

# THE MONARCH



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SERVING THE ARCHBISHOP MITTY COMMUNITY

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## MONARCHS WIN IT ALL

By Anay Dattawadkar  
& Arjun Ravishankar  
*Sports Editors*

SACRAMENTO—In the storied history of Archbishop Mitty Athletics, success has become almost an expectation. As such, making history is not an easy thing. On March 25, 2011, however, the Men's Basketball team did what no Mitty Boys team had ever done: They won a State Championship.

Before this year, the Monarch Basketball team had won seven WCAL Championships dating back to 1979, advancing to the State semifinals twice. Both of these times, in 2007 and 2008, the Monarchs fell in the State title game. However, the Monarchs were not ready to let that happen again this year.

Behind sophomore **Aaron Gordon's** dominating performance, the Monarchs defeated Summit High School 53-50 in a nail-biter that came down to the very last minute.

Things did not look good to begin the game as the Skyhawks began with a 7-0 run. The Monarchs worked hard to get open shots, but just could not make them.

As Coach Tim Kennedy puts it "After the strong start from Summit, I was thinking that even though they made a couple of tough shots and beat us on a transition basket and a score off dribble penetration, we just needed to stick to our game plan."

Mitty, led by my sophomore-sensation Gordon, was finally able to make something happen offensively, but it was obvious from the start that the matchup would be a tough one.

Summit was led by power forward Dorian Cason, a phenom in his own right. For a while, it seemed as if the entire game was composed of Cason and Gordon going back and forth, as both were dominant on both sides of the court. Gordon put up outstanding numbers, with 17 points and a State championship-record 21 rebounds. But Cason responded, doing seemingly everything for Summit. As the first half came to a close, the Monarchs led 26-19.

The Monarchs began the second half impressively but could never gain a comfortable separation from Summit, who responded to each of Mitty's shots with one of their

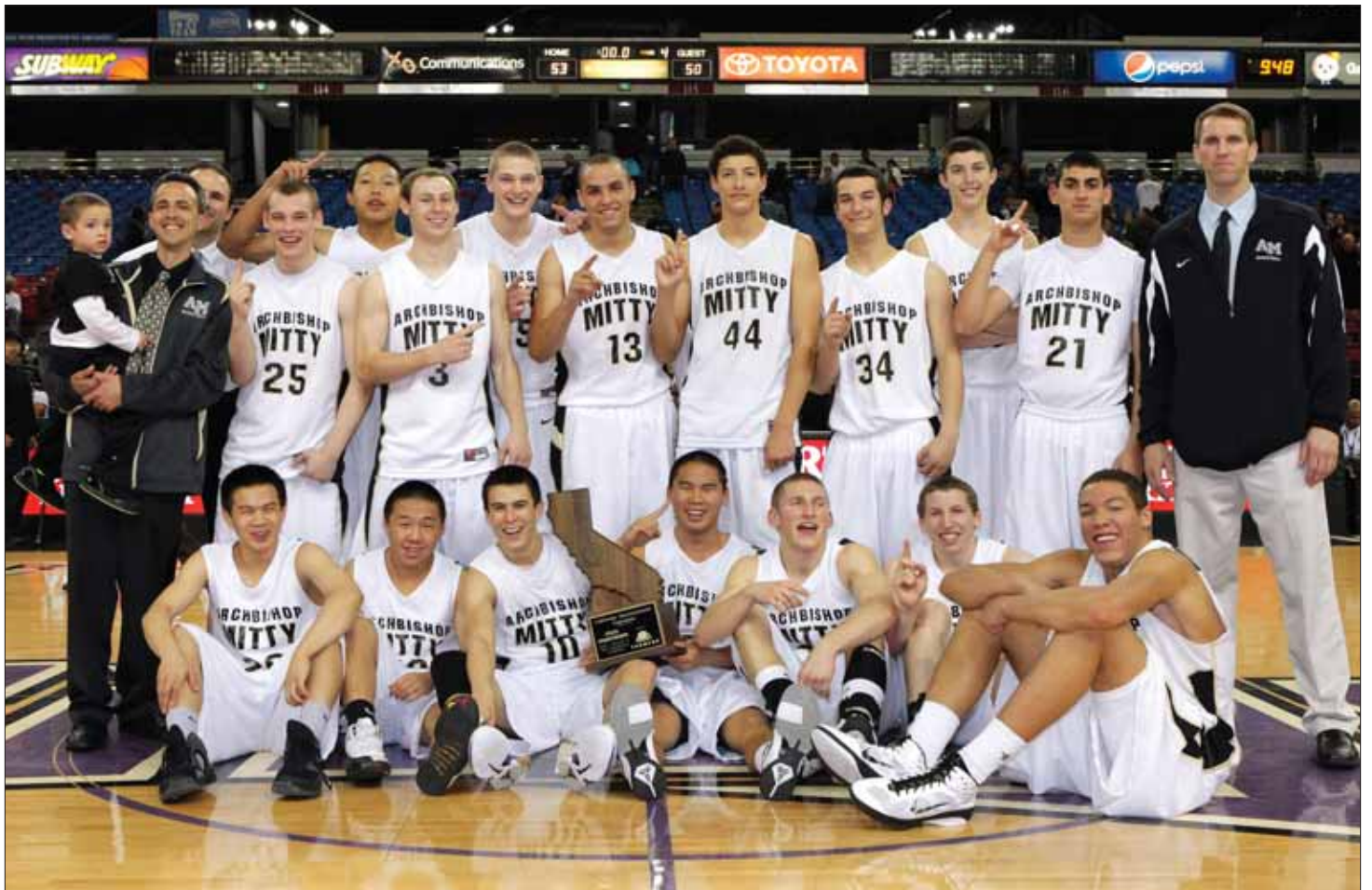


Photo Courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

### Archbishop Mitty's Men's Basketball team rejoices after winning the State Championship.

own. The stage was set for a dramatic finish.

The Monarchs found themselves in deep foul trouble as senior guard **Colin Wan**, a key player on the offensive side of the ball, ended up fouling out with two minutes left in the game. Even worse, Gordon picked up his fourth foul early in the fourth quarter, forcing Coach Kennedy to sit his best player before he might foul out.

Senior **Jason Anderson**, Gordon's replacement, played well in stretches, matching up with the bigger and stronger Cason. Gordon left with the Monarchs up with six minutes to go in the game. The Skyhawks, sensing the Monarchs' weakness with Gordon sitting, went on a 9-2 run, tying the game up at 50 with just under two minutes left.

Seniors **Brent Younger** and **Brandon White** would now play key roles as the game neared crunch-time. Younger especially stepped up in a very big way.

As Younger says, "Since my teammates were having trouble making their shots, I knew I had to step up my game. So, I was aggressive offensively and looked to score in any way possible to keep us in the game."

And keep them in the game he did. On a night where it seemed the Monarchs could not catch a break from outside, the athletic forward drained several clutch midrange shots and was stellar on defense as well. Younger acted as a stopper, stepping up with a key performance in the clutch.

Brandon White was responsible for handling the ball down the stretch and made a key free throw to put the Monarchs up 51-50 with twenty seconds to go. However, he missed the second of his two shots, and the Skyhawks now had a final possession with which to win the game...

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Photos Courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

**George (Trent Brunngraber)  
and the Chaperone (Annie Donahey)**

## Looking Back: The Drowsy Chaperone

By Tabitha Ahearn and Sankar Srinivasan  
*Staff Writers*

Those who were able to experience Archbishop Mitty's *The Drowsy Chaperone*, were treated to an exceptional rendition of the Broadway musical that debuted five years ago.

The show revolves around the animated narration of the melancholy Man in Chair, who listens to the record of *The Drowsy Chaperone* in order to cure his "blues." The result is an unforgettable sequence of impossible, yet hilarious events and memorable characters. Audiences were kept on the edge of their seats waiting for the next laugh, not knowing whether it would come from the comical Man in Chair or one of the unique characters in the musical he watches.

Senior **Trevor Bates**, who portrayed the Man in Chair, calls the musical "quirky and jazzy," and appreciates its "genius."

Preparations for the show began almost two months before the actual performances. Prior to opening night, actors were found running through their lines, while crew members spent

time building the elaborate set.

Senior **Adrienne Eller** says, "So many people are involved. The cast, the directors, and the crew work so hard to put the show up. It is a huge project."

To bring the set plans to life, members of the Stage crew devoted numerous hours to build the set. Though a lot of hard work was involved, Stage Crew Manager, Senior **Jenny Grich** remarks, "It was also very rewarding."

It is through their dedication that the remarkable sets that served as the foundation of the shows were created, and their work was highly praised by the Mitty community.

With *The Drowsy Chaperone* being the final show of the year, it was the last for the numerous seniors. Many are torn between nostalgia for leaving their family in the Performing Arts Department and the excitement of heading to college to continue their theater career elsewhere.

Grich reflects, "I will miss the amazing cast and crew members... we have had some amazing times together... [and] I will

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# OPINIONS

## Opposing Viewpoints: US Intervention in Libya

### A DUTY TO SAVE LIVES

By Eugene Woo  
Staff Writer

It's understandable that some Americans balk at the idea of military intervention in Libya. To be honest, American military intervention in the superpower era has a spotty track record of controversial hit-and-runs sponsored by corporate interests and bloody guerrilla affairs that have little tangible results. Perhaps this has fostered in the American people an inherent fear of the

but poorly-equipped rebels of East Libya easily overcame government opposition, seeming unstoppable as the movement spread west.

Unfortunately, the desert, with its wide swaths of open expanse, is tank territory, where infantry can barely hide from the powerful armor and invincible planes. Had the UN not stepped in with a no-fly zone, the movement would likely be over, with millions dead in the Libyan Desert. Just a no-fly zone halted Gadhafi's machines, and



words, "military intervention." Especially with the recent Iraq debacle, Americans have begun to think of military use as needless meddling, hidden imperialism, or even petty revenge. But it's not that simple.

Compared to our previous engagement in Iraq, Libya is different. The people of Iraq never rose up and never called us. We just went in, without the consent of the people of Iraq. That's one of the primary reasons for much of the world to see imperialist intentions in our invasion.

But the people of Libya, the common people who rose up with small arms against

tanks and airplanes and artillery, called and still call for help. The people of the Arab world called and still call for help.

They know we define ourselves as the bastion of democracy, so how would it look in the eyes of the world if we do not support democracy? This is a chance to prove to the world that Americans do in fact share concern for the success of democracy within another nation; however, this is also a chance for America to show its cooperation and respect for the rulings and requests of the U.N., something that has not been done in the past.

And no, this does not mean that American ground forces will be sent into Libya. The war in Libya will be fought by Libyans. In the first few weeks of the war, the spirited

once more the rebels were able to push back Gadhafi's forces. Should the rebels need a strategic installation destroyed? One air strike or cruise missile will suffice. With no risk to American servicemen and women, intervention in Libya avoids the mistakes of Iraq while at the same time ensures the success of the rebels.

Besides curbing civilian deaths in Libya, American intervention would probably save lives by cutting the conflict short.

And how can we truly show an attitude of world unity when we treat American lives as worth so much more than

the lives of non-Americans? The combined might of NATO air forces has so far been enough to make sure that no civilian casualties have occurred in the disabling of key Libyan installations.

"I'm not gonna hold the French flag and kiss it," said Libyan-American Yaseen Kadura, who returned to Benghazi in late February to stay with his extended family. "Because I do know that these countries act in their own interest. But what is the alternative?" Taken from Al-Jazeera, this quote shows just how the Arab world perceives us. Always acting in our own interests. But now they are asking for our help, and it's time America answered this request. Maybe we can show them that our interests do coincide.

### A SPIRAL OF DISASTER

By Kunal Patel  
Staff Writer

The Libyan intervention is not the idealistic liberation of oppressed people that President Obama is trying to portray. In fact, the evidence suggests that the American effort is driven by our own short-sighted interests and doomed to create more problems than it solves.

If America were truly interested in pursuing action against the oppression by foreign governments of their people, we would be intervening in Bahrain and Yemen, where civilians are also being slaughtered. Instead, our past and current efforts show that we will only interfere to protect our economic interests and overthrow our enemies.

Like Iraq, Libya has oil, and its current leader Muammar Gadhafi is a sworn enemy of the United

States just as Saddam Hussein was. With Bahrain and Yemen, on the other hand, we support their oppressive regimes, so US intervention is not forthcoming.

Although Obama's rhetoric about freedom and protecting civilians is noble, it is not supported by the United States' historical and continued actions. Our selective intervention in Libya, rather than any other African or Middle Eastern nation undergoing intense violence, suggests that there are other motives at stake—access to oil, for the expansion of the executive branch,

realize that we poured hundreds of billions of dollars down the drain, lost thousands of American lives, and ruined our relationships with the other Middle Eastern countries.

Instead of promoting another skirmish that could possibly entangle America in another war, America should focus on the sluggish economy and unemployment, at the very least. Instead of focusing on foreign issues, America should focus on rebuilding the economy and strengthening the public school system. The outstanding debt of over \$14 trillion dollars, is surely enough cause to re-assess involvement in another Middle-Eastern conflict.

In addition, by taking military action in Libya without the agreement of Congress, Obama appears to be acting against the

“Although Obama's rhetoric about freedom and protecting civilians is noble, it is not supported by the United States' historical and continued actions.”

Constitution and illegally grabbing power. While running for president, Obama

explicitly stated, "The President does not have power under the Constitution to unilaterally authorize a military attack in a situation that does not involve stopping an actual or imminent threat to the nation." Now, as president, Obama seems to be going back on his words to exercise an expansion of power that he himself has said is unconstitutional.

As the uprisings continue in the Middle East, political facilitation, rather than military intervention is necessary to maintain our legitimacy as a democracy. If we involve ourselves in all the entanglements of a



and a military base to monitor the Middle East—a far cry from the noble goals that Obama preaches to the public.

Even assuming the Obama administration has noble motivations at heart, it is our military, not our rhetoric that catalyzes efforts for peace. By solely acting with military force in Libya, rather than trying to facilitate peaceful negotiations between the rebels and Gadhafi, the conflict takes place at the cost of American lives and a sharp increase in the national debt. This war feels all too similar to the Iraq War, where we went in with supposedly noble intentions to free these "oppressed people", only to

revolutionary movement in the Middle East, the financial burden will doom America. America needs to be smart when dealing with the Middle East, as to not elevate the hatred and distrust that other countries have for America.

Thus, for true success in Middle Eastern politics, it is imperative that we do not intervene militarily in Libya (and in turn cause serious damage to the country's infrastructure), but instead establish severe embargoes against those countries with the assistance of the UN and our other allies. This, and not military intervention, is the better path to political change.



# MIND-NUMBING TV

By Danika Tatangsurja  
Staff Writer

Guilty pleasures are on the rise. TMZ blares the latest and not-so-greatest of the cult of celebrity, while reality television overwhelms any teen's TiVo. Urban Dictionary cites a guilty pleasure as "something you shouldn't like, but like anyway." What else could bring so many consumers to encourage so many facets of the media to turn to their current states of violent anti-intellectuality? "I know this show is stupid, but it's so addicting/fun to laugh at!" Sound familiar?

Our generation is marked by the media's ironic newfound interest in itself. Characterizing this self-absorption is, for example, that new wave of films emphasizing that the media is behind the pressures of drugs and alcohol. They argue that celebrities are the potential idols adolescents are exposed to most frequently, and that, consequently, they have been brainwashed to think they must act like your average star.

Teenagers are a gold mine of a demographic. We tune in to our preferred shows

with a regular punctuality the school attendance office would envy. Peer pressure urges us to remain on the same pages as our friends. Therefore, much of television bends to our interests.

We were raised to think ourselves above television and its alleged foully-disguised brainwashing intentions. In addition, YouTube, Twitter, Tumblr, and the like have infiltrated our lives to further encourage the everyone-is-a-critic mentality: if anyone can publicize their own footage, what's so special about professional, televised stuff,



and why shouldn't I blog out my criticisms to the world?

And of course, it's damaging to the broadcasting industry when discernment and ridicule are the par-amount of television-

watching. So what happens when the media, despised by a generation taught to think it shallow, has to sell itself to that same age range?

Television has responded to that rapidly-growing population of viewers who have decided they must be able to see through the media and identify its shallowness. Their answer: pretend their target audience is dumber than they are in order to allow for the growth

of their resulting superiority complexes. Some shows feature easily-identifiable tropes and clichés—think *Glee*—that allow a viewer to believe they understand the gears turning in a TV writer's head.

Tabloid shows focus on the celebrities with tragedies of lives, who spiral into substance abuse, alcoholism, nude pictures, things we know we're too good for (and worse, too good to get caught doing). And how many Disney Channel sitcoms allow preteens to feel more mature than their age by watching teenagers in high school act exactly like they do?

This is not to say that television is some self-gratifying cesspool. However, even with us refusing to submit to the media's messages, it is already one step ahead, pacifying us by allowing us to feel as though we have won this media literacy war.

Our only casualty: "feel-good" television used to make people feel good about themselves for being part of the great, heartwarming species that is humanity. Now it makes people feel good about themselves for being better than that.

# PROTEST IN AMERICA

By Tyler VanValkenburg  
Staff Writer

On February 14, 2011, Wisconsin state workers and their fellow citizens began protests that would gain national, and even international, media attention. These public workers, including teachers and nurses, were taking to the streets because their recently elected governor Scott Walker and his Republican state senate aimed to—and have succeeded in—making cuts not only to union benefits but also to union rights. The budgetary bill that they passed took away much of Wisconsin union's collective-bargaining rights, effectively stripping the unions of their power to fight for the interests of their workers.

The bargaining rights were cut after weeks of Republican government officials arguing that the 'lavish' lives of these public sector workers were plaguing the state with debt.

The desire to ask for sacrifices from public sector workers is both natural and reasonable in a state that, like many after this recession, is short on cash.

However, to turn this into an opportunity to strip unions of their rights is unacceptable, especially given the recent economic history that led to this

power-grab. And what is that history?

Let's review:

In the late 2000s a financial sector corrupted by virtually unregulated greed and widespread fraud caused the U.S. to fall into a job-destroying recession which went on to create worldwide economic trouble. States such as Wisconsin had made poor investments that were (deliberately) mislabeled as secure. After the U.S. financial sector reaped the short-term profits from these transactions, investors (including Wisconsin) were left to deal with the mess as their 'secure' investments turned out worthless, and amid a national housing crisis, their economies crumbled.



So here we are today with our state and local governments, pressed for money, just as individual citizens are. Yet, instead of going after those investment firms and deregulatory policies that landed the country in this enormous mess, the government has done effectively nothing toward this end and has instead shifted its focus to attacking social programs and public sector benefits—and now, in Wisconsin, to cutting union collective bargaining rights.

Meanwhile, back in Washington, President Obama has done little toward keeping his campaign promises of significant financial regulatory reform. Instead, the man who ran on the slogan "Change we can believe in" has filled his administration with corporate sympathizers, lackeys, and profiteers. Obama's pledge to "reign in Wall Street" has been revealed as an empty promise, as his administration continues the apparent merger of the people's government to the financial sector.

In fact, in the last year, while many have searched for work, CEO

pay has increased by an astounding 27%. Overall corporate profits have grown as well, with many businesses making larger profits in 2010 than ever before. All of this while some states are trying to limit union power and reduce labor benefits to teachers, policeman, and firefighters.

This is why there needs to be a wholesale overhaul of our current politics. A change we can believe in, not just one sold by a candidate on the road to the White House.

Now this may sound like I'm calling for revolution, and that's because, in a way, I am. The political state of our nation on both local and federal levels is an embarrassment, one that should not be tolerated by a single citizen. The balance of power in this land of the free

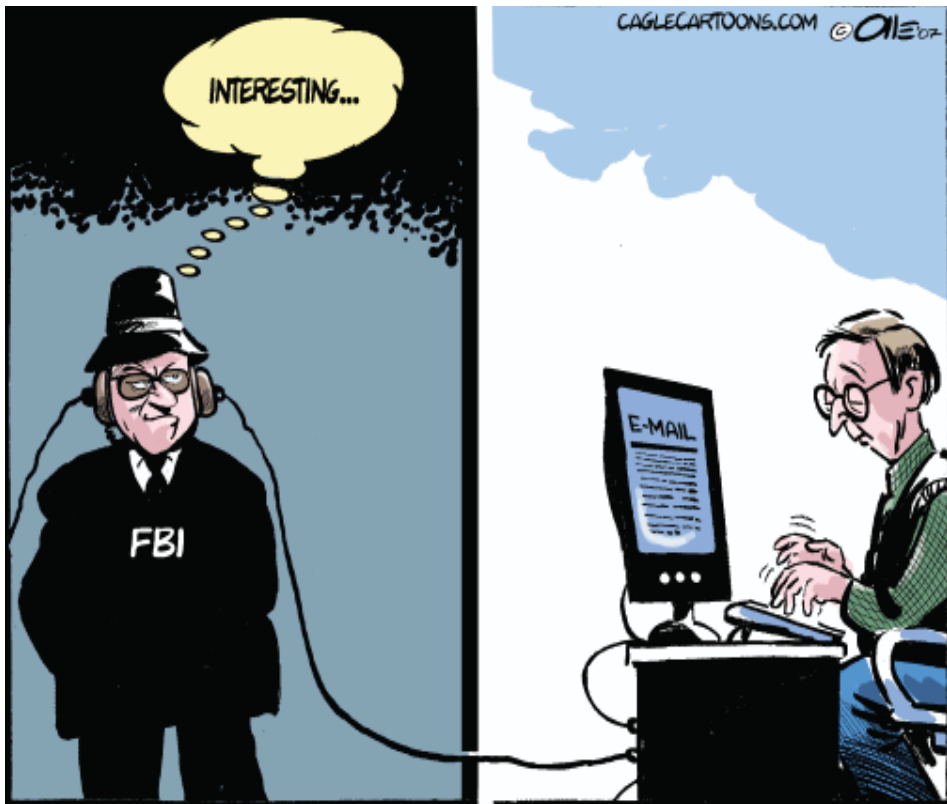
has been shifted so far toward the wealthy that our government can no longer even honestly claim that it represents our interests—if it did, would so many of us be suffering while a small, but financially powerful, section of society continues to rake in incalculable sums of money?

The protesters in Wisconsin are the perfect model for how to go about this change, and to any who say, "But they failed," I say nonsense. They received international coverage. They fostered a constructive dialogue on this country's financial state. They got me to write this article.

So please, fear not the current balance of power; do not let the state of things discourage you from action. Instead, ask for this power to be removed from the pockets of the richest and placed back in the hands of the rest. Ask this with great force and in even greater numbers, and you will be heard.

## Wisconsin: A Model for the Nation





## GOING AFTER YOUTUBE?

### Feds to Criminalize Illegal Streaming, Wiretap Suspects

By Sneha Singh  
Staff Writer

The common image of the epidemic of senioritis is basically a mindless drone sitting in front of the computer watching the world's most random videos on YouTube—doing everything possible to avoid that English paper or Mr. Nicoletti's FRQs. However, if the legislation that makes “illegal streaming” a felony passes, you could be committing a felony simply for watching a YouTube video.

Past references to the term “illegal streaming” usually meant that teens were using Limewire to get music, or downloading movies without paying, but with this bill, something as small as streaming copyrighted material will constitute a felony.

One supporter of this bill states, “Wiretap authority... would assist US law enforcement agencies to effectively investigate those offenses, including targeting organized crime and the leaders and organizers of criminal enterprises.”

Well this is just fantastic. I'm absolutely positive that those involved in organized crime would go onto the Internet and publicly display their intent via a viral YouTube video. When is the government going to realize that criminals—those who can successfully execute something, and get away with it, no less—are very intelligent people. Supporters of this bill are just kidding themselves if they believe that wiretapping though this bill is going to result in a decrease of organized crime.

How ironic. Barack Obama, who once taught Constitutional Law at the University of Chicago, argued against the Bush administration's justification of wiretapping. Oh, how times have changed. It amuses me how the man who campaigned for “change” is readily willing to accept George W. Bush's antiquated solutions as a result of his uncontrollable paranoia. But unless our government learns to control its fears, we'll be stuck with this unproductive, unreliable, and irresponsible law for a long time.

## A QUESTIONABLE FAD

### Words with Friends Obsession

By Manosai Eerabathini  
and Max Dapkus  
Opinions Editor and Staff Writer

The first thing you do in the morning. What you do every 5 minutes in your 4th period math class. The last thing you do before you go to bed. It's perfectly natural, it's your move on Words with Friends (WWF). We're all addicted to this highly academic app, which means far more to us than a simple multiplayer version of the popular game, Scrabble. Truth be told, my every day of existence in high school depends on beating my rivals at this game.

I'm sure many of us feel guilty that we're using our iPod touches, iPhones, and Droids to not pay attention in class while we should be learning. But let's face it, we're not doing anything wrong.

We're spending our time doing something productive, something educational, something beneficial to our intellectual livelihood. We're using the arsenal of vocabulary needed for Scrabble, and combining that knowledge with an interactive social experience. We're having fun with friends, while also learning a great combination!

So when your math teacher encourages you to memorize the latest theorem he introduced to the class, you can happily ignore him by placing the letters T-R-A-I-K together, scoring you favorable points in WWF. What's that, you don't know what “traik” means? Come on, just about every American teenager playing WWF knows that this obscure word is defined as “to become ill or to lose one's

health.” But don't fret, you can easily regain traction with words like “buras, vitrics, and dux”—which I'm sure are all part of your everyday vocabulary as the average, or in the case that you're playing WWF, far more superior high-schooler.

We can agree with certainty that this app delivers a thrilling sense of academic achievement whenever you one-up your friend with your exemplary grasp of the English language. But there's another beautiful component to WWF that we have yet to appreciate properly: The fact that we can spend hours on this game, while taking somewhat decent breaks (no forced continuous game-play) and still enjoy it with our friends is truly remarkable.

What high school student doesn't want to spend hours peering at some tiny screen of a handheld device while still taking away the benefits of an interactive social experience? WWF delivers what popular video games nowadays never fail to promise—an enjoyable multiplayer experience that involves, rather than



excludes, your peers.

So what's not to like? We're improving the friendships we already have, at times even making new ones (Hey, what's your words with friends? Academicgod314? Oh, mine is vocabwhiz911). And beyond that, we're enhancing our understanding of the great English language by learning a plethora (another word I picked up thanks to WWF) of new words. I'll never regret the day I went to the App Store and downloaded this life-changing game. Never mind that I use another app to check whether or not certain words exist, I've learned a lot about integrity through WWF.

## GET OUT OF BED!

### Starting School Early

By Jessica Dumov  
Staff Writer

Beep! Beep! Beep! goes the alarm clock. It's morning again, and you have to go to school. Time to drag yourself out of your nice, warm bed and get ready for a day of tests and note-taking. Understandably, Mitty students hate getting up early for school. Teenagers always want to sleep in, as Mitty students show by our love of late start days.

However, even though some students wish school could start later every day, beginning the school day at 9 or 10 a.m. would cause major problems, so our current schedule really is preferable.

Having school start at 7:50 in the morning may be irritating, but it gives us more time after school for friends, sports, and homework. If school started later, we wouldn't finish the school day until 4 or 5 PM, then the rest of the day would be more rushed.

Sports teams would only be able to practice for about an hour before shadows would grow longer and the sun would set, ending any outside activities for the day. The only other alternative of practice before school would be undesirable as it would be too cold to practice outside.

Also, it's nice having a bit of time to spend with friends after school. If school ended later, then most students

would probably have to go straight home to do homework and eat dinner, and we all know how important socializing is for teenagers.

In addition, a later start would make it impossible for many parents to drive. Besides causing a huge inconvenience, this would make even more students drive themselves to school, making parking in the morning even more difficult and crowded.

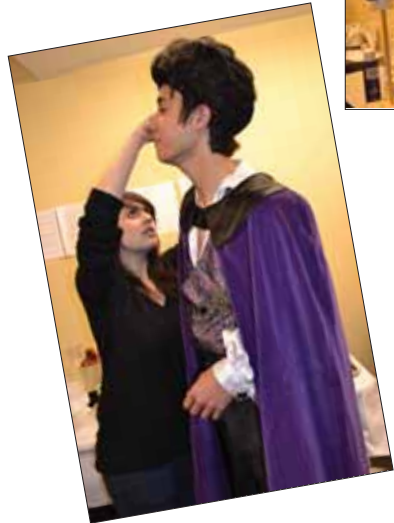
So there you have it; every cloud has a silver lining, and waking up early has a few. Knowing the benefits of starting school early, perhaps you can learn to appreciate Mitty's start time, even if you still hate waking up early.





# Arts & Entertainment

## Behind the Scenes: A Look at Drowsy's Costumes



Photos Courtesy of Steffie Ko and Jonathan Reyes

By Alyssa Caban  
Staff Writer

“Mix-ups, Mayhem, and a Gay Wedding.” As well as a flapper dress, hoop-skirts, sequins, and lace wedding gowns? While Mitty’s *The Drowsy Chaperone* put the audience in stitches with the impressive acting talents of the members of our Performing Arts Department, the wardrobes deserve a portion of the spotlight.

The casts of Mitty’s theater productions would not be complete without the assistance of **Ms. Karen Brady**, the leading character of the costume department. Ms. Brady is responsible for the behind-the-scenes work, such as perfecting the costumes. Although a large portion of the apparel are re-used from previous productions, such as *Cabaret* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, many are rented from King’s Academy, Santa Clara University, Theatre Works, and South Bay Theatre Company. For the ones unable to be rented or purchased, the multitasking Ms. Brady custom designs, produces, and does personal fittings herself.

“It’s Janet, It’s Janet! It’s Janet van de Graaff.” Playing the starlet, showgirl Janet van de Graaff, Adrienne Eller wore everything from silk pajamas to nautical shorts and top. Making her first appearance in a red flapper dress, Janet truly exuded the liberating side of women’s fashion in the 1920s. As a way to defy the restrictions of Prohibition and the previously restrictive Victorian era, women of the period lifted their hems, lowered their necklines, and transitioned from corsets to flowing silhouettes.

Another popular trend of flappers of the twenties was short hair, as women turned towards a more boyish appearance. While Adrienne wore a short, curly wig, Davelyn Couch, who plays the ditzy character, Kitty, flaunted a straightened, blunt, and shockingly blonde short wig. Different styles of hair emerged, including new methods of curling, perm, and hair coloring allowing women to create the looks that they desired. The new fashion styles made a statement: women were ready to rebel.

Flapper icons of the twenties such as Clara Bow, Colleen Moore, and Louise Brooks can easily be identified as inspirations for the trends, especially in the “Show Off” number. Janet ends the show with a bang in a white lace-embroidered wedding gown with tulle

flowing out from below her knees in a mermaid-style effect. Showing the most diversity throughout the show, Janet, always kept the audience captivated and curious as to what she would do or wear next.

Besides the infamous Janet van de Graaff, other characters also exhibited other aspects of the 1920’s fashion trends. Mrs. Tottendale played by Melanie Mascarenhas kept a consistent trend of cap sleeves and dresses with hoop skirts. A wardrobe ranging from an embroidered yellow and purple floral floor-length dress to a pink dress with a rosette showed a similarity in the structure of her light, fluid dresses in a variety of bright colors. Concluding the show in a lacy wedding dress with exaggerated cap sleeves, Mrs. Tottendale ended her performance on a perfect note. The wedding gowns worn by all four of the main female characters exemplified popular choices in the twenties, with its emphasis on lace, cap sleeves and flowy, layered bottoms giving an emphasis to a woman’s small waist and attenuated curves.

In regards to men’s trends of the 1920’s, the characters played by Ryan Ballard, Gabriel Gonzalez, Kyle Jackson, Trent Brunngraber, and Markus Foote sported pleated, crisp suits and tuxedos with slicked back hair. The boys mainly kept it simple and plain with deep neutral colors, while the extravagant and confident character of Aldolpho was given a cape and bold colors for contrast. Lastly, Trevor Bates, as the Main in Chair, featured a more comfortable and relaxed look, with his corduroy pants and wool jacket.

With dozens of costumes worn throughout the show, the number of costume changes ranged from eleven to an average of three changes for each member of the ensemble. This placed a great amount of responsibility on **Christina Collins, Monica Goff, and Audrey Moore**, *Drowsy’s* costume crew.

What audience members do not see is the amount of effort and number of people involved in making the characters come to life and believable. Matching each role with the costumes that will best complement their character traits and personality ties the characters into their settings. Since *The Drowsy Chaperone* parodies the social scene of the 1920s, the costumes are flashy, sultry, and, overall, quite over-exaggerated.

The show could simply not go on without these costumes.

## Mitty’s Sketch Team: Back from the Drawing Board

By Trevor Bates  
Staff Writer

It may be counter-intuitive to see all eleven members of the goofy “Pardon My French” rehearse every Tuesday and Thursday morning with such diligence and seriousness. However, the project the team is tackling this month calls for members to work exceptionally hard.

Mitty’s “Pardon My French” is creating an original musical entitled *After Ten Years in Siberia* (a title that was literally chosen out of a hat of audience suggestions at the fall sketch show) that is set to open at the end of the month.

The project, for all cast members, is exciting and frightening—frightening, because the team has a month to throw together an entire show (complete with singing and dancing), wholly independent of outside help; exciting, because there is a new level of creative freedom implicit in the endeavor.

This is the first year that the sketch comedy team has ventured beyond the bounds of simple sketch comedy (which, for those who do not know, is essentially what SNL does). Indeed, the group’s name is not the only facet

of its identity that has been changed.

The group has undergone several changes—most notable: its size, its cast members and its conceptual basis. What—just last year—was labeled “Lucky 13” and featured 17 members performing solely sketch comedy is now “Pardon My French” and features 11 cast members performing improvisational comedy, a full-scale comedic musical, and (as many saw in the Fall show) sketch comedy.

“With so many members of the original ‘Lucky 13’ sketch comedy group graduating last year, it seemed to be the right time to give sketch comedy a new identity on campus and focus on multiple areas of improvisation and comedy writing,” says Mr. Santana, the group’s “coach.”

Plans to expand the group’s comedic breadth, for Mr. Santana, were not limited to mere surface alterations, but included amending the group’s foundational aspects as well—things that were not necessarily seen by audiences.

Thus, rather than influence for the group being derived exclusively from the Chicago comedy troupe, “Second City,” Mr. Santana introduced the sketch comedy team to “Baby Wants Candy”, another Chicago comedy

troupe that focused on fully improvised musicals.

Also, being part of the group became more of a commitment than it was last year, which meant more rehearsals, lengthier rehearsals, and a more consistent rehearsal schedule.

Commenting on this change and its impact, Diana Pawell, one of the group’s veterans, said “we spent a lot more time refining our sketches for our fall show.” Generally, it seems cast members certainly do not mind this change.

“It’s a great way to start the morning. It honestly makes the day so much more fun and worthwhile,” says Christina Moore, a sophomore member.

“The rehearsals are something I look forward to every week. It’s a great way to start the day and get the creative juices flowing,” says senior Matthew Tokuno.

Changes in the group have been accepted well by members and audiences alike, as so many can attest to, and are certainly serving to improve the group dynamic and performance.

Be sure to catch *After Ten Years In Siberia* on April 29 at the Kinkade Theatre!





# Dubstep Revolution

By Ashley Rodarte  
Staff Writer

Music is constantly changing, and for this generation, dubstep is the newest transformation. You can recognize it on television, in movies, and on the radio more than you could before. Dubstep is a form of electronic music that revolves around warped sounds, distorted voices, intense bass, and rhythmic drum patterns. It mixes with pop, reggae, rap, and rock music. The more catchy and original the song is, the better the Dubstep mix sounds.

Local DJ Jake Baumer, who has played at more than 50 venues using Dubstep, as well as electronic and house music, states, "I find that when I make dubstep I have to really take the time to create a sound that is unique and has a diverse pattern. If you don't change it up, it becomes extremely repetitive and doesn't sound very good."

Many songs seem to have similar beats, which makes it harder to find an impressive dubstep song—an obstacle that many DJs face.

This genre originated in the United Kingdom in the late 1990s,

and by the early 2000s musicians began creating and performing dubstep music in small music scenes. It did not start becoming popular in the US until recently. The broadcast of this music has spread rapidly using social networking sites and other electronic media. Recently, both Bellarmine and Presentation High schools have scheduled electronic mixers with dubstep DJs. More artists are using electronic beats to appeal to this generation whose music now revolves around this genre.

Baumer admits, "Lately, there seems to be more and more people becoming interested in dubstep music and some people already love it. It creates an atmosphere where they can just let loose." The influence of this music is powerful. The strong basslines, gripping drum patterns, and the mixing of distorted voices prove to be overwhelmingly engaging to many fans and listeners.

Some popular mainstream DJs that use dubstep in their music are Deadmau5, Skrillex, and Bassnectar, among others. Deadmau5, a Canadian DJ, is the most commonly known DJ that uses dubstep. To many, Deadmau5's dubstep sounds flow more smoothly because he usually produces more electronic and house music. Skrillex's dubstep involves more high-pitched sounds that have a faster tempo than most dubstep sounds. As for Bassnectar, a local DJ from San Francisco, his sounds are distinctive from most. His music has a variety of sounds—each song's sound varies in speed; he calls his techniques of dubstep, "omni-tempo maximalism, an amalgamation of every sound I've ever heard, mixed with ultra wicked basslines." Dubstep will no doubt turn out to be one of the identifiers of our generation.

## The Importance of Being 3-D

By Christina Collins  
Staff Writer



There's a scene in the cult classic film *Back to the Future II*, where protagonist Marty McFly wanders around the futuristic streets of 2015 only to run into a crudely drawn, holographic projection from the movie *Jaws 19: 3D*. With this scene, director Robert Zemeckis pokes fun at the 3-D fad from 1989 by blowing it up to ridiculous proportions. Is the proposed satire too incredibly far off from modern trends, however?

A new craze has taken the world by storm. From movie theaters to home media systems, contemporary society just can't get enough of three-dimensional entertainment. Whereas 3-D media is a fairly old concept that wanes in and out of popularity every 15 years or so (used mostly in cheesy theme park rides), it seems that this time around, 3-D entertainment is here to stay. Many theatrical movie released in the past few years has a 3-D or Real-D counterpart, and 3-D TVs are starting to slowly integrate into homes across America. Prominent gaming corporations are beginning to manufacture their platforms in 3-D as well—namely Nintendo's newest creation, the 3-DS, which set sales records after its March 27 release.

The media's recent love affair with the stereoscopic illusion began in 2003 with *Spy Kids 3-D*, yet it burst onto the mainstream film scene with the release of James Cameron's masterpiece *Avatar* in 2009. Since then, numerous blockbuster titles have followed suit, proving that 3-D is not just for kids anymore.

Critics speculate that the newest obsession has long overstayed its welcome;

however media attention proves this hypothesis wrong with every theatrical release.

Is 3-D just a marketing gimmick, or is it a viable source of entertainment with longevity in its future?

There's no doubt that 3-D is a definite source of revenue; recent reports show that 3-D flicks ring in 33% of total domestic ticket sales. Yet while a 3-D movie or television program may prove to be an incredible experience to watch, it certainly does not come cheap. 3-D movie tickets can range from an additional \$2 to \$5 more due to the fact that the theaters have to buy a surplus of those unfortunate-looking 3-D glasses in order to enhance the viewing capacities of the moviegoer. Subsequently, 3-D TV does not run much cheaper; 3-D TVs were originally priced as \$4,000 in cost, although current prices have declined to around \$2,000. It's a shame how costly this trend is, yet people continue to buy into it.

3-D will either develop into a larger entity or fade away into obscurity, and only time can tell what will happen to this strange global phenomenon. Plans for the future seem bright for the genre: Apple plans to launch the iPhone 5 as a 3-D device and Lucasfilm announced the summer re-release

of the *Star Wars* franchise in 3-D as well, just to name two. D

Advances in technology have the capability to bring 3-D to another level in the future. As 3-D media continues to expand, there is a growing chance society will not be doomed to teen movie clichés of the 1980's. Hopefully.



## Sequels, Sequels, Sequels

By Diana Pawell  
Staff Writer

Admit One

The sequel is one of the hardest things to do when it comes to the movie industry. Success is often elusive, and actors, directors, and writers must work together to produce fresh ideas from an already-used plot base. And while some sequels are wildly popular, others fall flat—very flat.

Soon the theaters will receive an onslaught of almost nothing other than sequels. Opening mid-April is *Scream 4*, which will rehash again the plotline based on the Woodsboro murders, in which a ghost-masked killer terrorizes innocent people. Despite the huge success of the first *Scream* in 1996 earning over \$173 million, this sequel does not induce any high hopes for its originality or its content. Likewise, *Final Destination 5* seems determined to drag the same premise through the mud again in hopes of a good turnout.

And of course, one cannot ignore the huge names of sequels coming out this summer that will be sure to bust the box-office. The

long-awaited final chapter of J.K. Rowling's epic series will finally arrive in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2*, signifying the end of an era. High on the list of summer blockbusters also include *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*, featuring and focusing on the fantastic Johnny Depp, reprising his role as Captain Jack Sparrow, as well as the third chapter of *Transformers: Dark of the Moon*—noticeably missing Megan Fox. Family friendly *Kung Fu Panda 2* and *Cars 2* guarantee that all age groups will have their fill of sequels.

Also, the superhero franchise is being raised from the grave yet again with the upcoming prequel *X-Men: First Class*, and remakes with *Superman: Man of Steel*, and potentially another *Batman Begins* in the works as well.

What the film industry needs is to put an ear to its people. In this day and age, we as an audience get bored quickly—very quickly.

We always need the new, the fresh, the exciting and thought-provoking. *Inception*, one of the most trumpeted movies of last year, for example, relied very heavily on tight writing and suspense rather than a recycled and reused plot. And we want new and dangerous: we like risky. It could either be fantastic or a flop, but most audiences are open-minded and want to be along for the ride. We are enticed to find out more about the unknown and discover new ideas and ways of looking at the world—not to watch again something that may or may not have been good the first time around.

When I hear that a sequel is in theaters, instead of being filled with anticipation, I am more filled with disappointment (save the *Harry Potter* series, of course). Sometimes films function more as works of art, and should be left alone after created—not picked apart in the hopes of finding some piece that one can attempt to repaint and resell to people as something new.

Admit One



# MONARCH CRITICS

## Femme Fatale

By Andy Vo  
Staff Writer



Britney Spears certainly has another hit on her hands with her latest album, *Femme Fatale*. While her previous album *Circus* had some fantastic tunes, the album wasn't exactly the follow up that fans and critics alike had in mind after the perfection that was *Blackout*.

Britney has certainly evolved over the last two years, and has now created an album that combines all of her signature europop beats with a refreshing dubstep influence to create what some are labeling "Dub-Pop." Lyrically, nothing is new from Britney, and as usual



the songs are about her nighttime escapades and dancing to the break of dawn—but honestly, nobody cares. Britney has never been known for thought-provoking lyrics; she just wants to have fun and let listeners have a good time with her.

On this album, her voice utilizes the magic of auto-tune, vocoder and various other vocal processing machines, but it surprisingly never seems overdone. With a pleasant blend of her natural vocals and computerized voice, the album's tracks never seem to get too annoying (I'm staring straight at you, T-Pain). Executive producer Dr. Luke did an excellent job of combining catchy melodies with irresistible dance beats that ultimately makes for Britney's best album to date. The first single "Hold It Against Me" is an aggressive club-banger that features a dubstep dance break of epic proportions. The song is a great representation of Britney's new edgier yet polished sound.

But part of what makes her album great is that it isn't strictly composed of club bangers. Britney has never been great at ballads but dips into softer territory on mid-tempo songs like album highlight "Trip To Your Heart." While still very much danceable, the song feels lighter and provides a slight respite to the legions of club-thumpers. The rumored third single "I Wanna Go" is a flirty dance-floor anthem that is absolutely dynamic and features the brilliant use of a whistle that will be stuck in one's head for days. The clear album standout would be a track titled "Trouble For Me." Britney's distinct voice really lends itself to the bass driven euro-dance quality of the song. Her sharp and sassy delivery on the verses show exactly how and why Britney will always be on top of the charts.

*Femme Fatale* is more polished, more edgy, and more fun than any of her previous efforts. It's time to put our judgments aside and not hold it against her. This album shows growth and maturity and slays all of the current pop competition. So come a little closer and let Britney whisper in your ear. She has something to say, and you just might like it.

## Angles

By Eugene Woo  
Staff Writer



After a too long hiatus, The Strokes returned to the music scene with their fourth studio album, *Angles*. Two years in the making, the album has enticed fans of the beloved band, who have won numerous awards and been labeled as one of the best indie-rock bands of the decade. The Strokes haven't disappointed this time around, even though the recording for the album was done piecemeal over a long period of time. Many of the members had embarked on side projects during their hiatus, and returned to the band with brand new ideas. As a result, the album has an experimental nature, much like every new Linkin Park album.

Within the album, the band showcases its musical variation, adopting various styles. While adopting their old minimalist setup with little synthesizing, The Strokes managed to create distinct new pieces, experimenting with new production techniques and adding in new sounds to their impressive and demonstrated repertoire. The first single released, "Under Cover of Darkness," was a minor hit in the mainstream, and a rabid hit for Strokes fans. Resembling work from their debut album, *Is This It*, the single raised everyone's hopes for the eventual album release. When the album hit the shelves, it was immediately apparent that this was not simply a return to the successful roots of the band.

While some songs were reminiscent of the band's first, extremely well-received album, many songs explored a greater instrumental exercise, sometimes abandoning the vocal-heavy moments of the past. The classic Strokes prominent and catchy bass lines were seen again throughout the album, complemented with unconventional harmonies in the guitars. Other songs retained Julian Casablancas' trade-mark poorly enunciated vocals and indie feel. Overall, the album sounded like it was titled, like *Angles*. Many songs featured discordant motifs, such as the opening riff of "Under Cover of Darkness." Songs ranged from a heavier, grinding sound to the lighter, less cluttered sound. Every song had different chord progressions and themes, just as expected from The Strokes, never one to blend in with the all-too-similar styles of pop and pop rock.

Always one of the more creative bands in the rock scene, The Strokes have cemented their reputation with another solid album. Hardcore fans will be satisfied by some of the familiar styles in the new album, while their distinct but catchy instrumentation and captivating vocals will attract the average indie or rock fan. The Strokes have made a more than satisfying return with *Angles*. After a long and painful wait.



## Vices and Virtues

By Shivali Singh  
Staff Writer



Three years after the release of their second studio album, *Pretty Odd.*, Panic!



at the Disco is now back (with the much loved exclamation point reinstated in their name) with a bang in the form of *Vices & Virtues*. Following the loss of two key members, Ryan Ross and Jon Walker, over creative differences, the group moved in the direction that Brendon Urie had envisioned: a better appeal to pop music. While *Vices* does succeed in this goal, it also makes a return to the more theatrical aspect of their debut album, *A Fever You Can't Sweat Out*. This musical shift has the approval of many Panic! fans who felt that *Pretty Odd* was not adequately consistent with the band's characteristic flamboyant style. Though the flamboyance is more muted and mature, as the band members are, there is still that definite Panic! at the Disco touch.

The group's style is not the only high point of the new album. Their lyrics, as they never have, do not disappoint. The entire song "The Ballad of Mona Lisa" is a play on the famous da Vinci portrait. Urie sings, "He senses something, call it desperation—another dollar, another day. And if she had the proper words to say, she would tell him 'cause she'd have nothing left to sell him," depicting the famous woman as overwhelmed by tragedy and depression in a manner that screams Panic!

The album is a mix of varied beats and tempos, from the numerous fast-paced tracks like "Let's Kill Tonight" to the slower "Always". The tracks on the album flow well, with each song melding with the others while still retaining a unique sound. Particularly noteworthy songs on the album are "Memories," which is an anthem of the loss of young love and "Sarah Smiles," which makes the interesting transition from swing, bluegrass-esque to darker and more angst-filled. The song opens with optimism at the prospect of Sarah bringing love into the speaker's life, but he realizes that through her lying, she will only bring him heartbreak. Also unique is the introductory music of "Nearly Witches," which makes itself a solid beat out of a slightly eerie melody.

All in all, Panic! at the Disco has made a strong comeback, hopefully with much more good music to come.

## Paul

By Thomas Soares  
Staff Writer



Simon Pegg and Nick Frost have teamed up for a third time to bring science fiction nuts this parody, yet celebration, of Sci-Fi movies.

*Paul* is about two British Sci-Fi nerds named Graeme Willy and Clive Gollings (Pegg and Frost) who meet an extra-terrestrial named Paul while driving to Roswell, New Mexico. Nick Frost's character is fluent in Klingon and trying to become a Sci-Fi comic book writer, and Pegg plays his best friend and illustrator of their comic books. They are on vacation in America to visit Comic-Con in San Diego and tour famous UFO hot spots like Area 51 and Roswell.

Apart from an awkward confrontation with a couple of irate rednecks in a diner, their trip appears to be going as planned. Once Paul (voiced by Seth Rogen) shows up, however, everything gets turned upside down. Paul not only has Rogen's voice, but he has all of the Seth Rogen characteristics viewers have seen in movies like *Superbad* and *Pineapple Express*. He curses and has terrible hygiene. Although seeing an alien act like this is an original and funny concept, the comedy never fully develops and a lot of the same jokes are used continuously. The funniest characters in the movie are the supporting actors including Jason Bateman and Sigourney Weaver, making a cameo appearance. Kristen Wiig also shines as Simon Pegg's love interest. The action and car chase sequences near the movie's climax were also enjoyable, although not edited well. The ending itself is also very predictable, especially if you have seen *E.T.*

The funniest jokes in the movie happen when Paul explains why he is on Earth and his relationship with Steven Spielberg. Because *Paul* is loaded with jokes that reference not only films like *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, and *Aliens*, but also more obscure Sci-Fi works, it probably isn't as entertaining and funny a film for people who aren't science fiction geeks. If you are a fan of the Pegg and Frost movies *Shaun of the Dead* and *Hot Fuzz*, you might also be disappointed because *Paul* isn't nearly as clever, accessible, and laugh-out-loud funny as those two movies. My recommendation is to go see *Paul* if you love science fiction movies and want to enjoy Seth Rogen's style of comedy.





# Food for Thought

When it comes to maintaining mental health, people need a true balance of Omega 3 and Omega 6 polyunsaturated fatty acids to feel normal. Unfortunately, in most of the Western world there is an abundance of Omega 6 but a lack of Omega 3 fatty acids being consumed. This fat imbalance directly affects the structure and substance of all membranes in the brain. Specifically, foods rich in saturated and trans fats should be avoided. Saturated fats found in foods like chips, fries, and bacon decrease the flexibility of cell membranes in the brain and other parts of the body. This in turn deprives the brain of nutrients that create essential connections--neurons and neurotransmitters. Additionally, foods filled with trans fats from hydrogenated oils may be the most damaging to mental health since they are not natural at all, but were created by scientists in a lab to sustain the shelf-life of foods. It is evident that the further food gets from its original form, the worse it is for brain health. However, there are many foods that are beneficial to mental health.

Foods that are rich in crucial nutrients include:

1. Fish (salmon, mackerel, sardines): rich in omega-3 essential fatty acids, which are essential for brain function
2. Whole grains (oatmeal, whole-grain breads, and brown rice): reduce the risk for heart disease, promoting good blood flow (cardiovascular health) to the organ system which, includes the brain
3. Blueberries: help to protect the brain from oxidative stress and may reduce the effects of age-related conditions such as Alzheimer's disease or dementia.
4. Avocados: contain "good" fat, also known as monounsaturated fat, which contributes to healthy blood flow. A lower blood pressure promotes brain health because hypertension is a risk factor for the decline in cognitive abilities
5. Nuts and seeds (flaxseed, walnut, almonds, cashews, peanuts, sunflower seeds, sesame seeds): contain vitamin E, and higher levels of vitamin E correspond with less cognitive decline as you get older

It is important to remember that none of these foods (or any other food, drink, or supplemental drugs) will produce any "miracles" overnight. Rather, the foods listed should be consumed consistently in moderation over time along with a healthy diet to produce optimum results.

By Katrina Vokt

Staff Writer

# Once Upon a Dream

Did you know...



1. We only dream about what we already know. Faces that you don't recognize are actually people you have seen before.
2. Our bodies are paralyzed during REM sleep. If someone were to slap you, you wouldn't be able to react until you stopped dreaming.
3. Lucid dreaming occurs when one knows that they are dreaming and can control the decisions that they make.
4. Almost 12% of people dream only in black-and-white.
5. We forget 90% of our dreams 10 minutes after we wake up.

By Pujja Subramaniam  
Staff Writer

By Kate Coffey  
Staff Writer

When you think of hypnosis, you probably imagine a magician swinging a watch in front of someone's face, waiting for them to fall asleep so they can control what they think and how they feel. This is often the way hypnosis is portrayed in movies and TV shows; however, it can be used practically as well.

During Halloween Haunt at Great America, a hypnotist named Dan Hill takes about twenty volunteers from the audience, has them close their eyes as he speaks slowly and tells them to relax, and then tells them they are on a horse, or that they are Britney Spears, and they actually behave in the way they are told.

At first glance, one would assume they are simply actors. This, of course, doesn't have much





## Making Memories

By Kayla Uribe  
Staff Writer

Now, don't get me wrong. I, like every other student, relish each opportunity that I get to sit down the night before a test and study a text book for hours upon end. And every day, I hope and pray that one of my fellow classmates will inform me of a quiz I have next period, so I may have the chance to try to memorize as many vocabulary definitions as possible. Yet, despite these "passions" of mine, I cannot help but jump at the idea of a photographic memory, envisioning the endless conveniences granted by such a mental skill.

Photographic memory is defined as the ability to recall images, sounds, or objects with extreme accuracy and detail. It's like looking at a page in a book, then being able to recall every word of it. The chances of you having it, or anybody you know for that matter, aren't the best. Less than 10% of the population have this memory capability, causing doubts in its very existence. Children tend to have this ability but lose it with age.

But like any extraordinary ability, an extensive memory isn't all it's cracked up to be. A problem often associated with photographic memory is that the individual often absorbs information abnormally. They absorb irrelevant data, creating problems in recalling selective details, or difficulty forgetting troubling matters.

Do not give up hope, though. There are several ways to improve your memory for "surprise" vocabulary quizzes, or even for remembering why you went to the kitchen despite not being hungry. A mnemonic device is a tool many use to

aid memory as a quick fix. Using a short poem, acronym or clever phrase can make memorizing things a lot easier and help improve memory. The brain has an easier time remembering something you find interesting versus something arbitrary. This is why, for some individuals, listening to music is beneficial while they study—it stimulates consciousness, thus improving brain function.

As for expanding memory over the long-term, many suggest genuinely focusing. It takes eight seconds to transfer something from short term memory to long term. Relating information and creating connections in your brain make things easier to remember. Many researchers suggest healthy diets and exercising to remove plaque and increase blood flow to the brain. Stress and sleep are also factors that impact your capacity to recall information.

Taking the time to working out your brain with mentally stimulating activities—like crossword puzzles or Sudoku—is helpful as well. The Free Recall approach may come in handy for an upcoming test or quiz: studying a list of words and then covering them and rewriting them later is great practice to aid recollection. Paired associate learning—associating one specific word with the other—can improve absorption and recollection of information, too. With all these methods available, you can enhance your memory to its full potential, reaching a point where you will be able to remember this article for the rest of your life.



# ON

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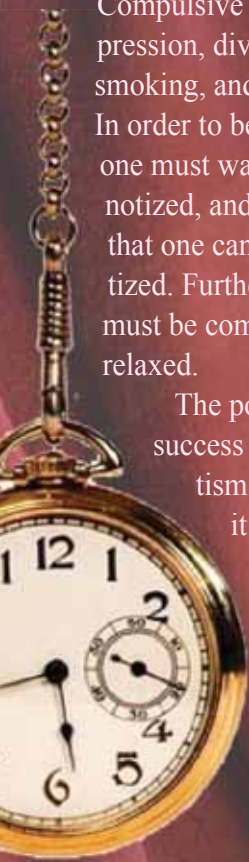
# MIND

## DIAGNOSIS

of a practical use, but there are other ways that hypnosis can be used to end a bad habit or peek into someone's psychological problems.

There are at least ten hypnotherapists in San Jose alone, and one of those, called "Quit Smoking with Hypnosis," is five minutes down Saratoga from Mitty. All of these offices for hypnotherapy help patients cope with a multitude of problems such as anxiety, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, depression, divorce, stress, smoking, and weight loss. In order to be hypnotized, one must want to be hypnotized, and must believe that one can be hypnotized. Furthermore, one must be comfortable and relaxed.

The popularity and success of hypnosis shows that it could be a real and viable way of dealing with any kind of mental issue.



By Sarah Baylis  
Staff Writer

## LEFT SIDE

When browsing radio stations are you more likely to stop on a radio station:

- a. playing classical music    b. playing rock and roll

When choosing electives would you rather take an extra:

- a. math or science class    b. art or english class

On a sunny day would you rather:

- a. stay inside and read your favorite book    b. run outside to play sports with your friends

Let's say that you have a mid term tomorrow.

Would you be most successful studying:

- a. in the library, by yourself    b. with a group of people

During lectures are you normally:

- a. attentive and don't get distracted or bored easily    b. restless and edgy, ready to leave

When trying to decide what to do on a Saturday afternoon:

- a. you plan things out and keep to schedule    b. you are more spontaneous and have no schedule or limitations

If you answered mostly A, the left side of your brain is more dominant. Left-brain dominant people respond in sequential, logical ways. If you answered mostly B, the right side of your brain is more dominant. You are guided by the more emotional, intuitive right hemisphere. Your dominant side of the brain has a significant effect on your study skills, grades, and most importantly, your lifestyle.

## RIGHT SIDE



## Christopher Loos

### How did you start your interest in photography?

I started taking pictures on family vacations so that I could share the unique memories at family gatherings, but I really got into photography during a middle school photography course.



### Why did you choose the photos you submitted?

I feel that these photographs represent some of my best work and express the variety and creativity found within my photography.

### What do they say about your style?

I prefer capturing moments in the real world as they happen rather than staging or setting up shots, and I think that these photographs demonstrate that aspect of my photography.

### What three words would you use to describe your style?

Natural. Impulsive. Creative



# Through the Lens:

## Monarch Photography



## Miriam Willis

### How did you start taking pictures?

My dad used to travel the world as a photographer. His pictures are all over the house and I've been playing with his cameras since I was little. Only recently have I started to get more involved.



### What do they say about your style?

My style, if anything, captures the beauty behind the reality of the image.

### What three words would you use to describe your style?

Never ending changes.

### What intrigues you about photography?

What intrigues me about photography is that it is mystifying, deceiving, breathtaking, anything one can want it to be. It's happiness.





**Above:** "The Bristlecone Pine forest is the oldest forest on earth. This tree in particular has been on the same hillside for nearly three thousand years. I felt that a photograph shows a single instant of this tree's nearly immortal life." —**Zane Moore, Junior**

**Left:** "I took this photo in a small fishing village in Cinque Terre off the northwestern coast of Italy. It's one of the most beautiful and charming places I've ever been."

—**Kaitlin Perata, Senior**

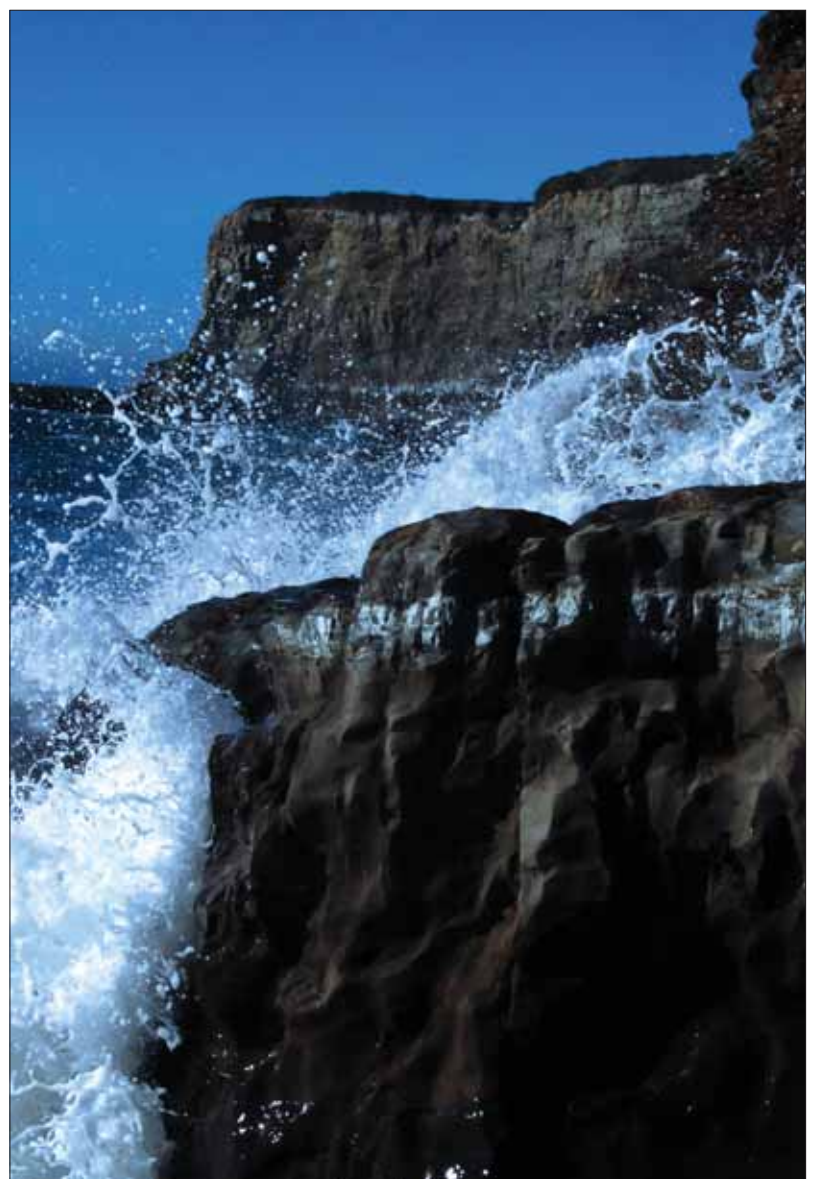


**Above:** "Being a huge baseball fan my entire life, I like to represent my passions through my photography. This macro shot of a baseball bat is appealing to the eye due to its linear pattern."

—**Michael Sywyk, Senior**

**Right:** "I went through a lot to take this picture—it took over 200 shots to get it perfect—but it turned out exactly how I wanted. The colors are contrasting and vibrant; plus the texture on the rocks makes for a very interesting picture."

—**Kirby Erdman, Senior**



**Above:** "This picture was taken after a 2-hour long hike. It represents the feeling of accomplishment that comes with finishing a task."

—**Derek Block, Senior**

Like what you see?  
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 Send in a request to  
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 and **you**  
 could be featured  
 in the next issue!



# Justice Awareness

## PROFILES IN JUSTICE



### Spotlight On SHEPHERD:

AN INTERVIEW WITH ANGELA HODGE

By Heather Lee  
Staff Writer

#### What is Shepherd?

Shepherd is a student organization moderated by Ms. Salmon and led by myself and Andre Adricula. It was organized through Campus Ministry in order to use education to address issues related to students being marginalized. In the past, Shepherd has hosted educational forums to on topics like teenage depression, body image, and cutting. This year's focus for Shepherd is supporting our gay and lesbian students.

#### What is Shepherd's mission?

Shepherd's core mission has always been to ensure that every Mitty student always has access to a community where they are genuinely accepted, respected and appreciated. This year, we have been actively campaigning to make the entire school and student environment more like Shepherd's – all-welcoming, all-loving and all-respecting – by reaching out to the wider student community and reminding them that every single Mitty student (and every single human) is worthy of respect. An ambitious goal, but something we believe Mitty as an institution should perpetually be working towards.

#### Why was Shepherd formed? Was there an event that sparked the club's formation?

No event in particular. However, the national attention drawn to the struggle of gay teens who committed suicide galvanized many students in our community to take on the cause. In recreating Shepherd as a group with a particular focus on LGBT students and alleviating some of the fear and loneliness that high school forces on kids who are questioning their identity; our goal was to improve the situation of LGBT Mitty kids in a way that respected and cooperated with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

#### Lately, there has been a lot of buzz around the "Think Before You Speak" campaign.

The "Think Before You Speak" campaign was our project for this semester. We designed and timed it to coincide with the Lenten season, and we encouraged students to give up slurs and derogations for Lent, which we felt was a healthy, important decision that would also benefit Mitty's student community – a lot more than giving up soda or Facebook would.

#### How can we help? How do we join Shepherd?

The best way to help is by living the Shepherd mission – make a concerted effort to make yourself a sensitive, welcoming member of Mitty's student community. If you're interested in joining, you can speak to me, my fellow senior Andre Adricula, or Ms. Salmon.

## Revolution in Egypt: A New Chapter

By Makoto Lalwani  
Staff Writer

2011 has been a year of revolutions—in three months, protests have already broken out in countries such as Yemen, Bahrain, and Libya. However, amongst all of these budding revolutionaries, one nation in particular stands out. The most populated Arab country, the site of countless numbers of Western interventions, the bridge (in more than one way) between Northern Africa and the Middle East: Egypt.

Let's recap. Following the successful revolt in Tunisia, which overthrew Ben Ali, the Egyptian public was aroused to stand up against its own leader, President Hosni Mubarak, who had been in power for more than 30 years. At first, Mubarak adamantly refused to relinquish his power, using methods ranging from shutting down the Internet to having the army administer tear gas and gunfire on rioters.

However, the Egyptian population refused to give in to either Mubarak's violence, or his false promises to leave office and incorporate a peaceful transition of power. After two weeks of failing to stop the collapse of his regime, Mubarak himself finally gave in. On Feb. 12, he resigned from the presidency and left Cairo for good.

What's next for Egypt? The country is currently being administered by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces—in other words, the army. But this is not to say that Egypt will spiral into a military dictatorship. In fact, rather than taking advantage of its newfound power, the army has promised to grant free elections and support constitutional reform.

On March 20, the Egyptian public voted to approve a number of constitutional amendments designed to quickly usher in new elections and provide a smooth



transition of power. The army is a secular organization, meaning Islam likely will not play a crucial role in the upcoming reforms. This is further upheld by the fact that the Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt's most prominent religious group, has not yet played a prominent role in this revolt (though clashes between Christians and Muslims have broken out amidst the turmoil).

So why is this revolution important? Much like how the Tunisian revolution inspired Egypt to take action, the door is now open for other countries to further the movement. Could Algeria, which has been in a "state of

emergency" since 1992, take action against its autocratic president and fight to combat its unemployment crisis? Or could protests break out in Iran, where the people have been brutally politically suppressed by a theocratic government? The shift in administration in Egypt itself may also have consequences for the Western world. Egypt

has been the United States' chief ally in the Middle East; with Mubarak gone, how will the new Egyptian government react to American interference within the region?

And last but not least, what implications does the revolt in Egypt have for its relations with Israel? Will the new government end the 30-year long peace that Mubarak had sustained before his departure?

Such questions remain largely unanswered—for now. But the Egyptian revolution signals the triumph of the public against an autocratic government, a victory for democracy and a blow to corruption.

In today's world, nations are so closely intertwined in a complicated web of affairs that one movement can lead to another, and then another, creating a domino effect of change.

We can only hope that the future bodes well for Egypt, as the choices that its people will make will not only affect itself, but also much of the rest of the world.

## Libya in Turmoil

By Varun Agarwal  
Staff Writer

The 21st Century engendered a series of unique reforms around the world. While the long domination of Western Europe declined and the recognizable world power of the Americas remained strong, Asia began to emerge as a separate and substantial entity (China and India specifically cultivated economic stability and power). Yet, even with such progression in many parts of the world, some countries have been entrenched in archaic politics. To name a few: Egypt and Tunisia who, until recently, had long standing dictatorial governments.

Today, the Libyan people face the same protestor-oppressor relationship with their rulers that their two neighbors, Tunisia and Egypt, recently cast off. Their ever so mercurial ruler, Muammar Gadhafi, has been in power for over 40 years where his policies and theories have impoverished many in this richly resourced country.

With his rise to power in 1969, Gadhafi has subjected Libya to deep surveillance and censorship and brought terror to the country: first by going to war against Tanzania to save a friend, next with Egypt because of a supposed peace treaty with Israel, and finally by inserting himself into a conflict in Chad.

Such capricious wars depleted the national treasury and cost millions of lives—thrusting Libya into a state

of near-destitution. The only thing keeping Libya from self-destruction is its income from oil, most of which is spent recklessly on baseless economic theories.

However, this oil that has been preserving Libya now has become the downfall of its people. It has been an investment for Gadhafi, allowing him to set up alliances throughout the sub-Saharan and other African regions. Although Gadhafi did very little for his own country, he



used much of the money to fund vestigial programs and curios in other countries such as Mali and Madagascar—and is now able to draw from such an investment for troops and support for his tyranny on Libya. Although the rebels at times seem to be attaining an upper hand, the neighboring African countries have been slow to intervene, leaving the Libyan people with few resources and support.

Though these Libyan protests seem to reflect those that came before in Egypt and Tunisia, the Libyan revolt has escalated into a full civil war between those who support Gadhafi and the civilian rebels. Each respective revolt has not been without anger, attacks, and bloodshed, but Gadhafi's policy has taken the violence to new heights.

Even in such a progressive time, it has become not so unexpected to see dictatorships and turmoil in these peripheral countries, as more substantial world powers do little to combat them. As statesman Edmund Burke is credited with having said, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."



# Where's the Justice...in College Admissions?

By Olivia Bartz  
Justice Editor

In today's age of avidly trying to please colleges, seniors are finding out that their hard work, determination, and good attitude might not be enough to gain acceptance to their "dream school." In this overly selective environment, it becomes apparent that not *all* applicants really have an equal shot at acceptance. Most, in fact, will have to have some phenomenal niche in order to enter these top universities in the fall. So what are these niches? How can students gain acceptance at the nation's most elite schools?

Here are four paths that have proven valuable:

## Athletic ability

According to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) about \$1 billion worth of scholarships are awarded to 126,000 student-athletes each year. In Mitty's own community, 17 students have already signed letters of intent with such prestigious schools as Harvard, Brown, Georgetown, and Cal. Last year 29 signed with schools including Stanford, UPenn, and Harvard. Additionally, schools are not just looking for athletic talent in general, but an equal number of athletes by gender. Title IX mandates women's participation in college athletics must be equal to that of men's. So now, when universities accept the top athletic males into their programs, they must search for an equal number of athletically talented young women to fill the gap.

## Legacies

*The Wall Street Journal* recently reported that Harvard accepts 40% of applicants who are children of alumni and only less than 10% of applicants generally. Former President of the United States, George W. Bush, received his undergraduate education at Yale University. President Bush's ordinary academic record and 566 in verbal and 640 in math

mean he was a legacy. A portion of nearly every application asks the applicant to identify any familial connections. And in a study done by Jonathon Meer of Stanford and Harvey S. Rosen of Princeton alumni with kids were 13% more likely to donate to a university than alumni without kids. Clearly, legacies are seen as invaluable to colleges.

## Minority Status

With the passing of Prop. 209 in 1996, "race could no longer be a factor in government hiring or public-university admissions" in California. With the race of the applicant no longer a consideration in admissions, diversity in California's public university system declined rapidly after 1996. However, this proposition does not affect private universities or schools outside of California, and sure enough, the common application has a portion devoted to specifying the applicant's ethnicity. In fact, when comparing the enrollment for this past year at Stanford University with that of UC Berkeley, Stanford had 6% more African Americans, 9% fewer Asian Americans, and 3% more Native Americans than the Freshmen class at UC Berkeley. Obviously at Stanford, and other similar schools, race is a criteria in admissions, one beneficial to historically underrepresented groups.

## Being Superman

In the hyper-competitive environment that is elite college admissions, teens with no family connections to the top universities, no scholarship-worthy athletic talent, and no ethnic advantage find themselves in a difficult and stressful situation. Being a hardworking, determined, well-rounded student isn't typically enough to get into the top universities these days. Teens with their hearts set on attending such schools now look for internships, competitive summer camps, and research opportunities to set them apart. They trade sleep for studying—personal health and happiness are

sacrificed in order to get a bit closer to that dream school.

Of course, a bit of ambition is a good thing, but when does this pressure become too great? Adolescents require about 9 hours of sleep a night in order to function properly and yet the average teen clocks 6.5 hours a night. As a result, most teens become "chronically sleep deprived" without even realizing it. Today, 20% of teens will experience depression before adulthood. Of course, this unhappiness is not entirely due to academic stress; other factors, of course, cause teens to struggle. But add immense academic stress and we have got a serious problem on our hands. Didn't high school used to be a time of discovery and experimentation?

## A Final Question

Certainly, some students gain admission to these schools without these aforementioned qualities. There have been success stories in the past where one was not an athlete, a legacy, a minority, or uniquely talented—and was still accepted to an elite university. But these cases are rare. Instead, people usually come to the conclusion that the college admissions process is inherently biased because volleyball star Susie was accepted with a 3.6 GPA and Karen, who does not play any sports, was denied with a 4.6. Meanwhile, Tom was accepted with a 3.8 GPA because of his Native American ancestry. Perhaps we are just afraid to take an examined look at the true criteria in getting accepted?

This is not to say that all those admitted to universities and colleges based on such criteria are undeserving or do not add significantly to the college community. Coming from a low-income, single-parent family and earning a 3.9 is commendable. Legacies tend to add significant funding to schools. Athletes contribute publicity. And high school superheroes become top collegiate scholars. But to what extent should these select groups of people be unconditionally chosen over all others still more than qualified to attend?

## Scholarships: What are the Odds?

By Elise Sudlow  
Justice Editor

College: the next step in our lives and the new monster under our beds. From the SAT and ACT to actually filling out the seemingly unending applications, it's hard not to feel overwhelmed. Every applicant has the same dream: getting into the school of his or her choice, and actually being able to afford its tuition. In a day and age where a 4.5 GPA isn't a guarantee, it seems impossible for everything to fall in line.

And then there are the scholarships. The looming shadow of college tuition throws students into an unfamiliar world of budgeting and boundaries on their dreams. Scholarships come in two varieties: merit-based and need-based.

### Merit-based Scholarships

Merit-based scholarships are often difficult to get, achieved through high test scores and an often rigorous workload. Obviously, most students are not going to be in the top one or two percent nationwide, and high test scores don't always indicate the hardest-working students. According to a 2003-2004 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, the odds of a qualified student winning a merit scholarship are about 1 in 15. Evidently, the odds that a deserving student will be awarded a scholarship are very slim.

### Need-based Scholarships

In the case of these scholarships, schools award a family an amount in proportion to their determined financial need. In reality, however, if you look closely at the such grants, the "need-based" money afforded rarely meets the actual needs of the families. According to an EFC (Estimated Family Contribution) calculator on FinAid.com, a family with a yearly income of about \$90,000 with some additional assets has an EFC of about \$20,000. This is a huge chunk of a family's yearly income, not to mention the rest of the expenses families face in today's economy, especially given the cost of living in the Bay Area.

Consider this: A year in the University of California system, including supplies and room and board, costs over \$30,000 (and is certain to rise this year with another increase in tuition). Many believe that UC schools will cost much less, but without help, even state colleges and universities may not be financially attainable.

Because of this, private schools such as

Santa Clara University can sometimes be equally or even more affordable for students because they are more likely to offer various types of scholarships and grants. One type of aid available is a Pell Grant—a Federal Aid Grant. Ed.gov states that the federal government gives out these grants in order to promote accessibility to postsecondary education. As of this year, the maximum amount awarded to a student per year is \$5,500. Clearly there are opportunities for grants, but they must be sought out.

### Student Loans

Student loans are an additional avenue in today's world. Unfortunately, having thousands of dollars in student loans is not ideal, not to mention the interest they will accrue. The good news is that many schools have instituted new ways for low-income families to have little or no loans in a financial aid package. According to FinAid.com, Princeton was the first college to do this, and when implemented, this policy raised attendance by students from low-income families by 20%.

In 2007, Harvard established a policy that no family would have to pay more than 10% of its income to tuition for families making less than \$180,000 per year. And though many schools are feeling the pressure to compete with the top-tier Ivy League schools with billion dollar endowments, the truth is that the vast majority of schools cannot afford to do this and thus loans are a definite piece in most financial aid plans.

### It's Up to Us

Given the rising cost of college, it's understandable that many students find themselves worried about paying for a education. But this is not to say that you will get into the college that you want and not be able to pay for it.

There are opportunities out there, but you need to seek them out in order to reach the future you have envisioned. This dream is a lot more easily fulfilled at Mitty and schools like it. Although it is difficult for many of us, it is even more so for those in less privileged situations.

As a Mitty student, if you're interested in receiving scholarship money or financial aid, you must take advantage of the resources that are out there. We have worked hard to get into Mitty, worked harder during our time as students here, and need to continue this effort in looking toward our future.

## The Ivies: Who Needs Them?

By Briana Saunders  
Justice Editor

After three and a half years of sleepless nights spent studying, as well as everlasting illnesses due to those sleepless nights, it finally comes: the envelope that will determine the next four years of your life.

Seeing its size, you already know what the contents inside will say, some variation of, "We regret to inform you that [insert dream school here] is unable to accommodate a place for you in its class of [insert graduation year here]."

Whether this has happened to you recently, happens to you in the future, or is happening in your nightmares, know that you are not alone.

After experiencing this rejection, a sense of failure may overcome you as you wonder whether you could have done something differently to ensure acceptance. Next comes the question: Now that I have been rejected

from my dream school, where do I turn? Were all of those sleepless nights for nothing? Fortunately, they were not.

### Opportunities Everywhere

There are plenty of second-tier schools that will produce similar results to those of an Ivy League. True, you might not be able to live with the certainty that simply stating our alma mater will instantly impress others, but we *will* be able to live stable lives with good salaries—something many people cannot boast.

Paul Otellini, the CEO of Intel, is a testament to this—after attending the University of San Francisco, he obviously went on to a very successful career.

Clearly, his determination and diligence is what carried him far in life, not a prestigious alma matter.

### Focus on Graduate School

While it was once the undergraduate degree from a prestigious school that astonished employers, as more students earn graduate degrees, the key to employment is no longer undergraduate credentials. Because of this, an undergraduate from an Ivy League school who did not attend graduate school will earn less than an undergrad from a lesser-known school who then went to graduate school at Harvard.

Rejection from a top undergraduate school is not the end of the world;

if at the end of college, you still want to go to your childhood dream school, work hard in college, do well, and apply for graduate school. This can potentially be more rewarding than undergraduate study at that school would have been.

**Rejection allows for the opportunity to explore other options, forcing us to base our decision on what matters--our individual values, abilities, and preferences.**

### Consider This

There are 3,860 undergraduate institutions in the United States. That means 3,860 alternatives to that one school that currently appears to be the only key to happiness.

One of them is bound to fit your personality type, learning style, desired degree of challenge, and will almost certainly provide you a better experience than originally thought.

Very often we get our hearts set on one school, yet as it turns out, it may not have been right for us after all.

Rejection allows for the opportunity to explore other options, forcing us to base our decision on what matters--our individual values, abilities, and preferences.



# SPORTS

## Basketball Captures Title

*Continued from Page 1*

White would have redemption for his missed shot, however, in the game's final moments. On an inbound play on the Summit side of the court, White defended guard Montigo Alford.

White's defense forced the inbounder Casson to try to throw the ball over him in hopes of getting it to Alford.

The arching pass sailed over Alford's outstretched arms and bounced into the backcourt. Alford desperately chased it. As it was about to go out of bounds, Alford leapt at it, trying to save it. In a mental lapse, he threw the ball back inbounds, squarely into the hands of the pursuing White. White stood at the bottom of the key, in perfect position to who was at the bottom of the key, in perfect position to lay the ball in. "Just don't miss," was the only thing going through his head, said White, and he didn't. White's layup put the Monarchs up three with only 10 seconds left. One desperation three-point attempt later, the Monarchs were State Champions.

This State Championship was the fruit of months of hard work, and when one looks at the Monarchs' regular-season record, it is not hard to see how they were able to win it all.

The Monarchs quite simply dominated. With their 25-2 regular season record, the Monarchs played incredible basketball from Day 1. They opened the season playing against stiff competition at the Bishop O'Dowd tournament. According to senior Brent Younger, the Monarchs' participation in the tourney was important to their success. He said that "playing two tough teams in Bishop O'Dowd and Jesuit [High School] helped us gain the toughness and confidence we needed to beat tough teams."

Behind excellent perimeter play from Kyle Toth and stellar ball-movement from Colin Wan, the Monarchs went 12-1-0 in

league play, their only loss coming against St. Ignatius in San Francisco. This tough loss served as a wake-up call for the Monarchs, who had previously cruised through their opponents. After this loss, in the words of Younger, the team "refocused, and committed to playing together as a team." Showing this grit and determination down the stretch, the Monarchs went on to win their final 13 games before the playoffs.

The Monarchs cruised through the CCS playoffs, defeating Pioneer 67-45 and Palo Alto 61-39. The Monarchs took the CCS title with a 54-36 drubbing of St. Francis. However, the Monarchs were not content to rest there, and moved on to compete in the State Playoffs.

In the first round of State playoffs, the Monarchs defeated Casa Grande 71-43, absolutely dominating the team from Petaluma. Their next game, however, was not so easily won. Playing before a packed home crowd, the Monarchs took on Las Lomas of Walnut Creek. In a game that came down to the wire, the Monarchs won 70-61. However, that score belies just how close that game was. Las Lomas came within a point of tying before the Monarchs went on a late run to win.

The Monarchs drew from this tight, emotional victory in their next game, the State semifinal, where they defeated Woodcreek 67-44. The Monarchs travelled to Sacramento again the next week, eager to win the State championship. The rest, as they say, is history.

In all, the 2010-2011 Monarch Men's Basketball team performed amazingly day in and day out. Their storybook season electrified the school, which united as one behind these 14 young men. Their remarkable exploits will never be forgotten.

As Brandon White so perfectly put it, "Looking back on this season, I already miss it." And for good reason.



*Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez*

Senior Colin Wan drives the ball past a Summit player.



*Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez*

Sophomore Aaron Gordon and senior Brandon White defend against a drive.

## Winter Sports Wrap-Up: Hanging More Banners

By Cameron Schott and Erik Chu  
*Staff Writers*

The **Women's Soccer** team was able to put up not one, but two banners this winter season.

"We took home every championship you could possibly win so [the year] couldn't have gotten any better," said WCAL first-team striker Michaela Matulich. "It was such a great way to end my high school soccer career because few teams are able to accomplish what we did this season."

The Monarchs first captured the WCAL crown with a 14-2-4 regular season record and a 1-0 victory over St. Ignatius in the West Catholic League finals. After capturing the WCAL crown, the Monarchs proceeded to beat Burlingame, Los Gatos, and St. Ignatius once again in the finals. Ana Marija Sola's last-minute goal against St. Ignatius won Mitty the CCS title. Every game in their CCS run was a one-goal affair, but the group's teamwork and chemistry were able to pull them through the year.

Sola said, "We always knew we had talent, but in previous years, we were missing that spark. This year it was the friendships and love on our team that sparked our winning season."

The team's success was recognized not only locally, but nationally as well. ESPN RISE recognized Mitty as the #22 in the nation and #9 in the state of California.

"Our season was incredible," said junior mid-fielder and WCAL first team selection Madison Salom.

"The chemistry we had off the field really helped bring out the team's best abilities during the games." Matulich added, "The beginning of the year we did not really have many expectations because we lost a number of key players, so to come out and finish the way we did was amazing."

Mitty's **Women's Basketball** team was also able to

hang up a WCAL banner this year. The Monarchs finished the regular season with a 17-7 record before going on to win the WCAL title in an upset over the regular season champions Presentation. Coming off of their WCAL championship, Mitty went on to compete in another CCS final game, but came up three points short in a loss to rival Presentation.



*Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez*

Women's Soccer players celebrating after Ana Marija Sola's championship-winning goal.

The team proceeded to head to the Northern California tournament and opened up with a 75-31 stomping of Dublin in the first round. However, that would be the final win of the Monarchs' season. The Monarchs fell to eventual champion St. Mary's 67-64 in a heartbreaker.

After another successful year for the program, Head Coach Sue Phillips said of the team, "Congratulations to

the women's varsity basketball team for capturing a West Catholic Athletic League title, and for positively representing Archbishop Mitty High School with pride and class."

The **Men's Wrestling** team may not have met their high expectations, finishing 5th in the WCAL, but the young team showed many areas of improvement. Mitty will return multiple young wrestlers next year, including sophomore Kyle Jackson and junior Diego Gaxiola. With several returning players, the Monarchs are set to contend for the title next year. And as senior Michael Atondo said, "This year has been a season of promise for the future, that we are maturing fully as a team."

Head Coach Chris Curry also added, "Champions are made, not born, and I am proud of every wrestler on the team this year and they are all champions in my eyes. Looking forward into the future of Mitty wrestling, future seniors Alex Lewis, Spencer Wyman, Dion Windom, and Zack Husher will bring great leadership and experience."

The **Men's Soccer** team took a giant leap forward this season. After a 7th-place finish last year and multiple changes to the coaching staff, the team was able to make the CCS semifinals.

Senior mid-fielder Zac Downey said, "As a senior, this was the best season I could have asked for. After last year, no one really expected much out of us, but to go from 7th place in the league last year to the CCS Semifinals is great."

Senior forward Joseph DeiRossi added, "It was a huge improvement from last year. Our change in coaching staff and tactics played a big part in that."

Although the team may not have won a championship—their ultimate goal—Downey said, "I feel like I have 20 new brothers after this year and I will never forget this season."



# Repeat in the Works

By Kyle Payne  
Staff Writer

Winning back-to-back championships at any level of athletics is a tough feat, but that's exactly what the Mitty baseball team is looking to do in 2011.

Following a historical year for the program, the Monarchs look to build on last year's success and defend the WCAL and CCS titles the team won last season. There's no reason to think this squad isn't capable of pulling it off, either.

With all but one starter a senior, Coach Bill Hutton leads a veteran group of ballplayers into the season. Riding the arms of seniors Tyler Davis and Brett Fuller, this experienced team will try to follow the same formula that took the Monarchs to being the #1 team in the country.

Davis, who will take his stellar pitching to the University of Washington next year, is a true ace, and he can take over any game with his impressive arsenal of pitches. In a 3-0 victory over Bellarmine, Davis racked up 12 strikeouts in six innings, limiting the Bells to five hits, all of them singles. Fuller, who is headed off to SJSU following graduation, then sealed the deal with a perfect 7th-inning to record the save.

If Mitty's potent one-two punch can stay effective, all the Monarchs will need is just a few runs a game from a lineup fully capable of producing. Shortstop Gordy Madej leads the offense as he has reached base safely in all but one game so far—a tough 3-0 loss to Wilcox in the Mike Hazlett Tournament final.

In addition to Madej, senior Kyle Alywn has

been a major spark plug for the team offensively out of the DH spot, hitting at a .464 clip to begin the season. Center-fielder Sean Edgcombe and infielder Brian Bucher have also helped generate runs for the Monarchs on the way to the team's 9-3-1 record at press time.

Although the team is senior-heavy this season, Coach Hutton has a solid core of young talent that is essential to their success both now and in the future. Junior Preston Caldera is already a star, starting in right, driving in seven runs, and stealing an impressive six bases in nine attempts.

While Mitty seeks to defend its crown, other perennial powerhouses like Valley Christian and St. Francis are attempting to dethrone the Monarchs. While it's a challenging task, the Monarchs don't have to look any further than last season for the key to success.

When asked how to explain last year's performance, Madej responded, "Last year, we took the season game

by game, and that focus is what allowed us to be so successful. If we can maintain and carry that focus this year, we will be able to repeat last year's results."

For these seniors, a league title is more than just an accomplishment, it is tradition. In each of their previous three years at Mitty, this class has won their league at either the Freshman, JV, or Varsity level. That experience is the Monarchs' biggest advantage. As Coach Hutton put it, "They're just used to winning."

With talent and history on their side, this team likely won't betray that tradition of success any time soon.



Photo courtesy of Mr. Luis Lopez

Senior Tyler Davis winds up for a pitch.

# Continuing a Legacy of Success

By Patrick Le  
Staff Writer

As they return from another season of celebrated success, the members of the Women's Softball team look to follow on the same path that led them to a WCAL title last year. Consistency is a key element in the Monarchs' approach in 2011, but they also want to improve further and secure a CCS championship that slipped from their grasp in their final game of 2010.

Last May, the Monarchs fell 2-1 to the Presentation Panthers in the second round of the CCS playoffs. This marked just their third overall loss in the season—they won 27 games and were undefeated in league play.

First-year head coach Brian Yocke intends to build upon the values that earned the squad so many wins in prior seasons. As with all other years, the Monarchs graduated several important seniors, but Yocke doesn't believe that that should be a significant issue.

"All the traditions and the level of play live on through this year's team," he proclaims. This year, the team is led by a group of undoubtedly capable seniors.

Senior captains Sylvia Llamas (shortstop)

and Shannon King (second base) echo their coach's statements. King is confident in her team's cohesiveness, emphasizing that "so far the loss [of last year's seniors] hasn't shown."

She credits the Monarchs' early season victories to a "solid batting lineup with exceptional depth."

Coach Yocke and King believe that the team relies on their speed and aggressiveness on bases to put pressure on opposing defenses. Clearly, the roster is not lacking in talent, as shown by their shutout wins over Valley Christian and Sacred Heart Cathedral.

They routed the VC Warriors 11-0 and humiliated Sacred Heart in a 15-0 blowout. The Monarchs are 8-2 overall, with the only losses coming 3-2 against Gilroy and 5-2 against Valley Christian.

Coach Yocke wants to make an immediate impact in the 2011 campaign, hoping to "hold on the traditions left from former Mitty teams."

King is playing for her final WCAL and CCS titles while maintaining her consistency and leadership among the younger girls. That way, the legacy of Mitty excellence will continue for years to come; for now, the team is focused on hanging more banners from the gym's rafters.



Photo courtesy of ProImage

Junior Vanessa Alvarez slides into base.

# Highlight REEL

## Women's Track

**COACH:** MS. DINA OAKLAND  
**HIGHLIGHT:** DEFEATING LONG-TERM RIVAL ST. FRANCIS

**AMANDA GUZIKOWSKI:** "SO FAR, WE ARE UNDEFEATED IN THE LEAGUE, AND WE PLAN TO STAY STRONG! OUR STRENGTH IS THAT WE ARE SO WELL-ROUNDED. THE TEAM HAS STRONG RUNNERS, JUMPERS, AND THROWERS IN EVERY EVENT WHICH LEADS US TO SUCCESS."

Junior Bella Colpo

Photo courtesy of ProImage



## Men's Tennis

Junior Rushikesh Joshi

**COACH:** MR. JASON SCALESE  
**HIGHLIGHT:** DEFEATING LELAND AND ST. IGNATIUS BY 4-3 EACH.

**IVAN KRAVTCHEKO:** "THE TEAM IS ALWAYS VERY SUPPORTIVE, AND WE'RE ALWAYS THERE FOR EACH OTHER. WE FEEL LIKE WE CAN BEAT TEAMS THAT ARE AT OUR LEVEL OR BETTER THAN US BECAUSE OF ALL THE CAMARADERIE WE HAVE."

Photo courtesy of ProImage



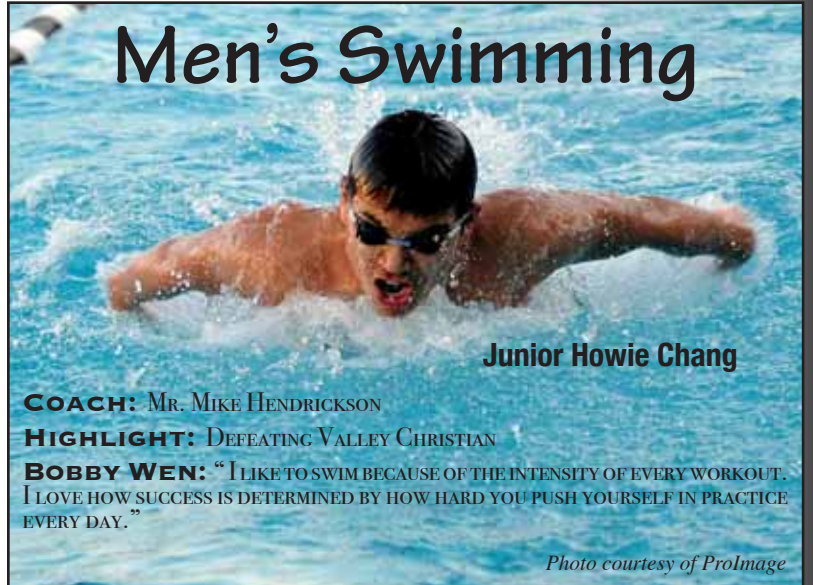
## Men's Swimming

Junior Howie Chang

**COACH:** MR. MIKE HENDRICKSON  
**HIGHLIGHT:** DEFEATING VALLEY CHRISTIAN

**BOBBY WEN:** "I LIKE TO SWIM BECAUSE OF THE INTENSITY OF EVERY WORKOUT. I LOVE HOW SUCCESS IS DETERMINED BY HOW HARD YOU PUSH YOURSELF IN PRACTICE EVERY DAY."

Photo courtesy of ProImage



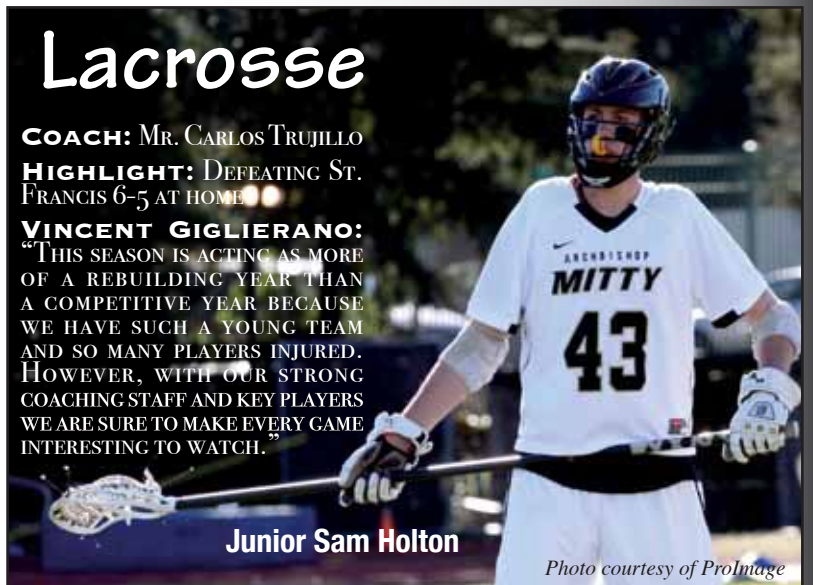
## Lacrosse

**COACH:** MR. CARLOS TRUJILLO  
**HIGHLIGHT:** DEFEATING ST. FRANCIS 6-5 AT HOME

**VINCENT GIGLIERANO:** "THIS SEASON IS ACTING AS MORE OF A REBUILDING YEAR THAN A COMPETITIVE YEAR BECAUSE WE HAVE SUCH A YOUNG TEAM AND SO MANY PLAYERS INJURED. HOWEVER, WITH OUR STRONG COACHING STAFF AND KEY PLAYERS WE ARE SURE TO MAKE EVERY GAME INTERESTING TO WATCH."

Junior Sam Holton

Photo courtesy of ProImage



Compiled by Ariq Chowdhury  
and Neil Jariwalla  
Staff Writers



## Drowsy Chaperone: Seniors Say Farewell

*Continued from page 1*

miss the funny moments through the long rehearsals and the shows.”

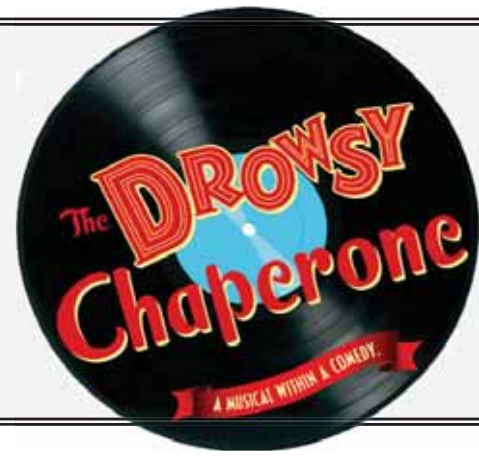
On the flip side, many look forward to the amazing opportunities ahead of them. In particular, Donahey is excited that she will attend the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University this fall as an admit to the school’s Theatre program.

No matter where they are headed, the departing seniors

have made indelible memories that will stay with them wherever they go. They advise anyone interested in the department to get involved next year.

Donahey explains, “Go for it! I know it seems daunting, but the friends you make in theatre are for life and the experience is so positive and fun!”

Bates adds, “Audition, audition, audition! It’s a competitive department, but there’s room for everyone.”



# Mitty Retreats: The Experience of a Lifetime



*Photos Courtesy of the Yearbook Staff*

### Awakenings

*“The Awakenings retreat was a great experience for me. It helped me meet new people, while also opening my eyes to a religious perspective. The retreat was also a fun way to meet new friends.”*

~ Aaron Hance

### Agape

*“Agape made me realize how important it is to be your true authentic self, and to surround yourself with people who love you for who you are, not what you have.”*

~ Anne Marie Schmidt

### Quest

*“Quest was unlike any retreat I have ever attended. I met some of my best friends there, and I was able to form an even closer bond with older friends. The talks helped me through the problems I faced during junior year. It was just an amazing experience overall.”*

~ Vince Kelsey

### Kairos

*“The experiences that were shared meant the most to me. The purpose of such an amazing retreat is to define what sets our community apart: students, teachers, faculty and staff who believe that every person and every heart is made in God’s loving image and likeness.”*

~ Jaleesa Atangan

## STUDENT CENTE(R)ED

### Student Focus: Andrew Yeh

**By Eunice Kim and Gwen Holst**

*Staff Writer and News Editor*

“Checkmate!”

In the culmination of an intense session of capturing pieces and devising strategies, sophomore Andrew Yeh has often clinched a match with this word.

His adventures began at the age of seven, after “playing a simple game of Chinese Chess with his grandparents” and beating them. His parents “saw talent in [him]”, and he has been successfully mastering the art of this time-honored game ever since. Andrew has been able to follow his passion here at Mitty, where he is co-president of the Chess Club.

Andrew’s excellence has not arisen from a few lucky sittings, but as a result of practice. Chess features prominently in Andrew’s daily routine. He keeps in practice by spending 20-30 minutes a day playing against real people on online game sites and attending the weekly chess club meetings.

When he was younger he also took formal lessons and practiced many “pattern recognitions.” This involves studying previously effective plays in order to anticipate an opponent’s moves in the heat of competition and stay “two steps ahead”—highly important in the realm of chess. Andrew compares the tactic to passing in basketball, another game that’s a passion of his.

Lately, chess tournaments have become some-

what stressful, so Andrew has been taking a break from attending them. The six-hour games and three-day-long tournaments can be an excessive emotional drain. To illustrate the intensity of the experience, Andrew explains that players cannot “play soccer between the games of the day because [they] will be so exhausted,” and such exhaustion cannot be revealed to the opponent across the board.



Despite the significance many players place on the game, Andrew wisely realizes that balance is important in life. For him, “Chess is a game;” he “play[s] it for fun,” so although he still ranks 31st in the 15-year-old bracket, according to the United States Chess Federation, he is not actively

improving his position right now.

In 2010, however, he was ranked first in the state for his age group. He humbly says, “I used to be pretty high on the Top 100 US chess players. But other people are constantly improving while I’ve stopped.” He has no professional plans, so instead keeps chess as a source of enjoyment in his life.

For anyone interested in chess, Andrew is happy to impart his understanding. To approach opponents, he advises, “Choose a face and stick with it. I choose [one that] laugh[s] at my opponent.” Aside from psyching out an opponent, Andrew believes in self-awareness, “Notice your own weaknesses and compensate for them.”

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