

Hi-Tide



See the back page for more information on Hunter Pauker (artwork left), Matty Taylor (artwork right), and other LJHS artists.



Volume LXXXVIII Issue 6-March 28, 2014

Opinions:
Friday the 13th

Features:
Cheating?

Stu-Fo:
Humans of LJ

Sports:
ACL Tears

A&E:
LJ Artists

Nightmare on Fay

Students are warned to lock their car doors

By Zen Kelly
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, March 4, La Jolla High senior Lindsey Wilder’s car, a 1973 Volkswagen Bug, was stolen from its Fay Avenue parking spot, right next to the Coggan Aquatic Center.

When Wilder discovered her car had been stolen after watching pool security camera footage, her initial reaction was not one of astonishment, but rather one of good humor.

“First I started laughing, because no one ever thinks that their car is going to be stolen at school,” Wilder said.

Shortly after, she contacted the police and filed a report.

The San Diego Police De-

Photo courtesy of Creekstan Allan



LJHS students face fears of car break-ins on Fay Avenue.

partment is now looking for the missing car; however, the suspect(s) and the vehicle have yet to be found.

Wilder said she learned it is better not to park by the pool anymore, for there have been numerous break-ins and cars stolen in the area including that of senior Jordan Erickson.

Wilder told the LJHS administration what happened, and they are also working with the San Diego Police Department to get the car returned.

It is recommended that students park their cars farther away from the pool to avoid theft.

Another word of advice came from Mrs. Rita Bastani, the principal’s secretary, who said, “Students should make sure they lock their cars...There are some devices you can get that locks the steering wheel or a low jack system which allows the police department to locate the car if stolen.”

SPIRIT UPDATE



Hey Vikes!

ASB elections are approaching and will be held on May 23, 2014. If you are interested in running for an elected position on ASB, or applying for a commissionership, check online in the upcoming weeks under “ASB Forms.”

Also, if seniors have any photos that they would like to include in the senior video, please email them to ljhsasb@gmail.com, or drop off a copy to room 304.

Sydney Moses
ASB President

Editor’s Note:
Hi Vikes,

The Hi-Tide staff would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable spring break! Keep submitting your articles and comments to ljhitide@yahoo.com and we will see you back at school in April.

Blood Donation Loss

San Diego Faces Blood Shortage

By Ana Gimber
Staff Writer

The San Diego Blood Bank issued an emergency call for donations of rare blood types. Blood types O- and B- are “below safety levels,” with only about three days of supply on hand, according to the Bank.

“We really want to have a minimum supply of six to eight days,” said Lynn Stedd, a blood bank spokeswoman to the *Union Tribune*. “We have not had a shortage like this since 2006, so we’re hoping that the community will hear us and come out.”

Stedd continued by saying “blood is in short supply because sterile saline is critical in working with some blood donors.”

Saline solution generally allows 125 donors each week to give double the red cell count, which is equivalent to a total of 250 donations per week. Since saline solution has been unavailable, the blood bank has been unable to collect hundreds of donations and each day the supply declines further.

The LJHS Blood Drive Club hosts multiple blood drives

Photo courtesy of Blood Drive Club



LJHS students at a blood drive in the small gym.

at LJHS throughout the year. From the donations in a previous drive, over three lives have been saved.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration have attributed the saline shortage to a surge in demand caused by the flu season in January through March. Saline is often used with dehydrated flu patients if they can’t keep liquids down.

“Usually blood banks with shortages can turn to other parts of the country for help, but currently there is nowhere to turn due to bad weather,” Stedd said.

According to Priyanka Nanayakkara, president of the Blood Drive Club, “[Blood Drive Club] usually gets around 70 donors.” Although every donation helps, substantial increases in donations are imperative in order to avoid a long-term blood shortage.

Plans in the Making

Field renovations could leave the 800 building in the dust

By Jake Foerster
Staff Writer

The administration of La Jolla High School has been planning a stadium renovation project, which could involve demolition of the 800 building for an addition to Gene Edwards Stadium.

According to former LJHS Principal Dana Shelburne, the plans for this project were sent to the Division of State Architecture (DSA) at the end of January.

Once the plans are approved, the bidding process will begin, and should last toward the end of September.

The submitted plan intends to create handicapped accessible pathways on both the east and west sides of the football field. It also plans to remove

the current boys’ locker room and adjacent bathroom, as well as construction of a new boys’ locker room, weight room, and bleachers for Gene Edwards Stadium.

When asked about the duration of this project, Shelburne said, “Construction on this project will take around 18 months, but that is tentative, depending on a number of [variables] such as unknown underground issues, construction material availability, weather and the like.”

This plan also includes the addition of new synthetic grass, a new track surface, and a “LJ” logo in the middle of the field. The words “La Jolla” and “Vikings” would also be added to the end zones, along with lines sewn in the field for a variety of other sports.



Photo courtesy of Ben Allen

The current boys’ locker room that is tentatively set to be demolished

The La Jolla High School

Hi-Tide
Editors-in-Chief

Laura Derickson
Amanda Menas

News Editors

Ben Allen
Lilly Glenister

Opinions Editor

Hannah Orr

Features Editor

Katie Allen

Student Focus Editor

Mae Goodjohn

Sports Editor

Izzie Melvin

A&E Editor

Zoe Hildebrand

Business Manager

Jordan Bowman

Media Liaison

Ali Davallou

Webmaster

Ryan Robson

Copy Editors

Lilly Grossman
Taylor Mohrhardt

Comprehensive Editors

Trevor Menders
Taylor Osman

Advisor

Jim Essex

Associate Advisor

Rachelle Friberg

Staff Writers

Creekstar Allan
Lana Bass
Liliana Becerril
Nicolette Bodine
Rachel Carroll
Jeanine Erikat
Sara Espinosa
Jake Foerster
Camille Furby
Ana Gimber
Griffon Hooper
Misha Kabbage
Zen Kelly
Lilian Kennedy
Jilian Kopp
Maya Lakshman
Ilana Larry
Shane Lynch
Skip McCullough
Georgie Morris
Carly Neville
Marissa Petch
Sarah Rainsdon
Haley Richards
Tony Rivas
Lauren Robbins
Lauren Roberts
Tristan Saeed
Janet Shackleton
AJ Talman
Emily Veliz
Kaitlin Wheeler
Brooks Whitney
Lindsey Young

The Hi-Tide, an open forum, is the official student newspaper of La Jolla High School. Unless otherwise noted, opinions being voiced in the Hi-Tide belong to the individual author. The Hi-Tide welcomes letters and opinions from students and staff members. If you have a letter to the editor, please drop it off in Room 501, or give it to any Hi-Tide editor. You may also email submissions to LJHiTide@yahoo.com. Submissions should be typed and cannot be anonymous. The Hi-Tide reserves the right to refuse any material. Advertisements are measured per column inch. To advertise with the Hi-Tide or to purchase a subscription, please email us or call (858) 454-3081, extension 4501. Issues are distributed every four weeks. No part of the Hi-Tide may be reproduced without written permission.

Friday, June 13th

Seniors are the Unlucky Ones

By **Tony Rivas**
Staff Writer

Imagine that moment when you first approach the stage on graduation day. Your stomach is quickly overtaken by the sensation of butterflies and all you can think about at this point is getting your diploma as quickly as possible without tripping on something.

Sad emotions start to spread like wild-fire, because this will be the last time you will ever see many of your high school colleagues.

Many seniors would wish for another chance to hang out with their buds, and if you're one of those seniors, then your wish has just come true. Students will now return to school the day after graduation, freshmen through junior classes are to finish their last day of finals and seniors are to participate in an ASB activity. This whole situation isn't what we expected; many plans have been altered due to the changes that have been made by the school district.

Senior Blair Liss feels that the whole "coming back to school after graduation" is absurd. "Isn't the whole purpose of graduating meant for you to get your diploma on that day? How else can we feel accomplished?"

According to Principal Secretary Mrs. Rita Bastani, students only have a mere image

of the whole situation.

"The seniors shouldn't blame the school administration for the decision, it was a decision that had to be made by the school district due to shortages on ADA money and other problematic reasons," said Bastani.

The state of California funds school districts based on student attendance, also known as Average Daily Attendance (ADA), at school. ADA is calculated by dividing the total number of days of student attendance by the number of days of

"It was a decision that had to be made by the school district due to shortages on ADA money..."

school taught during the same period.

A student with perfect attendance, generates \$5,786 in revenue for the district.

Others may argue that the situation is a good decision made by the school district. By making the seniors come back another day, the school district will have the funds from the ADA. On the other hand, there are in fact a couple of alternatives to the decision made by the school district. One of these alternatives could be cutting back on short days, or coming to school on Memorial Day. If it were you, would you be willing to sacrifice your Memorial Day so that you could receive your diploma when you walk, or would you rather wait to get your diploma the next day?

WASC Visitation

By **Jeanine Erikat**
Staff Writer

WASC came and left our school on Monday, March 3. For those who don't know WASC, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, is responsible for accrediting schools. With such a serious case on the line, many teachers were sitting on the edge of their seats with anxiety and apprehension as the day drew near. This being said, many students had different experiences during the WASC visitation.

Junior Adriana Chiquete felt that "teachers dressed nicer, and put up posters with school guidelines. One teacher even had us do presentations, in a class we normally wouldn't."

Similarly, Junior Saba Faridi said: "On the day WASC was coming to our school to evaluate our teachers and our system in the classroom, I feel like the teachers almost wanted to primp themselves, make themselves look a lot better than they normally do in class everyday to make themselves fit the standards of the WASC, which I believe is not good, because teachers should be like that everyday."

Likewise, Junior Lea O'Haire stated: "They [the teachers] were more into school spirit; they were wearing red and black. And they told us to be well behaved, stay on task, and enforced more of the school rules. They were a lot nicer. It was just a very different mind set that they had."

However, some students mentioned that WASC didn't even

visit any of their classrooms, and thus their teachers didn't behave in a different manner.

All in all, we as students were given various warnings before the visitation of WASC, and were repeatedly told by administrators the importance of this day, because ultimately, we as students would be the ones at a disadvantage if we didn't pass the WASC evaluation, and to be on our best behavior when representing La Jolla High.

Now, were teachers being extra cautious due to the chaos that has plagued the beginning of our school year due to no set principal until last month? Or, is it an issue that needs to be revisited/with maybe how WASC evaluates things? The reality of the situation is that if the teachers are changing the ways they teach, then the WASC evaluation is lacking validity. If the teaching methods that teachers implement each day, such as lecturing, which students actually respond well to, are not seen as adequate, then maybe WASC needs to change their mind set of how things should be. They should instead work on improving existing methods of teaching, rather than trying to change them completely.

This isn't just an issue of La Jolla High being accredited, but it also brings to attention the issue concerning the heads of school boards who are implementing plans on paper into real life schools without concerning themselves with better alternatives.

Education is not to be something taken lightly, especially considering we are teaching the future leaders of America, but instead needs to be more focused, with the realities of how schools are run, how teachers teach and students respond.



Photo courtesy of Creekstar Allan



Photo courtesy of Kaitlin Wheeler

In Response to “A Day In The Life: A Tale of Two Schools” AVID Students Give Their Feedback

We, the Junior-Senior class students of AVID and Mrs. Rodriguez are writing in response to the Opinions Editorial, “A Day In The Life A Tale of Two Schools.”

While we commend the effort on discussing race and spotlighting successful students, upon reading the article, we disagree with stereotypes, phrasing, and the overall feeling the article conveys.

Firstly, the article assumes the term “Latino” to refer to all who ride the bus. Secondly, it ignores the fact there are Latinos in the La Jolla community, that very much enjoy its advantages. While we do admit that groups tend to segregate in terms of race and economic level, to label our school as simply two races is to ignore the rich diversity that our campus provides.

We agree that labeling Latinos as “lazy, dumb, stupid, and crowding of regular classrooms” is simply ignorant. If it were not for the bussed in population, La Jolla High in terms of numbers, would not survive. It is a two-way relationship, we need the school, and the school needs us. Academic achievement comes with hard work and each generation provides more for the next. Many of our parents are first generation immigrants and we are so grateful for the chance to see our parents dream a better dream for us. It will come, in time.

As far as participation in extra-curricular activities, Latino students have had a strong representation this year in boy’s soccer, football, wres-

ting, and girl’s softball. While transportation does provide a challenge in terms of participation in athletics, it is not the sole reason for non-participation. Other reasons include not feeling welcomed due to racial issues, schedule conflicts with commitments at home, economics, or simply cultural preferences in terms of sports. The fact is if you have the passion or desire for something, the challenge will not present a barrier toward participation. Jorge Jimenez and Edgar Salamanca are both examples of students that have managed to balance their academics and their athletics. Both have successful GPAs and have made great contributions to La Jolla High School as captains on the swim and soccer teams.

Students that commute have made a decision to do so and do not see it as a disadvantage, but as an opportunity that provides rich life experiences that one cannot attain in the classroom. To address the quote, “but if they spent a day in a Latino’s shoes they would not get past lunch,” students that commute by bus learn to navigate with flexibility within two worlds. Maneuvering back and forth from one community to another brings about countless challenges that cannot so easily be summarized in one article, many of which enrich a person’s life. Do not feel sad, sorry or pity for “those who walk in a Latino’s shoes.” And know that we do not “wish” to be any different so that we can have “more opportunities.” We are proud of having created these opportunities for ourselves.

Grammarama

By Laura Derickson
Editor-In-Chief

Here are a few writing mistakes to check for before you turn in your assignments that spell check won’t help you with:

1. Cannot is one word.
Wrong: “I literally can not!”
Right: “I cannot discern the theme of this essay with so many grammar mistakes.”

2. Try not to misconnect verbs.

Wrong: “I think we should try and change the dress code.”
Right: “I think we should try to convince the English department that we do not read enough books by female authors.”

3. Do not use “of” when you should use “have.” Do not let your California accent get the better of you.

Wrong: “We should of ditched school and surfed the gnar today.”

Right: “I should have taken AP Chemistry instead of AP Physics.”

4. Do not confuse “it’s” and “its.” “It’s” means “it is.” “Its” is possessive.

Wrong: “Its really getting me down that there’s no Brandy Melville in La Jolla.”

Right: “It’s really getting me down that Gandhi was so misunderstood.”

5. Do not use if when you should use whether. If and whether do not mean the same thing.

Wrong: I am not sure if I should go to Don Carlos or Bahia during third period.

Right: I am not sure whether I should go to the hematology symposium or the mock trial meeting on Saurday morning.

College Fairs

By Kaitlin Wheeler
Staff Writer

Experience is the key to effective learning about the world. Textbooks and tests can only propel students so far before the actual act of working at a job or an internship becomes necessary to progress further along the path of success.

Many colleges arrange internships and job fairs, where local businesses and large corporations set up booths on their campus. College students are given the opportunity to meet and converse with employees from these businesses and offer their résumés to business officials for possible positions in their companies.

Similarly, some teachers at LJHS, such as Mrs. Tenenbaum and Mr. Teachworth, frequently offer and expose students to various science-related internships. This is excellent for teens who are interested in biology or physics, but it’s not beneficial to the kids who aren’t interested in these fields of study.

Having a job or an internship fair at our school would be profitable to all students at

LJHS. Mrs. Tenenbaum expressed her opinion on the advantages of the job fair: “Students would have more of an opportunity to experience working in places they might be interested in pursuing. The ones I have for sciences are great, but I think there should be options for everyone.”

As Mrs. Tenenbaum addressed above, more opportunities for a wider range of jobs can be offered through a fair. Not only are students being given the opportunity to acquire a job, but they are also practicing their interviewing skills, and learning to write a convincing résumé.

Perfecting the act of physically walking up and conversing effectively with an employee in a conservative and business-like manner can prove to be very helpful when looking for a job.

If LJHS could offer this to students, teens could have jobs right at their fingertips, giving them the opportunity to personally experience and discover their true passions and interests.

Experiencing new environments and building a strong work ethic will create a stable background for students. With internships and jobs, they can grow and thrive as they learn more throughout college or whatever path they choose to take.

Lunch(able)?

Should off-campus lunch be allowed?

By Camille Furby
Staff Writer

If any of us were to watch a movie filmed in a high school, the representation of the cafeteria would look nothing like that in LJHS. Typically, a majority of the student body in almost every high school eats their lunch in a cafeteria, but at La Jolla High, most people try to avoid it.

Two years ago, when I was a freshman, ASB brought in In-N-Out

every Friday, bagels every Tuesday and Thursday, and burritos and tacos from Don Carlos on Wednesdays. But now it seems the District has imposed every sanitary health code possible to not allow us to bring any outside food in unless it is in packaged and sealed.

There wouldn’t be so much of an issue if our cafeteria provided appetizing lunches, but unfortunately that is not the

case. Unlike Bishops and other schools that are offered off-campus lunch, we are not even allowed to leave.

Many of us, including me, would much rather not dine on cafeteria food, and would much rather spend our money buying lunches and food from

local restaurants in La Jolla that we love and enjoy.

Our annual food fair last year was harshly changed because of the District’s concern about the food being distributed by students, so if

one day was not even allowed, they most likely won’t change their minds about letting us eat foods from other businesses who come in and sell their food to kids.

Personally, I believe if it’s our money and we are paying for it and choose to eat it, they should not worry about every little thing they think might happen since we are not offered to leave campus to eat.

“But now it is like the District has imposed every sanitary health code possible to not allow us to bring any outside food in unless it is packaged and sealed.”

Cheating on the Rise

Is cheating really getting you where you want to go?

By Shane Lynch
Staff Writer

A recent study by a Rutgers University Professor indicates that around 95% of high school students have reported cheating at some point, an extremely high number. Much of this cheating is a result of smartphones and access to the internet, a resource which has only been made available in the past decade. Students are generally in-different when it comes to the morality of cheating, especially considering it's often easy to get away with. Modern education is be-

coming increasingly competitive, and the workload has become much more difficult than it was mere decades ago. Many students find it hard to keep up, and there is a general belief that doing well on tests and assessments is vital regardless of the means used to achieve this. As a result, it has become very easy for students to cheat. Answers to tests can be found online in mere seconds while friends can send each other pictures of work done in earlier periods. It's difficult to get caught, and generally a viable means of getting a good grade. Furthermore, despite sites like *turnitin.com* being used to

combat plagiarism, around 58% of students admit to copying work from online or another resource. Sparknotes is used by many as an alternative to reading assignments while other sites offer answers to specific hand-outs given in class. Sites used to combat cheating like *turnitin.com* aren't always effective

over this issue, as they can't monitor what the students do at home or outside of class. In addition, the curriculum is devised in such a way that students can totally get away with knowing very little so long as they've memorized the specific information that will be on a test. Parents are oblivious to this

good scores and grades than actually learning and retaining information, which many believe significantly influences the amount of cheating. This may contribute to the general attitude that cheating is acceptable, as students value grades over morality. Or perhaps the media has influenced our generation in such a way that we have different values than our parents, who cheated significantly less according to statistics. Whatever the cause, cheating remains a major issue in both high school and college. Cheating will continue to get easier with new technologies, and it will ultimately be up to the students to decide what they find moral and immoral. If cheating becomes less viable with new curriculum, perhaps people will be less inclined to cheat. Regardless, cheating will always be an aspect of schools in some form or another.

“Sparknotes is used by many as an alternative to reading assignments while other sites offer answers to specific hand-outs given in class.”

at combatting this either. Almost everyone is cheating in one way or another, and no one seems to care. Teachers have little influence

issue as well, as they can't really control what students do on their phones or computers. Furthermore, there is a greater emphasis on getting

I'm Not Leaving

A Presentation by Carl Wilkens

By AJ Talman
Staff Writer

La Jolla High School's Social Science teacher Mr. Jones recently gave students taking his Government/Economics class an experience they will never forget. Each year, Mr. Jones teaches a moment in history on foreign policy about the conflicts and massacres that occurred during the Rwandan Genocide. Surprisingly, this lesson isn't normally brought up in the course plan for most Government or Economic classes. During class lectures, Mr. Jones repeatedly tells students about how society and government go hand in hand with one another. One key point is his view correlated to Thomas Hobbes' theory on the state of nature. Because of the importance of this topic, Mr. Jones uses multiple tactics to help students get a better understanding. "The events that happened in the Rwandan Genocide," Mr. Jones said, "are a great example of society and the state of nature. It has basically everything we are learning about in class." For this reason, Mr. Jones goes outside the norm and brings up this very dark and largely unknown time of history to help demonstrate and give a better understanding of Hobbes' theory. Regardless of why the Rwandan Genocide isn't taught in the school-wide lesson plan, the experiences and stories

became of great importance once a man who was shown in the documentaries and novels used in class was there in the flesh. On March 13, 2014, a man named Carl Wilkens gave up a day of his time whilst visiting San Diego to come and share his story and experiences during the Rwandan Genocide. Wilkens left his mark on history by being the last United States citizen to stay in Rwanda from the beginning to the end of the Genocide. Having made the decision to stay and do whatever he could to help protect some close friends, he had no idea he was about to go through one of the worst genocides in history. He described to the class the history then his personal experience. After World War I, Rwanda was taken over by Belgium with plans to colonize and create a modernized society. Leaders of the Belgium expedition began to segregate the people based on their originating tribes and give more superiority to one side over the other in order to gain control. These two groups were from then on identified as either "Tutsis" or "Hutus," no longer the people of Rwanda. As the colonization progressed, identity cards were established while strong tensions began to rise. The Tutsis were given the higher title due to their larger bone structure and height. The Belgium colonists began to westernize the Tutsi culture and the racial profiling continued. Overtime, the society in Rwanda was separated into



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

three levels of citizens. The first class citizens held power over all of Rwanda while the Tutsis served them and controlled the Hutus with violence and aggression. This system was used for decades and as a result, the Hutu tribe held a negative and violent demeanor against the Tutsi tribe. It wasn't long until this hatred was unleashed. From April 7, 1994 to July 15, 1994, the genocide of Rwanda took place based off the racial tension and destructive past of the Hutus and Tutsis. The Hutus saw genocide as a feasible solution and the only option to putting an end to their problem. By the time the massacre was put to an end, over 800,000 men, women, and children lay dead. Very few Westerners lived in Rwanda through the entire genocide, but Carl Wilkens was one of those select few. Students expecting to hear about the violence, murder, and destruction were puzzled

when he smiled at the class, glanced down at the computer and played a small clip of Rwanda today. Many were confused at first why a man who lived through such an event would play a clip on the tourism of Rwanda. As the clip continued, students realized it was not just the genocide itself, but the country's next step that was important. The video portrayed the life, the beauty, and most importantly, the Rwanda that is present today outside of the genocide that has tainted the country's name and reputation. Wilkens wanted student to focus on the beauty and growth that has occurred from it. Carl Wilkens gave a different outlook and approach to life through his presentation. On his own, he makes his life work about changing the perspectives people have about Rwanda. He has changed the outlook of many students at La Jolla, and hopefully, will be able to for years to come.

SAVE THE OPERA

By Trevor Menders
Comprehensive Editor

On March 19, the San Diego Opera announced its intentions to close after the current 49th season, just shy of what was promised to be a star-studded 50th. The announcement comes as a shock to many. Unlike many other cultural institutions in San Diego, the Opera has remained strong in the face of economic and cultural adversity. In recent years, San Diego has faced an alarming string of closures of arts institutions, including the renowned Starlight Amphitheatre, San Diego Lyric Opera, and Eveoke Dance Theatre. The Opera believes its decision to close is a responsible one. According to the Union Tribune, the Opera wants to close now instead of later in order to remain "in the black." As the arts are a volatile industry, it is not uncommon to see companies flare out in spectacular fashion, leaving their checks bouncing and their artists unable to pay rent. The Opera wants to go quietly and allow its employees sufficient time to seek another job. Local notables have urged the Opera to reconsider, and lower-profile opera fans have started Facebook pages and internet petitions to protest the closure. Their efforts will be in vain unless a heavy-hitting donor steps up to the plate. Regardless of what happens, the San Diego Opera has had a good run, performing in its possibly final season operatic hits such as Verdi's A Masked Ball. Such an outstanding cultural fixture will be missed.

High School Burnout

Statistics show that a quarter of American high school students exhibit high stress levels

By Shane Lynch
Staff Writer

High school is a crucial point in a person's life, determining where they will spend the next four years as well as allowing them to discover their values and interests. For many teens, it can be difficult to stay focused amid a constant flow of tests and the general stress of growing up.

Burnout, as it's commonly called, occurs when a student loses motivation to keep up in school and starts to neglect their work. This condition is extremely prevalent among teens, particularly in recent years. The factors that lead to burnout are varied, but some of the major causes are stress and indifference.

Statistics show that around a quarter of American high school students exhibit very high levels of stress, usually due to pressure from parents to maintain good grades. This anxiety can put a serious strain on teens to feel that they're

doing high levels of work with little gain.

The main reason for the general lack of motivation seems to derive from the fact that high school yields little immediate rewards. While hard work in high school is necessary for getting into a good college, a specific test score or grade doesn't drastically affect students' lives. This leads to the belief that getting good grades is a waste of time, as we'll ultimately still have food on the table when we get home.

A recent article in from *slate.com* seems to agree with this point, stating, "Nothing is at stake for kids when they take the international exams and the NAEP. Students don't even learn how they scored. And that probably affects their performance. American teenagers, in other words, may not be stupid. It could be that when they have nothing to gain (or lose), they're lazy."

Furthermore, many intelligent students feel that high school is a waste of their talents, focusing on test scores and rhetoric over creative input and practical studies. A recent survey indicated that 74% of teachers believe creativity isn't valued by the education system, a statistic that no doubt contributes to lack of

motivation in many students.

While burnout may be justified in some ways, it still limits students in the future. Performance in high school is necessary to get into a good college, where students can focus on a specific interest and display passion for their studies. If teens neglect work in high school, they are essentially barring themselves of this opportunity.

According to an article on *teenink.com*, something must change for students to start being passionate about education; "The curriculum and atmosphere discourage excellence; students are thought of as having very little mental capacity for new ideas and concepts." Many researchers agree with this viewpoint, citing lack of interest in the curriculum as the cause of burnout rather than outright laziness.

Whether schools are to blame for this phenomenon or the students themselves, burnout continues to be a major issue. Each successive generation experiences higher numbers of indifference during high school, and one can only hope something changes in the future to reduce this mindset.

Keep the Campus Clean Love, The Seagulls

By Camille Furby
Staff Writer

It's 12:09 and the bell rings for lunch dismissal, and what do we do? We run and get inside as quickly as possible as seagulls immediately begin to swarm the lunch area.

As more and more trash has been left behind, it is an obvious fact that the seagulls know that when the 12:09 bell rings, it's time to get any leftover food they can grab ahold of.

Since the bell schedule never changes, the seagulls have gotten quite accustomed to overwhelming the lunch area when the bell rings, and it has been noticed as well that over the past year the amount of seagulls in the area has doubled.

The first sighting of the Western Gull was reported nesting in San Diego County on the cliffs of La Jolla in 1935, and since then Seagulls have made their home here.

Although we might not notice a difference, the seagulls migrate in numerous amounts from the months June to August, and are least numerous in April and May, mainly because of their breeding patterns.

The main problem with

the seagulls is how aggressive they can get, especially because when there's food involved, nothing stops them.

I myself have gotten my lunch snatched right out of my hands, as well as been pooped on multiple times.

To prove this point, I took a survey here at La Jolla High during lunch and asked twenty anonymous students if a seagull has pooped on them. The results? Sixteen out of the twenty had either been pooped on or encountered a seagull trying to snatch their food.

Outside of school, the seagulls, their feces, and their aggressive habits have been a problem at the cove as well, and the smell has taken over the entire Cove.

Unfortunately, most of us eat lunch outside and on the quad where we are open targets.

If you tend to eat lunch on the quad, the trees that border it are the safest place to be, but anywhere else there's no promises.

Everyone needs to realize that the more trash you leave, the more seagulls it is going to attract. There is a simple solution of course. Do your part and pick it up, because if not you most surely will be their next target.

YOU DRIVING?

**Is your mom still dropping you off at school?
Use your spring break to get your driver's license!**

Five easy steps to liberation:

Step 1: Take I Drive Safely's online driver's education course anywhere, and at your own pace

Step 2: Get your permit at the DMV

Step 3: Pass I Drive Safely's Behind the Wheel training course

Step 4: Practice, practice, practice!

Step 5: Apply for your driver's license

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND EVERYONE
WILL GET A 20% PACKAGE DISCOUNT!**

Call **1-855-281-1270** to get started today and mention promo code **PLJ0314**.



San Diego's #1 Solution for Driver's Education

www.idrivesafely.com/car



"What is your favorite thing about each other?"

"Late night 'Catan' matches."

"[The] most excitement I have right now is to buy 'Settlers of Safaris'."

"She is cutthroat at 'Settlers of Catan', let me tell you."

"What's the 'Settlers of Catan'?"

"It's the best board game ever."

"It gets intense."

"It is so good. You should try it with us."

"So you guys like to compete against each other?"

"She kicks my a**."

"I do?"

"So that's your favorite thing about her? She challenges you?"

(laughs) "Sure."

"Max challenges me all the time, except in ceramics."

"Then I just kick her a**."

"'Cause he's butt-hurt about our board games."

"True."



"What's the most frightened you've ever been?"

"The most frightened I've ever been in my life was when I went to Big Bear for winter vacation with family friends and family. A couple of my friends and I thought Big Foot was real because we saw the Big Foot documentary. My dad and his friend went around the house and started banging on the windows. My friends and I were hiding and crying we were so scared that Big Foot was outside."

Photos courtesy of Amanda Menas, Taylor Mohrhardt, and Creeksar Allan



"What's the hardest thing about being you?"

"Everyone looks up to me; it's a struggle."

"What's the hardest thing you have ever gone through?"

"When you go outside to get the mail in your socks and the ground is a little wet. I hate that!"

HUMANS LESSER-KNOWN FACTS OF LA JOLLA

La Jolla High School has always been inspired by a variety of intelligent, passionate, and creative students.

There are students at LJHS making a difference at home with fundraisers such as Teens for a Cure: Relay for Life put on by Charlotte Hathaway. There are students winning national and international championships such as chess player Varun Kirshnan and debater Ram Prasad. There are record holders and first-timers and gold-medalists and home-builders.

Each student at La Jolla High School has a story. So does each member of the faculty. With so much focus on college applications and preparation for the next step in life and the next after that, it is easy to forget the passion behind everything our classmates do daily. There are passionate fashionistas in our math classes, travelers in our science classes, doctors in our English classes, and they all are starting here, at La Jolla High School. They all are starting with an inspiration.

Starting with our February 2012 issue, the *Hi-Tide's* Student-Focus page was not only inspired by the daring students at this school, but also by Post Secret (created by Frank Warren), 50 People 1 Question (created by Benjamin Reece and Nathan Heleine) from the December 2012 and December 2013 pages, SoulPancake's Snap Your Joy video (created by Rainn Wilson) from the January 2014 page, and now by Humans of New York (created by Brandon).

Inspiration comes in all shapes and forms; the *Hi-Tide* is inspired by its readers and we appreciate all you do to keep us in print.



"What's your biggest goal in life?"

"My biggest goal in life is to accomplish all of my dreams, which simply, is just singing. For me, I want to be like the best singer I possibly can."



"Who inspires you most?"

"My sister."

"What about you is most like her?"

"My weirdness."

"What is she weirdest about?"

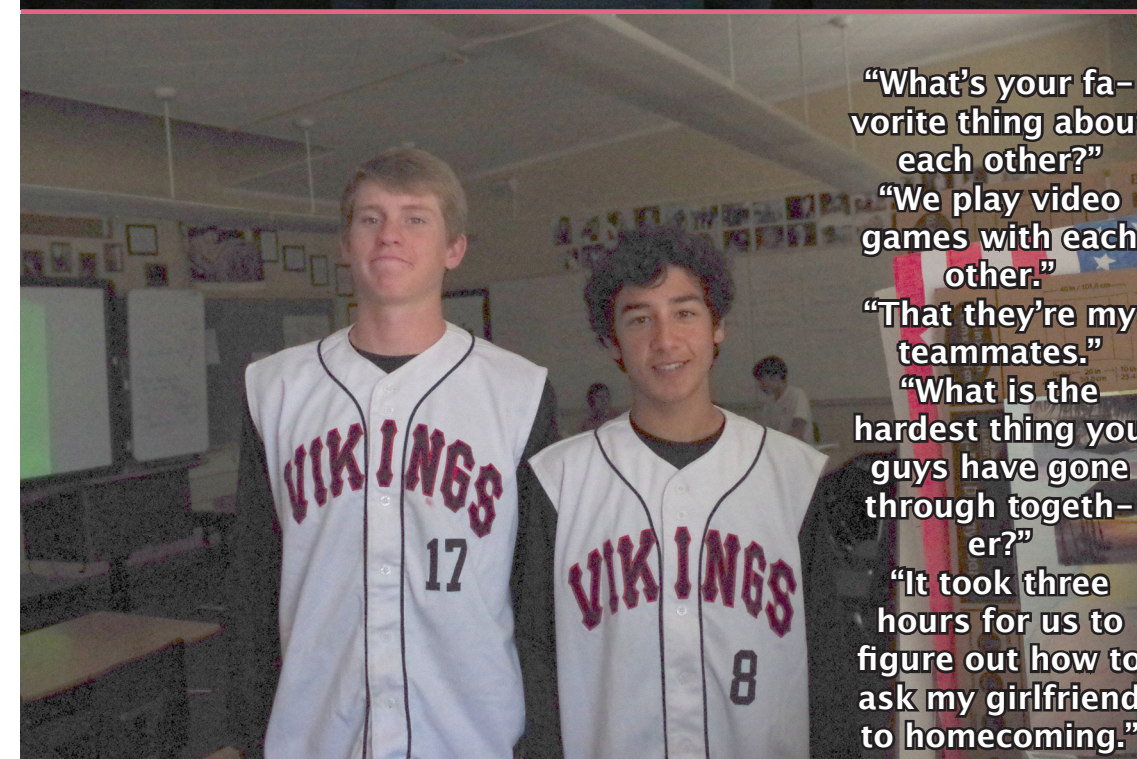
"She is always weirdly happy and I think that rubbed off on me."



"What is your biggest goal in life?"



"My biggest goal in life is to be able to add something to society. I want to influence people's ideas, either in a physical or thoughtful aspect. Pretty much, I want to be beneficial to society."



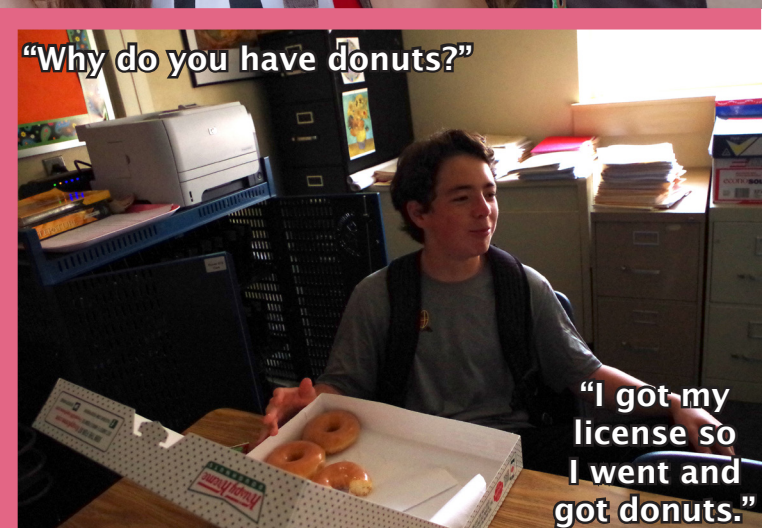
"What's your favorite thing about each other?"

"We play video games with each other."

"That they're my teammates."

"What is the hardest thing you guys have gone through together?"

"It took three hours for us to figure out how to ask my girlfriend to homecoming."



"Why do you have donuts?"

"I got my license so I went and got donuts."

"What do you want to be when you grow up?"

"I want to be a music producer."

