we know for sure is the events of the Skeleton War 2k15 were exceptionally spooky.

When I visited one of the great skeletal battle grounds I learned about the two main factions of skeletons. The first are those who call themselves Le Doot Generation, or LDG, who empower their bones by "thanking" Mr. Skeltal, an arch deity among skeletons.

The only information on the so-called Weeaboos we could contain was from Sir Boneman, an LDG general, who said, "The Weeaboos are among the likes of contagious diseases, 4chan mods, and sugar-free gummy bears. The more you learn about them the more you will be scarred".

After delving deeper into the Weeaboos I uncovered that skeletons have a very unortho-



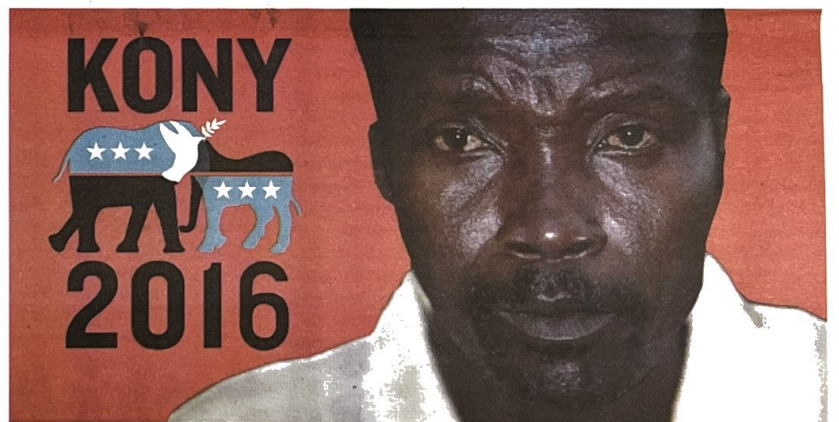
Image from vanhoutenillustration.com

dox way of fighting. Instead of traditional combat methods, they use their genetic control over calcium to overwhelm their foes. The LDG are considerably better at controlling calcium than the Weeaboos. But the Weeaboos have mastered the art of [information withheld] which is on par with the LDG's control over calcium.

The only firsthand account of this method available was from an LDG foot soldier who said, "All I remember from last years Skeleton War were skeletons with colored wigs, carrying what seemed to be pillows with scant-

ily dressed men on them".

If the skeletal records of this year's Skeleton War are correct, then something very spooky happened this year. The only evidence left behind after Skeleton War 2k15 ended was a book written by the leader of the LDG that was titled Spooky Scary Weeaboos. On page 762 of this picture book for kids, there is a disturbing child's sketch of a skeleton in a blue wig with a ninja headband. And in one hand is holding a broken trumpet while the other contains [information withheld]. That is all that is left of Skeleton War 2k15.



Kai Brady & Dominic Rouse  
NEWS EDITOR & GUEST WRITER

Ugandan warlord Joseph Kony has recently added his name to the growing pool of candidates gunning for a shot at the Oval Office following his unsuccessful campaign in 2012.

Many remember the popular viral campaign "Kony 2012" that circulated during the last election cycle. Thousands shared tweets and social media posts with the hashtag #Kony2012. Kony, considered by many to be a dark horse candidate, stole some of the thunder from President Obama and Mitt Romney during the contest.

Kony's campaign faded away following several scandals involving his campaign staff. After his campaign manager was found indecently exposing himself in San Diego, Kony's campaign became the butt of many jokes. However, the Ugandan military dictator is back and ready to

square off against the likes of Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, Donald Trump, and Deez Nuts.

"I'm really excited to get back out there and run for office again," said Kony. "It was great to hear all those people around the world shouting my name last time. They even made a documentary about me."

Kony's policies include building a Christian theocracy centered around the Ten Commandments, something that has been praised by several Republican members of Congress. However, Kony has seen some criticism lately due to his recruitment of child soldiers for his "Lord's Resistance Army."

"I don't get what the big deal is about child soldiers," Kony said. "Nobody's attacking the issue of Super PACs. Personally, I'm more concerned with getting big money out of politics. That's the real issue here."

Malibu resident Garfield Paulson, 87, is considering voting for Kony. "I've been a lifelong

Republican," he said. "But I'm not very happy with the candidates this year. I mean, Christian totalitarianism and guerrilla warfare are bad, but at least Kony has charisma. He's the kind of guy I'd like to have a beer with, like Bush. And hey - at least he isn't Trump."

The charismatic mass murderer also came under fire from a fringe group known as "birthers" who question Kony's legitimacy for office due to a suspicion that the Ugandan was not born in America.

"It's ridiculous," said Kony in his signature heavily accented Ugandan English. "They did this to Obama, and now they're doing it to me."

Despite doubts about his campaign, Kony continues to point to his accomplishments in 2012 as evidence for future success in 2016. "Look what we did last time," he said. "We came together: men, women, and child soldiers, and set out to build a new America."