



El Rodeo



Sports Medicine class addresses campus safety



BY NAYELI HERNANDEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Not only is ROP Sports Medicine one of the most popular classes on campus, it's also one making a difference in the district, one project at a time.

Mr. DeAndre Woods' fifth period ROP Sports Medicine class recently pre-

sented their project on the school evacuation plan to administration members on November 21. The class consisting of seniors Daniel Reyes, Nathan Rodriguez, Sara Polanco, Jimena Garcia, Jazly Rojas and juniors, Denver Esparza, Bryan Sotelo, and Jennifer Belman, worked for two weeks to develop and fix the evacuation plan for the school.

Originally assigned as a small project designed to understand the process of applying and implementing an emergency action plan on a campus for athletic events, the project quickly morphed into an assignment with a much bigger picture.

Each student of the project was assigned to different facilities on campus, like the weight room, and contributed

to a power point presentation. The audience of the presentation consisted of Mr. Woods; Assistant Principal of Activities, Mrs. April Leal; counselor, Mr. Ray Peña; Athletic Department Coordinator, Mr. Ray Elliot; and Tri-Cities ROP College & Career Pathway Advisor, Mrs. Cuevas.

The students discovered vital information about the school's evacuation plan, but there was one key issue throughout their findings.

"We have a major lack in first aid kits," said Esparza, "We're trying to work on getting some more."

However, the lack in kits isn't an issue of neglect or carelessness. In fact, this issue is rooted in funding and knowledge, or lack thereof.

"The issue lies in both concepts," said Belman, "We don't have a first-aid kit in every athletic facility, which is just the basics."

"It's also in the fact that the district doesn't know exactly what we need," said Garcia.

Aside from first-aid kits, the students also noticed a lack of other pieces of equipment in the evacuation plan.

"First-aid kits are just the basics," said Reyes, "We need AEDs, which are lifesavers, and spine boards. That's just a small look into the things we need."

Aside from giving an informative presentation, the students were graded on the attire they choose to present with. Needless to say, the group's teacher, Mr. Woods, was more than proud of his students and the information they sought out and presented.

Get Lit Poets and Versa dancers inspire students

BY ALEKSEY SOTO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

In an effort to bring the arts into the lives of its students, El Rancho welcomed dancers from the Versa-style dance crew and two Get Lit Poets on Friday, November 4th. Students with second-period English classes were allowed to attend the assembly, along with students from both Rivera Elementary School and North Park Academy of the Arts.

Versa-style, an 11-member dance company, fused hip-hop and Latin beats for their first dance titled Legacy: a high-energy dance that paid homage to both the roots of hip-hop and the dancers' own roots. Get Lit poets Kylen Turner and Walter Finnie also presented two poems: "Sister" and "#Vote4BlackFutures." The poems tackled modern-day issues that were both captivating and inspiring.

The two groups are linked to the Flourish Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides opportunities for youth in middle and high schools to be involved in the arts.

While El Rancho has a wide array of classes and activities to offer, there is a



Photo by Noah Perez

lack of focus on the arts even though many agree that they enrich the lives of the students involved. "A lot of times students don't think that art is a core part of what we do, so it's good to have that showcase opportunity," said principal Mr. Lyons.

"I'm always fascinated by supporting schools that desperately need [the arts], and I feel like El Rancho does need them," says Jackie Lopez, the Flourish Foundation's Executive Director. "The arts changed my life, and I know there's a desperate need for kids being inspired and knowing the possibilities."

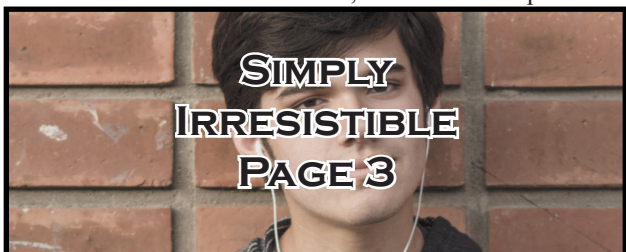
The arts have positively influenced both the Get Lit Players' and the Versa-style dance crew's lives. Versa-style's manager, Harry Weston, said, "I've never felt so authentically myself. I don't have to be anybody or say anything right. I get to just do me." Finnie added, "To me, spoken word means to be free. Everything about life inspires me."

The Flourish Foundation funds Mrs. Zeko's annual "Night of Spoken Word," and previous participants are incredibly grateful for the chance to have been a part of it. "I have an enormous passion for poetry

that I would've never discovered had it not been for the Flourish Foundation," junior Esmeralda Barajas said, "They allowed me and my peers to express our creativity."

To anyone interested in or considering becoming involved in any performing arts, "Take the initiative and do it. Don't say 'I'll do it later' or 'If my friend isn't then I'm not,'" Turner says.

"If it's something you're passionate about, then it's worth exploring," said Mr. Lyons.



Seniors!

1. Financial Aid (FAFSA) application is open! Apply as soon as possible.
2. CSU&UC application deadline: November 30, 2016
3. Private School deadline: Varies by school. Research your choices!
4. CSS Profile application: Varies by school.
5. Search and apply for scholarships! (Examples: Hispanic Scholarship Fund, Cal Grant, etc.)
6. Write your personal statements! Do not delay on writing and editing.
7. Create a Resume or brag sheet (found in the College & Career Center, G1) to keep track of your accomplishments. They can be useful to whoever writes your letter of rec.
8. Letters of Recommendation: Be sure to give your recommenders at least a two weeks notice before you would like to receive them.
9. Visit the upstairs library Tuesdays-Thursdays for 1 on 1 help with any of the above.
10. Keep in touch with your counselors to help stay on track and ready for college.
11. Join Be A Leader club (meetings every other Tuesday) for more assistance and college reminders. All grades are welcome! See Michelle Sandoval (michelle.sandoval@bealeaderfoundation.org) in the CCC or VP of Admissions, Jocelyn Estrada (jocelynestrada99@gmail.com) for more information!

MEChA is down, brown, and college bound!

BY SAMANTHA CHAVEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER



MEChA is back at "The Ranch" 8 years later and stronger than ever, once again promoting higher education, culture, and history.

MEChA stands for "Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano De Aztlán." Every letter in "MEChA" represents the importance of the club. "Movimiento" means that the club is dedicated to gain rights for their people. "Estudiantil" means that students are part of their culture's future. "Chicano" was given to them as their identity. People initially

viewed this word as an insult, but it is now worn as a badge of honor. Last but not least, "Aztlán," is the declaration that they are native people to this land and where it all began, the homeland of all the people from Anahuak.

This club was initiated by a group of students who were inspired by a Chicano Studies course offered at Cal State Long Beach this past summer. With the help of club advisors, Mr. Gutierrez and Mr. Magdaleno, the club is not only coming back to El Rancho, but is also being introduced to the district's new high school, Ellen Ochoa Prep Academy. Both clubs participated

in their first field trip together at San Diego State University to take part in the most important yearly MEChA meeting. The club plans to use the trip for future MEChA events.

"The primary goal of the MEChA club is to promote Chicano unity in our community. Since it's a fresh start for MEChA, you can expect new and exciting events planned out for the year, so we encourage all students to get involved and join our club" says club President Jocelyn Ortega. Are you brown, down and college bound? That's their motto! If so, don't forget meetings are every Monday in Q1 during lunch.

Teen Court makes changes

BY BERNICE VEGA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Teen Court, now known as "El Rancho Law Society", changed their name due to their focus on all things law.

El Rancho Law and Society is taking their club to the next level by broadening their horizons. They are opening the court sessions to different schools while taking hold of new projects.

The club has now taken the new project of creating a mock trial team to compete in competitions in the upcoming year.

This team has to memorize cases that have already been put on trial, reenacting the individuals and using the evidence



El Rancho Law Society gathers for a new direction with the program.

to portray the roles given such as eye witnesses, the defendant, defense attorneys, prosecutors, etc.

The court session is to be

portrayed as an actual case with no help from adults throughout the session. At the end the case is given a ruling based off performances and use of evidence.

El Rancho Law Society is now also opening up the courtroom to new schools in order to help them get a feel of how the club works.

The club is planning on training the middle schools: Steam Academy @ Burke, Rivera Middle School, and North Park Middle School to be able to participate this year in the court rooms as well. The training is to be started soon in order to involve more of the community into the well doings of helping defendants.

El Rancho Law Society is now a better and more improved program thanks to the advisors Mr. Elias and Alexis Hernandez with the time they have put in.

Stop the Dakota Access Pipeline at Standing Rock

EL RODEO STAFF WRITER
BY KATHERINE HERRERA

Indigenous people are in the fight of their lives and the cause they are protesting won't only affect them. The Dakota Access Pipeline is a \$3.7 billion project crossing four states, which will either lead to an environmental disaster or a benefit for the economy. Does our society value water enough to protect the livelihood of our animals, ecosystem, and our own lives?

In North Dakota, at least 411 protesters have been arrested trying to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline. "Water protectors," protesters of more than 200 tribes, say that the pipeline would harm the Missouri River, the river that provides the tribe their water, and also interfere with burial grounds and sacred grounds.

If the Dakota Access Pipeline is passed, a leak could destroy and poison the water and all resources around it. Stopping the pipeline completely is

the only clear solution. Indigenous people are risking their lives and putting themselves in harm's way to protect their lives, animals, plants and our lives.

Native Americans have been taken advantage of for centuries and the government is allowing it to continue. Money isn't everything, but protecting water is. President Obama must put a stop to its continuation. Continuing this protest will help because the future is in our hands.

The Sioux of Native

American Tribes needs support, food, donations, shelter, media coverage and important, influential people to help. Stand by the individuals who protect the water. Donations accepted are winter clothing and supplies for the protesters camping out. You can help donate thru Go Fund Me bit.ly/SacredStoneFund, to camp using paypal fund- bit.ly/SacredStonePaypalFund, and thru legal defense fund- bit.ly/SacredStoneLegal.

El Rodeo

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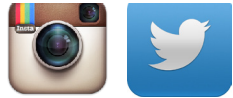
El Rodeo, the student newspaper of El Rancho High School is an open, public forum for student expression and an opportunity to discuss its audience's issues of concern. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the position of the school board, administration, sponsors,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

The Editorial Board, which consists of the editor-in-chief, section editors, and assistant editors, will determine the content of El Rodeo.

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

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Los Plebes Del Rancho High School the next rising stars



By SEBASTIAN ARZATE
EL RANCHO STAFF WRITER

One Direction? More like Juan Direction, am I right Dons? Aspiring Mexican boy band

“Los Plebes Del Rancho High School” became a Twitter sensation after posting a video depicting the boys singing Spanish songs such as “Que Caro Estoy Pagando” and “Yo soy Ivan” in an effort to model the Mexican

singers which Los Plebes grew up listening to as little kids.

The band consists of four senior soccer players: Luis Rodriguez, Christian Mayorga, Fernando Vargas and Luis Arias. The boys just suddenly felt “like singing after bonding over songs at the end of a hard day of practice.”

All of the band members have come up with creative nicknames for one another. The two leading singers: Fernando Vargas and Luis Arias are known as “El Guero de Zacatecas,” and “El Roly Poly” respectively. The instrument players: Luis Rodriguez and Christian Mayorga are known as “El Fantasma” and “El Rayo de Jalisco.”

Having all grown up with

the same music, they decided to post a video of them performing. The group of amateur band members uses their soccer bags as their instruments, guitars, accordion, and tuba, as well as their phones as microphones.

Although the band consists mainly of the four boys, they’ve brought in three special guests to appear in their two small music videos they posted to Twitter. The first guest, Senior, Efrain Chavez was featured as a backup singer in their first video using the song “Gente de Accionar” The other two seniors, Jonathan Quintana and Christian Arteaga, were also used as background dancers in their most recent video to the popular song “Tamarindo.”

The boys decided to create these videos as a way “to have fun doing something fun for everyone to enjoy,” stated Luis Rodriguez. “We love Mexican music and just want to share what we have with everyone,” added Fernando Vargas. Performing in front of their friends has gone viral with on has received 640 retweets and 797 likes on their video so far.

The band can be seen performing either outside of the EL Rancho High School cafeteria or Smith Park after practice.

If you’re unable to watch the boys perform live you can always check them out on Twitter on, Senior Luis Rodriguez’s account, @raaatcheluis.

El Rancho’s cutest couple takes our hearts

By DANAE RODRIGUEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Our couple of the month cannot be stopped! From spending three years together to winning sophomore homecoming prince and princess, there is nothing they can’t do!

Alexis and Cezar met in 7th grade in Mrs. Padillas class. However, their story of how they got together is not a usual one. Alexis said “He asked me for my number, and I gave him ‘911’, I did not know him at all. Maybe a week later I asked him if he had kik and we talked.” After much talking, the two soon became best friends. One year later they made things official on June 6th, 2014. They’ve been together for two years and four months and are still counting.

If you do not know, Cezar and Alexis won sophomore homecoming prince and princess. “Oh my God, to win homecoming prince and princess was the best thing ever. I kept telling Cezar before we walked, ‘I’m nervous, I’m nervous.’ And he just kept telling me ‘it’s gonna be okay! What-



ever happens, we’ll be okay.’ And when we won, we both looked at each other and were just so happy because we won together.” said Alexis. “It was really exciting to hear our names. Alexis was ten times more nervous than I was! That’s all she talked about since the day people nominated us, but I was also really happy that we won together” added Cezar.

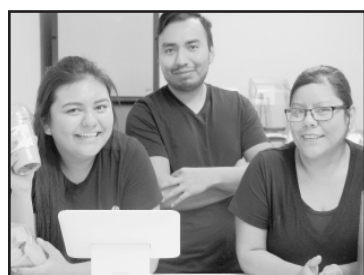
Cezar’s favorite memory with Alexis happens to be their first date. They went to the theater and watched the movie Oculus; they shared laughs, scares, and great memories. But the movies isn’t the only type of date these two have been on together. Together they traveled to San Diego to watch a Dodger game; they

went to Halloween Horror Nights at Universal Studios, Disneyland, and many surprise picnics.

They can maintain a strong relationship with “trust, honesty, and happiness” according to Cezar. Although they do encounter problems as every relationship does, Alexis says they overcome these problems by “telling each other how we can’t just give up on a strong two-year relationship, that we work so hard on to keep going.”

This power couple is still going strong and plans on continuing their journey through high school and throughout the rest of their lives. Many more memories and adventures await for this cute couple and their future!

Restaurant Review: Veranos-the new hangout spot



By JOCELYN ESTRADA
AND
SEBASTIAN ARZATE
EL RODEO STAFF WRITERS

Hey Dons, take a trip to Verano’s juice bar for all things fruity, juicy and spicy! Verano’s mini ribbon cutting ceremony was supported by many friends and family members and one of El Rancho’s very own, at 6670 Rosemead Blvd., Pico Rivera on October 23rd.

Elizabeth Lopez is a senior at El Rancho, and her mother Margarita was inspired to open their shop when she realized her life as a housewife would change as Elizabeth “Liz” would soon be leaving for college and her el-

dest son, Geovani Lopez, would be moving out as well. The Lopez family then decided that it was time for mom to make some money doing something she enjoys, mostly to keep her busy. As Liz’s father Marco Lopez would always tell his family, “You guys don’t work for anyone, you are your own boss,” and so the process to opening Verano’s began.

Verano’s is extremely family friendly. It’s “somewhere you can just chill and use the Wi-Fi while enjoying a bowl of fruit.” The restaurant’s mascot/symbol is the elephant which takes the place of the “O” in Verano’s logo and can be found throughout the shop on the walls and as little figures on the counters which remind the Lopez’s of their family and home as they stick together through all times, as elephants do.

They named the restaurant “Verano’s” because it translates to “summer” in Spanish and the Lopez family wanted to “always

keep a little bit of summer alive.” The restaurant is family run, and Elizabeth’s favorite item on the menu is the watermelon bowl which includes cut watermelon, chamoy, tajin, “Salsagheti” candy and nuts. Her favorite part of making this treat is handing it to the customer because “their reactions are the best, as if they’ve never seen anything like it before.”

The restaurant has been successful so far, but it did not always come along that easy. The process to opening day had challenges including waiting for permits and clearances, as well as deciding their location. Their location was the best option, as they would have many supportive neighbors in their shopping center and great business on a busy street like Rosemead in the middle of Pico Rivera.

Be sure to visit Liz and her family at Verano’s between 8 am and 9 pm soon, and enjoy the best quality fruit and juices in town!



By JOCELYN ESTRADA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Junior Manning may not be related to NFL star quarterback Peyton Manning, but he’s definitely THE MAN of the game and simply irresistible.

Manning will never fail to make you laugh, smile or keep you updated on memes. If he isn’t posting hilarious memes on Twitter, you’ll probably find him snuggled up listening to music and making people laugh in the Little Theater’s green room. If you’re into LISA: The Painful, this is definitely the guy you want to spend your time with!

Junior Manning’s favorite things to eat are pasta and burgers; such a cultural fella! Not only that, but his favorite movies are *Birdmand* and *Anchorman*. So if you ever want to wrangle up some buddies for some movies and grub, Junior will be more than happy to help you plan the perfect night out as well and join in on the fun.

Besides the food he’s serving, make sure you’re around to see the *looks* he serves too. Everything from his thick, flowing locks and his straight fit jeans, to his band t-shirts and dangling earbuds from the collar, you might as well call him “ranch” because he will most certainly be the *dressing!*

The two people Manning looks up to are Mr. Wlasick and, of course, his very own mom. He respects his mother’s strength, independence and her ability to never fear trying something

new. “She does well taking care of things for her being a single mom,” Manning says. As for Mr. Wlasick, he admires that he has “filled that empty space I’ve had all my life, which is a male figure. He has faith in me no matter how well or bad I’ve felt in my performances.” Junior thanks and continues to look up to his idols. To him, these are the characteristics it takes to be a hero in his eyes. On the topic of heroes, if he could have one special power, he would love to fly! “I would love to get the chance to see my surroundings in a different way,” Manning dreams.

Junior is known in drama for his comedic roles and inspiring acting abilities. His favorite things about the club is “not only the friends I have made, but the way it forces me to express myself, which is something I don’t do a lot.” Manning is a very social butterfly when it comes to his theater pals, and his life goal is to “keep the friends I made in drama close to me. They’re all the best thing to ever happen to me.” It’s a shame there isn’t a ‘Most likely to be your friend’ category for class favorites, because he would steal the title in a blink!

Lasty, Junior would love to awaken the people of El Rancho who only know about mediocre comedy and suggest to check his stand-up comedy inspiration: Louis CK, Hannibal Buress, Chad Daniels and Daniel Tosh. Find Junior Manning at the Little Theater and enjoy some movies, pasta and standup comedy!

4 ELECTION FALLOUT

California continues killing after defeat of Prop 62

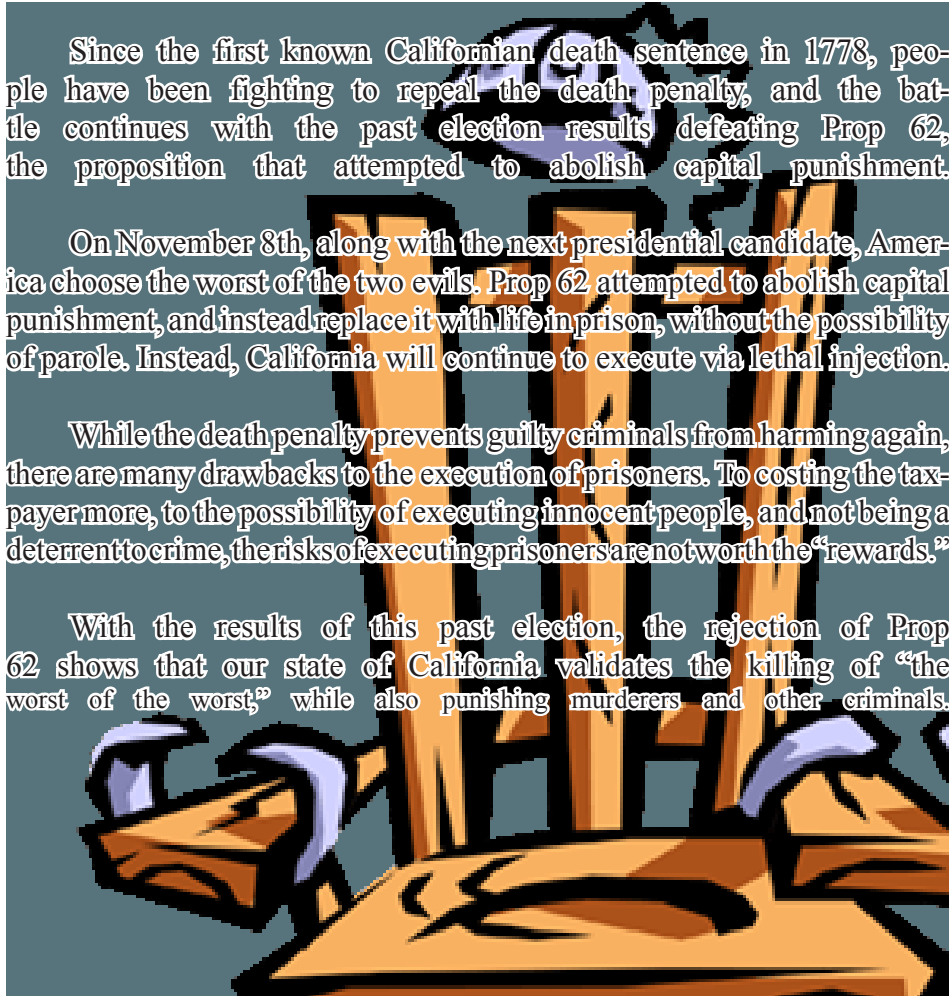
BY ETHAN SEPULVEDA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Since the first known Californian death sentence in 1778, people have been fighting to repeal the death penalty, and the battle continues with the past election results defeating Prop 62, the proposition that attempted to abolish capital punishment.

On November 8th, along with the next presidential candidate, America choose the worst of the two evils. Prop 62 attempted to abolish capital punishment, and instead replace it with life in prison, without the possibility of parole. Instead, California will continue to execute via lethal injection.

While the death penalty prevents guilty criminals from harming again, there are many drawbacks to the execution of prisoners. To costing the taxpayer more, to the possibility of executing innocent people, and not being a deterrent to crime, the risks of executing prisoners are not worth the "rewards."

With the results of this past election, the rejection of Prop 62 shows that our state of California validates the killing of "the worst of the worst," while also punishing murderers and other criminals.



Proposition 64: California Legalizes Marijuana

EL RODEO STAFF WRITER
ANTONIO CORTES

The high life is now legal. Proposition 64 was passed on November 8th, 2016 thanks to the California voters.

Proposition 64 signifies the legal use of recreational marijuana. The legal age to purchase, smoke, and own marijuana will be 21. The legal amount of marijuana possession will be 28.5 grams and 8 grams of concentrated marijuana.

Smoking cannabis will be permitted in private homes or businesses licensed for on-site marijuana consumption. Individuals are permitted to grow up to six plants in a private housing just as long as the area where the cannabis is growing is locked and not visible from a public area.

However smoking cannabis will remain illegal anywhere that smoking tobacco is, such as public places like restaurants. It will also be illegal to smoke cannabis while driving a motor vehicle.

In order to be able to sell recreational marijuana, a business would have to acquire a state license. Businesses won't be authorized to sell recreational marijuana within a 600 foot radius of a school, day care, or youth centers.

Individuals under the legal age who are convicted of marijuana use or possession of marijuana are to be sentenced to community service and will be required to attend drug education programs. Selling marijuana without a state license can be punishable up to a \$500 fine or six months in jail or both.

With Proposition 64's passing, individuals serving sentences for marijuana use will be privileged to resentencing. Resentencing can be either a shorter sentence, possibility of parole, or the release of incarceration.

Californians can now legally smoke cannabis, but those who don't have a medical marijuana card won't be able to legally purchase weed from marijuana businesses.

Marijuana will also be refrained from ads on tv or billboards which restricts marketing to minors. If this were to change, tv, radio, billboards and digital marketing will only display marijuana ads where at least 71.6% of the audience is to be 21 years old or older.

The money pulled in from marijuana taxes will go to youth programs for drug education, prevention of drugs, and drug treatment centers.

Be free to light up, but keep these rules in mind for your next legal marijuana purchase.

2016 Election overview: We're doomed

EL RODEO STAFF WRITER
BY NAYELI HERNANDEZ

Well, America, the election is over and once again, the electoral college has proven it's uselessness. The people chose Hillary Clinton and the system chose Donald Trump. Now, what does this mean for the country?

Let's go with the obvious being that Donald Trump is the president-elect.

This means Mike Pence is the Vice President and white supremacy took hold in this election, plain and simple. Yes, many minorities of various intersections supported and voted for Trump. However, we cannot ignore the fact that 58% of white voters casted their vote for Donald Trump.

The majority of the country and the world are still in shock over these results. I mean, the polls all pointed to Clinton and America isn't actually racist.

We're the progressive country of the world, right?

I'm sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but polls are probably the worst way to determine any answer due to the fact that people lie. All of those people that said they would vote for Clinton ended up

voting for Trump. This is probably due to the fact that they were ashamed of their answer and didn't support Trump enough to actually take pride in their choice.

As for the "progressiveness" of America? The fact that Trump made it as far as the primaries is telling enough. He

didn't just appear, they were created.

Trump had a multitude of campaign promises ranging from his famous wall at the Mexican border to banning all Muslims from the United States. Add this to VP, Mike Pence, who still believes in conversion therapy for the

America the courage to be openly terrible.

The microaggressions that minorities faced before this election will be full fledged racism, homophobia, ableism, etc. The same neighbor who always called the cops on your family for being too loud, but never on the white family across the street, is

the same one who will be bold enough to spout racism to your face.

Since the results of the election 200+ cases of harassment, intimidation, and hate crimes have been reported. However, these recent incidents aren't ones that have gone without response. Since the results of the election, anti-Trump protests and riots have ignited all over the country. Minority communities are going to unite like they never have before. Just as Trump brought out the courage in white America, he has awoken a lion.

The oppressed will

no longer be such without a fight. What this election has done is ignited a war between the oppressor and the oppressed. The time to encourage love and peace has passed because America showed everyone where the oppressed stand in this country.



ran with the promise of bringing America back to its prime. America never had a prime if you aren't rich, white, cishet, and able-bodied. White America came out of the shadows during this election and that has to be acknowledged. The Trump supporters of the country

LGBTQIA+ community, and America is basically the center of xenophobia. However, that shouldn't be much of a surprise as all branches of the United States government are lead by Republicans, which has only happened twice in history.

Donald Trump has given white

Proposition 63 bans some guns but will not end the violence



MIGUEL CHICO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

November 8th was the day whether gun use continued unchanged or guns will be further restricted, and voters chose to change. Licenses will be required to sell ammunition, and there will be a need for permits to purchase said ammunition. There will be a ban on large-capacity magazines, the court gains the power to prohibit the prosecuted from continuing to possess a gun, and Prop. 63 prohibits the purchasing of guns outside California. Also, theft of a gun at a price \$950 or higher is a felony

punishable by three years in prison. California's Proposition 63 attempts to restrict gun use to reduce gun violence.

Proposition 63 is an excellent way of furthering gun restrictions in California and preventing future large-scale shootings. In a way, Proposition 63 is a step in a good direction, but this won't stop future murders. It isn't guns killing hundreds of people, although they are a factor of the killing, it's the people themselves who are committing these heinous acts.

To put into perspective, what's to stop a man who wants to harm an innocent individual? Is it the lack of a gun

or the lack of reason. What's to stop him from committing murder with his left shoe?

Proposition 63 just seems that it's not going to have too large an impact on violence in general.

There's also the mention of those who believe the 2nd amendment gives them all rights to bear arms. Though the 2nd amendment clearly states "A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Many are going to believe Proposition 63 is violating their property rights.

On a bright side, Proposition 63 was passed, which will be reducing gun possession in California, in turn lessening the chance for a sick individual to get any automatic-weaponry. This Proposition also doesn't ban guns in general, so many can still purchase a form of protection.

Hopefully, this lessens the community's fear of large-scale shooting taking place because of large-magazine guns. Now if only there were a way to stop/help the individuals who would want to commit such violence in the first place, then we probably wouldn't be a need for Proposition 63.

LIBRARY CORNER



Match the quote to the title of the book and bring the answers to the ERLibrary. The first 3 students with the correct answers will receive an In-N-Out coupon!

1. "However small the chance might be of striking lucky, the chance was there."
2. "Stay gold, Ponyboy, stay gold."
3. "Voldemort himself created his worst enemy, just as tyrants everywhere do."
4. "In English my name means hope. In Spanish it means too many letters. It means sadness, it means waiting."
5. "Childhood should be carefree, playing in the sun; not living a nightmare in the darkness of the soul."

- a. A Child Called It
- b. The House On Mango Street
- c. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
- d. The Outsiders
- e. Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

UCSB Welcomes Be A Leader!



BY ALEKSEY SOTO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

UC-eligible juniors and seniors from the Be a Leader club took a trip to the University of California, Santa Barbara on Monday, November 7th.

Groups of students, along with a UCSB tour guide, explored the campus and viewed

dorms, dining halls, and student congregational areas. Students also had a chance to visit the student store and buy UCSB merchandise.

Associate Director of Admissions, Cuca Acosta, gave an informative presentation on how to apply for the UCs. The presentation covered everything from requirements to deadlines

and what it takes to be accepted.

El Rancho students also got to ask questions about college life to a panel of former Dons that now attend UCSB. "They had a lot of El Rancho alumni that they knew they wanted to do a panel with," says Be a Leader advisor Michelle Sandoval.

Many students fell in love with the campus. "I loved

it because it's near the beach," senior Liza Sanchez said, "and also because there's so much diversity. There's a lot of clubs and activities to be a part of."

Some students who may have not previously considered UCSB as a choice before visiting the campus changed their minds at the end of the day. "The trip definitely made me seriously consider UCSB as another choice when I apply. It gave me a great deal of insight into college life," said junior Xochilt Aispuro.

"I decided to sign up for the trip because I'm interested in the majors and programs they have to offer, and now I can picture myself here in four years," junior Krystal Marquez said.

"I hoped that students would be able to see themselves at a UC and know that there are students like them that are from El Rancho who have succeeded," Sandoval said.

Dons CAN support families in need



BY: ETHAN SEPULVEDA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The annual El Rancho Canned Food Drive started on the 7th of November and ended last week on the 23rd. With over 50% of the student body actively participating, El Rancho has collected over 1,500 pounds of food so far.

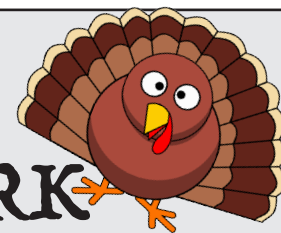
The cans will help fill baskets that go to "families in need, during the holiday break," says chief justice, Karissa Furlough, in the Pico Rivera Basket Committee. The Pico Rivera Basket Committee is made up of Pico Rivera senior

citizens, who volunteer during the holiday season to manage to fill up to 1,000 baskets of food.

As with every year, all fourth periods competed for a pizza party, with Ms. Carreon's class leading, and Mr. Galindo following close behind. Last year, Mr. Melgar's fourth period took the prize, but unfortunately for him, he has a fourth-period prep, meaning that the competition was fierce this year.

Although the motives behind donating may vary from getting some extra credit to anticipating a warm slice of pizza, those in need will feel the spirit of giving that El Rancho has to offer this holiday season.

ASK YUNG TURK



How do i improve my grades in Cal?
-Really stressed Turkey

HOMES!! You gotta take advantage of that b4 school, lunch, and after school tutoring! Them boys gonna help you alot!!

My boyfriend cheated on me, but I still love him and I don't want to leave him. What do I do?
-Depressed Turkey

Oh boo.. if he doesn't want you as bad as you want him you need to drop him and I know it might not be the easiest thing to do, but trust me it will be the healthiest solution. Also, if you need some time to think things through, don't be afraid to. There is no correct way when it comes to a healing process. If you want, you can make an appointment with Ms. Susie, our mental health counselor, if you just want to talk to someone.

MY friends planned Friendsgiving at someones house, who i don't get along with. I'm still really sad. What do I do?
-emo Turkey

Hunty!!! Just go have fun! Sadly, you can't get along with everyone! You have to focus on the positive, NOT THE NEGATIVE! Just think of all the fun you'll have with the people you do get along with!

Dons hit CIF landmark, end 15 year dry spell



BY DANA RODRIGUEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

It's been one heck of a year for the El Rancho varsity football team. From breaking several records to winning their first round CIF in 15 years, this year has sure been a successful one.

The Dons' final record overall was 5-8 with a record of 3-2 in league. In their last two league games, they defeated Whittier high school with a final score of 36-15 and Pioneer high school with a final score of 51-27. These two games, along with their hard work, qualified them for the CIF playoffs.

"It feels good to make it this far," says varsity captain Adam Chandler, "even though we didn't win league, we made it to the second round. This hasn't happened in such a long time, and it feels good."

When asked how it felt to get this far in CIF, varsity captain Humberto Sanchez said, "It's hard to describe the feeling, but it's one like none other. We haven't won a playoff game in 15 years, so being able to get to this point is really eye-opening, regardless of the turnout."

"I'm very proud of how this sea-

son turned out because a lot of people didn't expect us to go this far, but we did it," added varsity captain Gabriel Huerta.

In the first round of CIF, the Dons faced Norwalk High school. After battling it out on the field, the Dons came out on top with a final score of 42-26, which allowed them to further the CIF journey against Valley Christian. After a long and hard battle this past Friday night the Dons' journey unfortunately came to an end with a final score of 37-12.

According to coach Setlich, "We were a little bit banged up. We had a few guys that couldn't play this week due to injury, we needed to need some younger guys to step up, and we needed some guys that are playing now to do even more." The coaches agree that this season was still a successful one and hope to continue to improve the team throughout the next couple of years.

Sanchez was out for the majority of league due to injury; he was fortunate enough to recover as soon as CIF was going to start. "Being on the sideline and seeing all your boys ball out and not playing with them is really heartbreaking, but getting cleared the day before the game and

having the chance to actually play and be in the rotation was just a really good feeling."

Not only did El Rancho exceed in making playoffs, but they also made history. Captains Adam Chandler and Gabriel Huerta broke and set new records. "Just knowing I'll be in the record books is a good feeling," says Chandler.

"It feels good, but honestly, it's a team effort. Without my team, it would have never happened," says Huerta.

"The best thing is that we started playing like a team, like a family. What was most rewarding to me is that we played extremely hard, as hard as we could the whole time, and we were very physical," said coach Setlich when asked how the boys have improved throughout the entire season.

The Dons fought and played hard throughout the season and hope to continue to grow throughout the years.

Despite the results, our Dons definitely made El Rancho proud. With new head coach Adrian Medrano transforming the team along with talented and dedicated players on the field, there is no telling what awaits the football program in these next following years.

The boys are back on deck



BY ADAM ALLRED
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

After an overall successful season, boys water polo is officially over, and things are back to normal for the players.

After trying their best in League, the Dons were eliminated on the 7th by La Serna, making them unable to enter CIF. According to Waterpolo coach, Mr. Whittier, the team has to focus on being better prepared for the next season.

He states, "considering our age, the season was a success. We only had one player that had been playing over 15 months. The rest had been playing just over a year or just over a couple months on Varsity. The fact that we came close to making CIF is a success."

"I think that we did way better than last year. Even though we did lose some games we also won some games, which is a good feeling to win because we feel like we accomplished something, but it was also a good thing for us to lose because we were able to learn from our mistakes," Captain, Andy Gonzalez, agreed.

When asked what could have changed in order to make their season better, "Everyone agreed that preparation is important. Hopefully, we learned this last year," said Whittier.

"We could have played better as a team, I mean we played as a team, but at times we would slack off, said Gonzalez with a different approach.

The season could have gone much differently and had a different outcome. Cooperation is key, and Whittier agrees.

"With team sports, there's always going to be a 'How do I serve my self-interests and also support the team?' and we're no exception. So I think a lot of it was us trying to figure out our roles from the start of the season," said Whittier. Gonzalez adds that "motivating everyone could really help us concentrate and help win games."

Motivation is the key factor to spurring the team to try harder be better. "To potentially make it to CIF and farther all comes down to preparation. If the guys embrace the role as a leader or their role as a player, then that will really decide. And of course on me making sure that I'm giving them the best instruction and opportunity to succeed, and so good coaching is also important, not only on them also on me," concluded Whittier.

Lady Dons shoot for CIF title

BY DANA RODRIGUEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The Lady Dons varsity basketball team intends to not only reach their goal of winning league for the fifth year in a row, but also to win a CIF title.

"We always have the same goals every year; we want to try to win twenty games every year, go undefeated in league, and try to go as far as we can in the playoffs," says varsity coach Randy Shigezane, "This year, I feel this is probably the best team we've had since I've been here and this is my twelfth year at the high school.

The Lady Dons have been very successful in previous years. With winning four consecutive league titles and advancing to CIF each year to winning numerous tournaments outside of campus, there is no telling what they can do.

The girls have high expectations for themselves this season. "We should definitely win league this year again. I hope that we can get far in the playoffs and hopefully win a ring," says varsity captain, Brittany Corona.

"Our overall goal this year is to win a CIF title. That's been our goal since last year and that's all we've talked about all spring, summer, and fall," says Shigezane.

Compared to last year, the team is



currently packed with experienced seniors.

"Last year, we only had one senior. I feel like we took that year to improve, so now that most of us are seniors I feel like we're gonna go hard. It's not so much that we've improved but that we are more experienced," says varsity captain, Amy Navarro.

Although skill and talent play a vital role in their success, team chemistry is also a significant factor.

"We all get along well on and off the court. We're all besties, so it's cool," says Corona.

"We are very athletic; that gives us the opportunity to compete with teams. We're significantly better defensively that we have been in the last couple of years," said Shigezane.

Our Lady Dons have, like all

teams, strengths and challenges.

"We have both height and speed advantage," says Navarro, "we have really fast guards." A challenge they face this upcoming season is the fact that they're still in division one, but they hope to overcome it and beat some really good teams this year.

Both Corona and Navarro are seniors this year, which, of course, makes this year extremely important to them. "It's crazy, like time went by really fast, but it was all worth it. It's like everything I'm doing is going to be worth it in the end," says Navarro. "The time went by really fast," agreed Corona, "but I'm enjoying it and hopefully it's a good year."

Basketball season is approaching quickly, so be sure to go out and support our Lady Dons and witness their five peat!

#RIPVINE

By JOCELYN ESTRADA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Just as *Vine* videos last for six seconds, the app feels as though it has only been around for six seconds, too. "Vine" is a social media application in which users can follow others and post six second video loops on what their doing or any comedic, serious or scary material.

Unfortunately, the *Twitter* owned application will be shut down in coming months for unknown reasons. Although the actual application will be shut down, the website will remain active so that fans can continue to enjoy the sweet second loops.

Many people are unbothered by this news, whether it is because they don't already own the app or genuinely do not find it entertaining. However, many people are disheartened as it has been a mostly active source of entertainment and comedy for users since June of 2012.

Since the announcement of the end of "Vine" in October, the hashtag #RIPVINE has been trending on twitter along with #VineClassics and the #VineHallOfFame with the posting of old, popular and hilarious videos.

We will forever remember the great laughs and side aches "Vine" has given us, so be sure to download it before it is removed from the App Store and keep the loops alive!

The Walking Dead smashes it way back into the mainstream



By KAYLA PEREZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Season 7 of "The Walking Dead" premiered on October 23, following the shocking cliffhanger that made headlines back in April.

Fans have anxiously waited almost seven months to theorize which beloved character will take the beating of new bad guy, Negan's, baseball bat, Lucille. The revealing of who died was not abhorrent but corrupt because not one, but two characters, succumbed to death.

However, fans can agree that it was not the death itself that made the premiere emotionally dreadful to watch but rather the manifestation that the two deaths provided for the other group members.

According to *Walking Dead* executive producer, Greg Nicotero, "There's so much more that happens in that episode that is more heartbreaking than that moment, that by the time the episode's over it's almost too much. It's that intense. It just keeps getting worse. It goes lower and

lower and lower and lower."

While watching the premiere, fans were able to compare and the contrast the perfect envision to the sad reality when Rick pictures the group alive and well. The fans have grown with characters throughout the whole show and any event the characters go through the viewers partake as well.

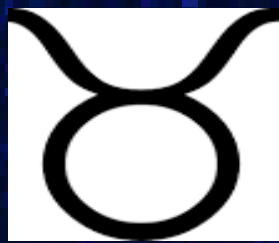
The only question fans have now is: What will Negan do next? If the death of two precious characters was a simple task for him, what is his worst?

ZODIAC SIGNS

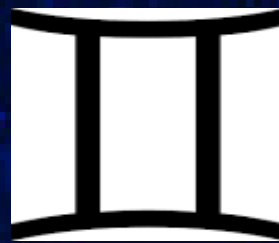
By BERNICE VEGA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER



Aries-Take your confidence to the next level with any new physical challenges or leadership roles coming up this month because it will benefit you in the long run. Calm down and take a breathe with the stress that tags along by going out to watch one of the latest movies out.



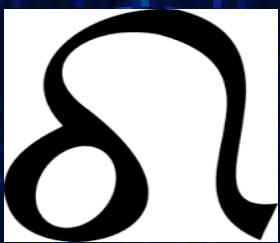
Taurus-Your stubbornness will continue to interfere with loved ones and you need to learn to come to a compromise in order to benefit your emotional state of mind. School is going to be a handful but take some time to clear your head with some outdoor activities.



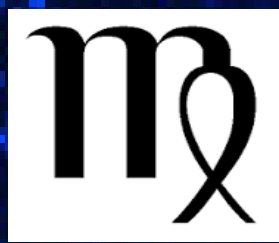
Gemini-Let loose and allow your curiosity to get the best of you, go out and meet new people who you can exchange ideas with and learn something new. Don't let this fascination overwhelm you just take your time and let everything take its natural course.



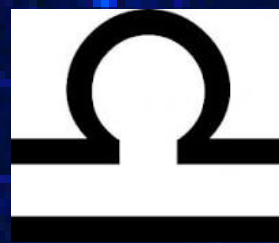
Cancer-Control your emotions when it comes to any upcoming surprises that might arise although your sympathetic side might get the best of you. Go out and enjoy one of your favorite hobbies, preferably relaxing near a body of water to calm your mysterious alter ego.



Leo- Throw passion into any task because only good is going to come out of it but don't neglect your friends in the meantime. Black Friday is coming up and try not blow all your money on deals because it will hurt you in the long run.



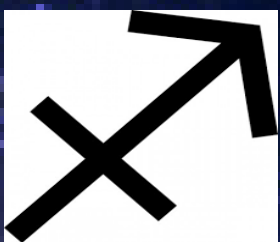
Virgo- All work and and no play is the worst mentality to have as of now, you must enjoy the little things and take a break from the stress. People will test your loyalty so sleep with an eye open and don't let temptations get the best of you.



Libra- Avoid confrontations and let go of any grudges that you've been holding embrace your fair-mind and learn to let things go. Go out and be social this week surround yourself with friends and inspire yourself with nature; it's time to put your mind at peace and enjoy yourself.



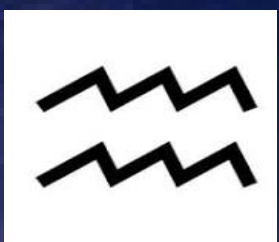
Scorpio- Remember the world does not revolve around you all time so take some time to be there for others instead of expecting them to always be there for you. Realize who has truly been there for you and who hasn't because later on true colors will show. Stay humble.



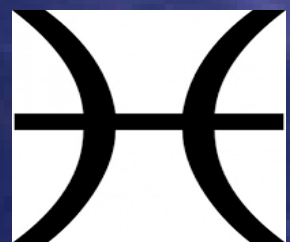
Sagittarius- Watch your spending habits, saving is easier said than done but do not let money get to your head. Generosity is rather your best trait but know your limits this holiday shopping. Don't promise more than you can actually give.



Capricorn- Bad people are gonna push you over the edge but know that you must learn to forgive because that grudge will only affect you negatively. Take a step back and look at the big picture, remember that snakes hide in places you least expect so be careful on who you trust. Friends aren't always real.



Aquarius- Your decisions tend to be based off emotions but when it comes down to having to choose between two options your best bet is to go with your gut feeling. Your first original idea on the situation is always recommended because it was your initial thought thus making it your instinct choice



Pisces- Romance seems to be a priority for you but it is best to not be blinded by love but allow it to help not hurt you for the future. Place your time into beneficial things this month such as family and things that your artistic side is passionate about.