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Construction Forces A-Building Relocation

■ Modernization of the A-building causes teachers to temporarily move into other classrooms

YIFANG NIE
Co-News Editor

Despite the funding issues facing school districts across the nation, Alhambra Unified School District has found funding to renovate AHS.

In addition to the new science building currently being built, all of the classrooms in the B-building were improved with new ceilings and lights over the summer. The same makeover is planned for classrooms in the A-building, as well.

As a result, half of the teachers in the A-building moved to new classrooms on Feb. 9 for third quarter, while the other half will move during fourth quarter.

- *Jeremy Infranca*

ored pencils.

"I've changed things to accommodate one sink. My ceramics class will be drawing, [too]. It's too bad they have to leave just when they were getting the hang of it," said Yim.

Similarly, students, such as senior Jenny Cao, who is in Yim's Drawing and Painting 5-6 class, disagree with the decision.

"It sucks. I hope the district finds a resolution to this chaos. They always mess things up with their 'projects'; they haven't even finished the new science building or the auditorium yet," said Cao.

However, Assistant Principal of Business and Activities Jeremy Infranca insists that the construction is for the better.

"If we do the work now, we can do more projects on our site later," he said.

In the meantime, teachers whose classrooms are between Second St. and the hallway between the A and B-buildings must adapt to their new locations, while teachers whose classrooms are between Third St. and the hallway must begin to prepare to leave their classrooms for fourth quarter.

Although transitioning to a new classroom may be a hassle for both students and teachers, Infranca believes that it will not harm students' education in any way.

"We realize that it's an inconvenience to the staff and students, but we're confident learning will continue because of our great teachers," said Infranca.

AHS to Get New Vending Machines

SHANNON LI
Staff Writer

It's passing period and you're going to your next class. You want a snack; the problem is, the vending machines are too far away. Fear not, the Alhambra Unified School District (AUSD) has a solution for you. AHS will soon have brand new vending machines.

Tri-Star Vending and Coca-Cola operate AHS' current machines, which are at least ten years old. Other schools in the district use different dispensing companies. Instead of many businesses working and competing throughout the city, AUSD would like one vending company to operate..

"The vending machines are not AHS' property. We sign a contract with a company and they bring their vending machines on campus," said Infranca.

Vending companies rent their machines to AHS and the profits are split between the school and the company.

"Several [vending] companies are going

to make offers [to be our new vendors]. We're hoping for an increased variety of drinks and food," said Infranca.

AUSD officials will decide which vending company to choose; the new company will put their new machines on campus,

"I think [the new vending machines] will make a lot of money, because a lot of students buy snacks."

- *Brendan Lee*

while the old vending machines will be returned to Tri-Star and Coca-Cola. AHS will get about fifteen new vending machines to replace the old machines.

"[We're choosing] based on which [company] can give the most [money] back to the schools," said Infranca.

Because of construction on the new science building, the new vending machine locations have not yet been decided.

"I hope we do get new vending machines. I think it will make a lot of money, because a lot of students buy snacks," said sophomore Brendan Lee.

Not to be confused with the new company's vending machines, Foodservice has given AHS three vending machines. The profits from these three will go directly to the school, instead of splitting the profits with a vending company.

"ASB is taking over [three] vending machines so we get 100 percent of the profits," said Sophomore Council member Amy He.

One of the vending machines owned by the school will be in the gym foyer and two will go to the faculty eating areas.

"They're not working yet because we have to be trained on how to use them. We also have to order products for them [and] we have to wait for the protective cages to arrive," said Infranca. "We are hoping the vending machines will be operational before the end of the [2010 school] year."

Forgotten ID Cards Result in Consequences

At the beginning of each semester, AHS implements new rules, but one that has not changed is the replacement and consequences of losing or forgetting ID cards.

Losing the cards can be a hassle. Without them, students are not allowed to borrow any books from the Bookroom. In an emergency lockdown, students without proper identification are not allowed to step onto campus and also have to go through necessary precautions.

According to Vice Principal Phuong Nguyen, students are required to carry identification with them at all times.

"If students are outside on campus during a lockdown, students are required to show their ID cards for proof of being a student at AHS. It is very time consuming just to find the student's information during a lockdown," said Nguyen.

Furthermore, if any students are asked to show their ID cards by a staff member and do not have it, they are sent to Student Services for disciplinary. Other consequences for losing the cards range from warnings to suspension.

"First it is a warning. If students repeatedly forget to bring their ID cards with them, that can lead to suspension. [They] are exactly like a driver's license," said Nguyen.

- *Angelyne Chu, Staff Writer*



JACQUELINE DO *The Moor*

WELCOME TO AMERICA Students from Tianjin Nankai High School partake in a game of cards with Executive members. They are part of an exchange program at East Los Angeles College that allows them to visit America and learn about its culture. Executive annually hosts foreign exchange students, from either Japan or China.

Seagulls Present Nuisance at Lunch

SHANNON HO
Staff Writer

Lately the excess trash after lunch has been causing many problems at AHS.

"The seagulls come based upon the smell of the food on our campus. If the food is being left out in the open and is spread all over, it will definitely attract the birds," said Assistant Principal of Business and Activities Jeremy Infranca.

could always be better. We have four adults assigned for lunch cleanup and they do a fantastic job, but with over 3,000 students, cooperation is crucial," said Infranca.

Students also need to be aware that leaving food outside of the trash cans actually makes keeping the school clean a far more tedious job

"I think students really should care about how their campus looks."

- *Jamie Nguyen*

for the custodial staff.

"Not only will they have to pick up all the excess food, wrappers and trays, but they might have to spend more time cleaning up after the seagulls," said Tham.

The food that doesn't go in the trash cans also ends up as litter underneath student's shoes and traile

all over campus.

As a result, administration is currently considering limiting areas where students are allowed to bring their food in an attempt to control the situation.

"I hope students take pride in the place where they spend the majority of their time away from home. We all want this to be a beautiful campus," said Infranca.

The current trash situation will only improve once students learn to appreciate their campus and take the time to dispose of their trash properly.

According to Infranca, this would be the most effective way to end the problem of intrusive wildlife.

Similarly, students also agree that cooperation is key to sanitation.

"I think students really should care about how their campus looks," said junior Jamie Nguyen.



BRIAN HUA *The Moor*

GROOVY, BABY Stephanie Wang and Amy He admire the '60s-themed exhibit, designed by Artists Anonymous and named "Kaleidoscope Eyes," currently on display in the Library. The club also held a reception Feb. 12 in the Library.



Tianjin Nankai Students Visit Campus

On Feb. 3, students from Tianjin Nankai High School (TNHS), in southern Beijing, visited AHS. It is one of the most prestigious high schools in China and a distinguished public school for preparing students to take the National College Entrance Exam.

They are part of a program sponsored by East Los Angeles College to allow students to come to America and learn about the culture.

The 36 students, as well as three adults who accompanied them, arrived at 7:15 a.m. The students attended first and second periods with Executive members be-

fore gathering in the Student Government Room to play games, such as Impulse and Telephone.

According to Sophomore Representative Amy He, the event was successful, especially for a short collaboration day.

"The overall goal was to have fun, learn about them and have them learn about the American culture," said He.

In addition, the students enjoyed the visit and the insight they gained from the experience.

"I like the freedom the students have and how they can talk to each other in class. The students here are very nice. I want to move here because it's very beautiful, and there are beautiful girls here," said TNHS student Wu Yifan.

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- *Angelyne Chu, Staff Writer*

IN OTHER NEWS

New Zealand teenager kidnaps puppy to save it from euthanasia

Virginia man allegedly beaten by police for burping

London researchers find that boredom leads to early death

Chinese supermarket attracts more than 1,000 applicants for match-making service



OPINIONS

Haiti: It's True, Humanity Lives Again!

KIMBERLY ONG
Co-Opinions Editor

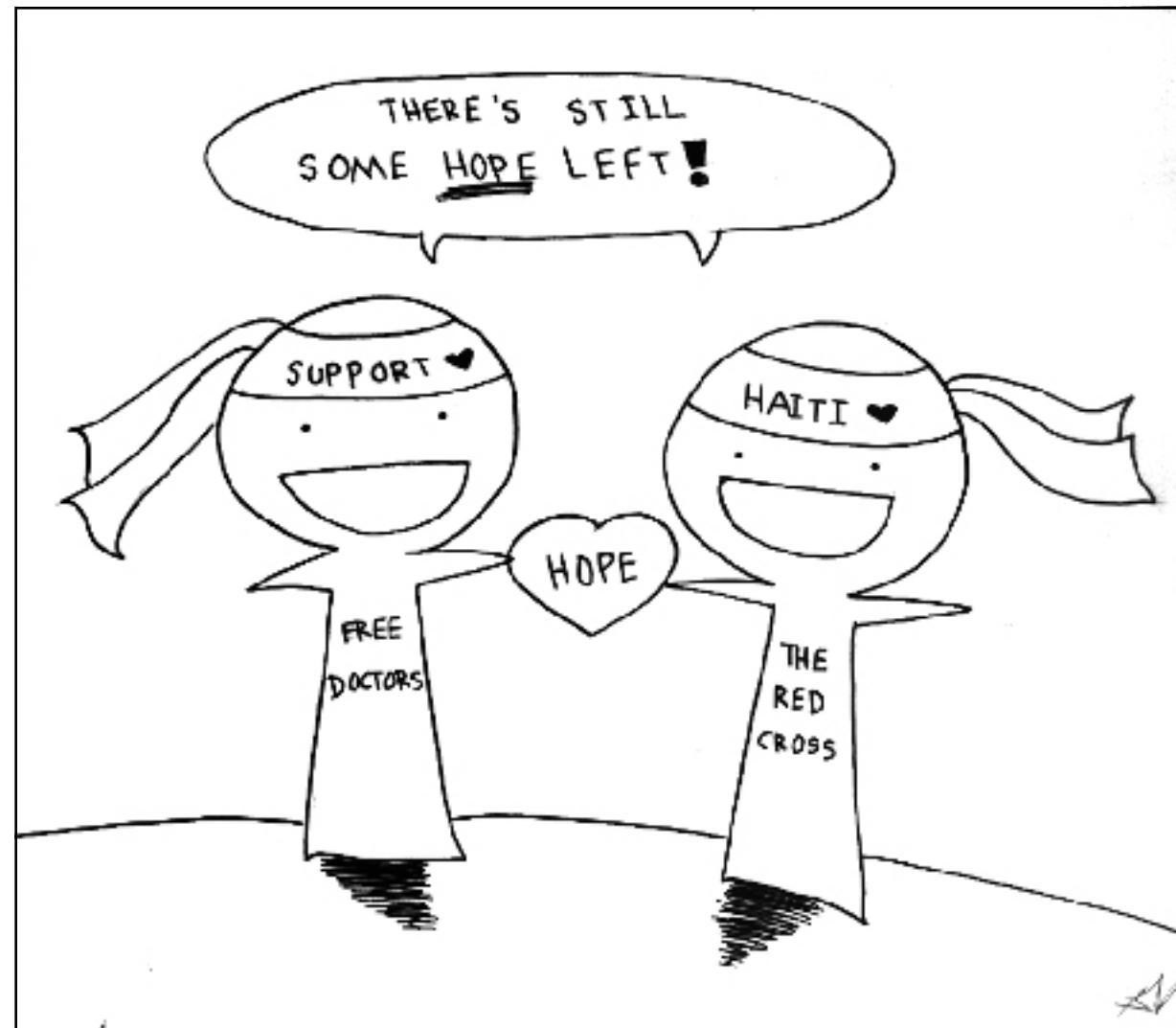
The initial shock on the afternoon of Jan. 12 only signaled the widespread devastation that would erupt soon after. Over the period of two weeks, one 7.0 earthquake and 52 aftershocks decimated an entire island.

The natural disaster stomped its way through Haiti, leaving at least 170,000 dead and wounded in its wake. And yet, despite inducing catastrophic chaos and fear, the events have inspired a collective worldwide movement to send relief efforts to the devastated country.

Since the earthquake, a multitude of relief organizations have blossomed. Now every single one of you can donate just about anything. Anything from your money, your time, your clothes or your toothpaste. You can essentially give in any manner of ways as well—from money via text to whatever you want through good ol' reliable snail mail.

The American Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders and, finally, the Alhambra Unified School District (AUSD). The aforementioned are just a few of the many organizations that have developed their own methods of sending help to Haiti. The sheer numbers clamoring to give themselves to the cause is amazing in and of itself—not to mention what these groups have actually managed to accomplish.

And yet, in spite of all the self-sacrifice and the general sense of dismay at this natural tragedy, there are those who try to profit from the masses who genuinely wish to help. Sto-



ries of scams and human-trafficking operations disguised as orphanages litter the news, bringing on another onslaught of despair at the human condition. So in response to these degenerate human beings, the FBI and CNN implores all donors to maintain a skeptical mind—especially when their funds are so desperately needed elsewhere.

But, while they have spawned the few who capitalize on others' sincere selflessness, the events that have transpired after the earthquake in Haiti are, at the very least, reminders that there still remains a bit of humanity residing in the deepest recesses of our hearts. Though it's come about by a terrible means as the destruction of thousands of lives, the

fact that there are so many who exist to do the exact opposite and *build up* the lives of those who remain—and I say so only because I have no other words—is heartwarming.

It's ridiculously easy to criticize, to merely stand back and watch as the floor falls from beneath someone's feet. It's easy to write articles bashing the way things are and demand

that society change to be the way we think it should. But, when we are confronted with the unexpected goodness of humankind, most are taken aback.

When something so unbelievably good occurs, we find ourselves without anything clever to say. The individual is forced to resort to hackneyed and clichéd phrases in an attempt to describe the exact ways in which he feels his heart swell to three times its original, and rather insignificant, size. Suddenly, those "jade-tinted" glasses are broken, our cynicism and pessimism fall away and, amazingly enough, the human race just doesn't seem all that bad.

And despite all this, despite the awe-induced coma into which we are struck, there are some who have not attempted to do their part. While it is just as easy to stand back and criticize, it is even easier—and more cost effective—to apathetically wait for the entire thing to blow over. But, when we are faced with the select few, those who embody the very concept of bystander apathy, it does well to remind them that it could have very easily been them buried beneath the debris.

Whether it be buying a plane ticket to Haiti and spending the rest of your life attempting to rebuild what you can from the rubble, or just spreading the word and attempting to rally more people to one of the various relief causes, any small bit helps. If a \$10 text donation seems a bit too hefty, putting pocket change into an AUSD manila envelope won't take much effort. After all ... those who can't write must act.

BEYOND ME

Who's On the 'Slut List'?

It's Friday, and I'm home watching *20/20*. Tonight the show is about none other than the ridiculous scandal surrounding the charismatic, almost Democratic-presidential candidate John Edwards. Undoubtedly, we've all heard his woes: an ailing wife, a mistress and, of course, a lovechild.

In times like these, his political accomplishments are overshadowed by the public's following of something much more interesting: his personal failures.

As images of a smiling Edwards on the campaign trail turned into a montage of alleged rendezvous with his "baby momma," I felt something along the lines of sympathy for the fallen politician. Now, I agree what he did was selfish and most certainly reprehensible; however, I couldn't help but feel slightly disgusted with the people exposing his story. On one hand, I love truth, and as a young journalist, even I feel the wave of excitement when discovering a newsworthy tip. On the other, I feel that the people who are "speaking out" now are simply trying to bring Edwards down. The motivation is only to ruin another person.

As a testament to this phenomenon, our human desire to ruin peoples' reputations is clearly popular among all ages. At Millburn High School in New Jersey, senior girls compose a "Slut List" of incoming freshmen, structured much like the Burn Book. In Edward's case, his former aide Andrew Young probably has money to gain—I mean, he was willing to lie for his boss to unbelievable extents—but now he's written a tell-all book. Surprising? No. However, the girls at the top ranked high school aren't compensated for composing the "Slut List." They get personal satisfaction, and apparently that's all you need.

It's unfortunate. What's kind of embarrassing is that, as a nation, we love this stuff. We love it when people in high positions are revealed to be money-embezzling pigs or adulterous spouses. As high school students, we don't even care if the information we're hearing from the friend of the girl whose brother heard from his girlfriend's cousin is a rumor. To call this behavior childish is an understatement, especially if middle-aged officials are encouraging it.

Maybe it's old-fashioned, but I still believe that information should *not* be told for the sake of sensationalizing news. And if Bill Clinton could rise from the ashes of his big sex scandal, perhaps Edwards can, too.

*Stephanie Lee
Co-Editor in Chief*

Girls Don't Like Boys, Girls Like Cars

DAISY PROM
Staff Writer

They're the ones who are there when you are lover-less, the ones who will rush to you when a cuddle-buddy is needed. However, amidst all these I-got-your-back notions, there's bound to be some sort of underlying desire or lust. Sure, a boy-girl friendship works in theory or fantasy, but you cannot ignore human instinct.

With guys, it's clear to see how a simple friendship just isn't plausible. If a male is involved with a female, there has to be a catch. This side is usually where the sex interferes and demolishes any hope for a friendship. Maybe he has hopes that the girl maybe, possibly, somehow has feelings for him. Or maybe he's hoping she can introduce him to some of her friends who have more "assets," but either way, there must be incentive for such a friendship to exist.

Girls possess more discreet, scandalous tactics. If there's no possibility for a romance, then there are always other uses for the male counterpart. Girls can manipulate any hopeful thoughts into "letting" guys pay for food and chauffeuring. These poor guys are taken advantage of so easily. But no need to worry, when scenarios like these bring out the worst parts of people, neither side is blameless.

The cruellest part about this is that there are innocent souls trapped within this vicious circle. Anticipating something more, these are the people who watch too many chick flicks and who believe in the goodness of humanity. Even human instincts to mate show no mercy for these poor saps.

Basically, two heterosexual beings of the opposite sex are unable to be "just friends." When those hormones run their course, there's nothing left to keep one teenager attached to another. This is why high school flings are incapable of lasting. After all, human beings are just another animal species genetically wired to procreate. It's not our fault our hormones are always reminding us of our duty to Mother Nature.

Print Journalism's March of Death

EMILY KONG
Co-Opinions Editor

footsteps of print journalism march of death.

From the days of the popular press, when newspapers were finally introduced as objective entities, to the present, when television and the Internet dominate our lives, we have witnessed the evolution of journalism. *The Moor* has also changed from its earliest days. Throughout the last couple of years, *The Moor* has become a self-sufficient, student-run publication. Our entire staff receives no funding from our ASB (Associated Student Body) and therefore must put forth the effort to fundraise on our own.

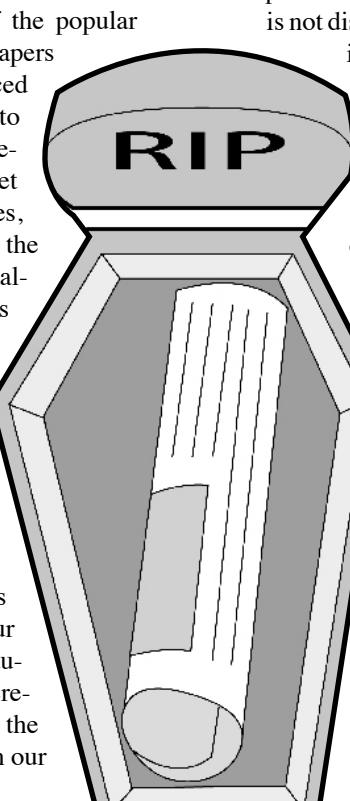
Through our endless endeavors to keep printing,

tradition of print. Despite the fact that our newspaper is not distributed to all of Amer-

ica, we like to think that it holds some prestige within our small community. We may not be the *Los Angeles Times* or *The Wall Street Journal*, but we share many of the same problems they do.

We do not have the same readership or influence, but it has become obvious that what we share is the eventual death of our publications. Besides, who needs newspapers when everything is accessible at the click of a mouse?

In the past, newspapers were the people's one source of voicing

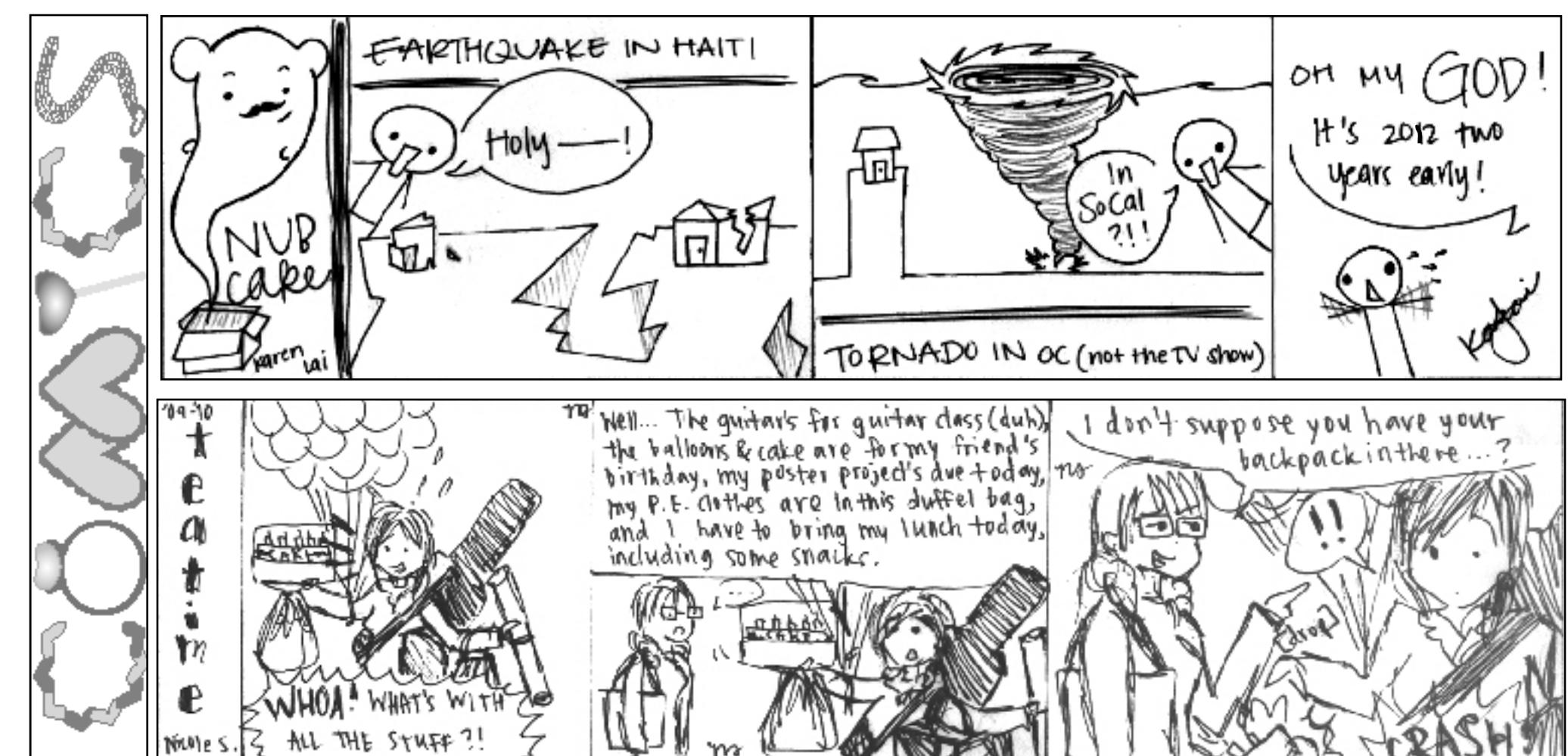


how they felt about things such as freedom and liberty. One sad reality is that we, as products of the digital

generation, have underestimated just how much of an impact journalism has.

The Moor is self-sufficient and so it does not receive the help often needed. We have often considered what would happen if we stopped printing and relied on the Internet as our means of communication. There have been times when we had no other option except to stop our printing, simply because the money wasn't there. We have not ruled out the option of using a website, but we have all agreed that it is equally important to focus ourselves on preserving the tradition of actually having a printed newspaper in our hands.

We are painfully aware of the facts that our school's readers have lost interest and are not as enthusiastic about their newspaper as we would hope, but no matter what, *The Moor* will try its absolute best to continue our tradition of printing and upholding the standards to which we are accustomed. Money will not stop our staff from expressing itself and representing our peers. They say print journalism is dead. However, *The Moor* promises you that we will prove otherwise.



FEATURES



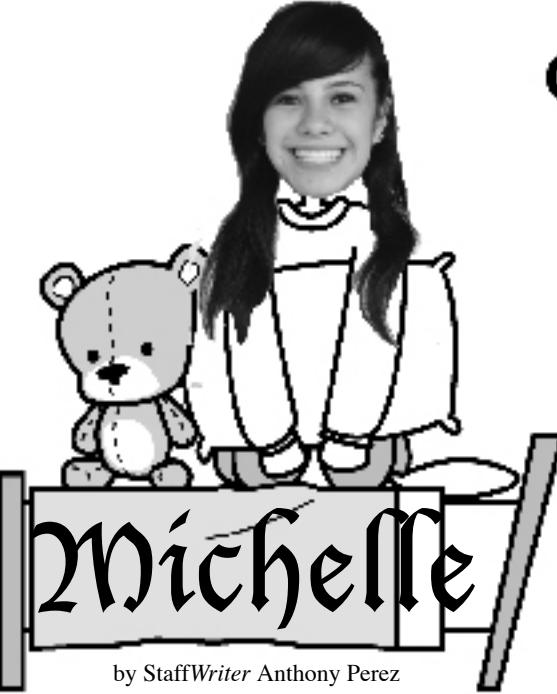
Senior Michelle Lopez has always been interested in the justice system. When she was a child she enjoyed watching shows about good guys chasing bad guys. In middle school, when she started to read books for fun, she turned to whodunit novels to quench her desire to live the life of a detective. It is no surprise that her dream career is to be a crime scene investigator. Crime scene investigators are detectives who analyze crime scenes for evidence that can link them to a potential perpetrator. In high school Michelle opted to be a cheerleader to develop her people skills, because she knew she would have to deal with different personalities.

"I know that when most people look at me in my cheerleading uniform they

probably don't think that I actually have ambitions. The fact is that I do! I want to be a crime scene investigator so that I can help catch criminals and make this world a safer place. When I was young I told myself that I wanted to change the world and I truly believe that, if I can achieve my goal of being a Crime Scene Investigator, then I might just have a shot of doing just that," said Lopez.

Michelle knows that it won't be easy to become a Crime scene investigator, but she has enough ambition to make it a reality. She is planning to attend California State University at Los Angeles for its noted criminal justice program. She will be required to take Criminal Psychology and an Introduction to Criminal Law. Although an annual salary of \$35,000-\$60,000 sounds modest to most, Michelle is still motivated to accomplish her dream.

"I know that when most people look at me in my cheerleading uniform they



by Staff Writer Anthony Perez

MoorPhotos Brian Hua, Jacqueline Do

MoorGraphics Gina Chen, Kelly Ly

What is anthropology? In simple terms it is the study of human culture; however, there is more to it than meets the eye. Anthropology is an exciting career, as long a person is patient and likes to take on challenging tasks. An anthropologist works with cultural development and the behavior of individuals.

Junior Alejandro Prado decided he wanted to pursue anthropology after traveling to numerous countries with his parents.

"I have visited different museums and the idea of human evolution interests me," said Prado.

He plans on pursuing the archaeology field. It is a common misconception that all archaeologists wear khaki shorts and sit out all day in the blazing sun dusting off artifacts. The fact is archaeologists spend most of their time in a lab at

a university or private organization.

Preparation for the field of anthropology is recommended and it would be an investment to start thinking about taking related classes while still in high school.

"Last summer I took a class at ELAC, Anthropology 101 and I began to learn the basics of what I want to do. This summer I am planning to go to UCSB for the summer program. I will be taking real classes offered at UCSB. This way I'll be able to have a bit of college experience," said Prado.

Besides anthropology, Prado also enjoys school, sports and reading. Schooling needed to become an anthropologist: Master's Degree in Anthropology is a standard requirement, classes in statistics and communications will also help. Annual Salary: ranges from \$24,000-\$90,000

When I Grow Up...

Alexys

Some kids want to be doctors while others dream of becoming police officers. However, junior Alexys Carter wants to be a little bit of both—a forensic investigator. They arrive at a crime scene and immediately sketch out what has happened, while also collecting and bagging evidence. Then, they bring it to a laboratory and try to piece everything together. A forensic investigator is sometimes known as a forensic scientist, except that a scientist rarely visits the crime scene.

"Helping solve a crime seems important and interesting. Plus, the process of sketching the scene of the crime and submitting forensic evidence to get tested seems really fascinating. I've always wanted to go into a forensic

field of work," said Carter. To become a forensic scientist, one must prepare for it beforehand in order to increase their chances of succeeding in the field.

"I know Cal State L.A. has a great forensics program, so I plan on going there for a while. I also want to intern in a forensics lab in college, and take biology and forensic classes," said Carter.

Schooling needed to become a forensic scientist: Bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry or a related natural sciences field.

Afterwards, one can immediately apply for the job or continue their education with graduate school while earning a Master of Science in Forensic Science degree. Annual salary of about: \$35,000 to \$52,000

Since the day that we timidly entered the simple, bright-colored world that was kindergarten, we've been pressured to decide on a future career. There have been many discouraging moments along the way when we felt that there really weren't careers where our amazing skills with Play-Doh™ can be showcased, or that our goal of being a brain

surgeon isn't practical with that much cried over "D" in calculus. As the realization that high school won't last forever begins to set in, we're forced to think about life after 12th grade. As we grow, our dreams and aspirations change. We've been asked this question since elementary school—but really, where do you see yourself in ten years?

Benjamin

While some children are brought up with a career in mind, others don't have an exact idea of what career they want to pursue until a certain event sparks an interest. For 17-year-old Benjamin Fuentes, he discovered his passion for the medical field after a long visit to a hospital. While his dream career does not directly involve working in hospitals, it does involve creating and researching medical treatments.

"I want to be a pharmaceutical scientist. I've always liked to help people out, and I think that a career in medicine will provide me with the opportunity to do so on a large scale. To prepare me for the future, I recently enrolled in an R.O.P class of Medical Terminology just to get familiar with necessary information used in the medical field. I also took Finance this year as an elective to learn better ways to handle my money. I just don't want to be that college student who is in debt before he even graduates. After high school, I plan to attend UC San Diego and major in Pharmaceutical Science. Ten years from now, I see myself working in a laboratory making medicine for a company," said Fuentes.

A career involving pharmaceutical science can involve various jobs, ranging from studying the effects of certain drugs to determining proper dosage. After earning a Bachelor's degree in a science-related field, attending a pharmacy school is a good way to gain experience in this profession.



by Features Editor Karolina Zydziak

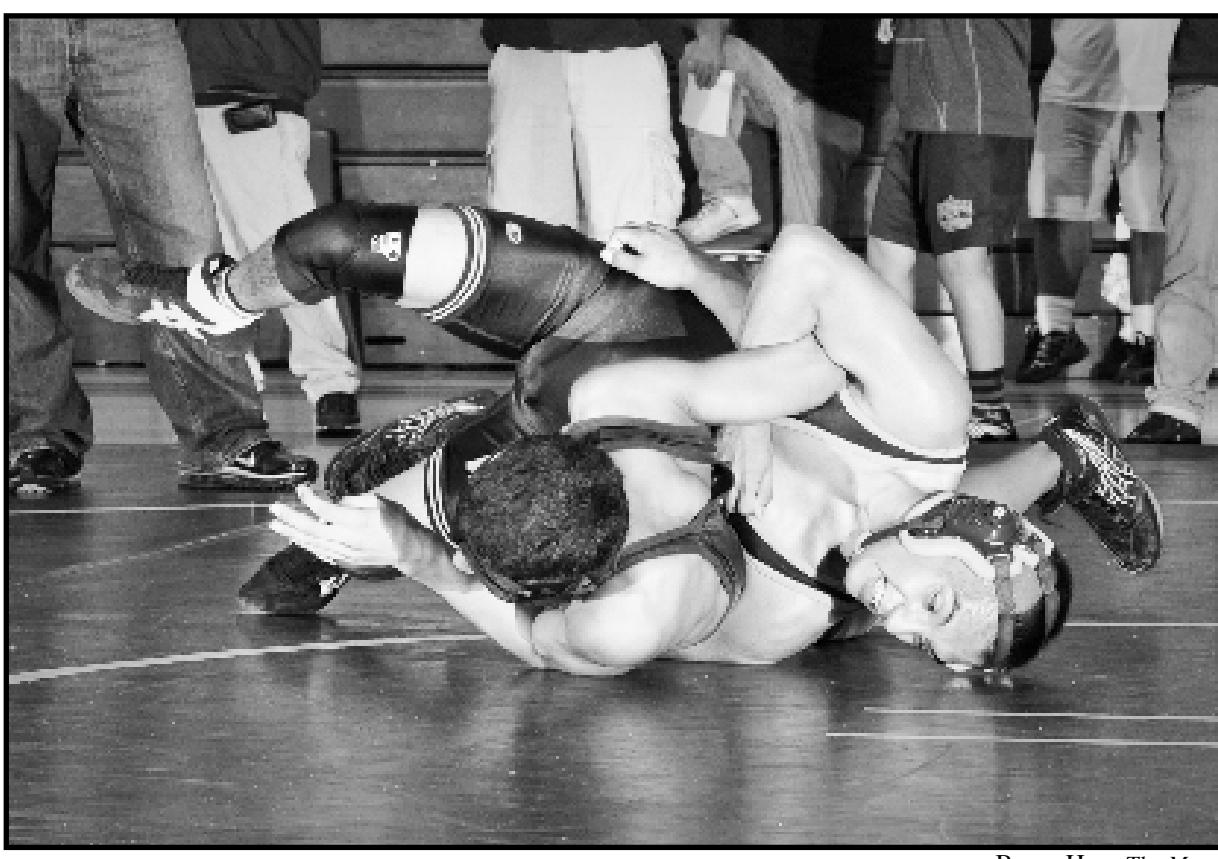


by Staff Writer Catherine Chiang



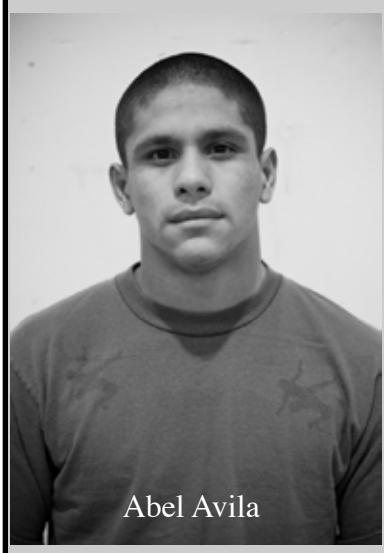
by Features Editor Lindsay Croon

SPORTS

BRIAN HUA *The Moor*

NO WAY OUT: Varsity Co-Captain Christian Lopez prepares to pin his opponent down for a win. At the Almont League finals tournament, Lopez won multiple matches in his weight class.

Player Spotlight



Abel Avila

What are some of the proud moments of the season?

While I did not win first for any tournaments last year, my proudest moments of this season were winning first place in all of my tournaments except for one. I have also beaten numerous CIF champions during my four years of wrestling.

What were some personal obstacles you have had to overcome?

Injuries played a huge hindering role this season; I had dislocated my knee. Another obstacle was mental toughness. Having the heart and determination during practice is one obstacle I had to be tough about.

What are your goals after high school?

I want to attend a four-year university and continue to wrestle. I've received some offers from colleges to wrestle, but I am still waiting. Af-

ter college, I would like to pursue being a firefighter.

What is the goal for next year's team? What advice do you have for them?

Next year I hope for the team to win League because this year, unfortunately, we took third in League, which we haven't taken in 11 years. I hope next year, the team will work together as a unit. Just work hard, put all your heart into wrestling and, most importantly, have fun.

What will you miss about the wrestling team?

I will miss everyone on my team, coaches and that feeling when I step on the mat for a match. All my coaches helped me out a lot, especially Coach Williams for mentally preparing me for CIF and truly believing in me in going far beyond wrestling and having a successful future in academics and life.

by Victor Huang, Co-Sports Editor

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Wrestling Overwhelms Competition at League Finals

■ The wrestling team's success at Almont League finals paves the way for qualification into California Interscholastic Federation and State finals

JAMES HO
Co-Copy Editor

Within the musty, dim-lit gymnasium of Mark Keppel High on Feb. 6, the varsity wrestling Almont League finals took place. On that cloudy morning, the Alhambra wrestling team psyches themselves up to show off the intensity of their drive and go home with yet another victory under their belts.

During the tournament, which began at 9 a.m. and ended after an entire nine-hour stretch at 6 p.m., Alhambra secured 13 spots for 13 of its wrestlers to move onto the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) championships, which will take place at the end of February.

Although the League finals tournament is not a school-specific tournament, since it is mainly to find out which individual wrestlers will go to CIF, AHS had the highest number of wrestlers to place in their weight divisions.

These wrestlers included Abel Avila, Christian Lopez and Hugo Perez. Each of them placed first out of the entire tournament within the 142 pound, 114 pound and 105

pound weight divisions, respectively. Also, Roman Hernandez, David Moran, Harry Nong and Ernie Ornelas each placed second in their divisions. Alfred Gingz and Manuel Reyes captured third place within their divisions. Another three of the wrestlers, Richard Poun, Stephen Ovespian and Calvin Hu, will also be going to CIF as alternates.

Christian Lopez, a four-year member of the team, went into the tournament with a resolution.

"The League finals tournament is small-time stuff for us."

— Mike Williams

"I felt like I needed to take [the victory] back. I wanted to be a four-year League champ, but last year I didn't get to do it. Now, I'm a three-year champ and I'm glad to have taken it back. In CIF, I want to go into my matches strong and with no negativity. I want to go out in first place for my last year in high school," said Lopez.

The large number of individuals

placing at the tournament is a sure sign that AHS will also be putting members of the team into State finals, as well.

"The League finals tournament is small-time stuff for us. I was hoping to get at least ten wrestlers into CIF and we're ending up sending 13," said Head Coach Mike Williams.

After the finals, the team sets its sights on CIF and then moves on to preparing for State finals. Last year, AHS had five wrestlers qualify for competing at the statewide level and this year, Williams hopes to replicate if not surpass that feat.

"At our school, demographics have changed drastically and the wrestling team doesn't get the same amount of recognition as it used to. We've become trivialized even though we've been League champs for many years since the 80s. We have a big chance of getting our guys into competing at statewide championships," said Williams.

Approaching the end of the season, the team continues to practice daily to remain in top shape for the more rigorous competitions to come.

Girls' Varsity Water Polo Makes Noticeable Improvement

VICTORIA GAVIA
Co-Copy Editor

As the varsity girls' water polo advances into the Almont League, the team is redirecting their focus to improve weak points in hopes for a successful season.

The team is optimistic because, only a few months into the season, they already have more wins than they had last year by the same time. Co-Captain Nicole Lunbeck believes this is because many of the girls have been putting forth more effort to better themselves as players.

"We have been getting closer as a team, now it's like one big sister-

hood. We're showing a lot more potential," said Lunbeck.

In addition, the team has adapted very well to their two new coaches, Nathan and Sarah Duran, who are constantly motivating them to do better. They have been integrating new plays and more useful techniques and strategies.

"The new coaches have given us a new start and hopefully our progress will show in upcoming games," said senior Savannah Moore.

However, the girls are still adjusting, which was evident in their Jan. 26 League game against Schurr High. Though they took a loss, it was a very competitive game

with a final score of 5-12.

"Even though we lost, a lot of the girls stepped up. We started forming plays that we had talked about and practiced. [The team was] a lot more organized," said Lunbeck.

Previously, players would miss practices, which ultimately ended up affecting their team chemistry during games. However this problem has subsided and they have experienced a growth in member participation, including more players attending practices regularly.

"We have been preparing more plays, working on getting ready for League and swimming extra to increase our endurance," said Moore.

Frosh-Soph Briefs



Boys' Basketball Adapts to Second New Coach

Although they have had a few losses, the boys' freshmen basketball team is hopeful for upcoming games. As new Head Coach Monte, a first-time coach and former player for Pasadena City College, leads them into the rest of the season.

"He pushes us a lot more [than the previous coach]. It gets really tiring, but in the end, it will pay off more [in] the games," said forward Chris Rodriguez. "We want to be the team that works together [well] and that other teams fear."

A new coach in the middle of the season presents some obstacles that

still need to be settled out, such as adjusting to new training methods.

However, there are other aspects that the team needs to focus on, such as their rebound and defense during games. They must also cope with a decreased number of players, which went down to 14 after some were promoted to the JV level.

"It's a work in progress," said Monte. "The defense is a major concern and is part of the fundamentals. Once they tackle that, they can tackle almost anything. We're all here [...] to aim for the League title."

Despite losing with a score of 60-

80 in their Jan. 29 game against the Montebello Oilers, the team picked up their performance in their following game on Feb. 2 against the Schurr Spartans. The Moors won by two points in the final shot of the game.

"We put in more effort in that [game] and [cooperated] better in what we needed to do," said point guard Wai Sett.

The team played their last game against the Mark Keppel Aztecs on Feb. 12 as they end their season.

by Johnny Huynh
Staff Writer

Girls' Frosh-Soph Basketball Shows Potential

As the frosh-soph girls' basketball team passes the midway point of their season, their remaining games will determine how they finish in Almont League. Hopeful to end with a positive season, they have two games remaining and lots of potential to win them.

Currently, the team is fairly balanced, consisting of nine sophomores and three freshmen, six of whom are returning players and the remaining six being new to the basketball program.

However, the team has not done as well as they had hoped or played

to the potential of which they are capable. The team started off with a 5-0 preseason record, and currently has a 5-3 record in the League. Though it is a fairly strong record, the girls have been striving for as perfect a season as possible.

"Overall, we are [a] complete [team]. We have everything we need to be a great team and we work hard. [The girls] want to learn and it's fun to coach," said Head Coach Amber Whittington.

The team's losses against Schurr and Mark Keppel have led them to their 6-3 League record. Whittington

believes the team's losses are due to unnecessary turnovers and bad calls on the part of the referees.

"Our [main] thing is turnovers. We just need to be smarter with the ball. We need to play like we practice," added Whittington.

Although the team cannot do anything about the bad referee calls, they can improve on averting turnovers and finish off the season with a last couple of wins.

by Joyce Lam
Staff Writer

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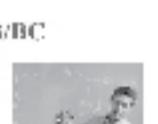
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