

HIGH TIDE

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A Ball Fit For Champions

By Kathy Lunas
Staff Writer

A night of royalty and dancing under the stars, La Jolla High had its annual Scarlet and Black Ball at the Hall of Champions in Balboa Park. A very popular venue, it is known for having the largest dance floor in San Diego County.

Here at the La Jolla High Tide, we like to celebrate April 1st with style. Watch out for a few articles this issue written solely for your entertainment. We hope you enjoy them. And remember-- April Fools!

The hall was decked out in beautiful decorations with all the students styled in their best dresses and tuxedos.

"Everyone looked so amazing and we were all having such a great time," junior Cami Felt said.

No one looked more amazing then the couples that were selected for each classes court royalty. This is the second year that La Jolla students nominated an ASB Court. Very much like Homecoming, one prince and princess wins from each

grade while the senior couple is crowned king and queen. The winners announced at the dance were very excited and happy.

"Its one of those high school things where you always secretly hope you'll be nomi-

nated and win but you think it will never happen," junior Nathaly Mongvounng said.

The students had so much fun with great music provided by the DJ and wonderful food was also served at the dance. The menu consisted of a

chocolate fountain, mini bagel bites, quesadillas and so much more. ASB ball will be a tradition to live on for many years at La Jolla High.



Signed, Sealed, Delivered

But is it really for us? An analysis of the CA budget

By Stefan Garcia-Valentin
Staff Writer

It has recently been announced that Governor Schwarzenegger will cut funding for California's public schools, which serve 5.9 million students, by a total of \$5.2 billion, a reduction of about \$875 per student. According to the newly released California State Budget, the state of California will reduce \$85.6 million from the K-12 apportionments of the San Diego Unified School District - more money from us than in any other district in the state of California.

To make budget matters even more dire, in late January the Board of Education directed an immediate freeze on hiring and spending, suggesting the district staff "think differently and spend less as they

consider expenditures going forward" (Masias, SDUSD Memorandum). They called every school within the district to have spending control limits because of the state deficit. Spending control will apply to capital facilities funds and all kinds of personnel and non-personnel expenditures; with the exception of Proposition S's completion, district centrally-funded extended day reading programs, special education substitutes PARA professionals, medical supplies, materials for construction and school lunch programs, oil and fuel and maintenance parts for buses.

Procurement processes on formal written requests for needed materials, procurement cards (to obtain specified things), and payroll will be subject to approval. All of

these will require forms and large amounts of paper work which many people see it as an obstacle and more work.

In relation to the hiring freeze, it was dictated that there would be no new positions available and all vacancies will be frozen. Only positions in direct support of schools in critical job categories could be filled after intense review and approval. Such positions will include teachers, school bus drivers, food service positions, school-sworn police officers, dispatchers or community service officers. Out-of-district travel, conferences, and professional development will be kept at a minimum.

Contracts that are critical and do not exceed the budget will go through additional review and approval as well. Overtime will be limited in critical

areas only and would need pre-approval.

Many parents, students and teachers have become increasingly frightened by the staggering amounts of laid off teachers and the amount of money that will be taken away from the schools. Members of the California Teachers Association (CTA) responded by advertising their up-coming special event called Pink Friday on March 13th, the deadline for California school districts to distribute pink slips, or RIFs, to thousands of teachers. Last year 10,000 teachers got pink slips and 5,000 of them lost their jobs. Now, many teachers predict that the numbers could become even larger.

California legislators say that they are doing everything they can to keep the cuts "out of the classrooms" and provide

the students the education they deserve under the circumstances. "We are trying to keep all of these problems away from the students, but unfortunately these budget cuts will definitely make an impact on them next year," said Principal Dana Shelburne. "Last year, we managed to raise enough money to 'save our teachers', but I don't think that that is going to happen again."

He also said that students and teachers would have to adjust to upcoming changes, such as more students in each classroom, less teachers and less resources and materials.

It is clear that between this failing economy and California's budget crisis, the schools of the San Diego Unified School District will struggle to thrive under enormous pressure.

In This Issue

Opinions	2, 3
Features	4, 5
Student Focus	8, 9
Breaking News	6, 7, 10, 11
Sports	12, 13
News	1, 14
A&E	15, 16



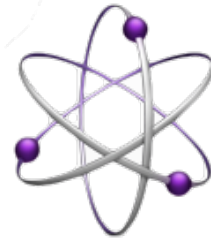
Spring Break on a Budget
Page 4



Mr. Lawrence: Pancake Confectioner
Page 11



CIF Camps
Page 11



Teachers' Playlists
Page 16

The La Jolla High School

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The Ethics of Octuplets

By Carolina Bellizzi*Sports Editorial Intern*

Everyone has heard the story of the little old lady who lived in a shoe. She had so many children that she did not know what to do. One thing that the little lady in question did know was that she most certainly should not go for another round of multiple births.

Although the thought of a “human litter” may give rise to some snickers from condescending observers, the fact remains that there are fertility doctors who are willing to implant a virtually obscene number of embryos into their IVF patient, while conveniently ignoring the facts in front of them.

“To say that someone should not be allowed to have children may seem extremely cruel for the parents. However, if that person is, and will remain, unable to provide for their children, then it is equally as cruel for the children,” an anonymous student said.

First of all, it is well documented in the medical world

that having more than one child at a time is a potential detriment to both the children and the mother. Secondly, the “human litter” is not a natural phenomenon, but a scientific experimentation brought about by doctors and patients who wish to outdo nature.

Therefore, the question remains, why would Nadya Suleman’s IVF doctor deliberately implant multiple embryos when there was a huge chance that each and every one would survive? It is not ethical for one woman to give birth to eight children at a time, and certainly not when she has six other children under the age of eight years old.

“When a mother, or any par-

ent for that matter, is unable to take on the financial responsibility of a child, it is just careless to allow that person to care for more than one child,” junior Sherry Guo said. “There is no denying that Suleman is trying to be a good parent, but she does not have any means or qualifications to be responsible for fourteen children, eight of which have health complications and extreme medical needs.”

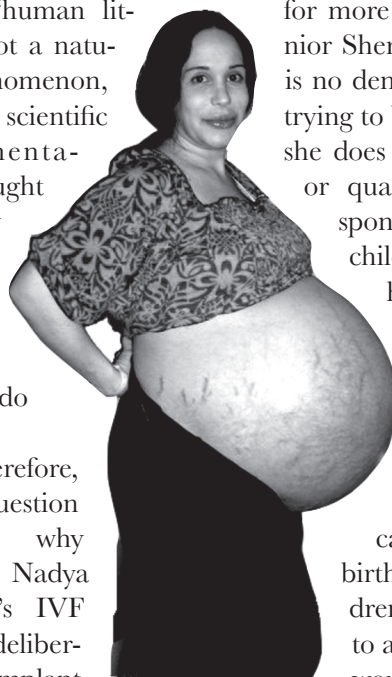
Also, it is a simple medical fact that the more babies that the mother is carrying, the lower the birth weight of the children. This fact gives rise to another question: why would any ethical IVF doctor implant multiple embryos when the chance of survival would place each child among those with the medical condition of ELBW (extreme low birth rate)?

“Clearly Nadya Suleman’s IVF doctor was more concerned with improving his image in the entertainment in-

dustry, rather than in the medical field,” Guo said. “Why else would he have allowed one woman to have, at the end of the day, fourteen children when she obviously has no means of caring for them?”

Foolishly, Suleman’s doctor chose to overlook both the medical and ethical risks of implanting these embryos and it has resulted in the scientific experiment of keeping eight innocent children alive as a result of an attempt to cheat nature. The moral of the story: If someone with a number of children under the age of 10 decides to deliver another “human litter,” then they are seriously lacking both moral integrity and ethical judgement. Women such as Nadya Suleman should not be allowed to carry multiple children, especially when the said women are unable to take on the financial and moral responsibility of caring for these innocent babies whose chance at normal lives have been jeopardized by their mother’s irresponsibility.

Photo Courtesy of www.iconocast.com



Danger Across the Border

By Danielle Daitch*Staff Writer*

As residents of San Diego, we all know that the Mexican border is just a short drive away. Areas of the nearby Baja California, such as Tijuana and Rosarito, are popular weekend destinations for many, including a substantial number of La Jolla students.

However, recently there has been a significant drop in tourists entering Mexico from the United States. There is no mystery as to why this sudden drop in travelers has occurred; an ongoing battle between Mexican drug lords has left the streets of Tijuana bloodstained and desolate.

Since 2008, there have been 843 deaths in Baja California

alone, 90% of which have been confirmed as being linked to drug trafficking. Police presence is virtually insignificant because many high ranking officials are on the various drug cartels’ payroll. Those who have no ties to illicit operations are often rewarded for their morality with the murder of their families or themselves.



Photo courtesy of www.tlme.com

These killings have been no secret to San Diegans, who receive a synopsis of each day’s violence in the newspaper.

Not only have these killings affected residents and frequent

visitors of Baja California, many La Jolla High students have also felt the changes brought about by this wave of violence. What was once a popular and convenient Spring Break destination has now been deemed unsafe by many, who are afraid that an innocent trip may turn devastating simply by being in the wrong

Rangel said.

While danger is largely attributed to Mexico as a whole, many students choose specific areas to avoid, and visit others less prone to violence.

“Baja is dangerous, but other parts of Mexico, like Cancun and Cozumel, are not,” senior Sam Salom said.

Specifically in Baja California, students stress that safety is virtually guaranteed as long as they stay in the right places.

“I don’t feel threatened at all. As long as you stay in the right place, it’s not dangerous enough not to go down [to Mexico],” junior Brea-Rose Smith said.

Overall, visiting Mexico under current conditions is at the discretion of the traveler. While tourists are not targeted by the warring drug cartels, it is best to exercise caution when travelling south of the border.

place at the wrong time.

“Mexico is dangerous because you hear every day of people dying, and that the drug lords and gangs have influence over the authorities,” senior Victor

The New Generation of Facebook

By **Natalie Buchbinder**
Staff Writer

A notification arrives in your email inbox, enthusiastically stating that your parent has joined Facebook, and added you as a friend. If you have not received it, look around. It is a fact that one of your friends have. This is part of a growing trend with the adult community. Facebook began as a networking site for Harvard undergrads, then expanded to college students, then to high school students, and is now open to anyone.

For senior Clare Parme, having her mom as a Facebook friend was nothing out of the ordinary.

“I don’t mind having her there because she likes it,” Parme said. But Clare was soon reminded why parents shouldn’t be on Facebook. “. . . [She] found out I crashed my car that way,” Parme said.

Parme was not the only one who was thrown a loop by Facebook. For senior Sandy Arami, the issue was a bit more personal.

“My mom didn’t know I had

a girlfriend until she saw it on Facebook,” Arami said.

Other students can not see the point in keeping a Face-

book if it contains such private information. After all, the internet is an open place. And with recent changes to Facebook’s “constitution,” all that is said, done, or posted on facebook belongs

anyone to see?

“Everything should be G-rated,” senior Lauren Gay-Hunter said. “It is a little weird for parents, but it’s fun so we can stay in touch.”

Facebook’s true purpose

when it opened its doors in 2004 was to connect people. Why shouldn’t parents be allowed to connect with their

friends, family, and even children? What is creepier, getting stalked by some random person who can access your profile on your network, or your parents simply checking in on you?

“My parents have facebook, but it doesn’t really matter,” senior Victoria Francis said, “I’m not trying to hide.”

Parents should be the least of students’ worries on facebook. The so called “privacy” that facebook offers by closing off profiles to anyone other than approved friends is frequently breached by high school officials university admissions counselors, and police. What many students do not realize is that all of these higher officials can access profiles without the user in question ever knowing.

“I know people who got busted by the cops from their Facebook,” Francis said.

After the recent Michael Phelps scandal in which a photograph surfaced showing the famed athlete smoking illegal substances, students should realize that items posted on the internet can reach eyes that were never wanted in the first place. Teens need to face the reality that their parents are going to do what they want, whether their children like it or not.



Photo Courtesy of anitanosupermercado.vox.com

Letter to the Editor

Dear High Tide,

I am writing this letter in response to the February 2009 High Tide articles on the conflict between Gaza and Israel. Both articles were well-written and tried to balance the two plights, however, some clarification needs to be highlighted to depict a fair portrayal of the dire situation.

In the article “Palestinian Plea for Peace” the author stated that, “Peace can’t be obtained if Islamic extremists continue launching rockets into Israeli territory.” This is in an inaccurate use of the term “Islamic extremists.”

These are not “Islamic extremists,” they are simply people that happen to be Palestinians, fighting to free their occupied land. One must keep in mind that we are assuming that they are Muslim, whereas Palestinians are both Christian and Muslim.

People who fight for their right to be free should not be coined as “extremists”.

Next, the author said that “In 2007, when the terrorist organization Hamas took control of the Gaza strip, Israel blockaded the area.” This statement is untrue and communicates

a false message to readers. Hamas did not “take control,” they were elected by the Palestinians in a democratic election. Isn’t America a democracy?

In the second article, “Israel : Defending the Homeland,” the title alone can spark several questions. Whose homeland are you referring to?

The Palestinian people believe it is their homeland, just as much as the Israelis do. The country is special because of its historic significance to the three main monotheistic faiths: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Palestine has been a country since before the seventh cen-

tury. Arabs have been living there for many centuries, and

a country is their homeland, starts a problem.



Photo courtesy of www.imemc.org

they have been calling it their homeland as well. Obviously, two different groups that think

hospital wards and places of worship? The death tolls speak for themselves, 13 Israelis dead

versus 1400 Palestinian fatalities.

The last quote: “Not only is the conflict a strain on Israeli finances and forces, it is also a strain on innocent Israeli citizens.”

Israel receives billions of U.S. Tax dollars to run its military operations - the most in fact than any other country despite its small population. Israel has the US ‘ full fledged support while Palestine gets relatively bread crumbs from other nations even the neighboring rich Arab states.

Israel is not “harmless” as earlier stated in this article, with their use of white phosphorus weapons against the Palestinians - unprecedented actions in warfare! USA supplies Israel with these weapons that are illegal and incendiary, that could lead to the conviction of war crimes and other violations.

These are a few objections dealing with the Gaza and Israeli conflict article that I thought should be brought to your attention.

Sincerely,
Iman Hassaine

No Shave March

By Jessica Wood
Staff Writer

Some may have noticed that the senior boys are looking a little scruffier than usual; they have decided to put away their razors for a month. Many seniors have decided to participate in “No Shave March,” a tradition started last

acceptance letters.

March is one of the most stressful times for seniors because their futures are in the hands of the universities they applied to. Waiting to be accepted or rejected is extremely nerve-racking and overwhelming, so to cope with these emotions, the seniors have decided to distract themselves

Shave March” have done so for various reasons, but all involved have said that it has brought their senior class closer together.

“No Shave March is a way for the senior class to bond at a time that is super stressful. It’s funny and it gets our mind off of college acceptance letters,” senior Timmy Pickett said.

All the girls go crazy for facial hair; I mean really...who doesn’t love a mustache?” senior Ian Morales said.

All the guys have had fun with “No Shave March,” no matter what their current hormonal levels may be.

“I plan to grow three, centimeter long hairs on my upper lip and if I’m lucky

“I’m going to be a beast. I shaved this morning, and already the hair is growing back a little. It’s going to be scary to see me in a month. I added a new rule to ‘No Shave March’ that says we can shave our neck. I think it will be best for everyone.” senior Yoshi Rothman said.

No Shave March has brought



year by the graduating Class of ‘08. “No Shave March” serves the purpose of bringing the senior class together, while they anxiously await college

with their own growing facial hair as well as that of their classmates.

The seniors who have chosen to partake in “No

Others who are more laid back about their college choices are participating for different reasons.

“I’m doing it for the chicas.

maybe a few on my chin. Yeah, that would be sweet,” senior Kyle Zimmer said.

Others planned on becoming a little more grizzly.

us entertainment and has made the senior class closer than ever. Their bearded tradition will hopefully stay for years to come.

April Fools Pranks

By Cassie Brazier
Staff Writer

April Fools day is a day to pull as many pranks as you can on your friends and family without getting in trouble. Here are some awesome and easy jokes to pull as well as some of the all time best pranks ever.

For this devious antic all you need is a box of saran wrap. Wake up early before anyone else in your house, and go into the bathroom. Carefully put the seat up and wrap the saran wrap over the toilet bowl. Put the seat back down and get rid of all the evidence. Whoever goes to the bathroom next is in for a shock!

To catch your family off guard, take all the sugar and salt dispensers. Switch them around so the salt is in the sugar and visa versa. When your mom begins cooking dinner

she may think she is using salt, but she will be in for a sweet surprise!

Ask one of your favorite teachers for a blank referral and then fill it out for something ridiculous like throwing a chair at a teacher or starting a walk out. Fool your parents by bringing it home. After you prank them they will be glad to have such a wonderful student.

Sneak into your sibling’s



Photos courtesy of Clip Art

room when they are not there. Turn back their clock by an hour. Laugh your head off as they scramble to get ready in the morning while you are dressed to impress.

Days before April fools day, select your target and persistently tease them about how much you’re going to make their life horrible on April Fool’s Day. When April Fool’s Day finally does arrive, you just have to sit back and do nothing, they will be so para-

noid about what you’re going to do that they don’t realize you’ve already got them.

The old classic of gift wrapping a car is simply the best. Get lots of plastic foodwrap - industrial strength if possible - then just wrap it round the car, several times, making sure to cover all areas thoroughly. You might like to add a ribbon for that special, personal touch.

Get a friend’s combination to their locker. Arrive to school early and completely fill their locker with cotton balls.

This next April Fool’s practical joke is old, but a classic nevertheless. Super glue some coins to the sidewalk or any spot that has a lot of

foot traffic. Make sure it is an appropriate place, then watch people break their fingernails trying to get the coins.

In 1962, the Swedes had only one television channel, which was broadcast in black and white. One day, Kjell Stensson, a radio technician, announced that viewers could convert their TV sets from black and white to color by covering them with stockings. A plethora of citizens went out and purchased stockings to hang over their TV sets.

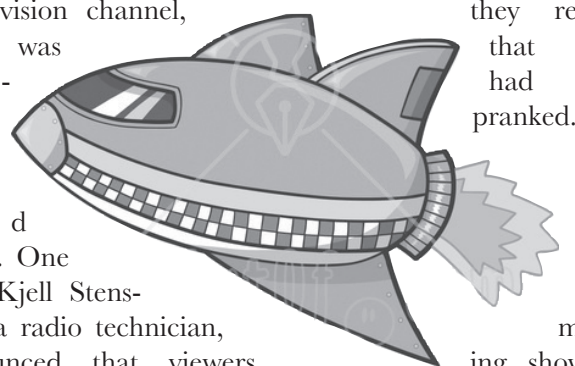
Fast food restaurant Burger King announced in 1998 that they were releasing the “Left-Handed Whopper” for all of the left-handed Americans. The only difference was that the new burger’s toppings were turned at a 180-degree angle.

The New York City press received word

that the City’s April Fool’s Day prank was taking place between 59th Street and Fifth Avenue. The media camped out all night and around noon they realized that they had been pranked.

In 1993, the

morning show old school shock-jocks Dave, Shelly, and Chainsaw announced that the space shuttle Discovery had been diverted from Edwards Air Force Base to Montgomery Field, a small airport located in the middle of a residential area just outside of San Diego. Thousands of commuters immediately headed towards the landing site, causing enormous traffic jams that lasted for almost an hour. Police eventually had to be called in to clear the traffic. People arrived at the airport armed with cameras, camcorders, and even folding chairs. Reportedly the crowd swelled to over 1,000 people. Of course, the shuttle never landed.



PARTY HARDY

How to Throw Your Friend a Birthday Party

By Suquoia Geary
Staff Writer

Everyone has a birthday, and the best part is when your friends make it extra special. When that day comes around, the last thing you want is to feel stressed about planning the perfect celebration. In order to throw a good birthday party for your friend, there are a few essential steps. The following eight steps should create just the perfect celebration.

Make their day at school extra special. You cannot let them think you forgot, otherwise a later surprise may be obvious, or they may just be really upset. Bring them balloons, flowers, or treats. Anything to show them that you care helps.

Find a place to have the party. This place can be a house, or a restaurant, anywhere that will fit all of the people. If it is a restaurant, make sure it is a place that your friend actually likes. No matter what, make sure everyone will fit there and it is realistic for people to get to; you want a venue that people will have a ride to.

Invite everybody. Make sure you do this with enough time for everyone to plan around it. The last thing you want is a party with just a couple people. If this party is intended to be a surprise, make sure in the invitation you specify that nobody is to tell the birthday girl or boy; nobody wants to be the one to ruin the surprise.

Party!
Party!
Party!
Party!

Get the food and decorations. Have everyone ready by the time they get there, complete with food and over the top decorations. Balloons, silly hats, tons of food, and music. Just remember all of the important things for the party.

If you can, get their parents involved. They can help with finding a place, getting the food, and especially with the cost of everything. With parents involved they can help plan, pay for the essentials and even get in on surprising your friend.

Get a list of everyone that your friend may want at the party. This includes people you may not like, because it is their birthday and important to remember it is about what will make them happy. Keep in mind not to over invite or under invite, to achieve the perfect party you need the right amount of people to fill the space provided.

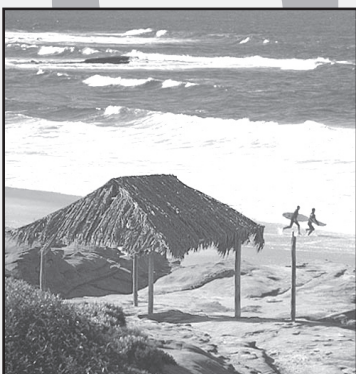
Figure out a plan to trick them into showing up. Keep everyone quiet about the party, and have a believable reason for taking them to whatever spot you have chosen. Don't give them any reason to think something may be up. Make sure they can get there with enough time for everyone to jump out and yell surprise.

\$110 Spring Break

By Aida Saam
Staff Writer

We all know how tough the economic situation is today, so how can you have the perfect spring break while still being thrifty? We have your ultimate \$110 spring break guide to suit your needs.

Day 1: It is the first day of spring break, so why not head to the beach? Instead of driving, ride your bike. Spring break is the time when the weather starts to warm up so it is a perfect time to head to Marine Street or Windansea and catch some waves or simply bask in the sun. Getting



hungry? Head up to a local burrito shop like Ortega's or Don Carlos and grab a burrito and soda for only about \$7.

Day total: \$7

Day 2: Round up your group of friends and go to Belmont Park for the day. A wristband will allow you to enjoy all the rides all day and only costs about \$23. There are plenty of restaurants inside the park so bring about \$10 extra in case you get hungry.

Day total: \$33

Day 3: Invite everyone over for a party. Ask everyone to bring their favorite snack and play some games. Set up a ping-pong table, turn up the music and rock out with Rockband. As it gets later in the evening, order some pizzas. At Papa John's you can get two large pizzas for about \$24. Cut out coupons you find in your junk mail and get great discounts.

Day total: \$24

Day 4: It is time for some laser tag. Get about five or six

of your friends and head to ULTRAZONE laser tag. Laser tagging is a cheap way to have some fun. At only \$7 per person, per game, you will surely enjoy the excitement of laser tag. Laser tag is a great way to merge groups of friends. You can choose to play against other groups of kids there so it is a great way to meet new people. After running around you are



sure to be hungry. Head over to In-N-Out burger and get a full meal for only \$5.

Day total: \$12

Day 5: Have a picnic! With your friends, grab a subway sandwich foot-long for \$5; bring some Frisbees, a soccer ball, football, and other things to keep you busy and active. Whatever you do, do not forget

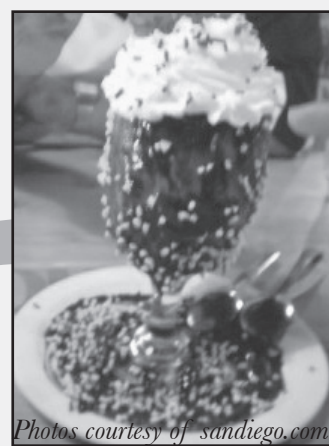
your iPod and speakers. Buy a big bag of chips for everyone to munch on from Vons (\$3). Fill up water bottles at your house and head up to Kate Sessions Park for the day.

Day total: \$8

Day 6: It is almost the end of Spring Break so do something big tonight. Send out a mass-text message or invite everyone via Facebook to the one and only Club Inferno. The hot night club for high school students is a great place for dancing and socializing. At only \$10 per person it is well worth the money. Do not forget to take your camera, as it is a great place to take pictures and make lasting memories.

Day total: \$10

Day 7: Sadly, it is the last day of Spring Break. Invite everyone over to watch a movie and hang out. It is a great way to wind down and relax a little before school starts again. Rent a movie from Blockbuster or buy one off of Movies on Demand for about four dollars.



Photos courtesy of sandiego.com

Not in the mood for pizza? Order some Chinese takeout from Panda Express for about \$7 per person. It is sure to be delicious and is a nice change from pizza. To end the perfect night and the perfect meal, go to Sammy's Wood Fired Pizza and order the one and only messy sundae for only \$9. One of those sundaes can fill up to five people.

Day total: \$16

Hopefully this guide will help you have the best, and thriftiest spring break ever!

Mr. Cavaiola Joins Nat'l Bocce Ball Team

By Kaitlin Sharpe
Editor-In-Chief

After working at La Jolla High School for the past seven years,

training daily with his baby daughter, Paddles. He hopes that they will be the first father-daughter team in the world.

"Though she

the Cavaiola family. My wife is very supportive of the endeavor, she is our team trainer and biggest fan. We go to the

the National Circuit.

Now a celebrity in the Bocce world, Cavaiola has gained more than international rec-

In fact, many LJHS faculty members have considered leaving their jobs as well to help Cavaiola live the dream.



Photos courtesy of Kaitlin Sharpe

Mr. Joe Cavaiola has finally decided to leave his teaching profession behind and follow his true dream: Bocce ball.

"This is a lifelong dream, I have watched Mario and Luigi dominate the field for Team Italy in the Sydney and Beijing Olympics, and I figured it was time for America to get its act together," Cavaiola said.

A dedicated man in his field, Cavaiola is serious when it comes to Bocce. He has been

may be small,"

Cavaiola said, "she packs a serious curveball. She is basically a Bocce-prodigy."

Inspired by the skills of his daughter, Cavaiola took Paddles to the Bocce court as well and cheered her on as she tried out for the Youth National Team. She literally "rolled the competition" out of the way and is now eligible for the National team.

"It's a dream come true for

beach every Saturday and Sunday and play pick up games. We have yet to be beat. We are serious about our game," Cavaiola said.

The United States Bocce Ball Federation considers Cavaiola to be a serious contender for London 2012. He has not always been on top of the Bocce world, but his recent team motto "Always be Training" has propelled him onto

ognition. Companies have bombarded him with sponsorships, including Ticonderoga Pencils, Staples, Dum-Dum Lollipops, and Wheaties. They have added up quickly, allowing him to take his dream to the next level.

"I can't believe that the school is giving me all of the next two years off to train and compete. I consider a gold medal to be a family effort," Cavaiola said.

"Mr. Atwell is my strength and conditioning coach and Mrs. Dill is my Sports Psychologist," Cavaiola said.

Along with Paddles and his wife, Cavaiola calls his family "The Trifecta," and credits it as the reason behind his success.

The La Jolla High Tide wishes Cavaiola the best in his future Bocce endeavors, and hope that he brings home the gold in London 2012.

Reality LJ: The Real 1210

By Jessica Wood
Staff Writer

Rumors are known to spread through La Jolla High like wildfire. Some may have heard that MTV is broadcasting a reality TV show based on the drama that circles around La Jolla High School. This one is not a rumor. Starting April 20th, MTV will be airing the new teen drama called "The Real 1210."

Eight students have chosen to have their lives captured on camera for the entertainment of the American public. These lucky eight will be followed around by MTV's camera crew at school, at their houses, and at extracurricular activities. You might just see yourself on TV as well! The eight that were chosen were Daniel Lapidus, Brendan Nyhan, Anjali Thota, Grant Duguid, Meg Flanagan, Sam Salom, Joe Laird, and Maggie Walsh. Anjali, who goes by AJ, was sure as to why she was chosen to be on MTV's hottest reality TV show.

"Well I feel like I got chosen because: 1. I'm gorgeous, 2. I don't have a lot of drama in my life, and they wanted like a really nice person and I mean who is a better pick than me?"

3. My dad paid a lot of \$\$\$\$ for me to get my face on TV, and 4. My boyfriend Brendan Nyhan and I look really good together on TV," senior AJ Thota said. When asked if they enjoyed the attention that came along with being on TV, the answer was an overwhelming "yes."

"I love the spotlight; and it makes the girls like me even more than they did before," junior Grant Duguid said. Duguid's best friend since kindergarten, Daniel Lapidus, had an answer of a deeper context.

"Well sure, I like the attention. But I figure I'm doing a good thing by being on 'The Real 1210'. I mean when you

have a life as interesting as mine, the right thing to do is to share it with the world and show them what they could have, you know? I think it's pretty inspirational," senior Daniel Lapidus said.

MTV follows the cast as they deal with their love relationships, cope with the problems they face with their peers, and

new girl Meg Flanagan comes into the picture, tempers flare and jealousy erupts. On the new hit show, the two battle between the strength of their friendship and their mutual interest of LJHS's newest girl.

The Real 1210 also explores the relationship between good friends Joe Laird and Sam Salom. When asked as to why Laird was picked for the show, he was certain what the answer was.

"It is because I am so fine. My name is Joe and I like to party. I think it is pretty self explanatory," Laird said.

Salom tries his best throughout the season to get into the cool crowd.

"My friends don't include me in their fun because I'm

brown," Salom said. But Salom hopes that Laird will help him climb the ladder to a higher status.

"I enjoy gambling, women, and Cinco de Mayo. Joe said that when I grow up he will take me to the Inferno so that I can meet girls," Salom said.

Watch the show to see if Laird finally invites Salom into his group.

Maggie and AJ have also been best friends for a long time. Maggie is the sweet type who does not have a mean bone in her body.

"I'm not really the type of person to be involved in all the drama at our school. I focus on all the important stuff and don't let the pointless, superficial stuff take up my time," senior Maggie Walsh said. But when AJ begins to spend most of her time with her boyfriend Brendan, Maggie begins to feel like she is losing her best friend, and yet another struggle between friendship and love life evolves.

Tune in on April 20th at 9 pm /8 central to watch MTV capture what the life of a teenage "La Jollan" is like, and reveal "The Real 1210" that we all are living in.



The stars from the Real 1210: (from left to right) Maggie Walsh, Meg Flanagan, Grant Duguid, Anjali Thota, Joe Laird, and Sam Salom. (Not pictured): Brendan Nyan and Daniel Lapidus.

photo courtesy of Kaitlin Sharpe

manage their crazy lives. With the amount of things these teens have going on, there is sure to be drama.

Lapidus and Duguid have been friends forever, but when

ALIEN INVASION AT LJHS
STUDENT WRESTLER SAVES THE DAY

By Mackenzie Merkel
Editor-In-Chief

La Jolla High School has always been stellar, between its motivating teachers, diligent students, and a pristine campus. But who would have thought that La Jolla was in store for a truly out-of-this-world experience?

This weekend, there was an alien sighting on La Jolla High’s campus. A starship carrying a troupe of aliens was reported to have touched down on the quad on Saturday.

Sophomore Kirk Lee was the sole eye-witness to this astonishing phenomenon.

“I always come to the school on Saturday nights to practice my wrestling moves in the Big Gym,” Lee said. “I find that the silence really helps me focus.”

Lee was practicing when he heard a loud noise. He immediately became suspicious.

“I heard a super loud, piercing, shrill noise coming from over by the office. Filled

with curiosity and a masculine determination to protect my school, I sprinted to the

quad.”
Lee was not prepared for what came next.



Photo courtesy of Kirk Lee

“There was an enormous saucer siting on the quad! I couldn’t believe my eyes...”

Lee, still in his wrestling singlet, immediately approached the extra-terrestrials. Lee described the aliens as “short, green, slimy... and bossy.” Despite his aversion to extra terrestrials, Lee decided to try to initiate communication.

“Obviously the language barrier was a huge problem. But they made it perfectly clear that they wanted me to go into their spaceship... I was not down.”

When Lee refused to cooperate, tension rose. Lee was forced to use another, universal language: the language of wrestling.

“The aliens attempted to forcefully load me into their starship. That was their first mistake. Nobody tells Kirk what to do,” Lee said.

The situation quickly became heated. As push came to shove, Lee was glad that he was still wearing his sin-

glet.

“It just really gives me that extra umph of courage to dominate my opponent, you know? Besides, I find the cut very flattering.”

Although slightly intimidated, Lee quickly gained the upper hand on his opponents.

“I had all of them in a headlock... at once.”

As soon as the aliens realized that they were no match for Lee’s earthly strength, they climbed back into their saucer and lifted off.

But, before they could disappear from sight, Lee snapped a picture on his cellular phone.

La Jolla High School, and perhaps even the whole earth, has Kirk Lee to thank for defending his fellow human beings. But Lee is a humble hero.

“Yeah, I guess it’s a pretty big deal. I mean, it’s not like people single-handedly save the earth from aliens every day or anything. But would you expect anything less from Kirk Lee?”

Mr. Shelburne Leaves School to Pursue Career as Las Vegas Showman

By Natalie Buchbinder
Staff Writer

Mr. Shelburne has dedicated countless hours of hard work and most of his waking hours devoted to making La Jolla High School a better place for each student. Ever since he became a teacher, Shelburne had his eyes set on becoming a principal. The job is more grueling than people realize: going to various coffee and lunch chats to increase public relations, spending extra hours revising the budget to make sure there are stable classrooms and teachers, and most importantly becoming the face of the school. Yet

Shelburne decided something was missing.

“I looked through the National Enquirer at the checkout line of the market, and thought ‘That should be me!’” Shelburne said.

It is bittersweet for Shelburne to announce his new career plans, and he would like to assure all the people that know him and work with him that it is not simply a midlife crisis. It is his passion- his dream. He has longed for it forever.

“I want to get away from my childhood act of comedy in the mirror with a shampoo bottle as my microphone.” Shelburne said.

This year, Mr. Shelburne will be leaving La Jolla High to move to Las Vegas. The M.G.M. Grand casino has decided to sign Shelburne for a six-month trial of his comedy show entitled “I’ll Teach *You!*”

“After starting at Motel 6’s, moving up to Motel 8’s with my show, I am glad to finally be there. It is my dream.” Shelburne said.

Admiring the neon suit hanging in his closet every morning, Shelburne knew taking a new career path was the right choice.

“Every time that I look at the handcrafted Burberry gold suit hanging in my closet I smile. It

was handcrafted, each thread spun individually for a glistening shine,” Shelburne said.

He conducts a strict training routine on a daily basis, consisting of physical exercise, a vocal warm-up, and the reading of several joke books. He claims that even the best stand-up comics need to

bolster their repertoire.

“I practice on the office staff, and lets just say, they laugh.” Shelburne said.

Shelburne wanted to make his act stand out, and that is why he incorporated the singing aspect. Very few comedians use song, but Shelburne holds himself to the highest standards.

His sons are ambivalent on his new career path, but they are warming up to the idea.

“My son even gave me some advice,” Shelburne said. “He told me to take some time and think about it. He knew that this was best for me.”

La Jolla has been incredibly supportive to Shelburne, and he wants to assure everyone that he is leaving purely for his own enjoyment, and there are no hurt feelings. He plans to visit as often as time allows, but “security will be tight, since I roll with a very large entourage,” Shelburne said. “If you would like any type of autograph, please send the piece to be signed into the office for prescreening. I will get to it as time permits.”

Be sure to look out for Mr. Shelburne’s name in lights in Las Vegas.

FLU Epidemic

By Ali Tonnesen
Staff Writer

FLU. It’s an acronym most avoid. But it’s affecting about one fourth of La Jolla High School’s population. This type of FLU is not avoided by using hand sanitizer. Studies show that students are nearly 100% likely to develop FLU during one year in high school to some degree.

Some students are affected by this devastating disease for more than 1/4 of their high school career.

So what is FLU? Failing Last Units is defined in the reliable “Urban Medical Dictionary” as “a persistent, overwhelming feeling of disinterest in school-work, coupled with decreasing motivation, and worsened by a college acceptance letter.”

According to “Urban Medical Dictionary,” FLU Symptoms falls under the category of delusional disorders.

The victim of this disease lives their life under the delusion that they need not work hard. Sometimes this delusion is accompanied by the false belief that it is, in fact, summer already.

Scientists are working on cutting edge research into the treatment of FLU.

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Getting Through High School The Viking Way

Starring Event Lowlights Highlights UPComing Best Teacher

By Christina Kirby
Staff Writer

Freshmen who work hard have the honor of being nominated for Students of the Month. This special event is reserved for freshmen, and nominees are awarded with a free lunch. Freshmen also have their Link Crew leaders who act as big brothers and sisters on campus.

"It was really comforting having my Link Crew leader during the first couple of weeks. They helped me with so much and it was nice knowing a couple older students," freshman Mackenzie Allen said.

There are some downsides that come with being the newest students on campus. The first week of school can be chaotic. Trying to figure out how to cross the large campus and not be late to class, along with figuring out a lunch spot, are some of the first-week hassles. Having the lowest seniority is one of the major lowlights. In sports, the freshmen are expected to have the worst of the end of practice clean-up jobs. Then, of course, there are the pep rallies. There are not many who enjoy getting booed for several minutes.



Freshman year is a time of change and excitement. Finally out of the awkward Junior High stage, freshmen are now able to say they are in high school.

But what exactly are the highlights of freshman year? For one, everything is new, including the classes, teachers, and students. Freshman year is a great time to meet friends from all grade levels. It is also the perfect time to explore the many different sports teams and clubs that the school has to offer. Academically, it is fair to say that without the honors and AP classes, freshman year is the easiest. Ninth grade is generally seen as a fun and exciting year.

What can freshmen look forward to after the year? The most obvious would have to be no longer being the youngest. Throughout the high school years students are able to make decisions regarding the rest of their lives. These include where to apply or attend college, find out what interests them for future job ideas, and make lifelong friends. High school is the time when students can start to plan their future. As many freshmen are turning fifteen they are now able to hold a position as an employee.



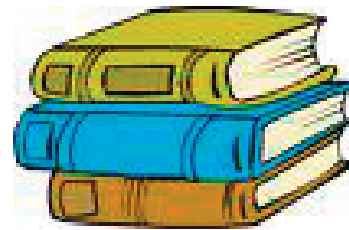
"Mr. Quisnell would have to be my favorite teacher. The best part of freshman year are his jokes," freshman Gennovive Knock said.

By Danielle Daitch
Staff Writer

Main events of sophomore year include dances, such as Homecoming and ASB Ball, and sporting events. Students say they feel more comfortable attending events as sophomores, because they have an idea of what to expect. Many sophomores also cite spending time with friends as a highlight of their year. Before the tedious academics of Junior year kick in, sophomores like to spend as much time just hanging out as they can.

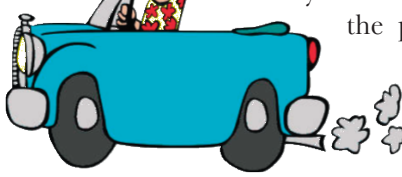
"My best memories of this year have been the times that I spend with my friends," sophomore Robin Breen said.

As always, with the high points must come the low points. Common "lowlights" of sophomore year include more difficult classes, first AP tests, and a heavier course-load. By tenth grade, teachers have given up on the grace period of freshman year. Sophomores are expected to take care of themselves, and are given less leeway when it comes to missing assignments and incomplete homework. Many students also take their first AP courses during sophomore year. The heavier workload comes as a shock to many, who are used to the comparatively light work given in ninth grade courses.



For many, the highlight of sophomore year is becoming more involved in school activities, such as athletics or clubs. While freshman year was a testing period, most sophomores have narrowed down their interests and become more involved in extra-curriculars. Whether it be making Varsity of their respective sport or becoming an officer of a club, sophomores have had time to narrow down their interests.

Another highlight of sophomore year is driving. From taking the permit test to receiving licenses, sophomore year contains a milestone that alters many sophomores' lives.



Students have many things to look forward to such as the privilege to drive. Others look forward to competing at a higher level in their respective sport. Junior year is when they can prove themselves as talented athletes, and strive for a spot on Varsity. Still others simply are happy to have another year of school under their belt. Many realize the importance of the upcoming year and begin to prepare themselves by taking rigorous courses.



"I like the way Mr. Atwell relates history to real life," sophomore Greta Gettlefinger said.

By Suquoia Geary
Staff Writer

Unfortunately, the big events to plan for junior year are the SAT and the ACT's. However, a junior can always hope that the "Junior Dance" will be resurrected. Juniors used to always get a dance that they got to throw for the underclassmen and from the stories told, it was always a good time. Also, juniors are now granted the title of "upper-classmen," no longer worrying about being looked down upon.

"I always wanted a junior dance, I've heard they were fun in the past but they haven't had one since I've been here," junior Tali Gires said.

Although there are many fun aspects of junior year, it is not all fun and games. Junior year is known for being the hardest year in High School. It's the year that colleges look at closest, and the time when everyone feels the pressure. SAT's are also really important junior year. Suddenly, as a junior, college becomes a reality and you are forced to think of where to apply and the means of getting there. Grades and test scores soon become your whole life.

"Junior year is very stressful; On top of all the hard work given by the teachers, you also start to feel the pressure knowing that college and living on your own is only a couple of years away," junior Ikaika Velasco said.



Being a junior is new and exciting, yet hard work and stressful. It is the time when a sophomore finally gets to become an upper classmen, and getting booed at pep



rally's starts to die down. As a junior, you get a sense that high school is coming to an end and college is finally in reach. Also, despite the sense that college is in the future no tears are in sight because you get the chance to be with your friends for one more year. Another perk of junior year is watching r-rated films at the movie theater.

After the trials and hard work of junior year come the easier work load of senior year. For juniors, senior year is the light at the end of the tunnel.

"I can't wait for senior year, because you can look forward to being the oldest and not being booed as loudly at the pep rallies," junior Kyle Wright said.

The one thing that juniors are able to look forward to is the upcoming senior year where many students can take a break from their rigorous schedules. Juniors can look forward to being the real upper-classmen with close to unlimited freedom. Most seniors will turn eighteen and become legal.

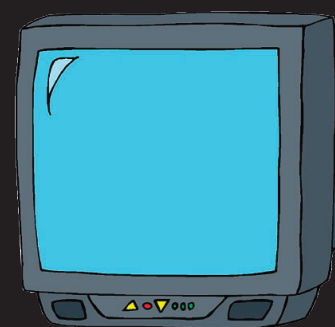


"I love Ms. Hubbard's class. It's always funny and the notes that she provides totally prepare you for the tests," junior Tess Reardon said.

By Jacqueline Berracasa
Staff Writer

Almost all the seniors can agree: the best night of high school is prom. This year's seniors can not seem to wait for classic events revolving around this fun night like asking that special someone, getting dressed up, going out to dinner at a fancy restaurant, riding around in a limousine, dancing the night away, and best of all, the school sponsored after party. Grad night is also a favorite event in which seniors all over San Diego have a certain amusement park all to themselves. Another event that seniors love to take part in is the traditional graduation day. These unforgettable epic events will remain among the graduating classes' memories forever.

Most students can agree that second semester of senior year is "The best time of your life," but it still has its disadvantages like filling out college applications, presenting Senior Exhibitions and the constant worry over college acceptance letters. Senioritis is also a lowlight of senior year because it causes laziness and slacking off, which effectively leads to lower grades and removal of acceptance letters. Although it might seem like seniors do not have to do much work, they still have to put some effort into school and senior exhibitions because of their inability to live with the thought of not passing.



While most students claim that the best part about senior year is the shorter days and the great feeling of Senioritis, a group of male students assert Ms. Collins English class as being the greatest highlight of high school.

According to most seniors, being able to get a C second semester, less homework, and the somewhat "worry-free" lifestyle are the best parts of their last year of high school. Ethan Swerdlow has a little bit of a different opinion.

"The best part about being a senior is that teachers respect us a little more," senior Swerdlow said.

Clearly, the one thing seniors are able to look forward to for next year is the college experience. Some students can not wait to play for, or watch, their college sports team, and others just want the feeling of freedom they will get while living on their own. Some can not wait to join a sorority or fraternity, a family tradition they can not break. Others just want to start over, meet new people, and have fun.

"I just can't wait to get out of La Jolla High and go to college to have fun," senior Emma Bradhurst said.



"The worst part about next year is the fact that I'm not going to be able to see Ms. Collins, but I definitely look forward to visiting her," said senior Kyle Zimmer.