

Summer Jobs: La Jolla High School students get skills to pay the bills

Restaurant Server

By Suquoia Geary
Staff Writer

Working in high school is not an easy thing to do, but when it comes down to it, having a job early on can teach a person the basic skills needed later on in life. An example of a typical high school job is a restaurant server, a great job to mold a person's work ethic for the future. Being a restaurant server teaches someone about responsibility, multi-tasking and people skills.

“By working with the cash register I even improved my math skills and had fun.”

When working with people and food it is important to make sure everything is running smoothly and is clean and nicely done, giving someone a lesson of responsibility. Being able to make food while listening to people can teach a person how to multi task while dealing with people in a friendly manner.

BreaRose Smith, a junior at La Jolla High, knows first hand about restaurant service and the skills required. While working at Häagen Dazs this past summer and continuing into this school year, Smith says it taught her much about responsibility and even the skills required to balance a social life, a job and going to school full time.

“I think working now will help me learn to deal with different kinds of people,” said Smith.

Preparing orders while listening diligently to customers has taught Brea a lot about multi tasking while also keeping her cool in stressful situations.

“Working has taught me patience,” said Smith, “and also by working with the cash register I even improved my math skills and had fun.”

Working in the food business can not only help a person with life skills, but can directly help with future jobs. Learning the necessary skills and dealing with food can prepare one to move onto jobs like a chef, restaurant manager, PR manager or even a human resources representative.

Although people think high school jobs are a pain, it is amazing how they can prepare a person for their bright future.



LIFEGUARD

Antonia Cerejido
Staff Writer

Being a lifeguard is not just sitting in a chair with white suntan lotion on your nose and soaking up some rays. You need to have important qualifications if you are going to apply to save people's lives. You need to be able to make decisions at a moment's notice. There is no time to think if someone is in grave danger, you have to be on automatic.



You have to be CPR certified and although thousands are trained and certified, how

many people actually remember more than the unfortunate memory of the creep in the back of the room who would pretend to make out with the plastic dummy to make his “buds” laugh two weeks after the training?

Most importantly, you need to be cool under extreme pressure. If something happens, a three year old's floatie pops, or an old man slips and dislocates his hip, you have to be calm enough to solve the situation.

You should be the one calling the paramedics, not the bystanders who are calling because the lifeguard is having a nervous breakdown. Still, being a lifeguard does involve a lot of sitting around at the pool and working on your Eva Longoria tan, and if you do save a life, it can be really rewarding.

“There were some intense moments but I feel that it was preparing me for the future.”

Sophomore, Sara Ashcraft, spent her summer working as a lifeguard at the Coggan Family Aquatic Center found on the La Jolla High campus. “I had fun, but there was a lot of responsibility. There were some intense moments but I feel that it was preparing me for the future,” Ashcraft said.

The same instinctive skills that are used to tell if something is wrong in the pool are often used by doctors and nurses. Quick decision making skills are needed to become a good medic; and being alert and watchful is important for people who want to keep the peace by joining with the Police Force.

Being a lifeguard can be a great way to make money and develop the skills you need for your dream job.

What's in store for your future?



1. You wake up and...

- Read through your agenda
- Whip up a tasty breakfast
- Wake up your siblings
- Check your pulse

2. Before you die you want to...

- Help sick children get well
- Plan a big event
- Start your own business
- Travel the world to taste food



3. Your top vacation...

- Hawaii or the Bahamas
- Italy, France, or Spain
- Japan or China
- Africa or South America



4. Your dream car is a...

- BMW sports car
- Mini van or SUV of sorts
- Porsche convertible
- Refridgerator on wheels



5. Your ideal show is...

- Nanny 911
- I Want to Work for Diddy
- Top Chef
- Grey's Anatomy



Add up your score! 1. A=1 B=2 C=3 D=4 2. A=4 B=3 C=1 D=2 3. A=4 B=2 C=1 D=3 4. A=1 B=3 C=4 D=2 5. A=3 B=1 C=2 D=4

If you scored between 1-6, you are a Salesperson, 7-12, you are a Chef, 13-18, you are a Teacher, 19-24, you are a Doctor.

Salesperson

By Cassie Brazier
Staff Writer

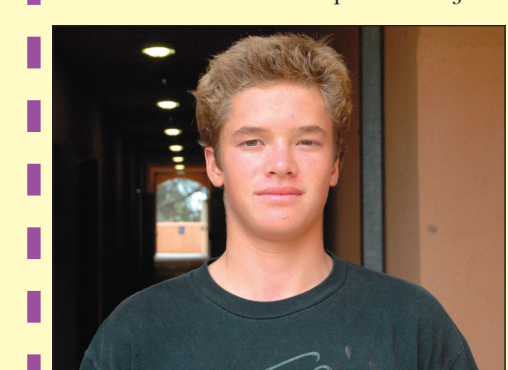
Summer is over and school has begun. Students are catching up with friends they have not seen all summer, asking what they did and such. A normal thing for students to have done was get a summer job, like being hired as a salesperson. Not only is it a great way to earn money, it is also not too tough and challenging. It is a great way to interact with people and help them out.

On an average day, a salesperson could be found unpacking boxes of clothes, folding them, hanging them up, putting sensors on valuable items, helping customers find what they need and answering the phone.

“It is also really helpful if you have a little knowledge and insight about the products you are selling.”

Sounds like a pretty busy day. Some skills that are definitely needed to work as a salesperson are the ability to talk to people and help them find what they need. Junior Cole Castellano worked as a salesperson this summer at Mitch's Surf Shop, which is located on Pearl Street.

“There aren't too many skills that are needed to have this job you've just got to be able to talk to people and have some decent folding skills. It is also really helpful if you have a little knowledge about the products you are selling since it makes it a lot easier when you are answering the questions the customer has; that way, you can give them the product best suited for them.” Castellano said when asked about the skills needed for this particular job.



The hours varied, working anywhere from three to nine hours a day. Castellano's overall experience has been a

good one.

“It is a pretty laid back atmosphere and all the people that I work with are cool. When we don't have too many customers and not much needs to be done, it is fun to talk to all of them and hang out. One time, someone called in asking if we sold jockstraps. That was weird,” Castellano said.

Camp Counselor

By Christina Kirby
Staff Writer

Summer jobs for students are not always the most exciting part of summer vacation. However, some high school students have discovered the perfect balance of fun and hard work as a camp counselor. This summer job is the perfect opportunity to work with kids in areas of your own interests from anything such as sports to arts and crafts.

While being a counselor is a perfect job for many teens during the summer, there are certain skills that



are needed. The fact that parents trust the counselors to watch and take care of their children means that the counselors must be dependable and able to take charge in any situation. The kids are given a great deal of responsibility, making it an enjoyable experience while doing so. Because working with young children can be challenging, counselors have to show great patience and flexibility, but also a lot of energy and enthusiasm. The most important character traits of a camp counselor are to be helpful, friendly and have a good attitude.

“It was really fun hanging out with the kids and having them look up to me.”

Other skills, while not always necessary, can be valuable in the pursuit of applying and becoming a counselor. Having a CPR license and taking a day class in first aid always look good on an application. Previous experience working with kids is necessary when wanting to become a camp counselor.

Many students find that working as a camp counselor during the summer is an extremely rewarding experience. When working with a large group of young people, one improves his/her people skills and problem solving abilities. Freshman Richard Sharpe was recently a camp counselor at La Jolla Community Church's Vacation Bible School program. “It was really fun hanging out with the kids and having them

look up to me. I went to the same camp as kid and it's cool to think that I am now the counselor that I once admired. It was a great experience working with the kids when we were all enjoying each other a lot,” freshman Sharpe said.

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FUTURE FINDER

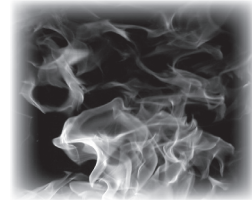
Student jobs often lead to future dream careers. Here are some selected future jobs.

BUSINESS MAN ● STOCK BROKER ● FASHION DESIGNER ● RETAIL BUYER

TEACHER ● COUNSELOR ● CAMP DIRECTOR ● ACTOR ● PARTY PLANNER



HELLWEEK HORROR



By Vu Tran
Staff Writer

Staying in shape is a necessity for any sport. Being on the football team means tough conditioning and hard work. And the waterpolo and football teams both agree, there is no better conditioning than hell week.

Though the conditioning teams do today seems rough, it pales in comparison to what the 1998 JV football team had to experience. What was thought to be a typical day of conditioning turned into something much more insane. They were about to run through the gauntlet known as “The Seven Trials of Sinbad”.

Coach Davis, the head JV football coach, regards it as “the most physical, extreme, demanding, mentally challenging conditioning you will ever do.” By today’s standards it would likely be considered too extreme of an exercise for any sport. So extreme that no one has ever gotten past the second trial.

Like some sort of glimmering mirage the heat waves could be easily seen emanating off

the turf field of Gene Edwards Stadium. Wearing full pads, helmet, and pants, the players were sweating even before they formed their stretch lines. With the blow of a whistle, Coach Davis gathered the team

of the football field. Then, the players return back by bear crawling all the way across to their starting point. To put it in perspective, normally, bear crawls and crabwalks are done in 20-30 yard increments. It

exercise. By the end, each player should have done at least 1000 pushups. This was so taxing on the players that the coaching staff ended practice and let them leave in order to recuperate and prepare for the

pads. The second trial would be a test for even the most fit. The trial began with a short run to Windansea. From there, each player would grab two handfuls of sand and, with it, run up the entirety of Mt.

Soledad until the entire team reached the cross. At the cross, stood a lone 50 gallon bucket into which the sand would be dumped. This process was repeated until the bucket was filled. Then they would bring that entire bucket down to the beach and dump it back. The trial emphasized teamwork and several new leaders emerged from that trial. It forced players to support and aid each other in their run to the cross.

“It makes your weakest link your strong one,” Coach Davis said.

After this second trial was completed, the players were completely exhausted. The coaching staff knew that their work was done. No more trials would ever be conducted with that team.

When asked about the other trials, Davis refused to tell, ending the story with, “Those five I dare not reveal.”



Photo Courtesy of Brooks Newberry

around and explained to them their arduous conditioning for that day. It was the first trial of Sinbad.

This trial is considered the easiest trial. It is extremely simple. First, the team crabwalks the entire 100 yards

allows the players to get just enough air to keep on moving. How these players got ‘rest’ was quite different. Every 5 yard increment, every player would have to do 25 to 50 pushups and only then could they continue on their grueling

following day.

The second trial came one day later. Already sore from yesterday’s arduous trial, the JV players would never forget what they had to do that day. Luckily, they were not required to wear their helmets or their

FRESHMAN ACES



By Jessica Wood
Staff Writer

High school is run like a hierarchy; the seniors rule the school and the freshmen are at the bottom of the food chain.

A sports team is the one place where age and social status play no part.

Under coach Maggie Mulkins (who has been coaching the tennis team for 20 years) the La Jolla High girls’ tennis team has won 18 CIF titles and 20 league championships. This season, the team has gained three exceptional freshman tennis stars that are expected to help the team earn another LJHS victory.

Freshmen Alison Klein, Alex Tonks, and Ardis Zhong have been playing tennis ever since they can remember.

Klein and Tonks play one and two singles, and Zhong

is still establishing her spot in doubles. With the loss of seven starting graduated seniors, this

treated differently because of my age. All of us are so close and they have already

“Every girl that is a part of this team is important, whether she is a senior or a freshman. As long as she can contribute to the team in any way, she is an equal,” Co-captain Darcey Elliot said.

“I have always played for myself, like in tournaments, whereas when playing for this team I have 14 other girls that are relying on me to do my best. There is a lot of pressure, but I love the fact that I am a part of something,” Alison Klein said

The tennis team’s first game was against San Pasqual in a doubles tournament. It all came down to the number one seed doubles. Alex and Alison were the last doubles team on the courts tied 6-6 with the opposing pair. As they were about to start the tie break, some of the girls were doubtful as to how the two would handle the pressure. “When I was a freshman, I

would have choked for sure. I was half expecting the new freshmen to do the same, but they totally proved me wrong,” said junior Tali Gires.

Tonks and Klein ended up winning the match for LJHS with a score of 7-4 in tie break.

“We don’t know if we could have done it if it weren’t for the team cheering us on and being so positive,” said Tonks and Klein.

All of the girls said the same thing when asked what the scariest thing about being on the team is: “The scariest thing is definitely the pressure. The team has such a reputation and we all feel responsible for making sure we maintain that good rep and keep winning.”

But with such extraordinary and fresh talent, it seems certain that they will have another great season. There is certainly a lot to look forward to, especially with these incredible athletes on the team.



Photo Courtesy of Kestle Daubner

team can use all the talent they can get.

“I love the team. They are all so welcoming. I am not

become like my sisters,” said Tonks when asked about the relationship with the other girls.

Viking Kayaker Sets Sights on Olympics

By Charles Zuo
Sports Editor

Nick Hanoian goes kayaking before school and after school every single day. It doesn't matter if he went to a midnight movie, if he got home at 3 AM, or if he pulled an all nighter studying for a test; he wakes up at 5:30 AM, drives down to Mission Bay and starts his morning practice, which usually consists of kayaking between five to seven miles before rushing off to the showers to get ready for school. And when school is over, he drives back to the bay for another practice.

His kayaking endeavors have taken him all around the world to represent the United States in international competitions. When asked what his kayaking experience was like, Nick responded, "It's an incredible feeling to represent the United States and race against teams from all over the globe... My biggest goal is to make the 2012 Olympics."

In 2007, Nick was chosen to represent the U.S. Junior World Championships in the Czech Republic. To get on the team, Nick competed against athletes from across the country.

A group of seven male and seven female athletes were chosen for an assessment camp which lasted two weeks upon the conclusion of which, a panel of coaches decided on the final team.

Nick recalls, "It was like a reality TV show, we didn't know if on the last day our

Canoe and Kayak announced that Nick was the athlete of the month. Shortly after this announcement, Nick won an opportunity to travel to Moscow, Russia to represent the United States again in the Moscow Junior International Regatta.

The course, which was built

The different countries that participated in the regatta, which included Iran, Canada, Japan, and Kazakhstan, allowed Nick to meet a diverse range of athletes from all around the world.

"Competing with teams from all over the world has opened my eyes to a lot of different cultures." Nick said when recollecting the experience "The most apparent difference were the Iranian girls; they wore long sleeves and burkas and were always accompanied by security personnel. Most surprising of all was how I got along so well with the Iranian guys. They invited me to go clubbing with them on the last night. It just shows you that even with all our cultural differences; we still have many universal similarities."

When asked about his plans, Nick looked optimistic and determined.

"I couldn't possibly be where I am right now without all the support from my family, friends, and teachers. Right now, my goals are winning a medal in Junior Worlds and maybe someday a medal in the Olympics."



Photo Courtesy of Nick Hanoian

coach was going to tell us we had to buy a plane ticket home for the next day, or if we were going to Europe for another two weeks. It was one of the most stressful situations of my life"

This past summer, U.S.

for the 1980 Olympic Games, served as a reminder for Nick's long term goal of making the Olympics. At the races, Nick placed 7th in the 500 and 8th in the 1000 kilometer events. But the regatta was much more than a race.

Olympic Crushes



By Natalie Buchbinder
Staff Writer

Face it: you've developed a small crush, or maybe even a large crush, dependent solely on the individual. Michael Phelps, Shawn Johnson, Usain Bolt, you name it, someone loves them, especially here at La Jolla High.

Four point seven billion people tuned into the twenty seventh Olympiad telecast from Beijing, China, this

summer, to watch some of the most anticipated events in sports history. The population grew accustomed to seeing perfectly sculpted men in swimsuits, rock solid elegance on the

gymnastics floor, and the physique attributed to hard work and time in various sports. Speeds were faster, records were shattered, and most of all, affection was harbored.

For many Americans, and students, the gymnast stars Nastia Liukin and Shawn Johnson were favorites

"Nastia looked really cute in her [leotard] outfit. I admire her flexibility," said senior Timmy Pickett. Seniors Victor Rangel and Kyle Zimmer shared the affection for the prized U.S.A. gymnastics team as well, with a similar crush on Shawn Johnson, the four-foot-nine dynamo. "She's really good at what she does..." said Rangel.

Token athletes such as

Michael Phelps, who won eight gold medals, drew heartaches from many, including senior Darcey Elliot.

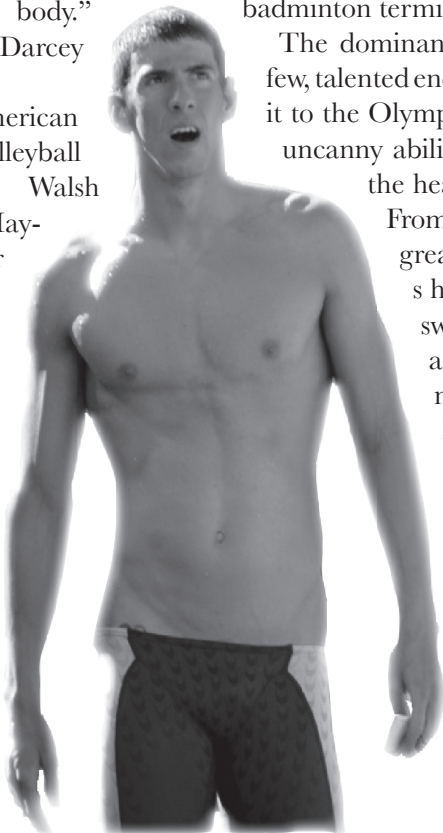
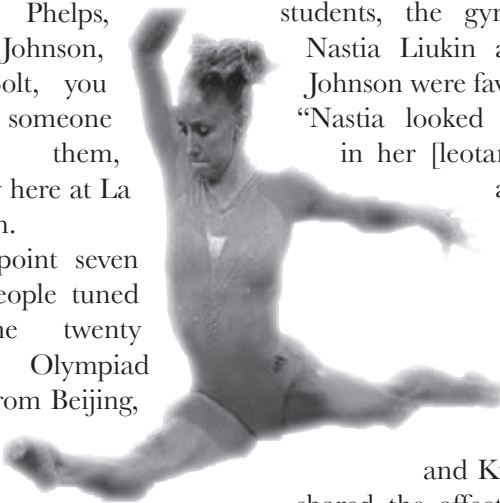
"I admire his talent... and... his body." Said Senior Darcey Elliot.

The all-American beach volleyball duo Kerrie Walsh and Misty May-Treanor also became attractive to many, and "can work the field..." according to senior Mark Ismaj.

Athletes from less publicized sports drew love from viewers

as well, such as Lin Dan, a badminton player, who senior Will Howard thinks "...knows how to rock the shuttlecock," referring to the player in badminton terminology.

The dominant and driven few, talented enough to make it to the Olympics, have the uncanny ability to capture the hearts of many. From gymnastics greats to record shattering swimmers, it is a challenge to not like any. Rather, the challenge lies within deciding which one is for you.



September Sports Schedule

September 23

Fieldhockey vs Mt. Carmel
@Mt. Carmel

Tennis vs University City
@University City

September 24

Volleyball vs. Mira Mesa
@La Jolla

September 25

Tennis vs Scripps Ranch
@Scripps Ranch

Fieldhockey vs. Point Loma
@Point Loma

Waterpolo vs Bonita-Orange County
@La Jolla

September 26

Varsity Football vs St. Augustine
@La Jolla 6:30 PM

September 29

Tennis vs OLP
@La Jolla

September 30

Fieldhockey vs Valley Center
@Valley Center

MISSING

Small calico cat
(female: black, white, orange)

Last seen on Draper Ave.

by LHS campus

Has microchip in chest

very friendly

Reward!

(858) 459 - 0467

Mabel Ln cont. from pg1

Bell, along with many others, things are different now.

Bell shook things up by purchasing property where there was an unwritten rule that blacks could not own property in her neighborhood. In this day and age it is not remarkable for a minority to buy a house anywhere in La Jolla, but back then it was a very against status quo, and took a great deal of courage.

Mabel, who died in March, 2007 in her house on Draper, was a very generous, kind woman. Bell

was known to do anything she could to help, and to offer that help to anyone who needed it. She spent a long time working in a private home for an important family in La Jolla. She is remembered as an overall good person.

Many people, including La Jolla

High students, are excited about the new addition to the area we know as La Jolla.

"I'm glad La Jolla is taking action and honoring a minority," sophomore Will Schrier said. "San Diego City Council President Scott Peters and family and friends of Mabel Bell (including the family she used to work for), along with members of her church, Prince Chapel African Methodist Episcopal, gathered across from the La Jolla Post Office on August 14 2008 to unveil a new city street sign with the words: "Mabel Bell Lane".

By Freda Spencer

Staff Writer

On Wednesday September third, a group of about twenty La Jolla locals gathered at Windansea to protest the changes of the beach parking lot. The lot was planned to be demolished at seven am that morning, but people had been gathered there since six. The protesters had parked their cars where no parking signs were

posted to stop progress of the construction workers. After the police were called around seven am, there was one arrest made. Reaction to the changes at the beach were fueled by rumors about the possibility of a dog park being built. The so called improvements are actually

part of an improvement plan started in 1997 by a group called Friends of WindanSea, and approved in 2000. The parking lot plan is the next phase of the plan. The police stayed on the scene until 11 am with people on both sides discussing the project and working things out. The incident ended peacefully.

Until the improvements are finished, which is scheduled to be November 4, 2008, the lot is fenced off and there is therefore no parking or gathering there. In the fenced off area people have spray painted "save our heritage" and "no change" This is more of the efforts being made to stop any change at Windansea. Whether you are on the side of change or not, Windansea continues to be a very local source of pride.

People feel threatened by the potential changes and it seems the lack of communication as to what was happening made things worse. "At first they were going to turn the lot into a park or something like that,

but now it is just going to be a sidewalk and a new parking lot," said freshman Erik Vanstrum. La Jolla High School senior Ian Gardiner and junior John King were among the protesters present at Windansea the morning of the third. They arrived at six o'clock with the rest of the group and remained there until they had to leave to get to school on time at 7:25. Both boys feel very strongly about preventing the changes that will be happening to the lot. "I do feel that the changes will kill the history and heritage of what Windansea is all about," Gardiner said. Both boys mentioned that the lot has been there "ever since anyone can remember," and it is obvious that it is much more than just a parking lot to many people. "It's what kept Windansea local and not a tourist beach, and it's where everyone parks, watches the waves, and hangs out... It sucks that no one from Windansea knew about this until the day before it happened, so we had no time to act on it," says King.



Councilman Scott Peters and others dedicate Mabel Bell Lane

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Appearing this Fall...

By Amy Liew
Staff Writer

They are back! Summer is over and fall shows begin with returning hit series and new shows. CBS, NBC, CW, and ABC are just some of the television stations that are bringing back new seasons this month.

The Mentalist



A new show airing on CBS, The Mentalist, stars Simon Baker from The Devil Wears Prada. Baker plays Patrick Jane who uses his intuition to solve crimes as a homicide detective.

Before Patrick became a homicide detective, he was a celebrity. As the story continues the viewers get a closer glimpse at what his life used to be. He abandons his celebrity life-style and embraces the ability to help others. This will be airing on Tuesday at 9p.m on CBS.

90210



90210 is a different story. What's the difference between the production of the 1990 version and the new contemporary 90210?

First, the characters will be the same but the cast will be new. Just when Annie Wilson was getting used to Kansas she moved to the exclusive Beverly Hills where her father took the position as the new principal of West Beverly High.

This season, 90210 is filled with drama where the characters are all connected to each other in one way or another.

"I think it was good, but I never saw the old one so I have nothing to compare it to," sophomore Madeleine Frank said.

There will be episodes of this series where previous stars will appear on some of the episodes. You can catch new episodes on the CW right after Gossip Girl.

Worst Week



Making a first impression is essential in life. The show Worst Week will be airing on CBS which has been modified by the TV show The Worst Week of My Life on BBC.

Before Sam Briggs marries his girlfriend, Sarah Clayton, they go and visit her parents. Even though Sam puts in great efforts to impress his in-laws, Dick and Angela, everything turns into a complete chaos.

Watching someone have a tough time is definitely more entertaining than feeling like bad luck is always around. Sam Briggs bad luck will start at 9:30pm on the CBS.

This fall, viewers can definitely expect to see more shows come out. From comedy, drama, to reality, there is something for everybody to watch.

Rusty Random Acts of Art

By Jacqueline Berracasa
Staff Writer

A unique Rusty Surfboards promo was introduced to the public at the downtown Convention Center right outside of the surf related trade show. From September 4th to September 6th passers-by enjoyed the view of a large hallway full of beautifully designed surfboards, with FM94/9 radio station music playing, and a Scion car in the process of being decorated in a promotion called Random Acts Of Art.

This exciting activity gave all three companies involved an opportunity to give "random" artists on the rise a chance to become a little more well known.

A Scion car and ten Rusty surfboards were given out at various Scion dealerships to contestants who entered to win them at FM94/9.

This exhilarating promotional event made a lasting impression on the public by evoking unique creativity. The colorfully decorated surfboards, by artists such as Mc Pherson,

Carrasco, Posey, Harris, and many more, are all local artists fromHuntingtonBeach,Poway, Carlsbad, Laguna Beach and many other locations. They were mostly graphic artists and had side jobs such as NCAA football players, surfers, or hip-hop producers.

What made the events even more interesting is that not only are the artists local but the company Rusty is local also. In fact, Rusty Preisendorfer is from La Jolla and his daughter, Avalon Preisendorfer, went to La Jolla High, and graduated in 2006.

This was a creative and colorful event that helped three companies get recognition and many artists on the rise. It is a fun experience for the young and old and surfers or not.



Surfs Up: An art gallery for Rusty Brand Surfboards with an array of creative surfboards.

24th annual STREET SCENE september 19 & 20 · 2008

By Kestlé Daubner
Staff Writer

Beginning in 1984 as a semiannual concert with two stages that hardly occupied one block of downtown San Diego, Street Scene has evolved into a vibrant 2-day festival with 40 bands and four stages. To make room for the growing crowds, Street Scene moved to Mission Valley for 2005 and 2006, and last year to the Qualcomm Parking lot. Although this allowed larger numbers of people to attend, loyal Street Scene goers complained that it didn't have the same atmosphere as the original venue. This year, Street Scene returned to its roots downtown.

"After last year in the Qualcomm Parking lot I thought Street Scene was on the verge of dying, so I'm happy it came back downtown," sophomore Briana Thayer said.

The all-ages festival was held September 19th and 20th on the eastern section of Tailgate Park, adjacent to Petco Park.

When it was last held in Tailgate Park in 2004, Street Scene took up the entire 60,000 square-foot lot and attracted more than 105,000 people, but this year's design took up significantly less room.

Festival founder Rob Hagey hopes this will bring back Street Scene's original appeal.

"I think people will like the fact this will be smaller and will again have an urban vibe," Hagey said.

Street Scene not only featured a variety of music, but also exquisite cuisine. Some of San Diego's finest restaurants sold food throughout the festival, many vegan-friendly, creating a dynamic fusion of good food and music.

On Friday, bands such as

Justice, Beck, MGMT, Cat Power, and Hot Chip attracted mobs of sweaty fans.

Saturday was equally exciting with bands like Man Man, Does It Offend You, Yeah?, Atmosphere, and Tegan and Sara.

"My favorites were Justice, Hot Chip, Does it Offend You and Diplo. Altogether it was a memorable experience because Jusice was exciting and the porta-potties were clean(ish)," junior Avi Salom said.

Many of the bands were new to the festival, while others are returning, like the band X who performed in the very first Street Scene.

Overall, this year's Street Scene was a memorable one, returning Downtown and providing some of the original vibe that sparked such a widespread success.



Beck: The famous artist performed at Street Scene.

SUDOKU

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POP CULTURE:

A LITTLE OBSESSION NEVER HURT ANYONE

By **Kelly Lin**
Staff Writer

Have you ever had a crazy pop culture obsession? Being an obsessive David Archuleta fan myself, I know firsthand what it is like to be fanatical about something or someone.

Here are a couple of stories from fellow La Jolla High School students who have had pop culture obsessions of their own; and like me, they aren't afraid to share it.

Social networking sites can be a lot of fun, and, not to mention, very addicting. One of the most popular social networking sites used today is Facebook.

The site boasts over 100 million active users and has gotten so popular that presidential candidates, parents, and some teachers have gotten in on the fun.

Alexis Lum, a junior and self-

proclaimed Facebook addict is definitely not your average Facebook user. Alexis goes on twice a day, once before school and once after school.

"The page is always open on my computer," Lum says. Alexis has over 1000 pictures, 4,000 wall posts, and is a member of 57 Facebook groups.

Alexis benefits from her Facebook addiction because it allows her to stay connected with friends. When asked what she thought of the "new Facebook" format that the site recently implemented, Alexis had some harsh words for Facebook creator, Mark

facebook
photos courtesy of www.facebook.com

Zuckerberg. "I really don't like it. It makes Facebook look obese!"

Think you know Madonna? Think again. Meet Kelly McClard. At first glance, this junior might seem like your



average high school student, but once you get to know her, you will realize that Kelly is one of the biggest Madonna fans on the planet. She has the entire Madonna discography on her iPod to prove it.

"I like Madonna because she isn't afraid to take risks and express herself. She is also true to herself and has inspired me to not worry about what others think of me" McClard said.

This year, Kelly is going to

two Madonna concerts, and is having a custom shirt made for the special occasion. At the last Madonna concert she went to, Kelly started hyperventilating and almost threw up because she was so excited!

Often overshadowed but totally passionate anime and



manga fans include one of the school's most avid and well-read enthusiasts, senior, Kaichen Ma.

Ma's favorite manga is Full Metal Alchemist.

"The two protagonists'

search for the legendary Philosopher's Stone is tempered both by human tragedy and a host of moral issues, and yet (at the same time) the story is fast-paced and ridiculously awesome," Ma said.

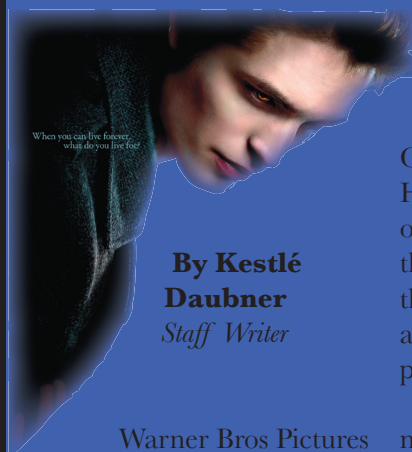
Ma's manga obsession goes way beyond just reading the books. Last summer, Ma attended Comic-Con, San Diego's big bash for all things related to comics, pop culture, and of course manga.

"I liked wandering around looking at the stalls selling pirated Japanese merchandise and of course, getting all the free stuff," Ma said.

All in all, I think we all have a bit of obsessive fan inside us. Embrace your obsessions rather than be embarrassed by them and don't be afraid to unleash your inner fanatic fan.

Harry Potter vs. Twilight

Wizards & Vampires at the Box Office



By **Kestlé Daubner**
Staff Writer

Warner Bros Pictures announced that its sixth movie based on J.K. Rowling's best selling series, "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," is moving from its original November 21 release to July 17, 2009. Warner Bros' President Alan Horn claimed that the postponement is strictly due to marketing, not slow production.

The most recent Harry Potter film, released during the summer of 2006, brought in the most money since the first film debuted in 2001, and Warner Bros wants to recreate this success. Additionally, the writers' strike caused many productions to fall behind schedule, which altered the box office competition for summer 2009.

Rival studios are also pointing out that after the overwhelming success of the Dark Knight, most films within the next few

months will look meager in comparison, and Warner Bros doesn't want Harry Potter to look like a failure. Others point out that "The Half Blood Prince" is coming out almost exactly a year after the "Dark Knight", and suggest that Harry Potter producers are attempting to replicate that phenomenon.

The good news is that the new release date does not affect the production of future films, and the gap between "Half Blood Prince" and part one of "The Deathly Hallows" is actually shortened.

Although Harry Potter will not be gracing the screens this Thanksgiving, Stephenie Meyer's passionate vampire series, "Twilight", is now being released on Harry Potter's previous release date.

Originally premiering three weeks later, on December 12, Summit entertainment took advantage of Warner Bros' decision to postpone. According to the press release, the move to an earlier date allows "Twilight" to play on more screens and stay in theaters for a longer period.

"When Warner Bros decided

to move 'Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince' to the summer of 2009, we saw a unique opportunity to slot in our film which has been gaining tremendous awareness and momentum over the past several months. We by no means are trying to fill the shoes of the incredible Potter franchise for 2008, rather we are just looking to bring the fans of Stephenie Meyer's incredible book series the film as soon as possible from a programming perspective," a Summit CEO explained during a press release.

"Twilight" fans rejoice over the recent news, while Harry Potter fans mourn the lengthy delay of the "Half Blood Prince."

But who will win the fantasy film war? After "Eclipse", the third book in the Twilight series, knocked "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" off the best-seller list last year, the rivalry between the two fan bases has grown.

Die hard Harry Potter fans are disgusted by the mere

comparison between the two series.

"Nothing compares to a magical wonderland of witches and wizards with broomsticks and wands," senior Tomas Frymann said.

Many enjoyed the Twilight books, but don't think that they will create such a lasting impact and cult following as the Harry Potter books.

"Twilight is just not as big. It's really popular now, but there's no way it will outlast Harry Potter," sophomore Allison Mogin said.

Even with the criticism,

Twilight obsession is

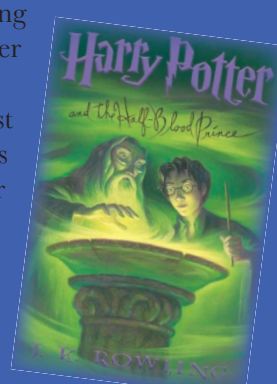
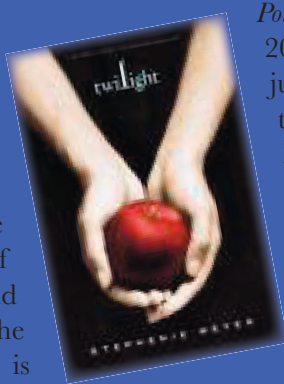
skyrocketing. Reminiscent of the Potter craze, Twilight fans swarm the book signings, dress up as characters from the book, celebrate the lead character Isabella Swan's birthday, and even create Twilight themed rock bands.

"When I started reading Twilight, I couldn't put it down. I'm much more into love stories, not spells and wizards," junior Caitlin Williams said.

Other readers are equally loyal to Harry Potter and Twilight, arguing that they are too different to compare.

"I love Twilight because Edward, the main guy character, is awesome. Who doesn't want to be saved like five times a book? Harry Potter is really good too, but Twilight is more of a guilty pleasure," senior Andrea Ruiz said.

Regardless, both upcoming films will unquestionably attract millions of vampire and wizard lovers throughout the world.



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