

Hi-Tide

Volume LXXVVIII Issue 3 - December 15, 2011 **Celebrating La Jolla High’s 90th Year**



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By Laura Derickson
Staff Writer

“My fellow Americans, our troops are coming home. ..after a decade of war, the nation we now need to build is our own,” declared President Obama on Veterans Day.

President Obama previously announced on October 21, 2011 that by the end of this year, virtually all of the troops will be out of Iraq, ending the costly nine-year war.

What this means is that approximately 39,000 men and women will soon be returning home to their families.

The return of U.S. troops will have a great impact on our country and even more on San Diego, known throughout the world as a military town.

The influence of the brave men and women serving our country can be seen throughout the city.

What cannot be measured by monuments is the toll that

Welcome Home

Obama calls home all United States troops from Iraq



Featured: *Jones’ father and other United States military personnel that served in Japan are welcomed home.*

service in the U.S. military has on San Diego families. For military children to have their parents home for the holidays and beyond the season is a very exciting prospect.

A study conducted in 2010 indicated that military families occupy 28 percent of San Diego county’s housing and the military has helped create or support 23 percent of the county’s jobs.

Military bases in San Diego include U.S. Navy facilities, Marine Corps bases, and Coast Guard stations.

The city is home to the majority of the U.S. Pacific Fleet’s surface combatants, all of the Navy’s West Coast amphibious ships, and a variety of Coast Guard and Military Sealift Command vessels.

Understanding the full impact of military life on San

Diego requires a glance at its military families. Many of these families reside in our La Jolla community.

An interview with La Jolla High School freshman Kelci Jones provides more insight on the effects of military service on family life.

Jones’ father is in the Marines. He has served in the military for 11 years, nine of which he spent in active duty,

and currently serves as a helicopter mechanic and shop supervisor.

As the oldest sibling, Jones takes on the stressful role of helping to take care of her family while her father is serving.

“I have to set examples and support my family with my mom and [we have to] work together as a family, and I really have to help out my mom a lot more than other people do,” Jones said.

Naturally, when Jones’s father comes home there is much to be celebrated.

“We made signs and gave [him] hugs and...letters that we wrote over the period of months,” Jones said.

San Diegans welcome the troops home and appreciate their continual defense of the country both in times of war and in times of peace.

It’s a victory for the Seniors

By Sophia Sowers & Sarah Devermann
Staff Writer & News Editor

Despite the wet field and destroyed scoreboard, La Jolla High’s annual Powderpuff game took place yesterday on December 14.

In this event, girls got a chance to show off their football skills while boys cheered them on.

The games were played on a smaller version of a football field, 50 yards by 17 yards, and lasted 15 minutes each.

The first two Powderpuff games were played simultaneously; seniors played sophomores while juniors played freshmen.

The two victorious teams, seniors and juniors, then went on to play each other in the finals.

It was an extremely close game, but the senior class prevailed in the end.

Senior Ellen Latta scored the winning touchdown in the



Class of 2012: *Senior players huddle as they joyously celebrate their win.*

last ten seconds of the game.

“Powderpuff was such a fun experience. I love the fun yet competitive spirit. Even though we did not win this year, I am really proud of our team, and we will definitely win next year,” said junior Karly Zlatic, who scored all of the juniors’ touchdowns.

Congratulations to the Class of 2012 on winning this year’s Powderpuff!

Scoreboard

Freshman vs. Juniors
0-14

Sophomores vs. Seniors
0-14

Finals
Juniors vs. Seniors
7-14

Blood Drive is a Success

By Skylar Economy
Staff Writer

Around ninety La Jolla High School students went to the small gym to donate blood on December 2.

This time of the year is the most demanding time for blood. With flu season just beginning, and more scheduled surgeries arising, blood is much needed for this holiday season.

“We are all so thankful for all of the high school students

who are willing to give blood. Roughly thirty-five percent of the blood donations come from high school students,” said the account marketing manager, Marno Miller.

When someone donates a pint of blood, it goes to two or three different people who are in need of blood in all of the San Diego area hospitals. The San Diego Blood Bank will come again on March 6 and May 22, so make sure to donate blood and help save lives.

An ASB Update

Thank you to all who participated in this year’s Canned Food Drive, especially to the three classes who brought in the most pounds, winning our challenge. These winners will be announced Friday. ASB has collected hundreds of pounds of food that will be distributed to those in need.

Thank you to those who attended Powder-Puff and supported their classes! Congratulations to the seniors for winning and thank you to the

coaches, cheerleaders, and all who participated.

Tis’ the season to dig up that dreadful hand-knitted sweater your aunt gave you. That’s right, the annual Ugly Sweater Contest is taking place tomorrow at lunch. May the ugliest sweater win.

Enjoy winter break and happy holidays from ASB!

Sincerely,
Erik Vanstrum
ASB President

Gender Stereotypes

The same judgment should be applied to both individuals in any situation.

By Jordan Linsky
Staff Writer

In high school, typical topics discussed are sex and relationships. It is not uncommon to hear a “player” strutting around campus gloating about his weekend, while two girls walking down the hall are ridiculing other females using words such as ‘skank’ and ‘whore.’ So why is it that boys receive a slap on the back and respect from their peers for their exploits, while girls are considered sluts for merely laying eyes on two guys in the same day?

Becoming sexually active requires responsibility between two partners. Movies such as *Juno* exemplify the idea of unprotected sex leading to pregnancy. The protagonist Juno, a teenage girl, is ridiculed by fellow high school students, whereas the father of the child remains unidentified. Although the plot is comedic, it hits too close to home for many teenage girls.

While men get to “love freely,” women who choose to engage in sexual activities are called sluts if their escapades are discovered. Being prude in today’s world results in little or no attention from men, yet being sexually adventurous leads to criticism from both men and other women.

Of course, being a promiscuous woman means that there is a possibility for pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases, but neither of these states can be reached without a partner.

In an age where men and women are considered equal, this equality should transcend all aspects of society. If a man is going to be praised for flings, so should women. If women are going to be called ‘whores’ for experimenting with other human beings, men should be considered lewd.

Engaging in sex with multiple partners should not be encouraged among today’s youth; however, the reality of the modern world is that teenagers engage in mature relationships. People do not deserve to be ridiculed for their actions based upon their gender. Remember, it takes two to engage in the act.

The Seventh Generation

Why an Environmental Amendment is the Only Way to Save Us from Ourselves



By Erica Eisen
Senior Contributor

As Americans, we tend to take for granted that democracy is good. We fight wars, organize international bodies, and criticize governments abroad in democracy’s name.

But we are also apt to point out our political system’s flaws. Our Congress is slow-moving and slow-changing. Lobbies and moneyed interests are exerting an unsettling amount of influence on our politicians. We blame the elected officials, the money, the ignorant voters-- but we are scarcely so blasphemous as to attack the

expansion, and urbanization confronts on a daily basis, make democracy less and less suitable for the job of preservation.

As democracy thrives on dynamic discourse between the people and their representatives, letting the legislative branch decide on environmental issues on a case-by-case basis is potentially disastrous; it is something that cannot be reevaluated until it is too late.

Moreover, human anthropocentrism gets in the way of valuing nature in any way other than as it relates to us. Our own self-interest renders us

constitution is fundamentally undemocratic, an issue that Jefferson himself grappled with. He believed that for one generation to create and ratify a constitution they then imposed upon future generations, which have no say in its creation, is to enslave posterity.

The whole point of a perpetual constitution is that there are some decisions and values that should be kept out of the hands of the people. Freedom of speech, press, and worship are far too important to be left to the fickle whims of the masses. Is not the freedom to live in an unpolluted environment just

“An environmental amendment would be an ideal way to safeguard our future from the destructive practices of the present”

hallowed system of democracy itself.

Yet the grim fact of the matter is that our democracy has limitations, especially when a problem comes up so pressing, urgent, and expensive to fix that Congress is ill-equipped to handle it.

Climate change is just such an issue: the earth is warming at an alarming and unprecedented rate, yet the drastic steps needed to curb this harm the big corporations that help get our Congress elected. A top-down, “big government” approach might be the only way to save the planet.

Our democracy works best when the policies enacted are reversible so that the people and their representatives can respond when policies do not go well or fall out of favor.

The problem, however, is that many consequences of environmental degradation species, extinction, global warming, topsoil erosion--are permanent and cannot be reversed by a policy change.

All of these issues, which our current culture of growth,

apathetic to the plight of the vast majority of endangered species, most of which are neither adorable nor useful. We fail to see that these species have intrinsic value above and beyond any aesthetic and scientific benefits they provide to humanity, intrinsic value which surely outweighs that of the various strip malls and anonymous housing developments that threaten the natural habitats of these creatures.

If left unchecked, we will consistently act against our long-term interests in order to turn a profit in the present. Our government, with the foresight to know that the way we are headed, is neither good nor sustainable and the power to steer us away from this danger, has the responsibility to protect us from ourselves.

Attacking the efficacy of democracy may seem tantamount to treason to many readers. In truth, our democracy is much more of a mixed system than the purebred many suppose it to be.

A prime example is the Constitution itself. A perpetual

such a right? Shouldn’t the preservation of our planet trump the “freedom” to develop unsustainably?

Something stronger than the repealable laws that our all-too-corruptible Congress provides is therefore necessary. An environmental amendment, which many states have already adopted into their own constitutions, would be an ideal way to safeguard our future from the destructive practices of the present

Groups who support the adoption of the Seventh Generation Amendment (a name which comes from a concept in Iroquois law) see government intervention as necessary in order to protect our future.

While detractors call such proposals an infringement upon personal liberty, in reality they are an intercession on behalf of our posterity.

To deny the fact that Congress’s attempts at environmental reform thus far have been too little too late and to fail to acknowledge the necessity of more drastic steps is to lead us bullheadedly down a path to self-destruction.

The La Jolla High School

HI-TIDE

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The Lost Meaning Behind Modern Marriage

Weddings have focused more on the event itself and less on commitment

By Chance Rhome
Staff Writer

The statement “Till death do us part” has gone from a sentimental, heartfelt vow to an offhanded, cavalier formality. It has lost the seriousness and meaning it once had in uniting two people in the sanctity of marriage for the duration of their lives. Today, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov), the marriage rate in the United States is 6.8 per 1000 people of the total population. The divorce rate accompanies this at 3.4 per 1000 people. This means fifty percent of *all* marriages that take place in America end in divorce.

Why are Americans refusing

dominated the small screen in a massive build-up that spanned for weeks. The multi-million dollar marriage lasted a grand total of 72 days. The fanfare that came before the wedding lasted longer than the marriage itself. People lack the foresight and understanding to appreciate that marriage consists not only of honeymoons and romantic bliss, but also of endless commitment and responsibility to another person.

“I don’t think [the divorce rate] is okay; I think people should take the time to get to know people before they get married,” said senior Zhana Smith.

We drop statements such as “I love you” like Beyonce drops top singles. Little thought is given to the repercussions or

The Impact of Social Networking on College Acceptance

By Caitlyn Kellogg
Staff Writer

The realm of college admissions is a daunting and increasingly competitive world to delve into. As students work hard to improve their SAT scores and polish their essays, they may be overlooking one crucial factor of college admissions: the task some colleges embark on of looking at social networking sites for information about applicants.

Every day teenagers mindlessly post information about themselves online. They do not take into consideration that this posted information could affect their futures.

According to a study published on October 24, twenty percent of the undergraduate admissions officers surveyed said they have used social networking sites to inspect applicants. The percent was higher for business admissions officers and higher still for law school admissions officers.

While researching an applicant, admissions officers look for any illegal activity, which most often surfaces in pictures. Most commonly, admissions officers find something offensive that an applicant has posted. This greatly lowers that applicant’s chances of being accepted to that particular college.

Though students may take precautions when it comes to incriminating photos, often untagging themselves or deleting certain images, what they do not realize is that nothing is ever completely removed from the internet. Those working in college admissions may hire a company to do a complete

background check on an applicant. This includes recovering information such as photos and posts that have been long deleted.

This way of researching applicants does not only apply to college admissions. Once admitted to a college, students may be kicked off of sports teams, or, more severely, expelled from school, if their social networking profiles expose them in a negative way. Additionally, those hiring employees use the same tactics when deciding whether or not to hire an applicant.

Students are ignorant when it comes to their social networking profiles. They should not post pictures of themselves drinking or performing other activities that college admissions officers would look down upon in the hope of receiving attention; they should not post “witty” or “clever” statuses that may be taken as offensive.

Many Facebook users see the site as a place to freely express themselves, a place separate from school, and tend to act differently than they would in a school-like setting. Students should be thinking about how they want colleges to view them, and then checking to see if their online profiles correspond with that image.

On social networking sites such as Facebook, many students often do not have a filter on the information they post about themselves. They do not realize how truly accessible it is, even after it has been deleted, and they do not consider who could be hunting for it. One must ensure he does not recklessly post anything that could harm himself in the future.



to take their vows seriously? Senior Nina Ly has a theory. “I think people are in love with the idea of being in love.”

She makes a valid point. Everywhere you look, including bookshelves, movie theaters, and art galleries, you are inundated with romance stories. A common thread among young adult novels is finding “the one,” typically occurring before the protagonist has even turned 18. This creates an undue influence on the younger generation, sending the message that finding your ‘special someone’ is a major priority, and that you are socially inept if you cannot do so quickly. However, in the hurried competition to find the perfect spouses, many end up losing.

The emphasis on romantic commitment is inescapable. It even comes from the celebrities we seek to emulate. *Kim [Kardashian]’s Fairytale Wedding*

meaning behind them. Those three little words are loaded, and unless you are ready to pull the commitment trigger, it is best to keep them in your arsenal a little while longer.

We live in a world where people tend to marry for the wrong reasons.

“Back in the day, they actually had to have something to like about [their spouse]; now it’s all fame and fortune. The American dream was about pursuit of happiness; now it’s about the pursuit of money,” Ly said.

Whatever the reason, whether it is misguided ideals or pure naivety, marriage is not a spur of the moment “I’m bored and nothing is on television so let’s get married” decision.

It is a lifetime vow to stay with that person through the good and the bad, and through sickness and health. You should take time to think before rushing into that kind of commitment.

Holiday Spirit:

Is it too much?

By Katie Allen
Staff Writer

We have all been there before: someone walks into Vons and observes all of its glory, Christmas decorations up and aisles upon aisles of glitter-covered mini Christmas trees.

There used to be a commonly accepted rule: “No Christmas memorabilia before Thanksgiving.” It stops only a few people, however, from parading around singing Christmas carols in mid-July or from keeping their Christmas lights up until March. It all leads to one question: when is holiday joy taken a step too far?

It is a moment when one goes to the mall or Home Depot and finds only an overly peppy employee who boasts about the season’s sales in a jangling elf hat. To make matters worse, one meets an even more annoyingly excited shopper, who, although seemingly sane, is about to burst out of his Christmas embroidered sweater at the thought of fifteen percent off yet another stuffed polar bear.

There are always Christmas trees up before Thanksgiving. People have prematurely hung their holiday lights, wreaths, ornaments, and an astoundingly large number of inflatable or light up animals in scarves. In the past, some people have even had their Santa Pigs in sync with holiday music for a light show guaranteed to melt your mind like Frosty the Snowman.

La Jolla High School, a relatively spirited school, hosts various types of people and personalities and therefore has many different views on “the most wonderful time of the year.” Some are cynical, others joyous.

“It depends on the people,” said sophomore George Wu. “Costco starts taking things down and putting [Christmas] things up.” When asked if there was such a thing as too much Christmas spirit, he responded with a quick “maybe.”

Other students do not agree. “Christmas is one of the most fun holidays of the year because you get to spend time with your family, decorate your house, and see the light show in Del Mar,” senior Adriana Martinez explained. “I don’t think there’s such a thing as too much spirit, but sometimes people go crazy about it.” If there is one thing she finds annoying, it is the long lines.

That is something everyone can agree on.

The Homeless of La Jolla

By Fabiola Zirino
Staff Writer

As I was gazing out of the car window during my morning drive to school, I saw a straggly, rough-looking man treading down the sidewalk of Torrey Pines Road. This man's beard was completely gray, grown-out, and obviously neglected. He was dressed in a red plaid shirt and a cowboy hat. Since it had been raining the previous evening, the man converted a gray tarp into a poncho to shield himself.

This struck me as quite creative, which led me to wonder: what do homeless people do when it rains? Where do they go to find shelter to keep from getting wet? How do they manage to stay warm? Reluctantly, I admitted, I do not often wonder about a homeless person's livelihood.

There are many homeless people living in La Jolla. It is an impressive contrast of socioeconomic realms to see begging hobos amidst luxury houses and cars. The homeless are residents of La Jolla just like anyone with a 92037 address, except they don't have an address.

I met a homeless man sitting on a bench on the corner of Girard and Prospect. It was obvious that he was mentally unstable. According to psychiatrist and author of *The Insanity Offense*, E. Fuller Torrey, "a United States Federal survey done in 2005 indicated that

at least one-third of homeless men and women have serious psychiatric disorders or problems." Still, the homeless man offered some information as to how he copes with the cold and rain.

"I sleep in cubbies" he kept repeating while I wondered exactly what he meant.

"How do you keep warm at night?" I asked him.

"I don't get cold" he replied, alluding to a can of beer.

Later that week, while I was riding my bicycle in Pacific Beach, I noticed other homeless people making camps and starting warm fires under forgotten bridges and sewer ways. The homeless people gather, cook together, share their food, drugs, and alcohol, and then they all sleep in tents or sleeping bags. They keep each other company, and thus create a kind of warmth to comfort them in the cold winter. The more homeless people that live in the same area, the more of a community that can be established, and the more "normal" lives they can live.

It seems as if homeless people are just ignored; tossed a few coins, then end up out of sight and out of mind. It is a troubling sight to see, but with that generous dollar the homeless person's suffering can be temporarily relieved. Is this truly helping the person? Or is it a disservice to lead them into false refuge? It seems more reasonable and helpful to understand why the person is in this situation in the first place.

A person can become homeless for many reasons, but it is partially due to a lack of employment opportunities.

When a human lives without such a basic need as a home, he or she must adjust in some way to fulfill that human need. The outcasts of society, though, use a non-conventional mode of thinking when compared to their common folk counterparts. As shown by the man wearing a tarp poncho, homeless people think outside the box. They find creative solutions to their problems. This sort of thinking is probably what allows the homeless folk to cope with their present situation (along with external, mind-numbing solutions such as narcotics or

alcohol).

Homeless people are not that different than from the rest of us. While we enjoy our holiday in the comfort of our homes, we must imagine what it would

be like to not have one. What do homeless people do on holidays? We must think about them, notice them, and if we can, help them.

Photo courtesy of www.lajollalight.com



Pictured above: A homeless person rests on a bench in La Jolla while onlookers pass.

1. Which five people would you choose to accompany you to Disneyland?

Kevin: Michael Jordan, Mickey Mouse, my cousin, my uncle, and one of my parents.

Sara: *The Buried Life* cast.

2. If you could bring someone back to life, who would it be?

Kevin: Tupac Shakur.

Sara: John Lennon.

3. If you had twenty four hours left to live, what would you do?

Kevin: I would visit Hawaii.

Sara: I would spend time with my family and close friends.

4. If you could create a class that isn't currently available on campus, what would it be?

Kevin: A video games creation class.

Sara: Yoga class.

Questions For...

By Hannah Rawdin
Copy Editor



Kevin Lunas
Freshman



Sara Sharp
Senior

Photos courtesy of Solene Furlanis & Brittney Schrift

5. Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Kevin: Working at a store that has something to do with equipment; maybe working on my Ph.D.

Sara: Hopefully happy and healthy!

Winter Break Activities

By **Jenny Shorenstein**
Staff Writer

Tired of the same old winter activities? Take advantage of this wonderful season and check out one of these fun and unique December events going on throughout San Diego.

- Port of San Diego Big Bay Balloon Parade

The Big Bay Balloon Parade will take place on December 28 at 10 a.m. in downtown San Diego. This family-friendly parade will include marching bands, floats, drill teams, and enormous balloons that rival those of the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

- Ice skating at the Hotel Del Coronado

This year marks the 7th anniversary of Skating by the Sea, a unique experience the Hotel Del Coronado offers every winter. Enjoy the unique experience of ice skating outdoors right next to the beautiful Pacific Ocean. Hot chocolate and other yummy treats are sold nearby to keep you warm and cozy.

- Jungle Bells at the San Diego Zoo

The world -famous San Diego Zoo is transformed into a winter wonderland during the month of December. It has a nightly tree-lighting ceremony, bell ringers, music, and lighted animal figures. It also has fun attractions such as the North Pole Elf Express and a Santa Meet and Greet Workshop. Check out the zoo’s website at www.sandiegozoo.org/junglebells/ for a full list of all the activities.

- Holiday of Lights at the Del Mar Fairgrounds

This truly spectacular event started in November and lasts until January 1, 2012. The Holiday of Lights consists of “more than 400 twinkling, lively displays located around the Del Mar Racetrack that will delight your family.” It is open Sunday through Thursday from 5:30 to 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. On December 16, there is an extra- special Holiday Hayride!

- SeaWorld

SeaWorld will be all decked out in holiday spirit this winter! Come enjoy new attractions like Shamu’s Christmas Show and the 4-D Polar Bear experience. SeaWorld will even have an ice skating rink this year! This holiday celebration started in November and will continue through December.

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB CONTEST WINNERS

By **Devon Bowman**
Photography Club President



Congratulations to Julia Schroeder for winning first place in the La Jolla High School Photography Club November Photo Contest.

On the reason behind why she likes photography, Schroeder, a senior, said, “I use it as a way of documenting the world I see. I do it for fun. It wasn’t until last summer that I learned to develop, which taught me a lot about photography as an art form.”

The water reflection adds to her photo (upper left) and we love the autumn feel that the trees and orange glowing lights

give.

Second place in the November Photo Contest goes to freshman Stephanie Foster. Stephanie’s photo (upper right) shows raindrops on a window which slightly blur the outline of the palm trees in the background.

Stephanie loves participating in the photo contests because “[she] can see other people’s amazing artwork and get feedback on what people like or dislike about [her] photos. [She] want to be a photographer, so this is a great way to get [her] work out!”

Thank you to all those who entered photos into the contest! Our December Photography Contest runs through December 31, so get your photos in!

This will be the first contest with a theme, “winter.” Anyone is welcome to enter, simply request the “LJHS Photography Club” group on Facebook and then upload your photo into the “December: Photo Contest” album.

Whoever has the most ‘likes’ at the end of the month wins. Good luck!

Fresh From the Farm

By **Jordan Linksy**
Staff Writer

Are you craving a delicious meal made with fresh seasonal products? Farmers Markets are establishments that are commonly viewed as nothing more than overpriced produce. However, in a time when food is genetically morphed, paying a few more dollars for quality food that tastes good, is local, and is good for you is something that La Jolla students should look into.

Seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables are not the only products offered at the local Farmers Markets. Ethnic menus, ranging from Mexican to French, provide customers with a full and satisfied stomach. Rather than driving to unhealthy fast food joints every weekend, people can look to Farmers Markets for healthy meals along with fast service.

Farmers Markets create many benefits for not only the farmer but for the consumers and the community. The producers are able to maintain maximum profit by removing the middleman from the food selling process.

Consumers are able to obtain fresh produce from certified organic farmers, and, as a result, more capital remains in the consumer’s community.

Before the Industrial Age, Farmers Markets were the source of nourishment for communities; however, the street markets were soon replaced by modernized grocery stores and supermar-

kets. Although chain brand establishments make it easier for customers to obtain the products they want, the food stocked in grocery stores is packaged and shipped from remote areas.

Not only do Farmers Markets provide organic food for the community and multiply farmers’ profits; they also help maintain social connections. As urban life expands, children growing up in La Jolla will not possess the proper understanding of where the food they consume comes from. Local street markets allow a crucial social bond between rural and urban populations to be formed, which helps educate the youth on how to eat healthy as well as support local businesses.

As the demand for healthy food goes up, so does the amount of local organically produced goods. The amount of Farmers Markets in the United States grew from 1,755 in 1994 to 5,274 in 2009.

The most popular Farmers Market in La Jolla is held every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at La Jolla Elementary. The market has a wide selection of fresh produce and prepared meals. There are also multiple markets within driving distance in PB. Saturdays at 8 a.m. until 12 p.m., Pacific Beach holds a Farmers Market at 4150 Mission Boulevard between Reed and Pacific Beach Boulevard. There is also a market on Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Bayard and Garnet Street. La Jolla students should go out and support the local farmers by enjoying the fresh produce that they have to offer!

Editors Note: Visit the La Jolla Elementary Open Aire Market website at www.lajollamarket.com to view pictures of the market, see a full list of fruits and vegetables that are currently in season, and get directions.

Tree 1, Scoreboard 0



Did you see? On December 10 a storm hit La Jolla, knocking down a tree which then hit the football field’s score board, smashing the left side to pieces.

What is your perspective?

You live your life, you have your friends, and you have your opinions, but have you ever wondered why you live the way you do? You tend to befriend certain kinds of people and think negatively of others. Why? Throughout your life, you have developed a specific point of view on events as they happen. It affects what you think will happen next, and that, in turn, determines how you behave. We at the Hi-Tide wondered about the same issues. The following survey is intended to shed at least a partial light on this topic. Whereas personality is how a person acts in life, a perspective is how a person views life, a system of beliefs by which he perceives the world. The World English Dictionary defines a person's perspective as his "way of regarding situations, facts, etc., and judging their relative importance;" it guides personality. A random sample of La Jolla High School students took a questionnaire that determined whether they have an optimistic, realistic, cynical, or pessimistic perspective. The questions applied psychological theories on the perspectives, using techniques such as explanatory style, as opposed to the self-analysis methods of a stereotypical optimistic-pessimistic quiz. Explanatory style examines what a person attributes hypothetical events to. The measured characteristics are internal or external, stable or unstable, and local or global.



Cara Cadman, Senior: Cynical

Hi-Tide: What is the difference between cynicism and pessimism?
Cara Cadman: The difference between cynicism and pessimism is that a pessimist will have blind doubts in the outcome of any event while a cynic has recollections of bad experiences and will consider [them] while still keeping an active mind. A cynic will have lower expectations of people and events; a pessimist has a more extreme and general negative outlook on life.
HT: What is the benefit of being doubtful?
CC: Being doubtful has one main benefit: better-than-expected outcomes. You won't be let down, and you're more likely to have a pleasant surprise.
HT: Why is society more frustrating than life?
CC: What a loaded question. Don't assume that it is; not everybody feels that way. (I do, though.)
HT: Do people's actions have at least a small basis in selfishness?
CC: People's actions will always have a small basis in selfishness because they're self-serving in some way. If a person goes out of their way to feed the poor, they are doing it for themselves internally. It will make them feel good about being morally righteous or looking great for colleges. That's not so bad, though.

Ethan Hammershaimb, Freshman: Realistic

Hi-Tide: What do you think is best for making decisions: gut reactions or careful consideration?
Ethan Hammershaimb: Careful consideration because if you have more careful consideration then you're more likely to get it right because [with gut reactions] you don't have any evidence to back it up. It's just a natural instinct. If you have careful consideration, you put more thought into it and, like anything, there's stuff you can prove about it.
HT: At what point would someone be over-thinking a decision?
EH: When they confuse themselves or they can't figure out something in a few moments.
HT: What do general negativity and general positivity have in common?
EH: They probably both think of something too much, like they think life is too great or life is too bad. Positive [thinks] life could go on forever, while negative thinks life is going to end right away.



Erika Wadsworth, Sophomore: Optimistic

Hi-Tide: How do you find yourself optimistic?
Erika Wadsworth: I can see the good in situations that don't appear to be good, the silver lining. I think I can see the good in other people. I'm just optimistic. I don't know what to say about that.
HT: What's beneficial about having faith in humanity?
EW: It's beneficial to have faith in other people because if you have faith in someone, it inspires them to have faith in themselves.
HT: Why might the ability to connect emotionally with people be better than adherence to logic?
EW: You'll have happier relationships, like with your friends, because you'll be able to connect with people more than if you approach everything logically. People will feel like you empathize with them and understand them.
HT: Even though both negatives and positives exist, what is there to gain from focusing on the positives?
EW: What you focus on becomes part of your awareness, and then it becomes a bigger part of your life. What you pay attention to and what you let matter to you is really significant, and it can affect your whole outlook, and it's better to have a positive outlook because your life will be more positive as a result.



Aldo McGrath, Freshman: Pessimistic

Hi-Tide: Why could focusing on the negatives be more beneficial than focusing on the positives? Is there more to gain from noticing the negatives rather than glazing over them?
Aldo McGrath: If something negative can happen, or if it's more likely to happen, it might be useless to do something if it's not going to turn out well.
HT: What are the consequences of being an overly hopeful and overly trusting person?
AM: You could be let down a lot. If you trust people, and they constantly aren't truthful about things, you might not want to trust them again. I think it's important to follow patterns of experiences.
HT: What do you think the benefits are of taking responsibility for negative events?
AH: People might realize that you're being truthful about things, and they might trust you.



Caricatures by Abbas Derissi

Explanatory Style Key:
Internal causes are the result of one's own actions.
External causes are the result of someone or something else.
Stable causes existed before and will continue to exist.
Unstable causes appear for the first time and are unlikely to appear again.
Local causes pertain solely to one circumstance.
Global causes affect all aspects of a person's life.

Cynical

Optimism is a disposition to place importance on the positives of events or conditions, but still recognize the negatives, and also to expect positive outcomes. The optimist is **trusting, confident, and has a high emotional connection**. When presented with a good hypothetical event, the optimist describes the cause as internal, stable, and global. A bad event has an external, unstable, and local cause. The assumption that optimism is baseless is false. Optimism develops because of environmental factors; it is learned from experience. Ignorance is not a quality of optimism.

Realistic

Pessimism is **a disposition to emphasize the negatives of events or conditions and anticipate negative outcomes**. The pessimist doesn't believe that the inner qualities of life are likely to change, but he can make significant improvements to the outer qualities by noticing flaws that most cannot. In comparison with cynicism, pessimism is more of displeasure with a person's own life than with society. It is a learned emotional response from experience. The pessimist attributes a good hypothetical event to an external, unstable, and local cause; he attributes a bad hypothetical event to an internal, stable, and global cause.

Cynicism is **a doubtful and questioning view of people's motives and morals, believing that most acts have a selfish root, and showing contempt for accepted standards**. It is the opposite of optimism and the opposite of naïveté. Cynicism is not to be mistaken for skepticism; skepticism is disbelief, rather than doubt, and less informed. The cynic supports his doubt with logic. He thinks negatively of society, feeling jaded by it; he does not think negatively of himself. The cynic attributes good and bad events internally, stably, and globally, but mostly inconsistently.

Optimistic

Realism is **the acceptance and presentation of life as it is in reality**. The realist has a practical sense of what is possible. Realism is based on logic more than emotion. The realist judges each situation as a separate instance with few assumptions, expectations, or preconceptions. He may be presumptuous of certain situations, but in varying ways; the inconsistency displays relative and, therefore, realistic judgment. The realist often attributes both good and bad events internally, stably, and globally, or inconsistently. Although realism appears ideal, too much pragmatism can disconnect the realist from emotional realities of others.

Pessimistic

Sample Questions from the Survey

Survey and text by
Alex McMahon

Other than the physical situation and environment, the general characteristics of your life aren't likely to change. True or False

A 17-year-old boy is trying to join a gang. Pressured, he kills a man and is caught by the police. Which of the following should affect his sentencing?

- a) How pressured he was and how remorseful he is now.
- b) How people in similar cases are sentenced.
- c) How likely it is that he will commit further crimes.

You can't complete all the work that others expect you to. Write down the one major cause:

- Is the cause due to something about you or something outside of you?
Completely outside 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Completely me
- Will the cause be present again?
Never again 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Always present
- Does the cause influence your work capacity only or other areas of your life?
This situation only 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 All areas

You get a new haircut. All who notice it say that they like it. Are most of them being honest?

- a) I automatically compliment people's haircuts. That's just how it is. They aren't necessarily lying. They're indifferent.
- b) They might not be as enthusiastic as they seem, but in general, I believe them.
- c) I couldn't say. My haircut must not look bad if no one criticizes it, though.
- d) I wouldn't like my haircut, so they can't be too honest.

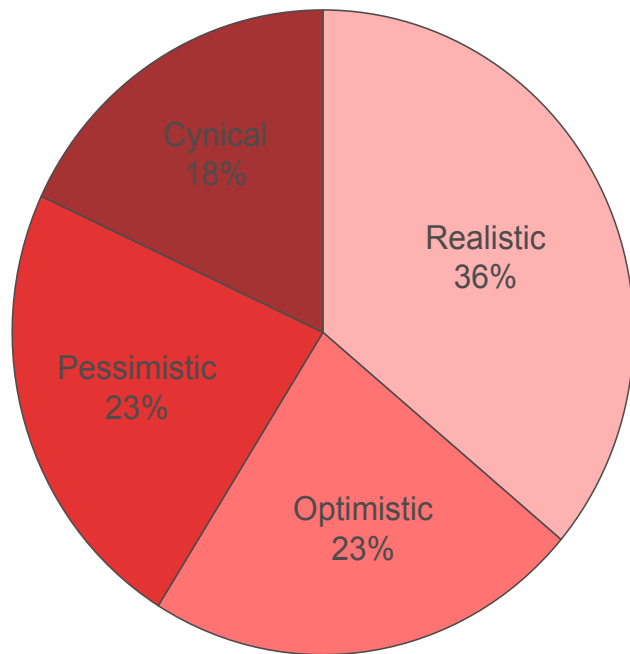
On what basis is it safe to assume?

- a) Patterns of personal experience.
- b) Present observations.

Other than the physical situation and environment, the general characteristics of your life aren't likely to change. True or False

Which is more frustrating: the structure of your life or society?
Life 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Society

Perspectives Breakdown
of LJHS Students



No More “Smoking”

Ex-heavy weight champion, Joe Frazier, dies of cancer

By Ben Allen
Staff Writer

The world of boxing mourned the death of one of its most celebrated champions this past November. Joe Frazier, an ex-heavyweight champion, succumbed to liver cancer at the age of 67.

Although he was known for his jabs and left hook, the career of ‘Smoking’ Joe was characterized by his bitter rivalry between him and the famous Muhammad Ali. Whereas Ali was a more charismatic, handsome, and proud fighter, Frazier bore the face of a working man, and the silence of one who let his actions speak for him. Frazier won 32 fights in total, 27 of which were knockouts, and lost only four times. Frazier’s losses were to the boxing greats of the time: Muhammad Ali, and George Foreman.

Born January 12, 1944, in South Carolina, Frazier showed enthusiasm for boxing at a young age. Frazier would fill sacks with straw and hay and use them as makeshift punching bags. He dropped out of school when he was 13 years old, and at the age of 15, Frazier went to New York to live with his brother. Frazier worked in a slaughterhouse, and, in a cliché moment, used the sides of meat as punching bags in his spare time.

Later, when Frazier moved to Philadelphia, he was discovered by boxing coach Yank Durham. Under Durham’s coaching, Frazier won a Golden Gloves championship and then won the heavyweight gold medal at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. A year later, Frazier became a professional boxer.

Muhammad Ali had previously been stripped of his heavyweight title, as a result of refusing to be drafted into

the Vietnam War. The heavyweight title was up for grabs. Frazier, himself, did not participate in the tournament to decide the next heavyweight champ, though he did take a heavyweight title recognized by New York in 1968 followed by the official title in 1970.

The crowning achievement of Frazier’s career was in 1971, when Ali regained his boxing license and was quickly climbing the ranks to regain his former title. The stage was set for the Frazier vs. Ali showdown. There was more to the bout than just two well-respected boxers. The rivalry between Frazier and Ali was fierce. Ali not only wanted his title back, but he stood for the growing Nation of Islam and the opposition to the Vietnam War. Frazier was merely known as the “favorite of the establishment,” adding Ali’s insults against Frazier. The tension between the two could not have been greater.

The “Fight of the Century” took place at Madison Square

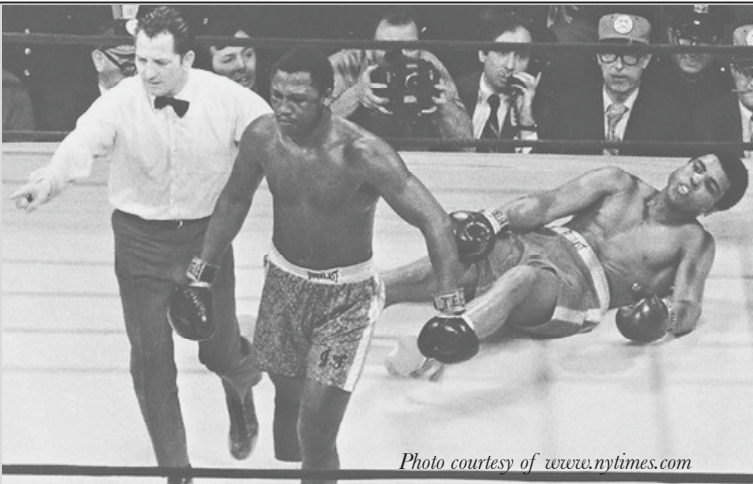


Photo courtesy of www.nytimes.com

Garden. Each man was guaranteed a payday of \$2.5 million. Frazier was 5 foot 11 ½ inches, weighing 205 pounds. Ali was taller, heavier, and had better reach. As the fight was gearing up, Ali was arrogant as always. Frazier glared silently.

The two went at it for a total of 15 rounds until Frazier unleashed his left hook and floored Ali. Frazier was the unanimous victor. Afterward, Frazier commented, “I always knew who the champ was.”

Frazier went on to hold the title until 1973 when he lost it to George Foreman. Frazier

would face Ali two more times: once in 1974, and another time in 1975 to try to retake his title. Both times he lost. Frazier retired in 1976 at the age of 32. He came out of retirement in 1981 to fight Jumbo Cummings. After the fight came to a draw, Frazier retired for good. He is survived by his eleven children.

Boxers everywhere will remember the legendary prowess of the powerful, quiet fighter: a man who did what he loved, and did it well. His memory will live on both in and out of the ring.

More Than Just a Good Figure

By Emma Scott
Copy Editor

An average high school girl’s duties are no picnic. She has homework to finish, boys to flirt with, and parents to appease. Yet somehow, about one in three girls manages to squeeze in sports practice after school.

Exercise is the key to a healthy body and for girls- let’s be honest- a hot body, but what could be the motivation for joining a sports team beyond vanity? According to the Women’s Sports Foundation, there are many benefits to high school sports teams beyond physical health.

Burning calories is an obvious

advantage to getting out and jogging a lap with your teammates. However, sports can also burn stress away. When exercising, the brain releases chemicals called endorphins, which produce a natural feeling of euphoria and alleviate stress.

Another natural mood-booster involved specifically with high school team sports is the team itself. Forming bonds with teammates is a by-product of most school sports, and it is a self-evident truth that friends can alleviate stress on and off of the playing field. “As a team, we learn from each other, and we grow as individuals,” said junior Lea Papas, a member of the basketball team.

Playing sports generally makes girls feel better about themselves in more ways than just stress relief. When girls experience first hand the process of practicing, improving, and achieving their goals, they find themselves more confident about their abilities as a person. “When you do good, you can’t help but feel good,” said Dr. Bardach, Ph.D., on self-improvement. This confidence can also transfer to abilities in the classroom.

Many think that sports take up too much time from studying and they are unaware of the academic strengths involved in school sports. Research shows that girls who play sports have a higher grade

point average than those who do not, and are twice as likely to attend college. Studies have shown that these active girls have improved memory, attention span, conflict resolution, and time management.

Girls who play sports acquire skills that apply to the rest of their lives as well. They learn valuable interpersonal techniques in working with trainers and coaches. By interacting with these types of people on a daily basis, girls learn to deal with authority, responsibility, and teamwork.

These abilities are heavily favored among teen girls, because they require a certain amount of maturity that most teens lack. They also prove to

serve them well in family life, and later, in the work environment.

One of the most valuable skills girls learn from athletics is leadership. A 1987 survey showed that out of 500 companies, 95 percent of corporate executives participated in sports during high school.

These advantages may seem small and easily squandered, but the truth remains: girls who play sports in school are, overall, more successful now and later in life. So girls- when you find yourself considering a new sport this winter, give it a shot.

The only thing a girl has to lose with sports is calories, and the gains are limitless.

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Congratulations to V.J. Cheng

for making the San Diego Record Book for yards per reception. The record is now 25.5 yards.



Photos courtesy of Eric Gunderson



By Edward Gonzalez
Staff Writer

Auto racing is the world's most watched and televised sport, and it is growing every day.

It started in the 19th century. Today, many students, such as senior Eric Gunderson, have taken part in auto racing for as long as they can remember.

"[Auto racing is] the art of taking a car to its limits and being able to race with others who are doing the same. There are many forms of this, from drag racing to NASCAR, but all of them are originally a test of how far and how fast a car and driver can go within a set

of rules and technical guidelines," Gunderson described.

Gunderson continued to explain that "the driver must be willing to win the trust of the team, to show that they are committed." It takes talent, but more importantly, commitment to the team and its members to become a professional driver.

"The driver is really what keeps the team together through the hard times," said Gunderson.

Unfortunately, there have been many accidents in the sport, and even worse,

many deaths. The most recent death was that of Dan Wheldon's.

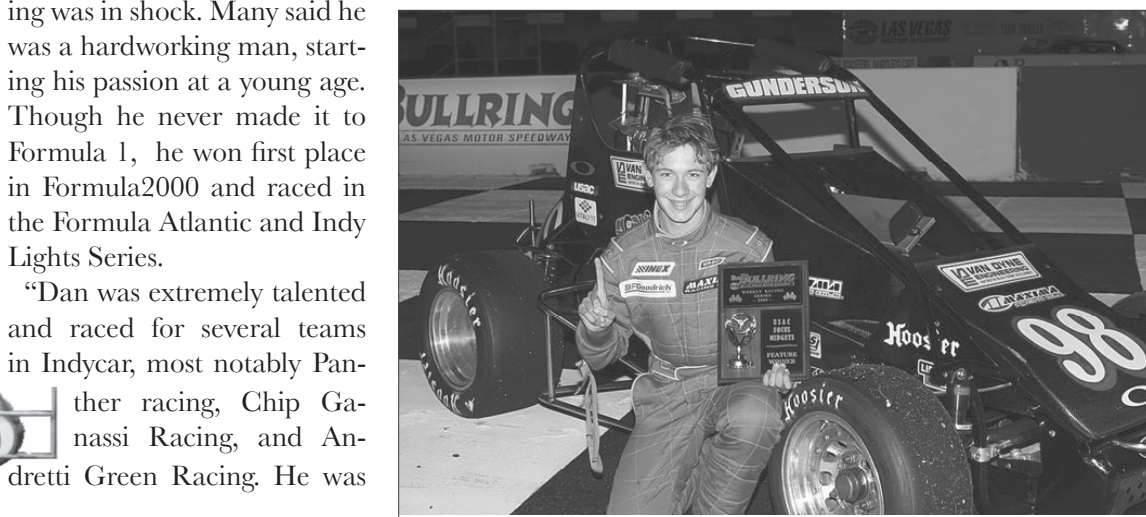
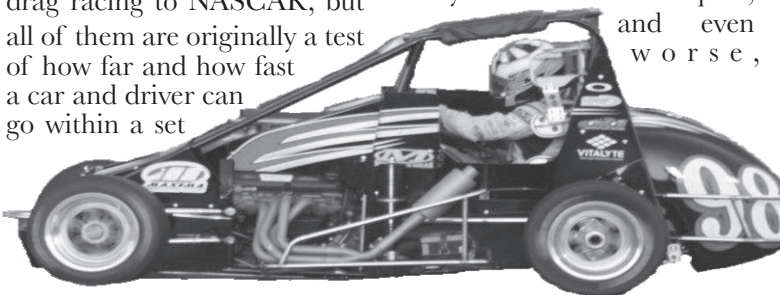
Dan Wheldon had a major influence on the auto racing world. When the news broke, the entire world of auto racing was in shock. Many said he was a hardworking man, starting his passion at a young age. Though he never made it to Formula 1, he won first place in Formula2000 and raced in the Formula Atlantic and Indy Lights Series.

"Dan was extremely talented and raced for several teams in Indycar, most notably Panther racing, Chip Ganssi Racing, and Andretti Green Racing. He was

the 2005 IndyCar Series champion, as well as a two-time Indy 500 winner. His last victory, this past year's Indy 500, was very special. He won with a team that only had one race under their belt prior

to the 500, and it was a very emotional and uplifting event for the whole motorsport community," said Gunderson.

Wheldon will be missed, but as life goes on, so does the world of auto racing.



Battle of the Fittest MEN VS. WOMEN BASKETBALL

By Katie Allen
Staff Writer

Competition could quite possibly be encoded in human DNA. With all things, such as sports, grades, and even social status, there is an air of rivalry. Throughout time, males and females have vied for power or

involved in training and practices associated with this sport.

Karen Hartzman, who coached the women's varsity basketball team last year, is confident and excited for the season, but she does warn the idle that basketball is not the sport for them.

"We have a good solid two

order not to run.

"It's not as punishment; it's just to add some movement and pressure so they stay quick on their feet. And we always end with hard conditioning," said the coach.

The girls begin slow and practice shooting drills, then

to the boys, Coach Hartzman graciously responds "I'm not at their practices, but I know we're both disciplined."

Coach Kamal Assaf, who teaches history at LJHS's main rival school, Bishop's, coaches the men's varsity team. Eight seniors on Coach Assaf's team

that of the women's.

"We do a lot of core body movement and conditioning," explained the coach. "Prior to our two hour practice, we try to get stretching and movement in for 15 to 30 minutes."

He said some of the most important aspects of the sport are "strength, flexibility, stamina and speed skills," and quickly added, "with conditioning."

The men follow a six-week program that includes working their way up and down the court, offensive and defensive strategies, and you guessed it, more sprinting.

Both teams are working extremely hard, and there is no bitterness between the two. Now only time will tell if any of the intense training will pay off, but for now one can safely assume that the only competition for LJHS sports teams is with other schools.

And while the battle to be the most dominant basketball team rages on, it is certain there will be no lack of running.



Photo courtesy of Katie Allen

Women's Varsity Basketball Team practices for their game with a drill.

It's hard to say [who is better] because I've never seen the practices

-Coach Assaf

rank. It is nothing new.

As winter sports are in full swing, La Jolla High School students turn their attention to one of the most popular sports of this season: basketball.

Drawing crowds, fans, and wins, the male and female basketball teams are a force to be reckoned with.

People often wonder what is

hours of tough practice daily during our regular season," she said. "We do a lot of conditioning."

It is already clear that basketball is a very endurance-oriented sport.

Besides just running and sprints, the girls work on their skills with pressure free-throws; the idea is to make a basket in

do ten free throws, and work with 5 vs. 5 drills as well as offensive and defensive drills. When asked how they stack up

graduated last year, but he is optimistic about the upcoming season. The focuses of their practices are very similar to

By Solene Furlanis
Staff Writer

It is rarely mentioned how devoted ice skaters are. Starting at four in the morning until late at night, they practice for their upcoming show. Weekends and week days are committed to rehearsal until performance day. However, the skaters all agree that the

amazing outcome is worth the hours they put in.

This winter, the Mira Mesa ice skating arena presented an annual holiday ice skating show titled *The Best of 20 Years*. The show consisted of the crowd's favorite Christmas performances from the past 20

years. Every level of skaters had the opportunity to show their talent by being divided into separate groups.

This year, senior Devon Bowman, an ice skater who has been practicing at the Mira Mesa ice arena and Ice Town, participated during the finale

of the show. After long and strenuous hours of hard work, she qualified to be part of the production number.

"I have devoted a lot of my time rehearsing since the mandatory practices began on October 31. It is inconvenient sometimes because we aren't

allowed to miss more than one day of practice to be in a production number. If someone misses practice, everyone on the team ends up being behind. It takes a lot of hard work and devotion but it's worth it because the shows always turn out very well," said Bowman.

Congratulations to the skaters who preformed this year!

The Best of Twenty Years

Fifteenth Home for Interact

La Jolla High Students participating in Project Mercy brave inclement weather to build a home for a family in Tijuana

By Ashley Westhem
Staff Writer

La Jolla High School's Interact Club not only contributes to the local community of San Diego, but also to the global community. The club has been working with Project Mercy for several years to aid impoverished families in Tijuana, Mexico.

Interact has a particular attachment with helping this organization because of La Jolla's proximity to the border.

Project Mercy is a non-profit agency based in San Diego whose goal is to improve basic living standards and quality of life for families living

in the shantytowns of the colonias east of Tijuana. Each year, Interact members travel forty-five minutes south of the border to contribute to Project Mercy's home buildings.

On November 12, the members recently went on such a trip. After the home build, one member put a tally mark on a construction hard hat, adding to the fourteen other tallies that symbolize the fifteen homes that have been built by Interact the past five years.

"It felt good helping others and knowing I was doing a good deed. Overall, the experience was really fun, even though the weather was brutal," said sophomore Isabel Quan.

Sophomore Sierra Westhem took volunteer efforts of Project Mercy to new lengths. She brought the idea of a clothes drive to the club.

"My dad races off-road in Baja and every time he goes down there he has me donate clothes to the orphanage. I



Top: Interact students are glad they had the opportunity to give others shelter during harsh weather. Bottom: Kevin Cruz, Tom Wheeler, and Isabel Quan mark hard-hat to celebrate and pose with an umbrella representing the rainy conditions of the most recent build.



thought that it would be a good idea to...donate clothes to the family we [built] the house for," said Westhem.

Interact Club nearly succeeded in completing the house before the rain became

too intense and the job site became too muddy to work.

Despite the weather's intervention, the efforts of the club have drastically improved conditions for one more family in Tijuana.

Trigger Law

By Chance Rhome
Staff Writer

Recently a new law was passed in Texas, Mississippi, and California, giving more control to parents over their children's education. If parents believe that a school is not doing its job efficiently, this new law gives them the power to change how the school is run.

The law stipulates that if at least 51% of the parents of children enrolled in a school sign a petition, they can trigger a change in the school system.

If the majority of the parents in the school have a certain issue with how their children's school is being run, they can sign a petition requesting change. The teachers or the principle could be replaced, and the school could even be turned into a charter school.

This issue is hotly debated; parents say they deserve the right to control their kids' schooling, but teachers say parents lack the education and experience needed to make these kinds of decisions.

"I think [the Trigger Law] is a good idea to some extent. It gives parents more power in their kid's education, and they know what's best for their kids. They just have to make sure they know what they're doing before they sign [the petition],"

A new California law gives parents the right to pull out the big guns.

senior Djordje Milivojevic said.

In California, the Trigger Law has been put into effect only once. In Compton, less than half of the students at McKinley Elementary School met the state standards for math and reading.

In response, hundreds of parents opted to turn the school into a charter facility. They have embattled themselves against the school, which believes the signatures were obtained unfairly. The case is currently in court.

Teachers and other school administrators argue that if parents are to be given more power to dictate their children's education, then that power should be accompanied by more responsibility.

They say parents will need to take on a bigger role in schools in order to make a well educated decision on the needs of all of the children in the school. The administration has also reminded parents that signing a petition is only the beginning of a solution.

Currently, twenty-two more states are considering passing the Trigger Law. If upheld, this law could revolutionize how schools are run.

MEChA at a Glance



Students participate in a MEChA conference at San Diego State University

By Fabiola Zirino
Staff Writer

On November 4, the evening of the homecoming game, MEChA won first place for its fifties-themed float.

Only 13 kids from La Jolla High School attend the MEChA club, but it is one of the most prominent clubs in the San Diego Unified School district.

MEChA started in Chicago around the 1950's when young Latinos realized that a disconnected sense of identity was the root of many problems facing young Latino-Americans. Today, the club still looks to inspire pride in Chicano identity.

MEChA stands for Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán, which means the Chicano Students' Movement of Aztlán.

According to Eric Viveros, president of the club at La Jolla High School, the club "helps and [provides] support for first generation, college-bound students."



Photos courtesy of Mrs. Rodriguez

Recently, the MEChA club attended a convention at SDSU so students could "get to know other people from schools, build morals, and self-esteem," said Viveros. Alexia Demos, a member of the club who attended the conference, said "[speakers at the convention] talked about Chicanos, immigration, and disrespect for Mexicans."

Apart from these serious topics, the convention reminded students of their beautiful origins with performances of traditional Folklórico and Aztec dances.

Anyone who is interested in Latino-American culture, preparation for college, and a tight family atmosphere can attend MEChA. It is held in Mrs. Rodriguez's room, 502, on Tuesdays at lunch.

A Beacon of Light

By Elisa Brooks
Staff Writer

Last month, on November 4, the legendary writer and television personnel, Andy Rooney, passed away. The famous American writer was a symbol of the written word and of journalism.

Ever since he was encouraged by a high school teacher, writing had been Rooney's passion.

After college, Rooney was drafted into the army during World War II, but he spent most of his time writing for the army newspaper, the *Stars and Stripes*.

After the war, he got his first big break when he was hired by CBS as a writer. In 1972, after writing for two other shows, Rooney began working for *60 Minutes*, hosting his very own segment at the end of each show famously known as "A Few Minutes with Andy Rooney."

In his segment, Rooney offered satire on everyday issues: from presidents to coffee cans, from racism to the cotton balls in pill bottles.

Just a month ago, in his final essay for *60 Minutes*, Rooney told viewers, "Not many people in this world are as lucky as I have been. All this time I've been paid to say what is on my mind on television. You don't get any luckier in life than that."

Andy Rooney will not only be remembered for being a fantastic writer but also as an icon. He wrote 16 books, over 1,000 essays, and won four Emmy's. His life was well lived because he got to do what he loved.

At the same time, he was worried about the demise of journalism.

Journalism is not necessarily dying; it is modernizing and being brought to people through televisions and computers. Nevertheless, newspapers are slowly fading away.

Andy Rooney was a beacon of light for writers and journalists everywhere. He believed, to his core, that writing will never die and will always be needed.

Rooney wrote until the end, almost five weeks after his last appearance on *60 Minutes*. On October 2, 2011 after 33 years on the show, Andy Rooney said farewell.

He left his viewers with reassuring words. For his 1,097th commentary, Rooney assured his viewers that he was not retiring.

In typical Rooney fashion, he simply stated, "Writers don't retire. And I'll always be a writer."

Real Horrorshow

“When a man cannot choose, he ceases to be a man.”

-Anthony Burgess,
A Clockwork Orange

By Ben Allen
Staff Writer

The importance of literature appears to be diminishing in the modern world. Many who do choose to read books would rather they be exciting tales spun by pulp writers than long, ponderous prose found in literary novels.

However, new generations are beginning to find *A Clockwork Orange* as a compromise between the two extremes.

Written by Anthony Burgess in 1963, *A Clockwork Orange* follows a young “droog” (a term in the novel that refers to young delinquents), Alex, in his quest of “ultraviolence,” free will, and self-discovery.

To characterize the piece, Burgess writes in an invented language, Nadsat, that is mostly English, but replaces key words with made-up ones. For instance, “slooshy” replaces the verb “to hear.” It is this sort of creativity that makes the novel unique and a worthwhile read.



The original cover art

Aside from the inventive writing of the piece, *A Clockwork Orange* is, at its essence, a story of a struggling teenager. It is something most high school students can relate to, making the novel a great piece for the adolescent mind.

Nevertheless, this book is not intended for the weak of heart. It may offer great insight into the human condition, but it is very graphic. Rape, murder, excessive drug use, and an overall disregard for authority and social dogma are all seen within the first hundred pages.

Underneath the violence

and abuse, the book portrays important life lessons, themes, and philosophies that still hold true to this day. The main protagonist Alex, is hard for many to relate to, yet his character is certainly recognizable in the modern world. One can either read deeply into the novel, or merely enjoy the engaging and riveting story line.

A Clockwork Orange has become something of a cult classic in the literary and cinematic world. It was made into a movie (directed by Stanley Kubrick) in 1971, and is now hailed as a cinematic masterpiece.

The book version is, without a doubt, a modern day classic; however, because of its graphic nature, some English teachers are hesitant to allow their students to read it. Nonetheless, the book is beginning to resurface in modern popular culture, as a new generation begins to peruse the pages.

A Clockwork Orange continues to influence writers, readers, thinkers, and scholars to this day. Its invented phrases and satirical outlook on life continue to amaze, while its gratuitous scenes continue to rivet. The novel is an intriguing page-turner that belongs on every bookshelf.

A flair for the Dramatic

By Spyke Schumacher
Staff Writer

La Jolla High School’s theater program has been around for decades, but it is still seen as an underrated elective. There are four different levels of theatre classes and a theater tech class.

Theater is not just a hobby for the quirky; it is a potential profession and takes serious effort on behalf of the drama students and their teacher, Mrs. Boutelle.

The drama department works diligently to produce our school’s stage productions and always strives for perfection. Their most recent show, *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, which opened November 10, required students to practice from 2:30 to 5 p.m. on weekdays, and four to five hours on the few weekends preceding the opening.

No theater production is complete without some mishaps along the way. Just a week before opening, freshman Tanner Perry broke his fingers playing flag football in P.E., while junior Lauren Nordholm and senior Brienna Avila lost their voices.

Despite these set backs, “everyone in the cast is really

close, and we’re all pretty open about everything,” said sophomore Hallie Bodestab, who played Helsa, the maid, in the musical. “I swear none of us have personal bubbles; we’re constantly attacking each other.”

Boutelle has been an outstanding member of the La Jolla High staff and an asset to the drama department for 16 years. “She’s eccentric,” said Perry, a new member of the drama circle this year.

Boutelle has been teaching drama for about 30 years, and studied it throughout high school and college. She believes that drama and theater are a great way to build self-confidence and become more expressive.

Boutelle said that throughout her years of teaching at La Jolla, what has amazed her the most is the amount of talent that lurks in these halls. Still, she is surprised at the lack of male enthusiasm for the theatre.

Theater classes are open to anyone who is willing and interested, yet they are not the only way to get involved with drama. Though the class is requested for all students wishing to be involved in the productions, drama club meets every Wednesday in room 402.

If you want to join the theatre class contact Ms. Boutelle. The class always welcomes new applicants.

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By Hannah Rawdin
Copy Editor

Graffiti is everywhere. It is on the walls of school bathrooms, on bridges and overpasses, on homes and private businesses all around our city. It can range from a quick scribble of a name to a towering mural with complex patterns and hues. Many people will complain that they hate the defamatory nature of graffiti, while others will say they adore

the creativity that graffiti inspires. But if graffiti is to be considered more than just a degrading of property, at what point does it become safe to say that the spray-paint creations that surround us are art? Just looking around a San Diego neighborhood will give you the answer. LJHS students live in a place that often supports graffiti art, as evidenced by the many murals displayed throughout La Jolla and San Diego. On the side of the building at 7596

Eads Avenue, is artist Roy McMakin's *What's Your Favorite Color?* brick painting. Next to the Rubio's (across from Vons) at 7530 Fay Avenue, one can view the mural *Surf's Up* by artist Anya Gallaccio, an image depicting a microscopic view of a grain of sand. The graffiti art in La Jolla is just a small example of the myriad of graffiti paintings that cover surfaces throughout San Diego. Chicano Park, famous for its groundbreaking Chicano (U.S. citizens of Mexican descent) and Toltec murals, has inspired a worldwide Chicano mural movement. Both locals and tourists enjoy graffiti art in urban areas of San Diego such as Hillcrest, Ocean Beach, and Downtown. In recent years, graffiti has become more than just paint on walls--it has also become a fashion statement and an experiment in phenomenology, thanks to the iconic street artist Shepard Fairey and his *OBEY* sticker campaign. Fairey's infamous designs of *André the Giant has a posse* and *OBEY* are plastered on public walls worldwide, and hundreds of thousands of stickers with these images on them have been manufactured for people to stick wherever they go. According to Fairey's website, "The sticker [and design] has no meaning but exists only to cause people to react, to contemplate and search

for meaning in the sticker." Because of the great popularity of *OBEY*, when people see the sticker in different locations, they are comforted by its familiarity and cultural resonance. This is known as phenomenology: a meaningless image becomes such a part of street culture that it continues to pop up around the globe. In fact, Fairey's graffiti art is so admired that it has been turned into a clothing line that can be found in stores from Nordstrom to Urban Outfitters. Fairey's work has even spread to San Diego. It can be found on the back of a building at 30th and Ivy in

South Park, and on the side of a building on Fifth Avenue in Hillcrest. The Fifth Avenue creation reminds us of the fleeting nature of graffiti art--it is currently being covered up by a construction zone. The city we live in is full of graffiti, but not many can look at an act of vandalism and call it art. San Diego is one of the few places in America where no matter what part of town you are in, street art can be found; for this we should be thankful. Finding and admiring graffiti art around the neighborhood is a great way to spend time on a purposeless day—but hurry, because it could be painted over by tomorrow!



Above left: One of Shepard Fairey's designs of André the Giant. **Above:** Anya Gallaccio's close-up of a grain of sand. **Right:** Roy McMakin's mural *What's Your Favorite Color?*

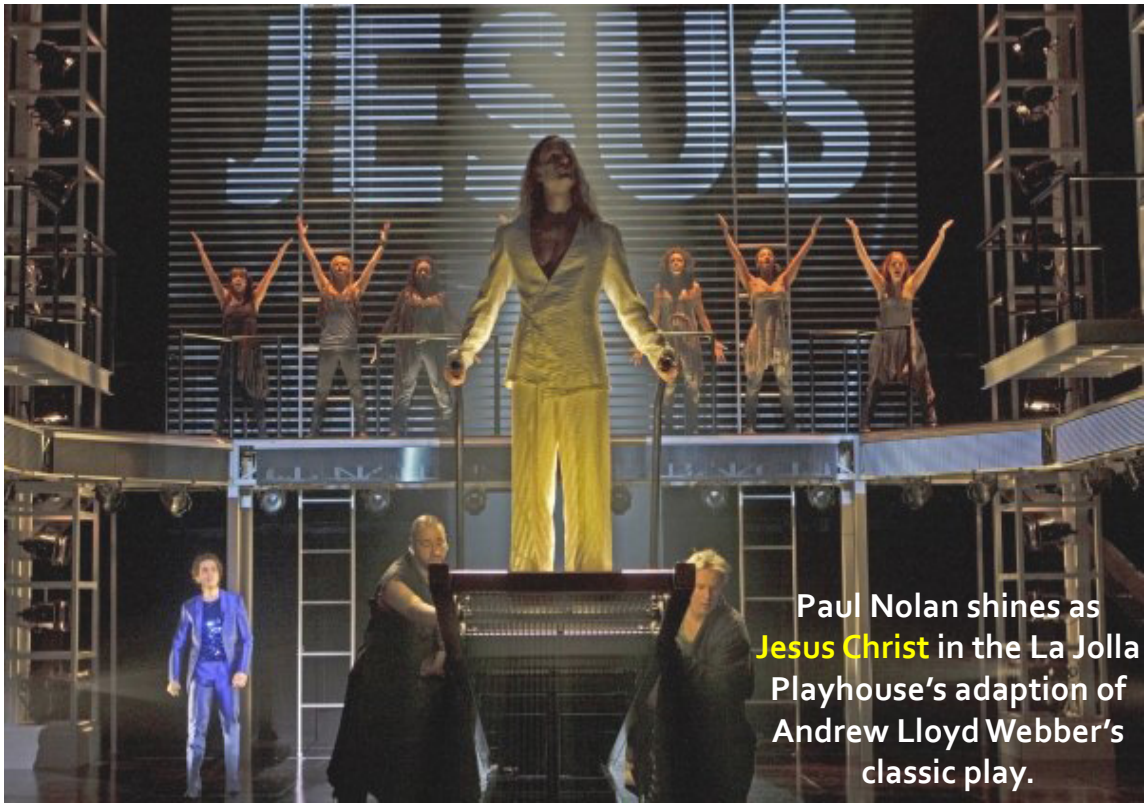


Theater Review

Jesus Christ Superstar

By Ashley Westhem
Staff Writer

The Tony Award winning Broadway play, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, is making a stop at the La Jolla Playhouse until December 31, before it moves on to Broadway for the fourth time. It has been re-adapted and enjoyed by people of all ages and religions since it was written in 1970 by Andrew Lloyd Webber (creator of *Phantom of the Opera*) and Tim Rice. The rock opera is loosely based on the Gospel's account of the last week of Jesus's life. *Superstar* focuses on the character of Judas Iscariot (played by the dashing Josh Young), one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ (Paul Nolan). He is dissatisfied with the direction that Jesus has steered the disciples in, claiming that Jesus has begun to believe that he is more important



Paul Nolan shines as Jesus Christ in the La Jolla Playhouse's adaption of Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic play.

"Lyrics replete with modern slang and ironic allusions to the twentieth century help the audience relate to the condemnation of Jesus Christ..." than the morals he preaches. Although wanting to believe in his master's teachings,

Judas feels that Jesus has taken a reckless and egotistical route. He fears that Jesus's fame will lead to repressions by the Roman government, which feels threatened by his ability to gain followers. One does not have to be Christian to appreciate the play's deeply passionate interpretation of Judas's struggle between faith and betrayal, and the consequences of threatening

the power and legitimacy of the Roman Empire. Lyrics replete with modern slang and ironic allusions to the twentieth century help the audience relate to the condemnation of Jesus Christ. The play is the Bible spiced up and brought to life. Each scene is a musical number, with no spoken dialogue. A rock medley provides the transition between scenes. The opening rock chords

and acrobatics immediately electrify the audience and bring a sense of modernism to the ancient era (year 33) *Superstar* is set in. The first dance number, "What's the Buzz?" starts the play off with high energy and prepares the audience for excellent choreography and vocals throughout the play. The apostles and ensemble are clothed in grungy garb to draw a parallel between the impoverished of the past and present. The atmosphere of the play is lighthearted with an eventual transition into the dramatic as the plot comes to a close. The artistic director, Christopher Ashley, sums up *Jesus Christ Superstar* perfectly: "The performances are amazing, the songs are gorgeously sung, the scenes beautifully played with one exquisite theatrical image after another, propelling us toward the inevitable finale."

Jesus Christ Superstar is playing at the La Jolla Playhouse until December 31.