

# Hi-Tide



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
THE 26 VICTIMS OF THE  
NEWTOWN, CT SHOOTING

Volume LXXVVIV Issue 3 - December 21, 2012

# APOCALYPSE NOW?

By Shane Colvard  
Staff Writer

2012 has long been looked upon as the year the world is supposed to end. Some think the whole Mayan calendar is nothing but bologna. Some think it is based off some sort of truth, and that the Mayans knew something about doomsday that the rest do not. It all comes down to the day, today, to see who was right.

5,126 years ago, the Mayans began their Long Count cal-

**“It’s the end of the world as we know it, and I feel fine...”**

endar. 3166 years later in the 1960s, archaeologists found the calendar and deciphered it.

The internet seems to be taking the blame for spreading mass rumors on the topic, yet we, as of reading this, are still alive. The predicted apocalypse, scheduled to start December 12 and end December 21, still has a few hours left to occur before students at La Jolla High School head home for the holidays and

enjoy their December 22.

There are still many interpretations of what might happen, world wide and at LJHS. “It’s a calendar from over two thousand years ago. And I’m sure some guy just got bored of filling it out; he just wanted to go home” said junior Hallie Bodenstab.

On the other hand, senior Cameron Maywood believes in doomsday. “It’s something that has been predicted to happen

for thousands of years. The Mayans were pretty advanced for their time, and probably knew what they were doing,” said Maywood. He followed with, “If it happens then so be it, but if not then it’s no sweat off my back.”

An anthropologist at Cornell University said the Mayan calendar was misread, leading to the conclusion that it was a five thousand year cycle about to re-

start. But what does he know?

The United States government is in on the debate and, along with a large portion of the scientific community, agrees the world is not going to end today. Even the Bible mentions the world will end when least expected...if the world suddenly stops, we apologize to the primitive Mayans who were able to determine the fate of their descendants despite the fact that they could not predict their own demise.

Stu-Fo: 6&7



Photos courtesy of Trevor Manders, Jordan Bowan, and [www.en.wikipedia.org](http://www.en.wikipedia.org)

## HALF DAY REGULATIONS

By Ali Davallou and Haley Richards  
Staff Writers

La Jolla High now has a new minimum day policy, put into affect on December 5. Students all over the San Diego Unified School District were angry with the law requiring them to stay on campus for an extra 30 minutes on early release days. Despite the complaints, this new policy is beneficial both for the students and the district.

The education code states that lunch must be available for all students on each school day, including early-release days and half days.

Deputy Superintendent Philip Stover said, “The district wants to ensure that every child is given the time and opportunity for a healthy and nutritious meal each and every school day. To make sure we carry this out, some of our schools will be adjusting their bell times on early release/minimum days to allow for a lunch period that is incorporated within the instructional minutes and is in compliance with our statutory requirements. Depending on the school, this adjustment may *continued on page 10...*”

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Photo courtesy of Jordan Bowan

## Farewell and Thank You, Love LJHS

Today, La Jolla High will be saying goodbye to two of its most respected staff members: Vice Principals Beverly Greco and Walter Fairley. Both will be retiring from their positions to pursue new challenges and enjoy some of their favorite hobbies. On behalf of all LJHS students we would like to thank them for all they have done for our school.

For a full interview with the vice principals, go to [www.ljhitide.com](http://www.ljhitide.com).

Featuring: Beverly Greco, Dona Campbell, Area Superintendent, and Walter Fairley.

## World News Recap

**Mexico’s New President:** Enrique Pena Nieto replaced former Mexican president, Felipe Calderon, this December. Pena Nieto promised to quell drug violence, expand Mexico’s economy to the poor and abroad, and to recapture Mexico’s pride. Pena Nieto’s promises will be easier said than done, given the distrust of his political party, the Institutional Revolution Part (IRP), because of their brutal, authoritarian past.

**China’s New Leader:** Just two days following President Obama’s reelection, China gained a new leader as well: Xi Jinping. China has grown to become a formidable economic and military power, with China now supporting a more nationalistic agenda. Mr. Xi’s China will make for an interesting nation during his projected 10-year term.

**Conflict in Israel:** Following intense bombing by both Israel and Hamas, started on November 14, the UN voted to recognize Palestine as a state. This was seen as a loss for both Israel and the United States. Israel, in response to the ruling, began developing a buffer area in East Jerusalem, and subsequently kept Palestinian neighborhoods from being annexed to Palestinian cities.

See page 10 for an update on the Fiscal Cliff

## ASB UPDATE

Vikings,

What a year it has been! Blast Off, Homecoming, and Powderpuff have all come to pass and we now enter into the final weeks of our semester, and with a new semester comes new members of our Student Government.

The Associated Student Body (ASB) of La Jolla High School selects commissioners on a semester basis, and we will be interviewing ALL applicants (new and returning members) mid-January 2013. I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite every one of you to apply for ASB for the Spring Semester, especially if there is anything at our school that you think you can improve. ASB members are servants of the Student Body and Community, and our organization is only strengthened through diversity and proper representation from every culture and group in our student body.

If you are interested at all or have any questions regarding applying for ASB, please feel free to contact me at [ljhsasb@gmail.com](mailto:ljhsasb@gmail.com), or anytime during 4th Period-5th Period in the ASB Room (304).

Best of luck, happy holidays, and Merry Christmas!  
Daniel Stephen Hamilton I  
President, La Jolla High School ASB



The La Jolla High School

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# Holiday Consumerism

## Too Wrapped Up In The Holidays

By Lilly Glenister and  
Hannah Orr

Staff Writers

A plethora of lights, wreaths, and ribbons are starting to appear all around San Diego, and local stores are becoming much more crowded than usual. It is no secret that these are familiar signs of the holiday season beginning to roll in.

This year, it seemed as if there was no downtime between Halloween and Christmas. Many stores have turned the holiday season into a lucrative merchandising opportunity.

Take, for instance, Black Friday sales. This year, not only did they begin earlier than usual, but they also, according to the Union Tribune, underwent increased spending by the average American. The total spending over this particular four-day weekend was \$59.1 billion, which is 11% more than it was in 2011.

Without all of the anxious consumers waiting in line around midnight to buy a big screen television or other discounted items, businesses would have no reason to start the infamous Black Friday sales a day or two earlier each year.

In principle, Christmas is a

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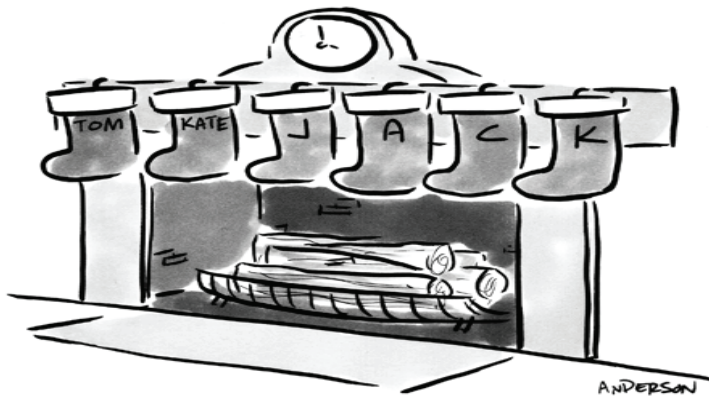


Photo courtesy of [www.andertoons.com](http://www.andertoons.com)

religious holiday meant to celebrate the birth of Christ. It was originally a time to bond with family members and give back to the community.

Typically, holidays are particularly hard for those adversely affected by the recession. These people feel as if they are obligated to buy presents for children, spouses, and in-laws, even though in doing so, they put themselves into more debt due to the higher interest rates of credit cards. Instead of being grateful for what they have, people are more focused on buying virtually useless products.

Our society is accustomed to instant gratification, but people do not realize the cost of what they are asking for: increased debt placed upon

those who can least afford it. Everyone appreciates thoughtful gifts, but nowadays society is distorting the true meaning of the holidays. Future generations of children will never know what the holidays are supposed to be about if all they are taught is that, every December, they should expect to receive countless meaningless presents. It is not necessary to groom a generation full of spoiled children.

Most students at La Jolla High School live in a fairly affluent community where the price of a house is not marked in thousands, but millions. Many of the students do not realize that not everyone is as fortunate as them. Most students will get plenty of presents and have a family reunion of sorts, while others may not be as lucky. They need to

take a step back and ponder what is really important in their lives. Life should not be solely about acquiring more trivial possessions. Especially in a time when financial strife is hitting a large number of Americans, society should not be so determined to receive the “perfect gift.”

There are so many ways people can contribute to the holidays without spending money. For example, they can visit a retirement home or work at a food bank. Even though these actions are not presents for a family member or friend, they will be considered priceless gifts by those who do not have as much.

This holiday season, if everyone would concentrate more on helping the less fortunate during their breaks and did some community service whether it be volunteering at a toy drive or giving out food at a homeless shelter, they would gain a better understanding of the holidays without looking through the lens of consumerism.

With that in mind, students are left to contemplate what their holiday season should really be about.

# THE ELEMENTS OF STYLE WILL NEVER

## Go OUT OF STYLE

By Emma Scott

Copy Editor

In this day and age, it is simply not cool to know what you are saying. If you were to walk down the hallways of La Jolla High School, you would find that most of the students know more than three ways to refer to the cannabis plant but can not differentiate between the words “affect” and “effect”.

Run-on sentences have become so incredibly long that one literally feels like one is sprinting to find the end of a sentence but it never comes and it just keeps going but it has to come to an end eventually and when the reader finally gets there one’s brain is still trying to catch its breath and just trying to remember how the whole thing even started.

Should we point fingers at the media? Probably. Upon

entering Facebook, it is often observed that most students’ first language is not English at all- it is a strange and complicated tongue known as “Lect Speak.” For example, one Facebook status read “*Au5t1N t3h \$eXX*” which roughly translates as “Austin is sexy.”

But these foreign dialects are not the only crime of social networking. Sometimes, they simply disregard the use of spelling entirely when they add and omit letters arbitrarily, such as in these two real examples “*omq crying rite now*” and “*heyyyyy qirl*.”

Possibly the blame lies among beloved internet memes such as the “I can has cheezburger” which essentially teaches gullible students that all verb tenses become null and void when accompanied by a cat.

Even on the radio, terrible

grammar cannot be avoided. You a stupid hoe if you have not noticed Ms. Minaj’s lyrics are atrocious. Some of the most golden lines need no introduction: “Them nappy headed hoess but my kitchen good. I wish, I wish, I wish, I wish, I wish, I wish a (expletive) would.” Now, I’m not entirely certain what these lyrics are supposed to mean, but I am certain it is not doing anyone’s IQ score any favors.

However, some of the blame has to be taken by our English educators, the people who we trust to mold our angsty teen brains into well-oiled machines by the time we get out of high school and get on the road to college. Sometimes it seems as though English teachers grade students’ work so lightly, they do not take the time to read the essays. Once, I even wrote a completely irrelevant word at the

end of every few sentences and my teacher did not even catch it tomato.

But I suppose the students motivation to succeed is met by a teacher’s interest only when he wishes to try. If we are all just destined to write like the next Stephanie Meyer or E. L. James, I suppose there is nothing the underfunded California system could do to stop it. We might as well just call it quits and tie keyboards to the bottoms of our feet.

Therefore I urge and challenge you, students, to write with the Elements of Style because even though learning grammar may seem like a bore, the mistakes we allow can make all the difference.

After all, “*Let’s eat, grandma!*” and “*Let’s eat grandma!*” could be a matter of life and death.



# A<sup>+</sup> or acceptance

By Sarah Devermann  
Editor in Chief

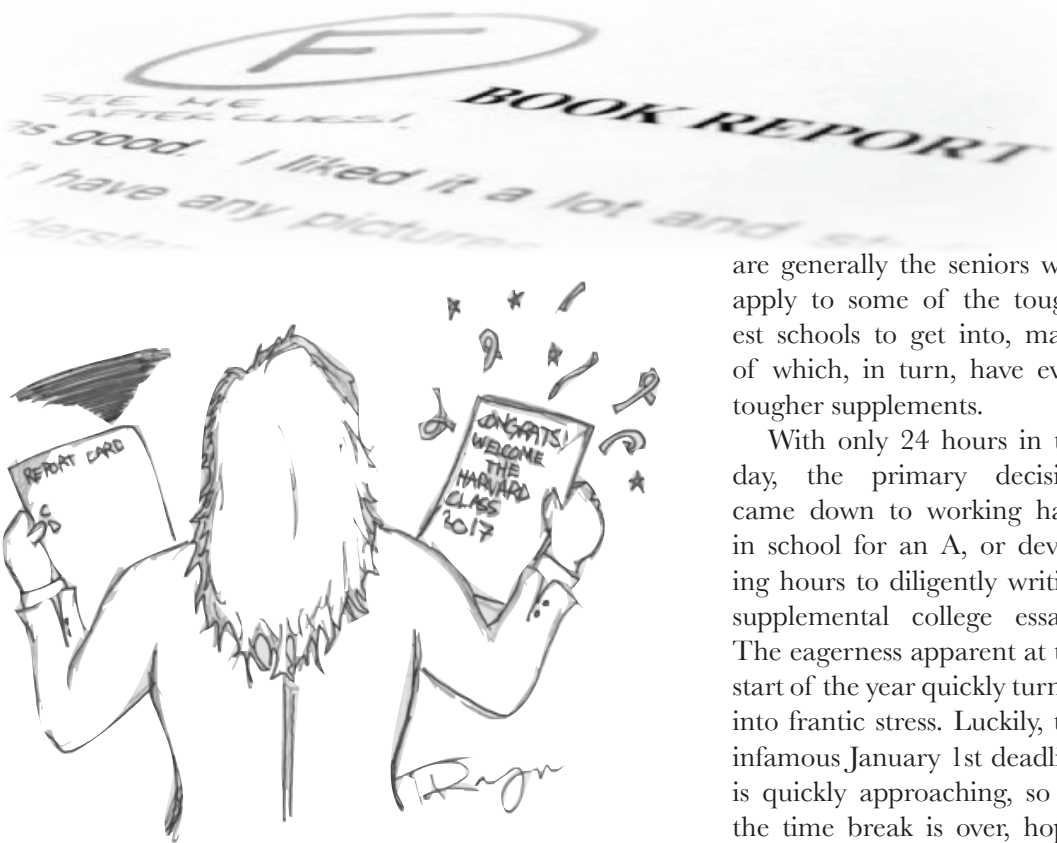
For the past four years, society has been telling seniors that this year would be the best year of high school. Going into senior year, the excitement was evident as we were at the top of the totem pole with boundless senior privileges ahead. Life seemed like a smooth ride after a grueling junior year. That was, until the college application deadlines began quickly approaching.

Whenever we finished writing a paper or studying for a test, there were a dozen other essays to begin so we could apply to that little thing called col-

lege. We were burdened with essays, sports practices, group projects, homework, games, tests, and college apps. Even if we gave up sleeping, there was not enough time in the day to do all of these things.

Waking up at 6:00 in the morning these past few years has been to educate ourselves, but really it was so we could

“  
**The primary decision came down to working hard in school for an A, or devoting hours to diligently writing supplemental college essays.**  
”



achieve the grand prize: an acceptance letter to college. Yet when crunch time came to submit applications, teachers did not seem to understand the effort each supplement entailed. The seniors with the most grueling schedules

are generally the seniors who apply to some of the toughest schools to get into, many of which, in turn, have even tougher supplements.

With only 24 hours in the day, the primary decision came down to working hard in school for an A, or devoting hours to diligently writing supplemental college essays. The eagerness apparent at the start of the year quickly turned into frantic stress. Luckily, the infamous January 1st deadline is quickly approaching, so by the time break is over, hopefully some of the strain will dissipate.

Seniors: hang in there. Underclassmen: start college essays now. It is never too early.

## Merry Christmas from the Hi-Tide staff!

All of us in room 501 hope you have had a wonderful year and will enjoy your holiday season. With our first three publications out, we hope you enjoyed our work thus far. As always, we try to fairly represent the entire student population. We would like to thank those of you who helped us out by contributing, being interviewed, and, most importantly, you, our diligent readers. Here's to a well-deserved break and a legendary start to 2013!

Happy Holidays,

*Sarah Devermann*

Sarah Devermann

*Tim Rayner*

Tim Rayner

Editors-in-Chief

# Clean Up Your Attitude

By Jordan Linsky  
Staff Writer

It is expected of students that they respect and show gratitude towards their teachers and principals. However, people seem to forget about the other individuals who dedicate their time, day after day, towards beautifying and improving La Jolla High School's campus.

It is not uncommon to see janitors and cafeteria workers go about their day with little acknowledgement or recognition from students. The janitorial staff deserves gratitude from students; they are keeping the campus clean and healthy, an extremely respectable job.

The behavior exhibited towards these school employees is disgraceful. Their job is just as important as any other, so students should demonstrate respect towards them at all times. It takes two seconds to smile and thank the employees for all that they do; however, students act as though they do not have two seconds to spare.

The simple act of acknowledging someone's work allows him or her to realize all they do is appreciated and recognized. The way students discard their trash makes school heavily reliant upon the janitors. Students owe janitorial employees more than they realize.

La Jolla High School is a delicate environment. Without cafeteria workers, secretaries, janitors, teachers, and students, it would not be the school that it is today. All workers are fun-

“  
People seem to forget about the other individuals who dedicate time, day after day, towards beautifying and improving La Jolla School's campus.  
”

.....

damental to the success of the school, and students need to make sure to show their appreciation to every employee on campus.

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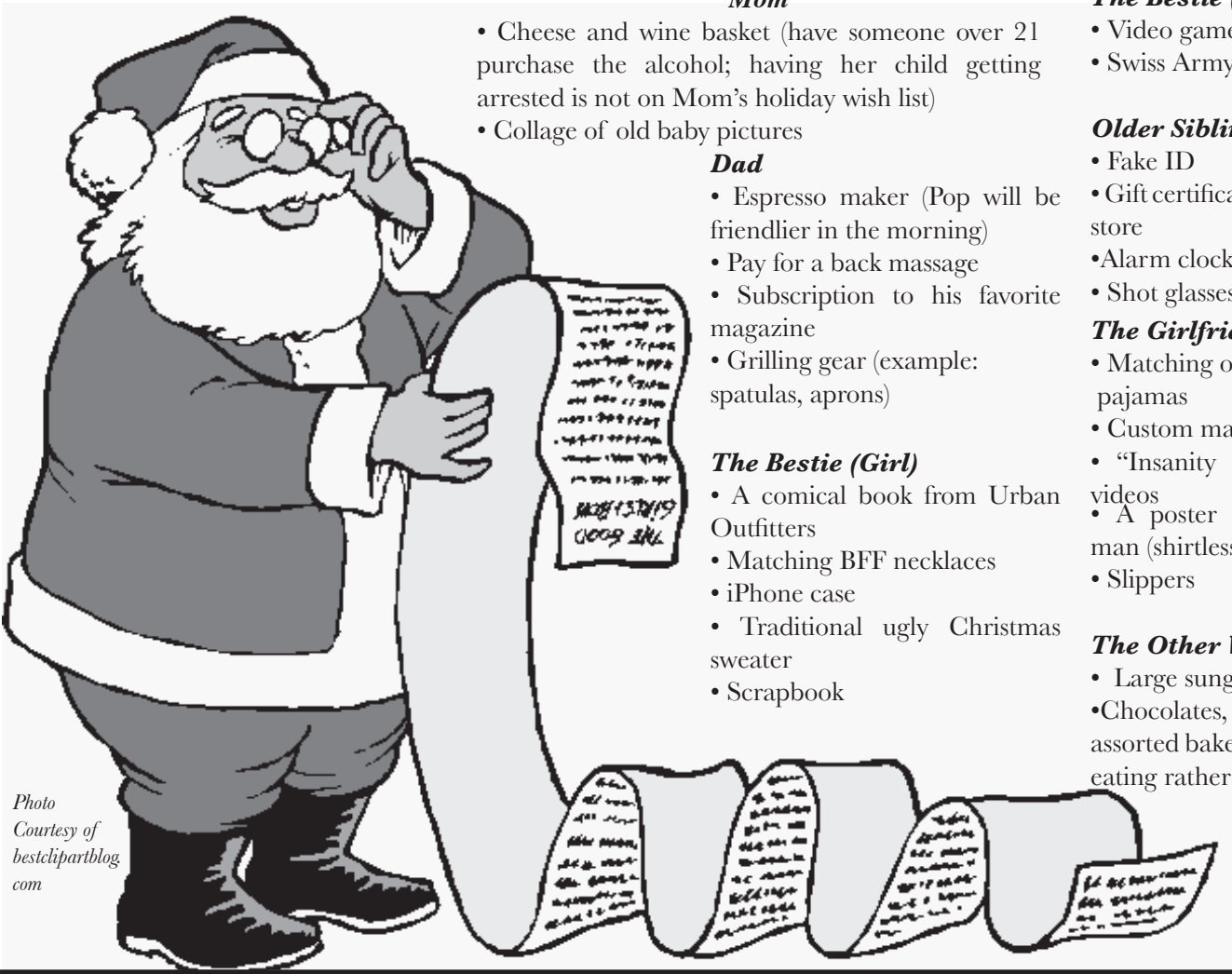
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By **Jordan Linsky**  
*Staff Writer*

Everyone knows that choosing gifts for loved ones during the holidays is no easy task. However, with the help of The Hi-Tide, this years’ gift giving will be simple and unique! Remember, whether you are spending one hundred dollars, or one dollar, the gifts you give should come straight from the heart.



**Mom**

- Cheese and wine basket (have someone over 21 purchase the alcohol; having her child getting arrested is not on Mom’s holiday wish list)
- Collage of old baby pictures

**Dad**

- Espresso maker (Pop will be friendlier in the morning)
- Pay for a back massage
- Subscription to his favorite magazine
- Grilling gear (example: spatulas, aprons)

**The Bestie (Girl)**

- A comical book from Urban Outfitters
- Matching BFF necklaces
- iPhone case
- Traditional ugly Christmas sweater
- Scrapbook

**The Bestie (Guy)**

- Video games
- Swiss Army knife

**Older Sibling in College**

- Fake ID
- Gift certificates to any grocery store
- Alarm clock
- Shot glasses

**The Girlfriend**

- Matching onesie pajamas
- Custom made T-Shirt
- “Insanity Fitness” workout videos
- A poster of any beautiful man (shirtless)
- Slippers

**The Other Woman**

- Large sunglasses and a wig
- Chocolates, candies, and assorted baked goods (keep her eating rather than talking)

**The Boy Toy**

- A muscle tank
- Cash (make him spend it on you later)
- Abdominal workout equipment
- His favorite team’s jersey
- Movie theater passes

**Favorite Teacher**

- Coffee
- Cookies
- A supply of tissues, paper, and pens(the storage room at school is almost nonexistent)
- \*Attach a note to any gift listing all the reasons why you are the best student and deserve an A.

**Hottie You Stalk from Afar**

- A creepy love note
- Neon clothing (so you can spot them more easily)
- Collage of photos you take of them from your secret hiding place
- Buy a plot of Land in Ireland for only \$49.99 ([www.buyireland.com](http://www.buyireland.com)) to start your new life together.

# The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of Holiday Gifts

## LJHS Students rant and rave about Christmas Past

By **Lilly Glenister**  
*Staff Writer*

All Photos Courtesy of Lilly Glenister

Holiday excitement is in the air at La Jolla High. Many students are not only looking forward to the winter break for some much needed relaxation but also for the holiday that is approaching. You guessed it, “it’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas” here at LJHS.

Students are amped up to see what Santa will bring them in their stockings on Christmas morning. However, not all gifts students receive are ideal.

There is always an element of disappointment that comes along with all of the holiday anticipation.

Parents could surprise their students with dream gifts, but there is also the possibility of receiving a less than appealing present, like the itchy sweaters that grandpa and grandma always end up getting their kin or the pink footie pajamas from aunt and uncle.

Nonetheless, Christmas is a very exciting time for most students, which is why some La Jolla High students were asked to give an account of the best and worst Christmas gifts they ever received on Christmas Morning.



Senior Kyle Flowers on his four-wheeled Christmas gift.



Park Hegler feels that it is better to give than to receive.

“Getting useless gifts like puzzles for Christmas are disappointing, but that doesn’t matter because the best gift of all during the holiday season is the feeling I get after giving to other people,” sophomore Park Hegler said.

“My best Christmas present has to be from a couple years ago when I was fifteen and my parents surprised me with a car.” Senior Kyle Flowers continued to joke and said that “my worst was probably when I was five and my little brother was born around Christmas time.”



Adana McWhinney, a sophomore explains her likes and dislikes when unwrapping gifts.

“I loved when I was a little girl and I got an Easy-Bake Oven as a present during Christmas, it was one of my most memorable gifts. I definitely don’t enjoy opening up wrapping paper and finding a book though,” sophomore Adana McWhinney said.

“I get pretty disappointed when I get a present like socks for Christmas, but then my best gift I remember getting was when I got my iPhone,” freshman Abby Waldberger said.

Junior Andy Chen said, “The ultimate Christmas gift was a Swiss army knife that was given to me one year that originally belonged to my grandfather in World War II. My most disappointing present was when I was younger and I got a Big Wheel trice. It broke after only one week!”

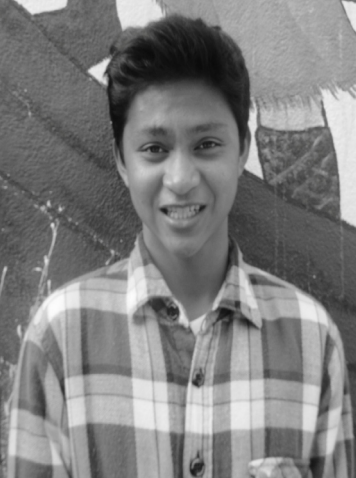
Junior Wendy Fuentes explained, “My worst present I’ve ever received definitely was when I got pajama pants from my grandma, so boring! And my favorite Christmas present I remember was when I was a little girl and I got a Disney princess TV.”

Senior Marissa Abbott talked about a tasty holiday treat, and said, “I definitely loved it when I got an Edible Arrangement bouquet of fruit for Christmas one year, so good. And my worst present for Christmas was when I pretty much got nothing, so the gift of nonexistence.”



Abby Waldberger, a freshman, talks about techno gifts that make her day.

Freshman Josh Blas laughed, “My favorite present I got was my XBOX 360 for sure, my worst is when I get candy in stockings, I hate that.”



Josh Blas describing what is on his naughty list



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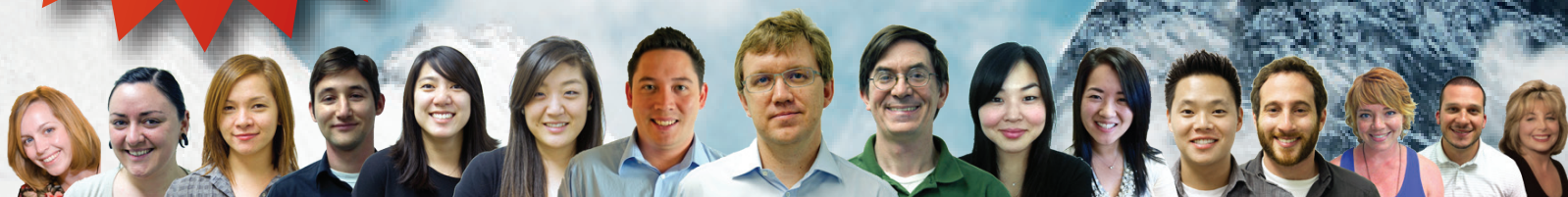


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## Winter Holiday Activities

By **Mia Kelliher**  
Copy Editor

Winter break is the perfect opportunity to enjoy the holiday festivities and try some new activities. There are numerous holiday events that are taking place in San Diego, as well as simple activities that can be enjoyed at home.

### **SeaWorld's Christmas Celebration**

SeaWorld is open for the holiday season, and it has a variety of attractions that range from SnowWorld, to its Christmas Tree of Lights (with nightly lightings.)

Other attractions include Breakfast with Shamu and Santa as well as Santa's

Reindeers-In-Training, available in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Santa's Cottage includes a photo opportunity, cookie decorating, and other festive activities. SnowWorld is an open space of fresh snow to experience a winter wonderland. It is open daily until January 5, 2013.

### **Ice Skating**

Since San Diego does not get cold enough for snow, there are no places to ski or snowboard, but there are plenty of ice rinks around to enjoy the ice and cold winter sports. The ice rink located at UTC is only a

short drive away. While at the mall, students can also enjoy shopping and the food court.

Hotel del Coronado also has an outdoor ice skating rink that is a perfect location to hang out and enjoy the holidays.

### **Watch Christmas Classic Movies**

Any day of winter break would be the perfect opportunity to catch up on all of the holiday classics. From the Home Alone series to Elf, the collection is endless. Movies would be a laid back way to join in the festive spirit with family and friends, without having to leave home. Add some popcorn to complement your holiday movie marathon.

### **Holiday Plays**

If students do not want to watch movies, they can see a variety of live theater performances depending on their interests. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" is being performed at the Old Globe Theatre until December 29th. Prices and times change according to the seating arrangement and date. More



*Photo Courtesy of imdb.com*

information is available on the Old Globe Theater website.

"The Nutcracker" is playing at the Spreckels Theatre and live music will be performed from City Ballet Orchestra. Tickets range from \$29 to \$69. Performance times vary depending on the date. Information is listed on the City Ballet of San Diego's website.

### **Giving Back**

The holidays are the season of giving. It is important to give back to those who do not get to spend the holidays with presents and decorations. Some ways of giving back could be as simple as donating old clothes to the Salvation Army or giving toys to local

charities. Volunteering is another wonderful option.

This holiday season students can participate-up until January 3, 2013-in the Iam's Home 4 the Holidays, a pet adoption drive that supports adoption from local pet shelters.

Both an enjoyable and charitable event, Hotel del Coronado's Skating by the Sea, open until January 5, 2013, is an opportunity to skate and help the Make A Wish Foundation of San Diego-a portion of the money is given to the foundation.

With so many things around San Diego to partake in, students have plenty of opportunities to bring out their holiday spirit.



*Photo Courtesy of Mia Kelliher*





# Doodles

When boredom strikes, students at La Jolla High School turn to doodling. The Hi-Tide interviewed a handful of students who doodle. Here are some of the best. We would like to thank students Eric Haerr (freshman), Kalila Kranz and Daniela Anastasi (sophomores), Lauren Silver, Matty Taylor, Kelly Overturf, and Connor McCoy (juniors), and Savannah Beeson (senior) for submitting their art to the newspaper. We hope you enjoy these doodles as much as we did!





Photo Courtesy of Waverly Richards

High school sporting events are filled with cheering students and parents.

**By Megan Carroll and Waverly Richards**  
*Staff Writers*

Glory for the school or competing for college recruitment? This is one of the polarizing features athletes find when comparing high school sports and club sports. Though quite different, both have their advantages and disadvantages.

Compared to the benefits of high school sports, the benefits of club include a higher level of play and a greater chance of improving skills. Another advantage to club sports is that they provide a level of exposure to colleges that high school sports may not.

However, a drawback of clubs is their high cost due to

the fees of equipment, coaches, and tournaments. Because of the competitiveness and seriousness of club sports, there are specialized tournaments and events that the teams attend for the sole purpose of being recruited.

High school sports suffer here because college coaches are not guaranteed to attend high school sporting events, especially if colleges are far away. Benefits of playing on high school sports teams include playing in front of classmates and having a chance of bringing a championship title to the school.

The difference between playing high school sports and playing club sports is the

## Club Sports



Photo courtesy of Adrenaline Lacrosse

A local lacrosse club tournament has the sidelines filled with college recruiters.

amount of “competitiveness and intensity,” according to senior varsity soccer player Paul Erne.

“I definitely consider high school soccer to be off-season training for club. Club soccer is played roughly eight months out of the year, where the level of play is much higher than in high school. This year was especially important for club

team because it is a nice break from the intensity of club season and fun to hang out with high school friends,” said Erne.

Junior Clare Farley, who plays volleyball for the school team and The Wave volleyball club team said, “playing high school sports are fun because you get to play with kids who are different ages from you.”

High school sports give students a chance to represent their school, bond with fellow classmates, and create a lasting legacy.

High school sports and club sports have some of the same assets. This is apparent in the good times and great memories. Both can help athletes find success on the field, court, track, or in the pool.

# SPORT OF THE MONTH: SURFING

**By Sarah Schug**  
*Staff Writer*

Surfing is a life for many La Jolla High Students because of the proximity to the beach. Although the level of skill varies greatly, all surfers enjoy being out in the water.

**Hi-Tide:** What is your favorite spot to go surfing?

**Lauren Nordholm (12):** The cove at Tourmaline.

**Michael Gumina (10):** Windansea, Blacks, Dana Point, and Salt Creek.

**Sierra Beeson (12):** South Bird.

**Lauren Silver (11):** Scorpion Bay, Mexico. By far my favorite.

**HT:** How long have you been surfing for?

**Grady Loosen (12):** For 10 years.

**MG:** Since I was 10 years old.

**Matt Twohig (12):** Since I was a fetus.

**HT:** How often do you surf?

**LN:** 3 days a week, sometimes in the morning since I do not have a first period.

**MG:** I get to surf twice a day because I have surf P.E..

**SB:** At least twice a week.

**HT:** Are you sponsored?

**MG:** Reef, West Wetsuits, Spy Sunglasses, Vetra Sunscreen, Liquid Foundation Surf shop, and Zanidu.

**HT:** What kind of board do you ride on?

**GL:** Rusty Boards.

**LN:** 8-foot Surf Diva board.

**MT:** 5’3 STL Biscuit

**SB:** A 20-year-old Stuart.



Photo Courtesy of www.facebook.com

Ever since the 6th grade, senior Seirra Beeson has been catching perfect waves like this one.



Photo Courtesy of www.facebook.com

Sophomore Michael Gumina, who travels to Hawaii and Mexico often, shreds the gnar like no other.

**HT:** What exotic places have you surfed at?

**GL:** Costa Rica, Mexico, and Australia.

**SB:** I traveled up the coast once to Churches.

**LS:** A lot of places in Mexico.

**HT:** What is your favorite surfing movie?

**GL:** *My Eyes Won’t Dry.*

**LN:** *Gidget.*

**MT:** *Thicker Than Water.*

**SB:** *Step Into Liquid.*

**HT:** Why do you like to surf?

**GL:** It is what I have learned to do as a kid growing up a

couple blocks from the beach. It is my hobby.

**LN:** I like to surf because it is the perfect mix of nature, calm, exhilaration, challenge, and encouragement.

**MG:** Everything just falls into place when I am in the water.

**MT:** Surfing is a passion of mine because it is fun and it keeps me in shape.

**SB:** It is very fun and a great workout. It is a good way to meet people because there are always a lot of surfers out on the water.

**LS:** It frees the soul.



# Winter Hot Spots

Where LJHS Students like to spend their Winter Breaks

**By Erin Riley**  
Staff Writer

With winter on its way, many students are preparing to enjoy sports that require a blustery day and snow. Since we do not experience these conditions locally, many students pack up their winter gear and head out of our coastal town of La Jolla to the snowy caps to hit the slopes.

A few winter sports, such as skiing and snowboarding, are extremely popu-



Sophomore Carly Neville, another avid snowboarder at LJHS, on her last run of the day at Mammoth Mountain.

lar among the student body at La Jolla High School. Senior Kristin Crabb, a snow-

boarder, expressed her enjoyment by saying, "Mammoth [Mountain] is my favorite place to go because I've grown up going there my whole life."

Junior Will Salvato enjoys a change of scenery when skiing the mountains in Aspen, Colorado. Salvato said, "[Aspen is] just a great place to ski because there are many versatile slopes to choose from."

As the winter season hits, La Jolla students tend to drift away from the sandy beaches and trek to the snowy mountains to get their snow fix.



Will Salvato getting some air while skiing in Aspen, Colorado.

## Coaching Update: Men's Basketball

**By Kenneth Martey**  
Staff Writer

The start of the men's basketball season this year has been a little different. Long-time varsity head coach Kamal Assaf has stepped down from his position to take care of his new baby. In his place, last year's assistant coach, Paul Baranowski, has stepped up to fill in the head coaching position. This year's team welcomed him to the new position.

The team has great confidence in Baranowski because of his great previous experience as a coach in Arizona, where he led his team to two state titles.

"I think it's pretty cool having Coach Baranowski on the team, all the players like him. He has been working with us for a couple years now so it's been a smooth transition. He's also a good coach, he has had success over a long stretch of time so we are excited to have him," exclaimed senior

guard Sawsun Khodapanah.

Senior captain Tyson Youngs did not hesitate to add, "He was the assistant coach last year so there wasn't much of a change and everyone knows him and we all like him. He's had a ton of suc-



Photo Courtesy of Kenneth Martey

Coach Baranowski following a practice.

cess coaching elsewhere and I'm hoping he can keep that winning spirit going for us."

The Vikings have started their season 1-1 this year but there is no reason to fret, all members are looking forward to possibly achieving a CIF championship for LJHS.

## Winter Sports Intro

**By Lauren Robbins**  
Staff Writer

With the winter sports season beginning, La Jolla High School athletes are ready for a promising and strong season. Winter sports consist of men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, women's water polo, and wrestling.

Women's varsity water polo captain senior Kathryn Andrews said, "our biggest strength is we don't really have any weak links. We've been playing together for 5 or 6 years."

The start of the season has gone well for the water polo team. They won their first game of the season against Vista High School. Knowing exactly where your teammates are or will be at all

times is a strategic advantage in winning games. An experienced team is a winning team.

Sophomore and new player to women's varsity basketball, Sarah Tajran believes what makes a varsity team is, "the way we all work together and we always know where we are, who to pass to, or who to be with--it's what makes us a team." Women's varsity basketball captain junior Sierra Westhem's goal for the season is, "to win at least half of our games and play to the best that each of us can play." The team has had a strong beginning of the season and plans to stay strong throughout.

La Jolla High School is fortunate to have a determined body of athletes and very capable coaches. Students are prepared and motivated to work as hard as they can to reach the varsity team level.

## POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL

Dominated by the Senior Class Once Again

**By Stephanie Buchbinder**  
Staff Writer

Pow der-puff [pou-der-puhf]: a reference to the division of a traditionally male sport, reserved for females, regardless of the age of the participants.

During Powder Puff, girls at La Jolla High School are given the chance to try football,

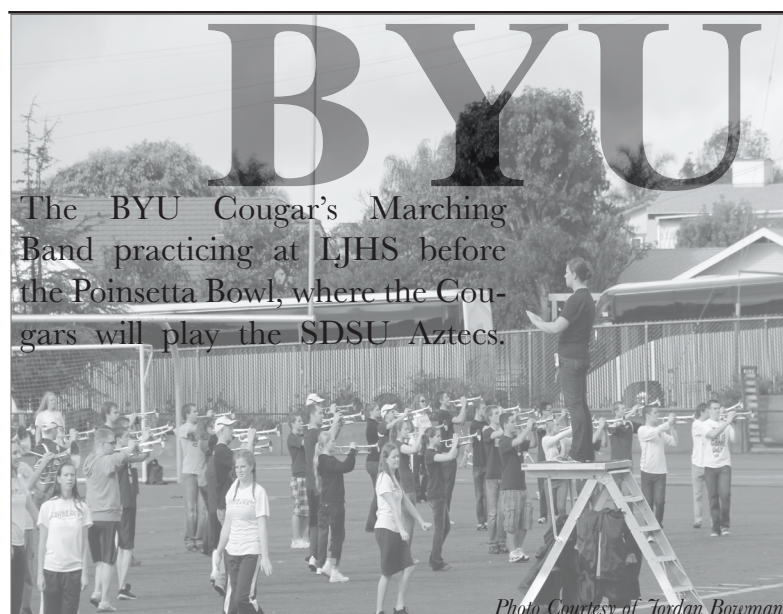
a sport they normally would not otherwise participate in at school. Students also get the chance to see their fellow male classmates take on the role of pseudo-cheerleaders.

In preparation for the big game, members of the varsity football team coach each grade's team of girls and prepare them by teaching them plays and proper technique.

Powder Puff at La Jolla High began in 2002, when it

was a great success, and became an annual tradition. The 2002 event included a half time show put on by the junior class, who performed their Airband routine, boys cheerleading, and a win for the senior and freshman teams.

Not only is Powder Puff a fun activity to show school spirit, but it is also a fundraiser. The funds raised go to the junior class which helps lower their senior dues.



The BYU Cougar's Marching Band practicing at LJHS before the Poinsetta Bowl, where the Cougars will play the SDSU Aztecs.

Photo Courtesy of Jordan Bowman



(Clockwise from top left) The Junior Class cheerleaders dancing around Mr. Bankert; Seniors Katie Harmeyer and Rose Chute both go up for the interception; Sophomore Brynn Duguid looks down the field to locate a open receiver.



# Former LJHS Track Star Accused of Multiple Assault Accounts

**By Emma Scott**  
*Copy Editor*

To someone new to La Jolla High School, this story may hold little significance. From an outsider’s glance, it seems like just another assault on two young girls walking the streets at night, which unfortunately is all too common in large cities such as San Diego. However, to those who knew Mandelaaxe Watson-Newsome, the story causes intense shock and confusion.

Watson-Newsome was a graduate of La Jolla High class of 2011. He was an incredible track star, as well as a tuba

By the next morning, Facebook statuses were filled with questions and expressions of disbelief, but also derogatory comments and slander towards this fellow student they never knew. The rumors and speculation quickly spread, and by 6th period on the 19th of November, many students had heard ridiculous accounts of the story that had no semblance of the actual incident.

According tot he Union Tribune, Watson-Newsome was charged with intended kidnap to rape, assault that could cause bodily injury, and forcible sexual assault. His bail was set at \$1 million.

On Wednesday, November 21, he plead-



Photo courtesy of Emma Scott

Friends of Watson-Newsome’s commented on statuses, shocked at the accusations.

player in the school band. Many who know him couldn’t believe what the headlines were saying- so much of what they observed about his character over the years contradicted these allegations.

# Minimum Day Regulations

*...continued from page 1*

result in extending the school day on early release and minimum days by up to 35 minutes.”

The said meal in question also has to be served during the instructional period of the school day, not just after school to those who want it, as was previously the case. The state believes this will provide a healthy and nutritious meal to all the students of SDUSD.

Principal Shelburne commented on the issue, “We thought it could be optional, so we let students leave or stay as desired. In the future, all must stay.” If a student is caught off campus or leaving before dismissed, it will become a truancy and the consequences of a truancy will be put in to action.

Clearly, the district has the complete intention of complying with state law and feels it is quite a good thing for them as well. Average Daily Attendance money, or ADA money, is given to schools based on how many students are in attendance on any given day. In this case, LJHS receives more money for all the lunches served on half days which would normally have been skipped. For every student who misses a day of school, the district misses out on about \$29 of state funding, which adds up to millions of dollars a year based on all of the student absences combined.

December 5, 2012 was the first day the new schedule, and the campus security guard, Mickey, was on site for added security.

# Looking on the Horizon

**The New Year and the Fiscal Cliff**

**By Ben Allen**  
*Staff Writer*

Last month, President Obama was reelected. There was much discussion from both parties with the end of the year looming, many Americans are curious to find out what Congress will decide concerning the fiscal cliff. The term “fiscal cliff” refers to the \$500 billion tax increase spending cuts, as a result of the Budget Control Act of 2011, scheduled to take effect on January 1.

Going “over the cliff” would mean raised taxes and spending cuts throughout the country on federal programs. Medicare payments to doctors would be cut by 27 percent; federal programs face cuts up to \$65 billion, and unemployment benefits would be cut by \$26 billion following the expiration of emergency unemployment compensation legislature.

Taxes are also expected to increase as a result of the ending of Bush era tax cuts, and the scrapping of tax cuts scheduled for 2013. In addition, 28 million taxpayers, upper middle class and above, will have to pay the alternative minimum tax, which would increase their taxes.

Congress has been criticized for these scheduled cuts, especially since some could have been avoided. For example, the 27 percent cut of Medicare’s doctor payments could have been avoided by passing the “doc fix,” which has been passed annually to ensure that these cuts do not occur. The number required to pay the alternative minimum tax increased because Congress failed to pass its inflation adjustment.

While the Republicans and Democrats agree that they dislike cutting these programs and the enlarged alternative minimum tax, they disagree, as usual, over the taxing of the upper two percent of Americans. At the time of this article’s publishing, hopes for a compromise in the federal budget were encouraged when President Obama altered his plan by cutting \$1.22 trillion over the course of 10 years, by accounting for a new level of inflation. According to the New York Times, Obama also promised to raise the minimum salary for the alternative to \$400,000. The president also changed his previous goal of \$1.6 trillion revenue to \$1.2 trillion. This revision is closer to that of Republican House Speaker John Boehner’s plan.

While La Jolla High (and the rest of the nation) enjoys the holiday season, President Obama and Congress continue to stand on the edge.

# New Mayor

**By Rachel Carroll**  
*Staff Writer*

November 6, Bob Filner beat Carl DeMaio in a close race to be elected the new mayor of the City of San Diego.

Currently holding a seat in the House of Representatives, Filner has had a long history in politics, beginning at age

eighteen. He attended Cornell University and later became a history professor at San Diego State University. In 1992, Filner decided to run for a seat in Congress--a seat he held until the recent election. He is now the first democratic mayor of San Diego since 1992.

In the June 2012 mayoral primary, Filner placed second to Carl DeMaio after a contentious campaign. Despite the difficulties, the people of San Diego decided Bob Filner would be the best person

to lead and elected him early November.

As a liberal democrat, the new mayor has voted to support the policies of President Obama and has pledged to focus more on San Diego’s neighborhoods than the downtown area. He has also advocated to help improve the roads in our city and has said he would like to increase the resources available in libraries.

Filner has also stated that education is extremely important to him. He has always been a

strong proponent of increasing taxes to help funding so schools do not have to close or stop their elective programs. He does not believe in cutting programs to help balance the budget.

Coming into his new role with much experience, Filner’s policies hopefully will allow schools such as La Jolla High School to decrease class sizes. Overall, his passion for education should prove beneficial for the students at La Jolla, and in San Diego.

# New Classroom Technology

**By Misha Kabbage**  
*Staff Writer*

One of San Diego Unified School District’s most monumental classroom modifications has been the new iPads, thanks to a group called Integrated Technology Support Services, or ITSS, and an organization called i21 Interactive Classroom, both of which were all funded by Proposition S. These groups spent considerable time and money to be able to give schools like La Jolla High the privilege of having iPads to enhance our education in a way with which many students may be familiar.

Mr. Rosenberg, a history teacher, explained to the Hi-Tide that our school is very lucky considering the iPads were given to LJHS from a grant of 35 iPads per class. The grant is funded by Proposition S, which is a bond group providing resources to the SDUSD in hopes of reviving

old technology in neighborhood schools.

On election day of 2008, 69 percent of voters in San Diego passed the proposition, making the opportunity of NetBooks and iPads a possibility.

Rosenberg also gave some background information on the iPads. They arrived the week before Thanksgiving break, and they are currently only available to the history department because they are “year 3”, and other departments are “year 4”, meaning that history was the first department eligible to receive the iPads.

When questioned about the possible dilemma of a shortage of iPads per classroom, Rosenberg said, “There are several classes in need of extra iPads, therefore some students must share, or if we have extra in

some classes we can redistribute to other classes in need.”

Controversy arose regarding the use of the NetBooks versus the new iPads and how the excitement of the brand new iPads may push the use of NetBooks into the shadows. Rosenberg says, “the NetBooks will always still be there until the end of their lifespan, however, the iPads may get used more just because the NetBooks were years 1 and 2, and the iPads are years 3 and 4, so eventually the iPads will replace the NetBooks, but not until new things roll out.”

Rosenberg continues to elaborate on the fact that, so far, it is just the history department receiving the iPads, but most likely, in the spring, departments such as science will receive them as well. Other

people receiving them are elementary students, however the distribution is chosen by grade, whereas in high school it is by academic department.

Sophomore Madison Paliotti is in Mr. Tellers’ AP European History class and uses the iPads on a regular basis. Madison states, “We use them for a bunch of things, like for our DBQ’s, internet searches, and further studies for our chapter. But personally as much as I enjoy it, I’m surprised they came up with the iPad program because it’s a lot of money to trust kids with, it could be a distraction from schoolwork, and I know some parents would probably complain saying that technology is taking over and that it’s blocking their kids from their studies.” Paliotti does, however, note how practical and fast they are compared to the NetBooks and how much they could potentially improve academic activities.



# One Time At Band Camp . . .

By **Trevor Menders**  
*Staff writer*

We see them at pep rallies. We see them at football games. We see them at graduation. But who are these mysterious musicians? They are the members of the La Jolla High Instrumental Music Department, more widely known as Viking Band and the Jazz Band. Jazz is a seventh period two-hour class that students take voluntarily. Mr. Fiedler, the band director, is going strong in his third year here at La Jolla High. He came in the 2010-2011 school year and has been a hit ever since. “Mr. Fiedler is also a big reason why I took band all

four years and enjoyed coming to class every day” said senior violinist Savanna Beeson. “He has a quality that I think all good teachers have--he makes us want to do our best.” “Mr. Fiedler is the bomb,” agrees junior alto saxophonist Ben Leibowitz. “He is very outgoing and always makes class more than exciting. He takes time out of his days to write the music we want to play,” which is a show of inspiring dedication to his students, considering that Mr. Fiedler runs the music departments at both La Jolla High and Muirlands Middle School. “It’s intense,” says Fiedler, “but it’s been working.” Since his start here at the La Jolla

schools, Fiedler has managed to take the enrollment in band at Muirlands from 70 to nearly 200 students. Band has two divisions--Concert and Jazz--both of which play at a multitude of events, not limited to the La Jolla High campus. Though they play every year at graduation, varsity games, and their seasonal concerts, they also appear every year at the La Jolla Holiday Parade. In addition to performing, band competes and travels to workshops. In the spring of last year, they went to the Music in the Parks festival and competition in northern California, and last year, they went to New York City to participate in a workshop with



Viking Band’s trip to New York




Ale Chousal and Ben Leibowitz at the La Jolla Holiday Parade

*Photos courtesy of Trevor Menders*

a broadway conductor. This spring, they will make the trek up to Seattle, Washington. Fiedler says that these trips are for the students. Not everyone has the opportunity to go on trips to experience the different parts of the world, so through these opportunities, they experience travel and better their musical skills. However, band is not drawing out of school funds for their trips. According to Fiedler, if a band member participates in all the fundraisers, they do not need to contribute any money of their own. This is evident; Viking Band is relentless in its fundraising. The gigantic boxes of candy and other assorted goodies the band members tote around campus contribute to just one facet of their efforts. In September, they held a

bike-a-thon at Robb Field in Ocean Beach, for which all the participants gathered pledges for every lap they completed. In October, they held an enormous rummage sale on campus. Just this December, they played down on La Jolla Boulevard at a holiday boutique to raise money. On December 20th, they hosted a bake sale at the same time as their Winter Concert in the Parker Auditorium at 6:30 in conjunction with the Madrigals and Choir. Though we may see them only a couple times a year, band pushes hard with practices during and after school to bring LJHS the best in music. With dedication like theirs, there is no doubt that La Jolla will see Viking Band and its members sail onward into the future.



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# Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots

By Erin Riley  
and Izzie Melvin  
*Staff Writers*

Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots is a rock musical that brings to life the music of The Flaming Lips. Opening night for this play was November 17, 2012 and it ran through December 16, 2012. The show was featured at San Diego’s La Jolla Playhouse.

Senior Bridget Aiello recently saw the play and said, “I really enjoyed it. Although I am not familiar with the band The Flaming Lips, the music was impeccable. The concept was really interesting and the visuals were just incredible. The costumes were great. The way that they did the pink robot costumes was so innovative and just wonderful to watch. I would totally recommend it.”

The musical outlines the story of Yoshimi, a young Japanese artist facing the battle of her life. Adrift from her

family and lover, Yoshimi journeys alone into a fantastical robot-world where she wages a war with fate. This musical will have you at the edge of your seat, wondering if Yoshimi’s will to survive will be powerful enough to destroy her. Yoshimi is torn between sickness and health as she battles for her life against cancer, which is represented by the pink robots.

“It was nothing like any other, it had so much technology,” said sophomore Ella Donnelly, who is very active in youth theatre herself. This musical is about two hours and fifteen minutes long, but it captures the audience every moment with effects that are not seen in most plays or musicals. “The technology was the part that captivated me,” said Donnelly. This highly anticipated play was spectacular in every aspect of its production.

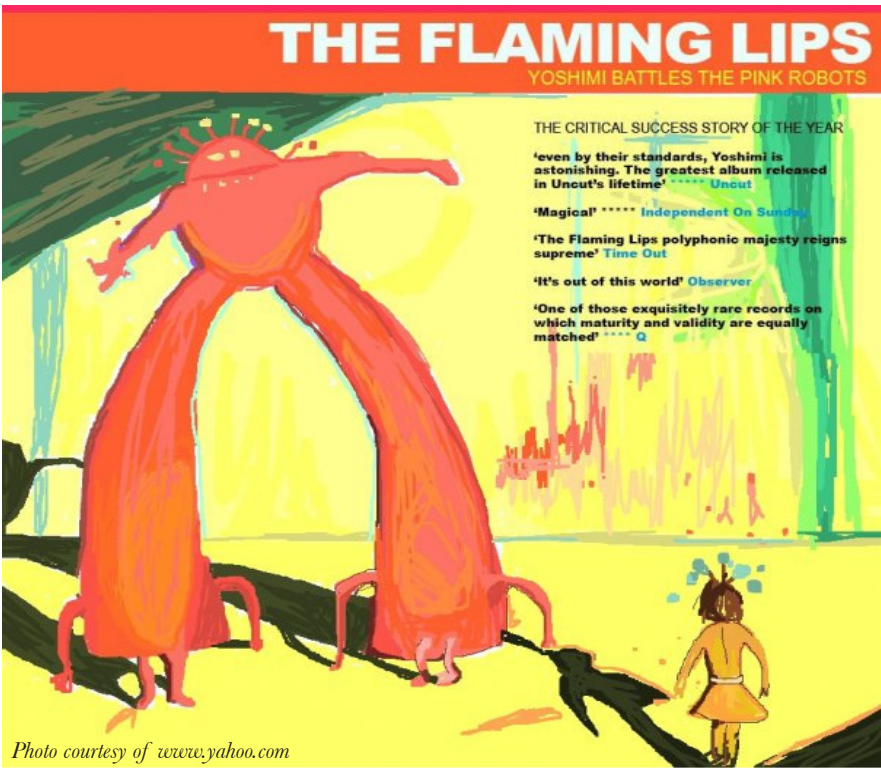


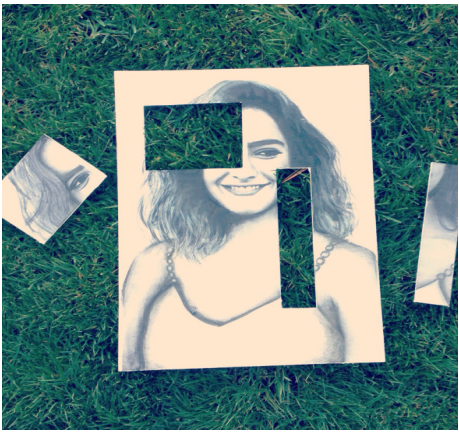
Photo courtesy of [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)

## HIDDEN ARTISTIC TALENT

By Izzie Melvin  
*Staff Writer*

There is no shortage of artistic talent occupying the halls of La Jolla High School. One glance at the glass-enclosed showcase windows in the 500 building will give you an inkling of just how diverse and imaginative this artwork can be. In the midst of this creativity, there are few artists who are exceeding the rest.

Sofia Elias, a senior, has been creating works of art for as long as she can remember, her talent stemming from her two very creative parents. Elias says her favorite medium is mixed-media art, but she is also experienced in drawing, painting, and three-dimensional art. She creates a huge variety of artwork, usually very colorful, but she said, “I don’t like drawing people because they never come out as I pictured in my mind.”



ARTWORK BY SOFIA ELIAS  
*Photo courtesy of Sofia Elias*

When asked where she draws inspiration for her work, she answered by saying, “I just look at everything as art . . . art is just a language that no one has to learn.”

For senior Arden Kreuzer, another gifted artist on campus, drawing is just a hobby. Kreuzer mainly sticks to drawing, especially eyes. She said most of her pictures are influenced by a recent trip to Asia, which helped her come up with new ideas for drawing, some based on Eastern thought.

Both artists agreed that while they are

working on new pieces, they lose track of time, and are very disappointed when they need to stop and move onto something different. Elias admitted to always doing her art homework before any other subject because it is the most fun.

Elias and Kreuzer both said they have always had an interest in art, but once they took an art class at La Jolla High School, their attentiveness to art multiplied.

“The time where I can say what I want without actually saying it,” is how Elias generalized her relationship with her artwork.

Even if not every person is a highly talented artist, it is true that to everyone art is a way of expression without speaking, and it truly has no limits.



ARTWORK BY ARDEN KREUZER  
*Photo courtesy of Arden Kreuzer*

## Shaken Not Stirred: 007

Skyfall Hits New Heights With Audiences Everywhere

By Max Sanchez  
*Staff Writer*



Photos courtesy of [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)



The new installment in the James Bond 007 series that came out November 9th has been highly rated by critics and movie goers alike. Some critics have even acclaimed *Skyfall* one of the best in the series, followed by some 007 classics such as *From Russia With Love* and *Goldfinger*. The film stars Daniel Craig (James Bond), Judi Dench (M), Naomie Harris (Eve), and Javier Bardem (Silva). But what is it that makes this movie stand out from all of the others?

The main discrepancy between this motion picture and other Bond Films

is the fact that this one has a story to it. The intro to *Skyfall* was nothing like *Quantum of Solace* (the pervious 007). It was riveting and exciting, instead of boring and condensed. Once the first chase scene passes by, it becomes a very intense movie with an incredible drive to it, and will keep your interest the entire time. During the middle of the movie the villain is finally introduced, an enigmatic criminal mastermind of cyber terrorism, who is also a homosexual. If you are a James Bond fan or overall action lover, then this is a good pick for you.