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MALIBU HIGH SCHOOL

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New Superintendent to be Chosen for SMMUSD

By Josh Corrigan
BEYOND MALIBU EDITOR

At the end of this semester, the current superintendent of the Santa Monica Unified School District, Tim Cuneo will retire.

Superintendent Tim Cuneo is going to retire in June after two and a half years.

Cuneo originally was in retirement after already serving as superintendent at another district.

The Santa Monica Unified School District had asked to be a temporary interim superintendent, but he the way he handle his job pleased the Board of Education, who then asked him to stay for a couple more years.

Now that those couple years have passed, the search for new superintendent is already under way.

Whichever lucky applicant is chosen, as his long-term replacement, will start their services on July 1st.

Parents, the community and staff members have already discussed what type of superintendent they want and think would be the best for the school district with member of the district who will make the final decision.

The district has placed advertisements in EdCal and they hopefully will attract many applicants who will

provide variety of possible choices.

The final decision of who will be the next superintendent is the responsibility of the committee and the board of education to choose who they think is the best possible superintendent.

The decision makers have set up a "closed" selection process, which means ordinary citizen and another districts will not know the applicants.

This stops people from finding out about who applied for the position to avoid getting them in trouble with their current jobs.

A good superintendent is crucial in the harsh times the district is facing.

The effects of budget cuts are bound to continue, especially if Governor Jerry Brown's new budget fails to pass in the state senate.

If his new budget manages to pass, would add virtually no new cuts to the education budget, but will continue the cuts former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger had already placed.

Although this does not sound as good as it actually is, if this budget does not pass, schools can expect to see millions of more dollars cut.

Continued on page 3...

"The school district need someone who can navigate through these very difficult financial times"

-Principal Mark Kelly



Got Music? Come see the High School talent show tonight and Saturday

School Starting and Ending Dates to Change in 2012

By Cameron Hart
FEATURES EDITOR

Many high schools across the country currently end their first semester in December, right at winter break.

Students take their final

exams and then relax during the break. However, Malibu High has always ended its first semester after winter break in January.

Students, families, and faculty have different opinions about the best time for the semester to end.

However, Malibu High School will be making

the change to end its first semester at winter break by the 2012-2013 school year.

School will start one week earlier for each of the next two years to make the change a more gradual process.

Winter break is meant to be a time in which students can take a break from school

work and spend some time with family and friends.

However, students lose that valuable time if they are working on a project that is due at the end of the break or if they are preparing for final exams which are just a few weeks after going back ...continued on page 2



SPORTS

Spring sports are off and running, read all about it in sports.



FEATURES

Lexie Kelly reviews and compares local ice cream vendors.



OPINION

Lexie Kelly and Caroline Kaufman debate America's role in Libya.

NEWS
BRIEFS

March 25
Coffee House at the
Point Dume Club
High School Pep
Rally

March 26
Night of a Thou-
sand Parties

March 29
Spring Band
Concert

March 31
5th Grade
Orientation

April 1
CSF/CJSF
Breakfast

April 6
SMMUSD Board
Meeting

April 8
Stairway to the
Stars

**April 11-
22**
Spring Break

Education Grants Brings New Technology to Malibu

By Emma Blackwood
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Recently the California Department of Education (CDE) gave the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District the Enhancing Education Through Technology Competitive Grant.

The money given through this grant is supposed to be used to enhance the learning and make the teaching experience easier within the classroom through the use of new technology.

"The district is getting \$250,000 to buy technology

to increase the use of assessment in day-to-day instruction, a way to provide teachers with on-going data to measure student progress, and to develop the use of technology for what's called formative assessment," said teacher and user of the new technology given through this grant **Adam Panish**.

It is designed to advocate higher learning and encourage students. Five teachers from Malibu High; **Elisabeth Flohr, Julia Cherie Hoos, Ari Jacobs, Andy Meyer** and **Panish** are receiving these funds. These teachers will learn from the technology provided and use this

knowledge to assist their peers.

The teachers will use new SMART Wireless Slates, SMART Interactive Response Systems, and Lap tops or LCD projectors if needed.

Forty student responders will be included as well to help increase class participation and provide the teacher with instant feedback. Classes held by professionals will be provided to these five teachers so they will later be able to assist other teachers when they receive the same technology.

"I'm looking forward to using it in class. I see at

least two positives from it: keeping students actively engaged, and getting instant feedback as to whether students are understanding whatever is going on in the classroom, so I know whether I can move forward or whether there needs to be further clarification" said **Panish**.

In order to receive this grant, the school and school district had to submit an application, which was reviewed by a panel.

The application was then scored and ranked against other competitors. The top scoring applicants, including Malibu High, were awarded funds.

In order to receive funds, there must be an approved technology plan established by the county. This plan is funded money from "No Child Left Behind" as well as the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act" passed by the federal government.

Although many are excited about the potential of new technology in the classroom, some ask whether the government should be spending this money. Malibu High lacks some basic instructional material such as adequate numbers of certain textbooks.

2011-2012 School Year to Start in August Rather than September

...continued from page one...to school.

"I think ending the semester at winter break is a good thing because I forget everything in those two weeks," said senior **Colin Branham**.

The weeks just before final exams are some of the most stressful of the year for many students.

Students are going full throttle and staying up until midnight or later trying to pull good grades in their classes.

Then, in the middle of the chaos, there is a two week long break. The kids on break get a little lazy and sleep in until two in the afternoon, and go to bed whenever they feel like it, only to have to go back onto their really intense schedules that they were on before break. It is for this reason that some people oppose having winter break

before final exams.

"Ending first semester at the break mimics what goes on at colleges. It will be great for teachers and students," said teacher **Brian Corrigan**.

Furthermore, starting school two weeks earlier will give teachers extra time to prepare their AP students for the AP exams in May. Teachers often have to rush through material to make up for the lost time due to Malibu High's late start in September, compared to many other school which start in August.

The majority of schools in the Santa Monica Unified

School District both start and end their school year before MHS. This means that summer break begins for other schools before Malibu High.

"Many summer opportunities start before our school year ends," said Principal **Mark Kelly**.

Students can miss out on camps or classes that take place at the beginning of summer because they are still in school.

There are also students who believe it is a good thing to have a break before finals.

"I like having the break before finals because it

gives me time to study for all the exams," said senior **Connor Hannigan**.

The break can help students feel relaxed enough to give one final push at the end of the semester to pull off the grade they are seeking in their classes. Some students take advantage of all the free time over break and actually study for their upcoming exams.

Other students do not like the change in dates because students will be missing out on the best weather of the summer.

Senior **Brandon Tran** does not like the change in dates because he believes he will have to be in school during the nicest days of the year.

"August is when summer is actually nice," said **Tran**.

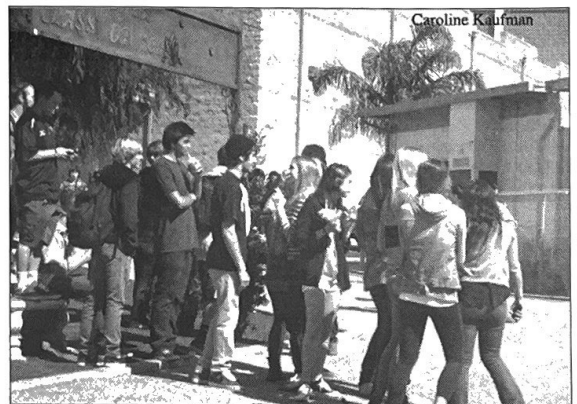
The debate over when the best time to end the first semester could go on for quite some time. Despite

mixed views, Malibu High will be jumping on the bandwagon and will have first semester come to an end before winter break starting during the 2012-2013 school year.

In just a few years, the transition will be made and students will have not have to worry about tests during their break.

However, every action has a reaction, and in this case it means that school will have to start during August instead of early September. Some students will have a little bit of time taken off of their summer vacation during one year in order for the school schedule to change.

As much as students will dislike losing a small portion of their summer, the change has to begin somewhere.



WERK IT!: Left, Seniors Staffan Edenholt, James Burnett and Austin Daniels perform during lunch on Wednesday. Right, students watch performers during "Werk It Wednesdays."

Local Bookstore Diesel Closes after Rent Increase and Legal Battle

By Carolyn Pushaw
OPINION EDITOR

After lasting seven years as a fixture in Cross Creek, Diesel Bookstore is closing; the latest in a string of closures that is damaging Malibu's "laid-back" atmosphere.

As an independent bookstore, Diesel offered a unique environment for bibliophiles, but also had difficulties maintaining sufficient profits in its Malibu location.

The increasingly high rent in the area, which many of the more expensive stores in Cross Creek can afford, contributed to the store's closing. In order to attract wealthy tourists, the landlords are hiking up the rents and selling many of the available properties in the shopping center to upscale stores, as evidenced by the recent construction of the Malibu Lumber Yard.

The landlords have

also come under fire for purportedly threatening the owners of Diesel into closing the store through legal action.

"When they refused to leave, the new landlords took them to court for two years and tried to bury them in legal fees," said an anonymous source who has connections to the store.

Although the owners, John Evan and Alison Reid, were victorious in these legal battles, they still had to pay exorbitant legal fees, and the dwindling profits at Diesel were simply not enough to keep the store running.

The extensive construction work at Cross Creek was a major contributing factor in this lack of business, as it limited easy access to the store by making it more difficult to park as well as diminishing the aesthetic qualities of the area. At first glance, it was difficult to tell if Diesel was open during the construction,

thus discouraging potential clients, particularly tourists who may not have known about the store.

"The construction, combined with legal fees and inflated rent, helped force Diesel out of business," said an anonymous source. "The owners weren't even informed about [the construction] before it started."

This changing ambience was particularly damaging to a bookstore which had built its reputation on being an intellectual yet relaxing place, as there was a shift from a calm atmosphere that was conducive to reading and browsing through books to one that encouraged shoppers to leave as soon as possible to free themselves of the dust, barricades, and difficult parking situation.

"Even though I usually buy books online, I still loved the atmosphere," said Stevie Johnson, a former Malibu High student.

The loss of this independent book store is just another tally mark in the long list of businesses that have gone under in recent years, depriving Malibu of stores that sell necessary items in order to make room for high-end fashion boutiques.

"Just like residents have to leave Malibu to find a hammer, they will now have to leave to buy a book," said junior Madi Felman, who worked at Diesel and is currently an employee at the company's Brentwood location.

"This is the third bookstore to go out of business in Malibu in the past 20 years."

This comes as a major blow to bibliophiles in the area, who are forced to drive for 30 minutes or even more to reach a bookstore.

Those who do not visit bookstores frequently are also adversely affected if they have a last-minute need for a book.

"It was a great one-stop shop if you needed a book for class," said Johnson.

Other local businesses, although they have not been forced to close, are fleeing Cross Creek and other shopping centers in Malibu for similar reasons. The increase in rent has been particularly destructive.

According to the *Malibu Times*, the monthly rent for one business, Malibu Business & Shipping Center, jumped from \$14,000 in 2002 to \$22,000 in 2010. The company was forced to move out of its ideal location near Ralph's to one farther down PCH.

Diesel is looking to accomplish a similar move, as the owners are trying to reestablish the store's Malibu branch soon.

"They are hoping to reopen by the end of spring if possible," said Felman. "But it is more likely, assuming they can find a new location, that it will open sometime later this

year." It is currently unclear what future is in store for the empty storefront that housed Diesel. Michael Koss, the owner of the Malibu Country Mart, has recently confirmed that an upscale New York clothing store, Rubin Chappelle, will establish a branch in a space near Toy Crazy, but has not announced any plans for this now vacant location.

As local businesses continue to go under, only to be replaced by boutiques catering to the ultra-rich that fail to address the day-to-day needs of ordinary Malibuites, the relaxed environment of this quiet beach side community is gradually changing.

"I hope the shock of [Diesel's closure] will encourage the community to support local independent stores to help keep them in business," said Felman.

SMMUSD in the Process of Choosing New Superintendent

Continued from page one....

SMMUSD really needs an excellent superintendent to guide the district through these rough times without too much damage to the quality of the education.

This is rough time for the school and without a good superintendent the district could suffer substantially.

Principal Mark Kelly said, "The school district needs someone who can really navigate through these very difficult financial times, someone who is able to navigate the very tricky politics of the communities of Santa Monica and Malibu, and someone who really knows education."

The district may experience some big changes in the next year

While Cuneo acted as superintendent he dealt with budget cuts and layoffs. The last two years have been the exceptionally hard on the district due to cuts in state funding and the

layoffs that the schools had to endure.

In 2010, 2.4 billion dollars were cut from the budget for public schools in the state of California and hundreds of teachers were laid off.

Cuneo also had to contend with different controversial decisions, such as Point Dume's charter school application.

After the rough few years Cuneo had to deal with, retirement must sound pretty good.

Cuneo may not be the only member of the district that will be replaced.

Board of education members Elizabeth Wilson, Tanya Choo, and Billy

Foran's terms are also expiring in June.

The fates of their careers at SMMUSD will be determined by an election among the citizens of the district and at least one of them will

be replaced.

Also when board members Kelly, Pye's terms ends, she will not be running in the election again.

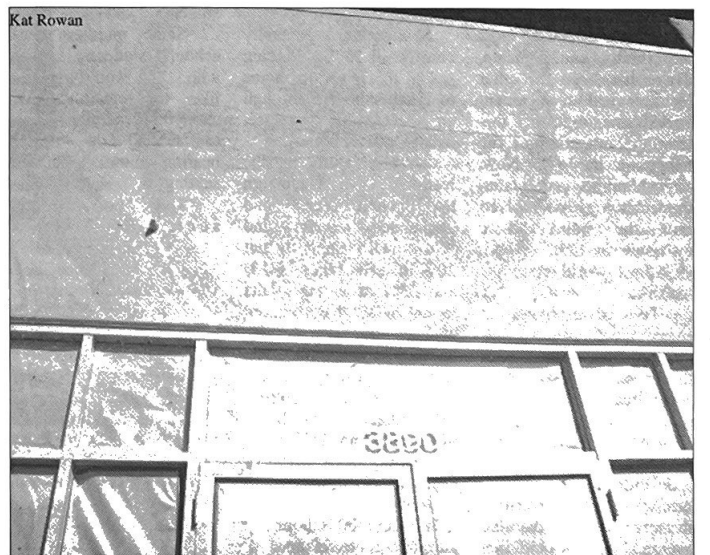
The board of education had already elected a new president and vice president this year.

The district may be experiencing some big changes for next year's school year.

Hopefully, the district's newcomers can deal with the tough budget and prevent further layoffs.



THE RENT IS TOO DANG HIGH: The effects of high rents in the Malibu Colony are being felt. Diesel bookstore was forced to close this month after the store owners could no longer pay the high rents.



Cheerleading Team Heads to National Championships

By Hannah Horton
STAFF WRITER

In many cases, people may view cheerleading as just a sideshow during other sports games and matches. In the last few years, however, cheerleading has gained more recognition as a sport at Malibu High and in the general athletic community.

Cheerleading has its own competitions and its own championships. Cheerleading is a sport.

At Malibu High school, the squad has made quite a name for themselves.

Just recently, the squad, led by teacher **Melissa Andino**, made a huge victory.

The Malibu High School Cheer Team won the West Coast Championship at Universal Studios.

The win came as a shock to several of the team members.

"We were really excited to win! I mean, the girls had a great routine, but we didn't expect to win," said Andino.

In fact, most of the players on the squad had the same reaction, such as cheerleader **Ysidora Bravo**, who said she believed their chances were about fifty-fifty.

Bravo believed the competition and the work leading up to the competition to be nerve racking and a lot of fun.

Jade Collins-Parnell, a freshman on the squad, said that she did not expect to win the championship due to the small size of their team, and the apparent strength of the competitors.

"We looked up videos of the other teams and, I mean, they were really good," said

able to get ready for the big competition.

Nationals are in Las Vegas on April 15th and 16th. The team views at least placing as a great accomplishment.

"Of course, the ultimate goal is to win first," said Andino.

After the competition, they will start looking forward to next year and work on recruiting more cheerleaders.

Goals for the rest of the season include to work harder as a team, an uplift in school spirit, and to strengthen their bonds within the team even more than they already have.

Along with the pep rally, which will be on March 25th, the squad has been attending and cheering at such events as track meets to show support for our schools other sports.

The majority of the squad believes that Malibu High is lacking in school spirit. They believe that this lack of school spirit makes their job difficult.

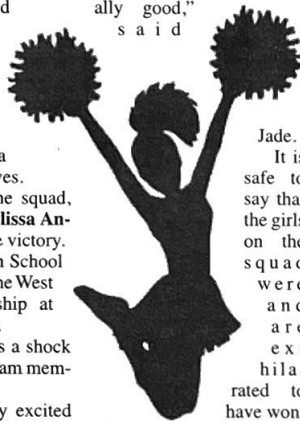
The cheerleading team intends to change this situation.

"We want to work harder as a team to make the school more spirited," said Jade.

The team hopes that by cheering at other sport's games and participating in events like "Werk it Wednesday", they can get



GO MALIBU!: Malibu's award winning cheerleading teams cheers at a basketball game



Jade.

It is safe to say that the girls on the squad were and are exhilarated to have won.

As far as what the rest of the season has in store, they are getting ready for the next pep rally and they are working on a routine for nationals.

This involves a lot of more work from everybody and more intense practices in

their fellow students to be more excited and pumped-up for school achievements, both athletic and academic.

Hopefully the squad's efforts will align with the feelings of other people attending our school and people can show their support and energy at all sports

It's commonly expressed among the squad that the chemistry between the team members was always good, but now that everybody knows each other so well, their relationships have

grown even closer.

"They have all bonded so much and actually treat each other like sisters, they always have each other's back which is really cool" said Andino.

Because they spend so much time together, they have become able to trust each other, which create a very positive environment for the squad, therefore strengthening their ability altogether. Bravo spoke about, they are all pretty much best friends and they

all know each other very well.

"It's really good, I mean, I can talk to any of them about anything. Any problem that I have I can talk to them," said Collins-Parnell.

The bonds of the squad are extremely strong which is highly likely to improve their chances to compete.

Sexting Present Among Middle School Students

By Lexie Kelly
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

The world has entered into a new stage of technology. The advancements in technology is changing the way humans learn, understand and most importantly, communicate. There has been no other technological advancement so extreme to further this than the invention of the telephone in 1876. Now, over hundred years later, the technology has evolved into the point where everyone in first, second, and third world countries has one.

The advancement in communications has spurred revolutions, with the entire Egyptian revolt accredited by a Facebook group.

But not all advancements are good.

With communication through text increasing, it is no surprise that the average age of children

with cell phones is lowering. Although constant communication can be beneficial to younger children, this new development has also created issues in our modern and newly technological society: one such issue is 'sexting'.

Sexting is generally considered to be sending sexual messages or photos to another person through an electronic device, usually a cell phone.

A joint study by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and "Cosmo Girl" suggests that 20% of teens (ages 13-19) and 33% of young adults (ages 20-26) have shared nude or semi-nude pictures of themselves either via text or by posting online. Teen girls are slightly more likely to do this than boys and 11% of the young teen girls (ages 13-16) admit to sexting.

The middle school administration claims

that sexting is not an issue among middle school students at Malibu Middle School. They claim that if mobile devices are used negatively, they are generally used to bully other students.

Some middle school students, who would like to remain anonymous, admit to sexting or hearing about sexting.

"I've seen

stuff on Facebook," said an anonymous student.

"Some of my friends send stuff to their boyfriends because they trust them, but it can be very

dangerous."

According to Middle School Principal **Wendy Wax-Gellis**, the administration has never had a problem with sexting on campus.

Some underage sexters, none of whom attend MHS, have been charged with the possession of child pornography. Most of these charges have stemmed from student use of the online social network site Omegle.

Omegle is a social networking site. It is a website for talking to strangers around the globe via online chat. The site allows a one-on-one chat 'windows' between two people with the option of a camera and speaker. For parents, unfortunately, there are no restrictions on age or any other user characteristic. Although the site tries to block spam, the amount of graphic images has increased since the sites creation.

"I have been harassed on [Omegle], to the extent

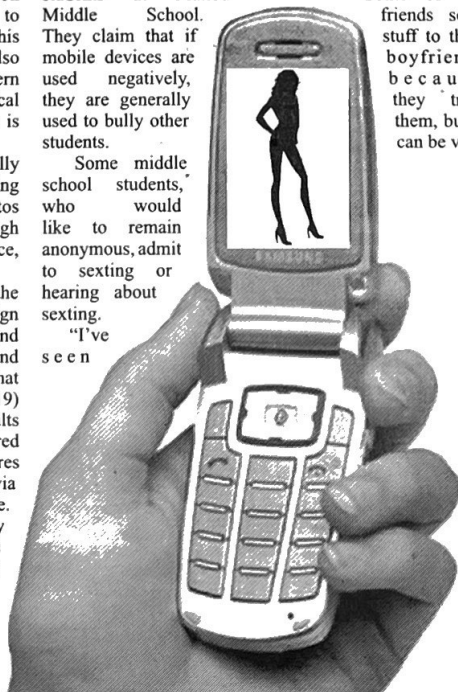
where I have had to change my number," said "A," a middle school girl who chooses to remain anonymous.

Students, however, have been worried about charges about being convicted for the possession of child pornography.

"It is like a horror story," said "A." "You hear about kids getting caught with pictures of their boyfriends or girlfriends and getting charged for it like it's a crime."

This punishment might seem extreme but might be necessary. If these students were indeed asking to be seen older than they should also be prepared for punishment equal one an adult would face.

The administration says that sexting is not a prevalent problem at Malibu High School. More significant issues rise in the amount of cyber bullying over the past years and drug use.



Earthquake and Tsunami Rock Japan

By Caroline Kaufman
EDITOR IN CHIEF

On Friday March 11, an 8.9 earthquake off the coast of Japan literally rocked Japan to its core. The current number of deaths caused by the earthquake is unclear, however, the number of those who have lost their lives is estimated to be in the high thousands. A new threat may eventually cause even more Japanese citizens to lose their lives:

nuclear meltdown.

According to the Huffington Post, soon after the quake the Japanese government ordered several thousand citizens to move up to 19 miles away from nuclear power plants that are believed to be damaged by the quake. On the day of the quake several nuclear power plants were damaged and lost power. Japanese government officials, however, believed that no these power plants were not releasing dangerous amounts of radiation into

the atmosphere. Although they ordered citizens away from these plants, they were hopeful that these plants were not leaking radiation or any other hazardous material.

Since then, almost a million Japanese are living without water, heat or plumbing. Temperatures are very cold in certain parts of Japan and approximately 850,000 homes are currently without heat.

On Tuesday, the Prime Minister of Japan, Naoto Kan, the amount of radiation



released from several nuclear power plants is highly dangerous to humans and poses a serious threat to human health and safety in the surrounding area.

Japanese officials are currently asking many Japanese citizens to stay indoors and reduce any exposure to the radiation levels in the atmosphere.

The Japanese government, however is not telling Japanese citizens or the world exactly what went on during the partial meltdown or the exact levels of radiation present in the surrounding atmosphere.

The effects of the released radiation will be more easily predicted when scientists can determine whether the radiation was released in a column of air or as particulate matter.

The rising death toll and the effects of the partial nuclear meltdown have caused many to question whether nuclear energy is a realistic alternative to traditional fossil fuels. The short term and long term effects of this partial meltdown will continue to affect energy policy.

Several countries, including France, Germany

and Great Britain, are currently questioning the use of nuclear energy. France in particular is questioning its reliance on nuclear energy. Germany has currently stalled several plans to build more nuclear power plants.

The Obama Administration, however, is defending the use of nuclear energy within the United States. However, the United States and several other countries around the world will no doubt re-think disaster plans, nuclear energy and complacency.

The Countdown to the Royal Wedding Begins

By Amber Collins-Parnell
STAFF WRITER

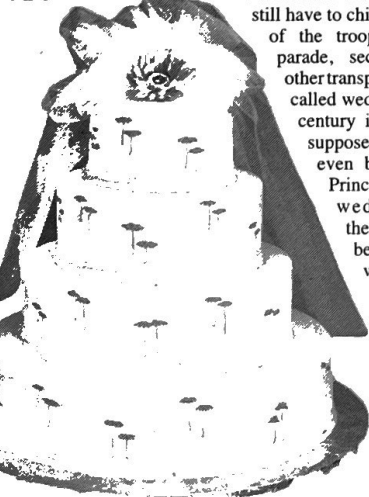
Wedding bells will soon be ringing for Prince

William and his soon-to-be wife, Kate Middleton on Friday, April 29th, 2011 and will take place at the Westminster Abbey,

Prince William and Kate Middleton met almost a decade ago at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Their relationship did stir some controversy over the belief that royals should only marry other aristocrats, but the couple stayed together despite their critics' remarks. The romantic Prince William proposed to Middleton by a reserved secluded lake on the slopes of Mount Kenya, Africa's second highest mountain. Kenya is also the country that the Prince considers to be a second home and also holds special a meaning to the rest of the royal family.

In 1952, William's grandmother made history as a young princess when she learned that she had become queen. Elizabeth II stayed in Kenya at the Treetops Lodge alongside her husband

Prince Philip after the tragic death of her father George VI. After asking Middleton's father for Kate's hand in marriage, he purposed with his mother's engagement ring. Prince Charles had previously given the ring to Princess Diana after they were engaged in 1981. Surrounded by 14 diamonds, this sapphire ring at the time cost 30,000 pounds, which is also the equivalent to 47,427 American dollars. Kate however, politely refused on wearing the dress believing that wearing



dress would be taking it too far. Instead, she decided to have Elizabeth Emanuel design the dress looking for something classical but also edgy.

The predicted price of the wedding is claimed to be over 20 million dollars. Some British citizens believe that they should not pay for the royal weddings because royalty could financially support their own weddings, while others believe it is part of their British dues. Luckily for the taxpayers, the reception is completely funded by the royal family and the Middletons. Taxpayers will still have to chip into costs of the troops for the parade, security, and other transport. The so-called wedding of the century is allegedly supposed to be even bigger than Princess Diana's wedding-and the cost will be larger as well.

Study Shows Diet Soda Has Unforeseen Risks

By Gabriella Grahek
STAFF WRITER

A new study reveals that diet sodas, when compared to regular sodas, may increase certain health risks.

Although, in the past many believed that drinking diet soda would save calories, a new study shows that it puts you at the same risk, if not a higher risk, of heart disease and diabetes as drinking regular sugary soft drinks.

A long-term research project that studied about 3,500 middle-aged men and women found a link between diet soft drink consumption and an increase risk of developing metabolic syndrome. Metabolic syndrome increases the likelihood of having diabetes and heart disease.

The participants in this research project that drank one or more diet soda a day had an increased risk of metabolic syndrome by about 50 percent.

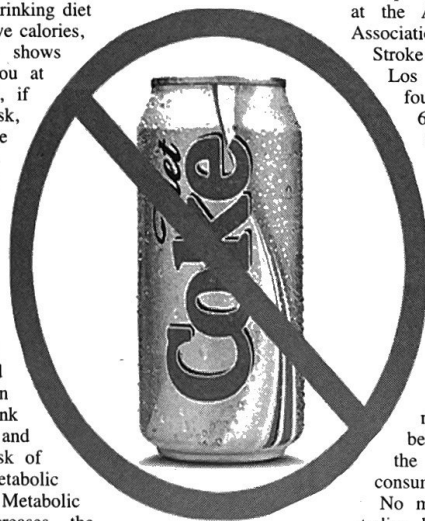
Participants that drank one diet soda of less a day experienced a 20 percent risk increase for metabolic syndrome than those that drank no diet soda at all.

Many researchers, as well as representatives of the American Beverage

among others too. It is also said that fructose corn syrup in regular soft drinks might contribute to weight gain as well as insulin resistance and diabetes.

Another study shows evidence of heart issues as well. Researchers that presented their data at the American Stroke Association's International Stroke Conference in Los Angeles have found that there is a 61 percent increase for risk of vascular events for those that drink diet soda every day compared to those that do not. Although the are higher risk increases with drinking diet soda every day, scientists feel more studies need to be done before advising the public to stop consumption.

No matter how many studies have been done, the current data is clear. Even when accounting for smoking, alcohol issues, drugs, and physical activity, diets sodas have proven an increase in cardiovascular risks when compared to non-diet soda.



Association argue that you could do the same experiment with any other high calorie food and the results would be the same. There would be an increase in heart disease, diabetes,



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

Outstanding Investigative Reporting:
American Scholastic Press Association, 2005

Outstanding Photography:
American Scholastic Press Association, 2004

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

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

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

Outstanding Sports Reporting:
Quill and Scroll Society 2005

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America's Schools Have Gone Over to the Dark Side

By Amber Collins-Parnell
STAFF WRITER

Race to Nowhere the compelling film that unveils the struggle and pressure pounded on students across the nation, shows the issues that have stricken the twenty-first century school system. Mother and lawyer turned director Vicki Abeles, was inspired to direct this documentary when her own daughter ended up in the emergency room from stress related issues in school. The weight that society has placed on going to top-notch colleges is unreasonable and unhealthy. Parents and teachers emphasize that doing well in high school will get you into a good college, which will then allow you to get the job of your choice, and succeed from there. But, like most things, this is easier said than done.

Students dread the mornings before school, but hope for a break when they arrive home. Yet the unbearable amount of homework keeps teenagers hard at work, sometimes even past midnight. As students get closer to graduation, classes and semesters get harder and advanced placement (AP) classes come into the

mix. Advanced placement classes were originally designed for students to get an opportunity to take college courses and dig deeper into their studies to really challenge themselves, but AP classes have changed. They have become emphasized to an indecent amount

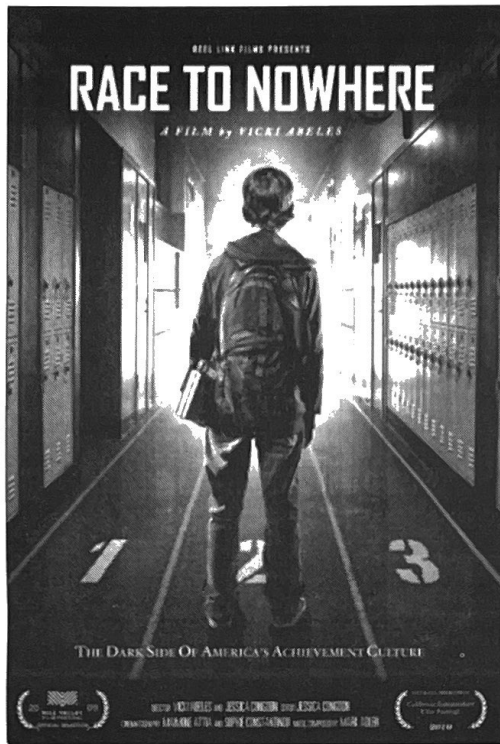
suicide. Many have been questioning, is it all really worth risking?

I believe that the overall human perspective on our schooling system is quite narrow. People think that the only way they can succeed in life is if they have outstanding grades and are

not come easily. The solution needs to come from cultural roots and values. In my opinion, schooling systems need more project based learning. It's engaging and interesting for students and encourages working together. It will help avoid competing with others in the nation and motivate problem solving, and less of accommodations towards money. In Finland, the country where students consistently receive the highest test scores in the world, project based learning and a later school start time are contributing to this success. Also, Finnish teachers have a higher professional status, similar to

that of a doctor or lawyer in the United States, and are paid more. This encourages more qualified people to enter these jobs and gives more prestige to the education system. The ideology of what makes a good schooling system needs to change.

This empowering documentary reveals the worries and struggles many face with our flawed education system. High school has become preparation for the college application, not college. Our teachers need to work with students and develop a balance. *Race to Nowhere* advocates change, but now it's our turn to make it happen.



THE NOT-SO-AMAZING RACE: *Race to Nowhere* advocates reform of a school system where students are being pushed too far.

making competition against other students stressful and intense. Teachers have had to sacrifice quality of content for quantity.

On top of academics, teenagers have to complete their college applications with extracurricular activities. How can a teenager deal with sports and clubs on top of academics? Some simply crack under the pressure, feeling as though they don't measure up. The demands of school have caused some to turn to drugs or experience stomach pain, depression, anorexia, and even

Exit Exam (CAHSEE), and although they might study hours, days, months, or even years before, when test day arrives they may completely blank out. Others though may not even have to study and can pass with a satisfactory grade. This system needs to change, as it is not fair to the ones that aren't good test takers. Our nation needs to develop a different way of academically measuring how much one has learned.

Changing the schooling systems and the way society views education will

staff editorial

The turmoil in Libya and the contagious nature of rebellion in the Middle East is a difficult situation for any President. This situation becomes more difficult, however, when the White House administration does nothing.

The conflict in Libya and how the United States chooses to become involved will certainly increase or decrease our international prestige and power. However, the longer we fail to try to influence events in the Middle East, the worse the situation will get and the more our prestige will diminish.

A few weeks ago President Obama said, "The violence must stop. Muammar Qaddafi has lost legitimacy to lead and he must leave." However, the United States has learned time and time again, that words and only words will not stop dictators. Despite Obama's ideological belief in diplomacy over force: the conflict in Libya will only stop after force is used.

If the conflict is not settled in Libya soon, the area will become a power vacuum. Iran is willing and ready to fill any vacuum in the Middle East. Furthermore, Saudi

Arabia has a history of sending religious warriors to war torn countries in the Middle East to wreak further havoc and chaos. If the United States is not careful, the situation and violence in Libya will be fiercer and more dangerous than the situations in Iraq and Afghanistan ever were.

The United States does not have to fire any weapons to send the message it wants to. Obama should have deployed two carriers and destroyers to sit off the coast of Libya weeks ago. The United States could also establish a no-fly zone over Libya. There are several ways the United States can apply pressure on Qaddafi without putting American troops in direct combat. We must send a message to Libya and our future enemies, such as China, that we are an international force to be reckoned with.

Hesitation and indecision save no lives. Action, decision and precision save lives and will promote democracy. *The Current* urges Obama and the White House to pursue action in Libya and encourage peace through strength.

GUEST COLUMNS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Current welcomes your letters and guest columns. Letters must be signed, though names may be withheld by request. Guest columns will not be published anonymously. The Current reserves the right to edit for length and inappropriate content. Obscene or libelous letters or those that may be construed as personal attacks will not be printed. The Current reserves the right to refuse guest columns. Submissions can be e-mailed to MHSCurrent@yahoo.com or placed in our mailbox in the main office.



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The Great Debate #4: Turmoil in the Middle East

By Lexie Kelly
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

In his farewell address, George Washington warned the American public about two major concerns; first, the danger of factions in government, as forewarned by James Madison in the Federalist papers, and second, the dangers of entangling foreign alliances.

"Nothing is more essential than that permanent, inveterate antipathies against particular nations, and passionate attachments for others, should be excluded; and that, in place of them, just and amicable feelings towards all should be cultivated. The nation that indulges towards another a habitual hatred or a habitual fondness is in some degree a slave," said Washington in his address according to The Avalon Project.

There is a difficult decision that all Americans face when it comes to government involvement in other countries. The question is whether or not we, as a people, should interfere in how another country runs their affairs.

This question was first brought to light at the beginning of the French Revolution, where Federalist and Anti-Federalists alike came to a stalemate in the debate about whether or not America should support the bloody revolt against a monarchy that had pro-

vided aid to the newborn nation. Thomas Jefferson, a staunch Federalist, celebrated France's stake in liberty, while James Monroe, a well-known Anti-Federalist, concluded that no involvement between the United States and Europe would be beneficial to all concerned. An interesting note: much of his distaste for foreign inter-

America has two foreign wars still going strong, and families need to know that their sons did not die in a capitalist war disguised as a freedom crusade.

ences was expressed in the Monroe Doctrine, which basically told foreign governments to shove it.

Although we as a nation, have been raised on the idea of empathy and that we must help each other, America cannot act as the world's police force and intervene in every overseas conflict. Time and time again we have seen situations where there is a debacle over foreign aid. While none of can begin to understand the suffering in Darfur, Sudan, Libya, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, and Nigeria, it is not our responsibility to do anything apart from send humanitarian aid to these conflicted countries.

So, although American empathy is well known, we as a nation often misplace this this feeling with violent intervention.

How many high school students can honestly remember the fervor to declare war in Afghanistan, which in a short period then moved invading to Iraq. Capturing Osama Bin Laden went to throwing Saddam Hussein out of office. Who were we fighting? The terrorists or the oil sheiks?

What happened? Why are 919,967 men and women dead from fighting?

Can you remember why? I can't.

Yes, the situation in Libya is frustrating. Those people deserve liberty and a democracy. Those people deserve to not be pitted against each other because an old goon like Ghaddafi plays God.

Yes, Obama needs to step up to the plate. How many times have I said that?

But America has two foreign wars still going strong, and families need to know that their sons did not die in a capitalist war disguised as a freedom crusade.

This is not the Dark Knight, where it is the Joker against Batman. There are no clear-cut boundaries of good and evil. These are human beings who are being sent out to die.

We cannot let such a disastrous foreign involvement happen again.

We need to support nations without military involvement.

By Caroline Kaufman
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Three days ago, a bipartisan committee organized by Foreign Policy Initiative wrote a letter to President Obama about America's role in Libya.

The letter the committee wrote read thusly, "the situation in Libya in the coming days will not just impact the Libyan people. As protests continue against repressive regimes around the world, the message currently being conveyed by our inaction is that killing and repression will go unpunished and are the best option for despots seeking to reform."

I think this statement deserves a slow clap. Done? Ok.

This committee knows exactly what it is talking about. Few politicians or people want to put troops on the ground in Libya. Even Republicans and Democrats (myself included) who supported the War on Terror in the Middle East, do not believe that we should put

Simply telling Gaddafi he should step down and stop murdering protesting Libyan will not work: It did not work against Hitler and it did not work against Sadam Hussein

American troops on the ground in Libya. There are many other options, however.

Obama and his aides continue to insist that establishing a no-fly zone over Libya is not a feasible option. Many members of Congress disagree with this sentiment. The United States could certainly establish a no fly zone in this area and it should.

Here is yet another option: explore the option of targeted strikes against regime assets in an effort to prevent further bloodshed. We could weaken some of Ghaddafi's strongholds without risking any American lives. Another strategy we could use

is to place aircraft carriers off the coast of Libya in the Mediterranean Sea. This would apply pressure to Gaddafi by showing the world what America's Navy looks like and giving the world a little taste of what America's military is capable of.

Simply telling Gaddafi that he should step down and stop murdering protesting Libyans will not work. This "diplomatic" strategy has never worked: It did

not stop Hitler and it did not stop Saddam Hussein. Gaddafi has no reason to listen to Obama or the United States if there is not a strong military behind the words.

We have established our options; no let's establish why some of these options are better than others.

First off, let us remember what Obama said two years ago at his Inauguration. President Obama said, "Know that America is a friend of each nation and every man, woman and child who seeks a future of peace and dignity, and that we are ready to lead once more."

If we are truly to lead the world and try to create a freer world, then we should intervene in Libya. By not intervening in Libya and allowing a dictator to murder people working toward democracy, we are defying the very foundations of our country.

We are a country built on the belief that democracy is better than totalitarianism and freedom is better than oppression. Our lack of action against Gaddafi's actions implies that we condone his actions. In this case, the word is not mightier than the sword. Words will not save protestors from Gaddafi's guns.

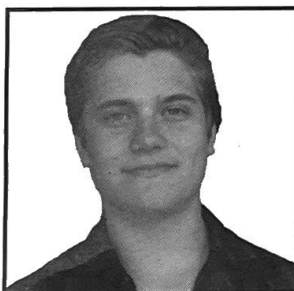
The greatest days of this nation are yet to come. We have to opportunity to protect those who believe in democracy and we should grab while we can.

Voices

Compiled by
Kat Rowan

What do you think of the revolutions in the Middle East?

"I know a lot of people are suffering right now, but I think it will be worth it in the end."



Freshman Ryan Bartlett

"I think it is part of a cycle. I hope what is happening now will turn into a peaceful situation in the Middle East as a whole."



Sophomore Zena Kesselman

"Based on what history has shown us about revolution, we in the United States were really the only ones who revolted and then kept that government in charge. So I just wish them luck."



Junior Maddie Clarfield

"I think it is really interesting that the people used the social networking sites to coordinate all their assemblies."



Senior Emma Jenkinson

Can-a-Week Club Receives Insufficient Donations from High School Students

By Natalie Kaufman
STAFF WRITER

The Can-A-Week club at Malibu High struggles to complete its goal of collecting 10,000 cans this year.

The club did not receive as much support from Malibu High students as they had hoped for; the club is disappointed with the number of cans they have received so far.

Junior **Brook Swartz**, founder and president of the club, created the club at the beginning of this year.

"I did my freshman research paper about hunger in L.A. and learned about how horrible the situation is," said Swartz.

After Brooke organized the food drive last year in Ventura county she came to several realizations.

"I saw how well that worked for one time and I thought we could do it throughout the entire year because it was something so simple," said Brooke.

The middle school has strongly participated in donating cans, most notably the seventh grade.

Although the middle school's participation is commendable, the high school's contributions are inferior.

"It's not just the club, it's the entire school that has to participate for it to really work," continued Brooke.

Students are not the only group at Malibu High who are integral to the club's success. The faculty and support staff could also contribute to the club's goals.

"Although it is mainly kid-driven, faculty support is necessary," said club supervisor and teacher **Jennifer Gonzalez**.

A large part of student participation is due to the promotion of the club's goals by the teachers.

To increase the number

of cans donated, it may be necessary for the teachers to participate by encouraging and reminding students to donate cans.

The club not only collects and drops cans off at the food bank, it helps to distribute the food to those in need as well.

"It's not just the club, it's the entire school that has to participate for this to really work,"

Junior Brook Swartz

There have been several field trips participating in this distribution, but it is regularly done by the members of the club.

The can-a-week club not only helps the L.A. food bank but has also helped

the S.O.S. organization at Webster Elementary School.

The club donates cans to the S.O.S. to help feed people in Malibu as well as Los Angeles.

"The motivation should be to help people in your community," said freshman **Yasmine Diba**.

Other students agree with Diba.

"High school needs more motivation because just statistics are not enough, so if they could tell club members what would motivate them, that would be very beneficial," said junior and club member **Madison Felman**.

With such a noble cause as helping to decrease hunger in L.A., all of the Malibu High students should feel the

"The motivation should be to help people in your community"

-Freshman Yasmine Diba

motivation to donate cans of food to the Can-a-Week club.

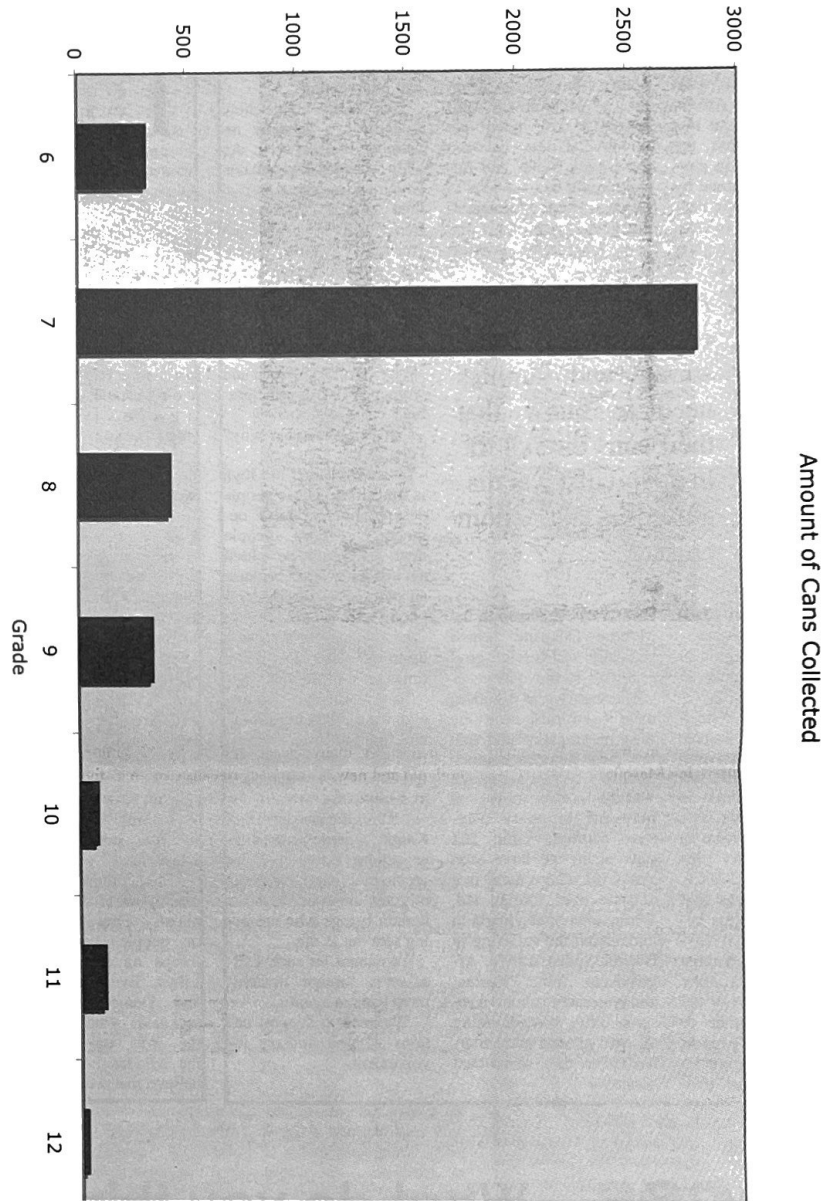
With something so easy as bringing in one can a week, Malibu High can make a big difference in L.A..

"It's a good cause because it's helping people in need directly," said Diba.

Diba sincerely believes in the club's goals and causes.

"It helps me realize to spend less money on food and not waste it especially because some people can't

have it."



FEED THE CHILDREN: The Can-a-Week Club shows off the cans they have collected

Masque Is Back!

By Davis Thacker
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Masque, Malibu High School's annual talent show, begins on Thursday March 15, 2011. While the show has been a staple of the MHS school year for a long time, this year features a number of changes to Masque that are unique to this year.

The most noticeable change to this year's Masque is the division of this year's acts into three separate nights. In years past, the same acts would perform on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. However, this year each night will feature a unique set of performers that will only perform on their designated night.

The Junior Class, who is in charge of organizing and putting on the performance, decided to go with this change for a number of reasons. First, this year featured more acts auditioning than any other year, and spreading performances out over three separate nights would allow more performers to play in Masque than ever before. Secondly, the Junior Class hopes that spreading out the performances would encourage people to come more than one night and thus generate

more revenue.

"We decided to go with the three night system because we had more auditions than ever before," said Maddy Rotman, who

night will feature the Junior and Senior Acts, the comedic stylings of emcees Micaela Brookman, Kylija Cassone, and Catherine LaRocca, as well as per-

As far as the emcees go, Brookman, Cassone, and LaRocca have been practicing hard to keep their material short while funny. In terms of audience response, the three juniors only hope for one result.

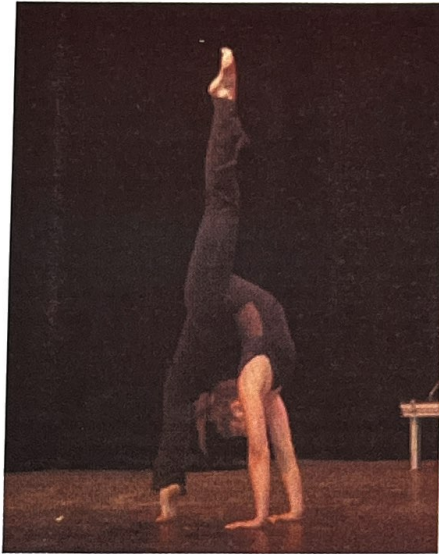
"I expected the audience to laugh because we're hilarious," said Cassone.

One of the most recent trends in Masque has been the incorporation of video into the Junior and Senior Acts. Two years ago, the Senior Act used video for the first time in what was a trailer for a movie called "The Wave." Last year, the Junior Act was exclusively video. This year, both the Junior and the Senior Acts plan to make use of video.

"Video makes it a lot easier on the performers," said junior Patrick Fontenette, who was one of the main people behind this year's Junior Act.

"It brings an entirely new element that performing on stage cannot capture."

As in past years, the proceeds in Masque are exclusively reserved to fund the year's prom, which is also put on by the Junior Class. Because of this, those involved with Masque encourage students to go and support Masque in order to provide those organizing Prom with sufficient resources and funds.



KICKIN' OFF THE SHOW: Senior Hannah Finn rehearses her contortion act

was in charge of coordinating Masque.

"It will be a little shorter each night, offer more variance, and hopefully more revenue."

While the format of the show itself has changed, much is still the same. Each

formances by many faces, both old and new.

"I'm looking forward to performing for the last time at Masque," said senior Ren Martinez.

"I'm a little nervous, but I feel prepared," said junior Sophia Stewart.

Set List

Friday

Act 1

1. Junior Act
2. Ben Krasner
3. Sophia Stewart & Cooper Smart
4. Dylan Rouda
5. Hannah Finn
6. Gabby Marinaro

Act 2

7. Max Gorlelick, Jordan Seah, James Burnett, Jake Lubell, Wesley Ritenour
8. Cooper Smart, Staffan Edenholm, Ryan Bartlett
9. Alex Bartlett, Kylija Cassone, Susannah Shaw, James Burnett, Jake Lubell, Austin Daniels, Tanner Porter, Leah Hamel, Catherine LaRocca, Madi Felman, Steffan Edenholm, Ryan Bartlett, Payden Hayes, Peri Lapidus, Anna Leah Eisner, Charlotte Van Ierland
10. Tanner Porter & Payden Hayes
11. Sophie Galate & Max Gorlelick
12. Teacher Act
13. Senior Act

Saturday

Act 1

1. Junior Act
2. Jenny Pelligrini
3. Rae Jackson, Andy Jackson, Will Macgresor, Ryan Brown
4. Jeffrey Bloeser, David Sandborg, James Burnett, Luke Campbell

5. Jade Bates & Robben Bixler
6. Hayley Haag
7. Ren Martinez & James Burnett

Act 2

8. Lucy Landry
9. Simone Hills
10. Tanner Porter, Zena Kesselman, Leah Hamel, Zach Hamilton, Ethan Stockwell, Henry Philipson
11. Hailey Hoffman
12. Teacher Act
13. Senior Act

Upcoming Coffee House to be at the Point Dume Club

By Grace Van Dien
STAFF WRITER

The final Coffee House of the year is Friday the 25th at 7:00 pm at the Point Dume club. The change of venue was due to a slight calendar mistake, but the journalism department seems confident in putting on a good show.

Although the initial cost for this Coffee House is twenty dollars for admission, the shark fund is screening Battle L.A. on March 19th. Anyone who buys a ticket to this screening only has to pay ten dollars at the door for Coffee House.

"It is going to be like no other Coffee House. For us seniors, we want to set the bar to the highest standard," said Co-Editor in Chief and the organizer of Coffee House, Caroline Kaufman. "The funds will be going

to the Shark Fund because they have supported us so many times in the past, and we're ok fiscally speaking this year."

"The Shark Fund preferred it to be at the Point Dume Club, so we concurred."

The last Coffee House is on March 25th 7pm, at the Point Dume Club.

"It's always fun to see what people are into and what they want to perform,"

said junior Da'Nasjah Nyirenda. "It breaks peo-

ple out of their shell."

Da'Nasjah has attended and performed at every Coffee House this year.

Senior Ren Martinez agrees that Coffee House

"Out of all the different performing events [Coffee House] gives students the most freedom. ...I think it is really awesome that our school has kept it up for so long,"

- Senior Ren Martinez.

gives students a chance to step out of their comfort zone.

"Out of all the different performing events [Coffee House] gives students the most freedom. Most of the time at Coffee House stu-

dents take the initiative to put things together themselves and play with each other and collaborate, and sometimes students will even write their own music. I think it is really awesome that our school has kept it up for so long," said Martinez.

Senior James Burnett, another performer who actively participates in Coffee House, concurred with Martinez.

"The school gets together and plays music. Watching all your friends performing. It's a great way for kids to get together," said Burnett.

Yet, despite the general easygoing attitude that is associated with Coffee House, most of the performers would agree that being nervous is a regular feeling.

"Watching your friends performing is a great way for kids to get together"

-Senior James Burnett

"It can get kind of hectic," said Kaufman. "And its never easy to get in front of a crowd and perform, but the whole point is to provide an atmosphere where people

popular Masque show, a talent show for high-school students once a year for three nights, is open to all performances. It is for talents that are not usually showcased.

"You never know what to expect," said Kaufman. "Performances can range from interpretive dance to beat poetry, it's always an amazing and interesting night."

With only a twenty-dollar admission, you are welcomed to a grand talent show and an all-you-can-eat Mexican food buffet. Of course there will also be coffee, tea, and hot chocolate.

can really let themselves relax and enjoy themselves." Coffee House, unlike the

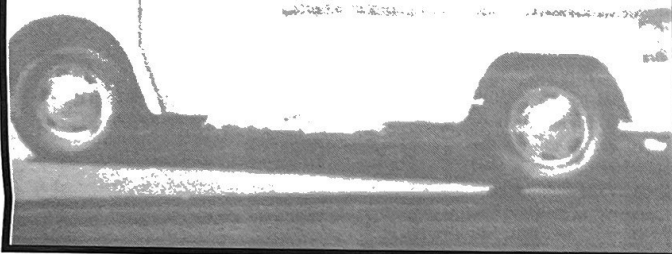
The Current Reviews Local Ice Cream Shops

Over the course of last week, I, Lexie Kelly, came down with an unfortunate bout of Strep throat that lasted for six days. During that period, all food tasted like glass covered in Tabasco sauce, so my only reprieve was in ice cream. Now, around Malibu, there are two Gelato stores, one frozen yogurt place, and a hidden treasure in cookie sandwiches, and one ice cream truck.

Blue Ice Cream Truck (Two Stars)

Likes: If you are a stickler for classic childhood popsicle-like ice cream, I would go for the Pink Panther ice cream, which despite being in the shape of the head of my favorite cartoon hero is incredibly delicious.

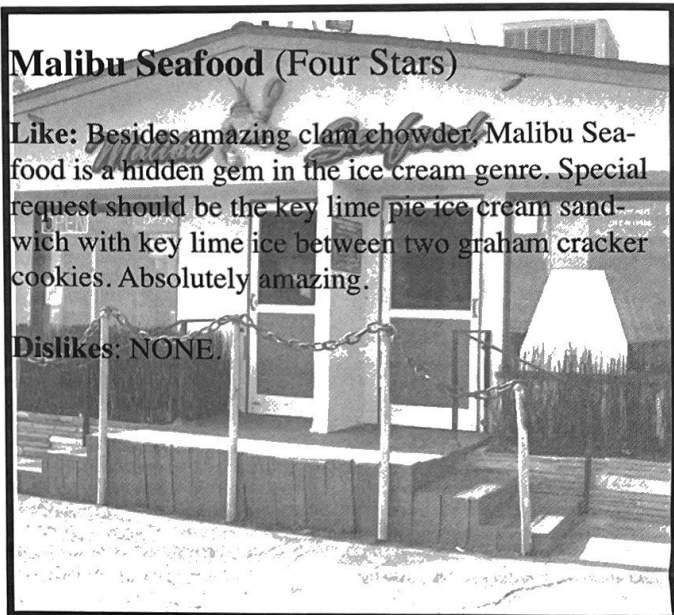
Dislikes: The creepiness of the truck. Totally sketchy.



Malibu Seafood (Four Stars)

Like: Besides amazing clam chowder, Malibu Seafood is a hidden gem in the ice cream genre. Special request should be the key lime pie ice cream sandwich with key lime ice between two graham cracker cookies. Absolutely amazing.

Dislikes: NONE.



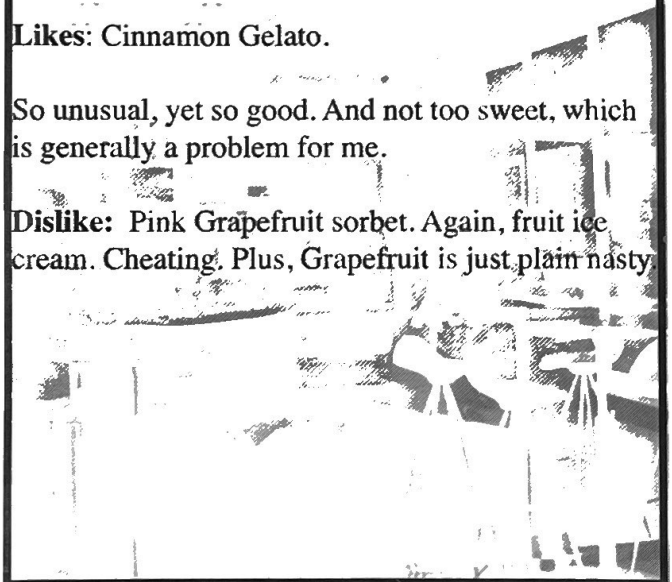
Chocolatebox Café (Two Stars)

The older of the two new Gelato stores in Malibu. Unlike Grom, which just sells Gelato, the Chocolatebox Café sells sandwiches, chocolate, and hot chocolate. Their Gelato, however, is not too bad.

Likes: Cinnamon Gelato.

So unusual, yet so good. And not too sweet, which is generally a problem for me.

Dislike: Pink Grapefruit sorbet. Again, fruit ice cream. Cheating. Plus, Grapefruit is just plain nasty.

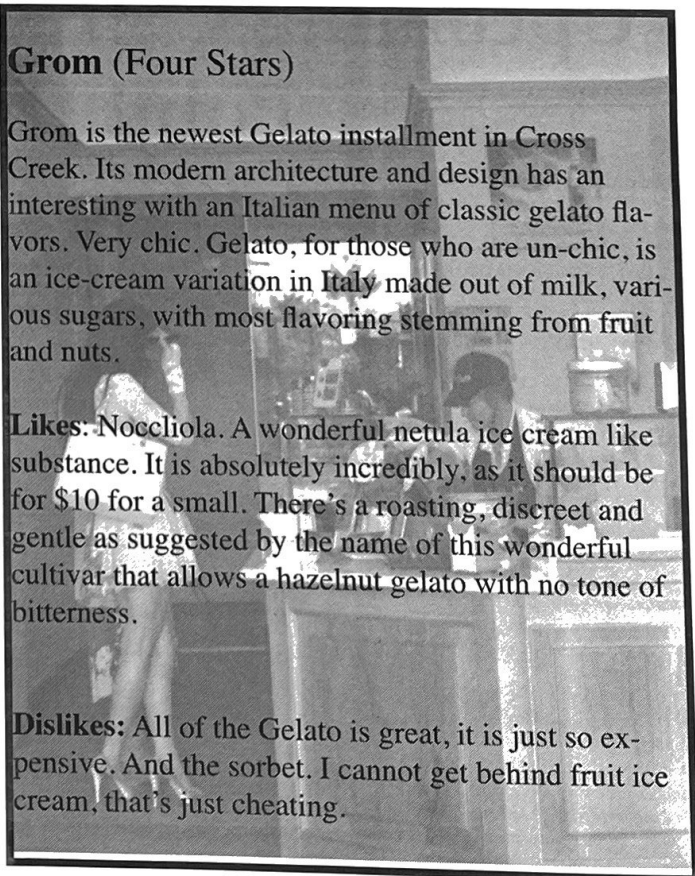


Grom (Four Stars)

Grom is the newest Gelato installment in Cross Creek. Its modern architecture and design has an interesting with an Italian menu of classic gelato flavors. Very chic. Gelato, for those who are un-chic, is an ice-cream variation in Italy made out of milk, various sugars, with most flavoring stemming from fruit and nuts.

Likes: Nocciola. A wonderful nutella ice cream like substance. It is absolutely incredible, as it should be for \$10 for a small. There's a roasting, discreet and gentle as suggested by the name of this wonderful cultivar that allows a hazelnut gelato with no tone of bitterness.

Dislikes: All of the Gelato is great, it is just so expensive. And the sorbet. I cannot get behind fruit ice cream, that's just cheating.



Malibu, a History: A Look at the Formation of Malibu

By Natalie Bark
STAFFWRITER

On March 28 the city of Malibu will celebrate its 20th anniversary. The city was officially founded on March 28, 1991, one year after 84 percent of residents voted to become a city. Despite only officially existing for twenty years, Malibu has a long history as a community.

This city's history begins with the original inhabitants, the Chumash. They lived in areas in Malibu, hunting, gathering and trading with other clans. In 1542, two ships under Juan Cabrillo, a Portuguese explorer, sailed into the bay.

It is believed that Cabrillo moored at Malibu Lagoon for a time, to obtain fresh water before continuing his journey.

Cabrillo eventually died and was buried on San Miguel Island. His men, however, brought detailed accounts of Chumash life back to Portugal.

Later, the Spanish officially claimed California, but life remained largely unchanged until 1769. This year witnessed the first Spanish soldiers and missionaries first began arriving in nearby areas.

For the majority of the 1800s, Malibu was part of Rancho Topanga Malibu Sequit, a 13,000-acre land grant. In 1891, the entire area was sold to Frederick Hastings Rindge, a Massachusetts businessman.

During Rindge's lifetime, he and his wife protected their land, preventing a Southern Pacific railroad

line to be built upon it. Up until 1929, there were only a few roads in all of Malibu. However, in that year the California won the right to build a road running through it. The state exercised this right and built a road we have all come to know well: Pacific Coast Highway.

A few years later, the widowed Mrs. Rindge was forced to divide up and sell most of her land. The Rindge's house, now known as the Adamson House, is a National Historic Site. The Adamson House is located beside the Malibu Pier, which was originally made for the Rindge's yacht.

In fact, as part of an effort to keep her land, Rhoda Rindge founded a ceramic tile factory in Malibu, which employed over 100 workers at its peak. However, in 1931 the factory was all but destroyed by a terrible fire and never fully recovered.

The Adamson House was the Rindge's first house, but they built the Serra Retreat mansion in the 1920s, overlooking the Malibu Lagoon.

Years later, in 1942, the still unfinished house was sold to the Franciscan Order. After 1929, when Mrs. Adamson lost her sole claim to the land, the first public community

that started was the Malibu Colony. By 1940, the Malibu Colony had grown quite a bit, but it was still primarily a summer home spot.

During World War Two, the United States Coast Guard set up a headquarters in Malibu and patrolled the coast for Japanese submarines.

During this time, in 1942, the first Malibu newspaper was founded, "The Malibu Bugle." Development moved slowly; Paradise Cove was set up in 1945 as a club house and later a trailer park.

In 1948, Alex Newton bought the entire Point Dume area for \$3,100 and he and his family rode horses over the undeveloped land.

During the 1950s, the majority of land was still open, cattle ranches and dry farming being common, but the large postwar economic boom was about to begin affecting the community.

New roads were constructed, businesses boomed and a gas station was built. The Webster Elementary School became crowded with young student, prompting the construction of a new elementary school, Juan Cabrillo.

Beginning in the late 1950s and increasing in the 1960s, a new culture of drugs, sex, and music was brought into the once quiet community.

Tourists began arriving en masse during summers, and surfing became what Malibu's international reputation. During the 1960s, movie stars began to flock to Malibu, attracted by the lively and relaxed setting.

Into the 1970s, Malibu remained an icon for the romantic vision of the California beach culture and the successes of the American dream.

The city failed in its attempt for city-hood in 1964, but despite that, the community continued to grow enormously during the 1970s.

This growth delighted some, who thrived on the influx of culture, but was resented by others. Long-time residents were often discontent with the loss of the old Malibu.

The California Coastal Act, passed in 1972, attempted to slow Malibu's development and also deterred the building of a nuclear plant in Corral Canyon and a freeway in Malibu canyon. Development continued into the 1980s, and the move to become an independent city strengthened over time.

During the 1990s, a great number of families with children moved to Malibu; in 1990 the number of children in the public school system was around 1,000, and in 1998, it was 2,200.

And in March 1991, Malibu officially became a city. Twenty years later, on March 28, 2011, the city will celebrate its anniversary with a day of community festivities at the City Center.

TIMELINE OF MALIBU'S HISTORY

1542- JUAN CABRILLO SAILS INTO MALIBU BAY

1542-1769- MALIBU REMAINS UNCHANGED BY EUROPEANS

1800s- MALIBU IS PART OF RANCHO TOPANGA

1891- MALIBU AND SURROUNDING LAND ARE SOLD TO FREDERICK HASTINGS RINDGE

1929- CONSTRUCTION ON PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY BEGINS

1931- THE RINDGES' FACTORY BURNS DOWN

1942- MALIBU'S FIRST NEWSPAPER, "THE MALIBU BUGLE" IS FOUNDED

1972- THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT ATTEMPTS TO SLOW DEVELOPMENT IN MALIBU

MARCH 28, 1991- MALIBU IS OFFICIALLY A CITY

NOVEMBER 2, 1993- OLD TOPANGA MALIBU FIRE AND DAVIS THACKER IS BORN

2007- MALIBU FIRES DESTROY HOMES AND PROPERTY

2011- MALIBU CELEBRATES ITS 20TH BIRTHDAY



Firefighter puts out a house fire in 2007 Malibu fire.

Battle: Los Angeles Unworthy of a "Hoorah"

By Carolyn Pushaw
OPINION EDITOR

As dedicated moviegoers may have noticed, the United States Marine Corps has started to put recruitment ads before the previews in movie theaters. *Battle: Los Angeles* needed no such videos.

The movie, which portrays a Marine platoon's fight for survival in the war-torn, alien-infested streets of LA, is essentially a two-hour propaganda campaign for the Marine Corps. Not that this is really a bad thing: I enjoy watching bad ass guys in camouflage blow aliens up as much as the next red-blooded American. I felt that they portrayed the camaraderie so treasured by Marines fairly accurately, with a series of *Black Hawk Down* style rescues of their wounded friends made more realistic by the bitterness they hold towards the main character, Staff Sergeant Nantz (Aaron Eckhart), who they distrust due to his reputation for carelessness with his men's lives.

The only really over-the-top recruiting bit, which severely damaged the movie as a whole by undermining its legitimacy as a sci-fi action flick without pretensions, concerned the film's failed attempt at weaving in some human interest.

During an otherwise exciting scene where the Marines flee by Metro bus to a supposed safe zone, with alien drones in hot pursuit as they careen down the 10 freeway, the random cuts to the crying children they are protecting detracted significantly from the classic "car chase" scene and made me more irritated than sympathetic towards them. Later

on, Eckhart tells another horrifically annoying small child to "be a brave little Marine" after the death of his father and follows it up with some more cloying lines that are meant to be heartwarming but come out as cringingly awkward.

Sure, plenty of little kids love the military because they think it would be awesome to put on a uniform and go shoot some bad guys, but this scene forcibly reminded me of the Hitler Youth, as it seemed to be aimed at brainwashing children into joining the Marines.

Obviously, as this is an action movie that is meant as a fun, violent herald of the coming summer movie season, the plot was straightforward and unoriginal, as was the dialogue, which occasionally strayed from predictable to downright clumsy.

Clichéd themes such as the power of the human spirit abound, which is highlighted by the fact that the aliens are found (upon crude dissection) to have no heart or brain; rather their most vital organ is some disgusting gelatinous thing.

As some action movies have an irksome tendency to change the traditional good vs. evil scenario by adding some gray areas in some strange attempt to moralize, the pure evilness of the aliens, who have no redeeming qualities and are on Earth to destroy man-

kind and claim our precious supply of water to power their dastardly machines, is refreshingly unambiguous.

The characters were generally so forgettable that the filmmakers helpfully flash their names and ranks

acter faces off against the brother of one of the men who died under his command in Iraq and tries to explain his actions, but essentially they remained flat, stereotypical, and largely interchangeable.

although zombies teaming up with aliens to destroy Los Angeles sounds like possibly the coolest movie ever (nerds of the world, unite!).

Despite these flaws, *Battle: LA* makes for an enjoyable movie, as long as you understand that you are paying to have your eyes and ears assaulted with special effects rather than for any semblance of cinematic innovation.

I actually went to see this movie with absolutely no idea what the plot was about; all I had seen were the apocalyptic posters, with suitably intimidating explosions in the sky above a group of surfers, and that was more than enough to convince me to go.

But for what it was, a violent sci-fi popcorn flick, it definitely delivered. There were more awesome explosions, shoot outs, and crazy alien weapons than you could shake a grenade launcher at, although I did find it interesting that the characters had trouble taking down a single alien at the start of the movie and were demolishing them by the dozens at the end.

The shaky camera was usually fairly well done and contributed to the realism of the movie, but at times it got difficult to follow the action because it was moving so much.

I thought the effects were quite impressive, especially the aerial shots of a smoking, fiery Los Angeles beset

by swarms of alien craft. It is particularly fun to watch this movie as a local, laughing quietly as the Santa Monica Pier is attacked and the military sets up a defensive line along Lincoln Boulevard.

However, my familiarity with the city is also eerily chilling; what would actually happen if Los Angeles was actually invaded?

No major American city has been attacked by ground forces since the Civil War, and it is interesting to hypothesize about the psychological as well as physical effects this would have on our society, as we pride ourselves on being residents of the greatest country in the world.

Would we fall apart under the strain and adopt an "every man for himself" attitude, falling back on our traditional self-reliance, or band together and fight back against a vastly superior force?

Although I would like to think the latter, I doubt many Angelenos would have such a gung-ho attitude.

All philosophizing aside, *Battle: Los Angeles* is a happily mindless film, full of explosions and violence and, best of all, invaders from outer space!

Just don't be too disappointed at the plot holes and stereotypical characters that are hallmarks of any action movie, and try to ignore the more sickening bits of dialogue and your sudden urge to enlist in the Marine Corps. While not by any means a must-see, *Battle: LA* provides a great way to spend an evening if you have nothing better to do.

Rating:

★★★



SURF'S UP: Hostile aliens invade via the sunny beaches of Santa Monica in *Battle: Los Angeles*.

on screen as they are introduced, but I had forgotten or mixed up most of them about halfway through, which was okay because quite a few had died by then.

There was some sort of an attempt at character development, as Eckhart's char-

acter faces off against the brother of one of the men who died under his command in Iraq and tries to explain his actions, but essentially they remained flat, stereotypical, and largely interchangeable.

Sadly, this did not happen,

Recent and Upcoming Music Releases

March 15:

No Color-The Dodos

Last Night On Earth-Noah and the Whale

Endgame-Rise Against

March 22:

Angles-The Strokes

All You Need Is Now-Duran Duran

Gold In The Shadow-William Fitzsimmons

March 29:

Screaming Bloody Murder-Sum 41

Meyrin Fields-Broken Bells

All Eternals Deck-The Mountain Goats

Between Two Lungs-Florence + The Machine

Rolling Papers-Wiz Khalifa

Gimme Some-Peter Bjorn and John

Recent and Upcoming Movie Releases

March 18:

Paul

Limitless

The Lincoln Lawyer

April 1:

Insidious

Super

Source Code

April 8:

Soul Surfer

Arthur

Your Highness

April 15:

The Conspirator

Rio

Excitement Grows Among Coachella-Bound Students

By Hailey Hoffman
STAFF WRITER

Malibu High Students are scrambling to find tickets for the Coachella Music Festival, which is scheduled to take place on April 15 - 17 at the Empire Polo Fields in Indio. Tickets went on sale Friday, January 21 and 60,000 three-day passes were sold out in five days at a price of \$320 each, when fees and taxes were included. The event features almost every genre of music including alternative rock, hip hop, and electronic music in a

half dozen huge stages with names like the Gobi Tent, the Sahara Tent and the Oasis Dome.

Of the 111 bands scheduled to play during the three-day event, Kanye West is expected to be a big draw as are bands like Freeland Whales, Arcade Fire, Cold War Kids, Empire of the Sun, Animal Collective, Ariel Pink's Haunted Graffiti, Cold Cave, Cults, Lightning Bolt, Scissor Sisters, New Pornographers, The Pains of Being Pure at Heart, PJ Harvey, The Black Keys, Twin Shadow, Warpaint, Mumford and Sons, Nas and Damian Marley, Axwell, Angus

and Julia Stone, Cee-lo Green, and Marina and the Diamonds. Duran Duran, a colossal British band from the 1980's, who have sold more than 100 million albums are a blast from the past adding a retro twist to the lineup.

A few lucky music lovers at Malibu High managed to get tickets had different theories on why the festival sold out so fast.

"I think it was scalpers," said sophomore **Sammy King**, who attended Coachella last year.

"I met a guy at a concert and he said that he wasn't going to Coachella, but he bought a bunch of

tickets and sold them all on craigslist for a lot of money. The festival is also going more mainstream. A lot of people are going just to be cool and not even for the music."

Reports from concertgoers who attended last year are all over message boards complaining that the festival was overcrowded and oversold last year with reports of over 150,000 people attending.

"They sold out so fast because they announced that they were going to be capping the tickets, said senior **Emma Jenkinson**, who will be going for her third year this spring.

"Last year they didn't cap the event and it got totally out of control. There wasn't enough security, so people were sneaking in and the traffic was insane. It took three and a half hours just to get in, which was ridiculous."

Whether scalpers or a smaller number of available tickets are the causes of the lack of available passes, the sell out surprised a lot of Malibu High students and left them with no choice but to change their plans.

"So many people were supposed to go with me, but now they aren't going because they didn't get their ticket on time," said King.

"A lot of my friends are not going because

they didn't get their ticket in time," said junior **Nicole McMahan**.

"The only reason I have my ticket is because one of my friend's neighbors is someone that works on the set. Otherwise, I would have never bought my ticket early enough."

For Coachella diehards, there are plenty of tickets available on Craigslist with prices ranging from a few hundred to thousands of dollars.

But even if one manages to find a ticket, locating a place to stay for the weekend can be another big challenge.

"Everyone booked their hotels so early this year. My friend and I got our hotel in November because closer to the time of the concert hotels get booked up really fast," said King.

Hotels are not the only place where Coachella goers stay.

Houses, condos, tents, and even cars are used as sleeping areas.

"I am staying with my friend in an R.V. I am extremely excited and I have only slept in an R.V. once before," said freshman **Moritz Weber**.

But despite all the panic, angst, and finagling that Malibu High students go through to make the annual pilgrimage to Coachella, it is still considered the Mecca of concerts in the west.

Students have plotted out exactly who they're going

to make a priority to see. "Definitely Mumford and Sons, The Black Keys, and Animal Collective. I'm even excited to see Flogging Molly. I like all different types of music," said Jenkinson.

McMahan is also excited about the many performers and bands who are coming to Coachella.

"I think Kanye West is really random, but a lot of the smaller names, like The Black Keys and Mumford and Sons, have gotten a lot bigger and more well known since the lineup was released. I'm really excited to see them," said McMahan

Weber is targeting Best Coast, Animal Collective, Tallest Man on Earth, Bright Eyes, Caspa, and Cold War Kids.

With anticipation building for the Coachella Music Festival, concertgoers are getting more and more excited, while those who missed getting tickets this year will have to settle for watching clips on YouTube.

"It's nice going to a place where you are so out in the middle of nowhere, but you still see so many people you know because a lot of people from our school go. A lot of people from the Los Angeles area go and I have friends that live in LA, the Valley, and Ventura County that all come to this one event," said Jenkinson.



MAJOR RAGER: Concertgoers celebrate a weekend of fantastic music and memories at Coachella.

Avril Lavigne Says Goodbye to Old Sound

By Caroline Kaufman
EDITOR IN CHIEF

It has been four years since Avril Lavigne released her last album. During those years, she toured and promoted her last album, divorced lead singer of Sum 41, Deryck Whibley, and created an absolutely fantastic new album, *Goodbye Lullaby*, which took the singer's trademark style in a whole new direction.

Lavigne's last album, *The Best Damn Thing*, had a distinctly pop sound. The majority of the album was fun and fluffy. However, *Goodbye Lullaby* is a totally different sound.

This album has a couple of upbeat, loud, "yay girl power" tracks, such as "Smile" and "What the Hell." The rest of the songs, however, have a distinctly mature sound. These songs

are generally slower and are driven by Lavigne's vocals rather than pop guitar.

Although songs, such as "Wish You Were Here" and "Push" are great songs, they are fairly predictable Avril. "Wish You Were Here" is one of the best songs on the album, but exactly what we would expect of Lavigne. The poppy, guitar driven, fun songs are what made Avril famous and will always be her specialty. In this album she did not lock herself into one sound or tone, but instead explored several new styles.

There are some songs, however, that surprised even me (an avid Avril fan since 2003). For instance, Lavigne has always made generalizations about her

own life and experiences, but has never attempted to make a serious statement on the human condition. In "Everybody Hurts," however, she attempts to make a general statement

And that's okay." This song perfectly exemplifies why Lavigne is so successful. These lyrics are fairly simplistic, but easily relatable. More important, however, is the



OUT WITH THE OLD: Lavigne defies her traditional musical styles in this breakthrough new album.

about human kind and it actually works. Lavigne sings, "Everybody hurts some days/It's okay to be afraid/Everybody hurts, everybody screams./ Everybody feels this way/

way Lavigne sings these lyrics. She communicates more emotion and more resonating messages through her voice than through her lyrics

In "Remember When,"

Lavigne allows listeners deeper into her head than she has since her first album "Let Go." This song clearly discusses Lavigne's divorce from Sum 41 front man Whibley. In this song Lavigne sings, "These feelings I can't take no more/this emptiness in the bottom drawer/ it's getting harder to pretend/I'm not coming back around again/ Remember when..." Yes, I admit, these lyrics are fairly simplistic. But they gain a whole new meaning and depth when you listen to Lavigne sing them.

Overall, I have to say my favorite song of the album at this point is "Wish You Were Here." Although, as stated previously, this song was predictable, it is absolutely fantastic. The chorus is fairly simple, "Damn, damn, damn/What

I'd do to have you here, here, here/I wish you were here/Damn, damn, damn/ What I'd do to have you near, near, near/I wish you were here." As usual, with Avril, the meaning and depth of the song is not in the lyrics, but in the way the song is performed. In this song Lavigne does not let us down.

Lavigne has truly outdone herself on this album. Her lyrics, melodies and instrumentals go far beyond anything she has ever done. Although Lavigne's last album was called *The Best Damn Thing*, her new album is truly the best thing Lavigne has ever released.

Rating:



Swimming Team Looks For Early Success

By Riley Smoller
STAFF WRITER

The Malibu High School swim team is looking to continue their recent success this season, as the team is stacked with talent and experience.

The Sharks started off their season with their first meet at home in the Shark Tank. The team swam against Santa Clara and ended up gaining valuable experience from this meet. The sharks hope to get better and faster before they swim against their rivals Oaks Christian. Last year, Oaks was one of the stronger teams they faced.

This season, the team will use their drive to their advantage in order to to beat rivals such as Oaks Christian. Many players feel that the team's struggles

last season are starting to be erased because of this year's squad's motivation.

"Last years team was very strong, although teams like Oaks were just a little bit faster. So we have been practicing harder so we can be ready for the meet against Oaks," said sophomore **Emmit Pierson**.

As always, the Sharks' main goal of the season is to make it as far into CIF playoffs as possible. This goal does not seem out of reach for the Sharks, who returned many of their starters from last year's team to this year's squad.

"Our goal for this year is to make the CIF finals," said sophomore **Shaan Mcpartlin**.

With the teams abundance of seniors, they have the drive to do well this season and make the CIF playoffs.

By Davis Thacker
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Malibu High School boys volleyball team has plenty of fresh faces this year after losing five seniors from last year's team as well as a junior who also started for the Sharks last season. This leaves this year's Sharks with two defined leaders, a lot of new talent, and plenty of work to do.

The Sharks, however, have started the pre-league portion of their season strong, as they are currently 3-1 after recording wins against Cate, Hueneme, and Carpinteria. Their only loss this season came in a 3-1 contest against Channel Islands.

While the team has plenty of new players this season, the Sharks also have two clear leaders, co-captains **Parker Smith** and **David Gonzalez**. As the only two returning varsity players, both Smith and Gonzalez believe that their roles have to change in order for them to be successful this season.

"It's a different role for me than in years past," Smith said. "I'm used to all of

these seniors around me and helping me. This year, being a captain, it's all about preparing my team for the situations that I was in when I was in my freshman and sophomore year. I have way more responsibilities, but for me leading a team like this is easier with the help of David Gonzalez, and I just have to lead by example."

Smith, who currently leads the nation in service aces (27 in four games), will be especially integral to the team's success this season. With Smith serving as well as he is right now, many players are finding it easier to make plays on the ball and are thus becoming more confident with their different shots.

The Sharks will look to do better in the Tri-Valley League this season after placing third last season. The Sharks' main competition this season will come from Oak Park and Oaks Christian, the number one and two teams from last season. Last year, Oak Park went 10-0 in league and Oaks Christian went 8-2. The Sharks will have to take care of both of these teams if they have a chance of winning a league title.

The Sharks have a lot of new faces on their team last year after losing seniors Hunter Parr, Chandler Abbott, Ben Apstein, Ben Rotman, and Jake Smith. The team also lost current senior **Staffan Edenholm**, who is the male lead in this year's musical. The team's new players include **Joey Gray**, **Marvin Alvarado**, **Kfier Cohen**, **John Carlo Garcia**, and **Chris Pappavassiliou**. Because of this monster roster overhaul, the Sharks have had to find different ways to win than last season and are continually adjusting their gameplans.

"We have had to rebuild our roster, and essentially find a new way to win, because we are not the same team. This year we have found that wins are not going to come if we play conventional and conservative, we have to outwork the opponent and fight to win every point of every game," Smith said.

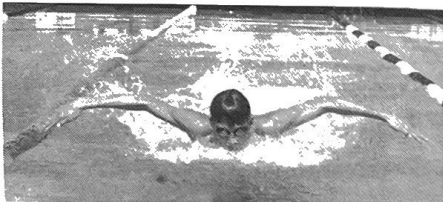
While there is a lot of turnover in terms of players this season, one main part of the team still remains. Head Coach **Carlos Gray**, who is also the Head Coach of the girls team, has been at the helm of the boys team

for the past couple of years. The team will look to the experience of coach Gray as well as their co-captains to help them achieve their ultimate goals.

"Our expectations are to win each match we play, no matter who, what, or where, and with the wins, comes a league banner and contention in CIF," Smith said.

The Sharks end the pre-league portion this week with another game against Channel Islands on Tuesday. The boys will then face their first test against Nordhoff on Mar. 22nd. Last season, the Sharks beat Nordhoff in a 3-0 contest and look to start off league on a high note. Following the game against Nordhoff, the Sharks will face off against Oaks Christian and Oak Park in their next two games. These two games will most likely be the Sharks' toughest tests of the season, so the boys will have to use their games against Channel Islands and Nordhoff to work out their remaining kinks.

WATER WINGS: A MHS swimmer practices during a routine practice after school.



Track Runs To Fresh Start

By Kelsey Borenzweig
STAFF WRITER

The Malibu High School track team is looking forward to another fun and successful season. Led by head coach **John Cary**, the team has high expectations of the season. There is a single track team, with different sections. Each differentiating section specializes in something particular. The different components of the team include sprinting, long distance, pole vaulting, shot put, long jump, triple jump, and hurdling.

"My goal for this season

is to run fast, and we have a lot of really good players," said freshman **Emma London**.

In the past, Malibu High track has competed in CIF, and has even gotten as far as the State Championships. The current team is loaded with talented players that are passionate about track. One portion of track is sprinting, which consists of running between 50-100 meters. Another category of track is long distance, which forces runners to balance their energy and to pace themselves. Pole vaulting is jumping over a bar, while utilizing a long, pliable pole to support

them; this is another event featured in track. Putting a shot, or a bulky ball, as far as possible into the air is called put shot, which was adopted by the Malibu track team. Long jump requires players to build up a lot of stamina, in order to leap as far from the starting point as possible. Long jump and triple jump are very similar; the only difference being that triple jump requires a "hop, step, and jump" sequence before the leap from the starting point. Hurdling requires contestants to jump over obstacles placed at specific intervals around the track; there are high hurdles and

low hurdles. As London stated, the main goal for a sprinter, such as herself, is to run fast for a short amount of time. London believes that endurance and flexibility are key aspects of track that the team needs to improve on.

"Our team needs to work on stamina and flexibility," said London.

Freshman **Sammy Blackwell** also has high

hopes for the season, and set goals to enhance her running.

"My goals for this season are to learn how to do the hurdles, jumps, and to improve my running skills throughout the season," said Blackwell.

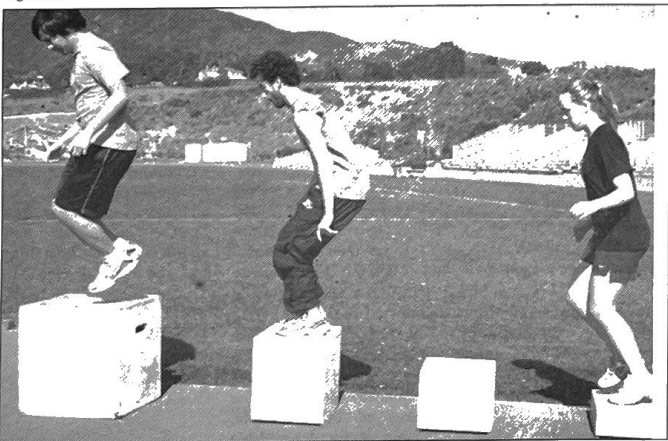
Blackwell, as with many players, wants to learn more than one aspect of track. Blackwell focuses on sprints, but she desires to

expand her track experience into more than one event.

"The track team has an overall strict environment, but they are sensitive about my injuries, and we always manage to have fun," said freshman Blackwell.

Along with many high school level teams, track can be serious and strict at times, but in the end, their passion for track makes the experience joyful.

ONE STEP AT A TIME: Three track players practice on boxes as they prepare for an upcoming meet.



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Experienced Softball Team Looks For Early Success

By Carley Sedlak
STAFFWRITER

The Malibu High School softball team is looking forward to a rewarding year with its many energetic players.

One of the possible roadblocks of this team's success is that many of the teams experienced

players graduated last year, leaving behind a young, but talented team. However, they so far have shown a great amount of enthusiasm and excitement. Leading the team this season are sophomores **Alena Kaye** and **Zena Kesselman**, who are the team's captains.

"Everyone one of our new players are really putting effort and are very

confident," Kaye said.

As captains, Kaye and Kesselman have also made it the team's staple to be welcoming to the incoming players and try to integrate them smoothly into the program.

"We are always welcome to new players" said Kesselman.

While the team is still in the early stages of practice, many players believe that the team is already beginning to take form.

"We're already training a new team" said Kaye.

They both are happy with the work all of the players have been putting in at practice. Kesselman and Kaye, despite their young age, take a lot of responsibility for the program.

"They're concerned with things like uniforms and field conditions," said Head Coach **Marty Kreman**.

Kreman, the returning coach for softball, shares the view of the team captains.

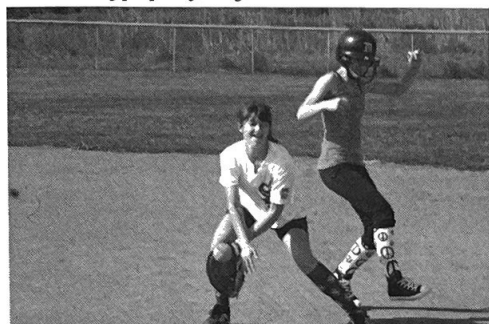
"It's encouraging that so many young player have come out here to the program. There are actually more people this year than this time last year" said Kreman.

The swelling number of new players adds hope and a second wind to the team. Although the seniors who have graduated are surely missed, the team will continue to grow and thrive. One major strength of this year's team is that they are well bonded and all players make it a priority to help each other out.

"I think we have a good support system between those that have and haven't done it before" said Kreman. "Everyone's really excited, and we're all positive. I think everybody has the right perspective."



STEALING HOME: The girls softball team practices after school as they prepare for a game.



As a final note, Kreman encouraged everyone to come and support the team in the upcoming season.

Some of the promising talent on this season's team includes freshman **Melody Nayeri**.

"It's actually pretty complicated," said Nayeri. "But so far, I've learned a lot."

Nayeri feels that the team has been very welcoming and has been a lot of fun.

Senior **Danielle Bush** shares the same enthusiastic

view. Her goal this year is to have fun and have a successful season.

"I miss all the people [who graduated], but I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone," said Bush.

Despite the young age of the team, it shows great promise and enthusiasm.

While the team has started practice and games, they still urge any one that wishes to join to head up to the fields after school and come participate in a practice.

Equestrian Team: The Best Team at MHS That No One Knows

By Briana Verham
STAFFWRITER

The Malibu High School Equestrian Team comes back this year hoping for a very successful season. Last year, the team won the Junior Varsity Champion at its first Interscholastic Equestrian League Show. In the Los Angeles and Ventura County Area., The team was then ranked second out of 70 schools in the Junior Varsity Division.

"I love riding horses because its like my relaxation," said freshman **Yasmine Diba**. "When things are going wrong, I feel like when I ride, I forget all about it and it's just like a get away from

reality for a few hours."

Diba is presently one of sixteen students on the team, which has grown from three members in 2006-2007 into the largest it has ever been. The riders include **Bridget Helm**, **Emma Blackwood**, **Sofia Blanco**, **Raine Murray**, **Leah LaMasney**, **Yasmine Diba**, **Sasha Kaplan**, **Callie Clunies-Ross**, **Ede Crowder**, **Kelsey Homes**, **Avery Felman**, **Kennedy Smith**, **Natalie Burger**, **Arielle Eckerman**, **Hannah Huffman**, and **Sami Semler-Clark**.

"I love the bond you get with your horse, and you make so many friends through riding," said team captain and sophomore **Bridget Helm**. "I also love

the feeling, it's like when some people take a run or a walk to clear their mind, instead [I] ride [a] horse.

Although the Equestrian Team does not have CIF finals like many other sporting programs, Malibu High students are able to compete in many different divisions. The team competes in novice, freshman, junior varsity, and varsity divisions. At these competitions, the horses and the riders are judged very competitively. Hunters are judged on how the horse jumps, equitation is judged on how the rider looks over the jumps, and dressage is how well a rider performs a set of movements.

Although the team does

not meet at school, they do have occasional meetings or team parties outside of school to discuss their future plans.

"I look forward to seeing everyone do well and have fun, and to just be able to get out and compete," said Helm. "This is my third year on the equestrian team and I ride everyday, and I want to represent my school in participating in the equestrian league."

The love for riding is combined with the fierce competition, currently the team is in sixth place overall, ninth place in freshman division, fourth place in novice division, and twelfth place in varsity division.

"I look forward to doing [well in] my medal finals and hopefully qualifying," said Diba when asked about her future plans.

The team's next competitive show is on April 16, which is the last of the year, located at Hansen Dam Equestrian Center.

The Malibu High School Equestrian Team is always open to new riders. Feel free to contact Captain **Bridget Helm** for any information or questions.

By Jack Platner
STAFF WRITER

The 2011 Malibu High School golf team has started off strong after finishing their last season on a strong note.

This year's golf team is led by seniors **Mo Bardovi** and **Taylor Stein**, both of whom are looking forward to a successful season as they hope to repeat their past success and win the tri-valley league.

Stein and Bardovi both believe that this year's team has potential because of their mix of experienced players as well as young talent.

"I am really excited for our season, we have some young talent in **Josh Corrigan** and **Wynn Jacobson** and we always have fun," said Bardovi.

The Sharks, who were lead by coach Lawson in previous years, are now coached by teacher Sean Ryan who is already setting high goals for his team.

"We are hoping to continue the recent accomplishments set by Coach **Rich Lawson** and his previous teams."

On March 1, the golf team played their first exhibition match against Villanova Prep at Malibu Country Club. They defeated Villanova in a landslide victory 205-286.

The Sharks are really excited about the season for a lot of reasons, one being

that they believe they have a chance to win a league title.

"I think we have a great chance at winning league this year," said Bardovi. Another reason they are excited for this season is the new youth on the team and are very excited for the success of the team this year and for future seasons to come.

The addition of young individual players is important for the golf team, as golf scoring relies more on individual success than in other sports. While golf is often considered a primarily individual sport, the Malibu High School golf team still tries to foster a team-first environment with a team mentality as well.

This overall chemistry created over the past couple of years has helped the boys get to where they are today; that is one of the more competitive teams in a very competitive league and division in California. As the boys prepare for their final pre-league matches, the team looks to continually improve their shots and their scores.

The golf team has their first league match on March 17th against Saint Bonaventure High School. The team looks to start off their league season strong with a strong opening win against the Seraphs.



Boys Tennis Begins Search For League Title

By Cameron Hart
FEATURES EDITOR

The Malibu High School boy's tennis team will officially begin their league season on Tuesday March 22nd. The team is hoping to perform well this year under the leadership of coaches **Bruce Young** and **Gary Hughes**. Bruce Young has been the head coach for the Malibu

High School tennis team for the last seven years and the team will be practicing hard in preparation of the upcoming season. Malibu is especially looking to prepare for their match against Oaks Christian, one of Malibu's main rivals. Oaks Christian has been a rival of Malibu for some time now. Last year the sharks tied the lions 9-9 in one of their matches against them but lost in games. The

sharks are hoping for a win this year, and need to get past Oaks Christian if they hope to win the league title that has eluded the Sharks for the past couple of years.

Unfortunately for the Sharks, last years best player Skylar Davis, will not be a part of the team this year. This is a great loss for the Sharks, and the team will have to practice hard to make up for the loss.

Last season, the Sharks placed second in league behind Oaks Christian, who was the only team to beat Malibu in league play last season. The Sharks then advanced to the second round of CIF, but fell in a tightly contested second rounder. In addition to losing Davis, the team also lost it's main doubles team in Tuffy Kohrs and Josh Buckton. Because of these losses, the Sharks

have had to practice harder and shuffle their lineup.

Senior co-captains **Greg Bogie** and **Greg Davis** and **Thacker** are looking

to help lead their team this year to victory in league.

"The team's looking good, we have a few new players that bring some good energy, and I'm looking forward to a great season," said

senior Greg Bogie.

Some of these new players include freshman **Gabriel Rapoport**, who is currently

the Sharks' second ranked singles player, and sophomore transfer student **Stephen Handal**, who plays third singles for the Sharks.

The Sharks are currently 3-1, with wins against Channel Islands, New Roads, and Simi Valley. Channel Islands High School and New Roads did not provide much of a challenge for the Sharks, who won both of the matches relatively easily. The Sharks more impressively were able to defeat the Simi Valley tennis team, who is currently playing in a Division I league. A great victory for the sharks, but the team believes that their success in pre-league play is pales in comparison to the success they hope to have in league this year.

The first loss for the Sharks this year came in a crushing defeat to Milken High School. the Sharks were without singles players Bogie and Rapoport, and

the team struggled as a result. Injuries have been a major obstacle for the Sharks this season, but the Sharks know that playing without their two best players will teach their less experienced players to help carry the load.

This year's team looks to be one of the more balanced teams that the Sharks have had in quite a while. The Sharks have three solid singles players in Bogie, Rapoport, and Handal, as well as two solid doubles teams in Thacker and junior **Jack Johnson** and juniors **Bin Kaplan** and **Andy Borenzweig**. The shark's first game will take place on March 22nd against Villanova Prep.

EYE ON THE BALL: Sophomore transfer student Stephen Handal hits a ball during a tennis practice.



Lacrosse Looks To Young Talent For Success

By Hayley Bosworth
STAFFWRITER

Malibu's lacrosse team has always been a strong force on the pitch. After losing the graduating seniors of the class of 2010, however, this year's lacrosse team may have a fairly difficult season. Despite losses, the team still has high hopes for this season. Malibu High's lacrosse team is continuing to work hard for the title of CIF Championship.

One major setback the team currently faces includes the loss of 13 players who graduated from last year's season. This year's team consists of many freshmen and

sophomores, as well as players who are completely new to the sport, such as seniors **Laker Dohan** and **Cameron Lindsay**.

"This team's really young," said assistant coach **Ryan Houge**, a starter on last year's squad. "But I see a lot of real talent."

Houge is a new volunteer assistant coach. The efforts of Houge, new head coach **Steven O'Neil** and assistant coach **Charlie McNeil** seem to have brought the team together both on and off the pitch.

Several players, including **Dohan**, are pleased with the team's chemistry.

"This team's been really welcoming to me as a new player," said **Dohan**. "It's like a big family.

Everyone's there for each other. It's just a really cool team this year. They've helped me out a lot with getting the hang of the sport, but it's definitely taking a lot of work."

Sophomore **Alden Quartz** and senior **Laurentius Harrer** are both key defense players. Both have played on the varsity team since freshman year. Harrer plays goalie and Quartz is a defense player.

Sophomore **Sean Ryan** and junior **Alec Houge** will also be two of the main players who will be leading the lacrosse team this year.

"Sean Ryan is really coming through right now," said **Ryan Houge**. "He's doing great."

Last season, Malibu's

lacrosse team had a great record. In league games, the team was 10-4; the only losses were against Agoura High School and Newbury Park. This year's team is looking forward to the games against Oaks Christian and Cate High School in particular, as both of those teams pose great challenges to the Sharks this season.

Last year's varsity coach, **Andrew Macdonnell**, is the new coach at Cate High School. This rivalry will inspire the team members to try harder and beat their new rival.

The team has a number of away games before returning home to play Oak Park at 3:00.

Upcoming Home Games:

Track: Saturday March 19th at 9:00

Baseball: Saturday March 19th at 1:00 against Fillmore, Wednesday March 23rd at 3:30 against Carpinteria

Boys Tennis: Tuesday March 22nd against Villanova at 3:00

Boys Volleyball: Thursday March 24th at 6:30 against Oaks Christian

Softball: Tuesday March 22nd against Brentwood at 3:30

TRADING CARDS

Who is your favorite athlete?

Design by Davis Thacker Compiled by Carley Sedlak

GABRIEL RAPORP

Tennis
"Winning CIF and being number 1."
'14

EYAKAZELA

Softball
"I am looking forward to seeing them progress and getting to play."
'13

SEAN RYAN

Volleyball
"I am looking forward to getting better, winning games, and progressing as a team."
'12

STEPHEN HANDAL

Track
"I am looking forward to league and breaking personal records."
'11