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Every 15 Minutes: The Aftermath



Cubbie Kile
PHOTO EDITOR

On March 19 and 20, Malibu High School participated in *Every 15 Minutes*, a dramatic awareness program that demonstrates the risk of driving after drinking to students through a realistic mock event. The program began on March 19 with sophomores, juniors, and seniors watching a visual representation of the aftermath of a car accident that involved Malibu High students, one of whom was under the influence.

Following the crash, emergency vehicle response teams arrived on the scene, giving students an accurate presentation of the consequences that come with drinking and driving.

"There were a lot of lights and sirens," said MHS senior **Maya Eliahou**. "They needed dozens of firemen and policemen...it was horrifying."

The following day, students attended a mock funeral service in

the gym to honor those who were killed in the simulated crash. Tissue boxes lined the bleachers and a black coffin was placed in the center of the gym to represent those who had passed away. The parents of the deceased students read a eulogy for their children and some of the students who participated spoke about what it was like to be "dead" for a day.

The funeral service began with a rendition of "Amazing Grace" by the MHS choir and was followed by guest speaker and MHS teacher **Mr. Ryan**. Ryan spoke of his personal experience involving a death due to driving under the influence.

Malibu High School presents *Every 15 Minutes* every three years to leave a lasting impression on students in attempt to discourage them from getting behind the wheel after drinking. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, "One in 10 teens in high school drinks and drives... young drivers [ages 16-20] are 17 times more likely

to die in a crash when they have a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08% than when they have not been drinking."

Every 15 Minutes actor and MHS junior, **Kelsey Holmes**, said, "I would have hoped that before I would have never gotten into a car with someone who was under the influence, but now I know I never will. My friends started a group chat this weekend to ensure everyone had a safe way to get home."

Every 15 Minutes encourages Malibu High students to see the real consequences of driving under the influence and show them the potential danger of being a young driver. According to a Malibu sheriff, the program is designed not to reprimand students, but to encourage them to make smart and safe decisions.

MHS teacher **Ms. Thoreson** said, "Even though you know it is fake, it seems real and you go through this experience thinking about the people that you care about."

Dead Sea Lions Line Coast

Maisy Tarlow
MANAGING EDITOR

Throughout the past few months the large quantity of deceased sea lions scattering local beaches has been a shock to experts and residents of Malibu.

According to the *Washington Post*, marine biologists the large number of fatalities to the warm water.

Experts said, "Warmer coastal waters force the prey of sea lions – squids and sardines, for example – deeper beneath the ocean's surface. Then nursing lion mothers must look further afield for food, leaving their pups for longer than normal."

Because the mother spends long periods of time away from her pups, they often starve and become too weak to survive, washing ashore.

In an interview with Fox 11 News, one Malibu mother said, "It was devastating to see a bunch of sea lions just lying dead. It wasn't one or two it was six or eight."

"Every time I go on beach walks now down to Little Dume, the hut, or Paradise Cove, I count the amount of sea lions washed up on the shore," said Malibu High School senior **MacKenna Strange**. "I've seen as many as six on one walk. This is beyond the normal, occasional beached sea lion. Something is going on."

Many of the young sea lions that have washed up on the shore are headless, for unknown reasons.

Malibu High School senior **Thelen McKinna-Worrell** said, "I was at the beach the other day and there was a dead mother sea lion and her babies were all huddling on and around her. It was so sad. They aren't going to be able to survive without the mom."

The California Wildlife Center is responding to this issue but does not have the resources to fully handle the situation.

The voicemail on the California Wildlife Center marine mammal hotline says: "Southern California is currently experiencing an extremely high rate of California sea lion pup strandings. Due to the high number of reported animals California Wildlife Center may not be able to return your call and some animals may not be responded to on the day of the call. Please be patient as we work through this unprecedented stranding season."

Peter Wallerstein, director of Marine Animal Rescue in Los Angeles County, said to the *Washington Post*, "It's the highest number I've had in 29 years of rescues... We get like 50 calls a day on sea lions. We are limited to three a day because the rehab center is so full. We had to leave some adults on the beach. It's like a paramedic not having a hospital to bring a patient."

As the death rate for California sea lions increases significantly, it begs the question, are our oceans changing? And, what does this mean for the future of marine mammal life?

Malibu Madness

Kai Brady & Nick Kianpoor
STAFF WRITERS

On March 17, the 2015 NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Tournament began and students and teachers at Malibu High School made brackets and entered friendly competitions to see who could get the farthest and win the tournament. The competition, commonly known as "March Madness," is the annual single-elimination playoff tournament played by 68 colleges across the United States. The competition determines the NCAA Champions for Men's Division I Basketball.

For decades, individuals around the country have created intricate brackets, detailing the winners of each potential matchup and the eventual NCAA Champions. At

Malibu High School, the tradition appears in the form of both student and teacher pools.

MHS teacher **Ms. Stowell** has been participating in the MHS faculty competition since 2011, when she took home the March Madness victory.

In her 2015 bracket, Stowell predicted Villanova would win the championship, but after an early exit in the third round, her dreams of winning the faculty competition were diminished.

Malibu High School senior **Jack Gewant** is part of a 15-person student bracket with a \$10 buy-in.

"I started doing brackets two years ago and have been hooked ever since," Gewant said. Though he has never won the bracket, Gewant says he still loves the thrill of participating.

Gewant picked Villanova to win the 2015 championship as well and says he now has little-to-no chance of winning due to the school's early exit in the tournament and some other false predictions in his bracket.

Another Malibu High Student involved in the madness is senior **Elliot Quartz**, who participates in a high-stakes, 10-person bracket with a \$50 buy-in.

"Go big or go home' we like to say in our bracket," Quartz said. "If it isn't high stakes, it isn't fun." Quartz predicts Kentucky will win the championship. The school is still in the running and a top contender for the number one spot.

"I would be shocked if I lose this year," Quartz said.



SEA LION PUPS: California sea lions are dying at a significantly increased rate, washing up on many Malibu beaches. Photo by Coronado Common Sense News.

MHS Student Hillary Sturgeon wins Dolphin Award

Hillary Sturgeon, a senior at Malibu High School, is this year's recipient of the annual Youth Dolphin Award which is awarded to exemplary members of the Malibu community.

Sturgeon was recognized for her extensive volunteer work at the Malibu Community Labor Exchange (MCLE) in addition to her involvement with international charitable organizations such as Made in the Streets, which is based in Kenya.

She was nominated for her Dolphin Award by MHS Service Learning Coordinator **Nena Laurer**, along with staffers like Principal Dave Jackson, Amnesty International Student Club Advisor Sarah Ryan and Counselor **Katie Dahm**.

When did you start volunteering at the Malibu Community Labor Exchange?

I first started working with the labor exchange when I was in middle school. Different groups bring sack lunches down to the

exchange every Saturday and my family and I got involved with the Pepperdine Law School group and started to get to know the community down there. Over the years, I have gotten the chance to work closer with the organization. Two summers ago I did an internship at the exchange where I learned more about the management part of the organization and now I'm on the Board of Directors as the high school representative.

Do you plan to stay involved in charity and volunteer work after high school?

Yes I hope to continue volunteer work in college! All of the schools I'm considering place a big emphasis on community service and I think it is something that is important to always be involved in.

Do you have any memorable stories from the Labor Exchange or Made in the Streets?

When I interned at the exchange I spent a lot of time in the main

office with many of the women workers. Nearly every day, they would help me with my Spanish on my downtime. The whole community down there is so helpful and welcoming and I remember small things like that making me feel like I was a part of a family that truly cared for one another.

How has your volunteer work changed your perspective on life?

My volunteer work has mainly taught me the importance of treating people with dignity and equality. I think once people are given that basic amount of respect, they have the power to change and improve their lives.

What advice would you give MHS students who want to make a positive impact on their community?

I think many students don't realize that there are problems and ways to get involved all around them. Having a positive impact doesn't have to mean doing something huge. All it requires is finding something you care about and taking action.

A Disappointing Year



DRY SLOPES: California snowfall is at its lowest point in a decade, following a trend of little snowfall the past few years. Photo by V.V. Daily Press.

Roman Jensen
STAFF WRITER

As the snow season comes to an end, the amount of annual snowfall in California is close to reaching its lowest point in the last 10 years.

In Mammoth Lakes, the amount of snowfall recorded by the ski resort totaled only 76 inches according to *mammothmountain.com*, with little snowfall predicted for the rest of the 2014-2015 season. According to *mammothsnowman.com*, past snowfall averages have been 557.9 inches in 2010, 668.5 inches in 2011, 263 inches in 2012, 308 inches in 2013, and a mere 238 inches in 2014.

The amount of snowfall during 2012, 2013, and 2014 were thought to be low, but this year has taken it to the next level, lacking hundreds of inches of snowfall when compared to previous years.

Malibu High School senior and snowboarder **Zed Malmoux** said,

"The snow up in Mammoth has been very minimal, and when it does snow it's very icy."

Mammoth makes as much snow as possible to keep its lifts open by pumping water from its lakes, but even so this has been a tough year. Small storms have come and gone, but many lifts have remained closed for the majority of the season. Not only has the amount of snowfall been low, but also the crowds and conditions have been worse.

Malibu High School senior and snowboarder **Thelen Mckinnaworrel** said, "Mammoth was very crowded this year, and because of that the snow got skied off quickly, making conditions icy and less enjoyable."

Mountains located in Southern California, such as Mountain High and Big Bear have it worse. Mountains in this region have totaled only 28 inches, making it nearly impossible to have a successful season. These mountains completely rely on their ability to make snow, pumping water

from nearby lakes like Lake Arrowhead.

AP Biology teacher **Mr. Cary** said, "Snowfall in the Sierra Nevada mountain range has gradually become so low that the reservoirs used for drinking water are 20 percent of historical heights, and if the drought continues, these lakes will eventually run dry."

Because these mountains have to make their own snow, the conditions on these resorts are far from satisfactory. The manufactured snow is usually a very light layer that gets skied off early in the day. The remaining snow becomes slushy and watery as the day goes on. Skiers will also experience areas that are covered in dirt and rocks on the few runs that are open.

Malibu High School senior and local mountain snowboarder **Jake Durrant** said, "The small amount of snowfall in the local mountains has made it hard for people who don't want to drive to Mammoth to get good conditions."

Death with Dignity Draws Debate

Kai Brady
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 20, a bill was introduced to the California State Senate that, if passed, would give the terminally ill an option to end their life through medical means. The bill, known as the End of Life Option Act or SB 128, was introduced by Democratic state senators Lois Wolk and Bill Monning, and is modeled after a similar law that was passed in Oregon in 1997.

A 2014 poll conducted by the Harris Institute revealed that 74% of Americans supported the right to die in the case of terminally ill individuals. According to a 2014 poll of 17,000 U.S. doctors conducted by *Medscape*, 54 percent of doctors support legislation allowing assisted suicide for the terminally ill while only 31 percent oppose it.

The "death with dignity" law was approved by Washington state voters in 2008, and a similar law was passed by the Vermont state legislature in 2013. On Feb. 6, the Supreme Court of Canada also ruled that individuals have the right to die in certain circumstances.

If the California bill passes, it will allow terminally ill adults who meet certain qualifications to request a medical prescription that would end their life safely and with the assistance of a doctor.

Attention was drawn to physician-assisted suicide in Nov. 2014, after the death of 29-year-old Californian Brittany Maynard, who moved to Oregon in order to receive such a treatment. Maynard worked with the non-profit organization Compassion & Choices before her voluntary death, which advocated for the legalization of physician-assisted

suicide in more U.S. states.

California's bill has received support from advocacy groups in favor of the assisted suicide movement like Compassion and Choices. In an interview with NBC News, Barbara Coombs Lee, president of Compassion & Choices, said, "People [in most states] who are terminally ill and looking forward to some sort of horrific symptoms before they die are forced to end their lives prematurely ... while they can still boost themselves over the balcony or in front of the train or put a gun in their mouths." She said that when faced with these less humane alternatives, right-to-die legislation could actually prolong the lives of the terminally ill.

Although the bill has substantial support from right-to-die advocacy groups, it has also faced opposition from various organizations. Conservative pro-life groups such as the National Right to Life Committee have opposed the bill on principle, and the Catholic Church played a major role in opposing previous California right-to-die bills in 2006 and 2007.

In addition, groups advocating for the rights of the disabled have also opposed the measure. According to The Sacramento Bee, Marilyn Golden of the Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund said, "If these bills pass, some people's lives will be ended without their consent, through mistakes and abuse."

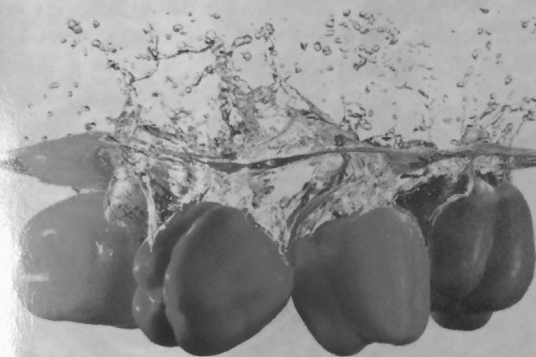
State Senator Wolk countered this claim. "We have safeguards in place so there is no coercion or abuse," she said to the Orange County Register. "The law does not force any hospital or doctor to participate."

While debate continues on both sides, SB 128 remains in the hands of the California state legislature.

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Remembering Emily Shane



PASS IT FORWARD: The Emily Shane Foundation's goal is to spread kindness and good deeds in the our community and world. Photo from the Emily Shane Foundation Facebook page.

MacKenna Strange
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

On April 3, 2010, while Emily Shane was walking along Pacific Coast Highway to be picked up by her father, she was tragically struck and killed by a suicidal driver.

A student of Malibu Middle School, Emily was a kind and outgoing girl who enjoyed hanging out with friends, making Photo Booth videos, and binge-eating junk food. Although her death was deeply shocking and saddening to the entire Malibu community, nobody could have guessed five years ago the tremendous positive impact Emily's legacy would have on the lives of so many.

To spread some of the love and happiness that Emily shared with others, Emily's family created the Emily Shane Foundation and the SEA (Successful Educational Achievement) Program. The Emily Shane Foundation and its "Pass it Forward" campaign urges people to do good deeds daily

and post them online. Emily was compassionate and empathetic towards others, and was always willing to help out or make people feel included, solely out of the good of her heart. Inspired by Emily's kind spirit, more than 14,000 people so far have posted good deeds on emilyshane.org, and the Shane family hopes that one day, that number will reach 100 million.

"My hope is that one day while I'm travelling in a foreign country, a complete stranger will open a door for me and say 'that was for Emily,'" said Emily's dad, Michel Shane.

Because Emily had some learning challenges in school, Emily's mother, Ellen Shane, was inspired to create the SEA, a program that provides individual mentoring to "mainstreamed students in public schools who risk 'falling through the cracks,'" according to emilyshane.org.

"Last year the SEA program helped 93 students and this year we are close to 100," Michel Shane said. "If you look on the

Facebook page you can see how a number of students went from failing to succeeding and two went from failing to the [Honor Roll]. So our program for middle school children works. They all learn about Emily and what she was like so they know who they have to thank for their success."

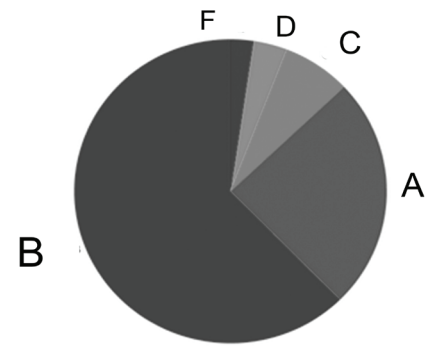
Today, Emily would have been finishing up her freshman year in college. She would likely still be dancing, sharing funny videos online, and making people laugh. While it's the hardest thing in the world to see any bright side in this tragedy, the Shane family has successfully used Emily's legacy to change thousands of lives. As we approach April 3, 2015, five years since Emily's passing, we encourage you to incorporate some of Emily's kindness into your life by doing good deeds and reflecting on the type of impact you leave on peoples' lives.

If you're interested in being involved in the positive movement, go to emilyshane.org and post a good deed.

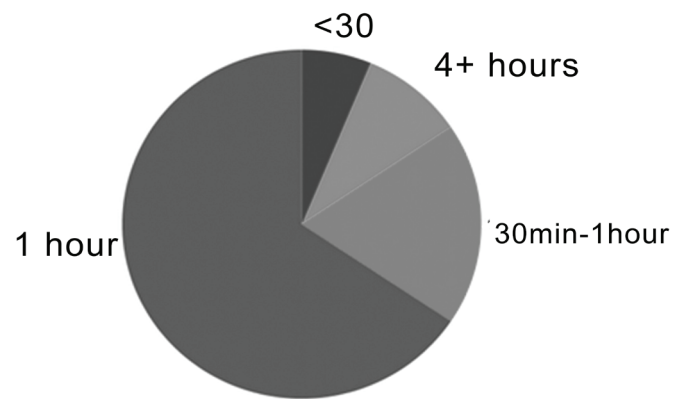
MHS Students Say Homework Creates Stress

The Current breaks down the relationship between grades, stress and homework

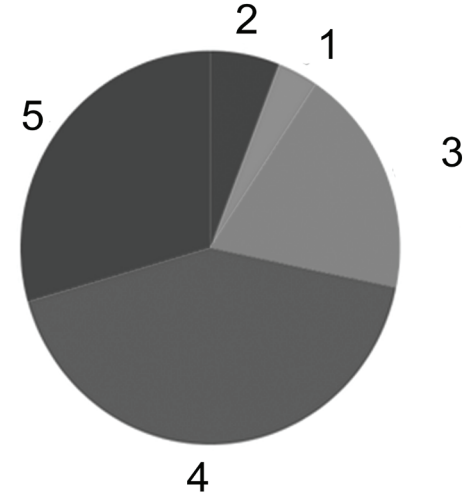
MHS Student Grade Average



Average hours spent on homework per night



On a scale of 1-5, how much of your stress is school related?



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www.mhscurrent.com

Community Service Projects over Spring Break

Parker Bowling
STAFF WRITER

This spring break, MHS students have the opportunity to participate in various Malibu events to obtain more community service hours through fast and convenient projects.

On April 10 and 11 Pepperdine will host the Malibu Relay for Life from 5pm on Friday to 5pm on Saturday for the American Cancer Society. The money raised will fund for cancer research and treatments. Everyone is welcome to attend and 24 hours of community service is allotted to those who walk all 24 hours.

TreePeople frequently hosts activities in the Santa Monica Mountains, and there will be numerous events in Los Angeles all throughout spring break. This organization plants trees and strives to make the community a greener,

more natural place via government projects and community efforts. Sign up now at treepeople.org.

Saturday, April 11 from 11am to 7pm and Sunday, April 12, from 10am to 5pm, Malibu Bluff's Park will be hosting its 17th annual Chumash Day Powwow. If you would like to volunteer, contact Kristin Riesgo for more information.

Students can also participate in Wolf Camp as a student chaperone. If students are interested in attending the trip with Juan Cabrillo, applications can be found in the main office and are due March 26.

"Spring Break is a great time to get caught up on service learning hours," said Nena Lauerman, Service Learning Coordinator at Malibu High School. "The weather is great for outdoor projects."

Operation Smile 2015: Mission Preparation

Nikita Weber
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Malibu High School students **Charlotte Jackson** and **MacKenna Strange** will each be going on Operation Smile medical missions to a third world country as a student volunteer this spring.

Operation Smile is a non-profit organization that goes to third-world countries and performs surgeries for people with cleft lips and palates. These operations are extremely important because they allow treated children to become accepted into their society. To conduct their missions, Operation Smile's professional doctors are assisted by student volunteers who do some of the most important work.

Last summer, Jackson and Strange traveled to Ireland for the International Student Leadership Conference (ISLC) meeting. ISLC is a week-long program where students from around the world listen to special speakers, develop their leadership skills, and learn more about Operation Smile. In order to go on a mission, students are required to go to an ISLC meeting and complete mission training.

To apply for mission training, students need to fill out an application, write an essay, and create a video, all of which are submitted to Operation Smile's review board where all applicants are reviewed and evaluated. Because both Jackson and Strange were selected for mission training, the two traveled to the Virginia Operation Smile base for a mission training workshop in January 2015. During mission training, all of the students learn about what their jobs will be during the mission and become more educated on the mission of the organization. At the end of training, the students find out where they will be going for their mission at the Finale Party.

MHS junior Charlotte Jackson found out she will be leaving for Cape Coast, Ghana on April 7 for two weeks. Along with her mission partner, Jackson will spend her time educating and playing with the children before their life changing surgeries.

"I can't wait to find that one special relationship with one of the kids," Jackson said. "It's important for the kids to be comfortable before surgery, so being that familiar face will really help."

To prepare for her mission, Jack-

son needs to collect various items and make posters that go with the several health modules they will be teaching. She will teach modules about dental care, basic nutrition, oral re-hydration therapy, burn care and prevention, and hand washing.

"I am looking forward to educating them and leaving a lasting effect for a tangible change" Jackson said.

Earlier this year, Jackson began a personal mission to make and sell necklaces for Operation Smile. While at ISLC, Jackson spent a lot of time with Merchant Society owner Alexa Jacobs. Merchant Society is a jewelry company based in India. The jewelry is manufactured in a factory that only hires local women in India, allowing them to have safe and beneficial jobs. After multiple discussions of what Jackson could do that would be original and helpful to Operation Smile, they came up with making necklaces. Once Jackson returned home she started looking at samples Jacobs sent her and began to create an original design based on the Operation Smile logo.

Jackson then raised more than \$3,000 for production, which allowed all of the profits made from the necklaces to go directly to Operation Smile. Jackson has a website (www.operationssmile.org/charlotte), which sells the necklaces for \$35 silver plated and \$40 for gold plated.

"It's cool because you make a donation and in return you get a necklace" said Jackson.

MacKenna Strange, MHS senior and Operation Smile Club Co-President, is preparing for her mission to San Cristobal De Las Casas, Chiapas in Mexico. Leaving April 16, Strange must



OP SMILE FOR THE CAMERA! Pictured are Charlotte Jackson (on right) and MacKenna Strange (on left) at their mission training finale party.

also collect items pertaining to her lessons for the kids and bring things for the children to play with. These items include of inflatable toys, arts & crafts, stuffed animals, and stickers to play and comfort the kids. As for items regarding the health modules, Strange said she will be collecting toothbrushes and sugar and salt packets.

Strange has also been making posters for her presentations of each health module. She has also been learning more Spanish vocabulary pertaining to things with the mission and surgeries. Strange will also travel to various schools and orphanages to continue teaching the various health modules to all the kids.

"Since I can speak the language I think I can make them feel more comfortable and relaxed post operation," Strange said.

Although Strange will end her school career at MHS this June, her journey with Operation Smile will continue.

"I really want to continue being involved with Operation Smile," Strange said. "If my school next

year has a club U-Voice I would love to join."

The U-Voice Program sends college students and journalists on Operation Smile medical missions around the world to capture and report the stories of patients and volunteers. College students go on the same missions as the student volunteers but their job is to interview and photograph the trips which are published on the Operation Smile website and e-newsletters. These stories are extremely important because they are shared with the donors, supporters, and volunteers worldwide.

"If my school doesn't have the club already, I want to start one myself on my campus" Strange said.

Each surgery is only \$240 and is simple, fast, and changes lives forever. Malibu High's very own Operation Smile Club has been active for years and raised over \$10,000 last year. Any student at MHS can make a difference and a positive change by going on a mission or simply joining the Operation Smile Club on campus.



NECKLACE FOR SMILES: In order to purchase one of these necklaces go to the website www.operationssmile.org/charlotte

Malibu High, We Have a Wifi Problem

Davis Faherty
FEATURES EDITOR

For the past few years, Malibu High School's various Wi-Fi networks have been unreliable for students and teachers alike.

Wi-Fi is very limited to Malibu High School students. There are four networks to choose from at MHS: `smmusd_wep`, `smmusd_data`, `smmusd_guest`, and `smmusd_voice`. Other than `smmusd_guest`, each network is WEP password-protected. To connect to `smmusd_guest`, the user must still enter a username

and password to gain internet access. The school does not share any of these network passwords with students.

Wi-Fi is necessary for students on a daily basis at school. In class, Wi-Fi connection can be an essential learning tool.

"In AP Spanish it's really useful to have internet access," said senior **Mia Green**. "It's a lot more efficient to use websites like Word Reference and Google Translate than look up every word in the dictionary."

Even for students who are able to access one of the wireless net-

works, the connection is seldom reliable.

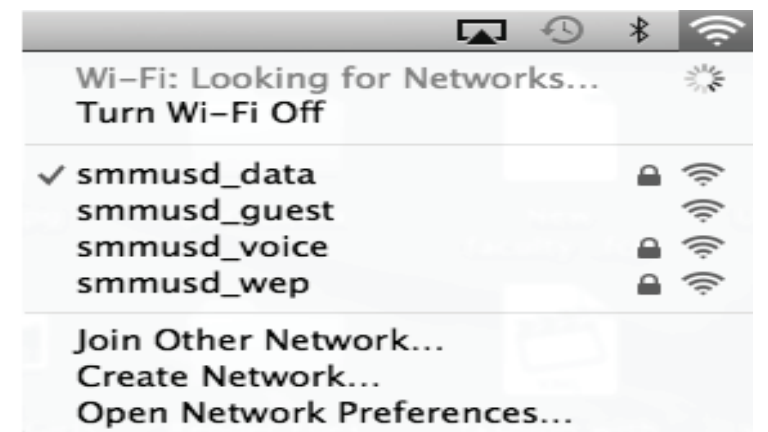
Wi-Fi issues also impede the lessons of some MHS teachers.

"A lot of my lesson plans depend on internet access," said teacher **Rachel Stowell**. "If the internet isn't working, especially with my computers that are networked, we can't do anything for Film, Shark TV, or Journalism."

Classes like Journalism depend on functioning Wi-Fi, because it allows easy file sharing. Network connection must be reliable for classes like Journalism to run properly. Without Wi-Fi, these computers are rendered essentially useless.

Maya Eliahou, Editor-In-Chief of The Current and MHS senior, commented further on how Wi-Fi affects Journalism.

"We rely on the wireless a lot for layout," said Eliahou. "For about one week a month we need it every single day and it needs to be dependable. Last issue, about five minutes after we got on the computers, the Wi-Fi turned off and all of the computers froze. Not having reliable computers makes it really hard for us to put out a paper every month."



WHY FI?: MHS has numerous wifi options on campus, most are locked with a password.

Other teachers like **Adam Panish** have learned to become more independent from Malibu High's Wi-Fi.

"I was always one of those people who felt that I needed to download any videos to watch in class rather than rely on the network," **Mr. Panish** said.

Members of the MHS community need consistent Wi-Fi connection during the school day, but students are often denied access and it is difficult to count on a good connection. The question remains as to why Malibu High's Wi-Fi networks are so unreliable.

A 2013 survey by Pew Research Center said that 74% of teens access the internet at least occasionally. After all, it is the 21st century. Although about three out of every four teens use Wi-Fi periodically, it is clear that Malibu High School does not provide its students or teachers with an adequate internet connection.

Computer Lab Assistant **Yanet Morales** declined to comment.



SMMUSD_GUEST: Pictured is the iconic MHS portal students see when trying to connect to the internet.

Spring Break: LA Style

Mackenna Strange
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Spring break is just around the corner and while some of your friends are jetting off to Fiji or renting houses in Indio for Coachella, you're stuck at home. The great news is that you live just outside of one of the most exciting cities in the world. Some of the country's top restaurants, concert venues, museums, beaches, and hiking trails surround Los Angeles. Although you may rarely go beyond Malibu's borders, this spring break could be the time to do all of the touristy things that you've never actually done. I've compiled a list of my favorite places and activities around Los Angeles County for you to enjoy this spring break to make it the most memorable yet.

1. Sandstone Peak — If you love hiking but feel like you've done every hike that Malibu has to offer, check out Sandstone Peak, also known as the highest point in the Santa Monica Mountains. It's a half-day hike at more than seven miles long but has breathtaking views of the Pacific Coast. At the very top of the hike there's a visitor's book that you can sign as proof that you've summited. Not only is this hike beautiful, but also a great way to get some exercise. You can also eat lunch afterwards at the world famous Neptune's Net, which is often forgotten by Malibu locals. A professional mountain climber and Malibu native said, "Sandstone Peak is an awesome hike, definitely one of my favorites in Malibu. Just make sure you go with friends because it's not hard to get lost on those trails!"

2. The Getty Center — One of my favorite afternoon outings is taking a picnic basket full of food (usually sandwiches I pick up from Malibu Kitchen) and going up to the Getty Center in Los Angeles. They have sprawling cactus gardens and amazing archi-

ture where you can sit and eat lunch overlooking all of L.A. After eating, you can roam through the museum's world-renowned exhibits, which range from classic ancient sculptures to modern photography. Did I mention that visiting the Getty is completely free?

3. Griffith Observatory — The Griffith Observatory is located in Griffith Park near Hollywood and boasts some of the best views in all of Los Angeles. On March 28, they will host their monthly public stargazing party where astronomers set up different telescopes on the observatory's grounds. You can also grab lunch or dinner at the Café at the End of the Universe, a restaurant run by chef Wolfgang Puck.

4. Old Los Angeles Zoo Hike — In the Griffith Park area of L.A. there is one of the coolest ruin sites in California. The former L.A. Zoo location features old animal enclosures that are no longer in use. Hikers can explore the enclosures that have been used in movies such as Anchorman, and of course enjoy the views of Griffith Park that overlook L.A. "It would be a nice place for a picnic," said senior **Luke Larson**.

5. Little Tokyo — A section of Downtown L.A. known for its myriad of Japanese shops and Shabu Shabu restaurants. Until June 2015, the Japanese American National Museum on North Central Ave. is hosting a Hello Kitty Exhibition featuring all things Hello Kitty where you can buy some of the famous cat's merchandise and take photos in a Harajuku style photobooth. Little Tokyo is well-known for having the best noodles and mochi ice cream in all of L.A. Check out Daikokuya right across the street from the museum for rice bowls and noodles and stop on almost any street corner for mochi like you've never had before. Sixth grader **Ava Tankersley** frequents Little Tokyo with her friends.



STARSTRUCK: Griffith Observatory offers some of the best views in LA. (Image from wikipedia.com)

"The photobooth at the Hello Kitty Exhibit makes your eyes look like Harajuku Doll eyes. It made my dad look like a girl," she said. "I got really cool pens and paper from an origami shop down the street too."

6. Santa Barbara — One of my favorite cities in Southern California is only about two hours north of Malibu. Santa Barbara is a big city on the beach with plenty places to shop and eat. "They have great Mexican restaurants, you can visit the Santa Barbara Mission, which is cool, and of course I love the Santa Barbara Zoo!" said senior **Dawnie Perry**.

7. Burgerama — If you're looking to hear good music over spring break without paying Coachella prices, you should check out the fourth annual Burgerama Music Festival. The festival will be held at The Observatory in Santa Ana on March 28 and 29. The line up includes Weezer, FIDLAR, Ty Segall, The Black Lips, and many other musicians along with gourmet food trucks. "Concerts at the Observatory are really cool because there are a lot of indie bands and it has a transient atmosphere, which I like. I really recommend it if you're into music," said senior **Nolan Webster**.

8. Salvation Mountain — Although it's a bit further of a drive, Salvation Mountain is on my list of adventures to do this year. In Calipatria, CA, in the middle of the lower desert of SoCal, is a landmark mountain made of adobe clay and painted by a man named Leonard Knight as his "gift to the world." Covering the masterpiece in bright colors is the work's message, "God is Love." It's an awesome art installation to check out, a cool place to roadtrip to, and, of course, a killer backdrop for Instagram photos! "There's a juxtaposition between the art and the surroundings. In the middle of a dry, monochrome desert there's a huge, colorful art



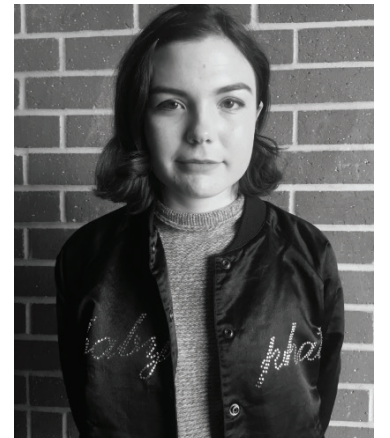
DESERT & ART: Salvation Mountain is an amazing work of art in the

Humans of Malibu High School

Sakura Smith
STAFF WRITER

Emma Kelly
Grade 11

"I guess the idea that high school determines the rest of your life is weird. How am I supposed to know who I am going to be when I'm 16 years old? It just seems that as a ninth or tenth grader I could kind of do what I wanted... then suddenly a year's difference means I have to think of my future."



Vincent Hannley
Grade 11

"What event would you say has shaped you to be the person that you are today?"

"I would say moving to here from Las Vegas at the age of 7 has had the biggest impact on my life. Growing up in this environment has really shaped me into who I am today. I would be terrified to meet the weird alternate reality Las Vegas version of myself."



Kiara L.
Grade 10

"What would you say is the hardest part about growing up?"

"The hardest thing about growing up to me is that you have to realize nothing lasts forever and that you pave the way for your success, no matter how many obstacles. The way I see it, you can fear it today then conquer it tomorrow."



Nick Baer
Grade 9

"What would you say was the saddest moment of your life?"

"The saddest moment in life was probably when my grandfather died. He was a big reason why I want to work in the film industry. He worked in the film business so he taught me about the process."

"What was your favorite memory of him?"

"One time he came over and we watched a movie, he paused it at a certain point and told us to look in the back ground at this little toy elephant. After, he pulled out the exact toy that was in the movie and gave it to me."



Restaurant Review: Cholada

Jake Nokes
STAFF WRITER

Cholada Thai Beach Cuisine is a local restaurant with great food.

Quality: *****

Price: \$\$\$\$

Quantity: ****

18763 PCH

Mon-Sun 11am-10pm

Cholada serves some of the best Thai food I've ever tasted. They serve traditional Thai curries,

noodles, and salads in a relaxed beachside venue and its prices are reasonable for its location and service.

I had high hopes walking into Cholada and I can honestly say that it lived up to my expectations.

Cholada's location is one to dream of. It's a little traditional restaurant with a garden area in the back and it's right next to the beach. As you're enjoying your quality Thai food you can look at the Pacific Ocean as you eat. The

rustic interior and wooden paneling in such a cozy place adds a special ambiance to the eating experience.

Trying Cholada's Pad Thai and yellow chicken curry (gang luang) is a must. Smooth tasty noodles with bits of chicken and yellow-spiced curry with vegetables and chicken are definitely two of their most tasty meals. To top it off, both were reasonably priced for the amount you get.

Because it's a popular place to eat, Cholada is always crowded

and can be very cramped inside. I would recommend getting take-out if you want to experience the great Thai food without a wait.

All in all, Cholada is surely one of the most comfortable and unique restaurants I've ever been to. It may be crowded, but its charming and traditional style, along with its great food, make it a very special place to eat. It's definitely a place that everyone needs to try at least once.



GIVE IT A THAI: Cholada is a Thai restaurant located on PCH. (Image from thedeliciouslife.com)

A Day in the Life of Michael Rivetti

Nicolas Paige
STAFF WRITER

*M*orning:

MHS senior **Michael Rivetti** (a.k.a. Big Mike) wakes up at 5:45 am almost every day. The first thing that he thinks is, "All right Michael, it's time to get up." Big Mike looks outside to ponder and then takes a few minutes to breathe deeply. In a moment of silence, Mike breathes in the universe. This is followed by stretching and nine bows. Not even Mike himself knows why he does nine. Mike then peacefully makes his way to the bathroom so he can brush his teeth, wash his hands, and clean his face.

At the kitchen table, Michael ritually eats two to three eggs for breakfast and, depending on the season, he will indulge himself with different fruits. Today you will most likely catch him eating two to three oranges. Mike is very meticulous when it comes to eating his oranges. Mike does not use the usual tear-and-peel procedure that most humans follow. "I like to specifically slice oranges in order to slurp the juices and then eat the nutritious fruit flesh segments," he said.

After all is said and eaten, Mike will either enjoy the silence a bit longer or he will go to surf practice to get shackled before school.

School:

Mike's schedule is as follows:

- 1st - English
- 2nd - Economics
- 3rd - Free Period
- 4th - Math
- 5th - Ceramics
- 6th - AP 3-D Art

At 7:50 am he is either walking into English class or on his way to school from surfing.

"He has such a great soul," said MHS teacher **Sarah Ryan**. "Teachers adore him and it seems like he has deep connections with life, which he is able to put towards literature. He will make the world a better place. He comes in barefoot with sand all over his toes."

After leaving Ms. Ryan's classroom, Mike heads over to **Sean Ryan's** Economics Class. The class exposes Mike to what he calls "the game of life." He says he fully understands how much of a game money is and how unimportant it is to human existence. Mike appreciates the knowledge that he is acquiring about everyday economics and how the government works.

At 10:10 am Mike heads up to his car and decides whether or not he is in the mood for a Starbucks run. If not, he listens to music. His favorite tune is Johnny Cash's version of "If I Were a Carpenter". Sometimes he reads a book. He often finds a nice place to park in the dirt pull off near the intersect of Busch and Merit and enjoys the solitude. If the waves are good he might surf for a little bit too.

At 11:55 am after his daily get-away, Mike makes his way back to math with **Cindy Smith**. Here he focuses and enjoys the class. He finally spends the last two hours at school in **Thor Evensen's** room making fine art.

Art:

Pottery and art are big parts of Mike's life. He says that pottery is all he really knows. "If you can

master one thing you've mastered everything, but if you try and master everything you'll master nothing," he said.

I asked Mike if he saw himself as a great artist, a Da Vinci or a Picasso. He said he sees himself as an artist, but more so an observer of art. He does not necessarily observe other people's art, but rather all art that is presented to us in life in the form of everyday items. For example, most of us look at two individual rocks and see nothing but two useless objects. Mike sees the infinite power of the universe.

Mike is aware that no two rocks are the same and that no matter what you do, you cannot recreate the flawless yet imperfect nature of the rock. Mike sees this in everything: the trees, the sunsets, the sunrises, the clouds, and the plants. He observes everything knowing that he will never see it again in the same form. That is why Mike's favorite form of art, the art he believes to be his best, is his work with nature. Mike will take a branch or a leaf and turn it into a magical piece of art. He likes to use natural forms so others can see the beauty that he sees.

After School:

At 3:00 pm the school bell rings and Mike makes his way up to the Malibu High School lacrosse practice field. He suits up and enjoys getting hot and sweaty with his friends. He also says he loves the workout and enjoys playing lacrosse. When it is not lacrosse season he can be found surfing Malibu waves like Big Z from "Surfs Up." After a few hours of active cardio he heads home to make a snack, wait for dinner, and watch the Daily Show with Jon Stewart. Mike says he finds it funny and enjoys the news. In his opinion the show can be a little offensive towards conservatives, but that never stops him.

Some nights his dad and his dad's girlfriend are out of town so he must make food for himself. He momentarily thinks to himself how sad it is that he doesn't cook as much as he used to, but then rejoices when he remembers that summer is around the corner and he will have more time on his hands and more vegetables to choose from. He comes back to reality and eloquently grabs a bowl from the pantry and fills it with Trader Joe's chips. He tosses cheese over the chips and pops it into the microwave. While the cheese melts he cuts up a toma-



BIG MIKE: Michael Rivetti smiles for the camera.

to and slices an avocado. He then sprinkles the ingredients over the chips and to top it all off he adds a little bit of cayenne pepper. His dad and his girlfriend return just as he finishes eating and the three of them talk. Mike loses track of time and realizes that an hour has gone by. He peacefully hoofs it upstairs and jumps in the shower. He then gets out and throws on some fresh clothes. Since he woke up so early, Mike takes a moment to sit down and reminisce about his day.

It's 7:30 pm and because it is winter Mike usually nestles into bed. Although this may be true, tonight he is restless and goes out on his porch to find serenity. Mike steps outside. On tables that line the edges of his patio are hundreds of succulents. He waters them from time to time, but for the most part allows the rain to take care of them. He sits down under the stars without music or a book and listens to the sounds of the birds and just relaxes. Eventually he gets up and goes to bed.

On the weekends Mike still wakes up around the same time to go surf. Just a few weeks ago, in the time it took some of his friends to sleep in, Mike was able to spend the morning with a friend's dog. He took a nap with the dog on the couch. They peed together outside and enjoyed the sycamore trees.

Although this is just an average day for Big Mike, there is so much more to him than what meets the eye. It is now important to mention the most significant thing about Mike. For almost every day since he moved to Malibu, Mike has gone to Pavilions after school. If he has money he gets something to eat, and, if not, a cup of water will suffice. He then sits and looks at Zuma

Canyon. He says that to him it is probably the most divine thing in his life right now. He plans to get the ridgeline of the mountains tattooed on his arm when he leaves Malibu. This goes back to his art. Mike is able to see beauty and treasures the small things in life which most people pass right by.

Mike cherishes his academics as much as everything else in his life. He is fully aware of the importance of education and plans to move out of Malibu after high school. His last day in Malibu will most likely be July 4th. To begin, he will temporarily move to the Tassajara Zen Mountain Center up in Carmel Valley. It is the oldest Japanese Buddhist Sōtō Zen monastery in the United States. There he will be rigorously meditating, studying, and working. After that he plans on visiting his uncle in Pleasant Hill to work for his deck company, Superior Decks. Once he gathers some cash he will move back to Monterey, get a job, and then enroll in Cabrillo College for the fall semester. He wants to study art, ceramics, sculpture, biology, botany, ecological history, and perhaps earth science. Eventually, Mike sees himself becoming an art teacher.

Mike is doing what most of us wish we could. He enjoys life to the fullest without the pressures of stress. Mike lives with the happiness and enjoyment that comes with living a simple and carefree life. To many people, the most important thing in life is obtaining a six-figure salary or a nice car. To Mike, it is to simply look out the window and enjoy what he has been given.



NATURAL BEAUTY: Here Mike takes a tree branch, puts it in a piece of cinderblock, fills it with concrete, and makes art out of it.

Artist of the Month: Julian Paige

Maisy Tarlow
MANAGING EDITOR

Julian Paige, senior at Malibu High School discovered his natural artistic abilities last year. For Julian, art has become an integral part of his life. He plans to stick with it for many years and hopes to eventu-

ally open his own studio.

When did you first become interested in art?

Last year I had to choose an art elective, so I said, "Why not ceramics?" and it just came naturally.

What is your favorite work of art that you have created so far?

I like my Davey Jones face. I mixed wood with the clay and it was really cool. I am also really proud of this two-piece set of elephants I just finished working on, a mom and a baby elephant. They're very detailed. I'm going to send the baby elephant to my grandma in Germany.

Where do you find inspiration for your art pieces?

Everywhere. I like doing animals because I like sculpting realistic things, so I just look up images of animals on the computer, see something cool, and then sculpt it.

What has been the biggest challenge you have faced regarding ceramics?

When you're trying to get something perfect and you keep doing

it over and over again, the repetition of it gets really frustrating. So then I just put it aside for two weeks and I then get back to it and I get through it.

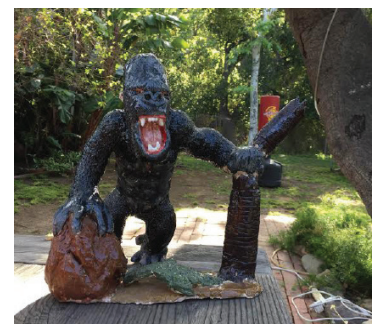
I understand you're in AP Ceramics. How is that different?

You have to make a portfolio with 25 pieces, divided up into three categories: concentration, quality, and breadth. Concentration is 12 pieces on a subject that you choose. Quality is showing how well you understand the techniques, and I haven't gotten to breadth yet so I'm not exactly sure.

Malibu Middle and High School Photography and Fine Arts programs are funded by Arts Angels, under the umbrella of The Shark Fund, MHS's primary fundrais-

ing organization.

These programs rely on community support to keep the Arts alive and well in the classroom and in the community. Please consider a donation to 'The Shark Fund' and check out the website at <http://www.thesharkfund.org/>



GORILLA ROYALTY: Julian's King Kong sculpture is one for the books.



The Oscars in Review

Olivia Cerio
A&E EDITOR

The 2015 Oscars covered a variety of social issues that average media outlets usually neglect to discuss to avoid controversy.

According to Deadline Hollywood, the 87th Academy Awards garnered 36.6 million viewers. Musicians Common and John Legend performed their original song, "Glory", from the motion picture "Selma", which also took the Oscar for Best Original Song.

Their subsequent speech directly addressed today's civil rights issues. The same issues that Martin Luther King Jr. marched to resolve almost 50 years ago. Legend brought attention to national conflicts surrounding voting rights, the injudicious incarceration of African Americans, and the Ferguson controversy.

"The spirit of this bridge connects the kid from the South Side of Chicago dreaming of a better life, to those in France standing up for their freedom of expression, to those in Hong Kong protesting for democracy," Legend said. "This bridge was built on hope, welded with compassion, and elevated with love for all human beings."

Patricia Arquette spoke openly about the wage gap between men and women in America during her acceptance speech for Best Supporting Actress. Arquette later clarified that the issue was not personal to her but nevertheless still an important subject in an interview with Time Magazine.

"I wasn't talking about my own position," Arquette said. "I know I've been really blessed in my life. I thought long and hard about how [my character's] life would have been better with wage equality."

Two nominees, Dana Perry (Best Documentary Short) and Graham Moore (Best Adapted Screenplay), spoke about their personal experiences with sui-

cide. The two advocated self-acceptance and encouraged people to talk about the sensitive subject.

"We need to talk about suicide out loud to try to work against the stigma and silence around suicide because the best prevention for suicide is awareness and discussion," Perry said to ABC News.

While accepting his Best Picture award for "Birdman", Alejandro González Iñárritu brought up America's stigma against immigrants and the current bureaucratic situation in Mexico, both rarely talked about on such a widely viewed media platform.

"I just pray [Mexicans living in the United States] can be treated with the same dignity and respect of the ones that came before and built this incredible, immigrant nation," Iñárritu said.

Beau Richards
STAFF WRITER

Netflix, an online streaming service where you can watch hundreds of films and television shows, has more than 20 million subscribers. With the success of several new original series, it expects this number to increase drastically. Netflix has grown to become the biggest subscription programming service in the United States.

Netflix is beginning to take over the online streaming market. This will likely result in other media houses being put out of business.

With the growing popularity and success of Netflix, Amazon, and other online streaming services, there could be a fight for rights

Netflix Originals

on content distribution between traditional television companies and online streaming companies.

Netflix has already made a push into the television industry with its original shows and now it is venturing into the film industry. It is expected to release its first original film *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: The Green Legend*. Like they did with television shows, Netflix could modernize how films come out of Hollywood. Netflix will release its original films on Netflix the same day that they come out in select IMAX theaters. This gives people a choice in how they enjoy major motion pictures.

Recently, Netflix has come close to a deal acquiring rights to *Beasts of No Nation*, the new

film from *True Detective* director Cary Fukunaga, in which Netflix has offered 12 million dollars for rights to the film. This is a big move for Netflix, as the film is expected to be in the running for multiple Oscars and the movie already has English actor Idris Elba as the lead.

The way films are seen is evolving and Netflix seems to be leading this movement. Netflix has already released a lot of award-winning original shows, such as *House of Cards*, *Peaky Blinders*, *The Fall*, *Southcliffe*, *Orange Is the New Black*, and *Happy Valley*. With the success of its original series, so it will be interesting to see how Netflix's films will compare.



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Packing List for Coachella

by Maisy Tarlow

As Coachella approaches, make sure to stock up on these essential items for the three-day music festival.

Phone Charger – Cell service is fairly bad across all carriers at Coachella, which will drain your battery faster than usual because the phone is constantly searching for service. There are free phone charging stations at Coachella, but the areas are overcrowded nightmares. To make your life easier, invest in a mophie charging case, keychain charger, or a portable battery so you can charge on the go.

Earplugs – After the recent launch of DUBS Acoustic Filters, DUBS has partnered with GoldenVoice to provide a complimentary pair of DUBS Earplugs in every Coachella ticket box. According to a press release on prnewswire.com, the DUBS Earplugs "optimize the listening experience, lowering sound by an average of 12 dB while preserving audio clarity." DUBS products are aesthetically appealing as well. They are "tuned, sleek, and stylish." Unless you want to damage your ears, everyone should take advantage of these earplugs. You'll want them, especially in the Sahara tent.

A bag big enough for your water bottle, camera, phone, etc. – It is such a pain to have to carry around your belongings in your hand. Bring a bag. So many people lose phones, wallets, etc. because they are holding them in their hands.

Water – Always have a water bottle on hand. Dehydration is not hard to come by at Coachella.

Sunglasses – Remember you will be standing outside from morning to night in the blazing sun. Even if you are not usually a sunglass wearer, you may change your mind once you get there.

Tissues – This may sound gross, but it's a Coachella must-have. Due to the dry, dusty air you will want a tissue to blow out the lovely snot that will inevitably form from the dust in you breathe in.

Comfortable walking shoes – I wore converse the first two days. Huge mistake. I wore Vans the last day and it was a much better experience. Wear a pair of shoes that you know will stay comfortable after extended periods of standing and walking.

Evian mist spray – You'll think this is stupid until you're there. Everyone made fun of me for bringing this, and then halfway into the day those same people were begging me for a spray

Masque 2015

Alec Rascoe
STAFF WRITER

As the lights went out and the crowd quieted down, Masque 2015 began. This year's MCs were juniors **Dane Marshall**, **Jordan Manhan**, **Sean Kelly**, and **Gabriel Deibel**.

The MCs began with a rocky start on Thursday, and were joined by fellow junior **Ala Mahmood** on Friday night. By Saturday, Marshall, Manhan, Kelly, and Deibel had gained their footing and the crowd's favor.

Highlights throughout the program included Kelly dressing up as a robot, a Pi reciting contest in honor of Pi day, and a game of Chubby Bunny that featured volunteers from the audience.

Each night began with a loving tribute to community member and Malibu High School father Rick Ross. Friends of his children performed his favorite song, "I Can't Help Falling In Love With You" by Elvis Presley. The moving performance was met with a standing ovation each night.

On Thursday the next performance was a drum solo by sophomores **Tristan Peterson**, **Nikita Sphayer**, and **Taylor Mathews**. The group started with a simple rhythm between the bass and piano that later exploded once Tristan's drumming came in. The trio also performed a cover of "Make it to Me", originally a Sam Smith song on Friday and Saturday, with Mathews singing.

A cover of Sufian Stevens' "Chicago" was performed both Thursday and Saturday, and featured seniors **Bronson Bard**, **Cole Murphy**, and **Marsalis Adriano**, along with juniors **Remi Jacob**

and **Zola Crowder**. The act featured an array of instruments, including Crowder on violin, Jacob on piano and vocals, Adriano on the cajon, Bard on guitar and vocals, and Murphy on bass.

Milo Sposato performed Thursday, showing his singing talent with his rendition of "Run And Tell That", winning him the Best Singer award Thursday night.

On all nights the first act closed out with "All About That Bass", which included juniors **Nancy Walecki**, **Isobel Anthony**, and **Hannah Grundemann**, as well as teachers **Jordan Ervin** and **Mary Yarber**. The group won the award for Most Entertaining on Thursday night.

Brandon Chaisson started the second act with a exciting robotic light show on Thursday. The stage went dark and the act was illuminated only by the lights on Chaisson's costume. Chaisson won Best Dance Act on Thursday and Most Entertaining on Saturday.

Later Thursday night, seniors **Caitlin Shoemaker**, **Bronson Bard**, **Marsalis Adriano**, and **Sarah Stipanowich** performed "Boom Clap", an acoustic piece that won Best Overall on Thursday.

Cole Murphy, Marsalis Adriano, and **Tristan McGowan**, and **Nolan Webster** played in "A Sad Boy Medley" on Thursday and Saturday. The act included songs "Boys Don't Cry" and "5 to 9", which won the award for Best Group on Saturday.

Coco Williams performed alone on Friday, winning Best Dance, and also performed Saturday with **Erik Vargas**. The pair won Best Dance Performance on Saturday night.

Alyssa Goldberg, **Kela**

Sachs, **Bronson Bard**, **Nancy Walecki**, and **Nolan Webster** won Best Band on Friday for their cover of "I'll Fly Away".

Junior **Skylar Washington** performed "Listen" and won best singer on Friday night. Washington initially experienced technical difficulties but then blew the audience away, inciting a standing ovation.

Sarah Stipanowich, **Caitlin Shoemaker**, **Kela Sachs**, **Isobel Anthony**, **Nancy Walecki**, and **Marsalis Adriano** played "Elastic Heart" on Friday and Saturday. The group won Best Overall on Friday night.

Gabriel Deibel, **Taylor Mathews**, **Sonny Thatcher**, **Tristan Peterson**, and **Nikita Sphayer** brought some classic rock and roll to Masque on Friday and Saturday with "My Kind of Woman", winning Most Entertaining on Friday. The group wore

Lastly, senior **Maya Eliahou** showed her hula hoop talent in a lights-out LED act, and the unique performance won Best Soloist on Saturday.

All nights were closed out with the Teacher Act, which included performances of "Sledgehammer" and "Uptown Funk" with **Henry Wadsworth** on guitar, **Ms. Yarber** on bass, **Mr. Ervin** on piano, and **Mr. Valez** on drums, along with several band students for the songs. Junior **Cat Evers** and senior **Lisa Consiglio** sang on "Sledgehammer" and "Uptown Funk", respectively.

The Senior Act and Junior Act also played on alternate nights, showing hilarious and elaborate stories with humor only our school could enjoy.



WHERE'S SHIA?: A cover of Sia's "Elastic Heart" won Best Overall on Friday night. (Photo by Izzy Chavira)



BACK TO THE FUTURE: MCs Sean Kelly, Gabriel Deibel, and Jordan Manhan amuse the crowd with a funny skit. (Photo by Conor Hunter)



FRIENDS OF THE ROSS FAMILY: A loving tribute to father and community member Rick Ross was performed every night. (Photo by Izzy Chavira)

Guide to the Coolest Museums in Los Angeles

Caitlin Myers
STAFF WRITER

As Los Angeles natives, we all know of the LACMA and the Getty Villa, so the list below is comprised of several less popular museums worth visiting.

1. Bhagavad-Gita Museum

Rating: ****½

Address: 3764 Watseka Ave Los Angeles, CA 90034

Out of all the museums on my list, the Bhagavad-Gita Museum undoubtedly has the most beautiful, detailed artwork. Whether or not you believe in the principles demonstrated in the Indian literary classic, this museum will provide you with a deeper understanding of why Bhagavad-Gita has amassed such a large following and is considered a sacred text to millions through a three dimensional storytelling of one of the world's oldest books. Dioramas and animatronics lead visitors throughout the story of Bhagavad-Gita, and talking robots made of clay each give voice to the epic poem. The dioramas and animatronics have been beautifully rendered and are complemented by lighting and sound effects from Disney's realist sculptors, making this museum number one on my list.

2. Velveteria

Star Rating: ****½

Address: 711 New High St, Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you're taking a trip to Chinatown, this location is a great place to visit, especially for those who enjoy art off the beaten path. This museum is dedicated to velvet paintings, which are use a velvet canvases. The various rooms of the museum exhibits several genres of velvet paintings with interesting subjects, such as celebrities and mythological creatures.

3. Museum of Latin American Art

Rating: ****

Address: Museum: 628 Alamitos Ave, Long Beach, CA 90802

This museum is relatively far from Malibu, but if you're going or passing through Long Beach this is a great museum to visit. The MOLAA is the only museum dedicated to modern and contemporary Latin American art in the United States. As a big fan of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, I was very excited to visit the Frida Kahlo exhibit which featured some of Riviera's pieces as well. I am typically not one to love museum gift shops, however, next to the Musee d'Orsay, the MOLAA has the best gift shop I have been to. It features an extensive collection of Latin American books, toys, artwork, and clothing. I also

enjoyed the museum's sculpture garden which featured various flowers and works from Latin American artists. The maze you take to reach the garden makes the trip even more exciting.

4. Autry National Center

Rating: ****½

Address: 4700 Western Heritage Way, Los Angeles, CA 90027

My love for western movies secured a spot in the top 5 for this museum. The Autry Center was disappointing in the sense that its scope of Old Western authenticity is lacking, though it made up for it with outstanding Western film memorabilia. The museum frequently holds concerts and features music from Western Classics, such as Ennio Morricone's score from The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly and Elmer Bernstein's score from The Magnificent Seven. It may be an unpopular museum, but admission is free and it is never crowded.

5. Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden

Rating: ****

Address: 301 N Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA 91007

Not all consider this a museum, however, this eye-catching plant-based attraction is one of the most beautiful spots in all of Los Angeles and I highly recommend it to people who enjoy nature and

peacocks. There are as many peacocks as plants in this giant garden. I enjoyed the Queen Anne Cottage, a beautiful "Stick Style" abode with Victorian influence. However, if you're planning on visiting this attraction, be prepared to bring water and walking shoes, as the garden is spread out over a 127 acre estate.

6. The Grammy Museum

Rating: ***

Address: 800 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015

This may be one of the more popular museums in Los Angeles, but the Grammy Museum is still unknown to many American music lovers. My favorite aspect of the museum was the interactive exhibit, where visitors can make their own music and play different instruments. Although I love pop music, I thought that the entire floor dedicated to Taylor Swift was overkill. I was also disappointed to see that jazz, my favorite music genre of music, was underrepresented in the museum.

7. Museum of Death

Rating: ***

Address: 6031 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood, CA 90028

Although this museum does not rank amongst my favorites, it was one of the most interesting museums I've ever been to. Each room has a different theme, such

as murders, serial killers, and the macabre, and the museum consistently provides a dark and intriguing atmosphere. The artwork of famous killings in America's history allows visitors to step into the world of our nation's most feared, yet interesting minds. My favorite piece in the museum was Thanatron, which was one of the killing machines used by famous pathologist Jack Kevorkian, also know as "Dr. Death". Personally, the museum was disappointing, small, and overpriced. Also, more focus is placed on gore than death, making it important to note that this is not a museum for the squeamish. Visitors should expect to see graphic pieces in each room.

8. Walt Disney's Barn

Rating: **

Address: 5202 Zoo Dr Los Angeles, CA 90027

Whether or not you have heard of this "museum", I included this on the list to give a fair warning to stay away by all means possible. Prior to visiting the barn, I was excited to see some of Disney's work or at least something to do with Disney's work in animation. I was thoroughly disappointed, as the attraction was simply composed of several small trains that Walt Disney worked on in his leisure time. The only people I would recommend this museum to are train enthusiasts.

The Anti-Vaccine Movement & You

Zoe Detweiler
STAFF WRITER

Beginning Jan. 2015, several cases of measles have appeared throughout the United States. The outbreak was traced back to Disneyland in Anaheim, California, when a person with measles visited the park.

Measles is a highly contagious disease that was reportedly eliminated in the U.S. in 2000 according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

A case of the measles was found in the Santa Monica-Malibu School District at Santa Monica High School in early February. Since the beginning of this year, 154 people have reportedly contracted the disease, most of whom were unvaccinated. With affected

persons only increasing in number and proximity to Malibu High School, the vaccination issue has become a pressing concern for everyone's health and safety.

Increased distrust in vaccinations has put more people at risk of deadly diseases. The modern anti-vaccine movement began in 1998 when medical journal *The Lancet* published a paper written by a British doctor, Andrew Wakefield, that linked autism and vaccinations. Soon after the publication, vaccination rates in the United Kingdom plummeted. It was later discovered that all of the research backing Wakefield's paper was fabricated. *The Lancet* retracted the article and Wakefield was stripped of his medical license.

Yet vaccination rates in many

West Los Angeles schools, including our own, still remain low. So low, in fact, that they are on par with communities in South Sudan, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. Of course, parents in South Sudan are not refusing to vaccinate their children shots because of fabricated studies linking them to autism, but rather because of the limited access due to an ongoing civil war in their country. It seems selfish and shortsighted to threaten everyone's safety when, in reality, there are no proven disadvantages to vaccines.

Samina Taha, MD, pediatrician, and Malibu High School parent said "it's extremely important that children receive the vaccines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control. We are

now seeing outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, such as whooping cough, measles, and the mumps, which can cause serious complications, including death."

Public health officials say that vaccination rates of 90 percent or higher are necessary to prevent disease outbreaks or vulnerability to outbreaks. According to the *Malibu Times*, 57 to 78 percent of kindergartners were vaccinated for the 2013-2014 school year in Malibu. Vaccinations only work with "herd immunity" meaning most of the community must be immune to the disease in order for it to be eradicated. This means that parents who are keeping their children from being vaccinated are not only threatening their kid's lives, but also the lives of

the entire community.

Vaccinations are obviously the safest choice, as they have no proven drawbacks and can stop easily preventable deaths and disabilities. The American Academy of Pediatrics, along with numerous other medical sources and studies, show no connection between vaccinations and autism.

Parents who rely on outdated, fabricated reports about a link between the two need to update their sources instead of risking the health of the entire nation. I cannot see why anyone would desire to go back to a time when kids developed polio and were stuck in an iron lung for the majority of their youth. Vaccinations are an integral component of public safety and are a necessity for every child.

U.S. Syrian Intervention: Is it Too Late?

Nicholas Kianpoor
STAFF WRITER

For the past four years, the Syrian Civil War has raged without interruption. With more than 200,000 casualties, the disintegration of central authority, and the emergence of new terrorist groups such as ISIS, it is evident that the time to intervene in Syria has come and gone. In the aftermath of ISIS attacks, a massive refugee crisis, a growing list of war crimes, and the ever increasing influence of Syria's regional enemy, Iran, it's time to look back and ask ourselves: what the hell happened?

The United States has been involved with the Arab Spring, though reluctantly, for some time now. While we watched our re-

gional ally and enemy governments fall into turmoil, the last thing the U.S. wanted to do after Iraq was get involved in another Middle Eastern "situation". So when a secular uprising began in Syria, the U.S. refused to provide adequate arms or training for the democratic forces. Furthermore, as the war progressed, we failed to diplomatically support the Syrian rebels, never building a coalition for intervention or enforcing any of our threats for military action, even after evidence was released that chemical weapons had been used against Syrian civilians.

It became evident that the opportunity for intervention had passed, with the rebel movement splintering into a cacophony of competing groups and the emergence of many Islamic fundamentalist

groups, such as ISIS. And now, in the fourth year of the Civil War, with casualties mounting and the effects of war closer to the U.S. than ever, we have finally decided to get involved.

While the United States and its allies claim to be supporting a moderate Syrian rebel movement, such an operation is impossible this late in the war. Instead, the moderate Syrian opposition has been dubbed "the unicorn" due to its seemingly mythological existence. Our time to arm and support a secular Syrian opposition has passed, and in our stead a radical Islam has risen. Because we abandoned the Syrian people in their hour of need, radical Islamic groups such as ISIS have prospered in the region, often capitalizing on the anger of the

Syrian population with Western nations that failed to intervene on their behalf. Sadly, this leaves the Iranian-backed Syrian government as our best hope for a stable, non-extremist, even after the atrocities it has committed against its people. There was a window for United States involvement, but that opportunity has gone. Now all we can do is be onlookers upon one of the most brutal conflicts of the twenty-first century. It would appear that in our hour of opportunity, the United States failed to seize the initiative and create a secular, democratic government in the Middle East.

Perhaps this one instance would not be as disappointing if it weren't for the fact that this is just one in a series of horrible foreign policy decisions

that have led to the catastrophe in the Middle East. Whether one is looking at the democratic experiment in Iran in the 1950s, the insurgency against Saddam in 1991, or the Afghan Civil War in the late 1990s, it seems that the U.S. has never found itself on the right side of history in the Middle East. Instead, our story is one of failure. The latest of which is our blunder in Syria. Of course, the United States is not the only nation responsible for this failure. But if the U.S. wishes to remain a leader in international affairs, it must develop the courage to stand for those who cannot defend themselves and seek a just and meaningful peace.

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50 Shades of Dismay

Jack Gewant
SPORTS EDITOR

50 Shades of Grey has dominated the nation not once, but twice. In 2011, E.L. James' book hit the stores, becoming an instant sensation for frolicsome women and people looking for an easy joke. The book's extreme sexual content not only excites readers, but also inspires them.

This year, the movie adaptation of the novel penetrated theaters, becoming an instant box office hit. My colleague, **Marsalis Adriano**, and I were assigned to see the movie together and report back to *The Current*. At first we joked about how it would be like torture or how we may get suspended for writing the article, but if we knew what we were in for, we wouldn't have been joking -- we would have been preparing.

On the day of the film, these thoughts whipped through my head: *Is it worse to buy the ticket alone or with Marsalis? What if we are the only two people in the theater? What if we make eye contact?*

Stopping at a red light on my way to the theater, I thought, *it can't be that bad, we'll just have fun with it.* I could not of been more wrong.

Scene One: Marsalis and I come

up to the ticket window together. "Two tickets for *50 Shades of Grey*, please," we say. Then, in order to protect my dignity, I make a quick remark about how we are seeing it for a school assignment, but the man behind the window doesn't seem to believe us.

Scene Two: Marsalis decides he wants to get something to drink before the movie. We head to the concession counter where he purchases one blue raspberry slushie. Marsalis looks over at me and smiles invitingly, "Hey, Jack, you want to share this?"

"Really?" I reply. "A slushie for *50 Shades of Grey*?"

The cashier shakes his head in total disbelief and laughs at us. Despite the embarrassment we continue on.

Scene Three: Entering the theater, we spot 12 middle-aged women scattered throughout the seats. Marsalis and I have a decision to make: do we sit together? Ultimately we decide to, as long as there is no eye contact or physical contact between the two of us. As we sit down, an elderly woman decides to sit next to us even though there are about 40 open seats.

Scene Four: Everything is a complete blur, a cacophony of uncomfortable dialogue rings

through my ears like discordant bells. Clichés start dic(k)tating most of the story and just when I think, *hey, this isn't that uncomfortable*, something terrible happens.

The film becomes nothing but tender kisses and sensual caresses. Nudity dominates the screen. I start to gag as groans and comments rain down from the ladies in the theatre like acid raindrops, each comment pushing me closer to insanity.

As I put my hands over my ears, a massive load of dread comes down on me, a dread that I have only felt in nightmares. I realize I'm being stared at. I turn my head slowly to my left, knowing what is waiting for me as my neck reaches a 30-degree angle, yet I cannot resist. My head continues to turn -- and then it happens.

I lock eyes with Marsalis. This is the last thing I remember from the movie.

Scene 5: The movie finally ends. I cannot speak to Marsalis or even look him in the eyes. We walk without a sound towards the exit. It begins to rain as we reach the front of the theater.

Marsalis clears his throat and asks, "Are you hungry?"

We stop at a nearby Burger King and eat in silence as the nightmare comes to an end.

50 Shades of Hooray!

Marsalis Adriano
OPINION EDITOR

I don't know how **Jack Gewant** felt about this experience, but if I had to put it into words, I would say it was 50 Shades of Great. As I was pulling up to the theater, I thought to myself, *it can't be as bad as people say, we'll just have fun with it.* I could not have been more right.

Walking up to the box office, I was unashamed to ask for our tickets

"Yes sir, we would like two tickets to *50 Shades of Grey* together."

However, I was pretty upset when I noticed that Jack was retreating, playing it off as a "school project" when we both knew perfectly well that we had been planning this for weeks. When he said there was nothing personal about it, I couldn't speak. It was as if I had been gagged by his insincer-

ity. But I let it go and moved on.

The next step in our journey was the concessions counter. And, like the gentleman that I am, I decided to buy a gentleman's slushie for us to share.

"I would like one slushie, please. Two straws."

Jack refused his rightful straw and told the man that I only needed one. Confused by this remark, I whispered back to the man that Jack was just being shy and we really did need two straws.

Jack then replied, "Really? A slushie for *50 Shades of Grey*?"

Well, obviously, a slushie would be the perfect soft balance to the hot, hardhitting content of the movie.

We then entered the theater with wide eyes, hot bloodflow, and a simple taste for the finer things. The ambiance was perfect: middle-aged women handplucked by God himself omitted a perfect midfifties' fragrance as they

sipped Coca-Colas and nibbled popcorn.

Menopause? More like men-applause. There was excitement in the air, and everyone was friendly. Jack even made a friend, a lonely woman that decided to sit next to him and no one else. It was meant to be.

However, when the movie began, Jack got really weird. He wouldn't look at me the entire time. I kept tapping his leg to get his attention, but he jumped every time I made contact.

As far as the movie goes, it really hit me hard. Superb. I choked up on multiple occasions. The dialogue cracked like a whip.

Although Jack was being a little odd for most of the movie, I knew everything was going to be okay when he asked me for that second straw. Overall, the movie brought Jack and I closer, tying us up together forever.

A Letter to the Editor from Local Men's Rights Activist, Zoe Detweiler



Zoe Detweiler
STAFF WRITER

Dear Current:
I, Zoe Detweiler, Men's Rights Activist, am writing to express my outrage in discovering that your paper intends to celebrate Women's History Month. My ultimate question is this: Why is there no MEN'S History Month? Men have just a rich and intriguing history as women... yet nothing! No credit at all! Is it not called HISTory?! Feminists (more like feminist-devils, amiright?) need to stop taking over the world and threatening all of us men!

When are our children supposed to learn about all the amazing contributions the male gender has made? I, and many other men's rights activists, agree that men's accomplishments are completely downplayed in today's society. Ask teens today if they've heard of Eugene Polley? NO? Well he invented the first wireless TV control. Think about what the world would be like without that. You'd have to physically get up and turn the volume up two levels.

Let's take a look at recent history. America has had THREE female Secretaries of State. That's only 65 less than the number of male Secretaries of State! Feminists need to stop complaining - I mean, there are just as many female astronauts as there are male. Plus, everyone knows that the Women's National Basketball League is just as famous as the NBA. Who even CARES that fifteen states will not ratify the Equal Rights Amendment that would affirm equal application of the Constitution to all regardless of sex? Women need to get off their periods and recognize that they all just deserve 78 cents or lower to every man's dollar. I mean, it's just like, UGH, we get it, you've been systematically oppressed by a patriarchal system for most of Western history and are trying to fix this skewed and unjust version of society, but please just SHUT UP.

I think January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, and every month ending in "-ember" should be design-

nated as Men's History Month to counter the constant glorification of the female gender. But, since that would involve trampling on black, gay, hispanic, and American Indian people, I suppose that we male rights enthusiasts will be able to make do with just replacing Women's History Month.

So, here's what I believe Men's History Month should include:

March 3: currently National Sex Worker Rights Day should be replaced with Friendzone Prevention Day, sponsored by Trump International Hotel and Tower®.

March 10: Worldwide celebration of Robin Thicke and Chuck Norris's birthdays, two men who, together, represent everything a "real man" should be, and happen to share a birthday.

March 11: A great opportunity for men to help the community-assist Nash Grier in handing out free razors to those women who think it's okay to have hair on literally any part of their bodies!

March 18: Dov Charney, former CEO of American Apparel will lead a protest for the right to urinate in public.

March 26: Sam Pepper's birthday will be recognized by National Practical Joke That's Actually a Social Experiment Day, to really show those crazy feminists that the pinnacle of thought-provoking humor is groping unsuspecting women's butts!

March 31: The arguably most important day of Men's History Month - Sean Penn Awareness Day! Go around and tell everyone that you think might not be aware of Sean Penn about him (but you're not allowed to mention Milk).

I hope you take my plans seriously. If you have any other suggestions, such as an awards show to recognize the mostly overlooked men in cinematography, please feel free to let me know and I'll gladly add them in. I'm going send a copy of this letter to the clearly female dominated Congress within the next week, so Men's History Month will probably be made official by May at the very latest.

Come celebrate Women's History Month at Feminist Club on Wednesdays in Room 212.



I DON'T MAKE LOVE: Jack Gewant and Marsalis Adriano discover their inner sex goddesses after watching 50 Shades of Grey together (photo by Olivia Cerio).

WebMD: Senioritis

Doctor Swollen
PSUEDO-PROFESSIONAL

Overview: Senioritis is a common disease that affects nearly 1 in 3 high school students during their senior year. Common side effects include feelings of boredom, frustration, and apathy. The typical age range of an individual affected by Senioritis is 16 to 18, and symptoms typically increase after the first 18 weeks of classes.

Symptoms: Symptoms of Senioritis may vary per student, though they are typically described as a growing sense of exhaustion and claustrophobia. Many individuals cite the central sensation of Senioritis as being, "so over it by now." Those affected have been known to seek rehabilitation or other forms of behavior modification therapy in order to combat the disease once the subject has come to school progressively later and later until first period is just a distant memory. Extreme cases of Senioritis include acute free periods and education-prohibiting stomach-aches that are symptomatically inexplicable and dumbfounding to doctors worldwide.

Causes: Medical profession-

als have yet to grasp the root of this crippling disease, as a rigorous academic curriculum ought to further enrich students further and provide an ethical compass to maintain their goals. Currently, we have employed many scientific professionals to infiltrate high schools dressed as students to approach Senioritis from its core, although none of our staff has made it over six weeks undercover. They always say we're "narks" and can't come to Britney's birthday party on Saturday, even though everyone else is invited.

Treatment: As scientific studies have shown, there is no true medical cure for Senioritis at this time, save for time itself. Failed treatment attempts have included excessive caffeine dosages, emergency Ugg and sweatpants amputations, and specialized therapy in which subjects sit in a dimly lit room to cry for a period of a few hours. Cases grow in severity exponentially from January through May, though all subjects seem to miraculously recover by June, finding an inexplicable newfound optimism at the termination of their high school careers.



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MHS Parking Permits for Sale

Natasha Rothenbucher
STAFF WRITER

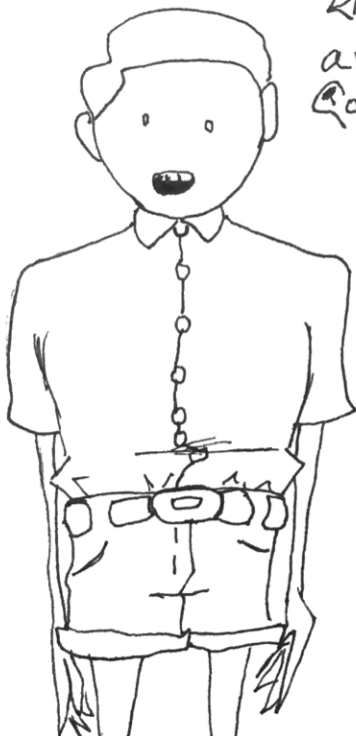
My fellow students, there is no better place to park your car than here at Malibu High School. Here are some reasons why:

- With its faded lines, the MHS student parking lot guarantees 100% accuracy and is a perfect place to park every morning or on game days.
- Since the lines are virtually nonexistent, you get to use two parking spaces. Lucky you!
- There is a high risk of car collisions because people have no idea where to park, but if you're lucky, someone will only knock off your side view mirror. But who needs that anyway, right? It was probably weighing your car down. Now you can get better gas mileage.
- Sometimes - only on a good day,- you get to park in the very back corner of the lot because there are not enough close spaces. Then you must walk extremely far to get to class. Now you do not have to go to the gym because you've got your workout for the day.
- You have to be thankful to all the parents who drop their children off in the parking lot and block parking spots. You were looking for a good excuse to be late to your first period class anyway.

Clearly, there is no better place to park than the MHS student parking lot. So students, improve your life and buy your parking permits today; you won't be disappointed.



"Dadpool" by Zoe Detweiler



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PICK UP KICKS : Senior *Michaela Cosentino* passes the ball in the final game of the season against Maranatha.



SOCCER TO ME : The girls varsity team takes the field in their final CIF game against Maranatha.

Girls Soccer Breaks School Record

Thelen McKinna-Worrell
STAFF WRITER

Malibu High School has always been known for an exceptional girls' soccer team, but this year's 2015 Girl's Varsity Soccer Team has exceeded all expectations. In its history at MHS, the girls' varsity soccer team has only won two League Titles, both in Division 7 - Frontier League. This season they took home a Division 4 title in the Tri-Valley League.

With a strong team and strong leadership, the girls' varsity team was able to make it all the way to the CIF championship quarterfinals. Unfortunately, the team lost in the last seconds of the game. Even so, the girls' soccer team has made it farther than any other MHS team this season.

After an amazing performance by the whole team, beating the #1 ranked teams Serrano, during playoffs, the Lady Sharks varsity soccer team earned a berth in the CIF Southern California Regional Girls Soccer Championships.

"I'm really excited to be able to get another chance to play for the Sharks again this year," said MHS varsity soccer player **Ella McKinna-Worrell**. "Our team has a great bond because many of us have played together in AYSO and club teams for as long as

we've played soccer, which helps us work together to get the win."

After a well-fought battle, Malibu High's Lady Sharks came out with a 1-0 win, pushing them into the semi finals of the CIF Southern California Regional Girl's Soccer Championships.

"I think that this team is so successful this year because we all play for each other and are all so close both on and off of the field. We want to work hard and play for each other," said team captain and striker **Sasha Savitsky**.

However, the Malibu High Lady Sharks fell short to the second seeded Maranatha, which went on to win the CIF Southern California Regional Girl's Soccer Championship. The Lady Sharks were up 2-0 at half time but at the final whistle lost 3-2. It was an amazing game and a more amazing year.

"I'm very happy we had the opportunity to be in the CIF Southern California Regional Girl's Soccer Championships," Savitsky said. "I'm sad that the season is over but I think everyone on the team would agree that this is was the best high school season we have ever had and we are all really excited and looking forward to next year's season."

Boys Volleyball Strives for Success

Connemara Hutcherson
STAFF WRITER

The Malibu High School boys' volleyball team began the season with only five returning players. Within days, however, the team grew in size and although several players have already dropped, they still have a strong team.

The team's new coach, **Mark Larsen**, says he believes they will have a great season. Coach Larsen is a Malibu High teacher and has been a volleyball coach for 12 years.

"I see them improving," Coach Larsen said. "They're becoming more aggressive and are now more confident in their positions."

Most of the new boys are from the Malibu High School boys' soccer team. Because the soccer season ended, the boys looked to

volleyball for fun.

"Athletically, we have a lot of very talented young men," Coach Larsen said.

In only a matter of weeks, Coach Larson has shaped the new players into a strong team. He has been teaching them all of the technical aspects of the sport. The boys' volleyball team has also had a lot of help from the girls' varsity volleyball team during practice.

Chelsea Bostwick, Assistant Manager of the boys' volleyball team said, "A lot of the boys are new and are trying really hard to learn the sport."

Bostwick has been attending practices and home games to help assist the coach and team. Many of the players had never played volleyball before this year and had to hit the ground running when practice began last month. The boys have been working

harder than ever to master the sport while the season continues, but they still have a long way to go.

"The new coach [Larsen] is doing great," Bostwick said. "It's a big responsibility to take on, especially with these very enthusiastic boys."

The season started off well considering they jumped right into league games. Although the team lost their Monday March 16th game against Hueneme High School, they played hard and gave it their all.

"Even though we lost, we played a very close game," Coach Larsen said.

The team has an upcoming home game on March 26 against Foothill High School.

MHS senior and team member **Vincent Hannley** said, "We are pretty inexperienced but we are getting better. I see the potential."

Varsity Swim Team Takes the Plunge

Zoe Detweiler
STAFF WRITER

With many new members this year, both the boys' and girls' swim teams are looking forward to a great season. After taking home the league title last year, the boys' swim team feels prepared to win again.

Head Coach **Mike Mulligan** said, "We have about 38 boys, which is the highest amount of boys we've ever had."

Although the team lost many strong swimmers to the graduating class last year, the boys say they are ready to take on the season.

"Our top swimmers are all our seniors," Mulligan said. "They all have a lot of experience. Look out for **Logan Hotchkiss, JC Heckman, Thelen McKinna-Worrell, Owen Franz, Alec Wilimovsky, and Gianluca Purzer**."

Senior Logan Hotchkiss said, "We have a really strong team of seniors, along with some juniors and sophomores."

"Our relay team is out of control. I think we're going to do really well," said senior and first-year swimmer Thelen McKinna-Worrell. "We have a very solid team with good leadership. I think we're looking at a strong season."

It is also senior JC Heckman III's first year on the swim team.

"We have too many good swimmers," he said. "We're looking awesome."

Fellow senior and first-year swim team member Gianluca Purzer said he is excited to race and compete with his friends on the boys' varsity swim team. He also said he hopes to "go to CIF with the team."

The girls' team, which also lost many swimmers in the graduating class last year, has many new members this season.

"We have a lot of excellent freshmen coming in," said senior **Raine Murray**. Murray has been on the MHS swim team since freshman year.

Freshman **Gaia Hinds**, a varsity swimmer, said, "We are expected to do really well. So far we've been getting first and second in almost all our events on both junior varsity and varsity for boys and girls. A lot of us will probably make it to CIF." Multiple swimmers, primarily relay teams, went to the finals last season.

"We've also got some really strong swimmers," said Freshman **Annie Armitage**. In Armitage's first season with the Sharks team, she has reached CIF consideration time, and has many more opportunities to do so in the future. "The team is like a big family," she said.



SERVE IT UP : The boys volleyball team's new coach **Mark Larsen** says he is excited for this season.