



June 2009

36300 FREMONT, BLVD. FREMONT, CA 94536

VOL #18

ISSUE #8

NEWS

Students hoping to gain work experience or some extra cash will have to work harder to find summer jobs.

COMMENTARY

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors recall school year memories as they look forward to summer and prepare for what 2009-2010 will bring.

SPORTS

Announcing Athletes of the Year.

AMERICAN LIFE

American beefs up security with a new policy—doors need to be locked at all times.

SPARE TIME

Summer brings a wealth of big-name movies like *Transformers 2* and *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

EVENTS

June 17 - Last day of school
June 19 - Graduation at Tak
June 21 - First day of summer & Father's Day

THE EXPRESS

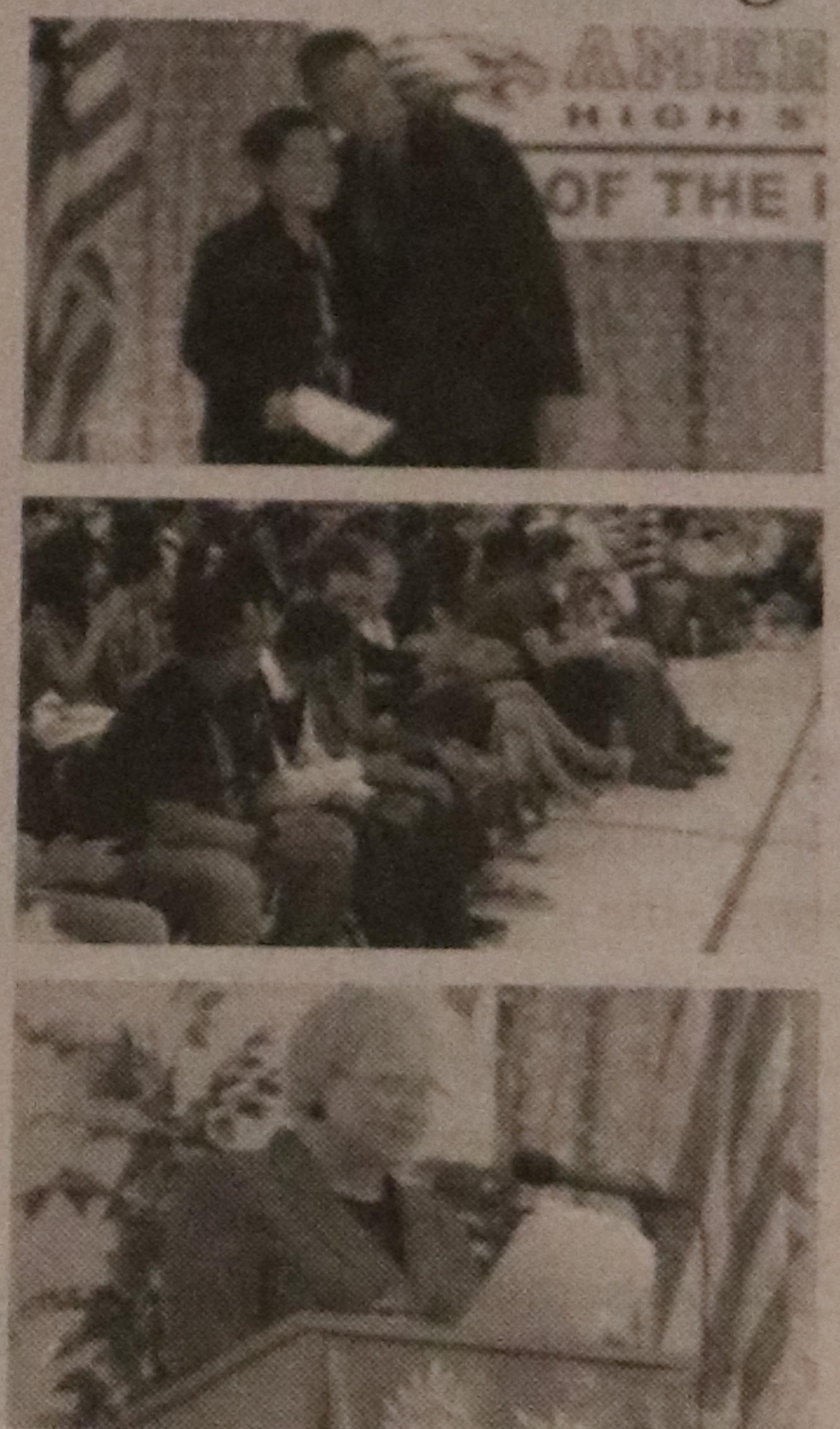
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Step Up, Shake Hands, and Smile

Seniors Recognized For the Fruits of Their Labor



Senior Awards Night Starting from top left: Tinise Lee receives a congratulatory hug from Mr. BC. Joey Enriquez, Bhargav Goripathi, and Rishi Chellani look on. Assistant Principal Kathy Burgardt glances at her notes. Assistant Principal Rob Reibenschuh shakes the hand of Ahad Jawaid.

Students Face Uncertain Summer Job Market

Employers More Reluctant to Hire High Schoolers

By Deborah An
Proofreader

As the school year comes to a close, many students will go out to look for summer jobs in a somewhat tougher job market.

The U.S economy has seen the loss of more than five million jobs since the recession started in December 2007 and employers seem to be more reluctant than ever to hire high school students. Summer provides a perfect opportunity for students to gain work experience and some extra cash. Seniors especially, who must now pay for college tuition, are searching for jobs. According to the National Association of Col-

leges and Employers, there will be 22% fewer jobs for the class of 2009 than there were for the class of 2008. Senior Rayan Rao commented, "Not only is tuition more expensive this year, but it's harder to find jobs now. Even if it's just over the summer, every cent counts." For seniors, holding a job can be a beneficial experience, not only because it earns money, but also because it allows them to know what kind of things they like to do. The graduating class of 2009 has a huge number of students, more so than any other year so far. With so many students searching for jobs and the tougher job market, Rao said, "I guess the recession is

actually affecting students now."

Some students already hold jobs and will continue to work over the summer. Senior Eileen Lee, a lifeguard at the Silliman Center in Newark, noted, "I work during the weekends, but once summer starts, I'll be working more often." Lee has been with her current job since last summer and remarked that she was glad to continue. "I don't have to go through the effort of trying to find a job in the current economy, so I'm glad I kept with it."

Jobs may be harder to come across this coming season, but searching hard may be beneficial.

Fremont's Increase in Violent Crimes Rattles Students

By Sean Young
Sports Editor

Lately, Fremont has been experiencing a chain of crime that has raised crime rates to a level that has not been seen before.

However, all that has changed as of late. According to the Fremont Crime Profile on the IDCide website, there has been a steady rise in violent crimes occurring in Fremont. These crimes include murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. This news came as a shock to senior Leo Kao who said, "I didn't know that Fremont had a rising violent crime rate." He added, "That is very disturbing."

Many students like Kao who live in Fremont were not aware of the rise in these types of crimes and as a result, lived in ignorance of why officer patrols had increased recently. "I had wondered why there were so many [officers] on the street," commented sophomore Laura Zamora.

Although most knew very little of the increase in violent crime, many knew of the recent rise in thefts. "There were five home robberies in the Fallbrook area after I moved," claimed senior Ian Dennis.

Those five home break-ins are simply a few of the over 1300 recorded in 2006. The numbers in 2006, however, seemed to be indicators of a

growing trend in Fremont. "It's kind of sad to see a nice quiet place like Fremont turn into a crime filled place..." stated senior Chris Lim.

The Fremont police department currently has over 200 officers under its employment according to the USA Election Polls website, but the growing crime rate and population of Fremont seem to be making it hard for the officers to keep crime low without some help. "There always seems to be a rather long response time for an officer to get to a called in home burglary," stated Dennis. "Maybe the increase in crime has spread them out too thin to cover everything like they used to," he added.

It's That Time of Year Again

Yearbooks will be passed out on June 11
By Deborah Szeto
News Editor

It's always a sign that the end of the year is approaching quickly—yearbook distribution day.

On June 11 members of the journalism, yearbook, and leadership classes will be coming around during the last half of fourth period—per the teacher's discretion—with yearbooks for those who purchased one. Students need their ID card in order to receive their yearbook. "A receipt is helpful if [the student's] name is not on the list to receive a yearbook or if there is a mistake," explained Ms. Hatten, the yearbook advisor.

There will be no additional sales on June 11. However, from June 12 onwards, students who wish to purchase a yearbook or were absent on June 11 can come to room 709 only during the hours before school, brunch, and lunch to buy one—cash only. Prices are \$70 with ASB, and \$75 without, while supplies last.

Alumni Receives Postdoctoral Fellowship

Ph.D. candidate in the Department of American Studies Wendy Marie Thompson has received a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Minnesota for the 2009-2010 academic year in the Department of History. This accolade follows the Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship she was awarded in fall 2009. She will be revising her dissertation Beyond the Railroad People: Race, History, and Hybridity in Chinese America while mapping out a new research project that looks comparatively at contemporary representations of mixed race identity in Africa and the African diaspora. Wendy entered the American Studies doctoral program in 2003 with a Bachelor's degree in Asian American Studies from the University of California at Riverside. Congratulations on receiving this esteemed award.

Texting Preferred Over Phone Calls

By Bethany Tsai
Spare Time Editor

Recently, texting seems to be the popular form of communication when compared to actually calling others.

Sophomore Viren Makhijani explained, "[Texting] is definitely easier than calling someone and they don't have to be there to answer your call." People can have quick conversations with multiple people simultaneously and make private conversations remain confidential. To top it off, texting saves time compared to calling a person; an awesome benefit when in the midst of a hectic schedule.

Texting also makes conversations brief and to the point avoiding a lengthy conversation. Junior Aritra Dey said, "I text if it's quick question or something. It's an easy way to keep in touch with people and you can use it for a quick conversation with anyone."

Another convenience to texting is that it is quiet. There is no talking involved in texting so the surrounding people would not be disturbed. Sophomore Cody Wicks stated, "It's always a good way to talk to friends when people in my house are sleeping."

Although texting is enjoyable to some students, others however, find it annoying. Sopho-

more Dennis Huang commented, "I don't like texting because I don't have a QWERTY keyboard, [a keypad with the characters Q, W, E, R, T, Y, etc on the top row of keys]." Constantly clicking a key to reach a certain letter is bothersome and prone to more mistakes in messages.

However, many students who also do not own a phone with a QWERTY keyboard still enjoy texting. Not only does it save time, but it makes conversations private, easier, and brief. Several conversations can be held at the same time and it does not bother surrounding people. Huang concluded, "It's kind of like AIM on your phone."

Classes Move Forward

By Emily Damron
Sports Editor

As the school year comes to a close, freshman, sophomores and juniors look forward, remembering some of their best and worst moments from 2008-2009.

As the sophomores on campus next September, the class of 2012 seems ready to move into a new phase of high school. This year brought scandals, drama and confusion as the class moved from lowly junior high into the big arena of high school where they were the lowest on the totem pole. However, the class seemed to transition quite nicely, showing their stuff during spirit week and doing well in school sports.

The class of 2011 will enter into upperclassman status, and some are definitely looking towards their junior year with hope that it will bring them success and good grades. "I'm looking forward to the challenge of next year... my main goal is to keep pace with the classes I am taking, but also to try a new sport

for the school," stated sophomore Dashiell Barrett. Most often referred to as the hardest year of high school, students like Barrett hope that subjects they like will make them work harder. "[AP Chemistry and AP English] are supposed to be challenging classes. I am interested in both and hopefully [that] will push me to do better," he added.

Being the new seniors on campus is definitely what the class of 2010 is looking towards. Although senior year is filled with tons of stress, college applications, recommendation letters, service learning hours, and so much more, some are just happy to finally be almost finished with high school. Junior Kelly Chien commented, "My goal is to have a fun senior year!"

Most of all, everyone is looking toward summer. "Summer is definitely the most exciting thing about finishing a school year. It gives everyone the chance to relax and get ready for the next school year," concluded Barrett.

The Express

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SPORTS

Athletes of the Year: Running to the Top Mitchell and Brody Win Top Honors for '09

By Emily Damron
Sports Editor

Each year, the highest athletic honor any senior can receive is voted upon by team coaches; this year the Athlete of the Year Award recipients are Rachel Mitchell and Daniel Brody.

Both Brody and Mitchell are accomplished runners who compete in cross country and track. While Brody has been a member of both the cross country and track teams since his freshman year, Mitchell began cross country in the beginning of her sophomore year after discovering her talent for distance running during track and field. The two runners have accomplished a lot during their four years in high school. Mitchell and Brody are exceptionally dedicated to staying in top running shape, hardly ever taking a day off from training. As distance runners, their stamina



Both Mitchell and Brody have participated in Cross Country and Track and Field for multiple years.



Both take preparing for meets seriously.

Mitchell has attended the State meets for cross country and recently obtained a spot at the state meet for this season of track and field. Mitchell ran

during meets depends on the amount of effort put into practice, so both take preparing for meets seriously.

Although Brody will not be attending the State meet, his 10:13 time at NCS for the 3200 meters was a personal record and reflects his hard work all season long. "Daniel has worked extremely hard for four years. He doesn't take days off and is very consistent. Daniel has been a leader on the team, and others look up to him because of his work ethic," commented Mr. Lindsay.

The two athletes' talent and hard work have boosted them towards achieving the Athlete of the Year Award for 2009.

Badminton Team Recalls Smashing Competitors

By May Villa
News Editor

As the spring sports season ends, the badminton team recollects the improvement the team has made since last year.

Junior Dominick Lim, this year's team captain and claimed, "It was a definite improvement from last year. Two teams made it to NCS, which I've never heard of coming from American," stated Lim. In addition to NCS, Lim achieved individual record of 14-0, and the team held a record of 6-8.

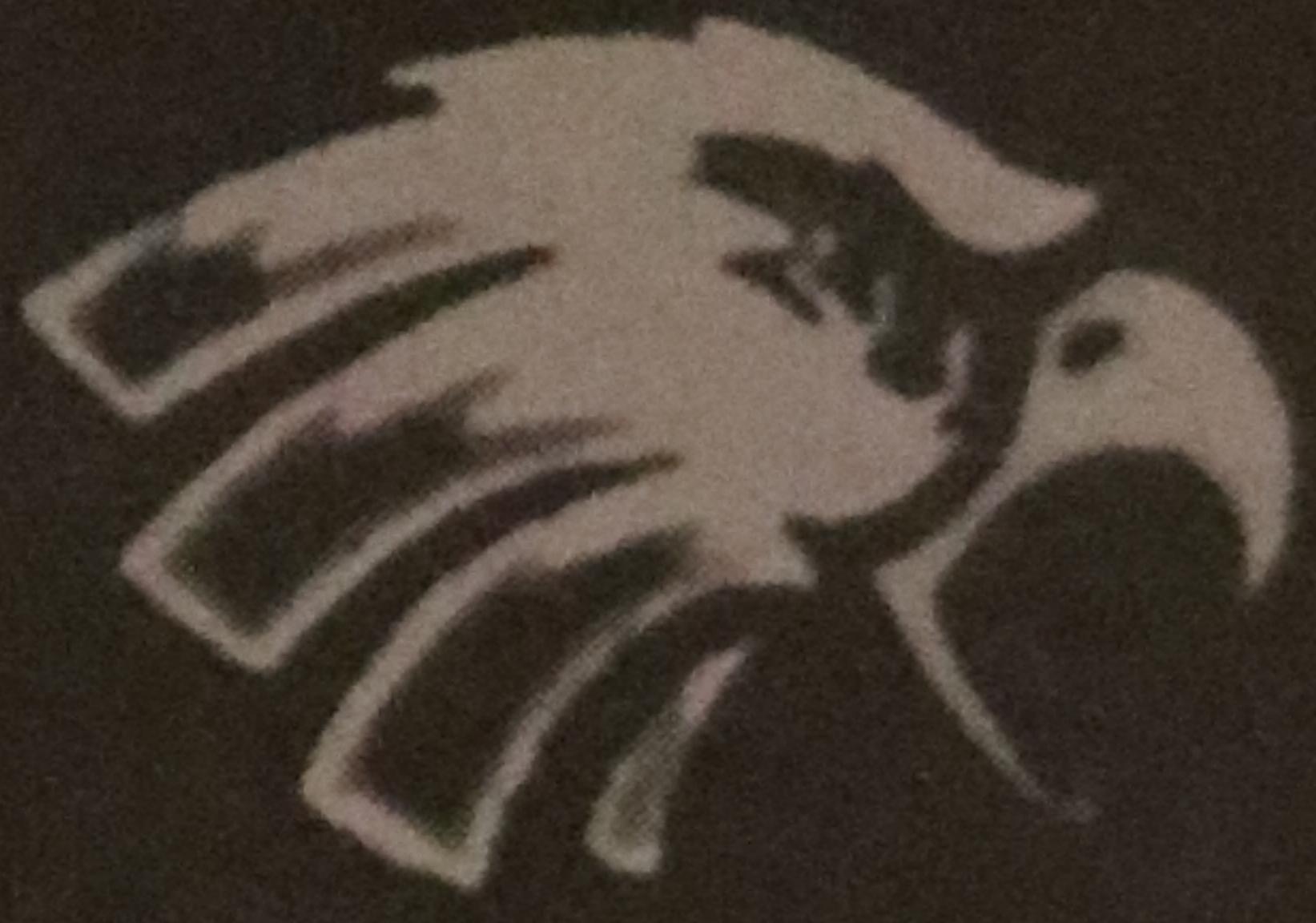
However, the team experienced difficulty between balancing schedules among players. Practices were from six at night to seven thirty, for junior varsity and seven thirty to nine for varsity. As the captain, Lim had to attend both practices, which clashed with homework and study time. "It's hard to balance everybody's classes and schedules, especially during APs," added Lim. Though not all players were required to go to both practices, the problem still sufficed. Another fac-

tor that contributed to the growth of the team was the addition of new players. "There were many young incoming players who had never played before, or on a team. So we were trying to build team spirit," said Lim.

Lim also reminisced on his favorite moments this season, which included the Newark Varsity tournament. "Many teammates stayed to watch and [the game] lasted until pretty late, around midnight, and it was just really cool," said Lim.

In addition to the new players, the team also received a new coach. Although not a stranger to the team, former AHS student and badminton assistant coach, Alex Chang, became the team's new coach.

Nevertheless, this season was a learning experience for the team's relationship. "I hope that next year we continue to grow as a team and improving," stated Lim. From new players, to conflicting schedules, the team's improvement will hopefully bring them success next year.



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Seniors 2009

A Special Day in the Rain Rain Dampens Seniors' Plans

By Jennifer Yuen
Fact-Checker

On May 1, seniors unfortunately had to endure unwanted wind and rain during their senior picnic at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

Everybody predicted the high chances of showers that day, but that did not stop those from going. "Senior picnic for me was like a one of the last few events

where we as a class could spend together. I've always looked forward to this trip ever since freshman year," stated senior Conely Chan. On the other hand, some decided that they rather stay at school. "I didn't go because I didn't want to be tired for the musical. I felt I had a responsibility not to be tired for that night's show," commented senior Adrian Valdecanas.

The Boardwalk is usually known for its sunny weather, warm sands, and an abundant amount of visitors buzzing around. On the particular day of senior picnic, however, it



Seniors mini golfing in Santa Cruz.

Eunice Kung stated, "The best part was mini golfing. It was indoors where it was dry and warm." Many students found refuge from the rain at the arcade, mini-golf, and many bistro.

The senior picnic had mixed reviews and many blame the weather, while others found ways to make sure that the weather did not affect them. But overall, everyone can agree that the picnic was a success because it was a time filled with friends and fun. "Despite the rain, it was still enjoyable and I had a memorable time," concluded Chan.

Seniors Reminisce Best Moments

Some Look Back with Fondness While Others Don't

By Allison Kirvan
Commentary Editor

As their high school years rapidly come to an end, seniors reminisce on their most memorable moments throughout the years.

The class of 2009 entered these very hallways four seemingly long years ago and have had countless moments to remember. Some students' first recollection of high school brings a smile to their face, but others have quite a different reaction. Senior Taylor Johnson first recalled a moment of success. He stated, "[The moment I remember most is when] I was in a pie eating contest freshman year and I won. The prize for first place was a big pumpkin pie."

Some seniors remember

events of recent months such as getting their acceptance letters and deciding where they're going to spend the next four years of their lives. Senior Michael Torrey said, "Choosing a college is a very daunting task, I mean, you're choosing your future and the thought of making the wrong decision is extremely scary."

However, on the flip side, some students see better memories to be had in the future. Senior Samantha Pinto said, "My most memorable moment will be when I graduate." Senior Han Ha was in agreement. She commented, "When I look back at high school, I don't remember any spectacularly profound moments. I'm just looking forward to my future."

Present, past, or future; it's the time of their lives.

Class of '09 Has A Grand Time at the Ball June Affair held in San Francisco Leaves Impression

By Emily Damron
Sports Editor

The June 6th event, Senior Ball, was the last big festivity before graduation, and offered seniors a last memorable dance with food, dancing and general camaraderie.

The Senior Ball, for most, is an event to remember, whether it was awesome, or disappointing. As the final dance for seniors during high school, it becomes a culminating moment, capturing a timeless high school experience. The decorations featured blue and purple satin linens for the dinner tables, a white linen canopy above the dance floor, twinkling lights and floating gardenias in water for the centerpieces. This year's

theme continues on the tradition from last year's junior prom where the theme was "This I Promise You" by N'Sync. Justin Timberlake will also be the headliner for this year's theme which is "Until the End of Time." "We chose this theme because it had a nice ring to the name... people know it," commented senior prom commissioner Danielle Fong. "[The dinner] was catered by Checkers Catering in Livermore... [it] included a tomato Caesar salad, chicken piccata, chicken Dijon, mashed potatoes, penne marinara, and a chocolate fountain," she added.

As their last dance for high school came to a close, many seniors reminisced about all their memories from past

proms, and reveled in the blowout's lavish decorations and yummy food. "There are so many things I love about going to prom, but I'd have to say that my favorite is seeing everyone get dressed up in their best and getting to spend the night with my friends," stated senior Allie Harlan. Senior Renee Zamora could not decide what she liked the best. She said, "My favorite thing about prom is getting ready and looking really pretty for the night, but I also like shopping for a dress. There are so many dresses but it's like a treasure hunt trying to find the right fit and size."

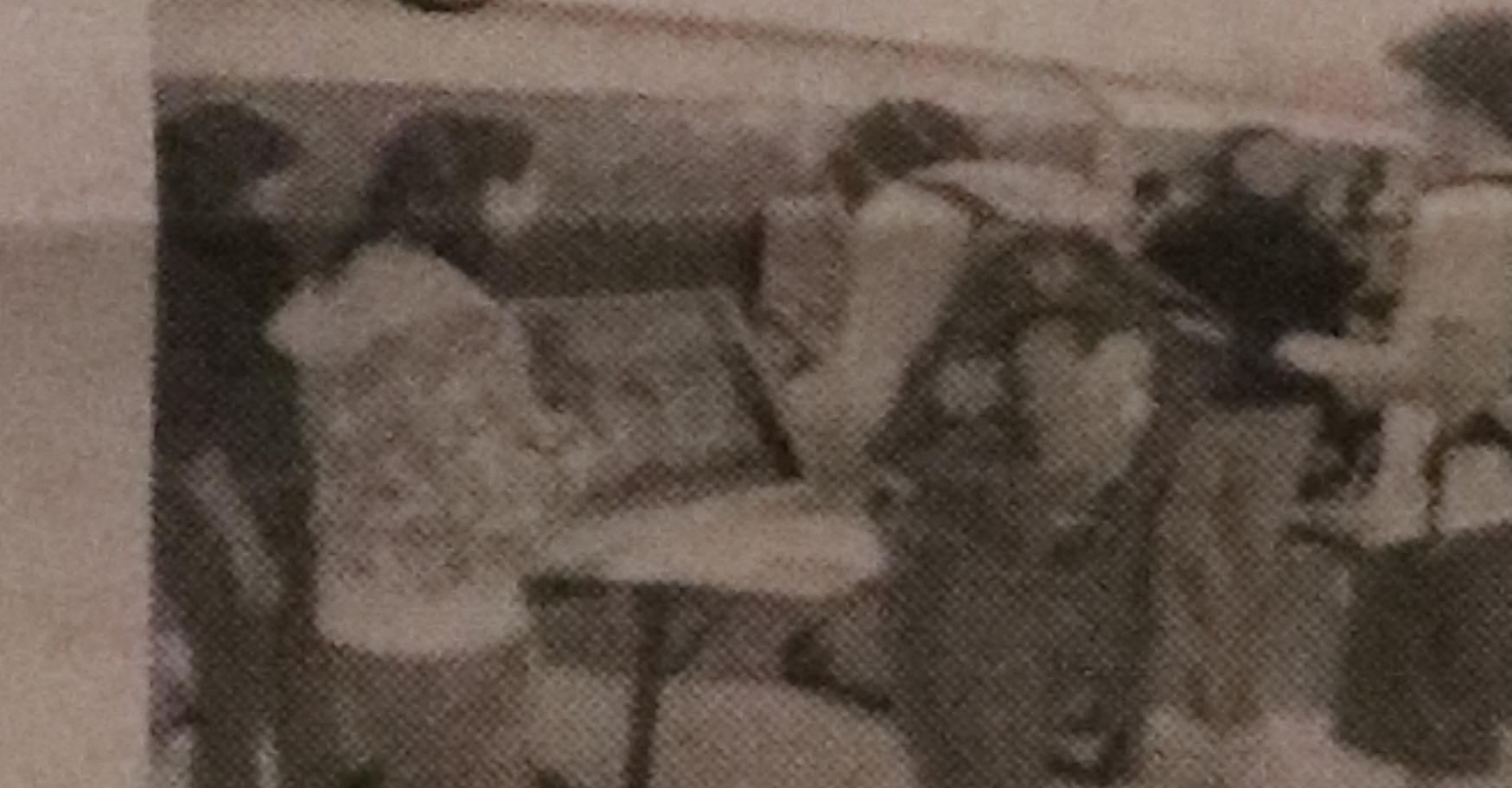
With the year coming to a close, Senior Ball brought back many memories for seniors who enjoyed their last dance together.

Pictorial: Rewinding the Past and Looking Back

Car Washes: Sophomore Year



Dressing up for Halloween



Rush Week and Club Events



Spirit Week: Sophomore Year



What's Going on for Seniors Now That End is Near Seniors Take on Crammed and Busy Finals Schedule

By May Villa
News Editor

As the year comes to a close, senior activities pile on as the end draws closer.

The senior activities include: Senior Ball, Finals, Senior Breakfast, Check Out, Graduation Practices, and, of course, graduation.

Senior Ball, this year was on Saturday, June 6. It was held at the San Francisco Gift Center Pavilion. "We have two floors of the building decorated with dining tables, a buffet dinner, and an open bar for fountain drinks," stated President Rishi Chellani. Senior Ball bids cost \$75-\$90, depending on the week and whether students have ASB. Although costly, seniors did not seem to worry so much about money. "Senior year is definitely expensive, and no doubt college is going to cost

a lot. But I still think that if I was going to spend money on junior prom, I would definitely spend a lot for Senior Ball, and I don't mind... it's a milestone," said senior Stephanie Ton-Tho.

Graduation decisions may be based on finals, seniors take their finals the week before everyone else. As opposed to a three day span, the seniors take their finals in a two day span, and this year it is on June 10 and June 11. Similar to a block day, odd classes are scheduled before the even classes. "Everything is so crunched, especially since prom is just the weekend before. But it's expected," added Chellani.

On the morning of June 15, while the rest of the student body progresses with finals, the seniors will be attending a senior breakfast. On this day students will also find out if they are eligible for graduation. Eli-

gibility depends on grades, credits, service learning hours, and the exit exam results.

On June 15th and 16th students will also be "checking out." On check out days the seniors turn in books, sign themselves out of American High School, and submit their graduation contract. After check out, seniors are then no longer considered students.

Graduation practices are held on June 17 and the morning of the 19. Graduation practices are mandatory and all students must attend. The graduates will figure out their seating arrangements as well as whom they will be graduating next to.

Finally at 5:45 P.M. on June 19. The graduates will meet at Washington High School's gymnasium, holding their caps and gowns. And at 7 P.M. the graduation ceremony will commence, as the end draws near.

Class of '09 Reflects on Spirit

By Margaret Plecnik
Factchecker

The senior class shares many memorable moments of Spirit Week. The October event is much anticipated throughout the school; competition between classes is fierce and adds to the excitement of the week. In the spirit of friendly rivalry, the class of '09 has always brought its "A-game" to their annual rally. Selection of theme, dance choreography and creative skit ideas are components of the lunchtime assemblies, and the current seniors have carefully planned and prepared each of the three to wow the other classes in past years.

In its freshman year, the graduating class was new to the spirit week festivities. Like its predecessors, the 2009 seniors struggled to choose a theme, design a rotunda set-up, and encourage student participation in a short period of time. However, their efforts proved worthwhile as they opened spirit week with their "Freshman of Bel-Air" rally. The class showcased its creativity with styles of dance rarely seen in past spirit assemblies; the ballroom routine garnered notice and the break dancers showed potential.

Now veterans to spirit week, the current seniors earned respect for their sopho-

more spirit rally. Senior Joseph Enriquez recalled, "My most memorable memory of '09 spirit weeks was sophomore year when the class of '07 and '09 came together and shared the top spot." The breakers surprised the upperclassmen with crowd-pleasing stunts and proved their unique talent in



Seniors gather for the beginning of their Spirit Week skit.

their dance number. The rally was centered around "Nightmare on Sophomore Street," an interesting departure from its freshman year theme. "It was a memorable year because our sophomore class came back from freshman year and beat the class of '08 in more than one category," remembered Enriquez. Tainted by a newspaper controversy, the class of '08 won the third spot, giving the sophomores a major victory.

In its third year, the class of '09 employed an "Indiana Jones" theme as the backdrop for its spirit day rally. Tahitian

and break dancing numbers were highlights of the show. The class also received rave reviews for its clever skit featuring former history teacher Mr. Roosevelt, computer operations instructor Mr. Lindsay, and English teachers Ms. Knezevich and Mrs. Martin.

For their final year at the Spirit Week rally, the graduating seniors chose an iconic theme to commemorate their four years in high school. "Star Wars: Attack of the Seniors" inspired a creative skit involving jedi k n i g h t s , lightsabers and Yoda. The rally

opened with a video presentation and the Tahitian and break dancers returning for another appearance. Class of '09's spirit day was an unforgettable and unifying event for the seniors. It gave everyone an opportunity to participate and show their class pride. Enriquez expressed, "I loved leading our morning rallies and coming up with creative chants in which everyone would take part in." In the past four years, the soon-to-be graduates have learned that the beauty of spirit week is in its ability to unite a class with a common theme and encourage school pride.

Farewell to Seniors

By Charlene Ng
Commentary Editor

To the class of 2009,

As a senior at American and your fellow peer, I must congratulate you on coming this far. With graduation in our grasps, I am sure we are all anticipating leaving this school we called home for the past four years.

But before you clear out lockers, say farewell to teachers and friends, and go through the official check-out, I want you to take a few moments and recollect what our class has experienced.

Our class entered the wings of American in the fall of 2005. All naïve, timid, and fresh out of junior high, we somehow managed to survive spirit week as the Freshmen of Bel Air. We gradually became accustomed to life as a high school student. Freshman year for most of us seems like such a blur. One year quickly went by and we soon returned as sophomores.

Despite still being considered "underclassmen," I felt as if our class was slowly, but surely coming into our own. We united and, no matter what the class of 2007 said, dominated spirit week with Nightmare on Sophomore Street. We, as a whole, set the bar for years to come. As sophomores, some of us experienced our first APs while the rest seemed to breeze right through. But as June rolled around all of us realized that we were soon to be upperclassmen.

Our class returned in the fall of 2007 as juniors. Stress began to pile up along with the work load. Notwithstanding the anxiety, we enjoyed ourselves at spirit week as Indiana Juniors. We also partied it up at junior prom and notoriously established the wristband rule for dancing.

Now, as seniors, I must say that we have all grown. We are no longer the naïve freshmen, the overconfident sophomores, or the zealous juniors. Although we all think senior year is a breeze, you must admit the stress of college applications and the looming fear for our adult futures weighing heavy on our shoulders. We continued our reign as spirit week victors as Star Wars: Attack of the Seniors, and we were there for each other during the emotional Sober Grad. We enjoyed our final activities during Senior Week and Picnic. We danced the night away at Senior Ball and will assemble for the last time during graduation.

The class of 2009 is a unique class, full of diverse personalities, and despite our differences, we always seem to amalgamate when it is needed.

Although I may not know every single one of you, and vice versa, I am proud to be a part of such an amazing class. The halls of American High will never experience a class like ours ever again. Once again, I congratulate everyone and wish everyone the best in the coming years.

Tips for Next Year's Students

By Deborah An
Proofreader

As the senior class of 2009 prepares to leave high school, they leave tips and regrets for incoming "freshmeat," and the upcoming sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

1. Don't procrastinate. Even freshmen should get used to the amount of schoolwork that they will soon be assigned. Sophomore and junior year holds the most workload. Staying organized and on top of things will benefit students greatly. Senior Tiffany Yeung commented, "Procrastination is probably the biggest problem for every student. It causes people to keep pushing back their work and end up doing it last minute."

2. Grow up and Act Mature. Being considerate and well-mannered is never out of style. High school consists of students of all ages and teachers and peers will not approve of students who act out rudely. Senior Eileen Lee ex-

plained, "Sometimes there are students who think they are 'cool,' but really aren't. It's really annoying when I see kids who are immature."

3. Don't be shy. Getting involved in school functions and activities can help high school be a fun and memorable experience. If students want to try out for the play or the musical, then they should try out. If students have an interest and want to start a club, then start one. Running for student body can be an interesting experience and it's always a good thing to make new friends. Sports also provide a way to be active and participate. Not only will becoming involved be a fun experience, but colleges also like to see a well-rounded student.

4. Plan for the Future. Upcoming seniors especially must get ready to fill out college applications and research different scholarships. Upcoming juniors have to buckle down and get ready for probably the most difficult year of high school.

Sophomore year is the first year that begins to count towards college and even upcoming freshmen must endure a whole new change. Planning ahead can help high school be easy and fun.

5. Keep up grades and study. This is probably the most common, yet most important tip a senior can give. School is essentially about grades and grades can determine a student's future, not only for college, but also for their careers. The harder a student works and studies, the more it can pay off in the future.

6. Enjoy high school. Four years may seem like a long time, but it goes by faster than expected. Senior Eileen Lee noted, "Seniors have been looking forward to this time for four years. It's unbelievable that we only have a little while until we graduate. It's a really exciting, but sad time." High school is supposedly the most important years of a student's life. College is important, but high school is a once in a life time experience.



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Mohammad Khan
Sean Young

Cal Poly SLO
James Biggs
Elizabeth Chandy
Michael Tjandra
Brandon Wong
Roxanne Wong
Thomas Wong

Cal State East Bay
Malia Au
Leeanne Buccat
Nicole Carmone
Laura Garcia
Shanna Hammill
Miranda Ho
Panha Kim
Rabia Murad
Erik Olivar
Edwin Rodriguez
Michelle Shokoor
Leslie Tang
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Darren Yau

Cal State Monterey Bay
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Alexis Hodge
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Chico State
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Charnjeet Singh
Alex Southivong
Xiao Zhi Hang

Expressions
Chinwe Uju Nwangwu

FIDM
Lily Tran

Foothill CC
Megan Quan

Fordham College
Tracy Fan Ou

Franklin College Switzerland
Ariel Weith

Fresno Pacific University
Katherine Blalock

Fresno State
Chase Bouchard
Joseph Haimmill
Crystal Nielsen

Holy Names University
Eric Furukawa
Tyler Kawaguchi
Lanie Community College
David Finau

Las Positas CC
Paige Birchett

Mission College
Sukhjot Sandhu
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Northwestern University
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Ohlone CC
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Alicia Lema
Dejon Lewis
Asheem Linaval
Tammy Luong
Eliane Gabriella Maling
Jennifer Mecano
Fernando Mercado
Jordan Miraflor
Wayne Moodie
Stephen Moran
Michael Neal
Donna Nickle
Matthew Olson
Shruti Padmanabhan
Akash Patel

Garrett Peardon
Heba Qutob
Nadima Rahimi
Naim Rahimi
Zachary Razura
Cameron Robinson
Derek Ryan
Trista Shimizu
Gurinder Singh
Sonam Singh
Shannon Stroud
Jonathan Sweeney
Alyssa Swihart
Jacqueline Tapia
Russell Verzola
Anais Villalobos
Ian Warfield
Ashleigh Weigel Barrera
Reanna Williams
Christopher Wong
Sophia Xie
Christopher Yee

Pitzer
Erica Thompson
Professional Culinary Institute
Geoffrey Haro

Sacramento State
Patricia Acosta
Marcus Bell
Tempest Early
Alexandria Harlan
Michael Jubilado
Victoria Manibog
Rachel Mitchell
Roxanne Puno
Carson Robles
May Francis Villa

San Diego Mesa CC
Nowokere Isibor

San Francisco City
Hue Tran

San Francisco State
Nilofar Dhapa
Joseph Enriquez
Utthieh Gade Venkat
Ariadna Gallardo
Han Ha
Arniel Mirasol
Charlene Ng
Priya Patel
Alfe Clare Perez

Nhung Pham
Thi Pham
Janice Rabara
Ibrahim Saleh
Amit Shah
Jamie Truong
Jeffrey Upto
Jennifer Yuen
Rena Yumang

San Jose State
Amal Almakky
Nikita Bajaj
Wajma Kochi
Ryan Lam
Stephanie Murri
My Nguyen
Phi Nguyen
Parth Patel
Suraj Patel
Samantha Reyes

Kimberly Samra
Julie Scafella
Jennifer Ton
Loi Tran

Sonoma State
Scott Kolstad
Reyna Reyburn

Southeastern Louisiana University
Star Rankins

St. Mary's College
Sergio Alvarez
Rishi Chellani

Stanislaus State
Kayla Himmist

UC Berkeley
Stuart Gegenheimer
Judy Gorman
Sehar Kamal
Leo Kao
Corinne Ng
Harsharan Tharia
Huizhen Zhai
Ruo Er Zhang

UC Davis

Deborah An
Matthew Buck
Jessica Chang
Michelle Chen

Duy Ha
Lance Kwan
Tin Naing Lin
Javid Mahmoodi
Than OO
Margaret Plecnik
Rayan Rao
Sheela Rao
Sadhna Samantarai
Samantha Vong
Zong Yu

UC Irvine
Noel Chavez

Stephanie Chukwu
Jaspreet Dhillon
Tricia Ignacio
Jaspreet Lally
Christopher Lim

Pooja Patel
Laura Roy
Suraj Sampath
Lily Sung
Alexandria Tong
Dawn Wong

UCLA
Jessica Lester

Ian Yarbrough

UC Merced

Rochelle Bautista
Heidi Chan
Daniel Ra Ferrer
Eunice Kung
Hana Lee

Archana Sethi
Yi Bin Shen
Stephanie Ton Tho

UC Riverside
Danielle Fong

Christopher Kim
Mohammad Mojaddidi
Venkata Pasumarthy
Leilani Quock
Saidomar Temor
Renee Zamora

UC San Diego

Coney Chan
Ho Nam Chan
Caroline Liu
Grace Liu
Glennon Ng
Dimple Patel
Paulina Sun
Kevin Yeap

UC Santa Cruz

Monica Caballes
Sidhant Karamchandani
Kevin Lai
Eileen Lee
Tinise Lee
Jason Luong
Karishma Mistry
Kristen Omi
Henna Rai
Divya Sharma
Adrian Valdecanas
Justine Vo

University of British Columbia
Wilson Cheng

University of Chicago
Ahad Jawaid

University of Colorado
Emily Damron

University of Denver
Lauren Cooper

University of Hawaii, Manoa
Tiffany Yeung

University of Illinois, Chicago
Vidhi Shah

University of Oregon
Bianca Bernath

University of Pacific
Rachel Chiu
Priya H. Patel

University of Pennsylvania
Shubhangi Agrawal

University of Southern California
Ka Hai Kate Wong

U.S. Army
Brandon Dileanis

U.S. Army Reserves
Megan Schlotthauer

U.S. Marines
Mark Noble

Wyotech
Joseph Britt
Kevin Cocklin
Michael Gomez

Yuba College
Richard Cinfio

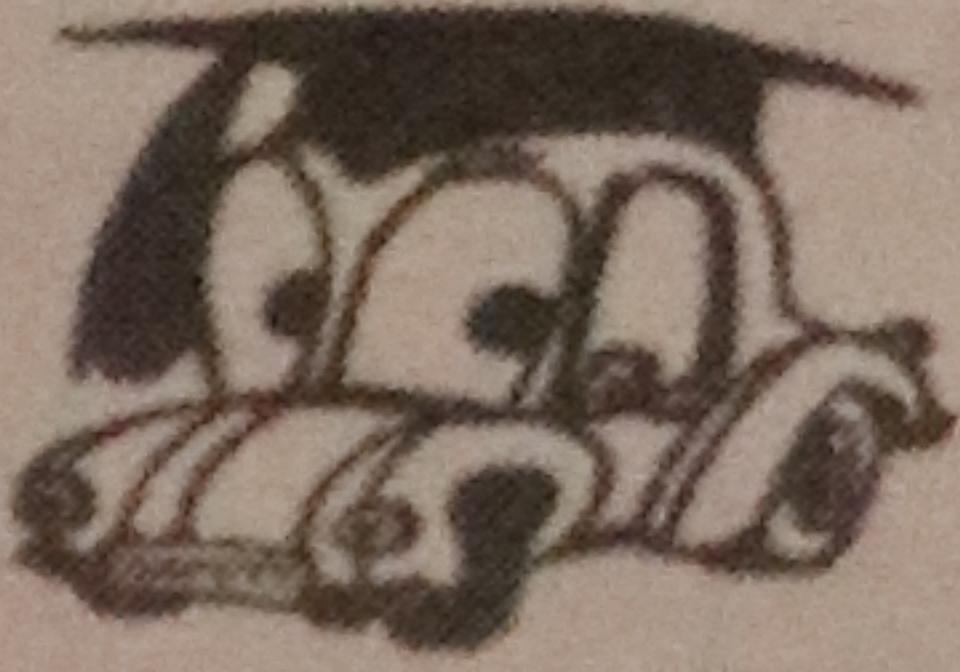


WASHINGTON

AHS Track and Field 06-09

To My Four-Year Seniors: Thank you for the 4 years of fun, domination, dedication, constipation (you know who I'm talking about), doggie drills, whining, commitment, teamwork, medals, hard work, practices, races, victories, ice-cream, shin splints, popsicles, complaining, new uniforms, Mt. Sac, NCS, MOC, State Meet 2009, City of Fremont Championships! You will all be missed!
Coach Lindsay

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The Express would like to officially thank Mrs. Tsuri, Mrs. Thompson, and Mrs. Gialdini for all their hard work and years of service at American High School. We will miss you!!!



Sizzling Summer Movies

Transformers 2 and Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince in Theaters This Summer

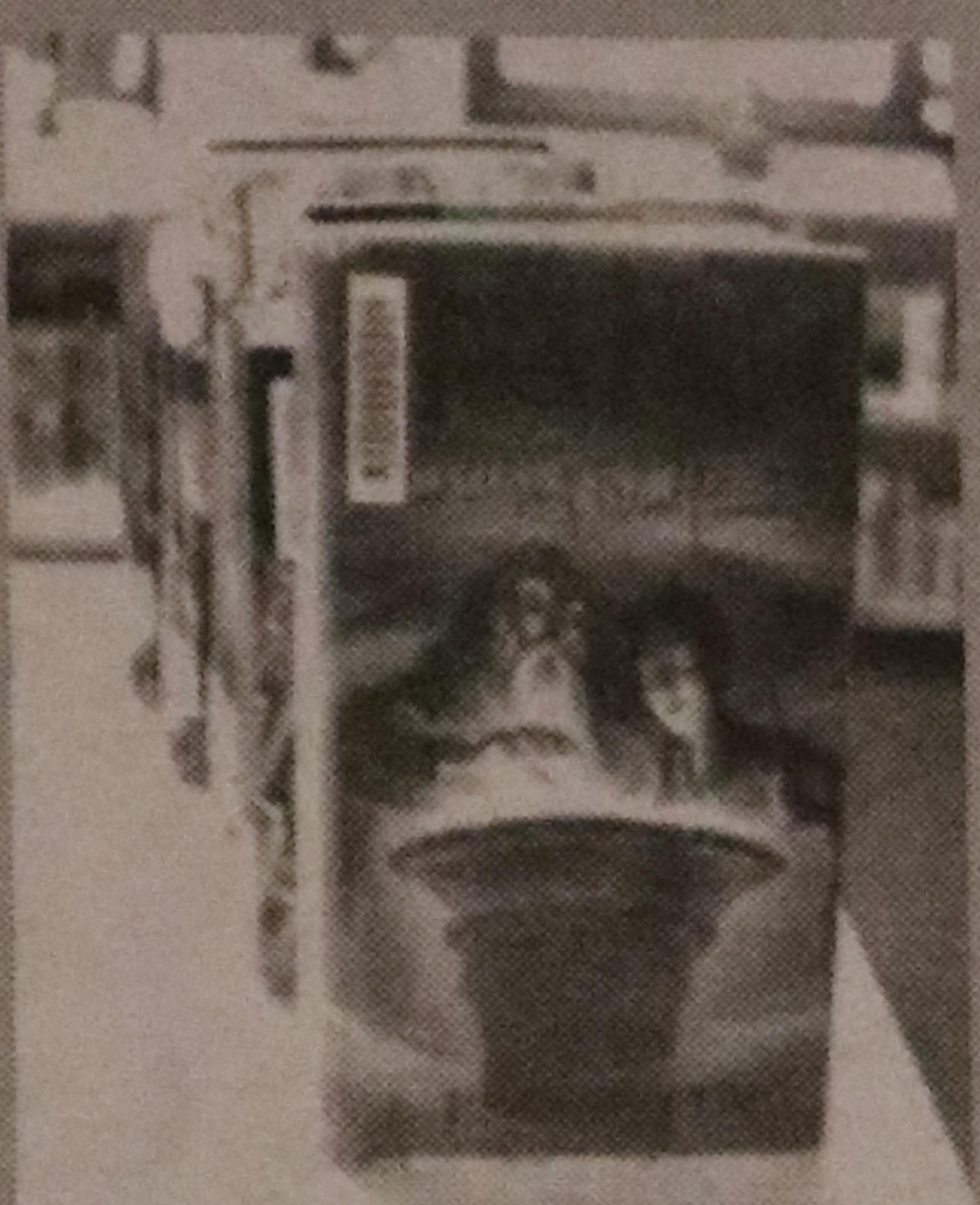
By Emily Damron
Sports Editor

With summer approaching, the sweltering heat comes right along with highly anticipated big-name films, including *Transformers 2* and *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen looks to be the most highly anticipated movie for the summer, with fans of the first film already hyped up about new action sequences. "I saw the first one and really loved it. I can't wait to see what new adventures are in the new one," commented sophomore Rachel Garcia. Junior Vicky Lopez stated, "Transformers will probably be the most popular because people generally like those sorts of movies, and the first one was a big hit. And it also features Megan Fox in very little clothing. Who

wouldn't want to see that on a fifty-foot screen?"

Perhaps one of the longest



Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

waits for a sequel would have to be for *Harry Potter* fans. The sixth movie, *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*, was originally supposed to premiere in November 2008 but was pushed back all the way until this coming July. *Insider.com* calls it "a film that could be the darkest, scariest and most exciting 'Potter' movie

yet!" Though this statement does not settle fans that have been awaiting the film's release.

Since the summer always contain tons of movie releases, people seem to flock to the air-conditioned haven. "In general, people go to the movies more in the summer, because you don't have to worry about classes. You have a whole bunch of time to do things, and well, there's not too much to do around here," added Garcia.

Besides large blockbusters, tons of other movies are due to premiere in June, July and August. The third *Ice Age* movie will hit the screens along with another title from Sacha Baron Chen called *Bruno*. Meryl Streep and Amy Adams star in *Julie and Julia*, a movie about cooking legend Julia Child. Other titles that will grace the screen will be *Public Enemies*, *G.I. Joe*, *Funny People*, and *Year One*.

G-Rides of the Year: The Honda Accord

A Change in Tradition Acknowledges One Model



By May Villa
News Editor

The Honda Accord is acclaimed for many economic reasons, making it popular with people of all ages. The car has great gas mileage, making trips to the gas stations reasonable. Senior Danielle Fong praises, "I've been driving it since last year, it used to be my mom's. And I like how it accelerates." The car's spacious size makes it notable as a family car. The car's friendliness to families and sports

drivers alike makes it both an economical and environmentally conscious choice. Its variability in customers is what makes the model so popular. "As opposed to my first car, my Accord takes me places and I don't have to worry about it dying on me," senior Lily Sung said. The car also is fairly priced when bought brand new, and praised for its safety features. The car's evolution through the years has given it a newer, sleeker design. Senior Suraj Patel added, "I like the color of my car and its interior."

Some students received their cars as hand-me-downs, gifts, or just as a first car. Senior Amit Shah said, "I've been my driving my '95 Accord for 2 years but it's been mine since Christmas. And I like the color because almost no one has that type of green." The school's parking lot contains many Honda Accords ranging from different years. While The Express has chosen to break in its tradition of one G-Ride of the Year, this year's overall honor to a single model, praises not one, but all.

Summer Stars Reveal All

Take a Peek into Summer Stars With June Horoscopes

By Amanda Burgess
News Proofreader

out with friends and do something exciting.

Gemini (May 21- June 21)

It's time for a change, even if it's just a small one. Something that will spice things up, is good every once in a while, and Gemini has long deserved one.

Cancer (June 22- July 22)

Home life has been a bit difficult for Cancer this month. Just remember to keep a good attitude, and the problems will soon clear out.

Leo (July 23- Aug 22)

Things are looking up for Leo this month. The positive attitude has brought great things. Keep it up and the possibilities could be endless.

Virgo (Aug 23- Sept 22)

Something exciting should be coming soon. Although things aren't always looking up, look for the bright side and an adventure will soon come along.

Libra (Sept 23- Oct 22)

Money has been coming pretty slowly for Libra this month. But don't worry too much; things will start to lighten up soon.

Scorpio (Oct 23- Nov 21)

Stay away from any drama this month. There is already enough going on to worry about, so don't let friends problems overtake what really needs the focus.

Sagittarius (Nov 22- Dec 21)

Now is a time for Sagittarius to let loose and have some fun. Go

Capricorn (Dec 22- Jan 19)

This month is a good time to save up some extra cash. With the summer so close, it might be a time when money is needed. So hold on to it and save it for something that may be coming.

Aquarius (Jan 20- Feb 18)

Aquarius has been short on sleep lately, and it has started to show through crankiness. Get some rest so you can have fun and be in a better mood more often.

Pisces (Feb 19- Mar 20)

Pisces have become overwhelmed with the excitement of the upcoming summer. They have started to forget about finishing out the school year strong. Now is the time to focus on the present and anticipate the future.

Aries (Mar 21- April 19)

With the end of the school year lurking, Aries has become overly stressed. Now that it is almost summer time, they can relax a bit, but they shouldn't forget to keep up the work.

Taurus (April 20- May 20)

Friendships are an important part of a person's life. Don't forget to stay in touch with the old and the new friends from this year. With this being the last month of school, it would be a good time to find ways to keep in touch with friends.

Eighteen Useless Facts That Leave Room For Guessing

By Ashleigh Parker
Photographer

States.

9. A sneeze can travel as fast as 100 miles per hour.
10. The human brain is insensitive to pain.
11. In France it is legal to marry a dead person.
12. A rat can go longer without water than a camel can.
13. Buttermilk does not contain butter.
14. Malcolm X's real name is Malcolm Little.
15. Shake a can of nuts and the larger ones will rise to the top of the can.
16. Roosters can't crow if they do not fully extend their necks.
17. Mel Blanc, the voice of Bugs Bunny, was allergic to carrots.
18. There are no penguins in the North Pole.

Eagle Eye: Where would you vacation this summer and why?

By Tawnya Pratt
Spare Time Fact Checker



Freshman Gabrielle Hanson:
"I'd probably go to Mexico, Barbados, the Philippines, and Europe because I am a certified open water scuba diver."

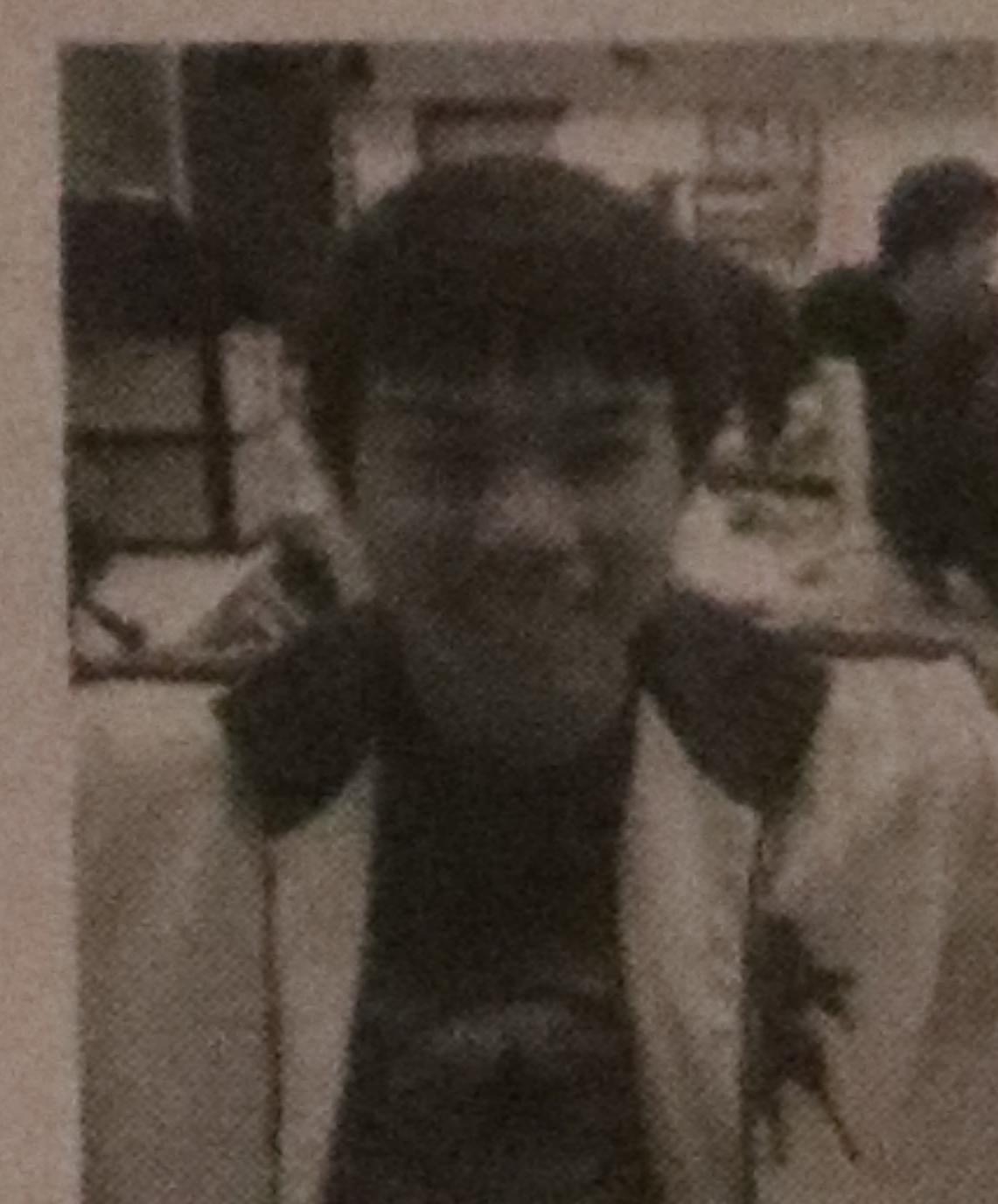
Sophomore Tiffany Wiseman:
"Germany, because it is beautiful there and their laws are better than America's."



Junior Jonathan Barouch:
"Israel, because it is a huge part of my heritage, and I'd like to learn more about it."



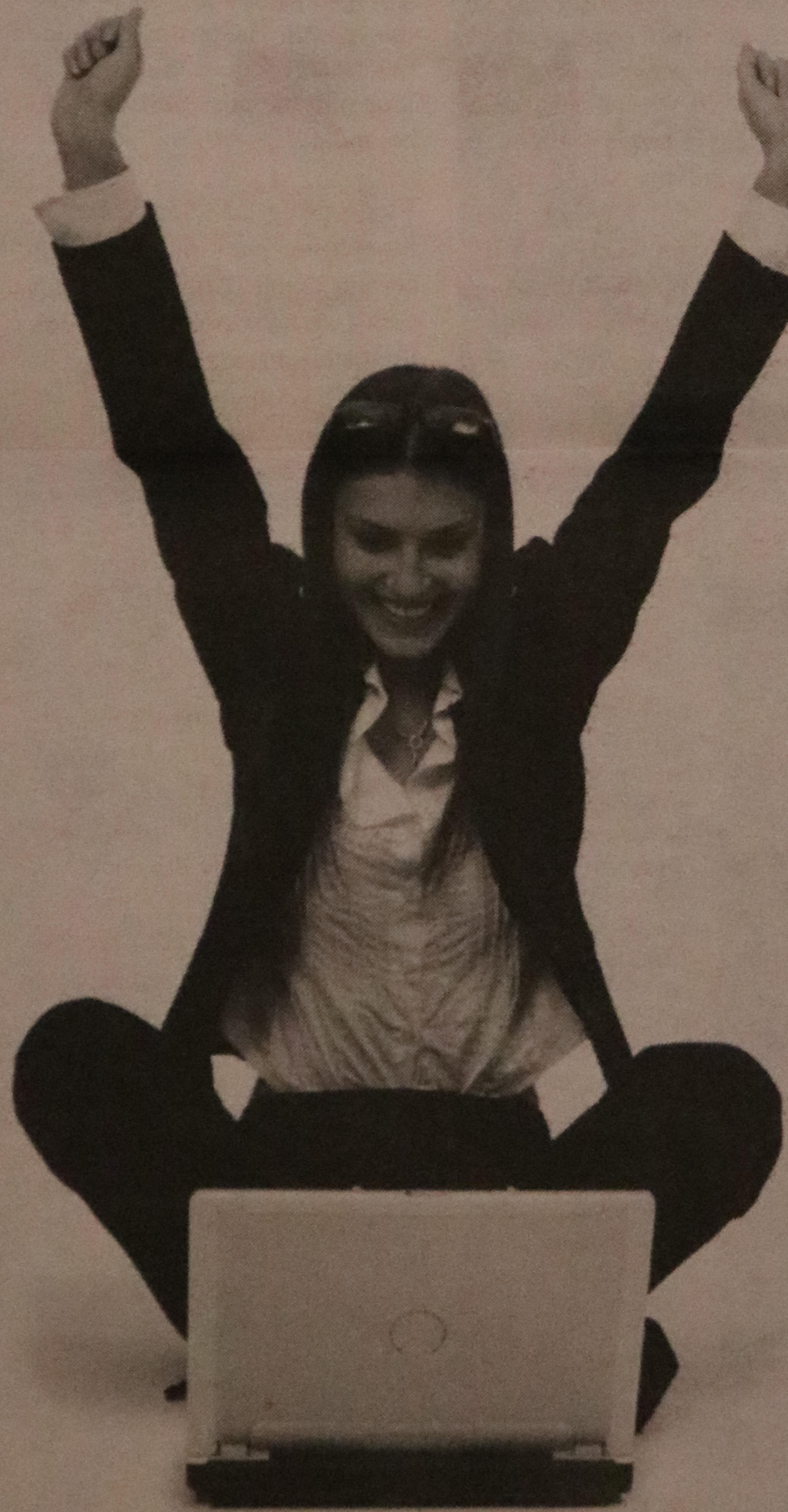
Senior Lance Kwan:
"I'd go to Hong Kong because all the sights are cool and shopping is cheap."



Teacher Mr. Rojas:
"I would go to Europe, because it's always beautiful during the summertime."



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School Security Emphasized

By Emily Damron
Sports Editor

Over the last several weeks, the school has become stricter about safety for students, instituting a new rule that all classroom doors should be locked at all times.

The safety of students is always a concern on school campuses, and the new rule for all teachers makes that clear. The rule says that all classroom doors should be locked at all times during school hours. Also, administrators are cracking down on old rules, like all visitors having to check-in at Gateway and get a visitor pass. "I remember my freshman year, past students of my teachers would just come into our classes with no warning. It was kind of fun, but also distracting. I think that the rules regarding visitors definitely help the classrooms stay focused," stated senior Melissa Filice. Other policies include teachers being required to wear their district name badges at all times and not letting students constantly leave the classroom.

Some students feel like the new rules make it harder to get into their classrooms. Junior Emily Chen commented, "Sometimes when the door to one of my classrooms is locked I have to knock for a while and wait until someone comes to the door. It makes getting to class a lot more difficult." Filice added, "I heard about [the new door locking rule] and I think it had good intentions regarding student safety on campus, but it consistently disrupts class. People keep knocking on the door and then someone has to get up and open it, which makes everybody else in the class turn and look."

The school policies about campus safety seem to be working, as practice fire drills and campus security are helpful in keeping the school atmosphere comfortable for all students.