



The Paw Print

J Serra Catholic High School

Volume 26 • October 2014



Is Our Gym Haunted?

by Michael Elsanadi



Ghosts in the JSerra Pavilion??? Carlos Garcia, Head of Facilities, and a host of others, have many strange stories to tell.

“I’ve been here at JSerra for 12 years now,” said Mr. Garcia, “and throughout the years here...what we’ve noticed along the way is you hear a lot of things at night...doors shutting, people walking. On one occasion a former employee came to us pale, super pale, and said ‘I just saw a ghost.’ Up on the gym area he saw a shadow body walking forward, go through the glass doors, and disappear.

“So the years go on and you still hear the same things in the late hours at night here. And then I came across a situation where, in that same area where he saw a ghost, I was walking down the stairs, down the bleacher steps to go to the storage room, and I noticed a body, someone walking, and I just glanced and looked over in that same area, and it just walked out the glass doors and disappeared.

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History of Halloween

by Katia Bergstrom



Many people believe the Halloween season to be a time when, in a certain sense, the dead come alive, autumn begins, and daylight savings time ends. But do you know the history of Halloween?

Halloween really began with the Celts. These people celebrated the dead in a holiday called Saiham, which eventually turned into a holiday commemorating the dead, among the pagans, known as Lumeria.

The Catholic Church, at the time, was trying to refute paganism. In place of this celebration of the dead, they instituted All Saint’s Day and All Soul’s Day. Also, the

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History of Halloween

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Church instituted the practice of Trick-Or-Treating. In the Middle Ages, on All Soul's Day, poor children and beggars would go door to door saying they would pray for the souls of the people's loved ones who died. In exchange for their prayers, they would get a soul cake, a little cake with a cross on top.

Later, as Halloween moved to America, and children in the streets became rowdy, the adults would bribe the children with candy and ask them if they were going to get tricked. Thus, came the term Trick-Or-Treat.

The name Halloween actually comes from the old English word "Hallow," which means holy. Halloween means, "All Hallow's Eve," or, "All Holy's Eve," referring to All Saints' Eve.

The Paw Print

Staff

Katia Bergstrom	Zoe Kaffen
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Is Our Gym Haunted?

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"On another occasion, because I coached girls soccer, we were filming a game here, and it was about 6:30 at night, and I had to go back and review all the soccer footage. In the video you could see a body figure walking across but there was no movement, it was just floating across, and then at the end of the building it just disappeared in almost like a flash, and it just disappeared."

Does he still have that video?

"I do have that video. And I had several guys in the facilities department look at it and witness it and they'll tell you. Ask them. That's pretty much it. You come here in the late hours of the night you hear all kinds of stuff."

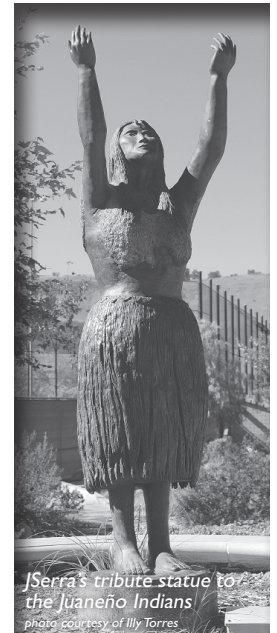
Our school was founded, both literally and metaphorically, upon controversy. In the early 2000's, while JSerra's campus was under construction, the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians protested the development, insisting that the pavilion, pool, and sports fields were being built over a sacred Indian burial ground. The site where our gym now stands is ranked by the California Cultural Resources Preservation Alliance as one of the top ten most endangered significant archaeological sites in the county, as it held both a village and a cemetery.

One of our custodians, Abel, who has worked late nights inside the pavilion, claims that he has felt, "a hand brush up against my shoulder, while I was in the bathroom at around 1:30 in the morning." He added, "I totally believe that the gym is haunted."

Another one of our custodians, Johnny, recounts an additional supernatural presence: "I was closing the doors of the gym, and I felt like someone was right behind me. It felt really cool and cold on my back. I looked back and no one was there, it felt cold again so I just started running."

When asked if he believes that the gym is haunted, Johnny responded with, "I definitely believe that there is something there."

With hundreds of buried Indians beneath the pavilion, rumors of apparitions, voices, and "chills" around the gym have spread across the campus...and will no doubt, continue.



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Speech and Debate

by Ryan Sánchez



Sydney Reinart, Sebastian Kharileh and Megan Wagner

Speech and Debate is an extracurricular activity that involves many different events, such as the individual United States Extemporaneous and International Extemporaneous Speaking categories, as well as the team-based Public Forum Debate. It is wildly popular with many students across the nation taking part in competitions and receiving awards.



Nico Abusaid

Here, at JSerra, the Speech and Debate club is taking off, with a few of its members already attending tournaments. Three days after their first meeting the club drove to Santa Margarita Catholic High School to spectate the many events being held there. Led by sophomore, Nico Abusaid, with the help of Mr. Misiow and Mrs. Brady,

the 59-member-strong club already displays signs of improvement.

Abusaid says he created the club because “I thought it would be a good idea for those who wanted to do Speech and Debate to get something out of it, so they could put it on their résumé and do speech and debate at the same time.”

He wants all students to know that “If you haven’t already joined, you should join and become a Debate Team Member today.”

Megan Wagner and Sydney Reinart joined the team “so we could debate Dr. K better.”

Sebastian Kharileh, a founding member of the club, says he loves “getting to learn how exactly to debate and exactly how to present your ideas.” He told me that Abusaid, is “a pretty swell guy.”

Everybody at the club wants those interested to sign up as soon as possible so they can partake in the camaraderie and pure fun that members experience.



Campus Ministry



Kairos: The Ultimate Retreat

by **Garrett Prendiville**

What do you get when you have 35 students, six awesome teachers, an incredible retreat center, and a desire to grow closer to God? The best four days a senior can experience. For three years I have been asking my senior friends, "What is Kairos?" I then get frustrated when they give half-hearted answers



such as, "You'll find out later," or, "What happens at Kairos, stays at Kairos."

These passive answers have left my friends and I thinking that this "Kairos thing"

is some sort of cult or some scheme to brainwash teenagers into the Catholic Church. But it's not. Kairos is an experience of bonding with fellow classmates through Christ, rather than the experience of learning religious lessons in school.

With that, Kairos is a sanctuary of fully expressing your problems, knowing that you are in an environment of healing and comfort, and knowing that everyone has "their story." As the four days progressed, each and every one of us became closer friends. From my perspective, it was touching to see two students who were practically strangers become friends because of this retreat. Kairos is so special to everyone as well because of how sympathetic and caring everyone was to each other. Fortunately, this love for each other continues to this day.

"It is comforting to know that I am loved and cared about because of my Kairos Family," says Kairos attendee, Michael Elsanadi.

In addition to the bold students, the leaders are just as fabulous. The three campus ministers, Ms. Bass, Mr. Eckert, and Mr. Laubacher, are all experienced in their field of leading others

to God by sharing their personal stories and being extremely comforting towards any student. They balanced time with building our relationship with God, as well our relationship with friends, evenly by having distinct times of prayer, and having fun activities, such as spending time on a giant slip-and-slide. Without the leadership of our campus ministers and the other teachers in attendance Kairos would have never been as great as it was.

Personally, Kairos was honestly one of the best experiences I have had at JSerra. I have grown so close to new people that I would have never imagined that I would, and without Kairos, I would miss out



on many great friendships. Days after the retreat, many people who went on the retreat have feared that "The Kai-High" would fade away but fortunately, the love that Kairos has brought still continues. Our "Kairos Family" continues to meet up regularly, such as at Club Nights on Tuesday nights and occasionally at bonfires at various beaches. Although the retreat was only four days, the legacy of Kairos continues.



Campus Ministry



Junior Retreat: Unstoppable

by Megan D'Souza



Ask any junior who went on the recent retreat, and they'll all tell you the same thing: we didn't expect to reach the level of spiritual empowerment and emotional release that we achieved on our three-day journey of enlightenment. The JSerra Campus Ministers—Ms. Bass, Mr. Eckert, and Mr. Laubacher—combined group bonding activities and periods of adoration to bring us closer to God's love.

Without revealing too much of what went on at the retreat, what I am able to disclose is that it was an incredibly emotional experience for everyone. There was not a dry eye during adoration, which was one of the most unifying experiences. We each shared in one another's struggles, and we came to love and support each other in the presence of God (which is what Christ really wanted for us in the first place). Each person was able to have an intimate experience with the richest love we'll ever know.

From a personal perspective, I was not stable in my faith by any means before the retreat. I would attend mass every Wednesday and just go through the motions, then leave and forget everything that had just happened.

Going on the retreat was originally just to get away from home and school and be with my friends. But what I got out of it was more than I could have ever hoped for. It was like God was saying to me, "Come home. I know it's taken you a while to find me, but come back because wherever you are, I will be."

On the retreat, I not only developed relationships with fellow peers I'd only greeted in the hallways before, but I also realized that I am loved by someone who will never forsake me, no matter what. I learned that God will be at my side through anything life throws at me. I experienced an incredible transformation in my faith: from barely hanging by a thread, to living in God's profound love. The retreat is something everyone should consider whether religious or not.

A large group of young people posing for a group photo outdoors, many wearing safety harnesses and helmets, suggesting a team-building or outdoor activity.



Fine Arts



The Fall Play is Finally Here!

by Katia Bergstrom

JSerra's production of the play *Much Ado About Nothing*, the famous Shakespearean comedy, is finally here! Performances will be on November 6th, 7th, 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th at seven, and on November 8th both at two and seven.

Ms. Ybarra, the director of the play and the theater teacher, describes the play as "One of Shakespeare's greatest comedies. It's a relationship that's gone awry, the structure of love and relationships, and bringing that back."

She comments that people can even apply the play to their own lives.

"The thought on individuality is key. Understand who you are and your role in the community and being truthful. That love isn't perfect, but when it is found, it should be treasured."

A unique element of her production of this play here at JSerra is putting Shakespeare's famous work into a different time period: the 1910s. The students participating are all very excited about the upcoming performances.

Caroline Jenner, who will portray Leanata, is specifically excited for the costumes because, "We get custom costumes for the first time."

Nina Nasr, who plays Hero, mentions she's excited for the performances because, "There's a huge wedding scene, Hero's the center of attention, she gets to wear a wedding dress. It's different from any role I've ever played."

Lizzie Cameron, who plays Urusla, the maid, says, "I hope they (the audience) see that Shakespeare isn't boring, and that it's actually really comedic."

Marissa Reynolds, who plays Beatrice, says, "She's one of the leading girls and she has a fiery personality, and a complicated relationship with the male lead, Benedict. I'm absolutely thrilled to play this role."



Michael Ouimet comments on his character, "Benedict has come back from the war, he has his own mind, and is single, until his friends say this one woman is in love with him, then he's interested. In the beginning, he's not interested in marriage."

Mary Flanagan, who is one of the stage managers, says, "We are the backbone of the play. We make sure of everybody's blocking and notes. We basically have to be every character."

Zoe Zehren, who plays Margaret, one of the maids, described that she's excited for "the costumes and about how it's in a different setting, 1910s."

Sydney Fitzgerald, another stage manager, comments, "During tech week, I'm in charge of the lighting and sound, knowing costumes and who's' who. I write all the blocking cues."

Adam plays, "Dogberry and he is a goofball," the main source of comedic relief of the story.

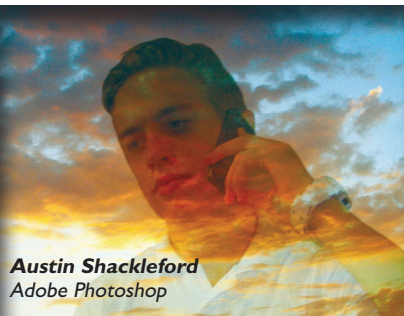
Ms. Ybarra hopes for this show include that everyone comes to see it, and to, "overall just have an immersive experience into this world that Shakespeare creates."

Fine Arts

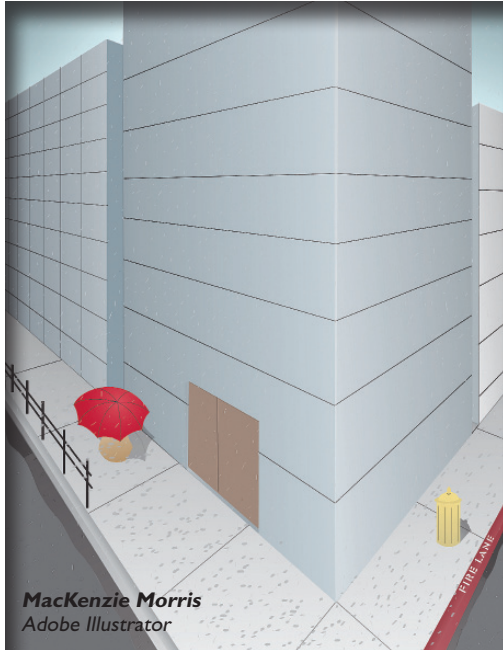


Student Artwork

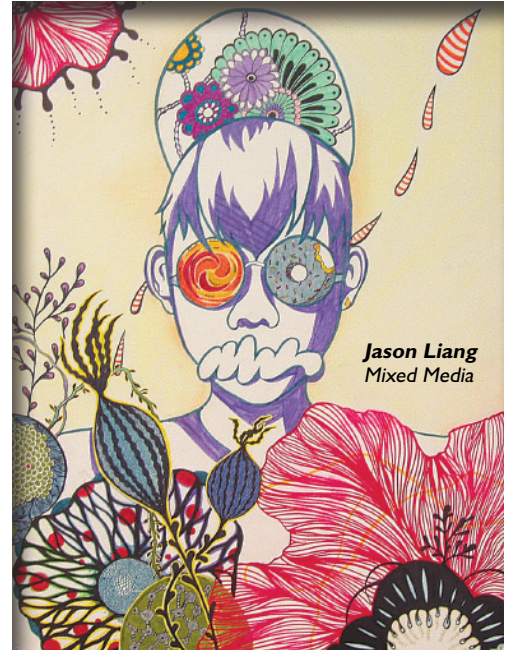
Krystal Yao
Scratch Board



Austin Shackelford
Adobe Photoshop



MacKenzie Morris
Adobe Illustrator



Jason Liang
Mixed Media



Megan Lasken
Mixed Media

Good Night

A Poem by Alyssa Ahle, Class of 2013

Good night my precious darling
Sleep till the morning sun is shining
Forget your burdens, forget your worries, and sleep
Drift off into a dream that is blissful and deep
For on the Milky Way you shall dance
And waltz with the moon if you get the chance
The nightingale in my heart will sing you to sleep
Please don't stir, don't make a peep
As the notes drift off into the midnight sky
Clustered with diamonds and tiny fireflies
Promise me that you will sleep tonight
And in the morning everything will be all right.



Lions Hold the Championship Title

by Zoe Kaffen

The annual Prep Classic has come and gone, and once again the Lady Lions varsity tennis team has emerged victorious. The Prep Classic is a two-day tournament featuring division-one college prep schools that compete for the Classic Champion Cup. This year's lineup of schools included Sage Hill, Mater Dei, Oaks Christian (L.A), Bishop Gormon (Nevada), and JSerra, last year's champions.

JSerra reached the finals for the second consecutive year, competing against Bishop Gormon, who had previously lost to JSerra last year by one set, and was yearning for the title. It was a close final match, but JSerra conquered, sweeping the singles and pulling out a victory in doubles to beat Bishop Gormon 5-4.

Led to victory by senior co-captains, Nilou Sheybani and Maddie McFarland,



Jadie Acidera

JSerra was presented with the Prep Classic Cup. A stand-out player on the team, sophomore Jadie Acidera, won the Singles Player MVP award with an undefeated singles record. We sat down with Jadie to find out what makes her one of the highest-ranked players in the state of California.

What is it like being the youngest number-one varsity singles player in JSerra history?

"There's never a dull moment."

How often do you practice?

"I play three hours everyday. Two on the court and one conditioning."

How do you compete outside of high school season?

"I usually play tournaments every weekend and always practice, practice, practice."

What's the biggest sanctioned tournament you've ever played in?

"Super-nationals in Florida, it was the scariest experience of my life!"

What is your favorite part about being on the JSerra tennis team?

"Eating all the snacks, cheering for my teammates, and of course the grudge match against Santa Margarita."



Girls Volleyball

by Julia Sanchez

As everyone on campus knows, sports are a big part of the JSerra community. Football season has begun with a bang, but so has the girls volleyball season. With football currently receiving the most attention, not many people are aware of the success of girls volleyball.

Like football, the JSerra girls volleyball teams have kicked off their season with a bang. Varsity and JV have participated in two tournaments, and Frosh/Soph has participated in one tournament. Varsity beat Los Alamitos, the



reigning CIF champions, in their tournament over the weekend of September 12-14. The team also beat Edison High School, another highly-ranked team. In addition to the pre-season, Varsity also brought home a win against Orange Lutheran during the first home game of Trinity League play. With a new coaching staff and players hungry to bring home as many wins as possible, this year's season is looking to be a highly successful one.

JV team captains Tessa Demari and Samie Senske, both sophomores, have been playing volleyball for JSerra since their freshman year. Samie sat down with me and answered some questions about this season and what the student body should expect.

Asked about this upcoming season, she replied, "I think that this season is going to be fun. We have some tough opponents but we will definitely work hard to beat them."

What about your volleyball career?

"I have been playing club volleyball since eighth grade. I had to take a break in ninth grade when I had knee surgery."

As for her favorite volleyball memory, she smiled and said, "When I ran to save a ball and I kicked it over the net. The other team was stunned and let the ball drop and we won the point!" (In volleyball, a player can kick the ball and it will count as a pass, but is very difficult to accomplish).

Trinity League play has just begun and all three teams are showing a lot of promise for a successful season. For those in Mrs. Meyers' religion class, listen to announcements because for certain games Mrs. Meyers will be offering extra credit depending on the game. Frosh/Soph games are at 3:30, JV at 4:45, and Varsity will be playing at 6. Be sure to listen to the announcements and support your Lady Lions!



Entertainment



The Maze Runner

Movie Review

by **Mary Kaffen**

The movie, *The Maze Runner*, released into theaters on September 19, stars Dylan O'Brien as the main protagonist, Thomas. Based on the dystopian novel, *The Maze Runner*, by James Dashner, the movie was a highly-anticipated film this year. The director, Wes Ball, previously worked in the Arts and Visual Effects Department, and this is his third time directing a feature length film.



The film begins with Thomas entering the maze from a metal box. His memory is completely erased with the exception of his name. Thomas is welcomed into the Glade (a small open valley confined in the middle of the Maze), by thirty boys, each of them with the same loss of memory as Thomas. Thomas meets Alby, played by Aml Ameen, and Newt, played by Thomas Brodie-Sangster, the leaders of the Glade, who explain to Thomas the puzzle of the Maze. The boys have been living in the Glade for three years. Every day, boys called "Runners" are sent out into the Maze to try and find a way out. The Keeper of the Runners, Minho—played by Ki Hong Lee—believes the Maze is unsolvable.

Thomas's first day in the Maze is confusing and full of mystery. Thomas is the new "greenie" and a young boy named Chuck, played by Blake Cooper, is responsible

for showing Thomas around the Glade. As Thomas becomes more acquainted with the Glade and the other boys, his desire to become a runner grows. Thomas's curiosity about the Maze pushes him to become a runner. While running the Maze, Thomas experiences first hand the terrifying metallic monsters that the Gladers call Grievors. The Grievors are a mixture of blubber and metal that produce a painful sting and cause the victim to experience a "Changing." The thirty boys have been coexisting with the Grievors for three years, but even so, the doors of the Maze are the only barrier between the monsters and the Glade.

The trouble begins in the Maze after Teresa arrives, the first girl ever brought into the Maze. The doors of the Maze, which had closed each night to keep out the nocturnal monsters, now remain open, allowing the Grievors to enter the Glade. Teresa, played by Kaya Scodelario, carries an ominous note saying that she is the last greenie to be sent up into the Maze. Teresa wakes up from her coma only to say Thomas's name and then fall back into her sleep-like trance. Thomas realizes they need to escape the Maze—and soon.

The movie's special affects and visual arts create a perfect dystopian set, similar to the setting described in James Dashner's novel. The Maze, with its enormous gray walls and moving doors, makes the story seem impossibly real and the conflict of solving the Maze more futile. The Grievors were life-like and matched closely to the monsters described in the novel. Dylan O'Brien's performance was believable and Will Poulter's character, Gally, added dimension to the group of Gladers presented in the film. The supporting actors, Thomas Brodie-Sangster (Newt), Ki Hong Lee (Minho), and Aml Ameen (Alby), were well cast and brought layers of emotion, both dramatic and lighthearted, to make the movie highly enjoyable. If you like mystery, action, and suspense, then this movie is a must-see!

Entertainment

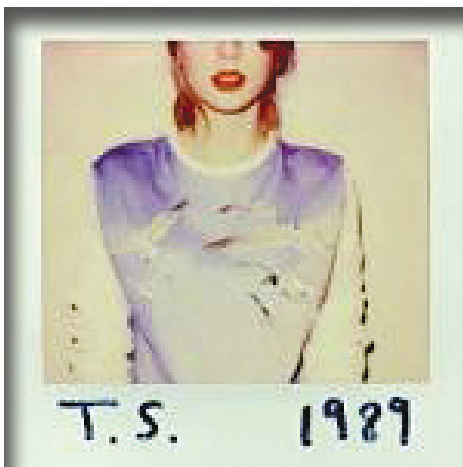


Taylor Swift: 1989

Music Review

by Olivia Coyle

Taylor Swift will be releasing her fifth album, *1989*, this coming fall, on October 27, named after the year she was born.



The marketing of her newest album takes a vintage approach by incorporating an array of Polaroid pictures throughout the packaging. Similarly, it is rumored that the sounds included in her new songs will feature more mature musical aspects, in comparison to her previous records, as she finds inspiration through critically-acclaimed artists such as Phil Collins and Annie Lennox.

As each album is released, it is apparent to fans that Taylor enjoys experimenting with different musical styles and sounds. Although Taylor entered the music industry as a country musician, her style began to incorporate more pop-like sounds when she released her sophomore album, *Fearless*. This pop-

like style became increasingly prevalent by the time she released her fourth studio album, *Red*.

Along with new sounds, Taylor says that she will be featuring more songs about the perks of being single.



However, Josh Eels, from Rolling Stone magazine, interviewed Swift, where she revealed details of some of the songs on *1989* and said, “the most intriguing one is ‘Out of the Woods...’ It’s a frantic tale of a relationship where Swift says, ‘every day was a struggle. Forget making plans for life—we were just trying to make it to next week.’”

Taylor surprised her fans by releasing “Out of the Woods,” on October 14, to serve as a preview to the rest of her album. Although the track is quite unconventional for Taylor Swift’s brand, she has received positive feedback and reviews. All in all, Taylor’s fans are excited to see how she has musically evolved since her debut in 2006.



Opinions



The opinions expressed here are those of the student journalist. They do not reflect the views of the J Serra faculty, staff or administration.

Keeping Up With The Joneses



by Katia Bergstrom

Think of the scene in *It's A Wonderful Life*, where Peter Bailey tells George (his father) about the neighbor's new car, to which George angrily

replies, "Well, what's the matter with our car, isn't it good enough for you?"

Even though he was depressed and frightened about his missing money situation and the thought of going to jail, George does have a point.

Being grateful is one essential way to be happy. Unfortunately, as humans, we have the tendency to keep wanting more and more of the best things. This is the desire to keep up with other people, and to want to possess the best things, as well. Sometimes, it consumes us to the point that we want to outdo even our neighbors and friends.

I think we can solve this problem by just being happy and concentrating on the things we do have. Consider this: isn't it better to gain more in happiness and love than in material objects? If we are grateful with what we have, we will earn much more than all the material things of this world.

Beanies...



by Olivia Coyle

Here at J Serra the students have an array of uniform options to express their individuality, but sometimes wearing a red polo to contrast a friend's black polo

does not make me feel as if I am expressing myself to my full potential.

I am not arguing against the requirement of uniforms; in fact, I find uniforms to be quite convenient when I sleep through my alarm every single morning. It's just that I would appreciate it if the dress code allowed students to wear beanies or other accessories of that sort.

I have encountered teachers who have requested I not wear a beanie on campus. I oblige because I understand rules are in place for a reason; however, I fail to see the reasoning behind this rule. By wearing a beanie I am able to keep my head warm in the winter. Therefore, I think administration should consider revising this rule restricting our individuality, as well as leaving our heads exposed to chilly temperatures.

Letters to the Editor

The Paw Print welcomes reader feedback. Letters must contain your full name and grade level, or if a non-student, your full name and city of residence. Please e-mail Mr. Kahl at jkahl@jserra.org with a subject heading of "Letters to the Editor."

Measuring Mastery



by Emma McClellan

Should tests be such a high percentage of a class grade? While the majority of time in class and at home is spent on various assignments and

projects, the greatest portion of our grade comes from tests. In nearly all of my classes, the test category is by far the greatest percentage of the overall grade. The justification for this is that tests examine how well you have mastered the material learned in class, but I feel that mastery of a skill or knowledge can be demonstrated through other means.

Test taking is a skill; many students find it difficult, but this doesn't mean that they don't understand the material in class. Writing a paper, constructing a mathematical proof, or speaking on a topic can all measure mastery of a subject. These means may even be more accurate at determining a student's comprehension of course material, because they require independent thinking and examine the student's ability to practically apply knowledge. I think that because tests are only one way of examining a student's proficiency in a certain area, they should not weigh so heavily on a student's grade in a class.

Opinions



Frozen Yogurt vs. Ice Cream



by Mary Kaffen

The two cold deserts, ice cream and frozen yogurt, are both delicious and refreshing on a hot day. But which dessert takes first place?

Although ice cream has an assortment of flavors, the sugar content is exceedingly higher than that of frozen yogurt. In addition to a lower sugar content, frozen yogurt flavors are just as enjoyable and perhaps more creative, with flavors such as pumpkin spice, mint brownie, salted caramel, and pomegranate punch.

In the Yogurtland franchises, customers are able to fill their own bowls with their desired flavors and amounts. Unlike ice cream stores, frozen yogurt shops also provide the customer with numerous toppings. The toppings range from fruits to chocolate candies that match perfectly with whatever yogurt you decide to eat. Frozen yogurt's healthy ingredients coupled with fun toppings make it a better choice than sugar-filled ice cream.

Feminism



by Michael Elsanadi

In my years at JSerra, I have witnessed mild feminists, such as Vida Sadeghi, who've been scoffed at and classified as radical because of their opinions.

These reactions are disheartening. I hope to one day see and live in a society in which both men and women are entirely equal.

I understand that women and men are different, physically and mentally. That does not change the fact that women and men should both be treated equally in the eyes of society and under the law. Human advancement depends on both genders. Expecting one gender to only stay in their homes to raise children, or paying one gender of the same caliber less is counterproductive. We cannot stamp genders with stereotypes.

Emma Watson explains this by saying, "Both men and women should feel free to be sensitive. Both men and women should feel free to be strong."

Males and females must work together to defeat the stereotypes which have plagued our society. I ask the students of JSerra to place stereotypes aside for both the good of others and the good of our school.

ABC's 13 Nights of Halloween



by Jenny Woo

It's that time of the year again! ABC Family's 16th annual weekend of horrors is back with the latest and classic movies that are just in time

for Halloween. Some fan favorites of the classic horror movies include: *Halloween Town*, *Hocus Pocus*, and my personal favorite, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.

Along with the timeless Halloween movies that everyone relishes, some of the modern movies and shows that are to be played this upcoming month include: *Harry Potter*, *Corpse Bride*, *The Adams Family*, *Toy Story of Terror*, *Monster's Inc*, *The Hunger Games*, and a fan-appreciation special of the famed show, *Pretty Little Liars*.

This time of the year is always lighthearted for all family members, young and old, to watch and enjoy the horror movies during Halloween. It's also the perfect excuse to grab that snuggle buddy if the movie's too scary for you, or just share a laugh around a bucket of popcorn.

Opinions



Is SNL Dead?



by Garrett Prendiville

Saturday Night Live has captivated audiences since its start in 1975, bringing endless smiles and joy to millions. With season 40 in full swing, many

viewers believe that the show has lost its touch. The sketches are not as funny, the cast's acting skills are stiff, and the guest hosts are only chosen so they can promote their new movie or TV show.

Just five years ago SNL had legendary cast members such as Kristin Wiig, Bill Hader, and Jason Sudeikis, and just ten years ago, comedic powerhouses such as Will Ferrel, Tina Fey, and Jimmy Fallon graced the show. So what happened to the show? Where are the new comedic phenomenons?

Some have concluded that SNL is going through a "transition period," where new cast members can experiment with new characters and ideas, and build up a reputation with the viewers. Newer cast members, such as Kate McKinnon and Cecily Strong, are becoming established, and popular comics, such as Chris Pratt and Sarah Silverman, are hosting the show. It is safe to say that SNL is getting back to its roots and making people laugh.

Has Ariana Grande Fizzled?



by Julia Sanchez

After her time acting on the two Nickelodeon TV shows "Victorious" and "Sam and Cat," Ariana Grande has transitioned her focus to

her musical career. With collaborations from popular artists like rapper Iggy Azalea and DJ Zedd, her songs seem to be hits. The only reason she is not as popular as she could be is because of her infamous attitude and reputation of being rude and hard to work with. The young singer's career has hardly begun, and her popularity is already spiraling down the drain.

Recently, after meeting with a group of fans, Grande was heard saying, "I hope they all kill themselves." This past Saturday, the young star also appeared as a musical guest on "Saturday Night Live." When Grande was scheduled to leave her hotel for SNL, she requested that the entire lobby be emptied and that only a select few press members be allowed inside. During both incidents, she has proven to be difficult on set and has displayed a harsh attitude towards fans. Despite her great potential, her ego has destroyed her blossoming talent.

LA's New Hit Radio Station



by Zoe Kaffen

Is 98.7, L.A.'s New Alternate Radio Station, really L.A.'s new alternate radio station? 98.7 has swept L.A. off its feet with its rising star singles and

non-mainstream artists.

Performers such as Vance Joy, who recently came out with his new hit single "Riptide," and Hozier, who composed "Take Me to Church," are the frequently played artists on 98.7; but are they played too frequently? A lot of the reason people switch radio stations is because certain artist's singles are played over and over again.

Repetitive songs lose their initial popularity and make the radio stations boring and unvaried. Due to Kiss FM's popularity for playing modern hit music, many new radio stations were created that play the same music, such as My FM, and Star FM.

What makes 98.7 different from other stations is that it offers a variety of new music that is refreshing for listeners who are tired of the same mainstream songs. However, 98.7 is unfortunately falling into the same radio trap and replaying hit songs over and over again.

Opinions



Naked Burrito



by Sydney Brown

Average number of calories in a Bistro burrito: 700. Average number of calories in a naked burrito: 350. For anyone watching what

they eat or just wanting to try something new, you should try the naked burrito!

What is a naked burrito, you might ask? It's just that, a burrito without the tortilla. Simply take a small salad container and head over to Miguel. Have him fill it up with beans or rice or shredded beef or chicken or sour cream or, well, you get the idea....and voilà—your custom burrito!!!

I feel that students should definitely begin eating more naked burritos, as studies show that more than half of adults and a quarter of children will be obese by 2050. Cutting the amount of calories in a burrito in half by simply losing the tortilla allows students to eat healthier and easily eat within the recommended 2,000 calories a day. And personally, I believe it makes my lunch much more enjoyable just knowing my burrito is in its natural habitat!

I'd like to thank Antoinette Bailey, as she is the inspiration for the naked burrito, and Mr. Eckert for coming up with the name.

Virtual Reality



by Ryan Sánchez

Virtual reality machines have been in production since the 1980s, but have never been able to give that feeling of immersion needed to trick

the brain. This all changed in 2012 when the Oculus Rift headset was born.

The Rift's impeccable screen resolution and tracking made it wildly popular, and it has sold tens of thousands of its trial units to date. I believe that the Rift will turn virtual reality into a technology as ubiquitous as television.

I had the pleasure of using the Rift at "Dave and Busters" in the Irvine Spectrum. I sat down in a chair and lowered the Rift over my head. It weighed less than a pound, and the realistic motion tracking completely tricked my brain into believing it was reality. I found myself inside a dune buggy, with every dial and light looking convincingly real. I was delighted.

After this experience, I knew that the technology itself was viable and worked well. The emergence of competition from companies such as Sony is proof that the virtual reality industry is on track to becoming very successful.

Kim K? No Way!



by Megan D'Souza

For the past month or so, I've been balancing magazine photo shoots, charity appearances, and high-profile lunch meetings with my Conceptual Chemistry pre-

labs and character-analysis essays. Luckily, these new obligations have been right at the end of my fingertips.

That's right, I'm talking about the "Kim Kardashian, Hollywood," iOS game. While shamelessly incorporating herself into every available aspect of the game, Kim Kardashian has presented to the rest of us ordinary people the experience of sheer self-centered, hypocritical fame.

Don't get me wrong—I whip out my phone and complete a runway event every chance I get. Although I have not yet made any in-app purchases with my credit card, it has taken control of my daily routine and my life is slowly starting to spiral downwards into an unorganized mess (more so than usual).

So please, if you feel even the slightest urge to make a visit to the App Store and download the Kim Kardashian game, don't do it. Just don't.



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Save the Date

- XLT.....October 28**
 Center Room
- Law Magnet Mock Trail.....November 1**
 Center Room, Library, Building 3
- Fall Play: *Much Ado About Nothing*.....November 6-8 & 13-15**
 Black Box Theater, Building 1
- Junior Ring Mass.....November 19**
 JSerra Pavilion
- Fall Dance Concert....November 21**
 Laguna Hills
 Community Center

