



THE CURRENT

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Gallagher: A Year In Review



Zoe Detweiler
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Editor-in-Chief Zoe Detweiler sat down with Dr. Gallagher to talk about this past school year.

What are some of your favorite accomplishments and memories of this past year?

Some accomplishments from this side... Getting a positive WASC report. That means a lot as a school, to have that under our belt and to get free for the next few years to do the things we need to do, and to have people understand that this is a good place to go to school. Having a committee of people come out and spend a couple days on our campus and walk away feeling like this is a good place to go to school is always something we're proud of as administrators.

Favorite moments of the year... driving cars and sorting out the traffic jams at homecoming. That

was memorable, with floats that don't quite fit back down once we get them up on the field, trying to sort out those messes, that was one I won't soon forget.

This is also the first dunk contest I've participated in since I was 17 years old, playing for my high school.

There were a lot of memorable moments, but those two stand out in my mind. I like things that are a little quirky, things that stand out from the norm and that I can have fun with.

What do you anticipate next year? What are your hopes?

My hopes for the future are that we get the building project started this summer so that the high school everyone's been waiting for for so long gets to come to fruition. The upperclassmen were in elementary school when they approved all the money and the building and everything and unfortunately by the time we begin they will all be gone, but it will be good for the community and good

for our student body to have that happen. It gives us the facelift the school needs, and is a project the community is behind and threw a significant amount of money towards.

I'm really looking forward to being involved in that project. My background before I was in education was in construction, my dad was a general contractor and I have done many of my own projects, reroofed my house, done construction all around my house... Having another big building project that I can be involved in again is awesome.

What are your favorite unique things about Malibu High?

I'd go back to my initial impression about Malibu when I first got here-- I think the students is what makes this place unique, not that the students are different in that they're wild and crazy different, but in sort of a way where it's a very teachable environment here. You have very open and receptive students and it's a very open

school culture. There are also some of the nicest students you'll ever meet. I don't think I would be as good of an educator had I started here because I wouldn't have had to work as hard to figure out how to teach students because you guys are pretty easy to teach most of the time. I really respect that after working a lot of different places. I get to work with a student body who is interesting, open, and articulate, even as young people.

I would say that's a unique aspect about Malibu that you don't always get elsewhere.

How has your first year been, just in general?

First year has been really busy here, I came in knowing this has been a busy year, and that no matter what, the piece that made my year has been the student piece. Getting to interact with our student body has been the biggest bonus and the thing that when I'm having a tough day, I go back to and enjoy the most.

The part that I would like to be more involved with in the future is getting to shed some of these other things, getting these other problems squared away, so I can focus on more of the education piece here at Malibu. That's where my background is, that's what I like to do, that's where I would like to get off the track of all this other craziness that happens and really get down to how we make things better. We're fortunate here at Malibu High School, we have really good products coming in, the students, and I feel like if your inputs are good, your outputs should be great. We really have to look at ways to push the education aspect at Malibu High School so we get products that we enhance as they pass through the school. You guys do so well anyways, but we really want to look at ways to increase that achievement and make it better in a number of ways. That's a tough order around here, because you guys are already so great in so many different ways.



Ashley Wallach
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

On May 9 in Poland, two men named Piotr Koper and Andreas Richter claimed to have found the last resting place of a Nazi-era German military train that contained gold bars, silver jewelry, stolen art, biological weapons, chemical weapons, advanced military technology, and dead bodies. The train also contained the so-called Amber Room, a room with walls of gold and amber that Nazis looted from a palace in St. Petersburg.

The train reportedly disappeared toward the end of World War II into the hills and mountains surrounding the town of Walbrzych as it fled from the advancing Red Army. It was hidden beneath trees and rubble. Treasure hunters say there is evidence the Germans parked the train in a hidden siding and then concealed the entrance for reasons that remain unexplained.

For decades, the Polish government has been involved in the search. Despite the common denial of the existence of the train, Koper and Richter said they researched the site secretly for over

a year, bringing their three young sons here on weekends and evenings, telling no one except their wives what they were doing. They claimed to have discovered the tunnels and a train with tank turrets. They verified their data and submitted paperwork to the local government for permission to dig and claim the legally entitled ten percent finder's fee.

Soviet troops first discovered the possible existence of the train, but all the documents about it, including the construction blueprints, were missing. Since no one knew exactly why it was built, they guessed the complex would be used to hide chemical weapons, biological weapons, genetic research, or atomic bombs.

The discoverers will have to clear approximately 100 trees and a thick tangle of shrubs from the 100 meter long ridge believed to be covering the train and its carriages before three shafts can be sunk in an attempt to reach it.

The trains remained a mystery for decades up until this year, with Koper and Richter's apparent discovery.

New Planets Discovered

Ashley Wallach
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

On May 10, NASA's Kepler mission verified the discovery of 1,284 new planets. This was the single largest finding of planets to date.

Ellen Stofan, chief scientist at NASA Headquarters in Washington, said, "This announcement more than doubles the number of confirmed planets from Kepler. This gives us hope that somewhere out there, around a star much like ours, we can eventually discover another Earth."

Last July, 4,302 potential planets were located using the data Kepler provided. Through complex analysis, 1,284 of the candidates had greater than the minimum 99 percent chance of being a planet. A planet is defined as a body that is in orbit around the sun, has enough mass to establish a round shape, and has cleared other debris from the neighborhood of its orbit.

Additionally, 1,307 of the potential planets are more likely than not to be actual planets, but they do not meet the 99 percent minimum and will undergo additional analysis. The last 707 are more likely to be some other astrophysical phenomena. Kepler's analysis also validated 984 candidates that have previously been verified by other techniques.

Paul Hertz, Astrophysics Division director at NASA Headquarters, said, "Before the

Kepler space telescope launched, we did not know whether exoplanets were rare or common in the galaxy. Thanks to Kepler and the research community, we now know there could be more planets than stars. This knowledge informs the future missions that are needed to take us ever-closer to finding out whether we are alone in the universe."

The presence of exoplanets are located by Kepler through analyzing the decreasing brightness that occurs when planets pass in front of their stars. This allows Kepler to see small silhouettes of potential planets along its nearest solar source. Just as humans on Earth can see the outline of the International Space Station on the moon under a telescope, Kepler can see potential planets along its correlating star.

Timothy Morton, associate research scholar at Princeton University in New Jersey and lead author of a scientific paper published in *The Astrophysical Journal*, invented the first automated computation on this scale. Previously, statistical techniques focused solely on sub-groups within the greater list of planet candidates identified by Kepler. Morton said, "Planet candidates can be thought of like bread crumbs. If you drop a few large crumbs on the floor, you can pick them up one by one. But, if you spill a whole bag of tiny crumbs, you're going to need a

broom. This statistical analysis is our broom."

Regarding Morton's work, Natalie Batalha, co-author of the paper and the Kepler mission scientist at NASA's Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, California, said, "This work will help Kepler reach its full potential by yielding a deeper understanding of the number of stars that harbor potentially habitable, Earth-size planets -- a number that's needed to design future missions to search for habitable environments and living worlds."

Of the newly validated batch of planets, nearly 550 are hypothesized to be rocky planets like Earth, based on their size. Nine of these orbit in their sun's habitable zone, or the distance from a star where orbiting planets can have surface temperatures that allow liquid water to pool. These nine discoveries join the existing 21 exoplanets known to be Earth-like.

Since March 2009, Kepler analyzed 150,000 stars in a small fraction of the sky, measuring even the slimmest change in the brightness of a star that can be produced by a transiting planet.

Concerning the future of astrobiology, in 2018, NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite will use the same method to monitor 200,000 bright nearby stars and search for planets, focusing on Earth and Super-Earth-sized.

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Lemonade Rules All



Image from HBO

Rebecca Clausse
STAFF WRITER

On April 23, 2016, Beyoncé released her second visual album, *Lemonade*.

Lemonade explores themes of infidelity, body positivity, race, and gender, all divided by eleven topics: intuition, denial, anger, apathy, emptiness, accountability, reformation, forgiveness, resurrection, hope, and redemption. An hour and fifteen minutes long, *Lemonade* shows the different stages of grief throughout twelve songs, all portraying Beyoncé's failing relationship with her husband, Jay-Z after he allegedly cheated on her.

With stunning visuals, as well as poems from the London-based writer Warsan Shire, *Lemonade* is truly an artistic and perceptive experience. Shire's delicate and formal words juxtaposed with Beyoncé's powerful and determined voice perfectly depict Beyoncé's views on infidelity and revenge.

Featuring other artists such as the Weeknd, Jack White, Kendrick Lamar and others, *Lemonade* creates an environment of jazz, country, R&B, pop, and soul with references to Beyoncé's roots in Texas and her most recent years with her daughter Ivy Blue and husband.

Promoting female empowerment, *Lemonade* explores the

many faces of the treatment of black women today's society. With the numerous outfit and set changes, Beyoncé shows how size does not matter, as she wears all types of clothing, making her figure stand out in the dark and mysterious scenes throughout the film.

Beyoncé also critiques today's stereotypical standards when connecting to female power, beauty and race. With guest appearances by important African American figures such as tennis champion Serena Williams, actresses Quvenzhané Wallis, Zendaya, and Amandla Stenberg, and many more, along with the portrayal of African American culture both in the visual motifs and music, Beyoncé challenges the media's typical portrayal of African American women.

Lemonade also touches on political issues of today, showing scenes of police harassment and violence against African American. The mothers of African American victims of racial profiling such as Michael Brown, Trayvon Martin, and Eric Garner appear in the video as well, each staring into the camera and holding a photograph of their son.

You can experience Beyoncé's story with her on Tidal, HBO, and for purchase on iTunes.

Spider-Man & Civil War

Taylor Mathews
FEATURES EDITOR

On May 6, *Captain America: Civil War* was released in theaters. As the third installment of the *Captain America* cinematic franchise and the film adaptation of Mark Millar's extremely popular comic series, *Civil War* was easily one of the most anticipated and highly regarded films to come out of the early 2016 film season. Having already received a 90 percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes and a 8.5/10 on IMDB, *Civil War* was predicted to be the next big hit of the ever-developing Marvel cinematic universe.

Since its release, *Civil War* has exceeded expectations. Having earned \$366.5 million as of May 11, it has surpassed its predecessor, *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*. The success of this film is largely attributable to its large cast, bringing in stars such as Paul Rudd, from his recent main-starring role in *Ant-Man*, Chadwick Boseman, who portrayed Black Panther (scheduled to appear in his own 2018 film), and Tom Holland who debuted as the highly anticipated Spider-Man.

However, highly anticipated does not even begin to cover the excitement that surrounds Peter Parker's alter ego. Ever since Marvel announced the creation of its cinematic universe in 2008, fans have anxiously waited for the inclusion of the web-slinger in a future Marvel movie. The possibility of getting to see Spider-Man go toe-to-toe with Captain America, Black Widow, and Iron Man was a dream come true for longtime Spider-Man fans.

Until last year, Sony had main-

tained the rights to Spider-Man for the past 17 years, preventing Spidey from receiving any sort of role in the MCU. In February 2015, Marvel and Sony revealed a deal that would grant the friendly-neighborhood Spider-Man his chance to appear on the big screen, alongside the current Marvel maintained heroes. With the debut of Holland, Spider-Man has been recasted once again, rebooting the series, but this time he would be permitted to take part in movies made by Marvel, enabling the company to use Spider-Man in any film that they hold the rights to, and Sony will use the new Spider-Man in any stand alone feature film that they create in the future, with the possibility of using other Marvel-owned characters in the movie. Revenue will return solely to the company who is in charge of making the films and will not be divided up between them.

The buzz after this announcement was overwhelming as fans counted down the days until they would get to see the new wall-crawler on screen. Spider-Man was officially announced to take part in *Civil War* in December of 2015, and Tom Holland finally made an appearance in the film's second trailer released on March 10. His time on screen was relatively short, being placed at the end of the trailer with a single line, "Hey everyone."

Though his verbal presence may have been fairly underwhelming, Spider-Man's outfit was well received by fans. *The Verge* described it as "fan service" and stated that "Marvel could not have designed a more nostalgic look." The new suit was aesthetically pleasing and stayed close

to its original and cartoon interpretation, despite some minor changes. There were some, according to *The Independent*, who thought that the suit seemed too CGI for their tastes, but they were still willing to give him a chance when *Civil War* hit theaters.

On May 6, *Civil War* premiered in theaters, nationwide, and Spider-Man stole the show alongside Ant-Man and Black Panther. Gregory Ellwood of *The Telegraph* described Spider-Man as being "one of the best parts of the movie", and *USA Today* said that Holland's Spider-Man brought a "youthful exuberance to *Civil War*".

If his outstanding role in *Civil War* wasn't enough, the film's post credit scene revealed Peter Parker, back at his apartment in Queens, after having tinkered with his costume, discovering a red beam of light coming out of his web shooters which formed the classic Spider-Man spotlight symbol from the comics. The screen then cut to black, and white text appeared that read, "Spider-Man will return."

Marvel has announced that Holland, alongside Robert Downey Jr., the star of the *Iron-Man* franchise, is scheduled to star in a standalone film, *Spider-Man: Homecoming*. The movie is currently set to be released on July 7, 2017, before *Thor: Ragnarok* (November 2017), and after *Dr. Strange* (November 2016) and *Guardians of the Galaxy 2* (May 2017).

With Marvel's Spider-Man having been received so well, fellow fans anxiously look forward to more appearances of the web-head in the future.

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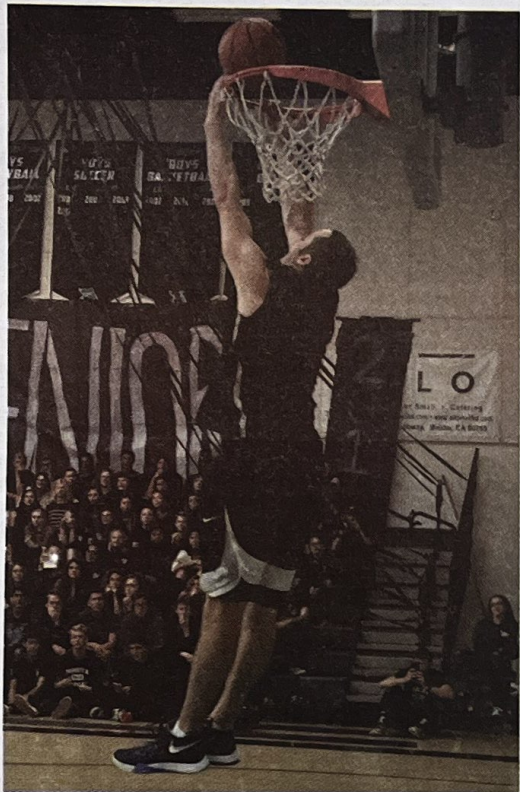
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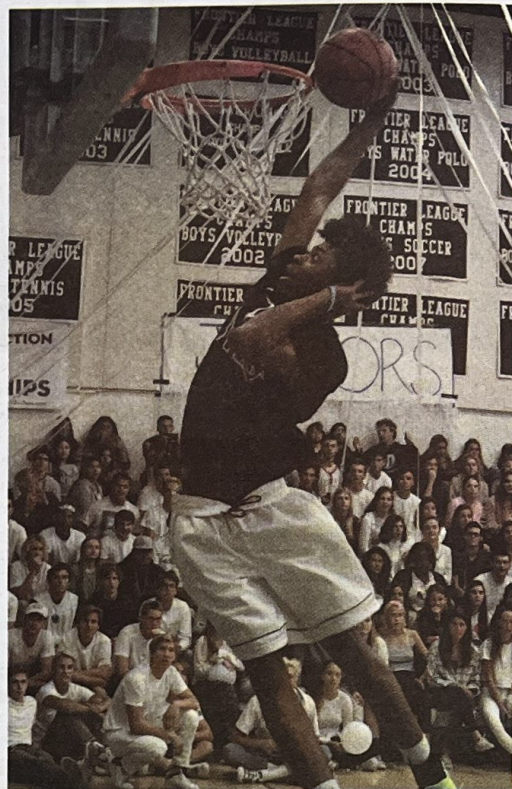
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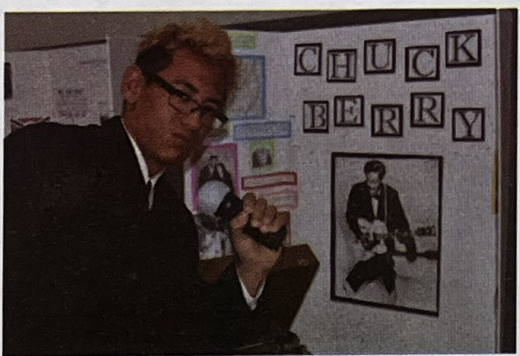
Principal Dr. Gallagher and Sophomore David Hudson dunking during the Spring pep rally on May 20. Hudson won with the most dunks. The event also involved a totilla throwing contest and a photo montage of Mr. Panish in honor of his birthday the same day.

Photos by Maverick Baglietto



Teachers and students having fun at Prom on May 13. Highlights from the night included a photo booth, a Phh-photo stand, a chocolate fountain, and the view of downtown Los Angeles from the 56th story of the US Bank building.

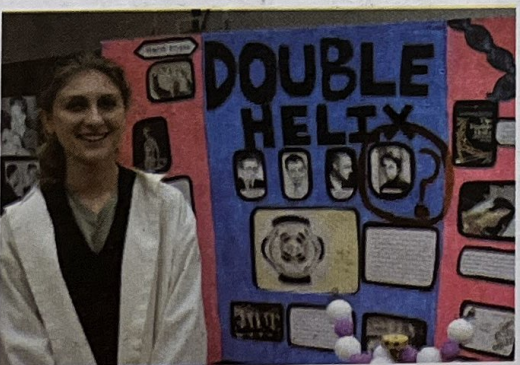
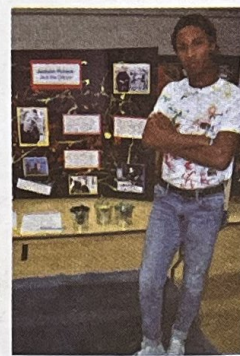
Photos by Mendy Walsh



Juniors with their projects at Decades Day on May 27. The day involves months of preparation to write a research paper and create a poster on a topic from the decade, this year the fifties. Students are encouraged to dress up in the style of the decade.

Clockwise from left is Logan Moore, Abby Blackwood, Bruno Nispel, Violet Finn, and Gracie Kinyon.

Photos by Mr. Panish.



Live Fast, Dye Young: Violet's Guide to Hair Dye



Violet Finn

A&E EDITOR

It's time that we get educated on how to bleach and dye in a safe and effective way.

You will need:

- gloves
- bleach (box dye or powder)
- toner
- hair dye

TIPS

- Use gloves at all times
- Put Vaseline on ears and neck during the dyeing process so it won't get on skin
- Dish soap will get hair dye off of skin and furniture
- Bright colors may stain pillowcases, be careful
- Dandruff shampoo will speed up the fading process in dyed hair
- Purple Shampoo can be used to maintain and tone white hair

BLEACH YOUR HAIR

1. Buy enough bleach:

This may seem like a no brainer, but for people with longer hair, one box of dye or one packet of bleach and developer may not be enough. If your hair is longer than shoulder length, I would highly suggest buying at least two bleach packets or two boxes of dye.

2. Decide between bleach powder and bleach developer or box hair dye:

To bleach hair, you can either use bleach powder and bleach developer (which is what salons use) or box dye. In my experience, bleach powder and developer works a lot better than box dye, but since box dye is more accessible, many people choose to use it instead. The extra 20 minutes it takes you to drive to a beauty supply store may seem like a hassle but it will save you from a lot of disappointment.

Recommended Bleaches: Loreal Bleach cream developer, Quick blue powder bleach, Perla Absolute Platinum Box Dye

Bleaches to Avoid: Garnier light blonde Box Dye, SPLAT bleaching kit

3. If using bleach powder and developer, buy the correct volume developer for your hair type:

You will need to buy a packet of bleach powder (normally around \$8) and a bottle of bleach developer (normally around \$10). Bleach developer comes in a range of volumes dependant on strength. If you have very light to medium blond hair you should go with 20 volume, but if you have

brown hair you should go with 30 volume. No matter how dark your hair is, DO NOT use 40 vol. bleach, as it is too strong and will fry your hair and may cause it to break off.

4. Do not wash your hair for at least two days before bleaching:

Bleaching your hair strips the hair of its natural oils. If you attempt to bleach clean hair it will sting your scalp and may even cause your scalp to blister. Save yourself the pain.

5. Mix the bleach/ box dye and apply the bleach to your hair:

For short hair:

Using a dye brush or an applicator bottle and gloved hands, apply bleach throughout your hair. Make sure your entire head is saturated evenly and completely in the bleach. Let set for 20-40 minutes or until you have reached a pale yellow or until your hair seems to have stopped lightening.

For long hair:

Long hair can be bleached in the same manner as short hair, but if you are looking for an even color you should bleach your hair in two phases. Firstly, bleach the middle/ends of your hair, leaving the hair at the top of your hair at their natural color. Roots lift faster than the rest of your hair so by doing them last, it is easier to

ensure that your hair will be even throughout. After 20-40 minutes, or when your hair seems to have stopped getting lighter, wash out the dye making sure not to get shampoo on your scalp. After you have washed out the bleach, move on to bleaching your roots until they have lightened (this will probably take less time than phase one) and then wash them out.

6. Eliminate the yellow and orangish tones in your hair:

Chances are that right after bleaching your hair, it will be yellow or orangish. In order to eliminate these yellow and orange tones, a thing called toner can be used. Toner is a blue or purple hair product that evens out and whitens bleached or lightened hair. After your hair is completely dry, apply toner to your hair, following the directions on the bottle as they may vary based on brand. The toner should look purplish greyish in your hair, but don't worry, it will not dye your hair purple.

If you plan on dying your hair a darker color (fuschia, teal, green, blue, red etc) your hair will most likely not need to be toned.

If after bleaching and toning your hair is still not at your desired

shade, then this means that your hair needs to be bleached again. Toning does not lighten your hair, it just takes out yellow tones, so if after just bleaching your hair is noticeably darker than you expected you do not need to tone it until you've bleached it again.

DYE YOUR HAIR UNNATURAL COLORS

1. Choose your color:

Pastel colors will only show up on pale yellow to white hair, vibrant colors will show up on medium blond hair, deeper shades will appear on light brown hair, and dark navy colors or deep purples may show up as a slight tint on dark brown hair.

In order to have long lasting, vibrant color show up in your hair, your hair has to be either naturally very light or bleached.

Recommended Dyes: Ion color brilliance, Manic panic, Punky Color

Dyes to Avoid: SPLAT, Crazy Color, Sparks

2. Dilute and mix the dye:

To achieve pastel colors you can either buy pre mixed colors or buy a darker shade of the color you want to achieve and mix it with white conditioner or clear hair dye.

BEEF OF THE WEEK

The Current sits down with a student to discuss what they have beef with this week. We spoke with Senior Kami Eshai.

What do you have a beef with?
I've got beef with men's fashion at Malibu High School.

What exact beef do you have with men's fashion?

Well a lot of people have these baggy pants and they go down to their feet and cover their shoes. It's not a clean look. I think there's two ways to go about this. You either cuff your pants, looks good and clean, right above your shoes or you could go higher if you want to get crazy with it. Or, you crop your pants. You could go extreme with the crop pants. If you can pull it off, pull it off. I mean. There can be some touching with shoes to pants, but it should be a



light touch, or even better, no touch at all. But, the best is right above the ankle, especially with high tops. Also, don't cuff your pants if your socks aren't high enough to cover your skin; no one wants to see your skin.

Why do you care so passionately about cuffed pants?

I just can't take it anymore, to walk around this school, to see these uncuffed pants. They could be looking good. They could have these nice, clean cuffs. I want to be able to walk around this

school and say to every guy or girl, cuffing is universal, "Those are some nice cuffs" or "I like your socks". That's another option, you could go crazy with the socks, maybe don't if you don't know what you're doing. But it's an option. It's a whole new world. **Do you have anything to say to people who don't like cuffs?** You're wrong. They're just wrong. If you look at someone, and you're like "Why are their pants cuffed?", "They're pants are too high?", or "Is there a flood?". Maybe, maybe I'm always prepared. Things happen. No matter what, I'll always look good, but will you? **Any last comments on your beef?** Keep it cuffed.

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Inside Anti-Vaccine Hell

An Eyewitness Account of *Vaxxed*

Kai Brady
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At approximately 7:15 PM on Wednesday, May 18, I dragged myself inside the Westlake Village Twin Cinema to accompany an unnamed member of my family to a screening of the new film *Vaxxed: From Cover-Up to Catastrophe*. Said family member had been stricken with an acute case of the anti-vaccine epidemic, and it was by this individual's request that I begrudgingly attended a film that so directly violated my principles.

One can immediately decipher the documentary as a mere propaganda piece. This is evident even before viewing the movie, considering its director is Andrew Wakefield, the former doctor whose paper linking vaccines to autism was formally retracted and whose British medical license was stripped away. I tried my best, however, to view the film with an open mind (that is, however opened one's mind can be in a room full of closed minded individuals).

The film is centered around a series of phone recordings from Dr. William Thompson, a whistleblower who claimed that the Cen-

ter for Disease Control's premiere study in favor of vaccines was unfairly altered. Wakefield uses these phone calls as supposed proof that his revoked paper was the victim of a global conspiracy led by the CDC to put money into the pockets of Big Pharma and to ultimately kill children for some reason. While this one-line summary seems outrageous, I have to give the filmmakers props for connecting a disjointed, seemingly unrelated mass of inaccurately represented data tidbits and compiling them into a surprisingly effective propaganda piece. If I didn't know better, it would almost appear to make sense, and I could easily see how it had won over the majority of the anti-vax crowd.

For me, one of the most interesting segments was when Dr. Thompson's leaked papers were shown to pediatricians, who appeared shocked at the contents and vowed to advise against vaccines. However, further research on my part revealed that these doctors were frequent guests on the reality show *The Doctors*, which was produced by none other than Del Bigtree, the producer of *Vaxxed*. Take that as you will.

Vaxxed itself is a good docu-

mentary in the same way that *The Birth of a Nation* is a good movie. Blatant inaccuracies notwithstanding, it is put together in a dramatic fashion, with well-executed pathos appeals. It makes you sympathize with the parents shown in the film, and I imagine it's a godsend for a true anti-vaccine activist. Wakefield and Bigtree seem like friendly individuals, and they appear to have a genuine belief they're doing the right thing. But this article is more about what happened after the movie.

The screening was followed by a Q&A period featuring several parents of "vaccine-damaged" children, as well as Wakefield and Bigtree. The first thing I noticed was the length and quality of speeches given by the two filmmakers. Each went on for some time after answering each question, gradually building in intensity, pumping their fists and shouting as the crowd cheered raucously. It felt a little like a cult meeting. There were a lot of buzzwords being thrown around ("tyranny," "fascism," "our children") with very little substance.

The second aspect of the Q&A was the outright craziness of the audience members. The first to

ask a question was of the "sovereign citizen" extreme far-right libertarian type. He advocated third-party voting in the context of vaccine law. While expanding democracy is something I fully support, the gentleman then went on about "the Families," a supposed cabal of mysterious wealthy business leaders who run the world and poison kids for... some reason. Illuminati anyone?

The second crazy was a middle-aged woman who said some interesting things. She advocated expanding the anti-vax movement to oppose GMOs. Understandable, I suppose. Then she started talking about chemtrails. And people in the crowd went insane. I suppose chemtrails will be the next big crusade for anti-vaxxers. You'd be hard pressed to find a group of conspiracy theorists this large outside of a Donald Trump rally.

Finally, an older man in the back got up and immediately compared the "Holocaust" of autism (supposedly vaccine-caused) to the supposed "Holocaust" of abortion. This is where I nearly got up and left. Even beyond my own pro-choice views, I was outraged by the fact that nothing is more insensitive than using the

name of the Holocaust, a horrific and genuine tragedy, as a political bartering tool.

I feel these people are important examples for many of our community's anti-vaccine members. Most anti-vax parents in Malibu are liberal progressives, perhaps on the hippie side, who desire a "natural" lifestyle for their kids. Well, this is who else is on your side: right-wing anti-abortion extremists, right-wing anti-government extremists, and chemtrail advocates. Conspiracy theorists flock together, I suppose.

I'd like to end this piece with a simple statement like, "Get your kids vaccinated." But for my final reflection from the movie screening-turned-political rally, I offer something I saw outside the theatre, right before I entered. A young teenage boy, presumably with a severe case of autism, was propped up in a wheelchair, completely non-verbal, with a sign promoting *Vaxxed* strapped across his chest. I don't care what the cause is — using kids for political posturing is always wrong. It was tragic. It was an absolute moral disgrace. Although I suppose that fit with the theme of the night, didn't it?

The Awkward Side of Social Media

Claudia Lane
STAFF WRITER

About 80% of the population uses social media daily. Whether it is Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter, recent studies have shown that those who spend large amounts of time on social media will exhibit social awkwardness when interacting with others in person.

Research has revealed that the average person spends a third of their time on their phone. In the United States, the average person will check their phone 46 times a day. Today, a majority of our population lives through their phone screens, texting or writing messages on social media.

It is much easier to communicate with others outside a face-to-face setting. A recent article by The Huffington Post reported that it is very easy to misinterpret a text. When reading a message, this can often be confusing as a result of missing context and the lack of tone from the other person.

Words on a screen cannot express true feeling.

It is becoming much harder for our generation to communicate directly with one another as a result of social media. It is impossible to fully understand a person solely through social media and texting. In a way, by texting or sending messages, you are literally talking to your phone. Phones express nothing real, and on any form of social media or messaging you are able to pretend to be someone you are not. On Instagram, users will highly edit their photos or add filters to make the picture or themselves appear more attractive. In reality, Instagram is a way to boast about what you are doing, whether it be a photo with a bunch of people to claim you are popular, or a selfie to prove you are good-looking. There is nothing sincere about social media or texting. It is extremely easy to say anything because you have time



to edit the message. When talking with someone face-to-face, you do not have much time to respond or else the situation will become awkward. And this is exactly what is happening to our society right now: we are losing our ability to communicate with others.

One thing that may contribute to this social awkwardness is the lack of a topic of interest. People today are becoming so familiar with one another's lives as a result of them constantly posting what they are doing. When friends view posts and comment, these two people have already

had a "conversation." If these two people have a face-to-face interaction a week later, their ability to converse is lost, because they have already become aware of what has been occurring in each other's lives. Justine Harman, a features editor for Elle.com, describes texting and chatting on social media as "the death of a civilized conversation." Instead of having a sincere talk with someone, social media users can say something quick and easy, comment a few hearts, and make the message appear "heartfelt".

Social skills are negatively impacted the more time we spend staring at our screens. Author Tara Kennedy-Kline says "There are simple social skills that we are completely losing an entire generation of because we only do anything online. We are screwing up dialogue." There is a lack of emotion behind anything someone comments or says on social

media. People don't think when they comment - they just comment. Often people do not realize what they may be typing is hurtful - they just type. By communicating online, we are slowly losing our ability to communicate with those around us. The more time we spend talking to someone online, the more awkward a face-to-face confrontation will be, because you were never really talking to that person. You were sending words that had no meaning behind them, but could be mistaken as an uplifting or heart-breaking message.

Today, we do not think when we type a message. We just type. It's that easy. Social media can help two people stay in touch, but truly it cannot connect them. The only way two people can actually be connected is through face-to-face confrontations, not phone-to-phone 'conversations.'

Athlete of the Month: Ben Tran

Harrison Innes
SPORTS EDITOR

How Long have you been swimming competitively? I've been swimming for three years. What got you into competitive swimming?

I always liked going to the pool, and when I played water polo I noticed I was faster at swimming the most of my friends. When swimming started I tried it and I was really good at it.

Do you like the Malibu swim program?

Yeah. I think, it should be a lot bigger though, and more people should get involved. It's really fun, and the team is like a big family.

How many times have you been to C.I.F.?

I started going to C.I.F. in ninth grade, so I've been to C.I.F. three times.

What events do you compete in?

In ninth grade I did distance events like the 200 and the 500 meter, but I tried them again in tenth grade and I wasn't that good, so I switched to sprint events like the 50 and 100 meter. I also do the 100 meter breaststroke.

What's your favorite event?

I'd have to say the 100 breast. It's my best stroke and I set the record for it at C.I.F.

Do you think you had a good season?

Yeah, this was my best season by far, but I hope to improve next year.

Do you have any sort of swimmer or athlete

that you look up to?

I look up to Logan Hotchkiss, because he held every single record at this school. I was trying to beat his 100 meter breaststroke record and I finally got it.

Do you plan to continue swimming after high school?

The school that I'm looking at right now doesn't have a men's swim team so I'm kind of bummed, but if there is a swim team, and I can get on it, then yeah, I probably will.

How did you do at C.I.F. this year?

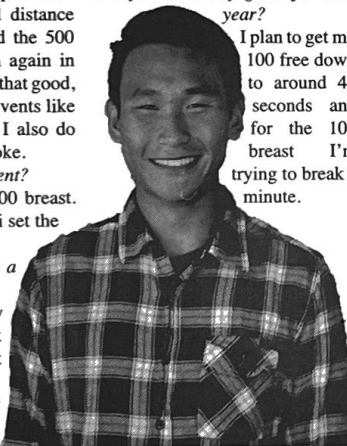
This C.I.F. was personally one of the best I've had because this was the first time I medaled in both my individual events. Last year I got two medals, but those were for my two relays.

What did you place in those two individual events?

In the 100 meter breaststroke I got fifth and in the 100 meter freestyle I got eighth place.

Do you have any goals for next year?

I plan to get my 100 free down to around 47 seconds and for the 100 breast I'm trying to break a minute.



Sorin Moore & Harrison Innes
STAFF WRITER & SPORTS EDITOR

Another amazing track season is coming to a close for Malibu High. After a season filled with commitment and dedication, 14 Malibu High School track and field athletes will be continuing on to CIF.

Phoebe Joseph, freshman, says, "I made it in pole vault and the 4 by 1 relay. I feel very proud that I made it to CIF but I am also very nervous to compete against such a great athletes. My favorite moment of the season was probably when my 3 best friends and I won the 4 by 1 together. Specifically, when I saw our anchor crossing the finish line and all of us running to her and giving each other a huge hug."

Every fun, sweaty practice brought the track and field family closer together as the season went on. **Regence Humphrey**, the head coach of track and field, says, "I thought the season went really well, and I think it's been going really well. To have 14 people move on to CIF is awesome. But it was, all in all, a fun season, just a great group of people, guys and girls to work with which made it a lot of fun."

A wide variety of events provides an opportunity for athletes to find an event that they are passionate about and excel at. **Joie Cosen-tino**, senior, says, "I made CIF in long jump. I am ecstatic to be going to CIF because I've put a lot of work into this season and I'm really happy to be going to represent Malibu. The bus rides have been super fun, PR-ing has been great, and honestly just being with the team has been awesome; I have a lot of good memories from the sport." Thanks to weeks

of exhilarating but demanding practices, the athletes' hard work has paid off by countless PRs.

Marco Krause, senior, says, "I made it for the 400 and the 4 by 4. I'm excited and a little nervous. I would say my favorite moment was when I threw my PR for discuss this season."

When somebody signs up for track, they join a family. A family where they have your back and will cheer their heads off for you when you are competing.

Stef Tso, freshman, says, "I made it to CIF for my teammates. My favorite moment of the season is when our 4 by 1 team won at VCC." With every new track season, comes new athletes. Many new athletes have already made their mark in track and field.

Coach Humphrey says, "We had a really good group of freshman come out, **Anderson Newman**, **Rivers Redclay**, **Sorin Moore**, **Nina Gonzalez**. Seeing **Jacob Acosta** do what he did as a senior and **Phoebe Joseph** doing pole vault. As a group, they are just amazing to see." Track began the season with a running start and is bringing it home at a sprint. All the athletes have showed dedication and passion for track throughout the season.

Coach Humphrey says, "Watching the athletes grow and continue to get better week by week is fun. The team as a group has been really, really into it, and that's fun to watch. To see the results that we've had every week get better and better is always great to see as a coach."

On 5th of May, the track team concluded its league season with an appearance in the Frontier league finals.

The freshmen that qualified include **Phoebe Joseph**, for pole

vault, and the varsity 4x100 relay team, **Sierra Brady** also qualified for pole vault, **Claudia Lane** qualified for the varsity 1600 and 3200 meter, and **Stephan Tso** qualified for the boys' varsity 4x400 relay.

Sophomore **Ella Mckenna Worrell** had an amazing day, qualifying for the girls varsity 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, and 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams.

Junior **Abby Blackwood** qualified for the varsity girls 800 meter, 3200, meter, and was part of the girls varsity 4x400 relay team as well. Fellow junior **Eva Conrad**, who not only qualified with the girls 4x400 relay team, but also qualified for the girls varsity 100 meter hurdles, and also the girls 4x100 relay team. Junior **Nicholas Kianpoor** also qualified for the 4x400. Junior **Maverick Baglietto** also qualified for discuss, after coming back from a season long injury.

A lot of seniors qualified for CIF, including **Jacob Acosta** for his 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, and the boys varsity 4x400 relay team. Senior **Marco Krause** qualified for the 400 meter dash and the boys varsity 4x400 relay team as well. **Madeleine Ward** qualified for her 300 meter hurdles race and the girls 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams, marking a great end to her senior year. Finally, senior **Joie Cosen-tino** qualified for long jump, and senior **Natalie Aldrich** qualified for high jump.

CIF prelims were on May 14, and will be held at Carpinteria High School, and **Madeline Ward**, **Claudia Lane**, and **Natalie Aldrich** qualified for Championship finals.

A Great Track Season Comes to an End

Zika Virus and the Olympics

Logan Moore
SPORTS EDITOR

In less than 100 days the 2016 Summer Olympics will commence on August 5th in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. With over 10,500 thousand athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees, this year's Olympics is sure to see range of both experienced veterans and rookie newcomers.

One veteran Olympian that's sure to make his mark in this year's Olympics is Jamaican track athlete Usain Bolt. Bolt has set records in the 100, 200, and 400 meter races, winning golds in all three, and he plans on doing it again in this year's Olympics. Sadly, though, Bolt said this will

be his last Olympics. "It's going to be hard for me, to keep the motivation that I want, especially if I accomplish what I want in Rio" said Bolt according to French news agency AFP.

This year's Olympics has some rising young stars as well. Simone Biles, an American gymnast from Houston, shows some promise going into her first Olympics. At the age of 19, she is the first ever woman to win 10 World Championship titles in only 3



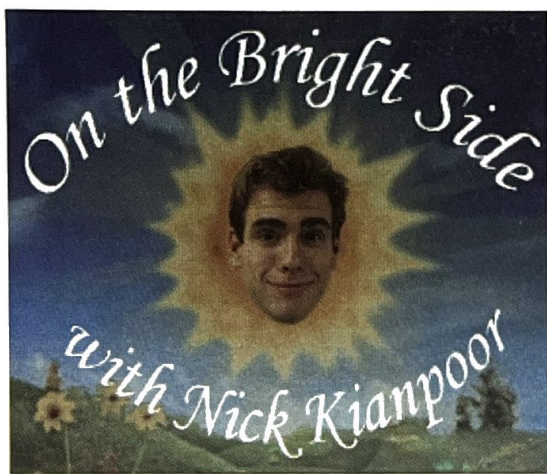
World Championship appearances. Such a historic performance is sure to please both the Brazilian and global crowd.

There will also be some events coming back as well. Golf for example, is coming back after 112 years in its last appearance in the 1904 Olympics. The Rio 2016 Olympic golf course, designed by American architect Gil Hanse, featured 18 challenging holes and artificial lakes and bunkers all surrounded by Brazilian scenery, which will surely please both the audience and upcoming Olympic golfers.

But the preparation for Rio Olympic Games hasn't been according to plan recently. Since

February of 2016, South and Central America has been experiencing an epidemic of Zika, a nasty virus that, while rarely fatal, causes severe headaches and even birth defects for growing fetuses. While some speak of canceling the Games, the Olympics are still scheduled to take off. Since one of the leading carriers of Zika are mosquitoes, and due to winter time conditions in August, there will be "very little circulation of mosquitoes and virus", said Dr. Marcos Espinal, one of the leaders against the fight against Zika, and thus the Games continue.

Overall, this year's Olympics will be going down in the history books and is definitely one to see.



Nick Kianpoor
NEWS EDITOR

In the past months, it seems as though the functions of American democracy have undergone an exorcism, and it hasn't been pretty. Whether you're a hard core conservative who's seeing red stars with the continued success of Bernie Sanders, or you're a die-hard leftist who's already planning his move to Canada with the rise of Donald Trump, it seems the entire nation has been polarized by the general election. Although this is very serious, and people are genuinely scared of 2016 general election, the On The Bright Side Column has decided to look at some of the positive aspects of the wholesome disintegration of American democratic institutions. As President Obama has recently said, "The end of the Republic has never looked better". Here are the reasons why:

Firstly, your Thanksgiving Dinner is going to be much more interesting this year. Usually Thanksgiving is spent discussing the most painstakingly boring material your parents can think up, and for us Juniors and Seniors, it will also involve a lot of people asking us about college. One positive aspect of this coming election is that the Thanksgiving discussions will be centered on politics. One great thing about family dinners is that it forces the polar opposites of your family to interact, which is going to be extremely entertaining this year. Sparks will fly, gravy will spatter, and at some point someone is going to get hurt, probably the liberals, since they don't own any weapons anyway.

Also, this election might finally bring some attention to the awesome decline of Moderates in American politics. Recently leaked news from the Environ-

mental Protective Agency has disclosed that the E.P.A. is now having discussions as to whether or not to place "Moderates" on the endangered species list. This week National Geographic actually captured a picture of the elusive species somewhere on the Atlantic seaboard. Take a look:



Even better, the 2016 election season might actually resolve the immigration crisis that is facing this country. Over the course of one of the Republican nomination debates so many Americans visited the Canadian Government's official website for immigration that the sight crashed. In America, we're rather accustomed to government websites not working, but in Canada, the occurrence was unprecedented. Thankfully, Americans are renown for their humble and passive demeanor when visiting in foreign nations, so I'm sure the Canadians won't mind us at all.

In the end, though, we really shouldn't be stressing about this election. No matter which person actually wins the election and becomes the first female president, the same people will win this election who won the last election, and the one before that, and so on. Corporate interests are undefeated in national elections, so I highly doubt they'd lose this one.

Quick shoutout to the conspiracy theorists who thought the world would end in 2012. We laughed at you then, but on the grand scheme of things, you were only four years off.

Across

- Malibu's only college.
- The beach that's right across from school.
- A vice principal with a more attractive twin.
- It's impossible to park at _____ on Fridays after school.
-
- No, not the underground train.
- Better coffee than the three Starbucks that we already have.
- Where you can trade an hour's pay for a smoothie.

Summer Fun in Malibu

Kai Brady
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Despite the relative affluence of the Malibu community, many students often find themselves devoid of activities to partake in during the summer months. Here are a few of my favorite unique summer ideas for you to enjoy here at home after you get back from Cabo and before you head to Paris.

1. Go to Pavilions

What better way to spend time in the summer than Pavs? The Point Dume Plaza (known colloquially as the "pavs area") offers many attractions. There's really something for everyone. If you want to conserve cash, hit up Subway and Pavs itself. If you're inclined to splurge, one can purchase delicious \$5 lattes at Cafecito and healthy \$15 smoothies at Sunlife. Enjoy a delicious meal at Duck Dive. You can even pick up a Lily's burrito and catch a session

of hot yoga to burn it off. You and your friends can coalesce at one of the three black wrought-iron tables and progressively scare away everyone else in the seating area.

2. Go to Cross Creek

You guessed it! My second recommendation is Malibu's consumerist gift that keeps on giving. Often times I'll find myself drifting between Chipotle and Grom in an endless and inescapable cycle. If you're of the athletic type, head to Soul Cycle or play a game of Corn Hole on the sidewalk outside Lulu Lemon.

3. Go to Vintage

If you're too hipster for Cross Creek and not sketch enough for Pavs, you might want to check out Vintage. It is adjacent to the nicest Starbucks in Malibu, as well as the hollowed-out carcasses of many locally owned businesses who have perished due to rent costs (RIP Mangia, 2014-2015).

4. Go to the beach

We've got a lot of 'em.

5. Drive around aimlessly

This is one of Malibu students' favorite activities, and it can be enjoyed even from the comfort of your own automobile. There's nothing quite like ripping down PCH or cruising up Latigo with no end goal in sight. If life has no meaning and you lack any and all creativity, there's nothing like wasting an entire tank of gas and feeling like a waste at the end of the day.

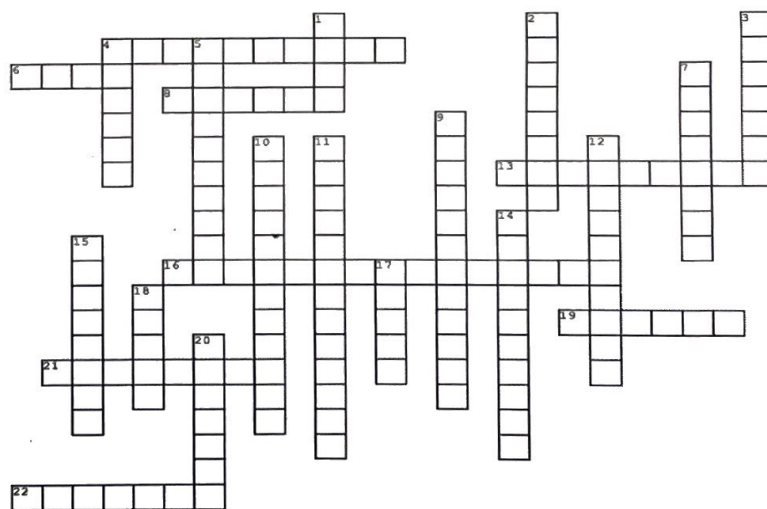
7. Catch up on AP summer assignments

Lol

8. Get the heck out of Malibu

Probably the smartest thing you can do on this list.

Malibu Crossword Puzzle



Down

- Billy was coerced to stay away from Santa Monica due to _____ pressure.
- I got my first C in Mr. _____'s class.
- Notorious for the murder of Point Pizza.
- A history teacher whose name is the subject of many puns.
- RIP _____. We will never forget your delicious pizza.
- "Yes, I know guacamole costs extra, just give it to me."
- You don't want to know what "gurt" means.
- Your classic all-American boy, and the opinion editor of this very paper.
- The only place where you can pay \$20 to see a movie.
- It's like Big Dume, but little.
- To enter here, one must cross a creek.
- To get to this beach, one must be westward bound.
- Known to put addictive substances in their burritos.
- The _____ of Hazzard was a pretty good TV show.
- Pavillions, but more expensive.