



EL RODEO



El Rancho High School - Volume 59- Issue 2
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Three Clubs Join Forces for Spirit Day



By LYDIA RAYA
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

In tribute to those whose lives have been lost as a result of bullying, the Link Crew, Gay-Straight Alliance, Social Justice Club, and the MECHA Club unified to create awareness on October 20, the national Bullying Awareness Day, during which people wear purple attire along with purple ribbons.

Overall, each of the three participating clubs agree that the day turned out well and is looking forward to seeing more events, such as assemblies.

The event took motion when Link Crew discussed the relevance of the chain of suicides with the violation of the Character Counts program.

"We were really excited, and decided to collaborate with the Link Crew and the Gay-Straight Alliance," said Social Justice Club Advisor Theodore Hartman. "It was nice to see all three clubs come together to stand up to bullying."

Gay-Straight Alliance members and Advisor Nadine Segal was grateful that the Link Crew and the Social Justice Club was aware of what is happening to the gay community.

"It means a lot that they thought about us and wanted to help us out," said Mrs. Segal.

"Regardless of how you feel about homosexuality, people need to be aware of the fact that bullying is a really big issue," said Link Crew Advisor Gerardo Correa.

"It was good, because a lot of students were willing to help the three clubs with the event," said Mrs. Chavez-Diaz. "They saw what was going on, and knew it was wrong."

Mrs. Chavez-Diaz was especially proud of Link Leaders Alyssa Caltitla and Joel Palomera for presenting the event well and giving students the opportunity to participate.

"But it was nice seeing the school come together for this event," said Caltitla. "When I first proposed the idea, I didn't think it would work, but I'm glad it got as far as it did."

Caltitla and Palomera discussed the details of Spirit Day with the members of the Gay-Straight Alliance, and how to unify the three clubs to advocate a similar cause.

The primary goal of the entire event for the clubs was to hopefully change the mentality, "So people no longer look down on homosexuals or 'outsiders,'" Palomera said.

Viva Los Seniors! Seniors Take NPR Title



The seniors have successfully struck again! Emerging victorious with a score of 352 out of 375, the seniors took the coveted Night Pep Rally title. With months of preparing, hours of painting, and nights of endless stress, the class of 2011 made their last Night Pep Rally memorable with a triumphant feat. Furthermore, this year's Night Pep Rally recognized students who displayed exceptional theme-related attire and exuberant class cheering. Above all, the gym was overflowing, all classes were cheering, and memories were in the making.

Genis and Cote Honored at Gear Up's "Lights On"



At Gear Up's "Lights On" event, Genis and Cote received an award for their continuous dedication to students.

BRANDON MENDOZA
& AMANDA HERNANDEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITERS

An afternoon full of fun and laughs became a prestigious evening for Principal Sam Genis and Superintendent Dr. Cote, for both were presented with an award in honor of their continuous dedication to students. The successful showcase "Lights On" showed the students and staff how Gear Up and PREP can improve a student's grades and behavior.

"Various students were involved and performances were great," said Gear Up Coordi-

nator Monica Chavez. "I was definitely glad to see all the administrators who came because I didn't expect many of them to come."

"For it being the first time, it went very well because its never been done before," said Principal Sam Genis. "We don't turn the lights off after three; we leave them on to continue the after school programs."

El Rancho's Jazz Band, The Song Writers Club and the JV Pepsters performed during the presentation.

"It was really fun to be able to play with one of my best friends, we both really enjoyed

playing together, it made it much more enjoyable. The event went really well, and I loved the opportunity to play," said senior Mark Catano. "I enjoyed it because I love music; music makes me feel peaceful. When I had the chance to perform I jumped on it because it's a great opportunity," said senior Aric Garcia.

All who were involved feel that "Lights On" turned out extremely well.

"Lights On" was very interesting," said junior Berlin Duenas. "I enjoyed how all who came to the event participated."

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OPINION

Brown or Whitman? The Race Continues

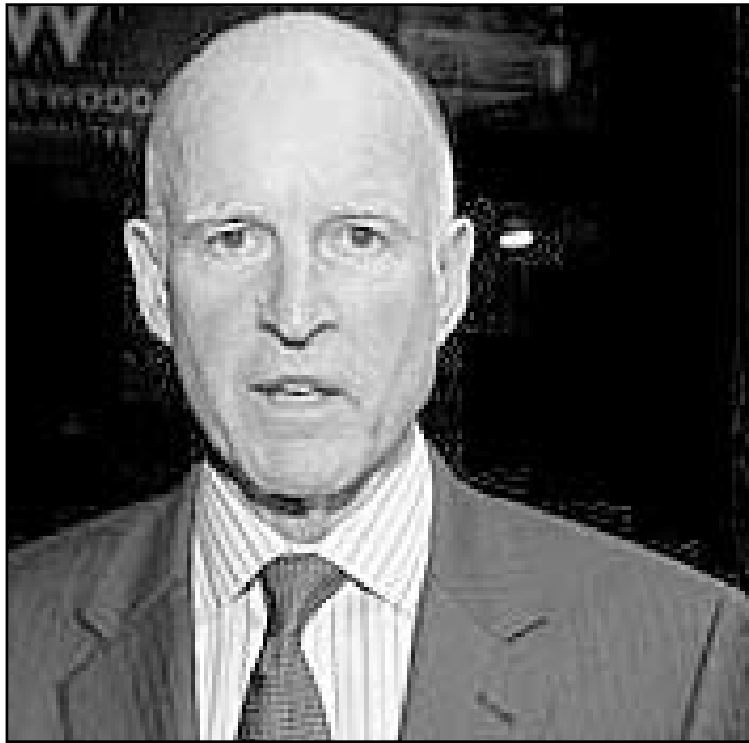
BY DANIELA AGUILAR
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Jerry Brown or Meg Whitman? That seems to be every voter's question as the election for governor nears. Both candidates have experience in leadership: Whitman is the ex-CEO of eBay and Brown has been governor of California twice and mayor of Oakland as well.

Between the two candidates, I'd say Brown will be a better governor. Whitman barely registered to vote in 2002. Brown has been active in politics for a long time and I feel that he'd do a much better job than Whitman.

Brown has been reaching out to unions for their support with his campaign. Whitman has spent at least 140 million dollars (and climbing) out of her own pocket, fueling the most expensive campaign in history. She's basically buying her seat for governor of California. A person can't buy the state and fix it; money does not solve every solution.

Whitman and Brown have different ideas on education, immigration, jobs, and crimes. Brown says education should be explored to the fullest. Whitman says she'll boost spending on education, specifically charter schools. During Brown's term



as governor, he created 1.9 million jobs, such as the California Conservation Corps while Whitman's solution would provide job-creating tax cuts and recruit new existing industries and retain existing employers.

Both candidates say they're tough on crime. Whitman supports the death penalty and if governor, she will only appoint judges who support the death penalty as well. Brown not only has experience being governor and mayor,

but also as an attorney general for California. He's cracked down on gangs, stopped illegal operations, and sued the Bush administration.

Whitman says there shouldn't be any such thing as an "early release" from prison. As to their stance on immigration, Whitman will secure the border and stop illegal immigration. The problem is, she couldn't even find one under her own roof! How does she expect to crack down all immigrants that

are already here in this state? The whole Diaz case is pretty sad. For Whitman to tell her servant of nine years that they have never met and such things like that is absurd. It seems as if Whitman has no heart, for she could've at least helped Diaz. Brown said there should be amnesty. According to him, undocumented immigrants play "an important part of our social and economic life."

Jerry Brown should be governor again. His plans seem real-

istic, unlike Whitman's. There's also someone else who agrees the state was in good shape during Brown's term: Meg Whitman herself. She was California dreaming. Whitman said she moved to California about 30 years ago because anything was possible in the state...when Brown was governor. Brown should get the seat, for he has earned it, unlike Whitman who is simply trying to buy it.

Prop. 19 Stirs Up Debate Over Legalization of Marijuana

BY AMANDA HERNANDEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The debate over marijuana has been one of the most controversial issues in this country. Everyone has their own opinion towards this debate, but people are still unclear of what proposition 19 is about.

Marijuana has been around for such a long time and so far, there has not been any report of death, violence, addiction and other problems concerning the plant. "It should be legalized because there is no leading cause of death for it so far," says senior Ivan Corona.

Compared to how mari-

juana was used when it was first introduced, it is now used for medical reasons. "It can be used for anything from the common cold to cancer and asthma and just the fact that it helps out all those people should be good enough reason to be legalized," said senior, Charles Parra.

Not only is marijuana for medical reasons, but it is also healthier than alcohol and cigarettes. There are more deaths for cigarettes (340,000+) and alcohol (not including accidents 125,000+) per year than marijuana (0).

Also, if marijuana is legalized it could help us in the economic crisis we are facing.

The government can tax it, and people would have to pay sales tax. Last year if the government would have taxed marijuana the result prophet would have come out to billions of dollars. "Marijuana is the number one cash crop in the world it would definitely be good for our economy financially," says senior Jason Cisneros. With the tax on marijuana we can use the money to focus on issues that are more important.

Marijuana should be legalized because it is healthier than alcohol and cigarettes. Not only do many people use the herb today, but if the government legalized it there would hardly be

problems concerning marijuana. If marijuana remains illegal, it will be harder to control because more people will want to hide the herb, making it an issue.

Marijuana is legal in Amsterdam. Because it is legal, the people do not have problems with violence or any other issue concerning the herb. Also marijuana can only be used in controlled environments, such as in coffee shops.

It should be legal, for the fact that it helps people in different ways, it is the only illegal substance that does more good than harm and we should not deny ourselves of a chance to a better tomorrow.

PROPOSITION 19
PROPOSED BY RICHARD LEE OF TAX CANNABIS 2010 (CAMPAIGN)

WHY? THE BILLION IN ANNUAL MARIJUANA SALES IN CALIFORNIA COULD BE CONTROLLED AND TAXED FOR AN ESTIMATED \$1.5 BILLION OF STATE REVENUE. CURRENTLY, POLICE TARGET NON-VIOLENT MARIJUANA USERS AND OUR ILLEGAL POT TRADE FUNELS DRUGS WARS ACROSS THE BORDER.

47% SUPPORT **43% OPPOSE**

ORGANIZATIONS IN FAVOR: TAX CANNABIS 2010, MARIJUANA POLICE PROJECT

ORGANIZATIONS OPPOSED: CALIFORNIA POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION, CALIFORNIA NARCOTICS OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, MOTHERS AGAINST DRUG DRIVING

"THERE AN INCREASING NUMBER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES THAT HAVE BEEN FORCED TO STOP MARIJUANA USE BECAUSE OF THE PROHIBITION NOT BY THE PLANT." JERRY WHITMAN, FORMER SAN JESU POLICE CHIEF

"LEGALIZING AND TAXING MARIJUANA WILL ALLOW RESPONSIBLE ADULTS TO CONSUME MARIJUANA WITHOUT FEELING LIKE THEY'RE BEING GUILTY. THIS BILLING IN RESOURCES." DEBBY WOOD, HAWAII ECONOMIST

"IT IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT ESTIMATED REVENUE FROM MARIJUANA TAXES. LEGALIZATION COULD ALSO LEAD TO WIDESPREAD TAX INCREASES." LEE DIAZ, LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF

PROP 19 ALLOWS PEOPLE 21 AND OLDER TO POSSESS, CULTIVATE, OR TRANSPORT MARIJUANA FOR PERSONAL USE. IT PROHIBITS POSSESSION ON SCHOOL GROUNDS, USE IN PUBLIC OR IN THE PRESENCE OF MINORS, AS WELL AS PROVISION OF MARIJUANA TO MINORS. MORE INFO AT: HTTP://WWW.CALIFORNIAPROPOSITIONS.ORG/PROP_19_2010

WORD ON THE STREET

If you could vote for governor who would it be?



"I would vote for Jerry Brown because even though he is against Prop 19, he still has the expertise and experience of managing California."
-Jesus Fierro 12th



"If I were to vote I would vote for Meg Whitman because she has successfully taken position as a leader and would continue to do so as governor."
-Maritza Velazquez 12th



"Formywife I would vote for Meg Whitman."
-MR. ALVARADO



"If I could vote for a governor I would vote for Jerry Brown because he has a lot of experience in politics and many good ideas."
-Natalie Rivera 12th



"I would vote for Jerry Brown because he has experience and would lead California to a better future."
-Alex Benitez 12th

SPORTS

Dons Take on Cal High Condors Tonight

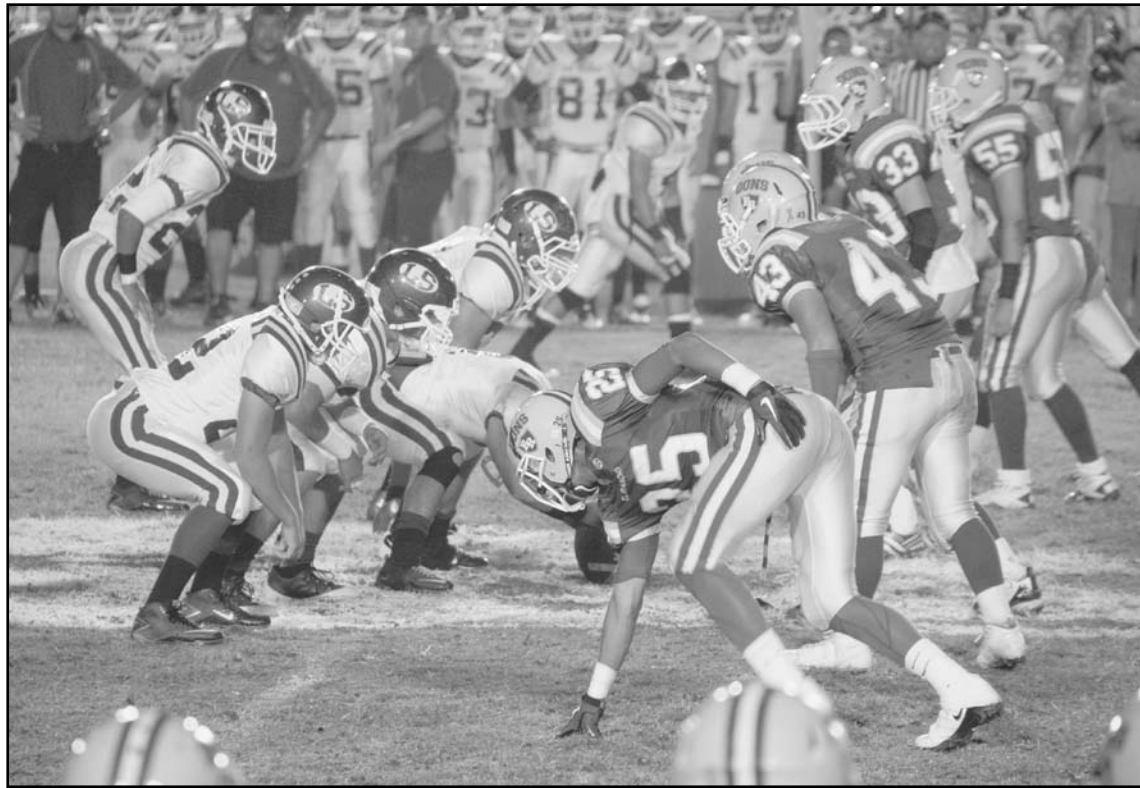
BY ABEL MARTINEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Anticipation leading up to the big game against La Serna ended in an unfortunate loss for the Dons. However, the Dons continue their fight tonight as they take on the California Condors.

"We're disappointed," says Head Coach Rick Zepeda. "We put a lot of time in the pre-season leading up to League; a lot of pressure and attention on that first game. We made too many mistakes, a lot of penalties, overall, we just played over our heads. It was a learning experience for us. We just gotta calm our nerves for our next upcoming games."

"I feel that we are having a very productive season," says left tackle Allan Cendejas. "Despite losing our first league game, we're still looking forward to finishing off our season strong."

The Dons bounced back this past Friday night by defeating Pioneer 27-20. This has improved their overall record to 5-2, with



their League record holding at 1-1.

"We may end up a very admirable 8-2 team," says Zepeda. "Or a 7-3, or a tough 4-5. We still have an opportunity to push

ourselves. Our goal is to get into the CIF playoffs. These next 4 weeks will determine whether we meet our goal or not."

Losing to La Serna wasn't

the only setback that the Dons suffered. That same night they lost lineman Gabriel Rojas to a sidelining injury. However, the Dons continue to hold strong.

"Our line is tough," says center Jeromey Montoya. "We've been through a lot together and lost one of our two-way starters to injury. We're the smallest line that I've seen. I weigh less than the people I'm blocking against. I've been made fun of and laughed at when people find out I'm a center. It really doesn't bother me because it's what's best for the team. We don't care who scores, just as long as we win."

"Our line is just one of the best," adds left guard Jordan Barron. "We may be the smallest but I think we're the best. It doesn't matter to me how big the guy is. We're not intimidated and we don't let each other down." Right guard Steven Gomez strongly believes that "without the line, all of this hard work that we've put in would have been for nothing."

Both the Dons and the Condors' league record is 1-1, so this game will break their tie. Be sure to cancel all plans tonight as the Dons look to increase their league record to 2-1.

Cross Country Strides Towards CIF

BRANDON MENDOZA
& AMANDA HERNANDEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITERS

Starting off the season positively, the cross-country team is training vigorously to make Clovis, a preview for the state finals.

"Clovis. Our goal would be a preview for the state. So the students could see what it would be like," said Coach Wynn.

Everyday the cross country team run eight to nine miles, unless they have won a match and deserve a victory break.

Their victories are demonstrated by how well they train, and the ones that succeed the most.

"My top two boys are Raul Rios and Juan Rodriguez. My top two girls are Bailey Henry and Priscilla Melendez", said Coach Wynn.



These four have trained hard and long to get where they are today. "My goal for this year is to get the runners to break 16 flat," says Rios. With their busy schedules, the team still has the time to focus on their goal to obtain 16 flat as well as maintaining good grades. Senior Melendez says, "My goal is to get at least beyond 18 flat for a three

mile, and go further than CIF."

With high hopes for the team, Rodriguez proudly says, "My goal is, if possible, to be able to go to the CIF preliminaries, to become the league champs and to be in varsity so that we can all achieve our goals."

The best we can hope for is for the team to reach their goal and continue to strive toward greatness.

Ramos Claims Spot on Varsity Volleyball Team



BY KAREN B. CARRILLO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Romy Ramos, number 17 on the volleyball team, has worked her way onto the varsity unit, claiming a spot on the team as a freshman.

"She has a big spot to fill in," says Captain Alexandra Ramos, who is also Romy's sister. As her sister, Romy does not get special privileges. Instead, she has to work as hard as the others to prove that she has what it takes to help the team success-

fully progress into the season. "She has a lot of potential to become a very good volleyball player, but [Romy] does have to work to improve her game," says Volleyball Coach Mrs. Picon.

"[As a freshman], I get nervous thinking that I will mess up and the seniors might get mad," confesses Romy, "but we work well together [and] we have fun working together. I hope there will be a [volleyball] game that I will remember," says Romy.

For now, she hopes to become a better player than when she first started.

She advises the volleyball players who are currently in junior varsity to "try their best and never give up."

As for Romy, her teammate Jessica King advises, "she has a lot of potential, [but] she needs to want it more."

Girls' Tennis Holds on to Second Place Spot

ABEL MARTINEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Battling their way to the top is El Rancho's very own varsity girls' tennis team. As of right now in League standings, they are in second place behind La Serna.

"We have been doing very well," says Head Coach Ms. Lippstreu. "At the beginning, I wasn't sure what we were gonna do. When we started winning I was like 'wow,' and those wins show that we are a good team."

The team's current record is 7-1. They suffered their first loss at the hands of La Serna, but are now more determined than ever to defeat them the next time they cross paths.

"I feel that we really have a chance at making CIF," says senior Captain Linda Galindo.

"Everyone's really improved; we have strong doubles and singles players. Everyone is supportive of each other, and we're all just like a big family. A great way to end league is for us to annihilate La Serna."

"I think we're doing really well," says senior Captain Kim Sanchez, "our team is super determined to beat La Serna because they're our biggest competition."

The team has also had to endure the effects of the weather. With rain comes the unfortunate re-scheduling of games due to the courts being wet, but that hasn't hindered the team's strength.

"Our strength for varsity is that they all get along," says Lippstreu. "Here they all goof around together. Communication is a big part. Like in doubles, you need to be able to read what the other player is thinking."

The girls took on Santa Fe yesterday & defeated them in a score of 10-8. They shall battle Whittier in their next game.

"Everyone is out to get us and take our spot," laughs Lippstreu. "Our final game against La Serna will determine who moves on to CIF."

That game against La Serna will be home and will take place on November 2. It is sure to be an exciting clash, so be sure to go out and show your support!



FEATURES

Yoga Club Provides Zen Moment for Dons



EMMA LEAL
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Do you ever feel like there is no time to relax because of homework, midterms, or family situations? If you are a victim of these worries go to the Yoga Club at 3:30, Mondays-Thursdays in S-1.

“Though it’s mostly girls who invade the club, anyone is welcome,” says Ms. Kerr, the

advisor of the Yoga Club. “The membership of the club is free and there are mats available for people who do not own one.”

The yoga club is sometimes instructed by Ms. Kerr or by an instructional yoga video.

The Yoga Club began this school year with a minimal amount of members. Yoga, in itself, is a course of physical and mental disciplines for attaining

liberation from the mental world.

“I love the yoga club!” says junior Stephanie Estrada. “It releases some of my stress that I get from school.” Though yoga is not a strenuous exercise it brings relaxation.

“Yoga is so relaxing,” says senior Daniela Sierra. “It makes me feel good and not only that, but I’ve noticed some differences on my body. I feel much

more flexible and stronger.”

“Since I don’t have time to do a sport it’s good to know that I can go to the yoga club without being fully committed,” says junior Kimberely Ojeda.

If you need some relaxation in your life try the yoga club. There you will find a sense of peace in your inner and outer self. Come feel the serenity at El Rancho High.

Sleeping Positions: Which of These Positions Reflects Your Personality the Most?

Here are a few common positions:

a.) Fetal (41%)- People are gruff initially, but have warm and open hearts



b.) Log (15%)- Social butterflies



c.) The Yearner (13%)- Perceived as open, but truly suspicious



d.) Soldier (8%)- Reserved



e.) Freefall (7%)- Fun and fantastic at parties



f.) Starfish (5%)- Excellent listeners



El Rodeo



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FEATURES

KMEX Broadcasts from El Rancho

BY CHRISTY ORTIZ, LYDIA RAYA
& RAQUEL HERNANDEZ
EL RODEO STAFF WRITERS

Pico Rivera's history and El Rancho High School students and citizens' opinions were brought together during the Live broadcast from KMEX Channel 34 on Friday, October 8th. Reporter Julio Cesar Ortiz and sports anchor Guillermo Quiroz promoted "Cash for College."

"We're hosting a free college convention for high school students," says Simon Flores, Program Manager for Cash for College. "Essentially, we want to prepare for a huge college convention where we will bring in colleges and universities from all over the country to share information about college and careers."

The services that the college convention will provide range from presentations on how to write a personal statement to individuals from various professions giving panels and workshops on what it's like in their career. "So that students get an idea of what they need to study if they're interested," Flores adds. Financial aid workshops will also be held at the college convention.

The College and Career Convention will be held at the LA Convention Center in South Hall Wednesday, December 8th.

When school ended that day, model Yoanna Gaxiola and her assistants let the citizens and



KMEX anchor, Enrique Gutierrez and KMEX intern Yoanna Gaxiola with a group of El Rancho students.

students come up and express their feelings on the community and what they thought should change.

"The whole purpose of this is for us to interact with the community," says Gaxiola. "With that, we have an opportunity to see what they want; we'll broadcast it on television, so people will actually listen to the citizens' opinions."

She has been working for television stations such as KMEX. Gaxiola said the community had a lot to say.

From three in the afternoon to five in the evening, she and her assistants interviewed people, interacted with them, and gave away stickers. Signing autographs between interviews,

Gaxiola commented, "People see us on television, but they also want to see us in person."

Principal Sam Genis hopes that students will take advantage of the opportunities for college presented by the KMEX newscast. "You can't always depend on our own college fair," says Genis. "Students should also look at other college fairs because there might be different colleges and different information they can receive."

Genis also mentioned that Senator Charles Calderon is holding a college fair in November. Students are invited, and buses will be provided so students can attend.

"The news broadcast is a good opportunity for exposure,"

says Genis. "Because whenever you see it on television, kids are going to stop and see the information provided about college."

The KMEX news station has been visiting schools and selected El Rancho because of its large community, and it was a community they hadn't visited.

Every Friday KMEX broadcasted at communities such as Orange County, Pomona, San Bernardino Valley, and Pico Rivera. Pico was the last stop for KMEX before the LA county fair on October 9. Producer Xiomara Gonzalez was in charge of the events in the cities. They wanted to know the community's wants and needs.

"The football game is

an event which many students attend," said producer Gonzalez. "That would give us a broad audience for our presentation of the college fair."

"Someone will hear and do something," Gonzalez commented, adding if they did not do this, it would be too hard to reach the community.

Sports Anchor Guillermo Quiroz came to El Rancho in high spirits, and everyone shouted and cheered as they introduced the school to the public, who would watch the station.

"We want to interact with the community and listen to what they have to say," said Quiroz.

During KMEX's live broadcast of the school, Quiroz interviewed two El Rancho football players. They also gave away two tickets to the Chivas game to people in the audience for answering questions about the team.

"Pico Rivera is the key role in the Hispanic communities," said reporter Julio Cesar Ortiz. "Because there are many Hispanics present in this city."

Ortiz is the reporter that finds the "sensitivity" of the stories he reports, as well as broadcasting human-interest stories on television. The purpose of this story was to promote the importance of this community and its citizens' success.

"This city has many motives to be proud of," said Cesar. "To be proud of this city."

Meza Inspires Leadership Among AP Government Students

BY JUAN OLIVARES
EL RODEO STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

Two weeks ago, Mr. Meza randomly chose a few of his AP Government students to attend a field trip to the Huntington Library in Pasadena. The trip to the Huntington Library included a screening of the debate between Jerry Brown and Meg Whitman, and the students took part in a panel discussion held after the debate. "The students reacted very well to the debate and to the panel discussion that went on afterwards. They came away with new insights," said Mr. Meza. The students that went to the event found themselves in a different environment because many of the people there were older and politically active. This event gave the chance for El Rancho students to observe how other people view politics. Also, the students saw

the reactions of the people when each candidate began to speak. "When you're watching a political debate with others, it's different than when your own living room by yourself watching it. There's greater tenseness, which is a good feeling," said Mr. Meza. The students who attended loved the food the staff provided because there were a variety of different food items, such as sandwiches, brownies and chicken. But, the students were interested in seeing the debate.

"It was very funny for several reasons, and Jerry Brown seemed to have it won," says Patrick Rubalcalva.

Overall, the event was a success and brought much insight to the students that attended. The students were able to experience how it feels to be in a political environment, and Mr. Meza would gladly take students "in a heartbeat."



Freshman English Honors not only donated shoes but used them to understand *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Students Take a Walk in Someone Else's Shoes

BY KAREN B. CARRILLO
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The Freshman English Honors classes are taking on the challenge of walking in someone else's shoes, taking a new approach to the book *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view—until you climb into his skin and walk around in it," a quote said by the character Atticus Finch from the book *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The quote teaches how to avoid judging others. One must experience the situations and circumstances that the individual has faced before judging the person.

"[This assignment will give students the] chance to practice characterization which is standard 3.4...[It] gives them the chance to be creative, instead of writing a boring essay," says Ms. Chavez jokingly.

All the freshman honors classes will take on the challenge of creating a person based on the pair of shoes they are assigned. The student will have to determine what the person liked to do for fun, what kind of music he or she listened to, and other characteristics that make up the person. "The students will think about life in someone else's point of view," explains Mrs. Lamar.

"When I went to the Holocaust Museum and I saw the pile of shoes, I thought to myself, 'these were the last shoes they wore.'"

Mrs. Lam became inspired by this idea from the forum called "English Companion Ning." This forum allows the English teachers to discuss and share their ideas online, giving the teachers an opportunity to take on a new teaching approach toward their students.

If the Freshman English classes successfully collect enough shoes for their project, they hope to donate them to Goodwill, a charity program. If not, "we'll have to use pictures of old shoes," adds Ms. Chavez optimistically.



CAMPUS

Lunch Bag Fills Theater with Laughs

BY BRIANNA MORALES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The creative minds of the drama department have struck again! This time, deviating from the typical lunch bag theatre, the talented thespians wrote Halloween-related sketches to accompany their typical improvisational games during their “spooktacular” lunch-time comedy show, which took place on the 20th and the 21st.

Most know lunch bag as a small show comprised mostly of improvisational games, or games that require the actor to come up with a scene or dialogue off the top of his head. This past lunch bag theatre, however, was different.

“We threw in skits that we all wrote as a class assignment,” said Alexis Ruelas.

The changes implemented into the classic lunch time comedy show were not just for Halloween, for the members of the drama department wish to remain

creative and fresh in their efforts to entertain the student body.

“We decided to add the skits because we wanted to change up lunch bag and because it’s almost Halloween, but we want to do something special for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and all the other holidays, too,” said Ruelas.

The audience at lunch bag took note of the new twists that lunch bag had, and filled the Little Theatre to its capacity.

“It’s very rare that we have an overflow of people with some sitting in the aisles or in front of the stage, and the second day of the Halloween lunch bag was one of those days,” said Lorenzo Luna. “I haven’t seen the theatre that packed since we performed *The Real Housewives of Pico Rivera* last year,” Ruelas added.

Luna concluded, “We’re very happy with the turnout; it was more than we expected, and we’re very proud of that.”



DANIELA AGUILAR

Seniors, David Hernandez and Osmin Riperto, play the improvisational game Alphabet Soup.

Gear Up Hosts Career Coffee House



ROSAURA MONTES

Sophomore, Raymond Canedia, talks to a Gear Up representative.

ROSAURA MONTES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Various professionals visited El Rancho for Gear Up’s first Career Coffee House of the new school year to talk to students on October 7th.

In the comfortable coffee house setting, professionals sat in different tables to answer students’ questions about their careers. This event gave students the chance to explore new career opportunities.

Students were able to converse with professionals to have a deeper look on what really goes on and to learn the difficulties as well as the benefits of going into a specific career.

“When I went to the Career Coffee House I realized that there are many opportuni-

ties to many careers. All you have to do is be good in school,” said senior, Daritza Aguilar.

This event did not just offer free food, along with the relaxing DJ music, it also included special musical acoustic performances by Briza Madueno along with Henry Ramos who played “180” by Summer. Ernesto Padilla played and sang an acoustic version of “Find Your Love” by Drake, along with “Forgive Me” by City and Colour. Break dancer Yvette Bastidas also showed some of her dance moves on the stage that evening.

This event served as a means of showing students multiple career possibilities.

“The real purpose of this event is for students to learn about these different professions and to gain the knowledge of what

they do. They get to have a better emotional feel on what these careers have to offer,” said Gear-Up Coordinator Monica Chavez.

The writers who went to this event gathered to speak to Lindsey William-Ross who gave her perspective about being a professional blogger.

“Anyone can have a job that they are passionate about. I love my job because it opens up new opportunities for me, and being a writer means I can be open-minded about what I experience,” says William-Ross.

The Career Coffee House will continue throughout the school year with different themes by Gear Up. This event gives students new opportunities to discover new things, and helps them earn extra credit for class.

WORD ON THE STREET

How do you feel about not being able to dress up for Halloween?



“Its lame because Halloween is only once a year and we don’t even get to dress up all day”
Beverly Navarro 10th



“Its whack because we should be able to express ourselves freely”
Fergie Lopez 12th



“I’m disappointed because we can’t have fun on Halloween”
Nick Jaramillo 12th



“It sucks, we’ve been able to dress up for so long and now we can’t”
Anthony Zabala 12th



“Its okay because we get to show how unique we are”
Steven Gomez 11th

BY YADIRAH RAMOS

ENTERTAINMENT

Ten Things to Do on Halloween

1. West Hollywood Halloween Costume Carnival

Location: between La Cienega Boulevard and La Peer Drive on Santa Monica Boulevard, "Route 66" in West Hollywood, California

Hours: 6 p.m. – 11 p.m.
Price: Free

2. Hollywood Halloween Street Fair

Location: Hollywood Blvd.

Hours: 5 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Price: Free

3. Universal Horror Nights

Location: 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608

Hours: 7 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Price: \$39 at Ralps



4. Mickey's Halloween Party

Location: Disneyland, 1313 S. Harbor Boulevard, Anaheim, CA

Hours: 7 p.m. - 12 a.m.
Price: \$49-\$59



5. Knott's Halloween Haunt

Location: Beach Blvd exit from the 91 Freeway in Buena Park

Hours: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Price: \$33 - \$50 advance, \$56 at the gate



6. The Queen Mary Dark Harbor Halloween Terror Fest

Location: The Queen Mary - 1126 Queens Hwy. Long Beach, Ca. 90802

Hours: 7 p.m. – 12 p.m.
Price: \$35

7. Haunted Hollywood Tour

Location: North Hollywood

***For more information call (818) 415-8269**

8. Old Town Pasadena

Location: 20 N Raymond @ Colorado in Pasadena

Hours: 7 p.m. – 12 p.m.
Price: \$16

9. Six Flags Magic Mountain Fright Fest

Location: Magic Mountain Parkway exit off Interstate 5 in Valencia

Hours: 7 p.m. – 12 p.m.
Price: Prices vary

10. Trick Or Treat!

Location: The best location is Beverly Hills

Price: Free

Halloween Fun Facts

Orange and black are Halloween colors because orange is associated with the Fall harvest and black is associated with darkness and death.

Jack o' Lanterns originated in Ireland where people placed candles in hollowed-out turnips to keep away spirits and ghosts on the Samhain holiday.



Pumpkins also come in white, blue and green. Great for unique monster carvings!

Halloween was brought to North America by immigrants from Europe who would celebrate the harvest around a bonfire, share ghost stories, sing, dance and tell fortunes.

Tootsie Rolls were the first wrapped penny candy in America.



The ancient Celts thought that spirits and ghosts roamed the countryside on Halloween night. They began wearing masks and costumes to avoid being recognized as human.



Halloween candy sales average about 2 billion dollars annually in the United States.

Chocolate candy bars top the list as the most popular candy for trick-or-treaters with Snickers #1.

Halloween is the 2nd most commercially successful holiday, with Christmas being the first.

Bobbing for apples is thought to have originated from the roman harvest festival that honors Pomona, the goddess of fruit trees.

Black cats were once believed to be witch's familiars who protected their powers.

HalloweenWeb.com



Paranormal Activity 2 Scores Big at Box Office

BY ROSAURA MONTES
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

This sequel to the ever popular Paranormal Activity is about a family of three who welcome a newborn baby named Hunter. After bring home Hunter, there seems to be a break in inside the house. With that, the husband named Dan decides to put up security cameras around the house in case if another break in may occur. The security camera tapes expose different activity that is happening around the house, giving the viewer an inside scoop.

The movie gave a good feel to it being realistic since they used security cameras as well as a handheld camera, making it a home video. That was one great decision because we as an audience felt as if we are actually in the movie, for they were just waiting for something or someone to pop out.

The scattered security cameras around the house allowed everyone to see what happening in different sections of the house. Now why is it great to have security cameras in the house? Because the movie is not based in one room, it leads the viewer through only the main areas.

Suspense was brought into the screen since the start of the movie; it left all of us in the movie theatre with wide eyes, just waiting for a possible attack or even a killing. The audience waited for something to happen but that something did take a while for it to begin. In most parts we as the audience were tricked because we thought that something happened to someone in the house. Next thing we know it is nothing serious at all.

Most people think that they experience a ghost; in this



1:41:15A

movie it explained how some happenings around a house have a valuable explanation on what caused it to happen.

That loud banging on the window could have been a ghost trying to get in. The family investigates what happened, and it led to a dead bird in the backyard, which crashed into the window.

Every time night came around, the cameras pointed at the same parts of different areas in and around the house. Each area had the same amount shown. Each time a new camera was showing a room, a person would get the feeling that something might happen each time.

While waiting for something to happen, all of a sudden baby Hunter was dragged out of his crib and sudden attacks occurred. Each angle gave an eerie feeling; any

moment would try to freak us out.

The actors in the movie did appear to be regular people; no famous actors played any roles. Each actor played his or own role well because it didn't make the audience feel as if they were fake. They made us feel as if they were our neighbors.

What was not good about the movie is that it took a while to get to the scary scenes.

Towards the middle, the movie finally made us jump. Loud bangs played a big role to try and scary the audience.

When all the activity started, it looked realistic because it is said that demons can control people. The scary parts in this movie were well worth watching because they seemed realistic.

Nighttime seem to appear as if that was only when activity

would happen, it did not seem as if anything would happen during the day. The kitchen scene in the daytime surprised us because all the cabinets suddenly slammed opened; it made everyone jump.

Those who are easily scared may not enjoy watching this movie because it will frighten them. For those who are not easily scared, this movie may not be interesting to you. If you are those types of people that enjoy a good scare, then come out and watch it.

Overall, this movie deserves a B. Since the actors played their roles so well, it made the movie even better.

If there were more frightening activity going on, the movie would have been better.

The ending was a surprise to the audience because it did not lead up to it, giving it a real twist.

HOMECOMING

“Around the World” Chalk Drawing Contest



“The drawing of the blanket represents how we can stitch every culture together. Similar to the blanket, our theme, Around the World, brings the world together.” -Citaly Molina

“My drawing is pretty general, similar to a bird, people will eventually ‘fly away’ but we are still connected to our roots, and that is why I made the E.R. banner.” -Jackie Guillen

Blue Pride Fashion Show

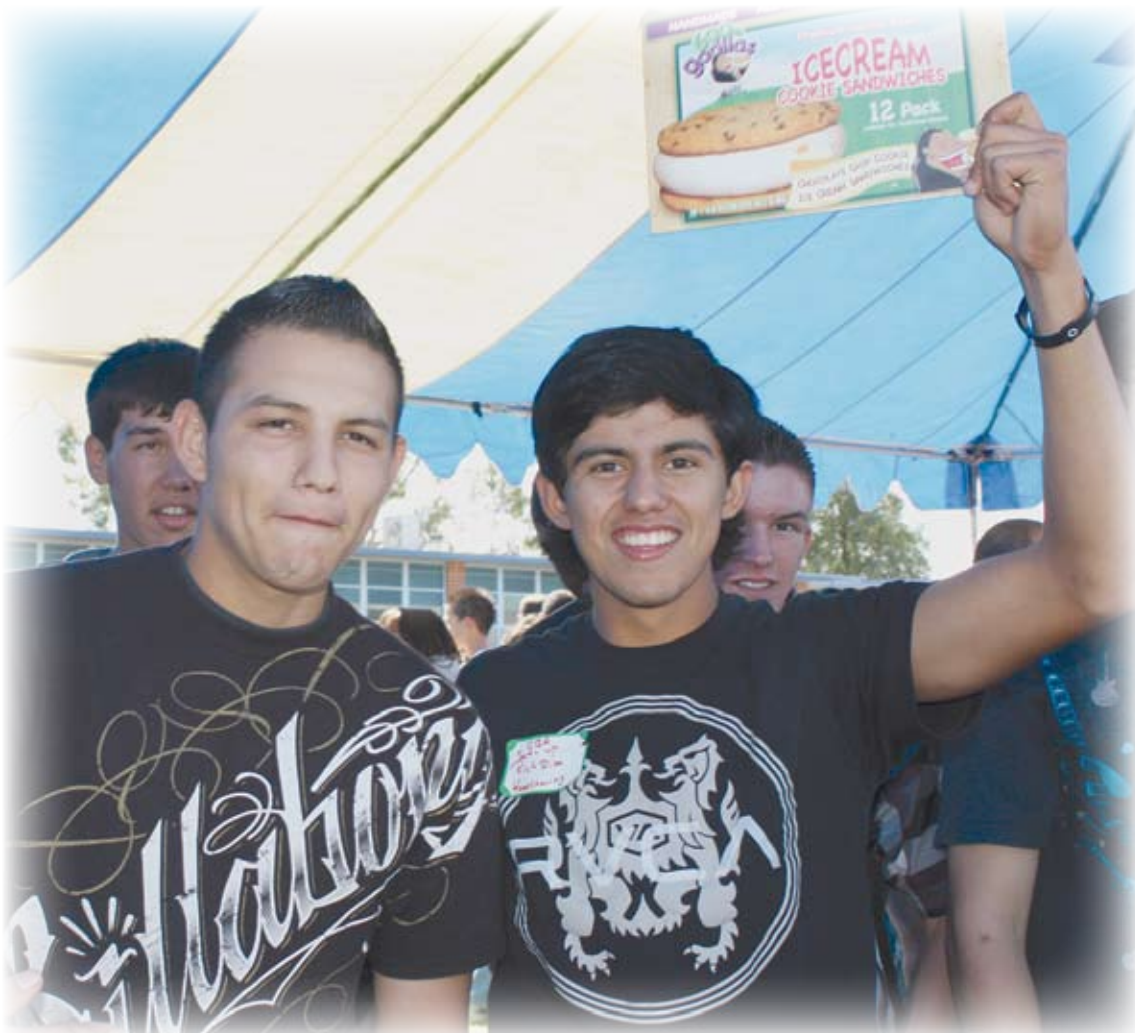


Senior Advisor, Mr. Romero, shows his blue pride from blue balloons to a blue wig.



Mr. Medrano, freshman advisor, shows his blue pride with streamers and pom-poms.

Dons Feast Away at Homecoming Carnival



The baseball players sold ice cream cookie sandwiches at the carnival.



Linda Galindo, Melissa Carillo, Michelle Gutierrez advertise their booth.



ASB sold Coldstone ice cream.