

## Mitty in Brief



### Free Rice

By Lisa Patel  
Staff Writer

FreeRice ([www.FreeRice.com](http://www.FreeRice.com)) is a website that gives everyone with access to the internet a chance to not only improve their vocabulary but to also help alleviate poverty in the world.

Generated by a father trying to help his son practice for the SAT, FreeRice offers the user multiple choice vocabulary questions. For every question answered correctly, the advertisers on the website give 20 grains of rice to the United Nations World Food Program.

Although it only began on October 7, 2007, FreeRice has already donated over seventeen billion grains. FreeRice has already provided food rations for over 20,000 refugees in Myanmar who are currently sheltered in Bangladesh. FreeRice hopes that, as more people participate, they can feed hungry Cambodians, Ugandans, and Nicaraguans as well.

The United Nations reported that about 25,000 people die each day from hunger or causes related to hunger, and this nonprofit organization offers a chance for everyone to do their part in ending world hunger, while boosting their vocabulary—and SAT score.

## Leaving the Madness on the Court

By Philip Budrinis  
Staff Writer

Monarch Madness is right around the corner, and this year the Madness stays on the court, not at the ticket booth. Last year many people were locked out from the event, or had to pay almost \$20 for one ticket from scalpers. However, for Monarch Madness XVII, students won't have to go to ebay or craigslist—everyone will have a chance to get a ticket.

“On February 21 there will be homeroom, during which everyone can reserve a ticket,” Mr. Byrnes, head of student activities, announced. “Once it's reserved he or she can pick the ticket up at student activities.”

This new system allows everyone who wants to go to Monarch Madness an equal chance to attend, while dissuading people from the notion of scalping tickets.

“No one should be locked out from the biggest event of the year,” Mr. Byrnes concludes, “That's not fair to anyone.”

# Joe Rogers Keeps the Dream Alive



Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

Renowned speaker, Joe Rogers, brings the Dream to Archbishop Mitty by reenacting Dr. King's “I Have a Dream” speech.

By Kelly Estes  
Staff Writer

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream: He dreamt of a day when all Americans could respect one another, regardless of skin color or race; he dreamt of a day when students of all backgrounds could attend school together and learn from one another; he dreamt of a day when segregation, racism, and injustice would come to an end. In 1963, Americans began to truly understand his powerful message, and, as a result, important changes were made.

His message lives on today in this country. In keeping Dr. King's dream alive, the Mitty community gathered this past month to hear renowned speaker Joe Rogers' portrayal of King's “I Have A Dream” speech.

The Fien Memorial Pavillion is typically crowded during monthly assemblies. However, the mood on Monday, January 28, was different. Students were eager to hear the much-anticipated speaker, knowing he or she was about to witness something extraordinary.

Senior Jennifer Fagundes recalls feeling “excited and interested to hear what it was that made this presentation so amazing since there was such a build-up to the event.”

The presentation required a schedule change from four, eighty-five minute classes to five, fifty-five minute classes (a typical Wednesday schedule), which proved to be more convenient for Rogers as he was scheduled to speak on the East Coast on Tuesday and Thursday of that week. However, he was more than willing to fly to and from his speaking engagements in order to fulfill his commitment to the Mitty community.

Following an introduction from African American Student Union (AASU) President, Kayla Pitre, Rogers took center stage and immediately made the audience feel comfortable. He assured us that he could see every person, and that he would give each person the opportunity to understand the importance of Dr. King's message.

“He made everyone feel like they were important; you knew you were about to experience something special,” says Pitre, who had the opportunity to meet and speak with

Rogers before his presentation.

The crowd was captivated and ready to experience Rogers' dedication to the life and legacy of Martin Luther King.

Mr. Greg Walker, director of admissions and moderator of AASU, was responsible for Rogers' appearance. When he learned about the Dream Alive program, he felt that it would be perfect for the annual Black History Month assembly: Rogers would instill the true importance of Martin Luther King Day as a national holiday.

Rogers wanted to give students the opportunity to gain a “respect and appreciation for the achievements of those who came before us.” From the beginning, Walker was impressed by Rogers' resumé being Lt. Governor of Colorado and receiving positive reviews from sources such as *The New York Times*, who considered him a “young, articulate, energetic, and well-prepared.”

Walker also received a personal reference from Brother Bob Schaefer of Central Catholic High School, who boasted about the experience that the student body at his school had with Rogers' Dream Alive program. Immediately, Walker began corresponding with Rogers' company. Consequently, Rogers agreed to bring his Dream Alive program to Archbishop Mitty, hoping that students could recapture King's message of equality by centering their lives around building community and fighting for social justice.

Through vivid descriptions and story telling, Rogers transformed the Fien Gymnasium into 1960s Montgomery, Alabama. He encouraged each person to put himself or herself in the position of a member of the Civil Rights Movement. He asked each individual to imagine the blazing hot sun on their backs as they sat facing the Lincoln Memorial listening to the speech. The audience transformed, feeling the pain of the water hoses used to control peaceful riots and the sadness of Dr. King's death first-hand.

Rogers chronicled the events leading up to King's assassination, and in the middle of his presentation, he became Martin Luther King, Jr. himself. His effective interpretation of King's voice and stature made the “I Have A Dream”

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# OPINIONS

## Opposing Viewpoints: Is Universal Healthcare the Answer?

### SHARE THE CARE

By Cerena Chen  
*Opinions Editor*

Nataline Sarkisyan was a Californian teenager, much like us, and she could easily have been our best friend, our teammate, or the girl next door. Unfortunately, she has now become the poster girl for all that is flawed within the privatized health care industry, and all that remains to be reformed.

Suffering from recurrent leukemia, Nataline had received a bone marrow transplant from her brother, Bedros. Subsequently, however, she developed complications that led to liver failure and required a liver transplant. Although UCLA Medical Center had a liver available for her, doctors could not perform the procedure because her insurance company, Cigna HealthCare, refused to cover it.

The insurers denied her coverage on the basis that her plan did not cover “experimental, investigational, and unproven services,” even though it was highly recommended by her doctors. Only after nationwide protest and a rally of 150 teenagers and nurses did Cigna reverse its decision.

However, the decision came too late. Nataline died a few hours later, leaving a mournful family and a nation outraged at the sordid operations of private insurance companies.

Stories like Nataline’s would not have to conclude this way if the United States simply installed a universal health care plan. Such a plan would not only cover all American citizens, but also those who suffer severe illnesses and are at the mercy of unscrupulous health insurance companies.

People who fear the concept of universal health care finger the cost as the primary detriment to a universal health care plan. Yet our neighbor up north, Canada, has an established, effective system in which every patient has the same insurance, and this, in turn, saves Canadians billions of dollars in paperwork costs. Implementing a similar plan here could save us at least \$286 billion annually on paperwork alone, which is enough to cover all of the uninsured and to provide every American with full prescription drug coverage.

According to the Institute of Medicine at the National Academies of Science, we are the *only* wealthy, industrialized country not to offer universal health care. And although the U.S. spends 15% of its gross domestic product (GDP) on healthcare, more than 15% of the American population is still uninsured, which equated to approximately 47 million in 2006. With healthcare premiums rising much faster than wages and even inflation rates, the government needs to step in and aid the people.

Currently, health care is one of the major issues for the presidential candidates. Both Senators Hilary Clinton and Barack Obama propose com-

prehensive steps toward achieving universal health care, while Governor Mike Huckabee and Senator John McCain shy away from the issue.

Clinton seeks to mandate health insurance for everyone, and she promises families tax credits to help pay for coverage and federal subsidies for those who cannot afford it. In order to reform the avaricious privatized health care industry that victimized Nataline Sarkisyan, Clinton requires insurers to provide coverage to anyone who applies for it. To help pay for these initiatives, she will simply eliminate President Bush’s tax cuts for wealthy people earning over \$250,000. Americans will only pay what they can afford to based on their incomes while receiving the same health care benefits of private health care plans.

Obama presents a similar plan, only his primary focus is to expand coverage and lower costs so that everyone can afford

health insurance. His plan will save the average American \$2,500 a year, financed by eliminating Bush’s tax cuts. He assures Americans who already have health insurance that their plans will not change except for the reduced cost, and the uninsured that they will be covered. Through his plan, Obama guarantees Americans that they will receive all the coverage they need, at premiums they can afford.

Huckabee, on the other hand, suggests little more than that the cost of private insurance be reduced, and that preventive care be emphasized to fix the health care system. McCain further dismisses the problem that 47 million Americans face by narrowing his health care proposals down to one group: veterans. Surely he cannot expect to lead the United States as its president if he refuses to even acknowledge the plight of the American people.

The people of America need universal health care. If we are to continue as a global leader and model of justice, we must treat our people accordingly and offer them the means to live their lives well. Universal health care is the solution and should be a fundamental right of Americans.

### KEEP HEALTHCARE PRIVATE

By Jen Scharre  
*Staff Writer*

If someone asked you to perform a higher quality job for less money, would you do it? Of course not, and it is unlikely many doctors will do so either. Universal health care plans claim that they will secure better health care for everyone in America while lowering the overall costs; however, the continuation of private health care supported by Mitt Romney and John McCain is clearly more beneficial to our country.

Barack Obama promises he will secure a better health care plan for every American while lowering costs if he becomes president—the only problem being that he proposes an identical plan for everyone. What if I don’t fit into that mold? It seems illogical to assume that same plan provided for a 20-year-old girl will be the one that’s

will go to support health care. Although this means more people will be paying for their health care, it will still drive up taxes for everyone. In addition, Clinton’s plan states that no matter what, patients covered cannot lose coverage. Although this seems beneficial to everyone, healthy patients that currently pay for life or health insurance will find their costs driven up to cover the insurance company’s new expenditures they are unable to alleviate.

Mitt Romney and John McCain both support private health care and protecting the American Public from a “one size fits all” mold. Romney intends to put more power in the states and deregulate health care. This will de-federalize health care and put it back into the hands of the people. These candidates also support dropping regulations that keep foreign companies out, which would also reintroduce competition: the foundation of a working capitalist society. Moreover, Romney sought to end defensive medicine that exists due to fear of malpractice lawsuits. Reducing these frivolous lawsuits will allow doctors to do their job and the patients to make the decisions they want, not the decisions that the government permits them to make. Romney would not raise taxes and would allow the consumers to shop around—avoiding the weaknesses of socialized medicine.

Much like Romney, John McCain believes that forcing the entire population into one national plan will ultimately be an incredibly negative course of action for America. McCain also understands the importance of competition. If America permits the entry of foreign insurance policies, healthcare plans, and expensive prescriptions, prices will vary indirectly with competition—as competition increases, costs decrease.

McCain will also make it easier for individuals, families, and small businesses to purchase private health care by eliminating the bias towards employer provided health care plans. McCain also intends to use education as a preventative measure against later health conditions. By informing children of the dangers obesity and carcinogens (such as cigarettes) pose, these conditions could be less prevalent in the future, which would lessen the company cost of treatment, thus lowering consumer payments while increasing national health.

The verdict: Do not pay doctors less and then expect better quality. Experimenting with the welfare of millions of people

is not a good idea. The collapse of our health care system is an unacceptable risk for 15% of our population. Feasible alternatives are presented by Mitt Romney and John McCain. Do not rush to jump on the Obama-Clinton bandwagon, because if you get sick, you may never make it off.



best for a 65-year-old man. Additionally, he offers very little information on how he intends to pay for this costly endeavor. He does however state that he wants to spend 75% of health care dollars on those Americans with chronic and serious conditions. Apart from this 75%, Obama wants to spend \$10 million per year on making all hospitals electronic. With the remaining resources he intends to address the worldwide AIDS epidemic, combat lead poisoning across the country, and remove mercury from the environment and food. All with the remaining 25% after allocating 75% to those with chronic and serious conditions. What is left for those people who don’t have a chronic illness, and just want a regular check-up? There seems to be little, if any. As a citizen of a country in debt, it is hard to imagine where this health care money would come from over the next four years.

Hillary Clinton’s plan closely resembles Obama’s in that she also supports universal health care. However, instead of creating a national plan, Hillary intends to give tax credits to people to pay the premiums for health care. These tax credits will mean that only a small percentage of one’s income





# CLONED MEAT: IT'S WHAT'S FOR DINNER

## FDA gives stamp of approval to foods from cloned animals

By Katherine Knox  
Staff Writer

In a recent public announcement, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has sanctioned the consumption of food made from cloned animals, asserting that it "is just as healthy as the food we eat every day."

The FDA additionally made no provision that these cloned foods be specially labeled so that the consumer knows they are purchasing cloned foods. Naturally, this statement caused infinite controversy both in agriculturally related governmental agencies and in public opinion.

These parties have raised the issues of international relations and trade, morality, and health in opposition to the use of cloned foods, as latent opinions on the subject have now been converted to active ones.

For years the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service has been trying to convince other nations to accept gene-altered crops from the United States. Other nations are hesitant to accept unnatural produce, and not specially marking cloned meat may eventually prove detrimental to international trade agreements. The refusal of various nations to receive genetically manufactured food products could cause an eventual split in agricultural trade altogether.

This refusal may be result from the moral stance of many European nations. The European Commission contemplates the morality of the issue as they report that "cloned farm animals have much higher

than normal prenatal death rates, as well as a higher prevalence of physiological problems after birth."

The Commission holds that it is immoral to purposefully generate animals that will suffer from disorders throughout their lives for the purpose of human benefit.



Some consider cloning animals for the sole purpose of making food—that is, scientifically creating life only to end it—immoral. Others believe that the process simply enables farmers to more successfully feed consumers.

The issues raised regarding the health of the clones are mirrored by the question of the safety of consumers who consume such products.

Although there have been no proven health issues in humans associated with the consumption of food from cloned animals as of yet, there's a possibility that the process of cloning degrades the health of the animal with every successive generation. There is no guarantee that the health of such products will remain high for the consumer, and

the regulations of such unhealthy products would be indeterminately difficult for the FDA.

The FDA decision not to mandate labeling foods from cloned animals has been met with a great deal of criticism. Even if farmers are required to inform their customers whether or not the food was produced from cloned animals, will the FDA remain true to their word and actively watch the evolution of the cloned animals to ensure that the food from them remains healthy to eat?

Senior Alyson Boehm offered, "It's very disconcerting to know that there's no way for me to know I'm eating cloned foods. If the FDA says it's safe, then there shouldn't be any problem giving me the choice to eat it or not."

The FDA should issue a mandate that all food products from cloned animals be labeled accordingly in order to allow the customer to make his or her own decision whether or not to support the use of clones in food production.

Consumers must be informed of the origin of their food just as they would be informed of the ingredients that are present in the food. Sanctioning the unlimited production of food products made from cloned animals is not only immoral, but also damaging to the foreign policy of the United States.

Especially when considering the possibility that subsequent generations of clones will be unsafe or, minimally, of poorer quality, the consumer deserves to be given the decision of whether or not to purchase cloned foods.

Since most apples have been grafted from a single strong species many years ago, it's like we've been eating the same apple for years



IT'LL BE THE SAME WITH CLONING...



Norman Chicas

# Rogue French Trader Costs French Bank Billions

By Miranda Luna  
Opinions Editor

The average investor's losses rarely involve a ten-figure number, but Mr. Jerome Kerviel's did in fact involve the number 7,200,000,000. Kerviel, a mid-level trader for the French banking juggernaut Société Générale, somehow managed to bypass multiple computer controls and regular audits performed by the bank for about a year while making unauthorized trades with SocGen's resources.

Initially this rogue trader's efforts involving European stock indexes produced favorable results, especially considering he hadn't graduated from a top business school and made only about \$147,000 a year, but they soon soured. With this turn of events, Kerviel continued trading in a desperate attempt to dig himself out of this hole, even as it got deeper and deeper.

Kerviel made or lost no money for himself through these trades and thus suffered no damage to his personal finances; in fact in the transcript of his leaked interview with police, he stated that he was interested in only "making money for the bank alone and in no way enriching myself personally," so that he could prove his abilities.

These losses, however, have certainly

caused SocGen to scramble and save itself from collapse, by seeking \$8 billion in fresh capital from shareholders in order to restore its financial health—something the British bank Barings was unable to accomplish after a rogue trader cost the institution \$1.4 billion.

Recently, Kerviel has become somewhat of a cult hero in France as t-shirts emblazoned with slogans such as, "When I grow up I want to be like Jerome Kerviel," and Jerome Kerviel's Girlfriend" have become commonplace amongst the citizenry. But however much the people may adore this maverick, many finance experts assert that it would have been impossible for Kerviel to have committed a fraud of this magnitude working alone.

C. Ricardo Esteves, executive director of Banco Hipotecario of Argentina, stated flatly that, "[The bank's position that Kerviel acted alone] is not credible. One person re-

sponsible for this? I just don't believe it."

This position is further supported by Howard Davies, current director of the London School of Economics, who holds that in trades and transactions involving large sums there is "a compliance mechanism that prevents them from being done by a single individual."

Indeed, Kerviel himself is convinced he operated with the tacit approval of his superiors as he alleges they ignored repeated warnings about him from market operators and he "was generating cash, so the signals were not very worrying for [the supervisors]. As long as [he] was winning and no one sees and everything is taken care of, they say nothing."

He further indicated that the traces he left were so numerous that SocGen could not have persisted completely in the dark, saying, "The simple fact that I did not take any holidays in 2007 should have alerted the management. That is one of the primary

rules for the internal controls." It is that replacement of traders on vacation that allows the bank to review their positions.

As Kerviel likely acted with the unspoken consent of higher ups, there must be reforms instituted to prevent the recurrence of this phenomena and protect the interests of shareholders. There must be harsher penalties enacted against the management of institutions such as SocGen, who look the other way on rogue trading so long as it remains profitable because they know consequences will ultimately fall upon individuals such as Jerome Kerviel.

After all, SocGen chairman Daniel Bouton has yet to resign. It is time to institute a culture of accountability with the management of large financial institutions and hold them accountable for failing in their responsibility to stockholders and customers.

It is unjust to place all blame with the man just trying to prove himself when there are countless higher ups that condoned the action as long as it was to their benefit.

I would in fact like to see the next t-shirt to be stocked next to "I want to party with Jerome Kerviel" and "Jerome Kerviel's Girlfriend" to read "Jerome Kerviel's Losses: \$7.2 Billion. Daniel Bouton's Sentence: 10-15 years. Poetic Justice: Priceless."





# MACWORLD '08 LEAVES SOMETHING TO BE DESIRED

By Andrew Arleo  
Staff Writer

Has Steve Jobs once again left his followers aching for more? With Macworld 2008 in the books, some are beginning to question the “featured highlights” of the show as being far from spectacular. Many expected Jobs to present a new generation iPhone capable of accessing AT&T’s 3G wireless internet network, which would allow for an increase in mobile data speeds. However, the anticipation was not satisfied as the second generation iPhone release has been postponed indefinitely.

Although this new iPhone was not released, Jobs unveiled new updates for both the iPhone and the iPod Touch.

Although the buzz surrounding these updates was nothing approaching what the release of the second generation iPhone would have been, it is good news for iPhone owners. You now have the ability to send a SMS (Text Message) to multiple people at once. Of course, this feature has been a standard on various models of fifty dollar cell phones for years, but now it can be done on the five-hundred dollar 16GB iPhone.

It is now also possible to put shortcuts to web pages on your home screen as well as move icons around. The most notable improvement, however, involves the “Maps” application. Although the iPhone is not equipped with a GPS chip, you can track your location by triangulating with cell phone towers to give you a fairly accurate idea of where you are.

Although these updates for the iPhone are free, this is not the case for the iPod Touch. The update for the Touch allows for Mail, Stocks, Notes and Weather on your iPod. However, in order to install these applications you are going to need to cough up \$20 to Mr. Jobs. Not a very reasonable request considering you already paid an arm and a leg

for your device.

Among the other products released at MacWorld were the Apple TV Take Two, the Time Capsule, and the MacBook Air. The Apple TV Take Two allows you to rent TV shows and movies. The Apple TV is an actual flat panel TV which has an external box attached to it.

This device allows you to purchase TV shows and movies from iTunes directly on the TV, without using a computer. The Time Capsule is another device which backs up everything on your computer to an external hard drive. This can be done wirelessly and set to have it back up automatically at specified times.

Steve Jobs also announced the pride and joy of MacWorld—the MacBook Air. This ultra-slim notebook weighs 3 pounds and is .75” at its thickest part. The MacBook Air is crafted for wireless, but not always to the user’s benefit.

With no internal CD/DVD drive, users are forced to either purchase an external or use a special Mac program which allows you to wirelessly access the drive of another computer’s machine. This is a nice touch to ease the inconvenience, but still requires another computer. Other features include an optical drive, a USB hub, and an Ethernet adapter.

The notebook has all the bells and whistles and sports a full-sized backlit keyboard. The price tag of \$1700 is not completely outrageous and many people are excited to get their hands on one. But when you factor in having to purchase all the MacBook Air lacks, expect that number to approach \$2000.

Whether MacWorld was a success or a failure is up to the individual Apple customer. The truth is that Apple continues to push the market forward by releasing “advancing” technology while at the same time keeping their following in a tight flock with empty wallets.



The new MacBook seems to be filled with Air and not much else, definitely not a CD/DVD drive.

## THINK BEFORE YOU BLOG

By Josie Suh  
Staff Writer

The Internet possesses amazing power. And as Ben Parker would say, with great power comes great responsibility. But to whom does this responsibility belong?

The Internet belongs to nobody, and it cannot regulate itself. Some may argue that the users should be responsible for internet content, but it is unreasonable to expect individuals to police billions of webpages, especially if that would involve censoring themselves.

Even though there does not exist a policing body, it’s important to be aware of existing privacy rights on Internet postings. What may seem like a little thing can easily become a big deal when you post it on the Internet. That is why it is important not to stop posting on the Internet, but just to be aware of what could happen.

Blogs and YouTube videos made by average people can become world famous in a matter of days. The Internet has a tendency to open gateways for the ordinary to become extraordinary, and to allow the opinions of one person heard all over the nation and even all over the world. However, there are times when all this attention can become unwelcome.

Take for example, a Virginia high school student named Dave Kori who posted online the audio of a nasty message his dean’s wife left him. He had called the dean’s home number asking why the school wasn’t closed for a snow day, and the dean’s wife called him back, annoyed, saying “Get over it, kid, and go to school!”

The student then subsequently posted the message on Facebook and YouTube, and within a day there were hundreds of viewers and it made the local evening news. The situation grew out of control, with thousands of students eager to support or criticize the each side. Soon enough the dean was receiving prank calls at all hours of the day.

Eventually Kori was interviewed on *Good Morning America* where he mentioned that it really wasn’t such a big deal to start with. What he considered not a big deal became national news and he received much unwanted attention. He removed the

audio from the websites in an attempt to curb what damage had already been done.

Thankfully, most of us won’t have to experience such embarrassment, but it isn’t impossible, either.

Sophomore Kit Strong says, “I think that our generation has become more accustomed to the Internet and all of its potential threats. Yet, we always read about Internet disasters and how they can ruin someone’s life. And I think that there is always a potential for that if we’re not careful.”

The instant spread of information is useful for research and communication, but we also post our opinions in blogs, express ourselves on websites, and post and watch videos and listen to music. These things aren’t bad in themselves, but when such activities harm other people it can be a problem.

The Mitty technology code states: “It is unacceptable to display pictures of staff, students, the school, or school activities without direct permission from the parties involved,” and you should “not reveal any personal information about friends, other students, staff members, or family without their permission.”

You are free to post anything that pertains to yourself and your views (provided they are nonthreatening and nonoffensive), but you shouldn’t post any videos or information that pertain to other people unless they’re all right with it.

Posting information about other people without their knowledge can harm them or even in some extreme cases put them in danger. Those who read what you post can take things outside of context and add additional meaning that isn’t there.

And that is the downside to the speedy travel of information over the Internet. A harmless inside joke or personal issue, if made public on the Internet, could easily be turned into something offensive or very serious.

You may have the best of intentions, but it can unintentionally become twisted by other users. The Internet has that kind of power.

Users have to be aware of the potential damage that can occur and think twice about every action they take online.



**Just be careful not to broadcast others because it could end up hurting you too.**

## THE FASTEST MAN ON NO LEGS

By Danielle Grassi  
Opinions Editor

Oscar Pistorius’s parents welcomed their son into the world, imagining he would become a walking, then running, toddler. Within a year those hopes and expectations for Oscar were permanently altered.

The South African native was born without fibulas, a bone found between the knee and the ankle, in both of his legs. At eleven months old Pistorius became a double amputee from the knee down. After such a life-altering procedure, one could only hope that young Pistorius would be able to get around on his own and walk comfortably on prosthetics.

Not only can Oscar Pistorius get around by himself, he can sprint at times rivaling the world’s top able-bodied athletes. He made his debut at the age of seventeen at the 2004 Athens Paralympics where he broke a record and won the gold in the 200 meters with a time of 21.97 seconds. He has since broken this record and has broken a total of twenty-six world records held by athletes with a disability.

Pistorius’s best times—21.34 seconds for the 200m and 46.56 seconds for the 400m—were not recognized by the International Paralympic Committee because the times were in competition against athletes without a disability.

Junior Sami Buglewicz thinks “The fact that he ran as fast as he did, and made such a big accomplishment only to have his times not recorded is really unfair.”

These outstanding times put the 2008 Beijing Olympics within realistic reach for the young sprinter.

Pistorius wants to compete in the games, but the International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) feels that the carbon-fiber prosthetics gives the runner an unfair advantage. After scientific inves-

tigation, the German Sport University of Cologne found that the prosthetics Pistorius uses require him to use 25% less energy than other able-bodied athletes running at similar speeds.

He has more than a 30% mechanical advantage because he lacks the ankle joint that would cause able-bodied runners to lose energy. The returned energy from the blades Pistorius runs on is almost triple the amount a human ankle joint would generate during sprinting. In addition, the prosthetics may make him taller than he would be if he were not an amputee, giving him a longer stride. After considering the evidence and analysis presented to them, the IAAF banned Pistorius from the 2008 Olympic games.

Some feel that too many people are focusing on the advantages he has and disregarding all of the disadvantages he has had to overcome.

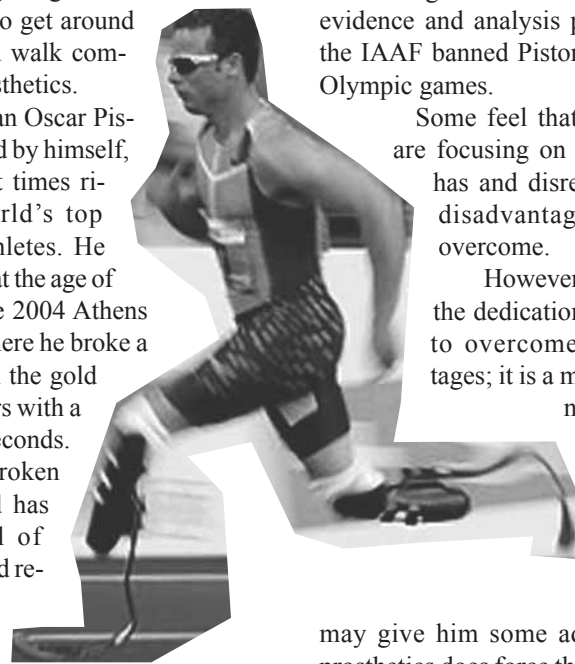
However, no one is ignoring the dedication and effort it took to overcome these disadvantages; it is a matter of whether or not this top sprinter can compete fairly against those without mechanical advantages.

While they may give him some advantages, having prosthetics does force the athlete to maneuver his or her body in a very precise way.

So is the playing field fair? Do the obstacles Pistorius has had to overcome and the increased strength his hips must provide, make up for the advantages he may have?

Senior Tim Boucher feels that “Pistorius is undoubtedly a great athlete, but I can see the unfair advantages he may have in competition against other athletes in the Olympics.”

Whether or not anyone will ever determine if his entry into the Olympics would be fair or not, Pistorius has decided to focus on the 2012 London Games after concluding that an appeal to the IAAF’s decision would take so long that it would prevent him from even competing for a place in the Beijing Olympics.





# Justice Awareness

## By the Numbers

**\$160 million** raised by Operation Rice Bowl to fund development projects that improve people's ability to access food.

**1/4** funds raised by Operation Rice Bowl that go to programs in the local community.

**14,000** faith communities in the United States that participate in Operation Rice Bowl.

**3,943** total U.S. military deaths in Iraq since the start of the war.

**88,479** civilians killed in Iraq since the start of the war.

**\$1.5 billion** dollars Benazir Bhutto and her husband were charged with laundering from Swiss bank accounts.

**6,446** days spent in jail by falsely accused Juan Roberto Melendez.

**119** pledged delegates Barack Obama leads by over Hillary Clinton as of February 18.

**13** state primaries won by Barack Obama on Super Tuesday.

**1,000** whales per year hunted by the Japanese under international law.

**261,000** people displaced by Kenyan violence.

**99** people killed in one of the deadliest bombings in Baghdad since last spring.

**2** years director James Longley spent in Iraq filming footage for his documentary, *Iraq in Fragments*.

## Human Rights The Legacy of Benazir Bhutto

By Meera Ramakrishnan  
Staff Writer

Former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was assassinated on December 27, 2007, plunging her country into chaos. Bhutto had just finished addressing a rally of thousands of supporters in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. At the time of



the attack, she stood waving through the sunroof of the car as her convoy was leaving the park.

Reports confirm she was shot twice in the neck and chest. A bomb immediately went off, sending twisting metal and shrapnel into the crowd—killing at least 22 people and injuring many more. The bomber was riding on a motorcycle near Bhutto's vehicle.

Though immediate reports after the attack assured the people that Bhutto was safe and unharmed, she was rushed to nearby Rawalpindi General Hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

Supporters of Bhutto protested violently throughout Pakistan. Rioters burned tires, destroyed buses, and blocked roads in the capital of Karachi and other cities. Eleven additional deaths were reported as a result of these riots.

Hundreds of Bhutto supporters crowding the hospital mourned as her body was carried out in a coffin. The reactions from the global community were similar. The UN Security Council "unanimously condemned" the attack, as did leaders from the U.S., Europe, India, and Afghanistan. All called for justice, reacting with pain and shock to this "cowardly attack" against democracy.

A number of investigations into Bhutto's assassination have resulted, though released reports vary greatly. An Interior Ministry spokesman told the media Bhutto died of a skull fracture when she hit her head against the lever of the sunroof, ducking to escape the bullets. He denied any gunshot wounds to Bhutto's body.

Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) says she was shot in the neck, with the bullet exiting the back of her head. Law Minister Afzal Haider said the government sought support from a reputed and credible international investigative agency, but only under the condition that these investigations would be carried out by Pakistani agencies who would submit a report to the senate. The PPP discredits this government inquiry, believing it could never reveal "the real assassins."

No autopsy had been performed on

Bhutto's body. Her husband, Asif Zardari, refused the request by the home secretary, following traditional social beliefs that autopsies constitute disrespect to the deceased.

There were no immediate claims of responsibility for the attack. Analysts believe Islamist militants to be the most likely culprits, while others cast suspicion on the Pakistani government under President Musharraf.

The assassination took place in Rawalpindi's Liaquat Bagh Park—named for Pakistan's first prime minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, who was assassinated in the same place in 1951.

### Rise to Power

Bhutto became the first woman in modern history to lead a Muslim country when she became Pakistan's Prime Minister in 1988. Seen by many as a symbol of democracy in Pakistan, Bhutto stirred both hope and controversy—and now chaos as her death leaves Pakistan's future shaky.

Yet despite the country's hope for a secular and liberal leader, Bhutto's political past was rampant with corruption. Bhutto rose to power largely because of

her family name. Her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who founded the PPP, went on to become President and Prime Minister.

Benazir, the oldest of four children, was born on June 21, 1953, and educated at Radcliffe and Oxford. She originally had plans to enter Pakistan's foreign service, but her father's death led her to declare herself lifetime party president of the PPP. She refused her brother leadership; when he was shot dead by police officers, some even believed Bhutto may have been complicit in the murder.

Under her administration, human rights continued to be widely abused, and she did almost nothing to advance the liberal causes she represented. Her secret service helped arm the Taliban. And although she drew much support from women and the poor, she did little to improve their lives. The education system was hardly



functional, as well as the justice system—unless you had connections.

She and her husband Zardari were charged with laundering \$1.5 billion from Swiss bank accounts. Amnesty International accused her government of having one of the world's worst records of deaths, abductions, killings, and torture. Under her leadership, Pakistan was declared one of the most corrupt nations in the world.

Under charges of corruption, nepotism, and abuse of power, Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan dismissed Bhutto in 1990. Yet in 1993, her party won

in elections, and she was once again prime minister. Bhutto was deposed a second time in 1996 on charges of corruption and mismanagement.

Her husband was jailed for 8 years; Bhutto was sentenced to 5 years of jail, disqualification from politics, and an \$8.6 million fine. Instead, she chose an 8-year self-imposed exile, declaring innocence and appealing to the Supreme Court.

### Return to Politics

In October 2007, the White House asked Bhutto to return to Pakistan in a shared power agreement. She would return, contest elections, and agree to serve under Musharraf as Prime Minister. This would give Musharraf's rule some legitimacy of democratic rule. He, in turn, would drop the charges of corruption against her.

Through this exchange the White House would be seen as spreading democracy in the Muslim world while still maintaining Musharraf's alliance. On October 19 of last year 140 people were killed in a double suicide bombing in Karachi. Bhutto luckily survived.

President Musharraf's battle with the Supreme Court for a second presidential term led him to declare a state of emergency, suspending the constitution and sending troops into the streets to control protests. Bhutto was placed under house arrest but sought parliamentary elections on January 8. A bold and brave woman, she campaigned throughout Pakistan, up to that rally in Rawalpindi where she was assassinated.

### What the Future Holds

Bhutto's Pakistani People's Party gained the majority of seats in Parliament in elections held February 18. This win by the opposition parties is likely to restore the public's faith in the political process and calm fears that the results would be rigged in favor of the pro-Musharraf forces. The party is now seeking an alliance with former political foe Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister responsible for pressing charges against Bhutto and dismissing her. This alliance would galvanize the party and leave Musharraf vulnerable, ultimately ending this era of Pakistani politics.

So how does Pakistan head into the future? At a delicate point in Pakistani politics, Washington is searching for a source

of stability. Yet as long as Pakistan is crippled by feudal politicians, a corrupt, ineffective army, and religious extremists, a modern democracy for this Muslim nation is far from reality.

The rise of Islamists in Pakistan is largely due to the state's failure to provide justice and basic necessities for the poor. As corruption still exists, the poor are neglected—and look to Islamists as a source of social justice.

The immediate concern after Bhutto's death was the security of Pakistan's 60 nuclear warheads. As the only Muslim nation to possess nuclear weapons, and the least stable nuclear state, U.S. and Pakistani officials were quick to assure that these weapons were safe from suicide terrorists.

How Bhutto's legacy will affect the future remains to be seen. To honor her efforts and the values she represented to many Pakistani civilians, external pressures must be placed on Pakistan to end military rule, and unite the democrats, so that Pakistan can avoid more tragedy and gain stability.



# Human Rights

## Imprisoned and Innocent

### Poignant Speaker Shares his Experience on Death Row

By **Katie Helland**  
Staff Writer

After 17 years, eight months and one day in jail, the falsely accused Juan Roberto Melendez was set free from Florida's death row. Melendez shared his experiences with the Mitty community in the chapel on January 16.

Melendez was falsely sentenced to death for first degree murder and armed robbery. A month before his trial, the real murderer, James Vernon, confessed to the crimes on tape before Melendez's investigative defense attorney. The evidence was never presented in court. Almost eighteen years later, the tapes were replayed in court and Melendez was set free. The true murderer, Vernon, remained unpunished. He was deceased at the time of Melendez's release. Melendez's release from death row in 2000 marks the 99th release of a falsely accused inmate since 1973.

Life on death row was harsh. Melendez lived in a cell with rats, shackles, and cockroaches. Inmates emerged from their cells for only three to four hours of leisure a week. In their cells, inmates could hear the terrible hum of electric chair executions, and Melendez reports that the inmates could sense the moment the prisoner died.

To distract himself from the harsh realities of death row, Melendez, a Puerto Rican Native, learned English. He says that during his court case he "didn't understand what they were saying." During his imprisonment, he "learned how to write, and how to read." Melendez notes the irony of his situation, saying that "The condemned are the worst of the worst, [yet they] taught me how to read, write and speak English."

Awaiting an unset execution date, Melendez continued to insist that he was innocent, even as his hope of release ebbed. At the beginning of his imprisonment, Melendez

blocked the doors of his cell and exercised daily so that he could fight the men who would eventually bring him to the electric chair.

But Melendez's rebellion soon turned to depression as the years passed away in jail. Inmates in neighboring cells bought crude tools for suicide by bartering cigarettes or a roll of toothpaste for a trash bag with a plastic rope. Melendez observed one neighbor who committed suicide and was removed from the room purple with the rope still around his neck. Melendez commented that the rope was not be removed. There was no respect in jail— not even in death.

Melendez himself considered escape through suicide. He eventually decided against it after having an inspirational dream. Melendez says that the "beautiful dreams I had, my faith in God, learning to read and write, learning the law, and learning to speak English" gave him strength.

"I kept high spirits and great hope that one day I would be out."

Upon his release,

Melendez looked forward to seeing the sun, the moon, and the stars, as well as some beautiful girls.

Melendez has accepted the loss of seventeen years of his life with grace, and he is not bitter about the fact that upon his release he was only given a pair of pants, a shirt, and \$100.

He urges youth to value their education and write letters educating others on the cruelties and injustices of life on death row. If students want to get involve he suggests joining groups against the death penalty or even starting a chapter at Mitty.

"I'm looking for a job. I go out around the country. I tell my story and hope that people will want to abolish the death penalty."

As for the death penalty, he says that "While it exists there is always the chance to execute innocent men."



Juan Roberto Melendez spent over 17 years on death row, despite his innocence.

## Politics

Staff Writer **Michael Hicks**  
on the Presidential Race

In the wake of possibly the most gripping, monumental battles for the presidential candidacy in modern history, Mitt Romney has dropped out of the race in the wake of John McCain's incontrovertible success, while Obama and Clinton look primed to continue this hotly contested duel perhaps all the way to the Democratic National Convention.

According to CNN, Barack Obama leads Hillary Clinton by 119 pledged delegates and 42 considering superdelegates as of February 13 (by which time former candidates Al Gore and John Kerry had already become heavy favorites to win their respective nominations), and the race is likely to heat up even more even as the Republican race goes cold.

John McCain, who fell second to Bush's nomination campaign in 2000, is virtually secured in his position as the Republican candidate eight years later. However, his campaign is hardly over, as the relatively moderate Republican lacks the support of his more conservative party members that he will need in the upcoming election.

In fact, both he and Obama have been most successful in states that are most likely to be won by the opposing party. McCain has garnered strong support from Independents and moderate Republicans in the more "blue" states, while the majority of right-wing conservatives in the "red" states have been split between Romney and Huckabee up to this point. And though Obama technically won more states on Super Tuesday than Clinton—13 to 8—most of his victories came in traditionally Republican states with far fewer Democratic delegates than states like New York and California, which fell to Clinton.

McCain will most likely attempt to alleviate the problem by selecting a staunch conservative running mate to make up for the "weaker" parts of his campaign. Indeed, many political analysts speculate that McCain will ask Huckabee to fill this role.

On the other hand, both Clinton and Obama are generally considered liberal, even by Democratic standards, and some pundits have asserted that both will need a more moderate VP, with more experience in areas such as foreign policy, for a successful campaign. Some have hopefully asserted that both could run on the same ticket. On the other hand, most authorities contend that neither wishes to work under the other. It is much more likely that both are coming into this next round of campaigning with a winner-takes-all attitude, which will make the competition even fiercer.

If either candidate will be successful, they will need to break the voting patterns that have rested on factors such as age, race, and gender. Obama has unflinching support of both men and women under the age of 35, while Clinton dominates the vote ages 45 and up. Clinton generally does well with women but has so far been unable to garner many male votes.

While Obama has an overwhelming majority of African-American Democrats in his favor, it was the massive support of Latino Americans for Clinton's immigration politics that swayed California and other states into her camp. The Democrats are split into several little boxes by these factors, and one candidate or the other will need to bring these groups back together into their camp to win.

If the campaign continues in this neck-and-neck fashion, though, then it is even possible that the candidacy will actually need to be decided at the Democratic national convention, where the 796 "superdelegates"—essentially influential and powerful Democrats such as Gore, Ted Kennedy, and others—will cast their delegate votes to either Clinton or Obama, thus pushing one or the other over the 2025 delegate majority needed for the nomination.

Although the California primary has come and gone, this continuing race between Obama and Clinton, as well as McCain's continued campaigning, will provide fresh insights for students and faculty alike into the minds and policies of our possible future president, giving us greater knowledge and wisdom for that fateful day in November.

## Mitty Community

### Operation Rice Bowl

By **Emma Kelsey**  
Justice Awareness Editor

What are you giving up for Lent? Ash Wednesday began Lent on February 6, so this is a question that you might want to consider. Catholics traditionally fast and pray for the forty days leading up to Easter to represent the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert.

For the first time during Lent, Mitty is participating in a program called Operation Rice Bowl. Operation Rice Bowl is a program of Catholic Relief Services, which assists the impoverished and disadvantaged overseas. According to the organization, "Operation Rice Bowl has called on participants to pray with their families and faith communities; fast in solidarity with those who hunger; learn about our global community and the challenges of poverty overseas, and give sacrificial contributions to those in need."

At Mitty boxes for collecting change were distributed in all religion classes. Students are being asked to pledge an amount that they will donate to Operation

Rice Bowl. The goal of the program is that you put extra change in the boxes and it will add up over time.

In religion classes teachers explained that Lent is a time for us to give up the excesses in our life.

Senior Stanley Hiew says, "It's about intent. Mrs. Lavorato said that if we choose to participate we should do it out of love." Senior Nicole Frager agrees and adds, "I really like that we were educated about it in class. We know where the money is going to so it makes people want to participate more."

In Mr. Helman's Spirituality classes, he asked students to think about what they spend on things that really aren't necessary, like Starbucks, jeans, or the movies. He suggested that students give up buying these during Lent and donate that money to Operation Rice Bowl.

Nicole Frager is planning on participating. "I think it's really cool that we're trying something different because usually our only fundraiser is the food drive. It's great to support this cause during Lent and it doesn't take a lot of effort to put in your change. I think it will raise a lot of money if everyone just puts in a little effort."





# World Map

## News from around the Globe



### Region 1: Central and South America

**Havana, Cuba**—After nearly a half-century in power an aging and ailing, 81-year-old Fidel Castro resigned as Cuba's president Tuesday, saying he will not accept a new term when parliament meets Sunday. The end of Castro's rule — the longest in the world for a head of government — frees his 76-year-old brother Raul to implement reforms he has hinted at since taking over as acting president.

**Bogotá, Colombia**—Rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, has handed over three more hostages to Venezuela due to their poor health after six years of captivity in rebel jungle camps. President Chávez of Venezuela and President Álvaro Uribe of Colombia have been locked in a debate that has threatened their \$6 billion a year in cross-border trade.

### Region 2: Africa

**Nairobi, Kenya**—The Kenyan government and its main opposition group, the Luo tribe, have reached a four point plan to end the politically and ethnically charged violence that has plagued the country for more than a month. This violence is responsible for killing 863 people and displacing 261,000 others from their homes.

**Ndjamena, Chad**—One thousand rebel militants entered the capital of Chad on Saturday, February 2, 2008, causing the capital to shut down. Current violence will only serve to worsen the infrastructure of one of the most fragile regions in the world, Chad and Sudan.

**Sudan**—While striking at rebel forces, the Sudanese

military bombed three towns in West Darfur in which approximately 200 people were killed. This recent violence has worsened the chances of political settlement in the ongoing five year conflict of this area.

### Region 3: The Middle East

**Baghdad, Iraq**—The death toll stands at 99 for one of the deadliest bombings in Iraq since the United States brought in extra troops last spring. In the bombing, two mentally disabled women were strapped with remote-control explosives and used as unknowing suicide bombers in the al-Ghazl and New Baghdad marketplaces.

**Islamabad, Pakistan**—Pakistan's ruling party led by President Pervez Musharraf was defeated Tuesday by opposition parties in parliamentary elections. Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who was ousted in Musharraf's 1999 coup, suggested that the Pakistani president should listen to the "verdict" of the people in the Monday balloting and step down.

### Region 4: Asia

**Tokyo, Japan**—Japanese have resumed whaling near Antarctica days after the Greenpeace and Sea Shepherd activist groups left the area after trying to stop the whaling. Commercial whaling is banned in the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary that surrounds Antarctica. However, Japan is permitted to about 1,000 whales per year under international law.

**Colombo, Sri Lanka**—Human rights groups such as

Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have expressed concern about the state of human rights in Sri Lanka as violence between the government and separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, has escalated as the military destroyed six Tamil Tiger rebel bunkers in attacks that killed five guerillas and one soldier.

### Region 5: Europe

**Paris, France**—President Nicolas Sarkozy has pledged over \$700 million in aid for Paris suburbs—areas of social unrest that have twice exploded in rioting in recent years. This plan aims to cut the number of young people who drop out of school as well as make the areas in question safer.

**Vilnius, Lithuania**—In a two-day meeting of NATO defense ministers, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates urged European allies—specifically Germany, France, Italy, and Turkey—to contribute more combat troops and military personal to Afghanistan.

### Region 6: North America

**Ottawa, Canada**—The Conservative Party introduced a motion to prolong Canada's combat mission in Afghanistan, contingent on other NATO countries sending 1,000 more troops to southern Afghanistan. Canada has been the main NATO combat force in Afghanistan's unstable southern region.

**Nebraska**—Nebraska Supreme Court ruled that the electric chair is cruel and unusual punishment, effectively suspending executions in that Nebraska is the only state that depends solely on electrocution.

## Documentaries: Spotlight On... Iraq

### Baghdad Hospital: Inside the Red Zone

Using a hand-held camera inside the Al-Yarmouk hospital, Dr. Omer Salih Mahdi put himself and his colleagues at risk to film inside a Baghdad emergency room deemed too dangerous for an American film crew.



The film reveals the chaos inside such an emergency room as the audience is exposed to the gruesome injuries sustained by Iraqi civilians from gunfire and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) as well as the substandard conditions, the threat of danger, and low morale that the doctors and nurses must endure on a daily basis.

### No End in Sight

Winner of the *Special Jury Prize: Documentary* at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival, this film presents candid retellings of the events following the collapse of Baghdad in 2003 from high ranking officials as well as Iraqi civilians, American soldiers, and prominent analysts.

*No End in Sight* analyzes how the principal errors of U.S. policy and the Bush Administration's decisions have largely resulted in the insurgency and chaos in Iraq, along with countless American soldier and Iraqi civilian deaths.

The film also examines how flawed Bush administration and military decisions led to the strengthening of Iran, the weakening of the U.S. military, and economic costs of over \$2 trillion.



### Iraq in Fragments

Nominated for the 2007 Oscar for Best Documentary Feature, "Iraq in Fragments" is an opus in three parts that offers a series of intimate portraits of the lives of Iraqi civilians.

Director James Longley spent more than two years filming in Iraq to show the war-torn country through the eyes of Sunnis (a fatherless 11-year-old), Shiites (Sadr followers in two Shiite cities rallying for regional elections), and Kurds (a family of Kurdish farmers who welcome the U.S. presence).

This documentary creates a compelling portrayal of a country pulled in different directions by religion and ethnicity.





**Bharat Ravishankar, 2008**  
"Go Dallas Cowboys! Go Lakers!"

# FOCUS

**Manisha Eerabathini, 2010**  
"I can't wait to be an upperclassman!  
But I'm definitely going to dread PSATs."

## Look Ahead

**By Kerrilee Fazzino**  
Staff Writer

2008, as this section of the paper illustrates, is full of promising events, new innovations, and exciting new changes. We've included quotes from students who discuss their thoughts about the new year and what it is they are looking forward to scattered around the page.

**Jaiye Falusi, 2008**  
"I am looking forward to a new beginning...at college."

**Anooshka Kumar, 2009**  
"I can't wait to be a senior, but I will definitely miss seniors who are graduating this year."

**Katherine Knox, 2008**  
"I am excited to read about issues that will impact the school as a whole just as the Nalgene bottle article did last year."

## Tech Talk

**By Kiron Chandy and Ramya Singireddy**  
Staff Writers

Okay, so another year has passed. And there's been quite a lot of hype if you think about it, going from wall posting on Facebook and running up those limits on your "unlimited" texting plan to the release of the iPhone.

And catching the attention of so many of us YouTubers out there, you've got to admire the brave and almost patriotic spirit of those willing to tape themselves getting teary-eyed for the sake of the American pop idol Britney Spears.

From know-it-all phones to futuristic cars and even pillows that can wake you up with light without blinding you, those snazzy-sleek innovations of 2007 have been built to meet your most insignificant needs.

The iPhone. Touch it, play it, hack it. It's all up to you. This gadget has been a popular buy since its introduction by Apple during the summer of '07. But don't be reeled in so easily. Running on its EDGE network, it doesn't even matter whether its interface is cool. It's slow.

And that touch-screen capability is a double-edged sword, especially if you have fingers bigger than the size of those tiny little cramped buttons that you can't even feel for anymore. Bummer.

Luckily for you, AT&T Chairman and CEO Randall Stephenson accidentally leaked information about Apple's new iPhone for down the road.

Rumors circulating the Internet include



that the iPhone 2 will have GPS capabilities and will be available to non-U.S. markets on Sprint and Verizon networks.

Even though sales might have declined slightly, the industry is still booming and plenty of people are excited for the eventual release of the iPhone 2.

Travel technology has also become a big target spot for companies everywhere. Many airline companies have begun projects to develop new travel spaces that will further appeal to frequent travelers. Delivery of the first Boeing 787 Dreamliner is a year away, but the 250-seater is expected

to be the most successful commercial jet in aviation history. Complete with beds and a giant TV screen, it's luxurious, accommodating, and can fly! Now being manufactured, the Dreamliners' 50% composite structure makes it the greenest wide-body using 20% less fuel than others its size. Al Gore would be proud.

Speaking of green... Pond scum, which has lots of green algae, could be an alternate source of fuel to use the energy of the sun to produce "biodiesel."

Software such as GreenPrint can conserve the amount of paper you print out, automatically removing blank pages and those with ads or few lines of text.

**Julianne Raasch, 2008**  
"I am excited to try new things and meet new people and go skydiving!!!! Also for the funny moments in my future, especially at college."

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"I am excited to read about issues that will impact the school as a whole just as the Nalgene bottle article did last year."

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**Erin Fraboni, 2009**

"I can't wait for spring break especially since I am touring colleges during this time."

**Kendall Mack, 2011**

"I am definitely excited to be on the Monarch Madness team this year! It is going to be so awesome!"

## The Bay Area Sports Scene

**By Maya Raman and Shubha Ranganathan**  
Staff Writers

In the sports world, just as in the world at large, change is inevitable. New trades, new teams, and new locations are introduced every year, and 2008 is no different from years past. Our local teams are at a critical point. Many need new facilities, while some athletes are ready to return to the place they never stopped calling home.

In December of 2005, Major League Soccer (MLS) officially announced that the San Jose Earthquakes were to be renamed the Houston Dynamo. Many soccer fans in the Bay Area were devastated. Earthquakes games were great family outings, but now, those same families can rejoice again, for their beloved 'Quakes are back.

The San Jose Earthquakes will return for the 2008 MLS season as an expansion team, using variations on the original Earthquakes' colors and uniforms. They will now play at SCU's Buck Shaw Stadium. Ryan Cochrane, a returning player from the original Earthquakes admitted, "I want to be in San Jose, period." Now his wish, as well as those wishes of Earthquakes fans, are coming true.

And yet, it's not only soccer fans that will find themselves interested in what is still to come in 2008.

In November of 2006, one of our local Major League Baseball teams, the Oakland A's, and Cisco Systems, Inc. reached a tentative agreement to construct a new ballpark, to be named Cisco Field, in southern Fremont. Construction of this stadium will prob-

ably begin this year.

According to the A's website, it is their hope to "begin groundbreaking on the stadium as soon as possible, pending permits and approval from the City of Fremont, Alameda County and other government agencies." However, it won't be until 2011 or 2012 that the team will be able to play their first game there.

Also in baseball, as most people are aware by now, outfielder Barry Bonds has been indicted for denying the use of steroids. Just recently, the Mitchell report, published December of 2007, named 86 current and former players who have been thought to use these performance-enhancing drugs, the most infamous being Roger Clemens. What will follow this year in baseball is a closer look into these allegations and the proper responses to those players determined to be involved.

And not unlike the A's, the San Francisco 49ers are in need of a new stadium, as well. Their main interest is in Santa Clara, where they seek to have a stadium ready and built in time for the 2012 season. At the moment, team officials along with Santa Clara County officials are ready to begin formal negotiations.

2008 has much in store for us; the rest of the year will be witness to that. But as the A's and the 49ers have shown us, even after 2008, we will have momentous events to look forward to.

But for now, sports fans can hope for a year that finds their favorite teams winning again.

**Briana Neveras, 2008**

"I am excited to see how the elections turn out and how drastically America might change. And, college. And, being on my own for the first time."

## New Bleachers Worth the Wait?

**By Rebecca Organ**  
Staff Writer

As any winter or spring athlete would likely know, or as anyone who is even remotely aware of current campus events has noticed, the construction of our soon-to-be new locker and weight room complex has officially begun. With new bleachers, a weight room, a bathroom, and a training room, these new facilities are certainly being anticipated.

However, in spite of all these new additions and positive aspects, this new building hasn't just sprung up on its own, and has become a minor obstacle to the convenience of some.

"It's a really big hassle running track without a real track," comments junior Stephanie John. Being a track runner myself, I must agree that it is difficult to have a

quarter of the track blocked off except for one lane.

Not only does this cause athletes to adjust their workouts, but we look pretty ridiculous sprinting through the narrow gap one by one—almost like a pack of ducks.

On the bright side, however, we have been informed that they will set our track back up for our home meets (hope they don't make the athletes do all that work!). This construction has had a big effect on other athletes, too, like soccer players.

In addition, seniors also got pretty unlucky—leaving for college the very year they could first access the new structure. However, they are hoping it will be completed in time for graduation. If that's not the case, graduation is likely to be held on the baseball field.

All in all, the construction of the new stadium has taken a minor toll on student's daily life, particularly athletes. However, since athletes are the ones who will most use these facilities, it should hopefully be worth the wait.

We await this new building with great hopes and high expectations.

## The Internet Election

**By Raisha Kruckmeyer**  
Staff Writer

This is a landmark year for the US presidential election. It is the year in which technological advancements allow ordinary people, especially the youth, to personally connect with politicians.

Coming off the "Vote or Die" campaign of last election, where celebrities tried to influence voters, this year technology, especially the internet, is inspiring youth to get involved.

This internet phenomenon is effective due to the fact that so much of the average teenager's free time is spent on the computer, making the internet an ingenious linking mechanism.

Considering only 22 percent of voters between the ages of 18 and 24 voted in the last midterm elections in 2002, this year technology will hopefully increase that percentage.

"Broadcast Yourself" is an understatement when it comes to politicians. YouTube is a leading site in promoting candidates, because of its streaming debates that allow regular peo-

ple to ask the politicians questions from their own homes. This process of debate benefits everyone involved: the politicians get a cheap way to promote their campaign, and the voters get their questions heard and directly answered.

MySpace and Facebook also have a part in this election. With candidates having their own MySpace and Facebook pages, you can actually be "friends" with some big time politicians.

There you can find out that Barack Obama is 6'1", or you can buy an "I Love Hillary" shirt on Hillary Clinton's page. Despite being unconventional, these tactics are benefiting the candidates, who can reach out personally to voters.

Junior Jenna Escobar believes, "people should get involved and be informed, especially if they are young, like me, and will someday get to vote."

Hopefully, this Internet election will motivate younger voters to have a more active role in the government of our country in the years ahead.

But there's more: Palm-printing technology can help policemen

catch the bad guys.

Shoes that transform from pumps to flats in no time at all.

Virtual mirrors to help you try on clothes.

Wheelchairs that allow the disabled to see at eyelevel and climb stairs.

Prototypes for methane-fueled rockets and probes that could gas up using the methane from surrounding planets.

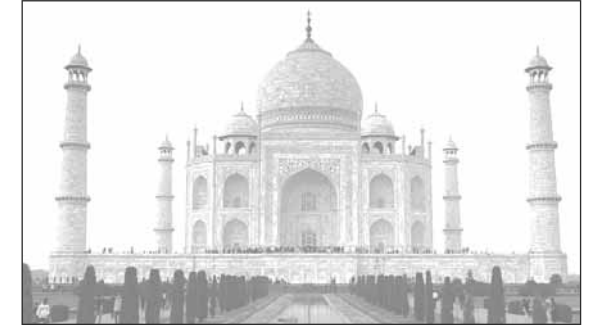
The list goes on and on. To say the least, there are a lot of new gadgets coming out in the near future. And though we're not quite getting around in flying cars, we're kicking it pretty close.



## ECJ: India

**By Manisha Eerabathini**  
Staff Writer

Hawaii, Cancun, and the Caribbean Islands are all popular vacation spots, but... India? It's not exactly the number one vacation dream. But when an immersion trip to India is being offered for the first time at Mitty, why not grab this opportunity?



But first things first—most Mitty students are concerned about safety. With the language barriers and the culture shock of being in a country so different from America, this safety concern is valid. Mr. Wesmiller, the teacher for this class, is also one of the six teachers going on the trip in June of 2009.

He assures that "Mitty puts a lot of effort into ensuring students' safety on all our trips. We would never place students in situations or environments that we would consider dangerous. Faculty members and administration go to all sites to investigate housing, transportation, and more prior to the actual immersion. Travel domestic or abroad always carries with it some level of risk, however, our track record over the last decade illustrates this commitment to safety."

With the safety factor assured, there are also many exciting places that will be visited in India such as the world famous monument of love, the Taj Mahal; the nation's capital at Delhi; the luscious city of Bangalore; and the well-known call centers (and let's face it, all of us have prank-called those telemarketers at least once, and now is our chance to watch them in action). As part of the their service work, the students will be visiting an orphanage and schools.

Moreover, the ECJ: India class will introduce students to a brief history of India: the British colonization, the modern problems that face India now, and the current thriving economy of the country that is the equivalent of our dot com bubble of the 90s.

For a trip that lasts two weeks and a class that is yearlong, it sounds very much worth it. The deadline for applying for this trip was earlier this month; students will find out soon if they've been accepted.

**Natalie Baum, 2008**  
"I am excited for the OLYMPICS!!!"

**Jude Simon, 2009**  
"I am definitely looking forward to seeing what critics will say about the 2008 movies, as well as what the sports reviews are going to be."

**Becca Post, 2008**

"I am excited to go to college and row. I am also excited to see where all my friends are going to college, but I will also miss those friends."



# Arts & Entertainment

## Writers of the World, Unite!

After 100 days, strike ends as WGA members vote to go back to work

By Ryan Chamberlin  
Staff Writer

Thursday nights will once again be nights of *The Office* and *30 Rock*.

That's right! The writer's strike is over and the multitude of popular television programs that simply stopped airing when the strike began will return. After 100 days, writers decided in a nearly unanimous vote to return to work.

The strike was, even without the big bosses meeting all the demands of the writers, a rousing success for the workers of Hollywood because they made sure that not only the industry understood their plight, but that most of America did. 12,000 writers began their strike on November 5, 2007, showing when there are no writers, there is little entertainment. The strike affected every channel.

The WGA, composed of the Writer's Guild of America East (WGAE) and the Writer's Guild of America West (WGAW), represent television, film, and radio, meaning that the strike was a heavy blow to the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) which contains over 400 producers of major networks like CBS, Fox, and NBC.

Writers believed that they were being withheld funds by the producers and were not being fully compensated for their work. The two main issues were the subject of DVD sales and the revenue generated when movies, television shows, and other creative works were distributed online.

The strike was, in some ways, a complete darkening of the entertainment industry. At the same time, the hard won victory shone a light on the American labor movement as a whole.

Think of the entertainment industry as a massive chain. The writers are the middle link,



**BACK TO WORK:** The writer's strike shut down more than 60 TV shows, hampered ratings and deprived the networks of tens of millions in advertising dollars.

so when they stop writing, the whole chain breaks. Without the writers, the actors have no scripts, the directors cannot direct, and the producers have no project to endorse.

Because of this break in the chain, many people working for these large studios were at risk of losing their jobs; some did.

One of the more devastating casualties of the writer's strike was the award ceremonies. The strike nearly obliterated the awards season. Rather than watching the usual Hollywood-style presentation of the Golden Globe Awards, it was shown as a press conference with the names of the winners read like statistics.

In a show of solidarity with the picketing writers, none of the actors attended The Golden Globes. In addition to this unfortunate reformatting, the People's Choice Awards which is typically a live broadcast was shown as a pre-taped ceremony, resulting in half the viewers as previous years.

The Oscars got off easy, however, and will go on as always with all the fanfare and endless red carpet entrances by anyone who is anyone in Hollywood.

Though the strike is over, it will still take some time for the writers and studios to return to work and begin to produce the shows that we've missed so terribly. It will be several months before we are finally able to catch up on our favorite shows. Since writing was forbidden during the strike, new episodes will have to be finished and then filmed.

And labor issues of the entertainment industry are not yet over.

In June, the Screen Actors Guild's current contract runs out and the demands of the SAG are similar to those of the WGA. Their actions will probably be just as forceful to demand compensation in the evolving entertainment business. But, hey, you know what they say: "Absence makes the heart grow fonder."

## Monarch Critic's Oscar Picks

### Best Supporting Actor

This category doesn't contain any notable snubs or surprise nominations (although I liked J.K. Simmons, the heart of *Juno*), and no one will be surprised come Oscar night when Javier Bardem deservedly walks away with the trophy for his portrayal of evil incarnate in *No Country for Old Men*.

### Best Supporting Actress

There is a minority that believes Jennifer Garner should have been included for her work in *Juno*, but I would rather make an argument for that film's Allison Janney, the nutty stepmother of the title character. Although *American Gangster*'s Ruby Dee may pull an upset like the one she did at the Screen Actors Guild Awards, this race will ultimately come down to the heavy favorites, Cate Blanchett from *I'm Not There* and Amy Ryan (in a breakout performance) from *Gone Baby Gone*. As much as the Academy loves breakout performances, they love Cate Blanchett even more: the award will go to her for a portrayal of one of the many Bob Dylans in *I'm Not There*.

### Best Actor

Tommy Lee Jones' third career nomination for the little-seen *In the Valley of Elah* came as a slight surprise, but he deserves it all the more. Also deserving, however, was the snubbed Ryan Gosling for *Lars and the Real Girl*, who made an otherwise mediocre film watchable. The clear favorite here is Daniel Day-Lewis, who turned in a malicious, spellbinding performance as an oil capitalist in *There Will Be Blood*.

### Best Actress

*A Mighty Heart*'s Angelina Jolie gave one of the finest performances of the year, but was shamefully shutout of this category in favor of Laura Linney from *The Savages*. The rest of this race is brimming with worthy talent. Cate Blanchett, of the *Elizabeth* sequel, will instead be rewarded in the Supporting Actress category, and Ellen Page, of *Juno*, will instead win for one of her many inevitable future nominations. It will be hard for voters to pick between the equally heart-wrenching performances of Marion Cotillard, as a troubled singer in *La Vie en Rose*, and Julie Christie, as an Alzheimer's patient in *Away From Her*. Ultimately, the prize will go to Julie Christie because voters will be more inclined to see her work, as a familiar and respected American actress, rather than sit through the French film that features Cotillard's role.

### Best Picture

This year's nominees are very different films. There's a hugely ambitious, multi-themed piece (*There Will Be Blood*), an epic romance (*Atonement*), a legal thriller (*Michael Clayton*), a hip comedy (*Juno*), and a horrifying tale of fate and evil (*No Country for Old Men*). The last trophy of the night will go to *No Country*, the film most widely hailed as the year's best by critics.



THE OSCARS

—Ryan Meyer  
Staff Writer



# MONARCH CRITICS

## The Eye

★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

By Tessa Krey  
Staff Writer

Asian horror remakes have become increasingly popular following the success of *The Ring* and *The Grudge*. *The Eye*, a remake of the Cantonese film *Gin gwai* follows this pattern.

*The Eye* is not as good as *The Ring*, but not as bad as another recent Asian remake that seemed to come straight from a MySpace bulletin, *One Missed Call*.

However, it certainly does not live up to the standards of the original.

Jessica Alba plays Sydney Wells, a blind violinist who receives a corneal transplant that allows her to see. But Sydney ends up getting more than she bargained for when she realizes she can see death, and thus begins a desperate search for her donor, whom she believes to hold the key to this mystery.

Alba gives a steady, if rather bland, performance, while Parker Posey and Alessandro Nivola both give very good performances in their small rolls. This movie has several jumping moments, but lacks the subtle scares of *Gin gwai*.

While it sticks pretty closely to the original plot, it does opt, rather unfortunately, for a happier ending. There are also several scenes that would be quite hard to understand, unless you have seen the original movie.

So skip this one, unless you're really bored.



## Rambo

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

By Jon Lacson  
Staff Writers

Ronald Reagan is not the only action star of the 1980's to receive a revival. Rambo, too, has been resurrected, not by new Republican presidential candidates, but the same old Sylvester Stallone.

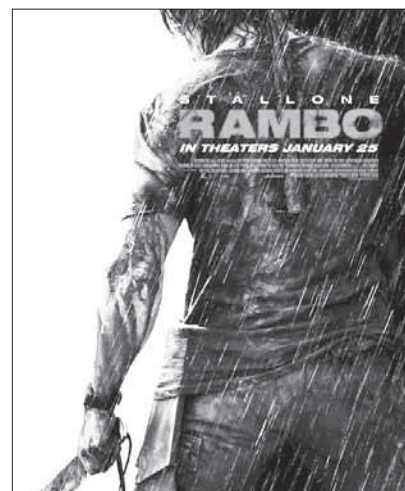
Sly is a spry 61 years old and with the help of some Human Growth Hormone, he is starring in *Rambo*, the 4<sup>th</sup> movie in the franchise and arguably 1<sup>st</sup> in body count.

Just like the prior Rambo installments, the movie deals with a semi-current political war or conflict. This time around, Rambo is set to help "fix" the horrendous genocide in Burma, now known as Myanmar.

When Christian missionaries are held hostage in a Burmese army camp, there is only one solution: Rambo. This movie harkens back to the days of the one-man action movie that dominated the '80s and '90s.

Even considering the R-rating, this is an extremely violent movie—probably the goriest piece of cinema I have seen (and I have seen a lot of gory films). I could not help pondering what the uncut version would be like. If you are very squeamish and faint at the sight of blood, then avoid this movie at all costs. For the rest of us, this is the movie for you.

I doubted his decision to release *Rocky Balboa* because *Rocky V* was so bad. But he proved me wrong and it turned out to be a fitting end to the series. With this movie, I believe he has come full circle with the *Rambo* series.



## Untraceable

★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

By Grey Traynor  
Staff Writer

When you see a movie like *Untraceable*, you realize that no one will remember this movie six months from now.

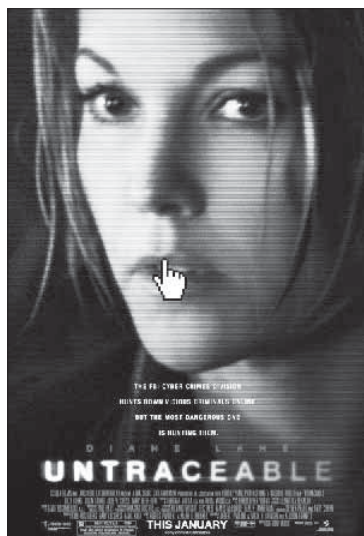
This is one of the movies you will find in a bargain bin at your local Safeway. It isn't a bad movie, but then again it isn't very good. It is just mediocre and nothing really special.

The movie revolves around Jennifer Marsh (Diane Lane), an FBI agent specializing in the Cyber Crimes Division. She works with her partner, Griffin Dowd (Colin Hanks), behind a super computer trying to catch internet baddies.

One day, she comes across a website called Killwithme.com. She enters it and finds that there is a video of a kitty being killed with a rat trap. No one is sure if it is real, so they try and trace it, but alas the website is untraceable. Kitties turn into people, and the whole time Agent Marsh tries to track down the murderer.

The movie is lackluster, but it is not the fault of Lane's acting. The real problem with this movie is that, like *Saw*, the serial killer has an ulterior motive. This excuse for serial killers don't need to be a lesson to teach when they kill someone, sometimes they just murder. Also, there is nothing new about this film.

Sure the first half is inventive, but the rest is the same old thriller-horror formula. Honestly, there is just nothing special about this movie. *Untraceable* is just blah.



## Fool's Gold

★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

By Kendra Breunling  
Staff Writer

The romantic action comedy, *Fool's Gold*, is based around the idea that there "Ain't no fool like a gold fool." I beg to differ. *Fool's Gold*, like its appellation, is nothing but a shoddy substitute for the real thing.

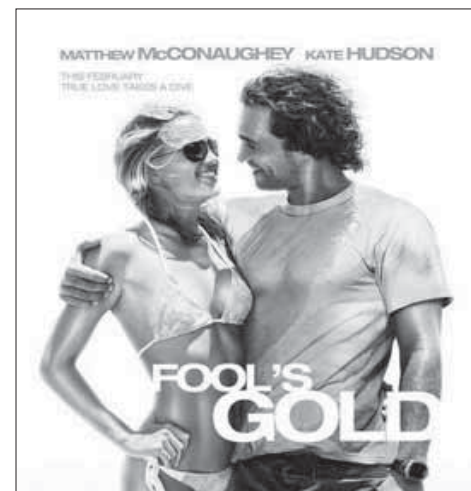
It manages to pack so many genres into one movie and, in doing so, manages to be a complete failure.

Tess (Hudson), works as a steward on a luxury yacht for congenial big-shot Nigel (Donald Sutherland). While planning her divorce from her beach-bum hubby (McConaughey), the two find themselves back together in the midst of Finn's reoccurring treasure dreams.

Sounds a bit like *National Treasure*, eh? The goal here is to find the treasure. However, because the importance of the treasure isn't emphasized enough, I was lost in what was really going on. And once the eye-candy of Matthew McConaughey wore off (which I didn't even think could happen), the movie went down-hill even faster.

Nothing about this story struck gold for me. Actually, the best thing about this movie was the fact that it didn't get worse as time went on. It started at its absolute worst and once you set that standard where else is there to go but up?

In the end, this movie may have been glitter, but definitely not gold, and by the time you leave, you will have felt like the fool for seeing it.



## Ringo Starr

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

By Manosai Eerabathini  
Staff Writer

Even after nearly 40 years of their breakup, the Beatles members keep creating new ways to recall their great success in the '60s. The newest 12 track solo album called *Liverpool 8* by ex-Beatles' drummer, Ringo Starr, is his 14<sup>th</sup> since the breakup of the Beatles in 1970. It's a nice album with a few "great" moments but nothing to compare to "Yellow Submarine" or "Octopus's Garden."

However there are some notable tracks such as "Harry's Song" and also "Gone Are the Days." Maybe the best is saved for last because track number 12, "R U Ready" is the most memorable of this album. In this song we can recall the quiet and quirky Ringo Starr of the days of the Beatles. Equipped with a clap-along chorus, fancy banjo, and a saloon style piano, this track stands out on the album.

Starr is an artist who is pleased with his music, not worried about the opinions of his audience. This album is a way for him to relive the days of his childhood and express his personal thoughts. Regardless of the world and its current problems, Starr brings back the ideals of the '60s in songs like "For Love," "Love Is," and "Tuff Love." This album isn't exactly a show-stopper, but it's got a lot of enjoyable moments and catchy tunes that will be sure to make you grateful for the great musicians like Ringo Starr. The musicians who don't compromise their songs to fit the industry, but the ones that just play the type of music they truly love.



## I'm Not There

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

By Paul Dougherty  
A&E Editor

I am a Bob Dylan nerd.

Unfortunately, I am yet to see 2007's critically acclaimed, kind-of, kind-of-not biopic, *I'm Not There*. The soundtrack, however, has been in my stereo since Christmas.

Featuring some of the most recognizable names in independent music such as Sonic Youth, Yo La Tengo, Wilco's Jeff Tweedy, Sufjan Stevens, Cat Power, and Iron and Wine in tandem with such established singer-songwriters as Richie Havens, Ramblin' Jack Eliot, and Willie Nelson, *I'm Not There* provides a diverse selection from the more obscure side of Dylan's prolific catalogue.

Up and coming performers folk singer Mason Jennings and the singing duo from *Once*, Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová also contribute several tracks to the album.

You will not find "Like a Rolling Stone" or "Mr. Tambourine Man." You will find "Fourth Time Around," "I Dreamed I saw St. Augustine," and "When the Ship Comes in." The one track worth skipping (or deleting, whatever, just ignore it completely) is Jack Johnson's butchering of, not just one, but a medley of two songs.

Despite Jack Johnson's commercial sounding surfer rendition of "Last Thoughts on Woody Guthrie," *I'm Not There* is a great soundtrack that is as diverse and wide reaching as Bob Dylan himself.





# Photo: Monarch Madness Practice







Monarch Madness is only two weeks away. And as March 6 approaches, teams continue to prepare. This means arriving at school when others are sleeping and coming in on Saturdays when others are free. The photos here try to capture the energy and activity that leads up to one of the biggest days of the year.





# SPORTS

## Coach's Corner Men's Soccer Coach Bachanas



Head Coach Vince Bachanas has cultivated a strong men's soccer program at Mitty. As the team prepared for CCS competition, Coach Bachanas talked about leading the Monarchs for over 15 years:

**Q:** How long have you been the Men's Varsity Soccer coach?

**A:** I have been the head varsity coach for 16 years. I have been coaching in the area on the high school level for 28 years total.

**Q:** What have you accomplished during your tenure?

**A:** The varsity team has won two league titles, 1998 and 2006 and two CCS championships, 2005 and 2006. We have been in CCS playoffs for 5 straight years and 8 years overall.

**Q:** What is your role as a coach?

**A:** I make sure that the team and program has a mission and plan for the entire season. I direct the team so we have a game plan for the season and each game.

**Q:** How do you run practice? Does practice directly impact the team's performance?

**A:** At the beginning of the season practice includes working on ball skills and player positions. During league, the team reviews scouting reports and game film to help us prepare for games. My coaching staff has already started scouting CCS playoffs opponents.

**Q:** How has the team done so far this season? Have they performed as you anticipated?

**A:** The varsity team has done well. We finished in second place in league 10-2-2. This is the most wins in the school's history for league play. We had just a few poorly played games. Overall this is one of the better varsity teams that I have coached at Mitty.

**Q:** How can the team improve?

**A:** We are always hoping for a complete game—we have been close a few times. We are still waiting for that complete performance.

**Q:** Who was your biggest competition in WCAL and CCS?

**A:** Bellarmine has always been the biggest game for us; Pajaro Valley will be a top team in Division II this year.

By Jaslyn Johnson  
Staff Writer

## Basketball: Playing Shorthanded

By Arjun Ravishankar  
Staff Writer

### The Mitty Men's Basketball Injury Report: 2007-2008

**Drew Gordon**—stress fracture in left foot (out three weeks); broken right foot (out for season).

**Chris Weber**—stress fracture foot (likely out for season).

**Jay Wey**—minor concussion, chipped tooth, 7 stitches, dislocated thumb, 3 consecutive sprained ankles, bone contusion on right foot.

**Stevie Calderon**—dislocated left elbow.

**Brandon Scott**—torn meniscus (out three games, has returned).

**Collin Chiverton**—sprained knee; forehead abrasion, stitches (has returned).

**Angelo Caloiaro**—sprained toe.

**Enoch Andoh**—torn tendon in ring finger, sprained ankle.

**John Adams**—strained back (incurred in Les Schwab Invitational).

**Justin Gabriel**—pulled right hamstring (was out three weeks).

**Jeff Campbell**—strained back (was out three weeks).

The Archbishop Mitty Men's Basketball Team has undergone a tumultuous season thus far, ravaged by injuries to many of its key players. Still, they come prepared each night with an intensity and enthusiasm second to none; this shows in their formidable record of 25-1, their WCAL league title, and their WCAL tournament victory over Riorden last Saturday.

Starting center and team captain Drew Gordon's broken foot was unquestionably the biggest blow this season.

When Gordon injured his foot, it was evident that changes to the team's philosophies were in order—especially the defensive outlook. The giant, shot-blocking force, at the center of the team's defense was suddenly gone.

One would assume that without Gordon the team would slip. But the team has managed to pull together and continue their remarkable season.

The team is still focused on their goal of claiming the state championship, a feat that eluded them last year.

"Even though we've had a lot of injuries this year," says senior guard/forward Angelo Caloiaro, "we are still confident about getting back to the state championship."

While the team leader on defense remains absent and will not be participating in the upcoming playoffs, he continues to observe the effects of this absence: "Without me, defense becomes a more significant part of the game. We all have to play hard-nosed 5-on-5 defense," says Gordon.

There is now more of an emphasis on team defense as the Monarchs have to use their quickness to their advantage.

Gordon adds that: "Since I am the main shot-blocker, my injury has caused the team

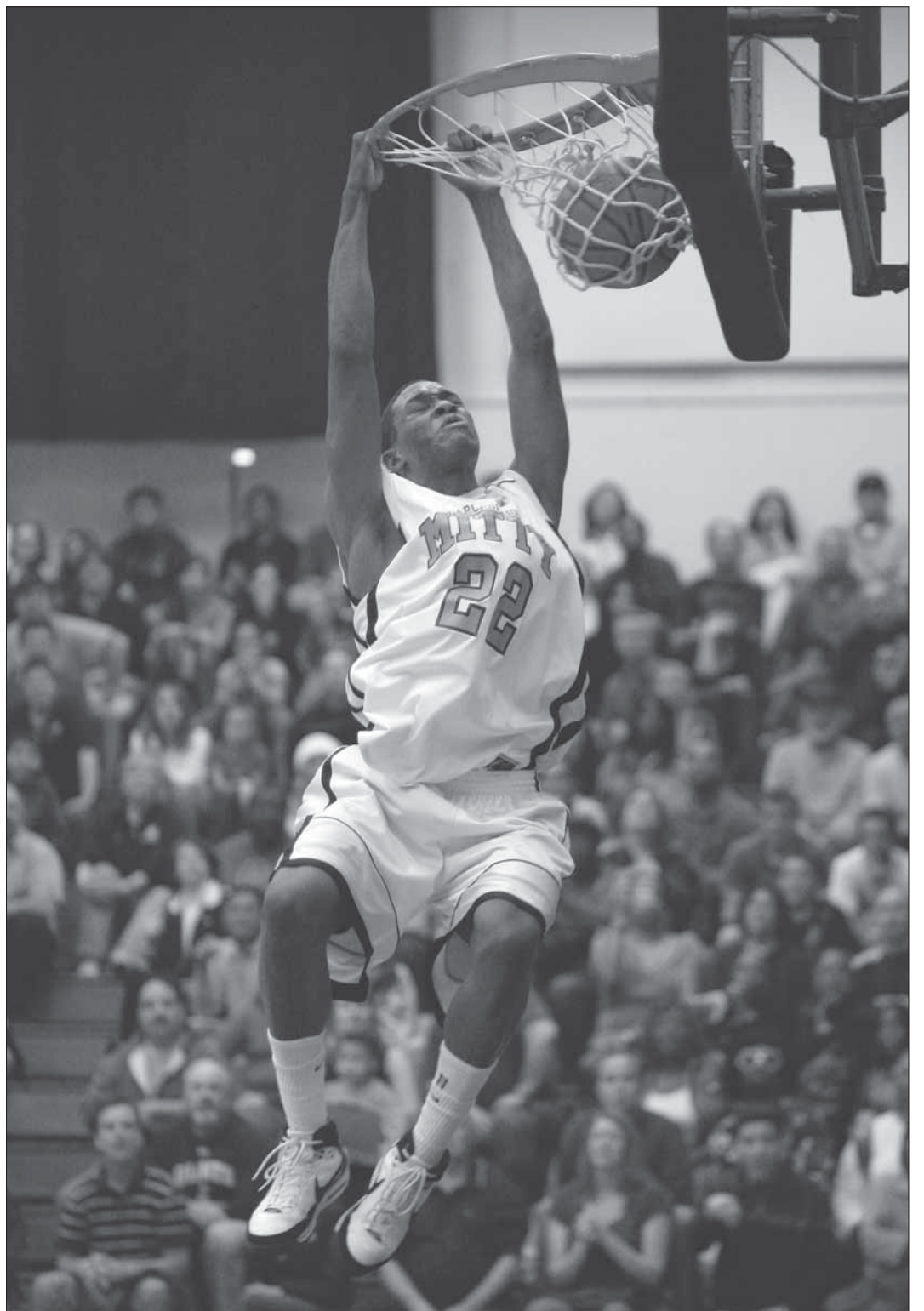


Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

### WCAL Player of the Year Collin Chiverton goes up for a thunderous dunk.

to go in a different direction. We cannot sag on defense."

Mitty's only loss this year came in a controversial finish against Archbishop Riordan, a game in which Gordon and star senior Collin Chiverton were injured.

The team's season finale centered not only on a themed "Retro Night," but also on vanquishing this painful loss. The Monarchs overwhelmed the Crusaders, 67-38.

The rotation has shrunk due to Gordon's injury, as well as key injuries to fellow senior captain and floor general Chris Weber and sixth man Brandon Scott. This yields to a more up-tempo style that head coach Brian Eagleson has inserted into the game plan.

And there is still the presence of a big man in senior Enoch Andoh and junior Patrick Fletcher.

The significant contributions from Andoh and Fletcher, along with the steady play of senior John Adams, have paced the Monarchs in the recent string of tight games.

The recent addition of former junior varsity guard Chris Bradley has proven to help the team maintain the fast paced tempo of the game and has allowed more scoring opportunities for all of the players to capitalize on errors.

As Gordon concludes, "...the guards definitely have to step up and control the

game. They have to maintain the tempo of the game for 32 minutes."

This has remained evident as senior leader Collin Chiverton has shined in Gordon's absence, raising his scoring average to 21.9 points per game. Angelo Caloiaro has likewise increased his average to 15 points per game.

While the team's size and perhaps some of its explosiveness may have diminished due to the unfortunate injuries to so many impact players, the Monarchs still control the scoreboard night in and night out.

Down to a six man rotation, the team has managed some emotional, highly contested victories against Bellarmine and Sacred Heart Cathedral.

As junior Arun Gomatam puts it, "Typical role players now have to take leadership roles."

The team has not lost since the unfortunate Gordon injury. Most experts predict that a state title would be a remarkable feat because of the injuries.

However, as Caloiaro claims, "The injuries make everyone on the team want to step up their game every night. We all want to play better and get the win each game."

This formula has equaled an impressive record and the team heads into the CCS playoffs with their confidence and enthusiasm sky high.



# Undisputed Champs

By Christina Jones  
Sports Editor

With an overall record of 16-2-6 and an undefeated league record, the Archbishop Mitty Women's Soccer Team has enjoyed much success this season.

Their 4-0 victory over Palo Alto last Saturday in the CCS quarterfinals set them up to play rival Presentation in the semi-finals this week. A victory in that match would put the Monarchs in the finals this Saturday at Valley Christian.

The team has enjoyed success throughout the season. Competing in the Tri-Valley Classic in late December, the Monarchs held their own with some of the state's best.

Entering the new year with league play, Mitty racked up key wins against St. Francis and Presentation, regularly holding their opponents scoreless.

The Mitty defense, led by seniors Aisha Lott and Lily Chavez, has been crucial to the team's success this season, allowing just four goals in league play.

In an interview with the Mercury News, Coach Hanley explained, "Our defenders have been playing together for so long, they know exactly where each other will be on the field. They don't leave many gaps open."

In the WCAL Playoffs, the Monarchs overwhelmed Sacred Heart Cathedral and Presentation, 5-0 and 5-1 respectively.

A true test came against St. Francis in the WCAL Finals, a team they had shut out in their previous meeting.

During the 52nd minute of the scoreless match, senior Jenna Brehmer was awarded a penalty kick as a St. Francis player illegally blocked the ball with her hands. Brehmer made the shot, giving the Monarchs a 1-0 win and the WCAL Title.

The team's success comes as no surprise. Last season the Monarchs won the CCS Championship, Mitty's ninth Title in school history.

Though losing staples in the women's soccer program, such as Georgetown goalie Jackie DesJardin, this year's team is equally stacked with talented and athletic players, eight of whom have committed to playing collegiate soccer.

Comments Coach J.T. Hanley, "Having eight players in one class who are moving on to play at the next level is a true testimony to the quality and commitment of this exceptional group of young women."

The Monarchs will continue to maximize their immense talent as they advance to CCS Competition.



Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

Senior Lauren Sanchez rises above her opponent to gain possession of the ball.

## Women's Basketball

By Patrick Le  
Staff Writer

Leadership from only four seniors has led the Archbishop Mitty Women's Basketball team to a 16-10 record, one season after their triumph in the state title game. With the season coming to a close, many hope to see even more success in the CCS playoffs this year.

The team started off the season by playing in the Fifth Annual La Jolla Country Day School Sweet Sixteen Invitational, taking an impressive fifth place. However, Mitty came off this performance with two hard-fought losses to Miramonte and Deer Valley.

In the first ten games of the season, the Monarchs secured a solid 6-4 record. The Monarchs had three games with over 20 point victory margins, including a 49 point win over Gilroy.

Entering league play, the Monarchs soundly defeated Presentation, Notre Dame, and St. Francis. Losing by a single point to both St. Ignatius and Valley Christian, the team recovered, launching a five game winning streak.

Despite these wins, the Monarchs have struggled in close games, as two-thirds of their losses have been decided by six points or less. However, the team possesses young players, looking to make an impact that could lead to late-season success.

Coming off back-to-back losses to Valley Christian and Sacred Heart Cathedral, the Monarchs ended the regular season with a convincing win over Sacred Heart Prep, 73-20. The Lady Monarchs lost in the semi-finals of the WCAL tournament, falling to eventual champion, Sacred Heart Cathedral.

With added defensive pressure and a high-energy attack, the team now heads into CCS.



Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

Senior Hannah Stephens drives to the hoop.

## NFL Season Wrap-Up

By Rahul Pandya  
Staff Contributor

Disappointing. Unforeseen. Impossible. 18-1. This year's Super Bowl played out in the most unpredictable fashion, becoming one of the biggest, if not the biggest, upsets in Super Bowl history—with the New York Giants destroying the New England Patriots' dreams of going undefeated.

The New England Patriots began the season with the fiascos of Spygate and all the media frenzy that came with it. Receiving condemnation from analysts and players alike, the Patriots spent the rest of the season silencing every one of those critics, breaking every significant offensive record and becoming the National Football League's first team to end the regular season 16-0. So naturally, the Patriots were expected to beat any representative that the NFC had to offer in the Super Bowl.

The Giants were a whole different story. They started the season 0-2, and both Tom Coughlin and Eli Manning received constant criticism, until somehow they managed to turn it around. After everyone, including former teammate Tiki Barber, suggested that Manning and Coughlin were unsuitable for their roles, the Giants ended up setting an NFL record winning ten consecutive road games including the playoffs and the Super Bowl.

But while the Giants were confident that they would win the big game, it seemed that the Patriots were confident that they had already won it.

While the first three quarters ended up being a great defensive, low-scoring match up, the fourth quarter saw the previously doubted Eli Manning leading two touchdown scoring drives, the second of which occurred with 0:35 left on the clock. The Giants beat the Patriots 17-14. That night, the New York Giants performed the unexpected, erasing the then "perfect" 18-0 Patriots from the history books.



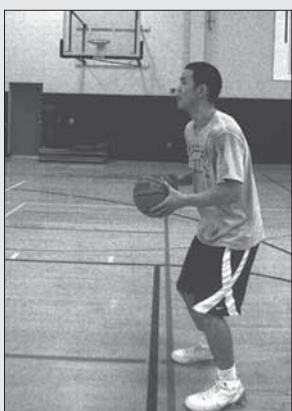
## Play Like They Do

By Kendra Breunling  
Staff Writer

In "Play Like They Do" we'll give you tips from some of Mitty's best athletes. Here, senior guard Jay Wey explains how to sink the picturesque free throw.

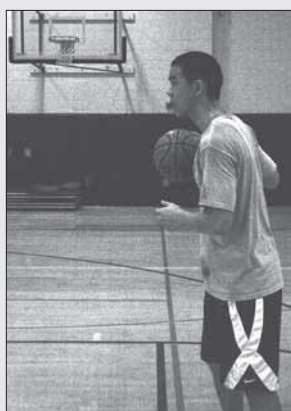
A

"Catch your breath and calm down."



B

"Do your routine at the free throw line - mine is one dribble."



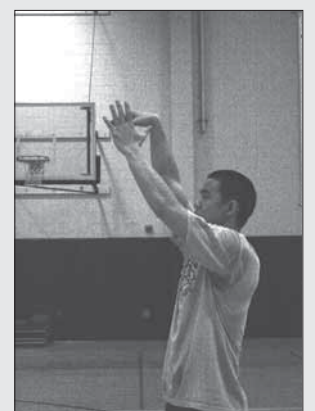
C

"Bend your knees and shoot."



D

"Always follow through."





# Goodbye Physical Education, Hello Physical Development

By Bridget Mcanany  
Staff Writer

As one progresses through Mitty, PE becomes a favorite class. One reason is that it becomes more and more appreciated by those overwhelmed with AP courses and college applications. Whether you are taking Water Sports or Volleyball, it's nice to have a period where you can just have fun. However, the old PE system that we loved is soon about to change. But not to worry, the changes in the Physical Education program are for the better.

Next year, there will no longer be a Physical Education Department, but a Physical Development Program instead. This new and improved program will focus attention not only on the sport being played, but also on more "holistic physical development."

Some may wonder what this "holistic

physical development" will entail. As of right now, we have PE9, which all freshmen are required to take for one semester. Then, sometime over the next three years, one must take one of the PE electives offered: cross training, softball/basketball, volleyball/tennis/badminton, water sports, etc. But now all of this will change.

Next year, PE 1 will still be a requirement for incoming freshmen, but the PE electives that are graduation requirements will be replaced. Strength and Conditioning will be one of the new additions, but will only be available to JV and Varsity athletes. In this class, athletes will receive individual attention to their needs and will learn core knowledge and skills that will reinforce what was taught in PE 1. These athletes will also receive credit for this mandatory class.

As a result, practices after school for athletes may be different as their training

will take place throughout the day, instead of condensed into only a few hours after school. For football players, there will continue to be Football Conditioning. The head football coach and an assistant will teach this class, which focuses on group learning and the fundamentals of participating in high school football. Students who take this class will also receive credit.

The other option is PE 2, which is a second and follow-up course to PE 1 and is mandatory for non-athletes. PE 2 will focus on group learning, exercise, conditioning, and life-long physical development. Students will be taught core knowledge, including skills for exercise, stress management, nutrition, body image, along with the dangers of poor eating habits and a sedentary lifestyle.

If after you take PE 2, you want to take another elective, you can. The general electives will still be taught, such as team sports, volleyball/badminton, and softball/

basketball. Additionally, we will be offering a new PE elective: Pilates.

All classes and electives will be semester long courses, and go towards graduation requirements. They will be offered in our new facility—a.k.a. "The Bleacher Project"—taking advantage of the new, state of the art weight rooms.

Changes are coming at Mitty left and right for the PE and athletics departments, so the question remains: Are we ready to take them on? The new training facility will allow for great new courses that will improve upon the already acclaimed athletic programs at this school.

The move towards a healthier lifestyle at Mitty is now fully underway. From the elimination of most soft drinks and unhealthy snack foods to the new classes focused on teaching students how to live healthy lifestyles, Mitty continues to lead the way in the crusade against calories.

## Mitty under Microscope March 2-5

By Kit Strong  
Staff writer

Get ready everybody; it's time to be observed!

From March 2-5, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) will be coming to observe Mitty's programs, talk to students, teachers, and staff, and make sure our school is in tip-top condition.

WASC functions as a prestigious accrediting system that certifies many high schools, colleges, and universities, assuring that each school maintains the best for its students.

You may have noticed the accreditation plaques in the front foyer—or the small, but significant, statement at the bottom of your planners: "Archbishop Mitty High School is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges."

This statement signifies that our school is a fully accredited college preparatory school. The last time WASC was at Mitty in 2002, we obtained a six year accreditation term, the longest possible.

You may ask yourself, "Why is this important?" or "How does this affect me?" The answer is that WASC helps our school ensure that students graduate successfully, learn-

ing all that we can during our four short years at Mitty.

WASC observers are made up of teachers and administrators from throughout California, and several will soon be joining us in our classrooms. As students, we do not have to do anything special or different; we should simply act naturally so the WASC committee can receive the most genuine impression of our school possible.

Leading the WASC coordination and effort for faculty is the WASC "Queen" herself: Mrs. Beth Madia.

Mrs. Madia's responsibilities include making sure reports on the spiritual, personal, and academic growth of students are complete and making sure classrooms are prepared for the visitation, among numerous other tasks.

Historically, Mitty has done exceptionally well educating the next generation: Our school has top facilities, competitive

sports programs, and a strong sense of community, all of which are essential to develop the whole student.

As the WASC committee will soon learn, we are very fortunate to be attending a school, where teachers, students, and faculty work together to make Mitty the best place to learn.



## Dream Alive

cont. from page 1

speech come alive. It was at this moment that the crowd was transfixed.

A number of Mitty faculty members that witnessed the original "I Have A Dream" speech were astounded by Rogers' resemblance to Dr. King and the passion with which he communicated his message.

Directly following the presentation, Mr. Ron Nicoletti wrote to Mr. Walker commenting that, "I had flashbacks to my early teens growing up in San Francisco listening to and seeing Martin Luther King and not really grasping the message... Today, I felt like I was in Washington DC... I was moved". Nicoletti considered the Dream Alive assembly to be one of the best he has experienced in his thirty-three years at Mitty.

Since nothing like this had ever been done before, Walker was nervous about the way Rogers' program would be received by the student body. However, his concerns were put to rest when "students did an excellent job of maintaining a respectful atmosphere considering the length of the presentation."

In hearing, witnessing, and experiencing Dr. King's message on January 28, the Mitty community was blessed with a once in a lifetime opportunity that will undoubtedly be remembered for years to come.

## Law and Order Comes to Mitty

By Genevieve Kelly  
& Sarah Sherwood  
News Editors



Attorneys Christina Jones and Jackie Schare defend Chris Hewitt in victory over Leigh High School that propelled Mitty into Mock Trial quarterfinals.

As stated by the most famous lawyer in history, Tom Cruise, "It doesn't matter what I believe. It only matters what I can prove! So please, don't tell me what I know, or don't know; I know the LAW." The lesser half of Tomkat was right. The first thing learned in mock trial is that personal beliefs, fears, and dignity are thrown out the door, and the only things that matter are the cold hard facts.

Some of you might be wondering what Mock Trial is, seeing as when we asked 20 people if they knew what it was, only four did, all of whom are in Mock Trial. At the beginning of November, every school with a Mock Trial team receives a packet containing all of the information pertaining to the year's case. This year's case, *People v. Palmer*, involves a high-profile Hollywood murder. Alex Palmer has been accused of the premeditated murder of producer Jes Markson for stealing his script.

Mitty's four preliminary matches took place on February 5, 7, 11 and 13. The prosecution team won the first two rounds, defeating Cupertino and Andrew Hill.

The defense team, however, lost by eight points to County Champion Palo Alto. The team then advanced to the quarterfinal round with a victory over Leigh High School 234 to 229 on February 13. The prosecution team will meet Palo Alto's defense team in the quarter final round on Tuesday, February 26, at the Santa Clara County Superior Court House.

All students involved in Mock Trial learn the skills of public speaking and debate, both scripted and extemporaneous, as well as the workings of our justice system.

JoJo Das, a senior who, along with junior Chris Hewitt, plays the defendant, says, "It's a wonderful program that improves my public speaking abilities and helps me to understand the ins and outs of law."

## THE MONARCH

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Mr. Mick VanValkenburg  
& Mr. Craig Whitt

### News

Genevieve Kelly, Laura Riparbelli  
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### Opinions

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### Arts & Entertainment

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### Focus

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### Justice Awareness

Laura Hodge, Emma Kelsey, & Stefanie Le

### Sports

Christina Jones & Bharat Ravishankar

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*The Monarch* is published for the students, faculty, and parents of Archbishop Mitty High School.