



Friday, October 30, 2009

El Rodeo



El Rancho High School - Volume 58 Issue 2
www.erusd.k12.ca.us/elrancho

Dignitaries Honor Memory of Salcido at Dedication

BY BRIANNA MORALES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Members of the board of education, district office administrators, El Rancho high school administration, and family members of Raul Paul Salcido gathered in the new gym on Saturday, October 3rd for the official dedication ceremony.

The ceremony included performances by El Rancho's band and color guard as well as by the choraleers and pepsters.

"The time he [Raul P. Salcido] dedicated to this community: over forty years as an educator and thirty years on the board of education... no one in the history of the state has ever done thirty years," said Louis Salcido, brother of Raul Salcido.

"He believed any child anywhere, especially El Rancho, has to be educated," said Louis Salcido.

Besides being a teacher, "He was a family man. His family was the most important thing to him," added Salcido.



Salcidos gather at the new gym for a dedication ceremony in remembrance of Raul P. Salcido.

NAOMI ORTEGA

Upon seeing the gym completed today, Salcido would probably say, "Wow, finally!" said Mrs. Kathy Kaelon, Raul Salcido's daughter.

Salcido had his own philosophy as to how the district was to be run. He once, "Success in not genetic. We're not born with success; success is based on opportu-

nities that you are given, and that's the responsibility of [a] school district: to give opportunities to our children. If people believe in you, then you will succeed."

Red Ribbon Week Events Warn Students About Dangers of Drugs and Alcohol



Senior, Jesus Rivera won first place for drug free poster competition.

BY CHRISTINA PEREZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Every year, El Rancho recognizes a week long of Drug Free activities. Known as Red Ribbon week, this time is used to show students the effects alcohol and drugs

can have on a person.

Ms. Frances Nguyen, El Rancho's Special Education/ Drug Counselor, had a booth placed in the middle of the quad during lunch filled with information about drugs.

The booth had pam-

phlets, Tips for Teens, discussing topics such as club drugs, methamphetamine, inhalants, heroin, marijuana, and cocaine.

With the participation of ASB, buildings and classrooms were decorated in red to show they were drug free. Inside of the guidance office, red ribbons were hung along the wall to show the importance of being drug free.

One club that helped Ms. Nguyen during the week of events was the Compadres. They were able to practice their communication skills by quizzing students about marijuana, the introduction of red ribbon week, and mothers against drunk driving, MADD.

Another organization that was focused on during red ribbon week was MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

Their aim is to "raise public awareness of the serious nature of drunken driving and to promote tough legislation against crime," says Ms. Nguyen.

By talking about personal experiences, mothers prove to students the fatal consequences of drunk driving.

One of the Red Ribbon Week days was dedicated to the initiation of red ribbon week. The quiz given out that day explained the sacrifices Enrique Camarena, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Agent, experienced by preventing the entrance of drugs in America.

Since 1985, the last week of October is dedicated to National Red Ribbon Week for the violence that occurs from the use of drugs.

Each day of this week holds different activities for students to get information. One way for Ms. Nguyen to get kids' attention is by handing out pledges to students to symbolize their commitment to being drug free.

"We had two hundred eighty-three pledges and about two hundred fifty students who took the quizzes," says Ms. Nguyen, "which was a really good turn out."

Also, a contest was created for students to make a drug free poster for Red Ribbon Week. This year's winners were Jesus Rivera, Kirsten Garcia, and Brandy Ortiz. Sweet sugary prizes as well as healthy snacks were given to students for completing quizzes.

At the end of the week, names of the students who pledged to be drug free were enter in a raffle and were given passes from Speed Zone for free miniature golf or go-cart rides.

Deputy Alvarado from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department donated the Speed Zone passes. He also has a program, STAR, that teaches students about the effects of drug usage and alcohol consumption.

STAR, or Success through Awareness and Resistance, allows students to experience the feeling of being under the influence.

"Every year, I try to encourage students to be involved in school activities such as sports, clubs, etc. rather than spending time doing drugs," Ms. Nguyen said.

She hopes to invite more clubs and guest speakers for next year's Red Ribbon Week.

CNN Features Pico Rivera as "American as Apple Pie"

BY BRIANNA MORALES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Amongst the 51 million Latinos living in America lies the "Latino Mayberry," or the now well-known city of Pico Rivera, which was featured on CNN's two part documentary, *Latino in America*.

The documentary featured profiles of influential Latinos such as Lorena Garcia, a TV cooking show personality, who have already or are near achieving the American Dream—an idea which states that prosperity and happiness is open to anyone.

Featured in the second segment entitled "Chasing the Dream," Pico Rivera was portrayed as a model minority town.

Encompassed within nine square miles, Pico Rivera's 92% Latino population caught the attention of CNN's producers. Along with the high Latino population, Pico Rivera is solidly middle class with a 70% home ownership rate and a \$60,000 median household income.

In contrast, Pico Rivera was once considered one of the most dangerous cities in all of LA County. With three years and three million dollars placed into law enforcement, Pico Rivera's crime rate has gone down 30%.

The newfound reduction of crime caused multiple business chains to establish stores in Pico Rivera. Among the new stores lies controversy, especially pertaining to Borders bookstore in the Pico Rivera Towne Center.

Initially, the Borders bookstore was not set to be built in Pico Rivera. In seeing the demographics of Pico Rivera on paper, assumption were made saying that "Latinos don't read," according to CNN. Ironically, Pico Rivera's Borders bookstore is now among the nation's top sellers of Latino books.

Moreover, Pico Rivera has its very own celebrity. Lupe Ontiveros has been featured in movies such as *Selena* and *The Goonies* as well as television shows such as *Cory in the House*.

More than once, Ontiveros has played the stereotypical Latina maid, and said, "These are mi gente [her people]."

Pico Rivera is "as American as apple pie," according to CNN. Pico Rivera citizens look after their own fellow Latinos who, according to CNN, will soon become the largest minority in all of America.



NEWS

Trick or Treat for Hunger Helps Those in Need

BY ARLETTE LOPEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Trick-or-Treat for hunger held its 26th anniversary at Pico Rivera's Smith Park.

The convention originally started in 1984 at North Ranchito by Betsy Aguilar. Only five seniors from El Rancho volunteered the first year. This past year, the park had over twenty-five students, plus other volunteers from the city.

The main purpose of Trick-or-Treat for Hunger is to give food to those who are in need during Christmas by distributing a thousands boxes throughout the city.

"This is a very heart warming event," said Junior Key Club member Amanda Lara.

Trick-or-treat for hunger is an event that the city can have the community come together and go door to door asking for cans.

"This event is a well organized and very helpful to the community," said Junior Key Club member Alexis Ramirez.

This previous year they distributed over twelve hundred boxes. This year, the committee's goal was at least a minimum of a thousand boxes.

"I have been doing this event for three years and it's fun to see everyone getting together," states last years Miss Pico Rivera Sharon Calata.

"My favorite part is walking with friends and asking for cans." She also explains that "less people volunteered this year, but [they] did good even though there were less."

"People should come to this event because it is a good opportunity to give to your community," said Junior Key Club member Kimberly Boche.



From an Eagle to a Don

BY NAOMI ORTEGA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Earlier this month, El Rancho welcomed a new Assistant Principal of Guidance to its administrative staff, Mr. Elias Vargas.

Previously, Mr. Vargas taught US History at Rivera Middle School, where he later became vice principal.

He believes he is qualified to become the Assistant Principal of Guidance along with "the fact that I probably know half of the students here," said Vargas.

"Things are similar to middle school, just more teachers, more students, and more support from other assistant principals," said Vargas.

Since the start of his new position at El Rancho, Vargas says he has received a lot of support both from students and teachers.

"Hey, Mr. Vargas!" is a commonly heard greeting throughout the campus. "Students have been courteous and friendly," Vargas added, "my biggest enjoyment yet is seeing all of the familiar faces."

Additionally, having transitioned from a teacher to an assistant principal has proven slightly difficult.

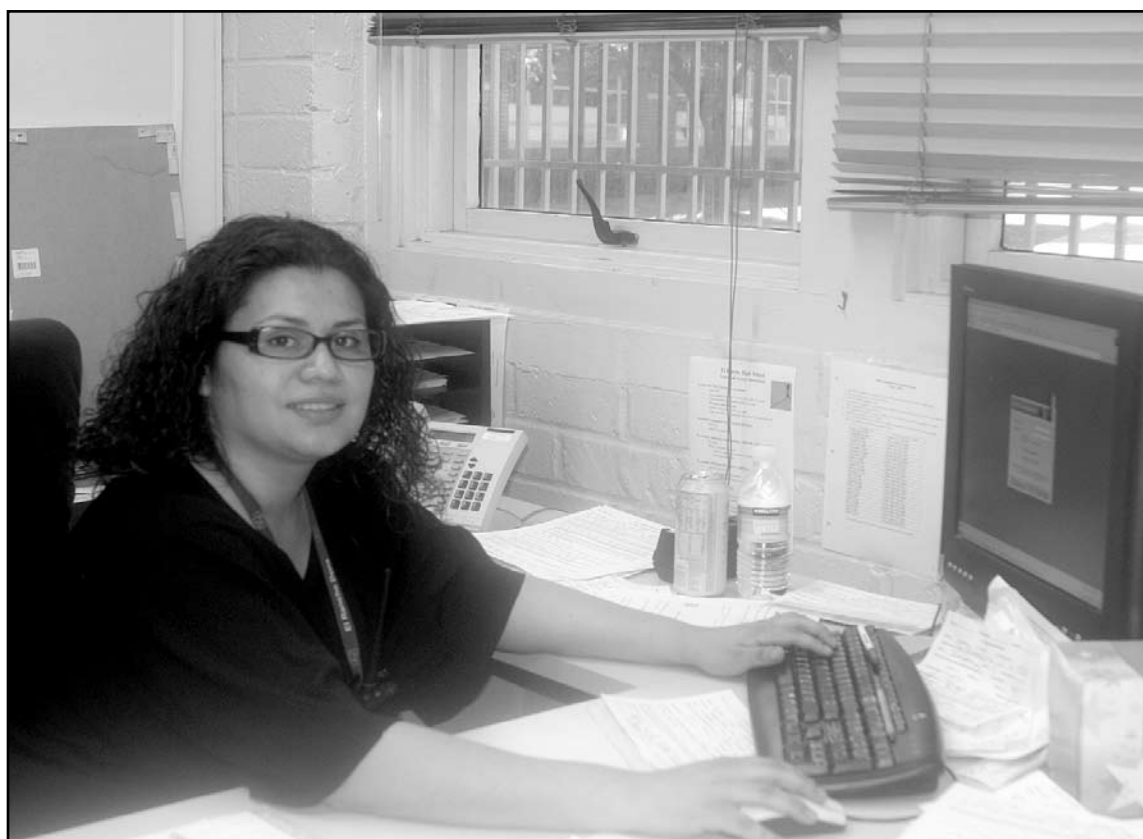
"I miss the teaching aspect, but it's replaced with another aspect where I can work with all kinds of students at my discretion."

Vargas also says that whenever he feels like he misses the classroom, he'll just go and visit, so don't be alarmed when the Assistant Principal of Guidance just so happens to drop in for class.



Helpers begin to package can foods into individual boxes

Melgar Moves up to the Front Office



Ms. Melgar getting used to her new position as sophomore and junior dean.

BY REBECCA GALLEGOS
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Ms. Melgar has moved up from her position as a teacher to being the sophomore and junior dean.

She recently finished her

administrative credential when the position of dean became available.

"I wanted to see what the other side of education would be like, so I applied for the position," says Ms. Melgar.

"It was out of nowhere. I didn't really plan it, but it

happened," she continued.

Ms. Melgar has taught for five years and this would have been her sixth.

She has taught every math subject from Algebra to Pre-Calculus Honors.

Although she is hap-

py with her new position, she misses teaching. "I miss my students," says Melgar.

"They are giving me the biggest guilt trip ever, but at the same time they understand that it is a good thing for the school."

In the beginning of her career, Ms. Melgar had not planned on moving up to administration. However during the course of her career she changed her mind.

"[I thought] administration would be a good job because I would be able to help different types of students in a different ways," says Melgar.

Ms. Melgar's five years of teaching have prepared her for administration. "[Teaching has] allowed me to see that students have multiple sides."

"As a teacher [I saw the multiple sides] every day and still remembering that in the dean position, I am able to see a student and know that he or she is not all discipline problems, that there is another side to him or her."

Transitioning from a teacher to a dean has been challenging, but fun for Ms. Melgar. As a dean Ms. Melgar's work is different.

"There's a lot of paper work, but it is fun because I've never done it before. It's a chal-

lenge, which I like," says Melgar.

"I am still getting my feet wet so everything is brand new and fresh," says Melgar, "but I like that [I] can get to know students a little [better] and understand them on a different level."

As a dean, Ms. Melgar is kept "on [her toes]." "I am more aware now of what is going on," she says. "I am not just concentrating on one classroom anymore, I am concentrated on the entire school and making sure that it is safe for everyone."

In addition to teaching, Ms. Melgar was also an advisor for Link Crew. Now that her schedule is a little busier, everyone has been wondering if she will continue to be a part of the program.

"I would love to still be an advisor," says Melgar. "I will probably be [involved] more behind the scenes, but I still want to be a part of [Link Crew]."

Although Ms. Melgar will miss teaching, she is looking forward to being a dean.

"I am excited about starting this new position and of course I miss my students, but at the same time I am excited to work with the sophomores and part of the junior class."

OPINION

The Nobel Peace Prize. Really?

By JOSELYN GONZALEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

On October 9th, President Barack Obama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway. According to the Nobel Committee, he is being recognized with the Nobel Peace Prize, “for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between people.”

Every year since 1901 the Nobel Prize has been awarded for achievements in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature, and peace. The Nobel Committee must submit nomination by February 1st of each year.

What is shocking is that President Barack Obama was nominated after only being in office for 12 days!

I don’t dislike President Obama. I think it is honorable having an African-American president; yet, what in the world has he done to earn the Peace Prize?

Yes, he has made great promises to the American people but, there has been little action!

Instead of bringing peace, President Obama has actually ordered 21,000 additional troops into Afghanistan. And, European allies are assisting him with a new multi-layered



President Barack Obama making his acceptance speech for winning the Nobel Peace Prize.

strategy there and in Pakistan.

How is that an action or effort of “peace”?

According to Alfred Nobel, the founder of the Nobel Prize. The person awarded the Peace Prize, should be one who: “during the preceding year... shall have done the most and the best work for fraternity between nations, for

the abolition or reduction of standing armies for the holding and promotion of peace congress.” So, how does this apply to President Obama?

Nominations are not made public for at least 50 years after a prize has been awarded. Therefore the other individuals who were nominated are unknown. Someone else

deserved this prize. President Obama was just not the right individual, especially since he has been in office for eight months.

Promises and good intentions are not enough; a Nobel Peace Prize winner must take action for the improvement of all citizens in a united world.



- Advisor**
Paul Zeko
- Editor-in-Chief**
Brianna Morales
- Editors**
News
Brianna Morales
News
Christina Perez
Opinion
Alyssa Mendoza
Homecoming
Emma Leal
Entertainment
Naomi Ortega
Sports
Juan Olivares
Daniela Aguilar
Halloween
Jose Reyes
Staff
Manuel Alvarez
Priscilla Amavizca
Paloma Buenrostro
Araceli Cabral
Stephanie Chagolla
Maria Duenas
Rebecca Gallegos
Joselyn Gonzalez
Amanda Hernandez
Arlette Lopez
Jaqueline Monteon
Erika Morales
Jonathon Raya
Staff Contributor
Patrick Rubalcava

El Rodeo is published once a month, except during vacations, by the journalism class of El Rancho High School, 6501 S. Passons Blvd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660.



Hispanic Heritage Scholarship

You have the talent. We have the information.



PLAN AHEAD FOR COLLEGE.

Sears Holdings Corporation (SHC) celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by introducing the PRIMERO Hispanic Heritage bilingual social network site for students and parents. Visit www.shcprimerobeca.com and receive helpful tips via blogs from current college students and learn how to plan, apply, fund, and the value of education. Encourage your parents to visit the site with you, it will help them understand what the college process is all about and how they can help you. Giving back to the communities where SHC lives, works and does business is important to us. SHC's Sears and Kmart stores are dedicated in supporting the continued growth and development of its Hispanic neighbors, employees and customers.

For more information on Sears and Kmart, visit www.sears.com or www.kmart.com.



Light Out on Flash Drives

By MARI DUENAS
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER



Since the beginning of the school year, El Rancho’s computers have been infected with a virus that originated with flash-drives. Due to this, El Rancho staff members closed the library down for a couple of weeks and many students were unable to use the computer labs in the library. Many of these viruses started with the computer labs in the library and spread onto the rest of the computers in campus. The negative outcome this has is that many of the students who attend El Rancho do not have easy access to computers at home so they rely on the school computers to print out or get any information for school assignments. Since El Rancho’s staff

banned the use of flash-drives on school campus, it will affect many of the student’s printing ability because they will not be able to turn in a lot of the work they could have turned in while flash-drives were still in use. I believe it is unfair for the school to ban the use of flash-drives because I find them to be an essential tool for the student body. On the other hand, banning the use of flash-drives has a positive effect, which is that the computers in campus will no longer be infected with viruses. Computers will not be slowed down and more computers will be available for students and staff members. Although the banning use of flash-drives might help El Rancho, it is not fair for most students who rely

on school computers and need it to keep grades up. Many students will not get much work done and it will be a lot harder for one to turn in work to a teacher, especially teachers who ask for additional information where USB-drives are needed. Yes, using flash-drives might cause some infections to computers, but in order to avoid this I think all teachers and librarians should double check what it is the students need to get from flash-drives, and approve the student’s work before printing it. Everyone at El Rancho needs to be a lot more careful with the computers on campus because it not only can affect you, but your fellow classmates as well.

HOMECOMING

Senior Story with a Happy Ending



Seniors celebrating their victory at the night pep rally.

BY JOSE REYES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The senior class barely emerged victorious in this year's Night Pep Rally. They surpassed the juniors, who were in second place by a small margin of four points.

The freshmen, with their *Monsters Inc.* theme, opened up the Night Pep Rally with a skit portraying the premise of the movie, and it also met their class president, Leandra Dominguez's expectations.

"Yeah [Dominguez's ex-

pectations] were [met], but I bet we could have done a lot better with the skit," said Dominguez, freshmen class president.

Although Dominguez's expectations were met, she knew that had they known what to expect at the Night Pep Rally, more thought would have been put into their skit.

The sophomore class told the story of Alice and the White Rabbit. The music chosen for their skit helped the other class understand their storyline and enhanced the overall delivery of their dance.

The junior class presented a

skit based on *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. The classic Jack Skellington and Sally story was told through their theatrical dance moves and elaborate costumes.

Junior class president, Elise Contreras, said, "Yeah we did a lot better than last year; I was really proud of our class."

The *Toy Story* Seniors presented their Senior Story with a well-choreographed dance, which was "questionable" at times, but despite it, they won the majority of votes in the end and led their class to victory.



Ms.Chavez and Link Crew members selling cupcakes in Homecoming Carnival.



Homecoming King, Princes and Princesses winners were announced during the lunchtime assembly.
Photo's taken by Joselyn Gonzales



Leo's club members selling Bionicos during the Carnival.



Senior Angelica Arrieta and friends enjoying the football game.



Jr. President Elise Contreras and Mr. Romero show their Blue Pride.



ASB members and mascot.



Senior Jesus Rivera, one of the first place winners in the chalk drawing contest.

ENTERTAINMENT

Trendsetters of the Month



Freshmen: Ceasar Garcia
Shirt: \$50
Pants: Zumies \$60



Boots: Bakers \$40
Sophomore: Alicia Guillen
Tank top: Bonnie-amie \$5
Dress: Forever 21 \$23
Belt: Icing \$16
Sandals: Visions \$15

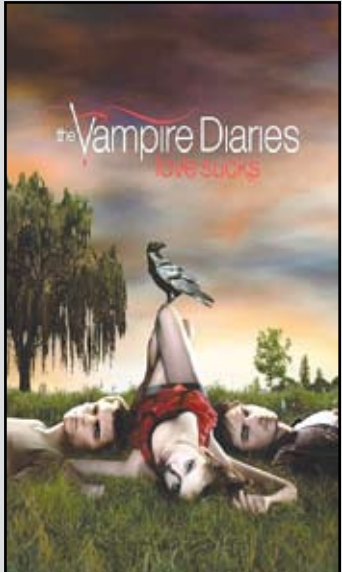


Junior: Ana Martinez
Blouse: Forever 21 \$27
Pants: Wet Seal \$43
Belt: Forever 21 \$17



Senior: Miguel Flores
Senior: Christopher Triana
Shirt: Stussy \$65
Shirt: Anchor Blue \$25
Pants: Levis \$50
Pants: Levis \$50

Torn Between Two Vampires



By Araceli Cabral
El Rodeo Staff Writer

Originally a novel series written by L.J Smith, *The Vampire Diaries* is the new hit television drama that will have you thirsting for more. The show premiered on The CW, on September 10, with over 4.9 million viewers.

The Vampire Diaries is based on a love triangle between Elena Gilbert (Nina Dobrev) and vampire brothers, Stephen Salvatore (Paul Wesley) and Damon Salvatore (Ian Somerhalder).

After loosing her parents in a tragic car accident, the young beautiful Elena Gilbert, along with her 15-year-old brother, Jeremy Gilbert (Steven R. McQueen), has been trying to move on with her life.

Once the school year begins, 17-year-old Elena quickly becomes drawn to the new mysterious student, Stephen Salvatore, who is secretly a 150-year-old teenage vampire. It becomes dramatically difficult for Stephen to build a relationship with Elena once his corrupt, blood-sucking brother, Damon Salvatore, appears in his life after a long period of time.

Since Damon's shocking appearance, Stephen has trouble covering-up Damon's tracks of "animal attacks." Not only is he trying to protect the people of Mystic Falls, Virginia, but Stephen is in competition with his own brother, trying to win over Elena and her friends. To make his life more complicated, Stephen has to keep his true identity hidden while trying to live the normal life of a high school student.

The Vampire Diaries is filled with suspense, horror, and mystery that would have you on the edge of your seat.

"The show is really romantic," shares Junior Stephanie Cano. "I think it's a lot like Twilight, which is really popular because a lot of people love vampires right now."

Junior Jessica Santa-Cruz says, "*The Vampire Diaries* is an awesome show, that is getting really good."

So don't forget to watch *The Vampire Diaries* every Thursday, on The CW, at 8:00 pm.

Viewers Lose Sleep Over *Paranormal Activity*

By James Gaither
El Rodeo Staff Writer

Paranormal Activity directed by Oren Peli was released on Sept. 25 across the nation at selected movie theaters.

Using its low-budget effects and documentary method to great effects, it turned a simple story of a haunted house into a frightening 90 minutes of sheer suspense and horror.

Opening week, the movie racked in about \$9,113,936 in total income.

A simple story of a haunted house that doesn't hide the fact it is not pleased with its new tenants, in this horrifying supernatural tale.

Katie (Katie Featherston) and Micah (Micah Sloat) are a mid twenties couple who move into a new home in San Diego, California.

Katie has an interest in the paranormal and believes that malevolent spirits have

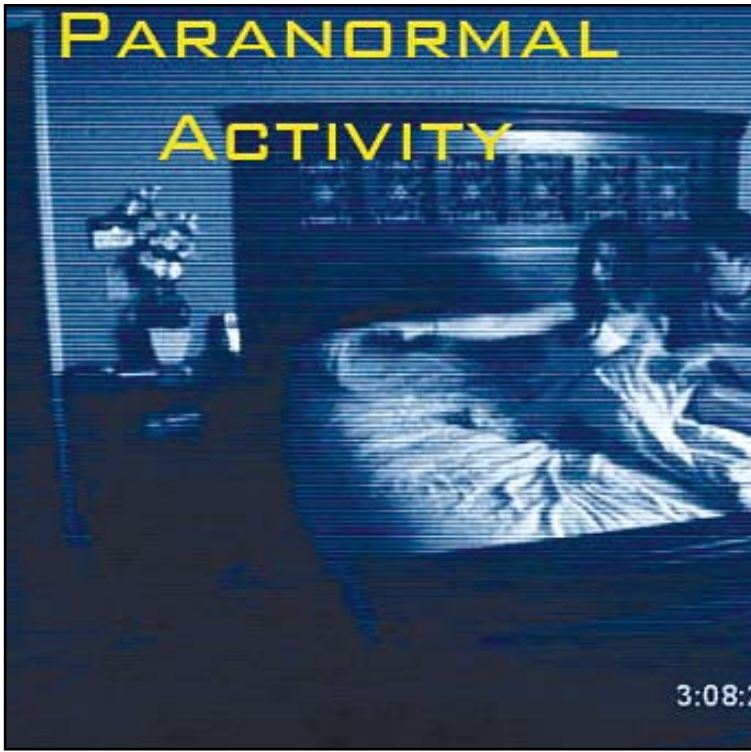
been following her since childhood, yet her husband Micah is not easily convinced.

After several nights of loud noises and strange phenomena, Micah begins to agree with Katie that some sort of malevolent spirit may have followed them to their new home.

After a paranormal researcher tells the couple he can't help them, Micah decides to take control of the situation by setting up an array of video cameras so that if a spirit manifests itself, he can capture it on tape.

Once the cameras are in place, Katie and Micah bring in an Ouija board in an effort to communicate with the spirits, which deeply offends the malevolent beings.

The movie seems to be a little slow at times, and can be quite boring as well as making you feel a little sick from the shaky camera system throughout the whole movie.



For a simple \$11,000 dollar budget, Oren Peli should be applauded for what he accomplished.

However, it is likely to disappoint viewers if they go after hearing for weeks how scary it is.

A 1963 Children's Story Book Hits the Big Screen



By Amanda Hernandez, El Rodeo Staff Writer

The film *Where the Wild Things Are*, originally a children's novel by Maurice Sendak, is set on an island where the "wild things" live. This PG movie directed by Spike Jones pulled in nearly \$33 million on its opening weekend. Max's main objective is to make all the wild things happy and to make their home a better place to live.

Even though it has a children's based storyline, 43% of the people who attended were 18 and over. Throughout the movie the storyline starts to get duller and it just seems to drag on. People wondered, "What was the whole point of this movie?" Sadly, most of your questions won't be answered about the moral.

The movie lacks consistency of entertainment and a story line; it seemed like the movie didn't intertwine with the book. Although the characters say "adorable" quotes like "Let the wild rumpus start!" and "Don't go, I'll eat you up I love you so." I wouldn't waste any money on it. The film was a waste of time and most of the people who watched found themselves falling asleep or wanting to leave.

Overall Rating: D

SPORTS

ER Cross Country Stays on Track

BY JACKIE MONTEON
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Coach Tirrell Wynn's Cross Country team currently holds a record of 7-3 for boys and 6-4 for girls and hope to place first in all levels at CIF State Championships at Fresno.

"This year's team has potential to win at CIF State Championships in Fresno because everyone wants to be the best and I see a lot of my teammates train hard. Also, I see that my teammates race really well and they can do a lot better if they train harder," said junior and varsity runner David Amador. The El Rancho Cross Country team ran throughout the whole city of Pico Rivera including streets, hills, and riverbeds to try and become a more competitive team and gain a lot of skills.

"In every practice there is no rest or easy day. Everyday you put every effort you have into the run so at the time of races you do really well. Coach Wynn always mentions to keep our gears up and know our surroundings; knowing our surroundings helps us run better and not worry about where to relax or where to start kicking," said junior and varsity runner Neydi Garcia.

According to Coach Wynn the special contributors to the team are senior and captain Daniel Herrera, juniors Juan Rodriguez, Priscilla Melendrez, and Isabel Pina. Also, the last of the special contributors is the sophomore Hillary Gutierrez. Coach Wynn mentioned that he believes that for the first time in the school's history the freshman boys have placed first in their division.

With the news that Coach Wynn would not be coaching the track team this year (because he did not complete the BTSA program) worried all of the cross country runners if he would be coaching the cross country team this year. Luckily, for the cross country team Wynn will be staying for this year. Even though Coach Wynn is frustrated about this year, the Cross Country team understands.

"In some way coach Wynn's leave will affect us, but overall it will make us even stronger with a new coach it will be a bit challenging to stabilize, but as with Wynn we will adapt and have a good run," said Neydi Garcia. Overall the team will work hard with the help of Wynn to try and win state championships at Fresno to have Wynn leave with a satisfaction that his cross country team did this all for him.

The next meet they will be having is the Cluster meet at Legg-lake at 3pm. the Cross Country team hopes for a win at the meet. They also hope to win the other meets that they are going to be competing in the future. Other meets and results will be posted on the Don page later on in the year as the season progresses.

Dons to Take on Chiefs Tonight



BY PATRICK RUBACALVA
EL RODEO STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Coming into what was expected to be a difficult game against the St. Francis Golden Knights, El Rancho held an impressive record of 3-1.

However, the Knights proved too much for the Dons, as the Dons underwent a painful defeat of 42-7.

Even with the hard loss, players such as Anthony Ayala and Ronnie Lone were able to perform well, giving the Dons hope for the next games.

The next week would be much more important than most, as it was El Rancho's Homecoming game. With their record of 3-2, El Rancho was ready to take on Pioneer at El Rancho.

With a 3-2 overall record, El Rancho was prepared to play, not

only their Homecoming game, but also the first game to count towards the Del Rio League Standings.

For this game, El Rancho played against their rival, the Pioneer Titans.

The crowd at the Homecoming game was treated to an utter decimation of Pioneer, as El Rancho was victorious with a score of 43-7.

The Don's offense combined for a stunning 505 total

yards, and thus grew to a record of 1-0 in the Del Rio League Standings, and 4-2 overall.

With momentum gained from their defeat of Pioneer, the Dons' next opponent was the Cal High Condors.

Unfortunately, the Dons came up short in this game as they lost to the Condors 35-17.

Tonight the Dons will take on the Santa Fe Chiefs here at Don Memorial Stadium.

Boys' Waterpolo Ready for League

BY SARAH VASQUEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

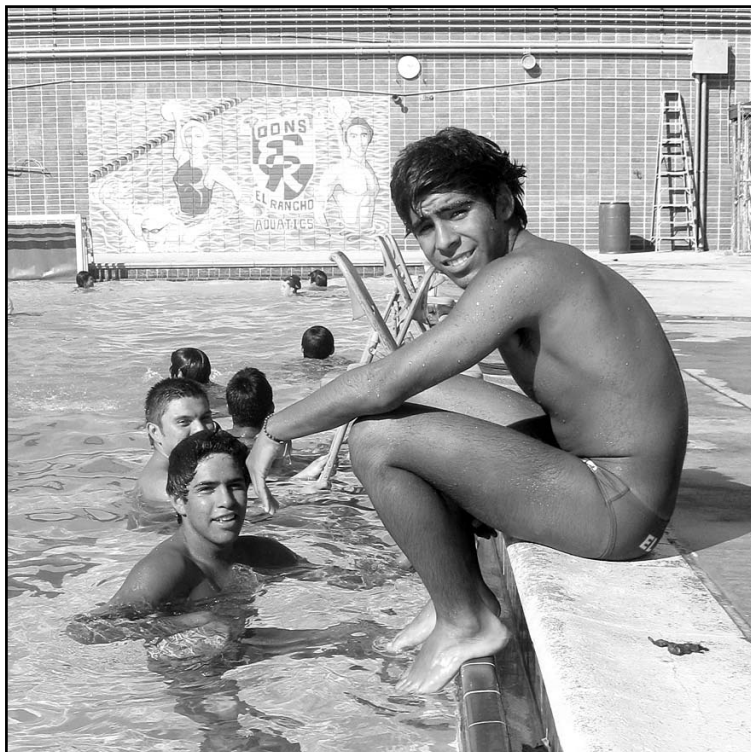
With a recent victory against the Santa Fe Chiefs the El Rancho Boys' Varsity Waterpolo team has been preparing for two of the last Hank Vellecamp Tournaments. One of which will take place today at Valencia High School, and the other, tomorrow, Saturday October 31, 2009 at Whittier High School.

The Boys' Waterpolo team prepares six days a week with an average practice time of three and a half hours a day; which does not exclude morning practices. Pringle, the Water Polo coach and advi-

sor, feels his team is prepared for the tournaments, but thinks his team should be "working smarter."

Pringle said, "It's been a tough season, but I'm proud of the seniors who stuck it out and the underclassmen who have stepped up. It's unfortunate that the choices of few can affect so many." It's obvious that this team has been through a lot, but beneath it all they still have the courage to keep moving forward.

The Boys' Waterpolo team will be playing against Palm Springs High School on Saturday October third at El Rancho, this game will determine the qualifications for CIF.



Boys' Waterpolo practicing to better themselves.

SARAH VASQUEZ



Girls' Volleyball Moving Up in League

BY DANIELA AGUILAR
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Girls' volleyball remains confident throughout the season with a 10-4 overall record and a 6-2 record league. With only two more games left until season ends, varsity coach Adelaida Picon said, "The team is confident on play," and expect to beat their upcoming opponents, Whittier High, and California High. Picon also adds that the girls should "stay focused, minimize on errors," and be able to end the season strong.

On their first game of league against Pioneer High, the team crushed them in all three matches. In their first match, they beat Pioneer with a 25-21 coming in with a "winning attitude," said senior Kazondra Ramos, captain of the varsity

team. During the second game, Pioneer caught up to El Rancho as the team began to play poorly. Ramos said they "could've done better" wanting Pioneer to have low scores finishing with a 29-27.

The team made a comeback marking their final game with a 24-15 score. Picon said, "The team needed to start strong, stay strong, and need to finish strong," after seeing a lack of teamwork.

Ramos has faith in the team and counts on the team to do their best and win their title back. Their biggest competition, La Serna High School, was the next opponent in league for the volleyball girls.

Last night, the volleyball team played against La Serna in a tight match, but unfortunately lost. Their next game is against Cal High School.

SPORTS

Flores and Ramos Reunite in Denver

By Daniela Aguilar
El Rodeo Staff Writer

Former El Rancho baseball players, Randy Flores and Cesar Ramos played against each other on September 22 in Coors Stadium in Denver, Colorado. Randy Flores plays for the Colorado Rockies as a pitcher. He graduated from El Rancho in 1994, and attended in the University of Southern California. Cesar Ramos is the pitcher for the San Diego Padres. He attended Long Beach State University and graduated from El Rancho High in 2002.

Frank Llanes, coach for the El Rancho baseball team says, "It was a beautiful game!" Llanes says the players looked bigger, older, and experienced. He never thought his former players would have played against each other. Llanes said that Flores always had the potential to be in the major league and Ramos had the tools. He also adds that Ramos was very competitive and unselfish. When Ramos made his debut against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Ramos sent his old coach a text saying, "It's a great day for The Ranch."

Assistant baseball coach, Benjamin Meza was proud to see the two left-handers he once used to coach on the field together. Like Llanes, Meza was stunned to see them pitch like they did at El



El Rancho alumni, Cesar Ramos Rancho. He says, "they still have the same delivery with better control. Ramos and Flores making it in the major league baseball prove that El Rancho is not all about good athletes, but good students as well; they are also good role models." Meza is extremely proud to play part of their career.

Flores set many pitching records during his years in college. He's also had the chance to savor the victory as World Series champions when he played for the St. Louis Cardinals in 2006.

Flores and the Rockies defeated Ramos and his teammates in the game with an 11-10 win.



El Rancho alumni, Randy Flores

Girls' Tennis Team off to a 4-5 Start

By Juan Olivares
El Rodeo Staff Writer

The Varsity Girls' Tennis team is currently at a 4-5 start in league after their victories over Cal High, Pioneer, and Santa Fe. Tennis Coach Lippstreu said, "Being at a 4-4 start places the team in third place for league."

Last Tuesday the El Rancho Girls' Tennis team went up against Santa Fe in a match in which they came out as the victor with the score being 11-7. After their victory, Junior Monique Fitchett said, "I think we are do-

ing super because we have great team work and we are strong.

Lippstreu has confidence for this season because "this is her favorite group of players, for they work together and they get along to try and succeed in league." Lippstreu also said, "The seniors have given all they have and the juniors have improved much this year."

This upcoming season the Girls' Tennis team is working hard to win as many games. They are working on different "strategies for doubles players" and different techniques to improve their performance.

The Girls' Tennis team has much confidence within themselves and the team. Junior Alexis Delgado said, "I think this season we are going to do well because we have a strong team." Delgado also agrees that the team is doing better because they are "working together."

Junior, Stephanie Gutarra, said, "This season is going to be a challenge because we are making major advancements in our techniques and La Serna should watch out." With this confidence the Girls' Tennis team can achieve anything.



Junior, Linda Galindo, taking a few swings during practice.



KRIKORIAN

8540 WHITTIER BOULEVARD

15
Premiere

THEATRES

PICO RIVERA, CA 90660

(on the corner of Whittier and Paramount Boulevards)

Student Price*: \$8.25

*with valid photo ID

www.kptmovies.com

For movies & showtimes call
(562) 205-FILM (3456)

KRIKORIAN
PREMIERE THEATRES

This Coupon is Valid For 1 (One)

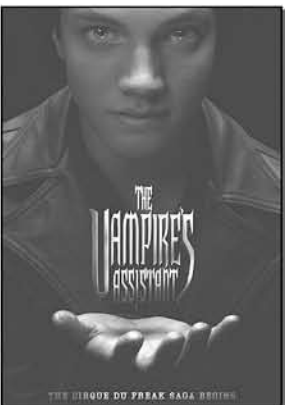
85 oz. Popcorn

Expires November 23, 2009

Redeemable only at the Krikorian Pico Rivera location

No Cash Value or Change Given

Coming Soon



Opens October 23rd



Opens November 6th



Opens November 20th



Opens November 20th

HALLOWEEN

Halloween Horror Hotspots

By Erika Morales
El Rodeo Staff Writer



Knott's Scary Farm "Haunt: All You Fear is Here."

Named as the "scariest Halloween theme park" by *Amusement Today*, Knott's Scary Farm delivers all the fear you can handle. General admission is \$53.99, and pays for thirteen horrifying mazes, seven shows, and thrilling rollercoaster's. You can score a great deal by purchasing your tickets online beforehand, and paying only \$39.99 for admission on Halloween night. There are new mazes this Halloween such as "Big Top the Bizarre," which is full of crazed carnival clowns. "Terror of London" and "Lockdown at the Asylum" are two other new mazes that "Haunt" has to offer.

There is also a new show in 3-D called "Dia De Los Muertos". If you seek the most thrilling rides and mazes, Knott's will not disappoint.

Queen Mary Shipwreck 2009

Many say The Queen Mary of Long Beach is haunted, and for \$29 you can boogie down with ghosts and ghouls, real or fake. For only \$11 more, you can have a V.I.P. ticket that will give you privileges be at the front of the lines to all the attractions on the ship. There are five mazes; "Vampire Village," "The Graveyard," "Isolation Ward," "Blackbeard's Revenge," and "Paranoia's House of Horror". There will be a Dance Party with guest celebrity hosts, d.j.'s, and a live band. Along with the scares you can enjoy the make-up artists, tarot card readers, psychics, and a food court to keep the fun going all night long.



SPOOKY WORD SEARCH

D	Z	W	Y	J	G	V	A	M	P	I	R	E	S	K	T
A	L	O	D	B	H	R	S	T	N	Y	O	X	W	G	R
Z	V	L	K	F	O	L	A	C	Q	J	S	G	I	U	I
E	S	V	Q	R	S	H	V	V	A	T	K	N	T	N	C
C	R	E	N	B	T	U	E	A	E	R	E	S	C	Q	K
O	E	S	I	L	S	D	L	L	M	S	L	M	H	Z	O
S	T	S	E	A	A	W	S	E	U	P	E	A	E	W	R
T	S	P	T	C	X	B	L	O	O	D	T	E	S	O	T
U	N	I	S	K	F	B	H	Q	D	T	O	R	S	R	R
M	O	D	N	C	U	D	Y	B	T	P	N	C	E	C	E
E	M	E	E	A	E	I	V	D	K	U	S	S	I	E	A
S	Y	R	K	T	N	Q	W	B	J	M	P	K	B	R	T
R	D	S	N	G	H	O	U	L	S	P	C	O	M	A	R
X	N	U	A	B	A	C	T	V	C	K	M	H	O	C	J
Q	A	Z	R	F	S	G	O	B	L	I	N	S	Z	S	P
H	C	T	F	U	L	L	M	O	O	N	S	T	A	B	H

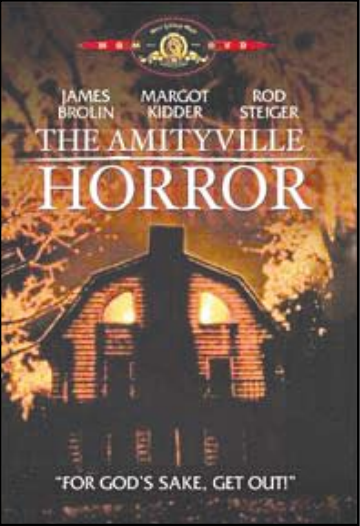
BATS	GHOSTS	SKELETONS	SCARECROW
BLACK CAT	GHOULS	SPIDERS	ZOMBIES
BLOO	GOBLINS	SCREAMS	FULL MOON
CANDY	GRAVES	TRICK-OR-TREAT	PUMPKIN
COSTUMES	HAUNTED HOUSE	VAMPIRES	WOLVES
FRANKENSTEIN	MONSTERS	WITCHES	

Five Freaky Films for a Friday Fright Fest

By Alyssa Mendoza
El Rodeo Staff Writer

The Exorcist

With creepy make-up and terrifying scenes, Linda Blair is guaranteed to haunt your dreams. Many people now a day's aren't that religious but they still believe in a heaven and hell, devils and angels etc. Watching this movie captures the natural human fear of being controlled by an unknown being that can make you do things that are horrible beyond imagination. I personally love this movie; it always seems to scare me. In my opinion, If you are a person who loves to get scared (like myself) or you're a guy who wants to get that one special girl scared so she gets closer to you, then *The Exorcist* is right for you. I do have to warn those who are weak of heart or are squeamish because of the simple fact that her head spins in a freaky manner!



Paranormal Activity

Everyone around the country was amped about the release of *Paranormal Activity* and to tell the truth I was too. After watching that film I only had 3 words to say; Oh My Jesus! When I got home I couldn't fall asleep until 2:30am! That's how scared it left me. What you see in this film is pretty freaky considering the fact that a Ouija board lights on fire and Katie (girlfriend in the movie) gets dragged off in the middle of the night. I would say that's enough to traumatize the whole USA and maybe 15 other countries. As I was sitting with my cousin throughout the duration of the film, I kept screaming and jumping out of my seat. She didn't even know what was going on because she was hiding behind my shoulder, covering her ears. This movie is guaranteed to give you nightmares; making it the definite must see film of the YEAR!

A Nightmare on Elm Street

One, two, Freddy's coming for you, Three, Four better lock your door, Five, Six, get a crucifix, Seven, Eight, better stay awake, Nine, Ten, never sleep again. What's the downside to getting a good night's sleep? Getting haunted, tortured and murdered by the disfigured, evil, and sinister man named Freddy Kruger! I love sleeping and JUST seeing this movie made me want to re-think the whole sleeping thing. Freddy Kruger is one of those Horror movie characters that have a demented way of tormenting his victims. He can be evil and hurt you but he does it with a sick humor. To make things worse besides being a killer, he does it when you are asleep---in your dreams! I think that if you have not yet seen the movie, go and rent it at a Hollywood Video or Blockbuster and watch it. This is the perfect movie to scare you before bed.

Halloween

What do you get when you put a big knife and a psychotic,

tall, dirty looking man? Michael Myers. After I saw this movie I swear that I thought he was going to walk into my room and cut my head off. Unlike Freddy Kruger, Michael Myers, doesn't talk and doesn't waste time torturing his victims, he gets to the point (no pun intended). He is a slow walking, hard breathing, mask-wearing murderer who doesn't care who or what is in his way between him and his next victim. If you were to find yourself in front of Michael then you can be sure that you'll be seeing a white light soon. I find him interesting in the way that he manages to still inflict so much pain but also make the person's death very quick. October 31st is a definite choice for a night at home with the lights out to watch this movie.

The Amityville Horror

This is a classic horror movie from the 1970s. This film is freaky in a couple of ways. For one it is based on a true story that happened November 13, 1974. A



young man kills all 6 of his family members which consist of his mother, father, 2 sisters, and 2 brothers. He claims that voices in his head told him to murder his family. This movie is based on a new family (the Lutz) who moves into the house after the murders. They begin to experience paranormal things, well actually the same things the previous owners (the DeFeos) experienced before they went 6 feet under. Rumor has it that the house was built over a burial ground where many enslaved Indians were, tortured and killed brutally so that might explain the unusual things. During the time the family is there the father figure is the one who begins to become possessed and is close to killing the family. The only difference is that this family was able to leave the haunted house and avoid the same tragic ending of the DeFeos. This is a pretty scary movie and it is creepy. You can see either the Original film from 1979 or the newer one from 2005.

