



El Rodeo



El Rancho High School - Volume 58 - Issue 8
www.erusd.k12.ca.us/elrancho

Budget Crisis and Potential Layoffs Discussed at Meeting



BY REBECCA GALLEGOS
& JOSE REYES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITERS

On April 15 parents, students and faculty assembled at North Park Middle School's cafeteria to discuss El Rancho's Academic Decathlon Team's success, and next year's budget.

"[Nearly four million] dollars needs to be cut from next year's budget," said Ms. Carreon.

If the appropriate cuts are not made from the budget, then the El Rancho Unified School District will have to lay off more teachers.

Teachers and their supporters protested outside North Park Middle School before the meeting. Teachers also went to the meeting dressed in red to show their solidarity and to "put a face" to the teachers who may be losing their jobs.

Attendance was another issue discussed at the meeting.

"Money is lost due to poor attendance," said Carreon, and this affects the budget.

"The district and community should get more serious about the attendance issue," said Mr. McMullen. "The district should work with the community, with the parents to improve attendance. We lose a lot of money because of attendance; literally millions because students do not come to school."

"The district actually has good attendance, 96%, which is higher than the state average," said McMullen. "Nevertheless, there are still 4% of students that may be out for tons of different reasons."

Grants were given to the district. "The grants deal with school safety and disaster preparation," said Carreon. "The district received these grants from the federal government allocating a certain amount of money to put these programs into place." Disaster safety, evacuation, responsibilities each school has, and what teachers and administrators must do under severe situations will also be a part of this grant.

"The different unions: the administrative union, the teacher's union and the classified union, are all working together to try to meet this budget cut and save jobs."

I hope this situation can be resolved," said Carreon. "We don't want people to lose their jobs."

Fifth Annual Project Fair a Huge Success

BY REBECCA GALLEGOS
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Last night, El Rancho High School held its annual Project Fair to show incoming freshman what El Rancho is all about.

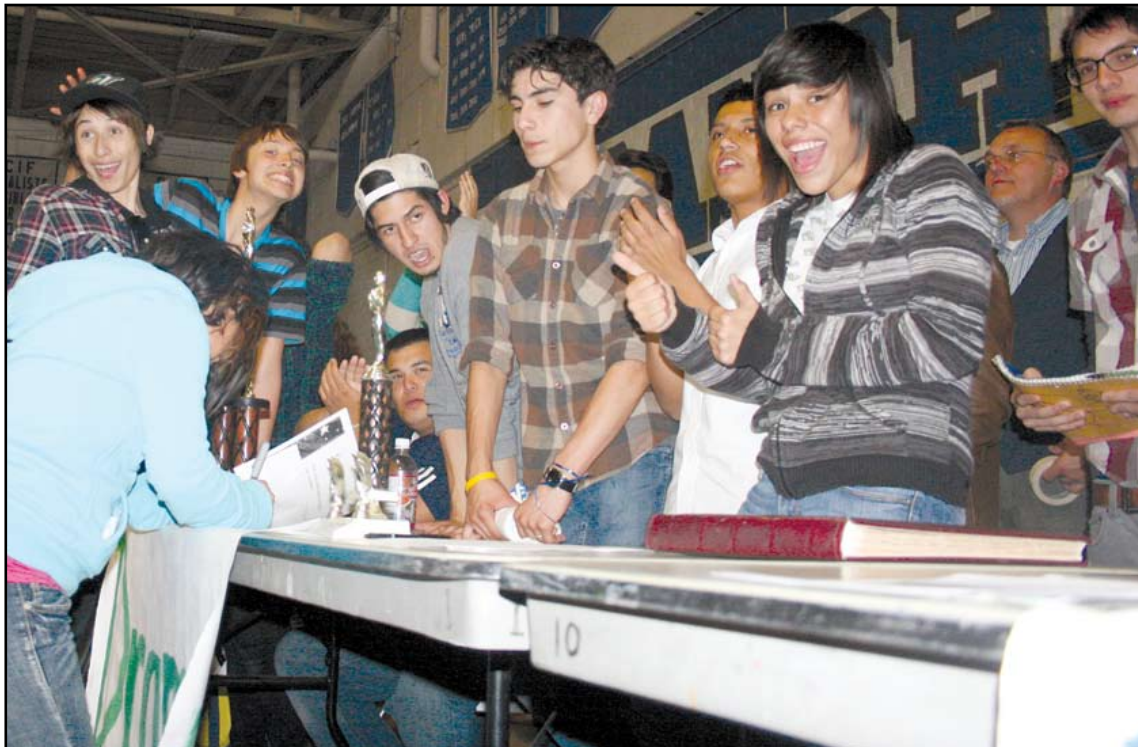
Incoming freshman along with their parents gathered in the gym for a slide show of photos taken throughout this year to allow them to see what events take place at El Rancho. After, they went into the new gym to see what extra curricular activities are available at El Rancho.

LinkCrew was also at Project Fair offering "School Spirited Face Painting" and trying to make the incoming freshman feel welcome.

"We want to get the freshman more comfortable and associated with the school," said Link Crew leader Jose Burgos.

"So when they come in, they already know certain things about El Rancho, and know that they can count on us, their Link Leaders, to help them through this transition," said Burgos.

"Project Fair gives incoming freshmen a sneak peek into some of the programs that we offer," says Mr. Rodriguez. "It gives them a chance to see clubs, sports, and activities that are open to them for next year and allows them to get information about starting at El Rancho."



El Rancho's actors eagerly encourage incoming freshmen to sign up for next year's drama program.

There were many clubs who took part in Project Fair, one of them being the Drama program. "We want to make the incoming students aware of the various extra curricular activities that are available to them at the high school and we want to make sure that they know we have a Drama program that is alive and well here on campus," said Mr. Wlasick.

Project Fair is not as simple as it looks. "It takes a lot to put together Project Fair," says

Jonathan Jimenez. "It takes a lot of organization, and talking to people. We have to know what people are doing certain events and making sure people are taking part in their job and giving information to the incoming freshman. We basically show them what El Rancho has to offer."

"Since my sisters already attend El Rancho, I have a vague idea of what the school is like," said incoming freshman, Victoria Torres. "I really wanted to learn

more about the art program at El Rancho; and I feel that I really got to see what the students here learn from the art teachers and the different types of art that are taught."

"Project Fair is a great opportunity to get to learn about El Rancho High School and to get involved and learn about sports, get to meet the teachers and it is about student and parent involvement; this is where it starts." Concluded Mrs. Cruz, the incoming freshmen's counselor.

Gadabouts Return from European Journey

BY BRIANNA MORALES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Forty-eight members of El Rancho High School's Gadabout Club returned from a European journey through Italy and France.

Led by Mr. and Mrs. Zeko, this is the club's fourth European trip and their second trip with tour director, Franziska Deddner.

"Traveling with the Zekos was great. They know their things, and they know what to expect," said Ms. Oase.

Venturing from the Tuscan region of Italy to the French Rivera and eventually to Paris, the Gadabouts all agreed that the trip was beautiful.

"In Venice everything looks like a postcard," said junior, Alexis Delgado. Stephanie Cazales, a junior as well, also acknowledged the beauty of the trip. "My favorite part of the trip was Florence; it's beautiful."

Along with aesthetic beauty of their European journey, the Gadabouts encountered currency exchange rate issues.

"The only thing that was a problem was the exchange rates. The commission rates at the airports were outrageous—nearly 18%. After exchanging 300 dollars, I only got about 150 euros, and I went to another exchange place



Forty-eight gadabouts pose together in Florence, Italy.

and I changed 200 dollars for 130 euros, said senior, Jacob Barrera.

Adding the issues encountered during the trip, the TGV train, which would have gotten the travelers from the French Rivera to Paris in a matter of five hours, was not running due to a strike, so a twelve hour bus ride was implemented at the very last minute.

"I had to recall every single bus company and restaurant. So, basically, I was on the phone for three hours at the train station," Deddner continued, "It's part of traveling in Europe."

Having traveled EF (Education First), the students feel as if they have been prepared for

independent travel in the future.

"Independently, you're more prone to do whatever you want; you're more prone to excursion, while the EF tour provides structure. Because we're so young, it needs to be structured because we don't know how to travel independently yet. EF is a great stepping stone to travel as independent travelers," Barrera said.

Having experienced new cultures, the Gadabouts discovered the benefits of traveling.

"The biggest benefit of traveling is experiencing the new cultures and taking everything in, and being able to see how other people live, which is completely different

from over here," said Delgado.

With six years of experience as a tour guide, Deddner also sees the benefits of traveling.

"It's a benefit sharing our culture and getting different cultures closer together because that's one problem of our world; people don't know each other and don't know each other's traditions and cultures, and that's why they don't understand each other." Deddner continued, "People change people."

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NEWS

Volunteers Lend a Hand at Annual Pride Day

GUILLIANA BRAVO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Volunteers came together on Saturday April 17th to participate in Smith Park's 12th annual Community Pride Day.

Various parents and students signed up at 8:00 am to clean the community and helping Pico Rivera improve. "I felt I was positively contributing to the community and helping Pico Rivera shine brighter," said junior, Kimberly Sanchez.

The city provided blue t-shirts and breakfast for all volunteers. They had the option of eating a slice of blueberry bread, muffins, and cinnamon rolls. They also had apple juice, orange, and milk for beverages.

The event was organized in sections of the park and other local areas. Volunteers were held responsible for signing up in any section of their choice. Each section had an adviser, who provided the group with gardening tools and other supplies such as gloves and rakes.

Volunteers ranked leaves, swept, gardened and removed graffiti. One of the organizers drove around the park, passing out water bottles. "Most people were working hard on the community," said Maria Colindes. "Most people working hard on the commu-



nity garden and were all sweating because of their hard work," said volunteer, Maria Colindes.

Many groups finished cleaning their section around 11:00 am and waited for lunch at 12:00 pm.

For lunch, volunteers received a choice of three different kinds of subway sandwiches, along with chips, soda, and a cookie.

During lunch, the city raffled a shirt, boxing gloves, and

boxing headgear, signed by celebrity guest speaker and boxer champion, Alfonso S. Gomez. After the event was over, volunteers had the opportunity to get an autograph and photograph with the boxer.

Volunteers left home proud knowing they helped better their community. Junior Monique Fitchett said, "I felt union with Mother Nature and it's an experience I would do it over again."



Decathletes Recognized for Outstanding Achievements

BY CHRISTINA PEREZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

On Thursday April 15, El Rancho's Decathlon was recognized for their outstanding achievements in State Competition during the district's monthly board meeting in North Park's cafeteria.

At the beginning of the meeting, Principal Genis introduced Gerry Goyenaga, one of the members of Decathlon, so he could recite his speech from the speech contest. He will continue to succeed in his academics by studying at the University of California, Santa Barbara where he will pursue psychology as a major.

Another decathlete that presented her speech was Senior Angeli Vicente who received gold in interview and silver in essay. "I want to major

in cell, molecular, and developmental biology at the University of California, Los Angeles."

"I was debating on Cal State Fullerton, Cal State Long Beach, and UC Irvine, but I decided I am going to go to Cal State Long Beach," said Sabina Rangel who will major in Nursing.

Each member was given a plaque from El Rancho's School District Board of Education detailing his or her outstanding accomplishment in placing fourth overall in Los Angeles County.

After Tate Harshbarger was given his plaque, Principal Genis announced his acceptance of all the colleges he had applied to. In the fall, Tate will be attending Yale University.

Oscar Vasquez will be at the University of California, Santa Cruz for his

freshmen year of college.

Fellow Decathletes, Albert Alvarez and Walter Quintanilla will be moving east with Alvarez attending University of Pennsylvania and Quintanilla attending the University of Chicago.

Bryan Vargas, an alternate of the team, plans to run for cross-country at Mount SAC Community College.

The decathlon's captain Amy Micheo is still undecided of what major she will be pursuing. She is still deciding on what to school to attend. Her decision is between between Yale and Duke University.

Each decathlete was recognized for all their diligent work and success in the state competition. They are also being congratulated for leaving an excellent legacy for El Rancho's Decathlon.

Community Celebrates Earth Day

NATALIE RANGEL
EL RANCHO STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, April 24th, the City of Pico Rivera and Krikorian Premiere Theatres sponsored Pico Rivera's Earth Day 2010. The event began at 10 a.m. and continued until 2 p.m. with lots of family fun and recycling presentations in between.

The event sponsors were Krikorian Theatres, CalMet Services, Whittier Fertilizer Company, Whittier Feed Co., Nationwide Environmental Services, Southern California Edison, American Cancer Society, SEAACA (Southeast Area Animal Control Authority), Lowes, Energy Star, E-Waste California, Central Basin Municipal Water District and El Rancho's own Green Team.

City of Pico Rivera Committee Member, Raymond Chavez, pieced together the event in hopes of educating people in the importance of keeping the earth clean with the help of the Eagles EcoFriends, students at Rivera Middle School.

The theme for this year's Earth Day was oceans, in relation to Disney's upcoming motion picture: Oceans. Keeping the idea of oceans in mind, children (and adults) were encouraged to build their own sand castles and compete in the Sandcastle building contest. Winners won prizes provided by Krikorian Theatres. A coloring contest was also held by Krikorian.

A noncompetitive activity provided was pottery paint-

ing, where anyone could paint their own pot and plant a few seeds to help spread the green. Globe painting, where children could color a world of their own with markers on coffee filters and watch the colors spread with just a spray of a water bottle, was an additional activity available.

El Rancho's Green Team's own activity was certainly unique. Eager participants were placed in front of a green screen and starred in their own film. But what seemed to catch most eyes was SEAACA's booth; puppies were presented in hopes that they would find a good home on Earth Day.

Many of the sponsors gave away free items such as booklets, coloring books, pens, lollipops, energy efficient light bulbs, samples of eco-friendly products and flower seeds. Overall Pico Rivera's Earth Day 2010 was successful as well as beneficial.



OPINION

Generation Y: Elite or Dead Last?

BY AMANDA HERNANDEZ
& NATALIE RANGEL
EL RODEO STAFF MEMBER

“OMG,” “LOL,” and “BTW.” Sound familiar? Those are some of the abbreviations our generation uses everyday. Our generation, Generation Y, is the most technologically advanced generation thus far but it is also the most narcissistic. We prefer to communicate through e-mail or text messaging than we do talking in person. Though cell phones were created as a means to talk to one another, many Generation Y-ers find that they use up more of their texts than their minutes.

Now-a-days, teens prefer to “Tweet” about themselves or update their Myspace and Facebook profiles with things they did that day or new things they like.

We seem to be worrying more about our social lives over anything else, putting off the concept of *growing up*. Our generation would rather “hang out” and socialize than pick up a math book and study.

We enjoy turning any conversation onto ourselves, turning any little discussion into an Arm’s Race, so to speak. For example, when a friend says they acquired a new cell phone, one might be prone to flaunt their own phone, one with “better features.”

Loss of common verbal communication, Generation Y,



though tech savvy, is also being known as the dumbest generation yet. With the loss of an extensive vocabulary many would have had during Shakespeare’s time, our generation is finding it difficult to understand words that many in Generation X would consider *elementary*.

Slang is replacing the words they actually stand for in our vocabularies. With this transaction, our ability to produce an academic paper or enter the

workplace is becoming very difficult. If we cannot sound sophisticated, how do we plan on gaining a good and stable career we are more than capable of gaining?

Despite all this, Generation Y is recognized as the most optimistic and determined. Even with the economic crisis that is affecting the parents of Generation Y, we still try to find ways to have a good time and forget about this watered down Depression. We enjoy to party; let loose

and just enjoy life, instead of focusing on all the negative things that are bound to come up in life.

Most teens will be self-centered no matter what and with Myspace, Twitter, Facebook and any other website that allows us to talk about our personal and social lives. It may sound more obnoxious than it seems, but really think about it. How many of you tweet about what you’re doing every hour, or update your status on a daily basis? *

Some Students Oppose Testing Schedule

BY PATRICK RUBALCAVA
EL RODEO STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Times are great. The students embrace their tests, as they know that an early exit is coming due to their modified day. There are still only four periods a trimester, and most do not even know what a tutorial is. On top of that, seniors do not need to come to school while the tests are being taken! The time I have just described is the CST testing of last year.

However, the CST testing schedule of this year is marred with troubles and inconveniences. Modified days are the first casualty, as our new schedule will not accommodate them.

Additionally, seniors are now required to attend school during the testing, while some teachers have taken to assigning projects to the poor souls!

Is this what we have to look forward to senior year? Working pessimistically on a meaningless project while we watch our peers testing on a non-modified day?

While speaking of the testing schedule itself, one student reflected, “it’s so confusing – evens on one day, odds on another day...” I cannot help but agree.

We have a flipping schedule with skipping in between. I can imagine many students showing

EL RANCHO HIGH SCHOOL TESTING BELL SCHEDULE May 3 rd - 20 th					
Mon Odd	Tues Even	Wed Odd	Thurs Even	Friday Schedule 1	
Per 0	Per 0	Per 0	Per 0	7:00 - 7:50	Per 0 7:00 - 7:50
Per 1	Per 2	Per 1	Per 2	7:55 - 9:55	Tchr Collab 7:55 - 8:45
Nutrition	Nutrition	Nutrition	Nutrition	9:55 - 10:05	Per 1 8:50 - 9:40
Per 3	Per 4	Per 3	Per 4	10:11 - 12:11	Per 2 9:46 - 10:36
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	12:11 - 12:51	Per 3 10:42 - 11:32
Per 5	Per 6	Per 5	Per 6	12:57 - 2:57	Per 4 11:38 - 12:28
					Lunch 12:28 - 1:08
					Per 5 1:14 - 2:04
					Per 6 2:10 - 3:00

up to a second period they were supposed to have skipped, and then quickly rushing to third period, already tardy. This has potential to occur three times a day, each day of testing.

Perhaps the most perilous aspect of the new CST schedule, and I am quite sure each AP student knows this well, is its occurrence being at the same time as the AP tests.

Before taking these important AP tests, which may

save us from spending time and money in college taking that respective course, we must take these CSTs.

And if I know the average hard-working AP student, it would be safe to assume that student had stayed up about three nights prior studying diligently for that AP test.

These late nights mixed in with the arduous CST testing can only produce an exhausted student. And yet, these students are still

expected to do themselves well on their AP tests, while earning their school a high score and better funding on the CST?

Yes, I am quite convinced. This new testing schedule is not only inferior to last year’s, but can also prove quite tiring for the well-to-do student.

It is, after all, quite difficult to be well-to-do when threatened with bad test scores and sleep deprivation.

El Rodeo



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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.

FEATURES

New Country, Old Traditions



BY ARLETTE LOPEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Ants, flies, bugs, ah-hhh! Kiran has a fear of bugs. Kiran Kaur is not your average girl; she was born in the United Arab Emirates, U.A.E in Dubai. “It is so beau-

tiful, and has pretty beaches, and it’s so famous. It is like a New York of India,” says Kaur. Kiran is an only child and has no pets. “I would like to have a dog but my mom won’t let me,” she said. When Kiran was five she came to the United States on va-

cation, and her parents decided to stay permanently. Her mother enrolled Karanjeet in kindergarten in February, but to graduate she had to learn the English language. By June, she knew English perfectly, although she speaks mostly Punjabi at home, and at school she sometimes uses Span-

ish words. Kiran said that when her mother first enrolled her in school in the U.S., the lady in the front office spelled her name incorrectly and changed it to Karanjeet. “My name is spelled ‘Kiran’ and it’s pronounced differently than how it’s on the list. I prefer to be called Karen.” She added. An arranged marriage is planned for Kiran. She said, “I get the right to say my decision.” Her parents talk or meet with other parents, and if Kiran’s parents are interested in him, they arrange a day to meet. “The entire family gets to meet me and I wear an Indian dress and have to impress the parents by bringing the appetizers,” said Kiran. “I’m scared of having this arranged marriage, but I have to live with it because it’s my culture.” In 2006 Kiran went to visit her native country. “India is very different from the U.S., it has a different lifestyle,” said Kiran. “Dubai is beautiful but what I dislike about it was that the electricity went out at least three times a day; I never had the chance to see my novellas,” she concluded.

Crispin Lights up the Scene



BY ERIKA MORALES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Bright neon swerves, and slashes of color have been portrayed beautifully on canvas, but these days Andrew Crispin uses a new media to make the same art. Light shows have become a growing addition to the rave scene. Only a year ago was Crispin introduced to this new art form.

Light shows are given in the dark with glow sticks, or LED finger lights. The deliverer uses a mix of colored lights to make waves and patterns in the darkness in front of a recipient. Although some associate this with drugs, the artist can choose to use these lights as a way to perform. Crispin says he inspires his recipient’s imagination. One way he can describe it as “taking them to another world.” As with any other form of sport, light show artists hold competitions and practice to get better. Team Vivid is the group in which “Big Crispin” performs. The leader of the team, “Yoshi,” has gained fame with others on the rave scene. Their website, www.vivid-plur.com, has all the information on their team and the things they do. Crispin looks up to Yoshi as an inspiration for what he can achieve with enough creativity and skill. Crispin feels a sense of accomplishment in being a well-known light artist in Pico Rivera. His work can be viewed on www.youtube.com/kittieplur.

The videos show complex patterns being made by both Crispin, and other members of his team. It is evident that creativity is key to having a great light show, as well as timing. The music adds another element to the performance. The music is the glue that holds the show together. There is a rythm to the movement in the lights, which complements the beat. The sight is truly mind-blowing to the recipient. From canvases to the dark night, art has taken color to a new world with the light show artist. Crispin plans to keep practicing and learning new ways in which to turn simple L.E.D. lights into an art tool.

New State, New School, New York Boy

BY MARI DUENAS
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

You’re walking through 42nd street, bright lights near enough to catch your eyes, commercials, nightclubs, and more than 3 million people with different ethnicities walking around you. It’s called Manhattan, New York. Carlos Castro, a senior at El Rancho, lived near this incredible city for eight years. Castro is a Columbian boy who moved to New York and has visited interesting places all over the world; traveling has been a big part of his life. “I have traveled to Miami, Florida, Washington, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Argentina, and Israel,” he said. More than a month and a half ago, Castro moved to California to live with his mother, leaving behind Susan E. Wagner High School, many friends, great hobbies, and a baby brother whom he adores.

Castro misses some things about New York, but is content with making a living in the state of California. “I can’t say I like it here yet because it’s a short amount of time that I’ve been here, but it’s a different world,” said Castro.

A good result he found with this move is the weather here in California, because compared to New York, “this feels like summer,” he said. Some of the hobbies that Castro had back at New York were playing football and baseball, and was a DJ for parties and clubs. He called himself “DJ C”



and says he was pretty known because he played all types of music. “My hobbies here at California now are parties, working out, and listening to music,” said Castro. He has enjoyed meeting all kinds of new people from California and has also enjoyed visiting Hollywood, nightclubs and the beaches.

Here at El Rancho, Castro joined the ROTC program because he was in the program for four years back at New York. “I was also in the New York Police Department for three years,” he said. Castro’s plan after high school graduation is to go to the Air Force and get an education there for four years. “After

I get my education, I will join the Police Department,” he said. Some great things to do in New York that Castro recommends to all Californians is to visit entire Manhattan, get in the ferry (a large boat that takes you to see the statue of liberty), go to “Copacabana Club,” Central Park, and to visit the World Trade Center.

FEATURES

The “O” You Don’t Know

BY JOSELYN GONZALEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

An ordinary teacher here at El Rancho has lunch with other teachers, grades tons of papers, or might even ‘Tweet’ on his/her phone.

Mr. Orihuela, also known as Mr.O, is a chemistry teacher who instead of being inside his chemistry classroom/lab, maintains an active life. Orihuela turns 40 minutes of lunch into a 40-minute active workout.

“During my lunch I play soccer and basketball, on alternate days, along with Mr. Francisco, Elliot, Rojo, McMullen, Wright and Brandt,” Orihuela said.

Mr. Orihuela’s prep period means “Running Time”. He runs around the track for about 20 minutes.

“I run because it reduces my stress and it helps me keep a clear mind for my students,” he said. Orihuela’s exercising routine started back in the school year of 2006.

“One day my lessons did not go how I expected, so I went for a run to clear my mind. After a few days Mr. Romero invited me to play soccer with a group of teachers,” Mr. Orihuela said. Up to this day they still play soccer during lunch.

Maintaining fit and active outside of Mr. Orihuela’s classroom gives him a different perspective from his students.



“Other than getting fit students’ different situations. I can also relate to them by seeing them in P.E class or during lunch and relating with them other than in my classroom,” Orihuela said.

El Rancho’s Ivy League Students

BY ALYSSA MENDOZA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

When one thinks of any Ivy League school such as Brown, Yale, Columbia, Harvard etc., he or she thinks of the immense size and prestige of the school itself. One may start doubting his or herself when they have the mere thought of applying to such schools.

Getting an education at a four-year university or any other type of college is beneficial to many.

One gains the opportunity to meet new people, have new adventures, and most importantly, you begin to create your own path in life.

More and more students are finding the excitement of attending a four-year university. Plenty of students have been accepted into schools many have only dreamed of attending.

Amy Micheo, Tate Harshbarger, Walter Quintanilla, Angeli Vicente, Michelle Luna, Mayra Gradilla, and Jacob Barrera are some of the few who have been accepted into these prestigious schools. Students now are taking a risk in applying to big name schools.

Tate Harshbarger has been accepted into many schools. “I



got into schools like UCLA, UC Berkley, but I am planning on attending Yale.” said Harsh-

barger, “I just applied [to Yale] not really thinking I was going to get in and when I found out,

I was really excited, it was very unreal for a couple of days.”

Another Yale acceptee is Amy Micheo. “I was stoked!” Said Micheo when she found out she had been accepted into the university, “I ran out of my room screaming when I got the letter.”

Education is a very important key to success in life, although continuing an education isn’t for everyone. Some students are raised around the fact that they “MUST” go to college and that they “MUST” get some sort of degree to be successful.

But what about those students who don’t have an educational future?

“Attending a university isn’t for everyone because if everyone gets a degree then my degree wouldn’t really matter so it would kind of be like inflation,” joked Walter Quintanilla, “it’s like the more money in the economy the less value it has.”

Michelle Luna, who was accepted into Norte Dame University, expressed her view on college, “Choose a university based on your interest and definitely visit.

If you don’t see yourself there, don’t go. It’s not about the name of the school, its about how you feel.”

Tackling the L.A. Marathon



BY ABEL MARTINEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

On March 21st, the 2010 LA Marathon was held. The trek began at Dodger Stadium and ended at the Santa Monica beach. Contestants of all ages participated, and thousands lined the trail to witness this most amazing event, which occurs once every year.

Making her debut in the marathon this year was sophomore Kimberly Hernandez, who, as a true first-timer, completed the race in a little over 7 hours. “It was scary,” says Kimberly. “I was really nervous that I wasn’t going to finish.”

In the early stages of the race, Kimberly encountered some rather eccentric things. “During the race, there were people dressed up as Elvis and others were dressed up in various costumes. There was even a man in crutches doing it. A thing that really shocked me was seeing a 7-year-old boy running.”

The sport of running is not anything new for Kimberly. “I’ve been running since 3rd grade, and I’ve always wanted to run the LA Marathon. What made me want to run it even more was that it was a new course.” Also no stranger to running is Kimberly’s aunt, who joined the race with her. “She’s been running since she was in high school,” says Kimberly.

The marathon covered over 26 miles and the physicality of the race eventually took its toll on young Kimberly. “By mile 13 or 14, my knee completely gave out on me and I had to put a patch on it. My feet were throbbing and it was just the worse pain ever.” Despite all of this, Kimberly continued to persevere.

“I wanted to stop, but what pushed me was to be able to say that I finished the LA Marathon. And since I was the youngest one in my family to do it, I wanted to prove to myself that I could do it.”

One would think that after experiencing the marathon’s physical toll firsthand that Kimberly would not want to take part in it again. Well, that is not the case at all for she is ready to train for the next one. “This year, it was more about just finishing the race. Next year, it’s going to be about getting a much better time.”

CAMPUS

This Year's ASB Results Are:

Chief Justice
Gabrielle Penarando



ASB President
Nash Rivas



ASB Vice President
Nereyda Garcia



Secretary
Alyssa Nunez



Pep Commisioner
Amanda Roblero



Activities Commisioner
Edward Acuna



Athletic Commisioner
Eric Rivera Boys



Girls Athletic
Commisioner
Karol Pereira



Top: Academic Affairs Commision
Alyssa Salazar
Assemblies Commisioner
Alexa Romero
Bottom: Publicity Commisioner
Victoria Herrera



Jesus Rivera's Art Displayed in Washington

By ARACELI CABRAL
AND GUILLIANA BRAVO

Chalk drawing competitions, drug free posters, and competing in art contests. Senior, Jesus Rivera, continues being a fierce competitor, recently placing first in the Congressional Art contest.

On Saturday April 24, the 38th annual district Congressional Art Contest, held in Fox Theater in Pomona, recognized Rivera and his art piece, "Dreams of War." Rivera decided to draw the piece after an inspirational picture he saw of the Vietnam and Iraq War.

His advanced art teacher, Mr. De La Loza, said, "I'm very proud especially because he's not only highly talented but he is also an outstanding student and a great role model for his peers."

Rivera will be honored and have a paid trip to Washington D.C. including to extra tickets, for his mom and sister. His stencil art will be displayed



in the U.S. for an entire year. "I'm excited because it's the first time I'm going to D.C. and is my first huge recognition," says Rivera.

He is thrilled to go to Washington D.C. in June and have his art viewed by thousands.

"In addition to being very talented and intelligent,

he's also an outstanding individual who takes time to help his friends," said Mr. De La Loza. "If Jesus decides to continue studying art, I see

him becoming very successful. However, I also think that regardless of any career he takes, he shouldn't have any problems," De La Loza added.

SPORTS

Building Bonds Through Bases and Bats

BY NAOMI ORTEGA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Various fields, new equipment, and different leagues—the girls on El Rancho's varsity softball team have been through it all while staying together as a team.

Varsity softball is filled with girls who have been playing together since they were batting in the little leagues.

The first group of girls who have been teammates for the past ten years are juniors Monica Flores, Stefani Gonzales, Samantha Zamorano, and Katie Caraballo, sophomores Katherine Flores and Samantha Alvarez, and freshmen Brianna Ramos.

The girls first began playing in the Bobby Sox League at Rio Vista Park.

"Being a freshman I didn't know most of the people so coming here and seeing all the familiar faces was nice," said Ramos.

Coming to practice isn't something the girls dread, having teammates they have already become comfortable with gives their practice a "homey" feel to it. "We're really comfortable together as a team, we're like sisters," said Zamorano.

The bond these girls have created has been beneficial to them on the field.

"We have been playing for so long I know if I



Varsity softball team poses together before a game. They have been playing together most of their lives.

mess up they'll pick me up. They know my strengths and weaknesses," said Gonzales.

According to the girls criticism is much easier to take when it is coming from someone who you know is only saying it in your best interest.

Like sisters, these varsity teammates can also get to a few brawls. The girls all unanimously

agreed that a frequent "fire starter" in the team is attitude. They also quoted Coach Flores in saying they do not like "Debbie Downers."

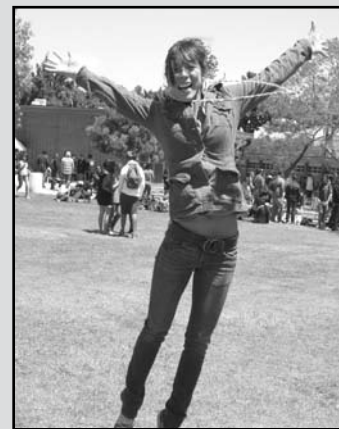
"Even though we fight and we get angry, we manage to patch it up, pat each other on the back, and say its okay by the end of the day," said Flores

A family bond has also been built between seniors Karla Perei-

ra and Ashley Olivas. "I came to know Ashley better which makes things so much more fun," said Pereira. The duo has been playing together in recreational and travel ball since they were eight years old.

"Since they have such a history, the commoradory they have is incredible; they are very helpful with each other," said Coach Flores.

Pedregon Tackles Academics and Sports



BY DANIELA AGUILAR
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

A fish out of water, Kimberly Pedregon plays volleyball, waterpolo, and swims. Pedregon also maintains a high GPA. Not only does she do well in school, but outside of school she plays volleyball for a club and is going to be partaking in practice for the Junior Olympics for waterpolo during the summer.

Pedregon swims in the 200 relay race for the varsity team and is pushing herself to make it to CIF.

She hopes to end the swim season on a good note and is looking forward to summer, playing volleyball, and practice for the Junior Olympics.

Pedregon said, "I can't wait for this year's J.O. [Junior Olympics]. I'm excited about a new team and meeting new people to work with."



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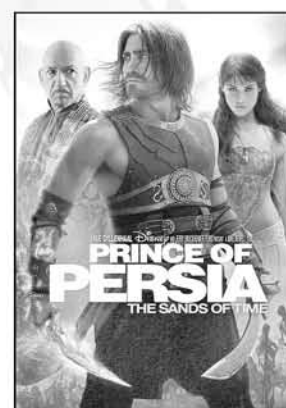
Opens April 30th



Opens May 7th



Opens May 21st



Opens May 28th

PROM PREVIEW

Teachers Reminisce about Nights to Remember

PRISCILLA AMAVIZCA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Could you ever imagine your brainy math teacher going to their prom with the most popular student at school? Or your sophisticated English teacher being the student who wore the silliest dresses at Prom?



Mrs. Sandra Bauer, science teacher, says her prom night was "very memorable." She arrived at her Prom in Johannesburg, South Africa just in time, because her date got lost on his way to pick her up. Mr. Cecilio Alonso also had his share of memories. "It was one of the few formals I attended in High School," he says. With the money he received from his grand-fa-

ther, Mr. Alonso spent \$300 on his tuxedo, his ticket, and Prom pictures. He spent his Prom afternoon at the Los Angeles Trade Center's Bon Adventure in Downtown LA. "Go! Make sure [you] go," advises Mr. Alonso, "I would encourage everyone to go [to Prom]." Mrs. Bauer spent one thousand dollars on her dress, but what about going to Prom four times and not spending a dime over \$200? Biology teacher, Mrs. Yami Flores-Orihuela, went to four Proms, which she spent at the Long Beach Marriot Hotel and at the Queen Mary. The first prom she went to was with her current husband, Mr. Orihuela, the second she can't remember, she was crowned Prom Queen at her third Prom, and her last prom was after high school to crown the following Prom Queen. Her most memorable and proud moment was being crowned Prom Queen in her senior year. Each teacher enjoyed his or her prom and wishes each student on campus to have similar experiences and to enjoy the night.

Prom's Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- Get a party bus
- Dress to impress
- Take extra money
- Take lots of pictures
- Set a budget
- Get plenty of rest the night before
- Be prepared for emergencies
- Forget the drama
- Have a good time

Don'ts

- Wear matching dresses
- Snooki hair do's
- Don't get into a car with an intoxicated person
- Forget to wear deodorant
- Go with someone you don't like
- Do anything you will end up regretting
- Let anyone ruin your night
- Over do your make-up
- Expect something it is not

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WORD ON 'THE STREET'

How were you asked to prom? Or how did you ask someone to prom?



"For prom my boyfriend put a big cute sign and balloons in the trunk of my car, and when I opened my trunk, balloons came up flying and the sign popped up that said "Prom?" It was so cute!"
-Sarahi Vasquez, Senior



"My friends and I were talking during lunch about prom. My friend asked who I was going with and I said I wasn't sure. He asked but I thought he was just joking around. Later I texted him and asked him if he wanted to go, he said yes the next day."
-Joana Gomez, Senior



"My friend and I went to Rubios for taco Tuesday. He had mentioned prom, then called me later that night to ask me if I would be his prom date. It was really cute because he sounded nervous."
-Michelle Flores, Senior



"I was in Chef's class after lunch and all my friends told me to go outside because one of my friends was mad at me. When I went back, my girlfriend was in my seat with a brownie cake that said "Prom" and I told her yes."
-Iran Guido, Senior



"I wanted to surprise my prom date so before school I went to her first period class and made a heart shape with rose pedals. I had also made a sign on the wall for her and put a teddy bear next to it."
-Adrian Sanchez, Senior