

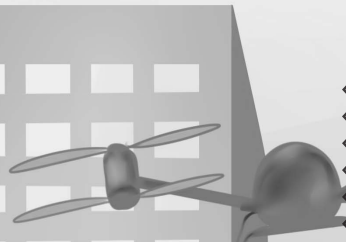
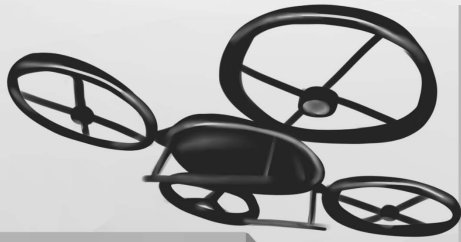


WELCOME TO THE DRONE AGE

The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), commonly known as the drone, is a remote-controlled aircraft. The use of this latest technology has soared in both military and civilian areas in recent years. A drone is often used as monitoring weapon for military purposes and as filming equipment for civilian usage. However, problems regarding security and privacy have arisen in growing drone use. Many have expressed concerns about drones flying over their property. In addition to secrecy, students' safety may be compromised if a drone malfunctions. For these reasons, drones are now banned at Alhambra High School.

CRYSTAL CHEAH

STAFF WRITER



Droning on the Past

JACQUELYN LOI STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 17, 1782, the Montgolfier brothers in France sent up the first unmanned airships—balloons. About a century later during the Civil War, both the Confederate and Union forces launched balloons for exploration and bombings. The first drones, created because of a need for high-speed, radio-controlled armored aircraft targets, took flight from the United States during World War I. From then on, these drones were recognized by the military as having high potential in combat. They continued to be an important combat tool throughout the mid to late 1930s.

While drones were definitely useful as high-tech military arsenals, they obtained a new use during the Vietnam War which was stealth surveillance. Throughout the war, many drone builders experimented with different drone models with different capabilities. While these vehicles flew during the daytime and nighttime for surveillance, they were also used for propaganda leaflet dropping missions and missile radar detections.

Today, the U.S., Great Britain, Korea and Israel are working toward making micro aerial vehicles, which will be used for surveillance. In the future, drones may continue to develop to become more advanced and diverse in use to the point of helping with our everyday lives.

Drones Blown Out of AHS

ELLEN LEI STAFF WRITER

The invention of drones has provided several advantages. For example, they can provide insight at school by flying above and inspecting targeted areas of surveillance. After seeing the continual success of surveillance drones, people have begun to think about implementing drones into our daily lives.

Some people may not be aware, but some ways to use drones are being tested or are already being applied in our daily lives. According to CTV News, drones have been used for serving food to customers at restaurants and even delivering pizza. Furthermore, they are even being used at schools. As stated in the Huffington Post, drones have been used in China during examinations to scan for cheating. In addition, the Los Angeles Times has reported the possibility of using drones to film events such as sports games or to provide surveillance for safety around a school campus.

Drones can provide several advantages; however, they are not allowed at Alhambra High School. Dr. Eric Medrano, assistant principal of Student and Employee Welfare Office, emphasizes that precautions must be taken to assure the safety and success of students.

"It's new technology in Alhambra High School. Alhambra High School has not addressed the possibilities of flying drones being on campus. However, we are fully aware that this is a matter that we will need to address when we plan to have a full procedure that supports students safety and success," said Medrano.

Good Idea 'Flies Away'

DEREK WU STAFF WRITER

Drones are an emerging market in our world today. Amazon, one of the biggest online retailers in the world, recently announced the "Amazon Air" project that will deliver packages by drones in less than 30 minutes. Are flying robots really the reality of the future? As Amazon says, "it's real." However, what happens if drones malfunction and do not work like they are supposed to?

One problem that often occurs in drones are "flyaways," according to the Wall Street Journal. "Flyaways" are when the drones are set free and they never come back to the user. This is the result of glitches, GPS connection loss and collisions into ponds, buildings, and other objects. Other problems that drones face is that there is no regulation in the sky by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Oftentimes pilots report that drones are too close to their aircraft, which ultimately causes problems as the drones might disturb the flow of the aircraft. This can be prevented if drones are in the hands of experienced users; however many drones are now flown by novice users who do not know what they are doing. Problems arise when inexperienced users struggle to control their drone which causes flyaways and crashes.

The FAA is looking into, regulating drones in the next few years. Drones are the next big thing, but with these problems that arise, it might be another few decades until we can really perfect the use of drones.



MOOR graphics by SAMMIE CHEN

THE MOOR WEEKLY
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