



EL RODEO



El Rancho High School - Volume 60- Issue 9
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Unsinkable Molly Brown leaves Dons in tears and stitches

BY DES DELGADILLO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Spurred on by an enthusiastic Stanley Wlasick, El Rancho's drama department presented its latest musical production earlier this month to sensational critical acclaim.

The atmosphere prior to the final dress rehearsal for the Unsinkable Molly Brown rippled with tension as the cast scrambled to make last minute preparations for the spectacle. Though the majority of the musical's cast had prior experience performing either in theatre or in choir, a few cast members prepared for their very first public performance. Fortunately for them, with Wlasick at the helm, these rookies' maiden voyage took place on a vessel that was quite literally unsinkable.

Wlasick enters every El Rancho production with a well of experience from which he can draw and impart onto his cast and crew. From his high school days onward, Wlasick immersed himself in acting--the art of recreating reality--pursuing it through his college days at UC Irvine and Cal State Fullerton. "Right out of college I tried my hand at acting," Wlasick said. "I did some professional theatre and made a couple commercials."

But before acting Wlasick found an equally enriching experience behind the scenes on the technical side of theatre, assisting his fellow actors in making the magic happen. "I worked as the resident technical director who was in charge of stage managing, designing lights and sets. I occasionally got to act and direct at the Costa Mesa Civic Playhouse," he said.

And just as Wlasick imparts the wealth of his experiences onto his performers today, he received the bulk of his theatre knowledge from his own valuable mentors. "I had three excellent mentors: Pati Tambellini from the Costa Mesa Playhouse; Marthella Randall who directed me in several works and co-starred with me;



Nina Marquez demonstrated a stage presence that allowed her to fully control her lead role as Molly Tobin.

and my master teacher Barbara Van Holt. That was just about being honest and real, listening, reacting, and responding, which is something that I impart to my students," Wlasick said.

Perhaps the most valuable tool Wlasick offers his students, he said, is the philosophy that "acting is basically all about reacting to something that has been said or done."

Wlasick has overseen the drama department for thirty-two years now, and over that time he has left quite the lasting impression on both his students and colleagues. "He's a very great man," said Jessica Palombi, who has worked with Wlasick for the past two years amassing much of his theatrical wisdom.

"Mr. Wlasick is a brilliant, brilliant teacher," said Ben Meza, who had worked closely alongside Wlasick as part of the Team program until its discontinuation a few years ago. "He knows a lot about an awful lot of things. He's truly a renaissance man."

"Every class is a performance for him," Meza continued. "He's a true teacher in every sense of the word."

Throughout his tenure at the ranch, Wlasick has directed count-

less works, both plays and musicals.

"I love musicals but I prefer plays, because the only person I have to depend on is myself," Wlasick said. "With musicals you have to share responsibility with a musical director, a choreographer, and sometimes it's hard to give over and relinquish that control. I have expectations of when I want things done to suit my desire towards having a polished production, and sometimes it doesn't all get done when I want it to get done. So I have to learn to let go let God."

With Wlasick once again manning the oars and junior Nina Marquez captaining a starring role, the drama department brought 1960 Broadway musical The Unsinkable Molly Brown to life.

The play tells the story of Molly Tobin--played by Nina Marquez--a Missouri girl with lofty aspirations who sets out for Colorado in search of a life of grandeur. Instead she finds "Leadville" Johnny Brown--played by Joshua Forniss. From there the story becomes a fun and humorous account of the newlyweds looking for wealth as well as acceptance from the Denver elites.

The cast did a fantastic job of capturing the audience, sending them into fits of laughter at the play's outset, and leaving many misty-eyed by its end. With each musical number having its own special appeal, it was hard to not walk out of the theatre whistling an especially catchy tune. Perhaps the biggest standout of all was Nina Marquez and her tremendous vocal performance. Marquez demonstrated a stage presence that allowed her to fully control her lead role as Molly Tobin. "I was actually singing before I was acting," said Marquez, who has been a part of the drama department since her freshman year. "I used to sing in my church. But I've never been in choraleers, or show choir, or anything like that. I've really never even had a music lesson."

As the lead, Marquez had to meet the drama department's high standards. "I had to be here for every single practice. I think it was really hard adjusting to the fact that I was carrying this big musical on my back, and I had to set a good example," she said.

Like Wlasick, some cast members had a difficult time coordinating so many different elements of enter-

tainment into one complete performance. "The dancing has always been easy for me," said senior Paul Espitia, who has accrued a wealth of experience performing as lead drum major for El Rancho. "You're acting while you're dancing and singing. It's not like you get to take one at a time."

Other actors like Josh Forniss, who shared the lead role with Marquez, brought past experience from both choir and drama to the table. "It was great to see everyone grow from where they were," Forniss said. "If they came from acting, they learned to sing and dance. If they came from singing and dancing, now they learned acting."

"It was different," said choir director Jacqueline Dodd, who worked with the cast on perfecting the vocal side of things. "I was surprised by their willingness to try new things. They had an enthusiasm for learning that caused them to learn somewhat faster than others that may have been doing it a while."

As lead characters, both Marquez and Forniss were tasked with the obligatory solo performances. "Those solos were so hard for me because they were really high for my range," Forniss admitted. "I just worked and tried my best to do those solos as confidently as I could. It all just came together."

Elice Mendoza was in charge of makeup for the huge cast, a job that takes "four hours' worth of work." "It's crazy," she said. "Everyone wants to be done first, but I just try my best."

The drama crew was so impressive, they were asked to participate in a very special encore performance at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa on May 27.

For the El Rancho drama department, the year ended on a high note. But the bar has been set for next year, a bar to which Wlasick and his crew will inevitably raise each and every time they take the stage.

Senior teach-ins leave lasting impression on ER

BY DESTINEE ORTIZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

For the second, and possibly last year, English honors seniors presented teach-in projects to students and staff of El Rancho. Issues such as abuses of power, bullying and gay rights, children's rights, human trafficking, and immigration and labor were discussed during the presentations.

The teach ins took place Friday May 24 in the faculty center. Every inch of walling was covered with posters and decorations for social justice issues that the honors students would discuss. Students presented power points on their topics and incorporated hands on activities that kept their audience thinking.

The concept of this senior project was developed through years of Senior English teacher Theodore Hartman working on Service learning, going to conferences, and hearing other educators' words relating to these world issues.

"I wanted to take my concept of service learning to a bigger level," said Hartman.

Hartman worked tirelessly to prepare his senior honors class for the presentations. From the beginning weeks of this school year, Hartman's students began work-

ing and preparing for the event. Through trial and error, these seniors learned the proper ways to present information with meaningful style.

Decorating for the event was not easy or cheap. With Gear-Up's help, students were provided with all the arts and crafts supplies necessary to convert the teacher's faculty center from a place of teacher socialization to a realm of student activism.

Being apart of Hartman's honors program takes commitment. For two days, students asked their other teachers to sign them out of class in order to prepare for their final projects. Surprisingly, excusing students from class became controversial. Staff members argued that a student's absence from class was unnecessary for the teach ins.

Some of the individuals who thought of the teach ins as an inconvenience were able to experience the presentations. Math teacher Wes White, was forced to reschedule a test in order to accommodate the missing students that participated in the event. White attended the presentation and liked what he saw.

"I was very impressed with the professional way students delivered the message to the audience," said White. White's only critique of the presentation was that if an is-



Alyssa Torres along with Hartman's other students enlighten and leave an impact on future generations.

sue is controversial, the other side should probably be presented and a debate should be apart of the activity.

Future generations of senior honors English may not be able to make an impact on the school as these seniors did with their hard work. The future of these projects is uncertain due to Hartman's departure at the end of this year, the only teacher who requires a senior project from his students.

"I hope there can be a senior project that does not rely on one teacher for it to continue,"

said sophomore Milton Mier.

Mier along with other students that experienced the teach-ins became very interested in doing a senior project during their final year at the ranch. Hartman hopes that his departure does not stop the next honors teacher from engaging in a senior project.

"There are many great ways to do a senior project," said Hartman. "The teach-ins are a very Hartman approach. I think the next honors teacher should develop an honors project that works for them."

Standing back and see-

ing his students emerge as leaders is something Hartman truly enjoys. His students were able to do so in front nearly 700 students throughout that chaotic Friday.

"I'm very happy to end my career at El Rancho with something like the teach-ins," Hartman added.

With the presentations from Hartman and his honors class, the students of El Rancho now have a sense of awareness of what is going on not only around the world, but in their own country.

OPINION

California tobacco tax takes it too far

By DAVID OCHOA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Enough is enough. California recently voted on Proposition 29. The outcome was close, but the proposition fortunately did not pass by a slim margin.

Proposition 29 would add around \$735 million in tax revenue each year to aid in cancer research, but there is no guarantee that the money would be spent in California and on cancer research.

This was just another excuse for politicians to pocket money for themselves.

California should be worried about more important issues, such as the large deficit, rather than another tax on tobacco. The tax would have hurt the average Joe more than anyone else.

Why should people pay a tax just for wanting to use a product? People are already aware of the risk involved when smoking cigarettes, with education in school and the constant bombardment of those annoying anti-tobacco television ads; yet they still choose to smoke.

That should be their sole decision; that is the right of an adult; that is the right of an American. Was not one of the causes of the Ameri-



Cartoon by Jeff MacNelly of the Chicago Tribune.

can Revolution outrageous taxes imposed on Americans by the British Monarchy?

Tobacco also has deeper roots in American history. It was one of the nation's first major cash crops and in a sense helped build the country.

There are no higher taxes on junk food, yet it is detrimental to the consumer's health. There are no cigarette ads on television or billboards, yet I see fast food advertisements ev-

erywhere and many are aimed at children, with the kids meal being specifically aimed at children, and I can almost guarantee children are better off eating crayons than a kids meal.

I think that kids now know that smoking cigarettes is not "cool"--many in fact cannot stand the smell of them--so who was this going help? There are not high taxes on alcohol, which is a bigger epidemic among youth.

Cigarette smokers are dying. The popularity of smoking peaked in the 1960s when around half of the country smoked. Less and less people are smoking and therefore smokers are now a minority.

They are an easy target as they cannot out vote the majority, but do not make someone pay just because you do not like or agree with what they do. This was a big victory for California and opponents of higher taxes.

Is the era of the game console dead?

By JORDAN MAGANA

EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Video game consoles have dominated the market for the past 20 years. From the original Nintendo to the Xbox 360, it seems as though the age of the console has passed.

Games can also be downloaded on ipads and computers that have the same if not better graphics and gameplay.

Games like Call of Duty, God of War, and Halo have single-handedly saved the game console from extinction.

Systems like the Nintendo DS and Playstation Portable have made it significantly easier for people to game on the go; however, with the advent of cellular phones as makeshift gaming devices, the console has been rendered virtually obsolete.

Customers find that the relatively inexpensive cell phone coupled with access to music and the internet give mobile devices that much more of an advantage in the video game market.

Many developers are hoping that holiday favorites will save the sinking ship that is the console. Many people have begun to see the computer as a more affordable and efficient way to play games. The computer is said



Video game consoles; from the Atari to the Xbox 360.

to have better graphics, more memory, and better games, not to mention the games on consoles are becoming less innovative and less playable.

The recession has also been a major factor in the fall of the console since nobody right now has 50 dollars to buy video games because of the recession.

Games on computers and phones usually cost less than 30 dollars and are often free (on the phone). The video game market has also plummeted 8% with even the some of the most recognizable titles taking a hit in sales.

But the video game market is making a 180. The console still has better graphics, especially 3D graphics which make a game more enjoyable.

There is more memory in a console than an iPhone or Android, so you can play more games, hold more memory, and enjoy more.

Not to mention the video game console has Internet capabilities that make it easier to just sit under the blankets and easily switch from a game to the Internet. Consoles also have the ability to use Net-

lix, which also gives a person more entertainment options.

The console is also going down in cost as the recession hit, and now that the recession is turning around and people are going back to work, the costs will stay down and become more affordable if companies want to keep making money.

Overall there is more plus' than minus' in owning a console and the one thing the phone and gaming console have in common is the fact that both will have replacements every couple of months.

El Rodeo



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El Rodeo is published monthly except during vacations by the El Rancho High School journalism class.

The *El Rodeo* offices are located at 6501 S. Passons Blvd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660 in room X-1. The paper is printed by *The Gardena Valley News*.

El Rodeo, the student newspaper of El Rancho High School is an open, public forum for student expression and an opportunity to discuss its audience's issues of concern. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the position of the school board, administration, sponsors, parents, student body or advertisers.

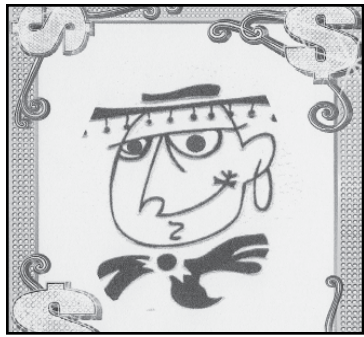
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Student journalists on the *El Rodeo* staff will make every effort to publish following the legal definitions of libel, obscenity and invasion of privacy. Consistent with California Education Code section 48907, the staff will refrain from printing material that may incite students, be a violation of school regulations or disrupt school operations. At the beginning of each semester, journalism students will be reminded of the legal, financial and ethical implications of each article they write.

Ed Code 48907 affirms the right of high school newspapers to publish whatever they choose, so long as the content is not explicitly obscene, libelous, or slanderous. Also, there shall be no prior restraint of material prepared for official school publications except insofar as it violates this section.

BUSINESS

El Rancho to mass produce entrepreneurs in Pico Rivera



BY DON DINERO

I am the product of one of the most successful athletic programs in high school history. Since the fifth grade at South Ranchito Elementary I began working to play football at El Rancho High School. I recall the promise: if you played Don Football you were guaranteed a football scholarship at a major university. We were referred to as a "football factory

"because of the talent we mass produced. I think it's time to create an entrepreneur factory.

Why not? We have got the tradition and the talent.

Entrepreneurs, small businesspersons create 20% of the new jobs in our economy. According to the PEW Research Center, while the national unemployment rate was 8.5% among Latinos nationwide, it was 11% in 2011. Closer to home in April of 2012, the City Pico Rivera reported an unemployment rate of 10.3%. Although the number of Latino businesses is almost doubling in numbers and receipts every decade, the number is not matching the level of growth the Latino population is experiencing. For example, between the year 2000 and 2010 the Latino population grew

over 40%. We need a long-term strategy to increase not only the number of Latino and local businesses, but the employee size and the number of Latino firms in growth industries.

To mount a serious strategy of long term growth our city must produce businesspersons and entrepreneurs just as it successfully produced football players for over a decade. In the summer of 2011 a call went out to El Rancho High School summer students that a new club was beginning for those students interested in starting a business. The call landed a small group ranging from age 13 to 16 years of age. For an entire summer they learned about business development, finance and marketing. The culmination of their training required the de-

velopment of a five year business plan for a business of their choosing. The plan required product development, pricing strategy, market research, five year profit and loss projections including a breakeven analysis. 13 and 14 year old children had prepared what only 30% of businesses currently maintain: a five year business plan. These students continued on their own to research and develop strategies including the development of a local economic stimulus strategy based on providing affordable public transportation. The next project was the development of a "Trapping the Dollar" campaign which would encourage students to shop within the community for student discounts. The plan and strategy are slowly being embraced

by our community leaders.

If part of this cultivation of entrepreneurship in Pico Rivera included student internships and/or apprenticeships provided by local businesses where students could apply their skills to real world situations while securing part time employment and experience, we could also "Trap our Talent." As well as having an unemployment level of 10.3% our city's population of college graduates is 10% compared to the state's level of 30% according to the U.S. Census. The plan is for our students to start and/or expand businesses in our community and to hire our residents. In this way our factory is not producing football talent for other communities; we are producing business talent to be recycled into our local economy.

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City signs 7-year contract with NASA



BY DES DELGADILLO
BUSINESS SECTION EDITOR

After over three decades of employing CalMet Services for waste collection and disposal services, the Pico Rivera city council awarded a seven-year trash hauler contract to NASA Services this past March.

NASA, a family-owned, non-union firm based out of Montebello, received the contract over three other bidders despite being the second least expensive firm in the running. Still, with an annual saving of about \$1.5 million as compared to incumbent trash-hauler CalMet, the new seven-year contract with NASA promises considerable savings for Pico Rivera residents and businesses. "A lot of people have this misconception that the city is going to save this money," said NASA General Manager Jack Hadjinian. "The city is not saving; it's the residents and the businesses."

The bidding process began with eight firms vying for the trash-hauler contract. "Pico Rivera was the most open and fair to bids and proposals," Hadjinian said.

After the potential bidders were halved by Pico Rivera's consulting firm of choice HF&H, each company participated in an interview with an ad hoc committee consisting of Councilmen David Armenta, Gregory Salcido, and City Manager Raymond Chavez.

But this series of bids differed from the typical presentations of proposals, Hadjinian commented, in that each bidder was given the opportunity to present its bid one final time during a public city council meeting at City Hall.

After two different voting sessions on whether or not the city should approve NASA's contract--the first resulting in a 3-2 vote and the second in a unanimous vote in favor of NASA--the contract was awarded on March 16.

The lowest bidder, Rainbow Services, was also among the final four chosen by HF&H, but NASA offered more of an upside to city officials. For Councilman Armenta, "it's all about location, location, location." There were some red flags that went up in their [NASA's] cost to the city." Some of those costs Armenta mentioned dealt with Rainbow being based out of Huntington, whereas NASA is based out of Montebello, virtually right next door to Pico Rivera.

Aside from these substantial savings and prime location, the benefits NASA is offering in order to stimulate the Pico Rivera community set them far above the competition. "We're putting a huge emphasis on recycling," Hadjinian said. "The current hauler is doing 22 percent; we guarantee this city will do 60 percent."

NASA plans to continue implementing new waste dis-

posal opportunities, including a pilot backyard composting program and classes. "The number one thing you want to do is reduce on how much you're disposing, and then reuse, and then recycle," Hadjinian said.

But Hadjinian and NASA are looking at helping the city of Pico Rivera in an even bigger way. "We want to hire all Pico Rivera residents," Hadjinian said. "Generally when you live in a city, you want to take care of your city. We're looking to hire Pico Rivera residents to drive the trash and recycling trucks that are going to provide the services in the city, to do customer service in the city ... we want to hire all Pico Rivera residents."

One last incentive that will have the greatest affect on the El Rancho student body is NASA's pledge to donate \$25,000 per year to assist the El Rancho student body. How this money will be allocated is still to be determined, but the company has shown an interest in working with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund. "We want to make sure [the money] gets used properly, for El Rancho graduates," said Hadjinian, whose entire family grew up in Pico Rivera.

Pico Rivera and NASA officials alike are looking forward to this new relationship, which goes into effect on July 1.

TEEN COURT

El Rancho Teen Court Celebrates its One-Year Anniversary

On May 23, 2011 Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David Wesley announced that El Rancho High School would become the 17th teen court in Los Angeles County. The court would be the only court serving the surrounding communities in the San Gabriel area. Over nine hundred students have attended seven court sessions listening to 13 juvenile cases. On May 24, 2012 the court honored its founding members including:

School Board Member

Rachel Canchola

City of Pico Rivera

The Honorable David W. Armenta

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judges

The Honorable Olivia Rosales

The Honorable James Horan

Los Angeles County Probation Department

Vanessa Alvarado, Deputy Probation Officer II

School Administration & Faculty

School Principle:

Sam Genis

School Faculty:

Raul Elias

Ben Meza

Dominic Picon

The event also honored the Teen Court Club officers and outstanding teen court officers. Special awards were given to the City of Pico Rivera and the El Rancho Unified School District for their collaboration in bringing teen court to Pico Rivera. The Teen Court Coordinator, Raul Elias called this *“One of many collaborations between the city and district to improve the overall quality of life in our community.”*

EL RANCHO HIGH SCHOOL TEEN COURT THANKS THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS FOR THEIR HELP AND SUPPORT

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SENIOR FEATURES

Lynette Haro brings artistic flare to El Rancho

By SAMANTHA RUIZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The award winning Lynette Haro is one of El Rancho's most distinguished artists. Haro, a senior, will be attending Whittier College this fall with the intent to major in Anthropology and Fine Arts.

Haro credits her artistic abilities for contributing to her success during her high school career. "Drawing and painting or simply sketching really helps me relax," Haro said.

She is also taking an Advanced Art class with Ms. Leal. "Lynette is amazing. She handles many activities and excels in everything," Leal said. Leal went on to say that Lynette stood out of the artistic group simply because she was a quick learner, quick drawer and she drew "nicely."

Haro is also the school's Dance Commissioner, a member of Social Justice Club, and



Haro next to a painting celebrating Black History Month.

a member of Pico Rivera AKT, an alliance of high school students, organizations, and city officials who are willing to set restrictions on tobacco sales to youths. "I struggle to find time for all my hobbies!" Haro said.

without any expectations, and now I have a clearer direction of where my future is leading to."

Haro says her first interest in the arts came when she began to draw. She says her family supported her to pursue an artistic career when her mother and her sister introduced fashion design to her. "Ever since, I have experimented with figure drawing, painting, print making, ceramics, and video production."

Haro said drawing is a hobby of hers that she will "continue for the rest of [her] life," but she would like to explore more artistic realms. Haro is honored that Ryman Arts programs published one of her art pieces on their annual student graduation and exhibition ceremony.

"Most of the students go to the art institutions, so I am really honored that such a prestigious program has shown interest in my art."

"The greatest achievement

of mine," Haro says, "would have to be the award that I received through the California State Summer School for the Arts." Haro received the Governor's Medallion upon completion of the program. "Being awarded this medallion in 2011, graduating from the program, and receiving the highest recognition from the school makes me feel more confident about my abilities." The artist went on to say that she is most proud of representing El Rancho at the art program.

Haro has just completed her spring semester at Otis College of Art and Design last month and her ASB Dance projects.

The art project she is working on is the Senior Class Gift 2012: A Mural. "I will be collaborating with a few students from Advanced Art to complete this project before the senior class graduates," she said.

"This year has been challenging, but rewarding" said Haro.

Ernie Padilla: Musician, model, mastermind



Padilla, all smiles, as he walks down the hallways of the campus.

By DESTINEE ORTIZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Walking down the halls of El Rancho, one may notice a unique individual casually strolling along. Unique fashion sense, a beanie, and a guitar at hand separate Ernesto Padilla from the other students that walk these halls.

Known by many simply as 'Ernie,' Padilla is a charismatic performer who thrives on the "high" of music in his life.

"It became something I like doing," admits Padilla.

On his 15th birthday, Padilla received a guitar, which happened to be his portal to a new world of music. At first, the frustrated beginner wanted nothing to do with his new companion.

"I didn't even want my guitar when I first had it. I had to teach myself [how to play] and I had no patience at all," he said.

Frustration did not win out over Padilla, and he soon learned his way around a guitar. Other instruments such as the harmonica and bass soon became important to his musical ensemble.

This new talent of his quickly inspired Padilla to begin writing music of his own, a creative process that rapidly became the aspiring musician's new pastime.

Literature is a huge source of Padilla's inspiration. American author Charles Buowaski has had a huge effect on his writing style. The "rawness" of Buowaski's work interest Padilla and keeps

him moving forward on a quest to improve his own writing skills.

Apart from literature, artist like Bob Dylan and Elliot Smith played a role in creating this willing individual's musical style.

Padilla wishes to make his music as personal as these two individuals made theirs. One's ability to relate to the music is of great importance to Ernesto Padilla.

"I hope people can relate to my music. I really want everyone to feel every emotion when listening to me," Padilla said.

Music inspires every aspect of Padilla's life, all the way down to his fashion sense. This young soul harbors a strong affinity for Bob Dylan's sense of style, for example. Even the simplest of clothing looks like something of elegance on the El Rancho student.

"Whatever I put on represents who I am. If people like it, that's cool," Padilla said.

And many do appreciate the unique way in which way Padilla represents himself. He was asked to model for the clothing brand 'That Society.'

After a single photo shoot, Padilla found himself satisfied with the outcome. Though he enjoyed the shoot he still does not consider himself a model.

Padilla hopes to release an EP in the near future. He will never give up and will continue to work diligently on improving his craft.

"Don't care what anyone says. Don't let anyone stop you, not even yourself."

Lippstreu serves students in many ways

By LIZETTE RAMIREZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

North California's lovely lady, Cindy Lippstreu, grew up in the little city of Fairfield; Lippstreu said, "you can also say home of the Jelly Bellies." She grew up in her suburban city during her youth. She attended Armijo High School where she participated in three major sports her whole four years. She played tennis, basketball, and bad minton; ironically, bad minton was Lippstreu's favorite sport in high school because she felt she was better at it than the other sports. She explained how in basketball she "always had to guard the girls who were like 6'4" They were corn fed California girls." She disliked being on defense for the basketball team.

Besides the sports she participated in, Lippstreu was a well exceeded academic student. Out of 750 students in her high school graduating class, she was number four. The only reason why she got number four instead of a higher ranking was because she refused to do her English final essay; she stated, "I didn't want to take my English essay because I already got accepted to Berkeley. It was the first B+ I got in my life!"

During the summers, Lippstreu worked for the air force since the base, Travis Air Force Base, was near her home. She revealed, "I did lots of paperwork. I processed pay checks called 'impact cards.'" She basically organized all the paper work that the air force fell behind in organizing. She expressed "I was always more responsible than the average kid, so they had me working like I was in the military." In her adolescent years in Fairfield, she and her family were well known around the city. She called Fairfield "Home of the Lippstreus!" since she claimed, "everybody knew me." As soon as she moved



Lippstreu serving to her tennis students during afternoon practice.

to Los Angeles County, she lost her popularity. She was the only Lippstreu around. She recalled a moment when she came, and said "a librarian man said 'if I had a nickel for every Lippstreu I met, you'd have a nickel.'"

When Lippstreu attended Berkeley University, she initially went in to pursue the career of a civil engineer. She claimed that the reason why she thought of becoming an engineer, was the fact that her high school teacher nominated her to go to UC Davis Engineering Camp. She stated "I had the best essay! Well it was a lab write up about Tractors." Since she did well in that, she felt she should major engineering. She finally came to the conclusion that she will become a math teacher.

As Lippstreu started her career, she first taught at Fremont High School where she led a Black Student Union. She stated that 20% of the students were African American, and that no other teacher wanted to lead the organization. She said, "Hey! I'll do it!" So her teaching career at Fre-

mont High School was accompanied by leading a student union.

When she came to El Rancho, she wanted to continue to lead a Black Student Union, but she was informed that there were no African American students. Instead, she used her time to ride bikes. Finally, she was offered to coach El Rancho's Tennis Team. She was more than glad to coach because she felt that she was privileged to play all the time on campus. She even mentioned that she plays tennis during her lunches sometimes.

This year she especially feels proud of her tennis boys for not only placing first in league, but being undefeated. As of now, the El Rancho Tennis Boys singles and doubles received second place medals in CIF. Lippstreu simply said, "they're really good."

Now that the summer is near, she plans to visit Alaska where she will come back home with fish she caught. "I'm coming home with 250 pounds of fish!" she said excitedly. Overall, Lippstreu enjoys teaching here at El Rancho.

SENIORS

Scenes from the last month of El Rancho



Mrs. Chapman along with Mr.Retana and Mr.Rojo share laughs at the dodgeball tournament.

Mr.Romero and Nathaniel Zaragoza grab hold of 2012 ER's class cup title.



Griffindor is all smiles after winning dodgeball tournament.



Guest Judge Paul McCullough looks over senior Joshua Lopez and junior Erick Guevara.



Gustous gets ready to present dishes to guest judge Paul McCullough.

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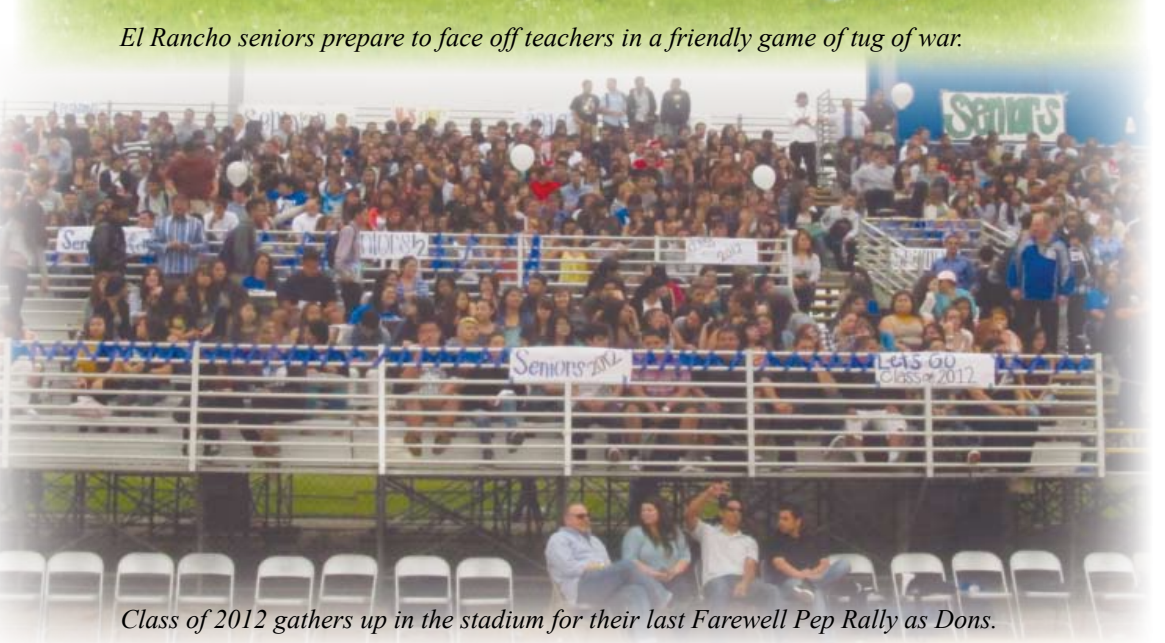
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1 per customer valid with coupon only

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Get A Jr. Special FREE
1 per customer valid with coupon only



El Rancho seniors prepare to face off teachers in a friendly game of tug of war.



Class of 2012 gathers up in the stadium for their last Farewell Pep Rally as Dons.

SENIORS

Seniors end the 2011-2012 school year in style



Shirley Lopez and Maricela Duran take on a night full of enchantment and dancing.

Erica Dominguez along with date share a romantic night together.



Seniors chow down watermelon in a friendly competition at the senior picnic.

Seniors enjoy a day full of laughters, smiles, and fun games at El Dorado Park.



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TEACHER FAREWELLS

Hartman closes book on El Rancho chapter

BY DES DELGADILLO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

After almost a decade of leaving an indelible mark on El Rancho students, senior honors English teacher Theodore Hartman prepares to say farewell to the ranch.

As El Rancho's beloved English teacher approaches the end of his final year at the school, Hartman can rest assured that his impact on the El Rancho community will be felt long after he is gone. Though Hartman had a hand in creating some El Rancho history during his tenure here, he arrived having already blazed a trail through both the academic and athletic universe.

"High school for me was pretty fun," Hartman said. "I was a good student and I was a varsity wrestler. High school was a time for me to do both of those things. I graduated the scholar athlete of my class."

Aside from his intellectually stimulating senior projects, Hartman is perhaps best known for his time coaching the El Rancho wrestling team. "My older cousin wrestled," he said. "I went to see one of his wrestling matches, and I learned that there were lightweights, little guys who could be tough. Being a short guy who never could play football or anything like that, I thought it would be fun to try a sport where you could be tough by weight class."

Hartman stepped on the mat for the first time in middle school



As time winds down, Hartman begins to realize the drastic changes about to impact his life.

and excelled in his weight class. "I just kind of had a natural ability for it. I made the All State team, and my Sophomore, Junior, and Senior year I went to nationals," he continued.

But Hartman's fantastic wrestling story doesn't end there. He rode the wave of momentum into the Division 1 Columbia, where he proceeded to finish his senior year in the nation's top 15.

But wrestling was just one piece of Hartman's motivation. While in college, Hartman developed a strong affinity for the comprehensive works of William Shakespeare. He came to enjoy Shakespeare's work so much, in fact, he based the

rest of his college career around pursuing a full and rich understanding of the playwright's texts. "I was fortunate enough to get one of the leading Shakespeare scholars in the country at the time to be my teacher. He was a brilliant, brilliant teacher. He just brought [Shakespeare] to life for us in ways that I didn't really imagine. After that it just became one of my passions to keep studying and to get better at reading Shakespeare."

As much as Hartman has excelled as an English teacher, he wasn't always set on the profession. "My plan was to be a lawyer," he said. "I was pre-law, poly sci. I wanted to be an environmental lawyer or a con-

stitutional lawyer, defending human rights. But I had an internship at a law firm and it was really boring."

After his unpleasant experience interning at a law firm, Hartman began tutoring inner-city kids through the Upward Bound Program, where he fell in love with imparting knowledge onto his students.

After learning about a vacant English teacher position from a fellow student while attending Claremont, Hartman jumped at the opportunity to fill the void at El Rancho. After being "hired on the spot," Hartman introduced his advocacy for civil rights into the classroom environment. "Over the course of the last eight years

I've developed an approach where I can incorporate issues of rights and justice into things like research papers and teachi-ns," Hartman said.

Hartman's innovative teaching style does not go unnoticed. "Not only did I learn about poetry, novels, and writing techniques, but how to create a positive change for the community," said senior Jackie Perez, who was lucky enough to have Hartman as her honors English teacher this year.

Hartman took his endeavors even further in forming the Social Justice club, a group dedicated to advocating these civil rights.

As the end of this phase of Hartman's life draws to a close, he looks to what is sure to be a horizon full of possibilities. Always in pursuit of more knowledge, Hartman will be heading to the University of Maryland, where he will pursue a PHD in education on a full ride. After his doctoral education, Hartman plans on researching ways to close the "achievement gap" between high and low income students, as well as starting a career as a university professor.

But even with a full-ride toward a doctorate, Hartman's greatest accomplishment thus far is the relationship he has developed with his students. "The thing I'm going to miss most when I leave El Rancho is the connection I've been able to make with a lot of really great kids," he said. And all of his students echo a similar sentiment: Everyone will miss making that connection with an equally fantastic teacher and mentor.

After 14 years, Reed says goodbye to his second home

BY DAVID OCHOA

EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

U.S. History and Government teacher Mr. Reed is retiring. The Pico Rivera native is retiring after serving twenty-two non consecutive years in the El Rancho School District, with fourteen of those years served at El Rancho High School. Reed was born in Long Beach in 1946 and grew up in Pico Rivera. "I'm a Pico kid, not River," said Reed, who grew up before Pico and Rivera integrated. He described the Pico Rivera of his youth as a, "Different time and place... felt pretty free...went outside and played a lot of baseball." In 1961 Reed arrived at the Ranch and being an only child, he felt like El Rancho was his second home. "Most students came to school because they wanted to be here...everything happened here." Reed tried out for baseball and made the Junior Varsity team his sophomore year. At the end of his Junior year he made the Varsity squad and set a record. Reed set the record for most wins in a season, ten, that stood for almost four decades. He credits the game for changing him. "Baseball made me what I am." Reed was easygoing in his day. He got along with everybody. "I knew 'pachucos' as much as I knew surfers." Other than "more trees in the quad," what Reed remembers most about his experience is, "The day I saw this girl in the hallway. That became my girlfriend, who's been my wife." The two have been mar-



Reed poses for 1964 ER photo

ried for 43 years or "For as long as I've been teaching," said Reed. After he graduated in 1964 Reed attended Cerritos College and played baseball there. His team set a record by going 40-0 and winning the state championship. After two years he transferred to Westmont College in Santa Barbara, where he earned degrees in "History, Political Science, and Physical Education," said Reed. In 1969 Reed began teaching at El Rancho, and after two years he transferred to Meller Junior High where he taught for eight years. During the 1970s Reed traveled through Europe, "We [Reed and

his wife] decided to take vacations...after two summers in Europe we decided to live there." "We lived in Germany from 1979-1992...that's where I raised my son," said Reed. In 2000 Reed returned to El Rancho. Reed's passion, other than baseball and teaching, is traveling. "Travel is the main thing I want to do as long as I can," said Reed. Reed has "No specific finalized agenda." After his retirement he has so many "loves that he loves to do." On his departure Reed said, "I'll miss most the energy and exchange of working with students... the students have been the ones who have kept me always wanting me to be here and do this." His advice to the students is, "All things change, so deal the best that you can with the situation that is in front of you...and stay diligent in your life...better yourself and those around you." He is very proud of his city. "I'm glad that my life pattern has been a part of this community and this school, and I'm very fortunate for what it has allowed me to become."



Zook bids farewell to the ranch

BY SAMANTHA GURROLA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Thomas Zook, physics teacher and the man in charge of robotics, has decided that this is his last year here at the Ranch.

Zook first started here at el Rancho in the 2004-2005 school year. "When I first started I taught earth science and now I am an all around physics teacher," Zook said.

But physics was not Zook's only passion. He was not sure what he wanted to teach. "I majored in physics in college. I thought about becoming a math teacher, but I was set on becoming a physics teacher after giving myself time to think about it," Zook said.

Before Zook became a teacher at El Rancho, he was working with Mrs. Katsumura at another school as a lab technician. "I found out about El Rancho through Mrs. K. We had our credentials at Long Beach State and then Mrs. K got a job here and suggested that I apply at El Rancho for a teaching position," said Zook.

He is not yet sure where he is going to work, but he knows that he definitely wants to continue teaching. "Well I can't really relax until I am set with a job. After that I plan on spending a lot of time at the beach," said Zook.

After years of teaching at the Ranch, Zook has decided that it is time to explore more options and

have new experiences. Zook said, "I have a long commute, so it would be nice if I got a job closer. Anyways it is time that I end this chapter in my life and begin a new one somewhere else at another school."

Zook has had so many great memories throughout his career as an earth science teacher, physics teacher and being involved in the Robotics club. We can not forget this years win against the seniors in powder puff; it was the first time that he coached and as we can see he did a great job. "My fondest memory would be working with the Robotics Club for two years, but I cannot forget about my first year coaching powder puff and beating the seniors," said Zook.

Many things have changed from 2004 to now. "Well there have been a lot of changes here at EL Rancho: almost all the administration has changed, teachers have come and gone, and also the schedule." Said Zook.

His feelings toward El Rancho are anything but negative. Zook said, "the thing I am going to miss is the teachers; I have gotten along with them so well. Playing soccer during lunch was always fun. I am sure that I am not going to be able to do that at any other school. And of course the students here because they are the best students out of the entire state."

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STAFF FAREWELLS

Raven Barela

I am really going to miss my journalism class and Mr. Zeko making fun of me because I never do anything that I am supposed to do. I am also going to miss all the students, especially Mariah Leos. She is such a cool girl "Mariah and I go back like babies," I really want to know everyone that class is and who this class enjoys. I feel like I am the person you are. Last but not least I am really going to miss Mr. Zeko, because he is a really funny teacher, and he can make me laugh. He is a great teacher!!!!



Jordan Magana

I would like to say farewell to El Rancho. My many memories here I will never forget, especially those times in the MCJROTC program we used to have. I will remember those times I went to the football games and we would march to the front of the bleachers and here the band play the Star Spangled Banner and we would march back and continue the night with security. The program helped me with everything from leadership to friendship and for that I am grateful. I will remember all the friends I have made, all those that have helped me and I thank all of them. I also thank all the wonderful teachers here for helping me and guiding me on my path to the future along with my burning desire for knowledge. I personally thank Mrs. Bauer for everything she has done for me from teaching me Biology and also for the many lessons in life she has taught me as well as picking me up when I'm down or when life became rough. I would also like to thank Mrs. Oase and Mr. Diaz for helping me learn that I love history even more than I knew, I would also like to thank Mr. Retana for his excellent advise on everything, and I would like to thank Mr. Sanchez for his help in math and his guidance in my future math classes. I would like to thank Mrs. Zeko and Mr. Hartman for their teaching methods and exciting personalities that brought out the best in my English classes. I would like to thank Tony the technician for his friendship and patience with all of us in the computer lab and I would like to thank all the custodians for their time and effort to clean El Rancho. And finally I would like to thank Mr. Zeko for allowing me to write and for teaching me Journalism and giving me the privilege of knowing him and of course his funny wit and humor. Thank you El Rancho and everyone in it for these great and wonderful years!

Clifford Billington

My time here at the Ranch has been one of a kind literally. The reasoning being is that I have met some unique people during my four years here at he lunch and I am very thankful for those people. Also I will miss those people dearly after I am gone from here but always remember that uniqueness will get help get through your days in high school. I will miss the El Rodeo staff and newsroom cause of the crazy fun we all had together, even though times did get rough from time to time. I will also

miss Mr. Zeko and his bald self because he was the best teacher I had out of all teachers I have study under. But I think most of all I will miss all the crazy and wild times I had at lunch with all my friends and Mr. Saucedo. Finally, I will miss the NPR's (Night Pep Rally) for the fact that it is a really unique and fun tradition that all under and upper classmen can enjoy as one school mind and body.

Lizette Ramirez

I have made some great memories in journalism. All the hard work was worth being in the class because Mr. Zeko is such a hilarious man. I'll never forget the silly pictures I took with David and Sam. As much as I was busy writing articles, I always had time to laugh super hard with Sam. Although I was only in this class for one semester, I have written some pretty cool articles. The best memory is how Sam and I wrote an article regarding the cafeteria food, and we got into a fuss with the cafeteria ladies. I felt important because our article actually made a difference! Well, I hope next year the staff will do excellently!

David Ochoa

First of all I'd like to thank Mr. Zeko for everything and for being such a cool cat. He is one of the best teachers I have ever had. He is always blunt and never sugar coats it. His iTunes library is pretty extensive, which is awesome. His jokes never fall short, which always makes the room a relaxed environment. Being Editor-in-Chief has taught me a lot about responsibility. It can be extremely difficult at times, especially laying out the newspaper, but it is a very rewarding job. Now I know how Hugh Hefner feels. Time really did fly by fast. I am going to miss Zeko's room and Zeko. I met some pretty cool, and interesting, people during my tenure on the paper. Also shout out to Des for being there through thick and thin. It got pretty hectic. Thanks Liz and Sam for making it more fun. Working late night during the powder-puff game was pretty sick classic journalist stuff. I won't forget that, Zeko. The USC trip cracked! I grew up a little after joining the paper; it made me more active in school and taught me about deadlines, which I had no previous knowledge of. This was one of the best experiences of my high school career and I highly recommend it. So all of you underclassmen join! I'll never forget it, and I'll never forget Mr. Zeko. I'd also like to thank my brother for always encouraging me to look for stories! Good night and good luck!

Samantha Ruiz

Although I only participated in journalism for the second semester, that class has definitely made a mark on me. I was expecting to write so many articles about whatever was happening in the world, but I quickly realized that I had to appeal to teenagers' interests, more specifically El Rancho's students' interests. It was difficult since I mostly had sports issues to cover, the one topic that I really wasn't looking forward to. However, all went well this semester in journalism. Mr. Zeko definitely made the class fun, even though I did dread the class sometimes. The witty and hilarious students in the class made my friends, Lizette Ramirez

and David Ochoa, and I laugh many times at the stuff they said, especially to Zeko. Although I didn't make any new friends in that class, I wasn't disappointed. All I know now is that journalism isn't exactly my thing, but being in that class isn't a regret because I spent my whole time laughing in that class. Journalism was somewhat of a stress reliever and I thank Mr. Zeko and the rest of the students in that class for unintentionally helping me get through my senior year.

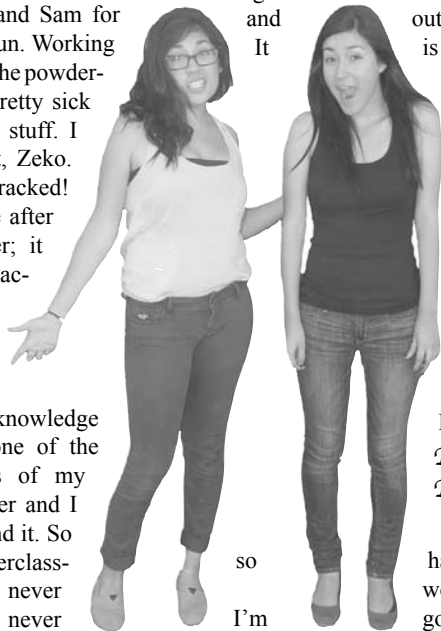
Michelle Chavez

The time has come to say our farewells to The Ranch and El Rodeo. This class was much more different than any other classes I've ever been in, mostly because I came into this class completely clueless. I had signed up for this class thinking I was only going to be introduced to the fundamentals of Journalism and to practice my writing skills. Never did I think I'd be jumping straight into the El Rodeo Newspaper. This class was extremely intimidating because I had no idea how to be a reporter for the school newspaper, but in the end it gave me strong writing skills and made me push myself to become a better writer. This experience has taught me how to write actual news stories and report, which is something I will never forget. Seeing my articles in the newspaper is surreal. These newspapers are something I can keep for years to come to remember these days we had at El Rancho, and remember the way we were. I'd like to thank the El Rodeo Staff and also Mr. Zeko for pushing us every single issue to improve and do ourselves.

It is bittersweet to have to say goodbye to El Rodeo and El Rancho. I will never forget the times I have spent here, nor the life lessons I have learned. Farewell!

Des Degadillo
It's hard to put into words how much I'm going to miss this, and that's probably why everyone leaves writing this until the very last minute. Writing for this newspaper has meant so much to me both on a professional and personal level. I walked into Mr. Zeko's classroom for the first time back in August not sure of what to expect, and I can say that I'll be walking out for the last time with at least some semblance of "competence?"

I can't thank all of you individually, because that would involve me taking up an entire page, again, but I'll thank a few of you. Jordan: Through it all, you were always right there beside me, literally. Thanks so much for having a sense of humor and letting me pick on you as only I can, as well as engaging in lots of random anime debates, and listening to my "brilliant" movie pitches. I'm going to be famous one day because of you; I just know it. David: Thanks for be-



ing the guy I could have political debates with and win.

Brandon: Thanks for always being entertaining, and for having enough of a sense of humor to know when I'm joking sometimes. At least, I think you know I'm joking; I could never tell. I'm very proud of you and your improved ability to point out sarcasm; you're only off about 50 percent of the time now, which is progress. Baby steps, buddy.

Destinee: Thank you for constantly bickering with Brandon in class. You have no idea how many hours of entertainment that has given me and the rest of the staff, I'm sure. More importantly though, thanks for being your awesome self. You're the one person who I love making fun of to a degree, because I don't want to feel your fiery wrath if I overstep my comedic boundaries. You're a wonderful person to be around, and all the help you've given me is greatly appreciated. Let's try to not lose track of each other as life carries us away on our own separate journeys.

Lastly, Zeko: Thanks for everything you've helped me do. Thank you for telling me when I did something horribly wrong; you and that boring book you made us read taught me so much about the fundamental parts of journalism, parts that I know I'll be using next year in college and throughout the rest of my life as the next breakout pro wrestling journalist.

Thanks to all of you for putting up with me for a year. I can safely say that I could not have done the same. Kudos to you, and in all honesty, thank you. My only advice for next year is as follows: refrain from not being awesome.

Not sure if we're allowed to print this, but I'm writing it anyway! Honeybadger Swag for Life! <3
Gabby Garcia

A year has gone by too fast! But I must say, I enjoyed every second of it. Being part of El Rodeo has taught me many things about what it's like to be part of a newspaper staff and taking action in in the actual writing.

At the beginning of the year I came in with such dedication to write in the school newspaper, and now at the very end of the year, I leave knowing I did my best to participate in the paper. Journalism has opened my mind to a broader view of what it's like to be expected to entertain students who read a story.

Taking the responsibility to write the suggestions from Moxie has also helped me immensely by allowing me to relay music entertainment to the students of El Rancho.

I can definitely say that I will miss all the El Rodeo Staff, who kept me laughing the entire time this year, watching everyone try to make every paper the best they could, and the effort we all put in to make every issue possible.

I will miss all my friends that kept me the best company these years, and of course the teachers that have helped me in every way they had to. Although I was not here my freshman year, I can say that these past three years have been a great time: the campus, the students, the teachers, the adventures, and yes, even the long lunch lines and the annoying seagulls. I'll miss those too.

Next year will be a year of more responsibilities and a stage of greater importance. ERHS has been the place where I've had the best memories of my preteen and teenage life.

So thank you to all those people who made me laugh, kept me company, made me smile, and

taught me many things. I wouldn't have made it without all the support and dedication from counselors to help me and everyone else make the best decisions in high school.

Farewell El Rancho High School, farewell teachers, farewell students. And remember: Have a Don day!!

Destinee Ortiz

My time here at El Rancho went by too fast. I've had more ups than downs and couldn't ask for anything better. The biggest thing I will miss about this campus is its teachers. This school has some of the greatest educators to have ever walked this planet. I would really like to thank Mr. Rojo. Rojo taught me so many life lessons my freshman year and I truly thank him for that. I would also like to add a huge thank you to Mr. Hartman. He was the best thing to happen to this school. I view things so differently now. I know for a fact that I am leaving this school with more knowledge than I could have ever imagined. This is all because of Hartman.

Another man that has taught me so much is Mr. Zeko. Through everything he has gone through with El Rodeo, he still loves us, no matter how crazy we drive him.

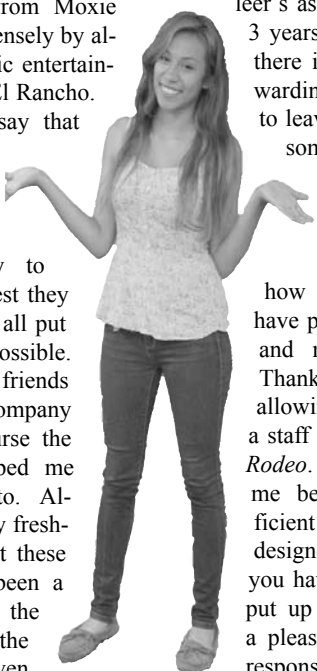
Apart from the staff, I also love the students here. I have met some of the greatest friends on this campus. I have also met some pretty cool people here in the newspaper. These people are like my second family. We have spent so many days together and have grown closer with one another. It will be hard to part with these unique individuals.

Good luck to all the incoming classes. You will enjoy your time here at the ranch. Do well and never give up on yourselves.

Mariah Leos

It's incredibly difficult to explain myself in so many words. Senior year has by far been the hardest, fastest, and most challenging year out of the four, but the experience has been truly worth it. As the final week approaches and the ending of my childhood will be the beginning of my adulthood, I can leave with some sense and knowledge that all my most difficult obstacles have made me a stronger, and more confident young woman. Needless to say my memories I created here at El Rancho has been truly one for the books. From juggling Newspaper to Chora-leer's as a daily routine for 3 years, I have found that there is nothing more rewarding than being able to leave high school with some appreciation and the ability to work my absolute hardest. Journalism has taught me how important it is to have patience, dedication, and meeting deadlines! Thank you Mr. Zeko for allowing me to work as a staff writer/layout for *El Rodeo*. You have helped me become a more efficient writer and layout designer. I appreciate all you have done and had to put up with! It was truly a pleasure and took great responsibility to be your bright and shining favorite!

As well as thank you to the *El Rodeo* staff who worked by my side for 2 years and teaching me everything about being apart of a team. I will never take for granted what I have learned here at El Rancho. Its apart of me, it made me who I am today, and I will take what I have been taught and use it to the best of my abilities.



SENIOR WILLS

I, Bryan Perez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my privilege of using Mr. Melgar's microwave to my beautiful girlfriend Osiris, my TA position to my amazing girlfriend Osiris, my spanish speaking skills to my incredible girlfriend Osiris, and everything else to my beloved teachers (: you know who you are :)

I, Daniel Martinez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my hairspray and hair dye to Gorge, my shoes to Edgar, and my great powers to manipulate time and space to Mr. Rojo

I, NICOLE JAIME, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: MY RUNNING SHOES TO EVEYLN BURGOS TO HELP HER PUSH HERSELF AND TRY HARD EVERYDAY AS I DID IN MY SHOES. MY SPOT BY THE TREE TO FRESHMAN TED SO HE CAN BE A COOL KID LIKE ME. LAST BUT NOT LEAST MY AMAZING TAN TO ALL THE TRACK KIDS!

I, Elma (Susy) Oliveros, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My weirdness, but outgoing trait to Nayalie Moreno, because she needs to socialize a little bit more and to never be shy. Also I'd leave my choir shirt from 2009-2010 year. I'd leave those funny moments we've had to Jazmin Soto, like the branch almost falling on me. (Payback will come haha)

I, Valerie Conde, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: I am going miss this great school. I am so thankful for all the teachers' help. I am going to forever bleed blue. I am always going to be a DON. 2012

I, Clifford Billington, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my hang out spot to Adrianna, my advice skills to Milton, my shades to Nick, and finally my jokes and humor to Stephanie.

I, Nathaniel Gonzalez A.K.A. Nate Dogg, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: A staff that will take care of you, School events that will knock your socks off, Students that might take your money at lunch, Finally I leave a school paper that we will all appreciate.

P.S I leave Mr. Zeko to Mrs. Zeko

I, Cameron Valencia, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the follow-

ing: My dancing moves and crazy way of lifestyle to the schools spirit so that everyone would have more pride.

I, Devan Leos, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My laughs and joking skills to Lisa Maturino, and my tallness to Brianna Estrada!

I, Johnathan Cerda, being of

sic to Mr. Meza, my different accents to Mr. Diaz and finally my gratitude to all my teachers and friends who I leave behind especially everyone I cannot mention here because I don't have enough stuff.

I, Damian P. Garcia, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My gratitude to all the teachers that put up with me and helped me get through these years at El Rancho. And to my younger brother Adrian, I leave my experience and regrets, "do not follow them!" Do better! God bless you all.

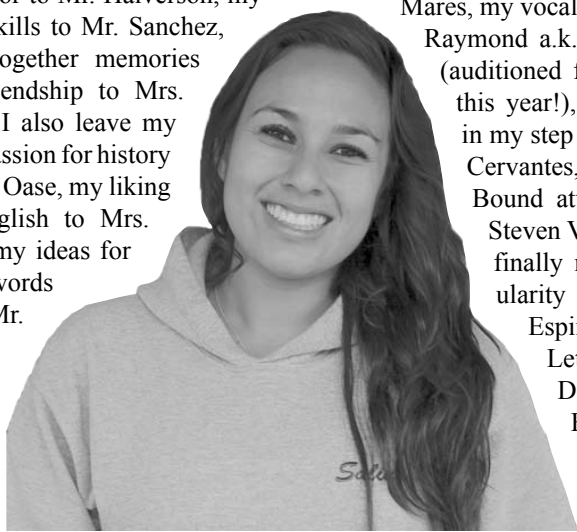
I, Ricardo Chavez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my goggles to Levi, my speed and 500 to Daniel G., and finally all of my swag and swim caps to Nick Murillo and Marcus.

I, Pedro Herrera, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: The success of the track team to Andre Hernandez and Kelvin Conner.

I, Samantha Ruiz, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My complaints of the tough times during senior year, especially in those DAMNA.P. classes, my serious face to any teacher who leaves me in wonder, and my evil laugh to those who feel comfortable enough to show their true selves. Hopefully, goodbye forever! :) (P.S. I'll be proudly representing this school when I attend college.)

I, David A. Ochoa, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: The Tree to Louie and Pepe "SLW!" My knowledge of music to Javi, Chris, and Dennis. The newspaper to next year's staff. My legend to Fig, Meza, Zeko, Schneidman, Orihuela and all the other sick teachers and friends I met. Party hard and good luck!

I, Jordan Magana, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My vulcan powers to Victor, my spanish memories to Cruz, my government knowledge to Odanis, my patriotism to Mr. Elias, my speech skills to Enrique, my singing voice to Savannah, my seriousness to Art, my sense of humor to Mr. Halverson, my math skills to Mr. Sanchez, my altogether memories and friendship to Mrs. Bauer, I also leave my fiery passion for history to Mrs. Oase, my liking for English to Mrs. Zeko, my ideas for new words to Mr. Zeko, my pictures and mu-

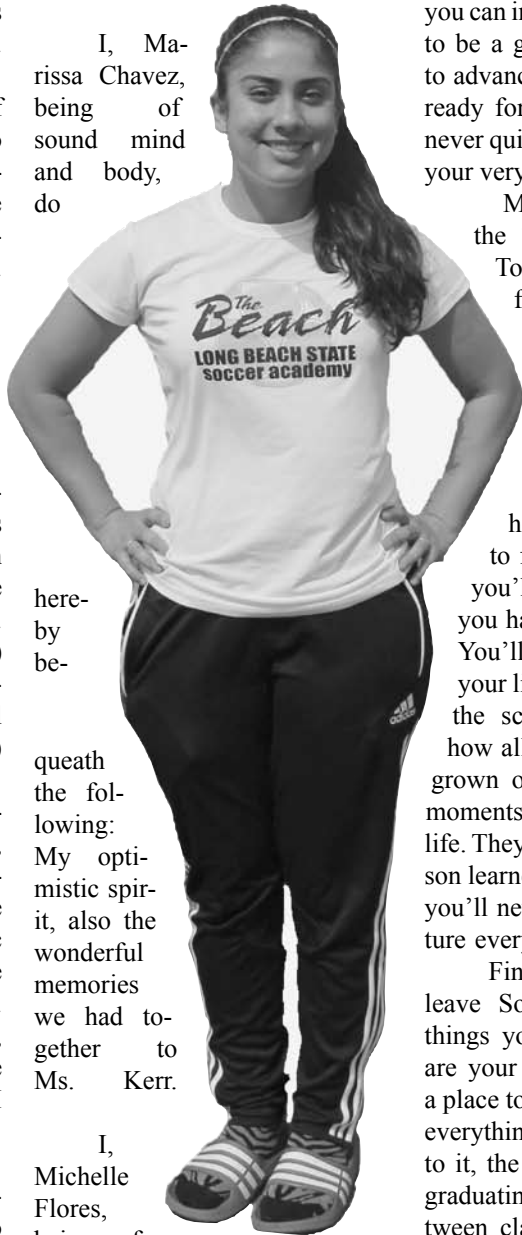


I, Lizette Ramirez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my tennis optimism to Jackie Escobar, GALINDO, and team Lippy! My love to my cousin Jaime, and my second cousin Edgar, my seaweed to MR. O! BDV! my last hug to Luis, and lastly, I give my smile to Mr. Meza. Have a wonderful next year! Oh lawdy! <3

I, Jacob Sanchez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My wrestling swag, cool shades, and my heart to Cathy Borunda <3

I, Maricela Duran, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My Colorguard talent and gloves to Christina Lara, my rifle to Kristen and my saber to Alex <3

I, Marissa Chavez, being of sound mind and body, do



hereby be-

queath the following: My optimistic spirit, also the wonderful memories we had together to Ms. Kerr.

I, Michelle Flores, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: All the good memories we had to my best friend Stephanie Espinoza.=D

I, Henry Garcia, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: I leave my sneakers, Leave my body, leave my music, and finally, I would leave my own favorite sweater.

I, Juan Garcia, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: I Juan Garcia leaves, my little brother to Joe and John, and my skateboard to Kim, and finally my personality to Daniele.

I, Anthony Noriega, being of sound mind and body,

do hereby bequeath the following: I leave my all my reading books to the school library, I'll leave all the food that I ever ate here to all the underclassmen, I will leave my El Rancho beanie to Mr. Genis, and all my tardies to who ever wants them.

I, Desiree Aldana, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: I have three senior wills to give out!

My first is Mindset. My mindset was never to quit. High school like the rest of life will be a roller coaster of emotions. You will have classes you love and classes that make you feel sick when you enter them. Whatever the feeling, don't quit. Quitting is the easy way out; it's the way cowards deal with things. Unless the circumstances call for it quitting is not the way to go. Learn all you can in high school. Learn how to be a good person. Learn how to advance your own life and get ready for college. But above all never quit. In sports, classes, or in your very own beliefs, never quit.

My second is I'm giving the Treasure of Memories. To take pictures from the first day of high school to the day you graduate.

Try to capture every single moment, the good times and the bad. So by the time you've graduated you'll have a time line from start to finish. Before your eyes you'll be able to see how you have grown and changed. You'll have the proof of how your life has transformed, how the school has changed and how all the familiar faces have grown older. You'll have those moments for the rest of your life. They can remind you of a lesson learned or a precious moment you'll never want to let go. Capture everything and never forget.

Finally, I would like to leave Some Advice. The only things you need to take serious are your classes. High school is a place to experience pretty much everything. When it comes down to it, the only important thing is graduating, and the gossip between classes will not help you get there. Another piece of advice is start saving for your senior year on your first day of high school because its freaking expensive!!!!

Good Luck to all the Incoming Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors! Congratulations "Class of 2012"! We Did It!!

I, Ethan Covington, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: I would like to leave my procrastination, my missing assignments, and my backpack to a new freshman because they might need it. My Procrastination to make the year go by faster.

My missing assignments could be used for a boost your grade or a "get into mainstream quick scheme" in case the student starts out average.

Finally, my backpack to aid this student with carrying

SENIOR WILLS

his/her schoolwork and supplies.

I, Alex Sanchez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My Football bro's my #52,#68, and #77 because I worn those Jerseys so to all up coming players make us proud bro's and leave Jasmin Jimenes my varsity strap and I patch but overall if you need me you know I'll be there buddy! P.S. leave all my tardies. (x'

I, Jason Castaneda, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: i would like to leave all my homework and class work to all the little freshmen. I will also like to give all my tardies to my friend Joe.

I, Angel Lopez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my tiny tick tacks to my girlfriend Desire Figueroa

I, Joanna Ortiz, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My spot on the varsity soccer team and my lucky pencil (if I had one) to Julia. My Heart and High School Goalie skills to David, my AP Study Books to Daniel, and some chap stick to Chris L.

I, MAURICIO RODRIGUEZ, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: all my school materials given to Eduardo Toscano.

I, Valerie Morales, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: leave my Poms to Dana Gallegos, my Stool to Ashley Esparza, my Letterman to Bailey Gallegos and the Hangout spot to Anthony Diaz "Ted." I will miss you four dearly and the 2012 Cheerios.

I, Ashley Sotelo, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my Frankenstein book to the next senior willing to use it, and a congratulations to the upcoming seniors to have fun and to do a good job next year. (:

I, Valerie Corrales, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My great dancing skills to Anissa Sanchez.

I, Marissa Rivas, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My outfield glove to Vivian Alpuche and my red bow to Brianna Ramos.

I, Steven Gomez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My football cleats to Alfred Villanueva, use them wisely and kick butt on the football field, your the captain of the team now, so lead your team to victory.

I, Christian Mota, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my Frankenstein book to Ms. Figueroa.

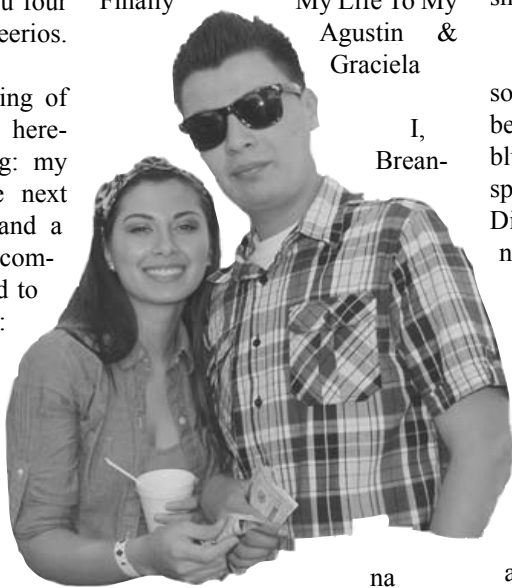
I, Lezley Barrientez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My letterman jacket and ninja tennis raquet to my protege Alondra Santana, my warrior horns to Christina Garcia, my "nakedness" to Natalia S, Sophia R, and Aiyana L. R., my coach's award to Jackie E, my mom's sugar cookie recipe and my changing corner in Lippy's room to Jocelyn M, and my First-Aid kit to Lippy. To the rest of the tennis team, I wish you the best of luck!

I, Tammy Nguyen, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my extraordinary procrastination skills to Jennifer Barnes, Monserrat Marquez, Nina Marquez, Bryan Marquez, Isaac Rodriguez, and Chris Rivera as their senior year is rapidly approaching. I also leave my awkward sense of humor and easygoingness to them in hopes that they won't turn into crazed beasts when the going gets tough. Consider this a small token of appreciation for everything, and have yourselves a memorable senior year.

I, Miguel Gutierrez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My undying love for anime to Amber Cardenas.

I, Ashley Torres, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: we love you ash ! <3

I, Jerry Huff aka Big L.O.C., being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My Letterman Jacket to My Sylvia, My Football Cleats To Justin, My Snoopy to Crystal, and Finally My Life To My Agustin & Graciela



I, Brea-na

Henry, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: I would like to wish all of my fellow underclassman the very best in everything that you do. I hope my link crew freshman stay on top of everything and enjoy the next 3 years of high school and make as many memories as I did. I would like to leave my cap and gown to my lovely Evelyn Salazar<3 I would like to thank El Rancho's track and field for giving me a chance to be apart of such an amazing season. You all have given me such special and funny memories that I will never forget. & last but not least

I want to give my greatest hopes and wishes to my beautiful sister Bailee Henry. Spending this last year with you was more than I could ever ask for. You are more than amazing and I Love You. Now shine and leave the mark you have already created and go out with a bang! I hope your senior year is just as amazing.<3

I, Hazel Flores, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: the keys of knowledge to my de-cath-darlings, a legacy of mischief for my drama kids, and the purposeless point of clandestine missions

to Nina Rose

I, Desire Figueroa, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My mustache background to Brandii Wood and Jazmine Leon, my awesomeness to Crystal Torres and Kristian Ortega Velasquez I give my best wishes to his girlfriend and the rest of his school year to Anthony Ayala my little brother, and last but not least I give my best wish to Cheyenne Figueroa have a great 3 years of school your amazing don't give up keep your head up high I love you sis!

I, Raven Barela, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: I give my sense of humor to Samantha Gurrola. I hope she uses it to the fullest!!!!

I, Jovita Zamora, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my big blue swimming bag with all my spirit & knowledge to Julissa Diaz & nothing else because no one else deserves anything.

I, Steven Gomez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My jersey number (#76) to my little brother Bryan Gomez and all my Homework, Test, Essays and Notes, so he can succeed and not get in trouble like he just did last night haha. Much love, your bigger bro, Steven.

I, Lauren Maduro, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: these ass cheeks to my under classmen ;)

I, Jessie Lee Pinon, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: Leave my undivided love to my "Baby Brother" and "Little Brother" Andreas & Jacob Moghimi!! I want to leave all my passion for music to the Band Program in hopes that an incoming freshman will take it and do wonderful things in the El Rancho Band! And my

leadership skills to all the new Link Leaders of 2012-2013, and finally I leave perhaps the best words of wisdom I've ever heard while in High School: keep your head up because... It gets better.

I, Edwin Bernal, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: Would like to leave Daniel Becerra my basketball practice jersey.

I would also like to leave Brandon Rico the swag he never had and my dodge ball shirt.

Luis Acosta will get my basketball

skills. Basketball Program I would like to leave high hopes for next season and every season to come.

To all my friends and everyone that I have meet I leave you all the memories that we have made this past years.

I, Samantha Valle, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My cap and gown to my brother and sisters: Margarita, Enrique, Dalia, and Andrea Valle who are all currently attending El Rancho.

I, Edgar Llamas, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: For all the ELD students that will continue in El Rancho High School I will let them to use the books that I used to use in my ELD classes I also want to thank all my ELD teacher that helped me to improve my English like Ms. Valle Ms. Mayeshiro Ms. Figueroa and also Mr. Martinez who was not my teacher but I learned a lot of things from him. I also will let other students to use the place that my friends and I used to use for eat and play.

I, Jessica Martinez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My lunch table to the upcoming seniors so birds wont poop on you guys&& that is all.

I, Joyce Lopez, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My fashion sense and #teamshwatt to Samantha Herrera, my riffle to Danielle Serrano, my humor to Lisa Maturino, my cold heart to David Mares, my outgoing talents to Jennifer Soto, my cat to Julissa Diaz, & last & least, my jazz shoes to Jacqueline Reyes.

I, Tenaya Armijo, being of

sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my passion and wisdom to Esteni Mungia, my advice skills and cake books to Brigitte Garcia, my determination to Marylou Herrera, my confessions to Jeana Hernandez, my book of adventures to Joshua "Freddy" Forniss, my raps to Celeste Reyes, my faith to Aileen and Crystal Rodriguez, my humor to Lisa Marie Maturino, "team shwatt" to Samantha Sheila Herrera, and my Heart to Alina Espinoza

I, Des Delgadillo, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My apparent inability to spell the word "bequeath," apparently, as I've tried it about five different ways now; my love of all things geeky to the lovable geeks whose names I never bothered to learn, as well as the knowledge that there were, in fact, seventy-three episodes of the original Star Trek, because "The Menagerie" was originally a two-parter; my love of all things coffee to Stephanie Gellekanao, who I believe has already surpassed me in this; and, lastly, my awe-inspiring charisma and unabashed rapier wit to anyone who thinks himself awesome enough to have it. IN all seriousness, thank you for all the memories, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

I, Angela Nieves, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: My humor and kindness to Alina, Esteni, Taylor, Melissa, and My hard earned experience as an El Rancho Choraleer to any new members going into choir next year.

We, Michelle, Amaris, and Blondie, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: "the Tree" that we have been at since freshman year. Don't ever leave it! We've had so many memories at the tree. It's your responsibility now as we leave it with you Jennifer Cervantes, Alondra Tapia, Lisa Maturino, Andrea Torres, and Lorie Aceves. We also leave our great memories with you guys and hope that you never forget the funny times we've shared at school. Don't stop yelling out and scaring Gilbert just because we won't be there anymore. Another thing, don't let Alondra turn completely chola. Girls, we love you! Don't forget us! WOLF PACK 4 EVA.

I, Jesse Villanueva, being of sound mind and body, do hereby bequeath the following: my fondest memories to all the incoming freshmen who have to spend four years in this amazing school. I leave my trombone to any incoming fresh musician who is committed to music. I will also leave my booty shaking moves to my favorite fresh "woman" Jackie(: . I also want to leave my intelligence to the next year's seniors because you will need it! #JustSaying [Class Of 2012<3]

SENIOR FAVORITES

Favorite Movies



Favorite Television Shows



Favorite Radio Stations



Favorite Clothing Brands



Favorite Websites



Favorite Restaurants



Favorite Sports Teams



Favorite Hot Spots



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