



## Mitty's Own "Genius Bar"

### New Tech Counter Assists Students with iPads

By **Pei-Ling Lee & Stephanie Yang**  
Staff Writers

This year, Archbishop Mitty High School has exceeded all previous expectations of technology in the classroom with its new iPad program. Last year the school made test-runs of the iPad in classrooms; this year every student now has a device at his or her disposal. With every new innovation, however, there follows an array of complications. This is where the newly established Tech Counter comes into play.

Similar to the Genius Bar, this technological haven is where students can receive assistance for miscellaneous issues regarding their iPads. Cracked screens, faulty applications, and random glitches are all handled here by **Mr. Marc Martinez** and his qualified student staff.

Specifically, the Tech Counter is a walk-up window at the end of the library that is open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for iPad technical support, resolving all issues, including the occasional forgotten or uncharged iPad. Students have already taken full advantage of this feature, as an average of six students a day visit the library to utilize this valuable resource.

At the center of the whole operation is Mr. Martinez, who plays a crucial role in running the Tech Counter. His main responsibility is to make sure that all student iPad issues are resolved in an orderly, time-efficient manner. Despite the curveballs that have been thrown his way—including the 14 cracked student iPads, each of which have cost anywhere from \$300 to \$600 to replace—Mr. Martinez has yet to be stumped. He notes, "Working in technical sup-

port for over 4 years, there hasn't been much here that has surprised me. But it is still very early in the year."

Additionally, students, for the first time, can play an active role in the IT department. After an application process at the end of last year, twenty-one students were chosen to help

job, saying, "It kind of feels cool to know a lot more about the iPads and all the other technology at Mitty than everyone else, especially since it's the first year we are using them."

Recently, with the new iOS 6 update, many students have noticed that the YouTube and FaceTime applications are no longer present. YouTube has been removed from all iOS 6 updates, as it is now an application that can be downloaded straight from the App Store. And since the App Store is off limits to Mitty students, the new update conveniently fits the school iPad policy, which is why Facetime was also removed.

Furthermore, the authorization of apps can be influenced by not only teachers, but also by students as well. According to Aguirre, "If a student wants to petition for an app to be added to the authorized app list, he or she can just ask a teacher to talk to the Tech Team." The teacher can then relay the thoughts of the Tech Counter and the Dean's Office back to the student. By taking both student and faculty opinions into consideration, the Tech Team can help take advantage of all the educational abilities of the iPads and shape the program to best suit the Mitty community.

With the technologically savvy Mr. Martinez overseeing all aspects of the iPad program and a capable student staff assisting him, the Tech Counter has established itself as a sanctuary for any student or teacher who faces problems with their iPads. Though it did not exist until this year, the Tech Counter is sure to become an integral part of Archbishop Mitty, making the school's transition into its new iPad-based learning system easier, and ultimately setting a precedent for the advancement of high-tech education.



A student receives assistance at the Tech Counter.

maintain the technological hub of Archbishop Mitty. Having a strong interest in technology, this core group mainly assists Mr. Martinez in dealing with the never-ending stream of iPad-related catastrophes that seems to face students.

But besides helping students at the Tech Counter, these high school staff members are also able to test-drive new apps, making sure the programs work without defects before they are released. Senior **Matthew Aguirre**, one of the members of the Tech Team, comments on this facet of his

## Introducing the New John Mise

By **Omid Mirfendereski & Payam Mirfendereski**  
Staff Writers

Before the next school year starts, Archbishop Mitty will be using a new, all-weather turf field. For a long time, space at John Mise Park across the street has been rented by Mitty for some of its athletic practices and games. Nevertheless, the space has had acute problems with maintenance, efficiency, and overall quality. As a result, the city is remodeling the park to house a new field, one that can be used more frequently and more productively than its predecessor.

The plan for the new turf began with San Jose's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services. Facing a shortage of sports facilities, the City decided to develop a modern field in John Mise Park; and to fund the project, it entered a joint-use agreement with Archbishop Mitty High School.

**Mr. Brosnan**, the school principal, explains that the agreement is one of significant mutual benefit. It presents a "win-win situation": the City, with the help of Mitty, will be able to fund a long-demanded project, and in return, the school will gain a much-needed athletic field.

In general, the joint-use agreement allows for services to be provided in an affordable and effective manner. For the next 13 years, Mr. Brosnan explains, Mitty will have guaranteed use of the field from 2:30 to 5:15 p.m. on school days. In addition, Mitty will be able to host athletic games ten nights per year. Other schools and organizations, however, will have to go through the ordinary process of reserving times at the park.

The new sports field is designed to promote organization, efficiency, and ease of use. The original field has since been plowed and is to be replaced with a coat of durable artificial grass, greatly enhancing the capacity to host practices and games. For one, artificial turf requires less specialized and time-consuming care.

Though it needs to be watered every now and then, it still remains in shape and ready for use for the greater portion of the school year. In fact, Mitty will assume

maintenance responsibility for the park once the field has been complete, thus dividing costs between San Jose and the school, which in turn will alleviate financial pressure on the City's treasury.

Most significantly, the new turf will allow games to continue in all types of weather. Abrupt rain showers will no longer force an end to athletic events, and practices will no longer be marred by mud and debris. Neat, resilient, and meeting FIFA regulations, the turf will provide greater safety and order for all its users.

One renovation that will appeal to school athletes and neighboring homeowners alike is the implementation of new lights in the park. A system of more efficient lights will be established to minimize light spilling into local neighborhoods during critical of late-night games.

In addition, the project will also be adding 30 new parking spaces at the north end of the park. These spots will be in Mitty's use during school hours, thus partially alleviating the concurrent problem of limited parking in the morning.

In the long run, John Mise Park will be undergoing crucial changes that will benefit not only Mitty, but also the citizens of San Jose. The "big change," **Mr. Scharrenberg**, Director of Mitty Athletics, affirms, is that the field "will be in pristine shape."

And as he explains, "Having a great soccer and softball field is priceless for our programs." The relationship between high quality facilities and Mitty sports teams is both clear and direct. Yet for the public too, the park will offer access to state-of-the-art athletic facilities.

Mr. Brosnan explains that the construction of the sports field will be complete by next April. Thus, Mitty's teams, especially the softball, soccer, lacrosse, and field hockey teams, can rely on a durable field for the fall, winter, and spring seasons beginning next school year. The increase in San Jose's athletic facilities, the improved efficiency of the park, and the benefits to Mitty's sports programs all promise that this project will undoubtedly be one of lasting success.



Photo Courtesy of Matt Cano

This image shows the new renovation spots in John Mise Park.



# OPINIONS

## Opposing Viewpoints: Tiger Mom Parenting

### TOUGH LOVE

By Nina Ge  
Opinions Editor

Amy Chua's "tiger mom" parenting is revolutionary, daring, and consequently has been the subject of great controversy.

Her parenting philosophy is as follows: "nothing is fun until you're good at it. To get good at anything you have to work, and children on their own never want to work, which is why it is crucial to override their preferences."

Such a statement is logical. Studying is generally not equated with fun; children typically prefer running and playing, activities that don't involve the monotony of practice. There are the exceptional few, but the many prefer fun to work.

This is not to say that the affinity for fun is a trait that should be frowned upon; rather, it is an acknowledgement of human character. We, as human beings, have hedonistic tendencies. We want immediate joy. However, fulfillment isn't derived from only temporary, fleeting joys, and that is why we often need to suppress our inner hedonist.

We remember that we have to finish that essay before we can go out with friends. We feel that responsibility to do homework because we know that that homework assignment will affect our grade, which will affect our transcript, which will affect our admittance to college, which will affect our career path. And even though that career seems eons away, we are working for it at this present moment. This drive to work towards the future must be fostered. If it is not properly cultivated, it withers away.

And the potential for it to wither is great, for children are capricious; they play to their whims. These whims, these fleeting desires, are simply that – fleeting. Parents must provide the concrete.

When I was 6 years old, my parents decided that I was to learn to play the violin. My complaints and pleas went unheard. What child, who severely lacks rhythm, enjoys pressing finger to string hour upon hour? Staring blankly at incomprehensible black markings on a sheet of paper? It was tiresome, monotonous, and possibly one of the most *defining* experiences of my life.

I have been playing the violin for almost 12 years now and every time I slide my bow across my violin, I am grateful that my protests met deaf ears. Playing the violin has not solely been a lesson in musical ability, as that is still lacking, but rather a shaping of character. It taught me diligence, perseverance, responsibility. It was a derivation of work ethic and it was absolutely to my benefit that my preferences be overridden.

The "Tiger Mom" philosophy meets its opponent in the Western parenting philosophy. In the western world, parenting is synonymous to nurturing. One parents by praising her child, instilling in her child a sense of worth in hopes that it will ultimately bring her child happiness.

However, as good-natured as this intention may be, what results may be far off the mark. Praise creates a standard. If one praises a child for earning a "B" on a test, that child will believe that grade to be worthy of praise. And though that "B" may very well be an accomplishment, it is not the best grade possible. There is still room for improvement; the child has not yet

fulfilled his potential. By recognizing the "B" as adequate, one sets a baseline for the child—the child, from that moment forth, will believe that "B" to be the goal, striving only to reach it. He will severely limit himself as he is no longer acknowledging the potential to be better.

The Tiger Mom, though she may silently believe that "B" to be adequate, will not voice it for she pushes her child to realize his full potential, to never settle for "good enough" when "better" and "best" lie beyond the horizon. The harshness of the



Tiger Mom nature is rooted in the simple hope for the best for her child, the belief that her child is capable of incredible feats and thereby refusing to set limits because any limit is hindering her child's greatness.

Parenting is possibly the most difficult task one may perform in one's lifetime. As a parent, one has the responsibility to prepare another human being for life, a task she herself has yet to complete. It's a journey led by instinct, judgment, and experience. And because none of those things have scientific basis, parents will inevitably err.

There is no guidebook, no select path to follow to guarantee success—success being that ambiguous concept we, as a society, have marked as the "x" to this treasure hunt. So the fact of the matter is, if there is no prescribed method of parenting, then any method is a valid one so long as its intentions are honorable. The tiger mom philosophy is rooted in the belief of her child's greatness—an honorable intention indeed.

### TOUGH LUCK

By Anna Piatnicia  
Staff Writer

On January 11, 2011 *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* was released and the book's author, Amy Chua, began to receive immense criticism—as well as praise—for what she has decreed as the right way to raise children.

Chua's parenting style is extreme but it fosters the success of her children and ensures they will be prepared for the future. So what's the problem? The issue with Chua's "Chinese parenting" is that the parent has absolute control. They define success for the child and force him to live up to all the

she didn't play her piano piece flawlessly.

It is only natural that children will make mistakes and will not always be perfect in everything they attempt, so they should not be verbally abused when that happens. There is an enormous difference between reprimanding a child for not putting in effort or doing his or her best and calling a child "garbage," as Chua has admitted she has done. Children need to grow up in a loving and encouraging environment where imperfections are normal and mistakes can be learned from.

Another aspect of this extreme parenting style is the limited social interactions. Some of Amy Chua's rules for her daughters include no sleepovers, no play dates, and no participation in school plays. Her argument is that these activities distract from the work her children should constantly be doing in order to improve the skills she wants them to have.

However, playing with friends is an integral part of growing up, something that should never be taken away. Kids need time to have fun and just be children, instead of always worrying about impressing their parents and accomplishing whatever their parents expect of them. When children are allowed to simply play, they expand their imaginations in extraordinary ways.

As long as they are not sitting in front of the TV for hours on end, children are always creating games, stories, and worlds of their own, in which they get to be as creative as they want. In contrast to the structure of music lessons and homework, free play gives kids a chance to broaden their minds in ways that adults often cannot, and the pressure to do things the "right" way is gone because there is no correct way to be imaginative.

Tiger parenting ultimately restricts the child from actively engaging in the decision-making process. When the parent handpicks every activity, event, and course, the child never learns how to make his own choices and responsibly handle freedom.

Weighing options and choosing what is best for oneself take years of practice; without the opportunity to exercise these skills they never fully develop, resulting in potentially destructive behavior. Parents want to send their children off into the world with the proper tools to succeed. A major part of this is making sure they are capable of being independent, strong individuals. But how can they expect this if they never allow children to choose for themselves?

Ultimately, raising a child in the way of the Tiger Parent is not the way to go. Yes, the child may be economically successful in the future, but there is no guarantee that he or she will be happy. And don't all good parents want happiness above all for their children? A happy childhood is certainly a step in the right direction for a happy life, but unfortunately, a child of a Tiger Parent loses much of that childhood to extensive music practice, studying, and trying to be perfect.

Our children are our future, and we must make sure that they are given the freedom and support to choose their own paths to success and happiness.

parent's expectations. But each child is an individual and needs to be treated as one; the parent cannot expect a child to have the same aspirations and goals as the parent and thus the parent should support him in whatever field he so chooses. Parents should not limit their children in what they focus on in life because this could limit the abilities, opportunities, and dreams of that child.

An example of how a Tiger Mom guarantees her child's success is by forcing her to play piano and violin—and no other instrument—for hours on end until a piece is perfected. Perfection is the standard and this puts tremendous pressure on children. They are never allowed to be second best and are considered a disgrace to the family if they ever do not come out on top.

What exactly happens when they do fail to be the best? They are insulted and threatened. Amy Chua describes in her book that she once threatened to sell her daughter's favorite doll-house piece by piece if



# DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHY YOU'RE VOTING?

By Ana Montoya  
Staff Writer

From memory, attempt to list the first Ten Amendments, the Bill of Rights. Can you do that? Now try listing all of the Amendments to our Constitution.

In the world we live in today, the youth's knowledge of American history and our government is abysmal and only getting worse. Children are growing up ignorant of the government, and excusing their unfamiliarity with lines such as, "I don't like politics."

However, the truth is not that they do not like politics; you must be able to understand something in order to not like it. Rather, the reality is that adolescents are simply not being taught about the government, establishing the idea that foreign policy and other political issues are unfamiliar ideas left to the world of adults.

In cutting the civics class from the curriculum, Mitty is merely endorsing this growing trend of ill informed adolescents. Before taking civics my freshman year at Mitty, all I knew about America's government was that there were three branches and that the Constitution began with the phrase, "We the People." I was not a rare case either. Many of my peers who sat beside me in my first official civics class freshman year knew even less.

However, with the nation putting a higher emphasis on math and sciences, Mitty has decided to follow suit in cutting the civics class to fit the year long science class into the freshman schedule. What Mitty has failed to notice is the fact that before the change many freshman did, in fact, have a year long science as well as a civics class. In previous years, any freshman in General Science Accelerated or Biology Honors was not only guaranteed a year of science, but also a semester of civics. In truth, it would make more sense to extend the normal General Science and bring all freshman to the same year long schedule.

The civics class, while only a mere introduction to the inner workings of our nation, is still an important introduction, especially at the high school level where by senior year more than half of the class will be eligible to (blindly) vote and (ignorantly) shape America.

So while it is true that America's sciences and mathematics may be lacking compared to some other nations, everyone needs to stop for a moment and think: How will we truly be able to call ourselves a great nation when our youth cannot even name the ideas upon which their "great" country was founded?

# ONE FOR ALL & ALL FOR ONE?

By Jordan Rehbock  
Staff Writer

Lose a game, misbehave, slack during practice—anything short of dedicated athleticism and sportsmanship can result in grueling forms of conditioning meant to reform attitudes that are seen as less than perfect.



We find this out at a young age; a player who socializes too much during a practice might cause a team scolding followed by a few laps that have to be run by everyone. In high school this sometimes intensifies. A player violates team rules and he or she is responsible for the whole team being disciplined through additional or more intense practice drills. The point is everyone suffers—no one is spared. And such collective punishment continues to persist in professional sports. A few players' lax attitude can cost the team and maybe even lead to a loss. And you can be sure that a particularly intense training day for all is sure to follow the next day.

Such discipline spans the world of team sports at nearly all levels. However, doing so can undermine an important aspect of team sports: teamwork. By applying collective punishments to an entire team, individual athletes may be alienated from their teammates. Consider this: How well will the players practice if they are angry at each other? And how well will they practice if they are angry at their coach? How are players going to trust the individual who just made them "go the extra mile" to make up for their teammates' shortcomings? The key to success in a team sport is working together and cooperation, so punishing the whole team for one or two players' mistakes may just make the problem worse.

Instead of punishing the whole team, why not make the athlete who failed in the first place do some extra work? By singling out athletes who misbehave or perform below the standards of the team, these players will naturally work harder as they go about "serving their time" during practice as to not continue to look the fool to the rest of their teammates. Coaches may see more disciplinary improvement as the players don't want to be "that guy" broke the rules or "that girl" who wasn't paying attention when she needed to master a play.

Instead of making the whole suffer for the faults of the few, this approach would keep tempers down and players on task by administering individual discipline, instead of the coarse, team-wide disciplinary techniques so commonly employed by coaches. After all, wouldn't it be better if individuals were held responsible for their individual actions—even in team sports?

Just a couple of hours after a the United States consulate was attacked in Libya, an attack in which United States ambassador Chris Stevens and his three colleagues died, YouTube prevented access to an Anti-Islam video, which had triggered riots in Libya and Egypt. Made in the United States and offensively representing the Prophet Mohammed, the video enraged many Muslims.

It would seem that this decision by Google, the owner of YouTube, would have been influenced by a command from the United States government. However, it was later learned that Google made this choice as a result of its own apprehensions.

"We work hard to create a community everyone can enjoy and which also enables people to express different opinions," YouTube said. "This can be a challenge because what's OK in one country can be offensive elsewhere. This video—which is widely available on the web—is clearly within our guidelines and so will stay on YouTube. However, given the very difficult situation in Libya and Egypt we have temporarily restricted access in both countries. Our hearts are with the families of the people murdered in the attack in Libya."

Users in Libya and Egypt will not be able to view this video, as they will encounter a message saying the video has been removed, upon trying to access it; other users across the globe will still be granted access to this particular video.

Even though blocking access to this video in the two countries as a result of the horrific uprisings in Libya may seem reasonable, it is not in the best interest of Google to adopt and self-impose censorship for the video in Libya and Egypt.

In the United States, the content of this video is definitely acceptable as a result of the First Amendment. Being an American company, YouTube too has the right to speech, which includes the right to make its own policies regarding what types of content it deems appropriate to host within the governing laws.

As for the current content in question, YouTube believes that the video does not violate its Terms of Service. So, if the video abides by YouTube's rules and if YouTube did not receive any complaints from the Libyan and Egyptian government, then the only explanation

is that YouTube is determining on its own what it thinks is the best for Libya and Egypt. This indeed is a rare move made by the company that is historically known to oppose censorship. By taking this action, Google is now vulnerable to demands from a variety of parties and will have to explain why it suddenly sees censorship as the right solution to this case.

Eva Galperin of tech liberties non-profit the Electronic Frontier Foundation clearly sums up my stance on this issue:

"Once YouTube has made the decision to pro-actively censor its content, they start down a slippery slope that ends in YouTube Knows Best moral policing of every video on their site. It is disappointing to see YouTube turn its back on policies that have allowed it to become such a strong platform for freedom of expression. We hope that this new-found enthusiasm for pro-active censorship is a temporary aberration rather than a sign of things to come."

By having placed itself in the role of arbiter, Google has taken its first step towards allowing censorship of its content. Obviously, this goes against their freedom of expression motto, which is so much a part of what makes the internet and YouTube such a success.

**GOOGLE WADES INTO FOREIGN POLICY**

By Rachita Pandaya  
Staff Writer



# OBAMA: MOVING THE NATION FORWARD

By Daniel Braginsky  
Staff Writer

I remember the 2008 election with a certain vividness. A certain hope was ever present, a belief that one man could turn the nation around, driving us out of the pit caused by war and recession. This hope persisted even after the polls had closed, and when Obama was declared the president the nation cheered. Now, four years later, optimism has slowly died out. The nation is more critical than ever and at its lips is the question, "Where is the change we were promised?"



Well, let's take a look at our struggling economy. Obama inherited an economic mess from his predecessor, George Bush, and he promised change during his campaign. Many are angry with him—seeing as the nation began to believe that Obama was some sort of economy-fixing, job-creating demigod who would make everything right the week he was elected, it is no wonder they were eventually disappointed.

However, Obama's stimulus plans worked remarkably well. The banking and automotive industries were bailed out and remain alive today, unemployment has been steadily falling for almost all four years of Obama's presidency, and millions of domestic jobs have been created.

Obama's plans for the next four years are similar—raise taxes on the rich, decrease spending, help balance the budget. One bill that he is attempting to push through will give corporations tax breaks if they use domestic manufacturing, and tax penal-

ties if they outsource said jobs. This will help slash the unemployment rate even more.

His clear economic policy most certainly stands out when compared to Romney's, seeing as Mitt Romney appears to be operating under the idea that the government can always print out more money if they ever start running out. He plans to cut taxes for the rich and for corporations significantly—seeing that those are two relatively major sources of income for the government, cutting them by about a third as his plan will significantly decrease the government's income. Now, as anyone with a basic grasp on simple economics could tell you, less income should lead to less spending. However—Mitt Romney plans on increasing military spending by a cool \$100,000,000,000.

Asked where he will make spending cuts, Romney suggested cutting government funding of Planned Parenthood (because they perform abortions) and PBS (because they teach children, I guess?). Seeing as the two take up less than a tenth of a percent of the federal budget, Romney's plan has some holes in it, to say the least. All in all, Obama's economic policy holds water, as it is true that increasing income and decreasing spending helps decrease debt. Romney, on the other hand, plans on having money magically appear to balance the obvious difference between income and spending.

However, the economy is just one of the many issues the nominees have been bickering about recently. Obama-care, as the government-sponsored health-care program has been nicknamed, had been declared constitutional by the Supreme Court. In a cruel twist of irony, Obama-care was modeled after a ground-breaking health-care program in the state of Massachusetts, which was backed by...Governor Mitt Romney. Romney, either forgetting that the program was his own idea or getting angry at all the biters out there, decided that health-care is no longer cool with him. Obama remains for this program, perhaps recognizing the fact that it will allow millions of citizens with pre-existing conditions to receive insurance and medical help, and therefore have their suffering eased.

Wake up America, four years is not enough to pull a nation out of recession, debt, and war; all we can expect is steady improvement and Obama has done just that. Falling unemployment rates, rising incomes, and steadfast defense of human rights—change is happening, and with another term we can only expect a greater difference. So if it's time to do forward can we please do so with the right presidential candidate?

# ROMNEY: BRINGING FORTH REAL CHANGE

By Katherine Kirst and Jessica Dumov  
Opinions Editors

For most election seasons both parties are represented in a very specific light; in one corner, we have the Democratic ticket, alike to the bedazzled ticket handed to children to grant them access to Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory where dreams come true. In the other corner, however, we have the Republican party, full of old, unhappy men who wish to make your life more miserable.

Though this seems like an exaggerated analogy, it mirrors the reality of the electoral process in America. Think back to four years ago. Every campaign slogan concerning Obama illustrated one key word: change. Yet, the change we were promised has not taken effect the way Americans imagined it. What happened to cutting government spending? What happened to inspiring bipartisan legislation? And now, the same promise is being repackaged and sold to the American people, yet the biggest question is this: why buy into it again?

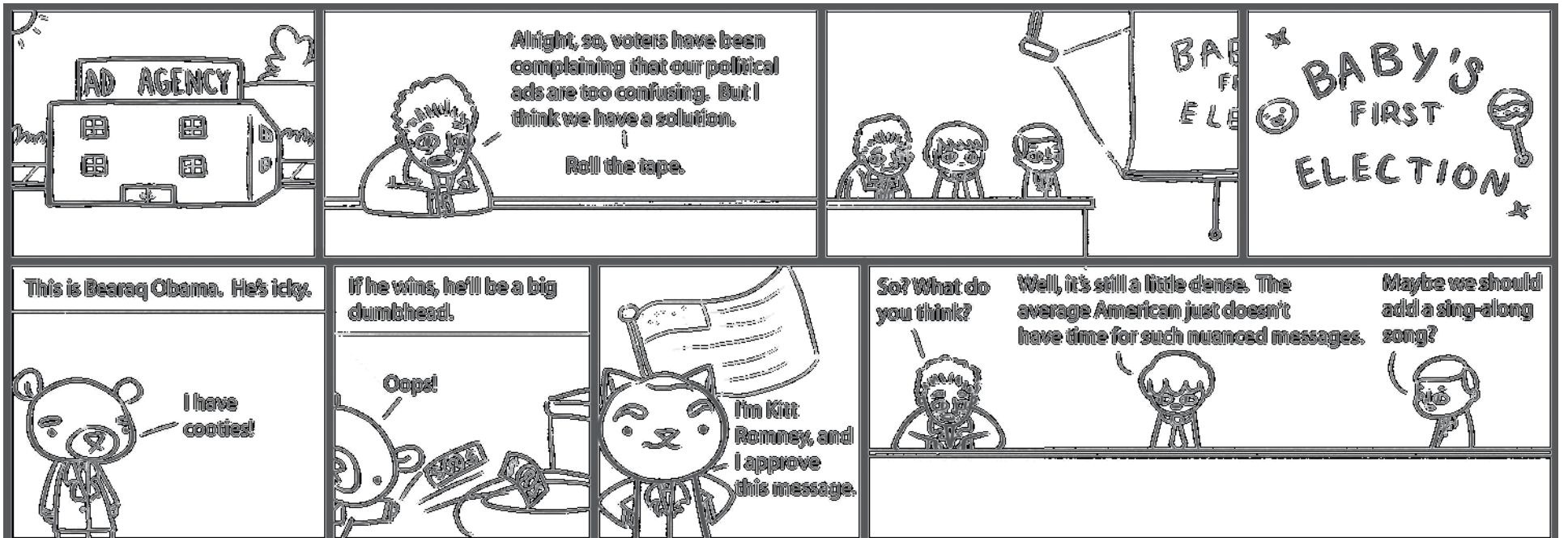
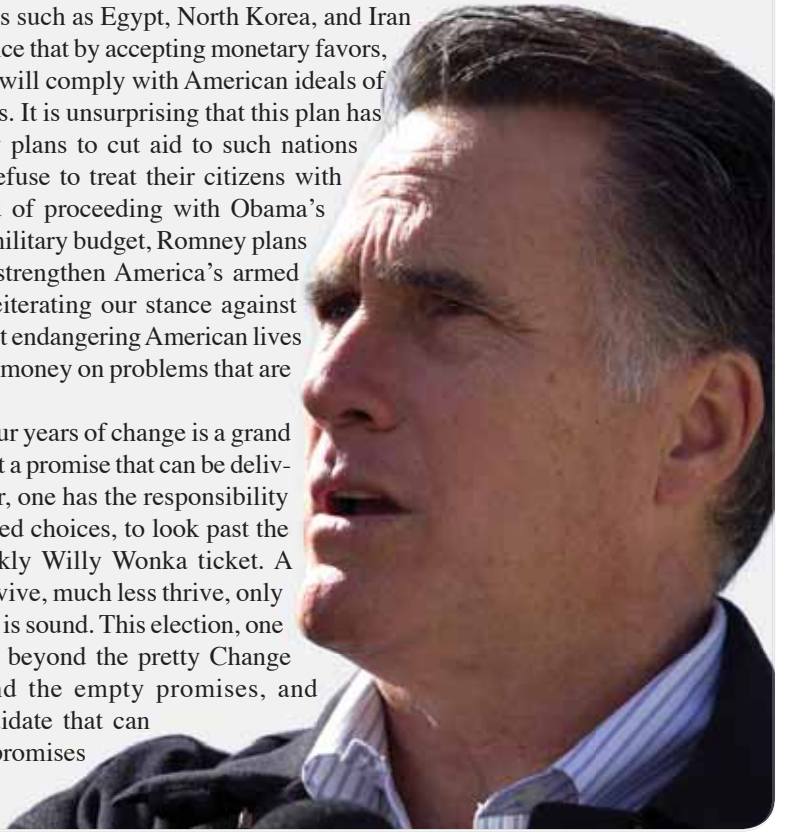
The biggest issue addressed in both the 2008 and 2012 elections is the current stark financial crisis faced by Americans. Four years ago, Obama's proposed plan consisted of curbing government spending, lowering tax cuts for the wealthy, and stimulating economic growth within the United States. However, four years later, not a whole lot has been accomplished on this front. To date, over \$800 billion dollars has been doled out in stimulus packages with little change, and an impending Taxarmeggeddon is looming this January with the Bush-era tax cuts expiring, thus heightening tax rates for all Americans—basically, over 90% of all middle-class families can expect their taxes to go up by an average \$2000 per year.

However, the Romney-Ryan ticket offers multiple and feasible options to aid bleeding government spending. The Republican ticket plans to cut the corporate tax to a flat 25% from the existing 35%, allowing small and larger corporations alike to increase their wages and their investments in their company, whilst giving them a greater incentive to keep jobs in the U.S. instead of shipping them overseas. The Romney-Ryan ticket also addresses the ridiculous amount of money currently being spent by the government. Obama's approach has been to push fiscal planning further into the future, instead of aiming to fix the issue during his time in office. However, the Romney-Ryan ticket plans to cut fiscal spending to 20% of the current GDP, as well as instantly cutting non-security discretionary spending by 5%, providing both short and long-term solutions.

This offers logical approaches that will both allow major progress to be made in terms of relief and reform.

Outside of the U.S., the world is in chaos, and the Democratic approach to this involves becoming a champion of democracy, and more importantly, change. Yet, how well has this been working? Throughout his presidency, Obama has significantly appeased countries such as Egypt, North Korea, and Iran under the pretence that by accepting monetary favors, these countries will comply with American ideals of individual rights. It is unsurprising that this plan has failed. Romney plans to cut aid to such nations that blatantly refuse to treat their citizens with dignity. Instead of proceeding with Obama's goal to cut the military budget, Romney plans to continue to strengthen America's armed forces whilst reiterating our stance against injustice without endangering American lives or spending tax money on problems that are not our own.

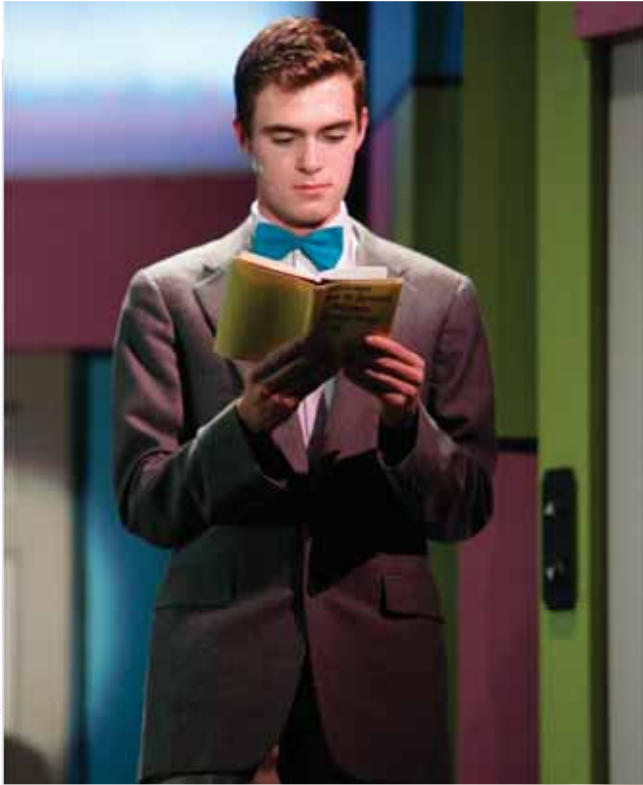
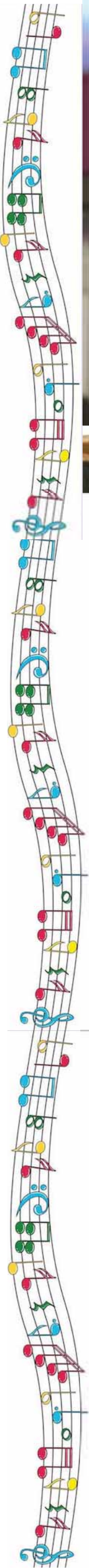
Another four years of change is a grand promise, but is it a promise that can be delivered? As a voter, one has the responsibility to make informed choices, to look past the shiny and sparkly Willy Wonka ticket. A country can survive, much less thrive, only if its foundation is sound. This election, one only need look beyond the pretty Change posters, beyond the empty promises, and towards a candidate that can deliver on the promises that he makes.





# Arts & Entertainment

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying



## Upcoming This Fall

### Pardon my French, November 8th

Well, it's that time of year. The leaves are falling, the footballs are flying, and the wind is blowing. What could be better? Well, have I got news for you! On November 8, head to the Kinkade theater at 7:30 to top off the fall season with the perfect cold-weather activity: laughing your you-know-what off at the ever-popular sketch comedy team, Pardon My French. They are back and better than ever with plenty of fresh and oh-so-funny sketches. So really. Be there.

### Black and Gold, November 17th

Not much is more extravagant than this swanky event. I mean, c'mon. The name is even classy. This year, the ever-hilarious stand-up comedian Sinbad will be the piece de resistance and, as always, our favorite Mitty performers, alums, and Exodus will supply plenty of entertainment for your enjoyment. Even though students cannot attend, encourage your parents to break out their fanciest duds and laugh the night away.



Dear Reader,

Are you anxious to rise quickly and easily to the top of the business world? You can! All you need to do is take business advice from a little pocket book titled *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. This book helped J. Pierrepont Finch climb the corporate ladder, and it may very well do the same for you. Yes, it actually is a book, not just a handy plot device in the award-winning musical that graced the Mitty stage this fall. Intrigued? You should be. In true art-mirrors-life form, this book-like Finch-catapulted overnight to success.

The show itself has a legacy of success surrounding it, so Mitty truly had big shoes to fill when taking on the task. And it all started with a book. The real *How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying*, not the prop you may have seen onstage, is Shepherd Mead's 1952 bestselling satirical instruction manual that mocks contemporary office life. Because of its popularity, Mead's book was later adapted into a musical by composer Frank Loesser.

When it first opened on Broadway in October of 1961 at the 46th Street Theatre, *How to Succeed...* fulfilled its namesake—it was nothing short of a success. The original production, starring Robert Morse as Finch, received rave reviews and won seven Tony Awards that season, including Best Musical.

The musical was also honored with the 1962 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, a feat that has only been accomplished by seven other musicals in the history of musical theatre. In 1967, the success continued: the wacky workers of the World Wide Wicket Company were seen on screen in the film adaptation of this musical, with the ever-popular Robert Morse reprising his role. This musical has since experienced two revivals—one in 1995 and the other in 2011.

The most recent production starred *Harry Potter* actor Daniel Radcliffe—and later, Darren Criss and Nick Jonas—as J. Pierrepont Finch. This production of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* closed on May 20 of this year, and a mere five months later, it graced the stage of Mitty's own Kinkade Theatre.

So this fall, right in our own backyard, audiences at the Kinkade watched ambitious young window washer J. Pierrepont Finch—a daunting and difficult role successfully portrayed by senior Ryan Ballard—as he attained promotion after promotion by following instructions in a little instruction manual (the prop he used was actually an *American Girl* novel wrapped in a paper cover), voiced over by our very own Mr. Brosnan.

Aside from being a hilarious night of entertainment for all audiences, *How to Succeed* was also an unforgettable experience for the entire cast. Even though the show is fluffy, hilarious, and entertaining to watch, putting it together was not as easy as that.

For two months, the cast rehearsed, perfecting the invigorating dance numbers, witty lines, and intricate music. "We had a lot of rehearsal, and that was very time-consuming," says sophomore Will Haubl.

Will also admits that keeping up with the fast and stylized choreography was not easy. As a male executive, he danced in most of the show's production numbers. Junior Monica Goff, who played the secretary Ms. Krumholtz, agreed with Will that the dancing in this production was very challenging.

Both Monica and Will said their favorite part of dancing in *How to Succeed* was being in "Coffee Break," a kooky number in which all of the dancers got to act like wild animals. *How to Succeed's* corporate atmosphere forced the actors to step out of their comfort zones.

Junior Trent Brunngraber, who played the role of Bud Frump, the boss' nepotistic nephew, said that being in a show that took place in the corporate world was very different than any of his prior performances. "The setting of this show is cool because it's a world I've never had the opportunity to experience," he remarks. Trent and many of his castmates were unfamiliar with the working of the office world, but they were challenged to play executives, bosses, and secretaries. Playing adult businessmen and women was a challenge that proved to be rather amusing.

Despite the show's comedic nature, *How to Succeed* was a bittersweet experience for some of our seniors because this was their last production on the Mitty Stage. Senior Mandy McDonell, who portrayed the role of Rosemary Pilkington, Finch's charismatic love interest, has been in numerous productions at Mitty since her freshman year. She says of her last show, "It was very sad... I've learned to appreciate the moments I have left."

By Jenny Barretto  
Staff Writer



# What to do on All Hallows Eve?



By Christina Moore  
Staff Writer



You stumped? It's okay, we've all been there. Your mom won't let you trick or treat anymore because you're "too old," so you throw a tantrum and hide in your room for a couple hours reflecting on your recent loss of childhood innocence. *When did I become a big kid?* you ask yourself. After a few meaningful minutes of reflection, you ask yourself the biggest question of all: *What do I do for Halloween now?* Lucky for you, I've created this handy list of fun and somewhat plausible ideas of what you could potentially do to spice up Halloween.

1. Still stuck on trick or treating but feel uncomfortable going out at your age? Take **your younger siblings** or offer to baby-sit while parents hand out candy to other trick-or-treaters. This way, you still get to go trick-or-treating without feeling the judgment of those old people who hand out candy. Now you can simply say, "They refuse to get candy if I don't get candy... kids do the darndest things!" and get your candy under the guise of maturity.

2. **Hand out candy** to the trick-or-treaters! You still get to dress up and you don't even have to leave your house. As a bonus, you get to see all of the little kids' awesome costumes and they're obligated to compliment you on yours because you determine how much candy they get. It's a win-win!

3. Tired of the whole trick-or-treating thing because you are lame and want to watch the world burn? That's okay too, because you can have a **scary movie night** with your friends! Redbox, Netflix, On Demand, and actual stores (what?!) are teeming with the titles of horror movies that have scared people for generations. I would suggest Hitchcock and a lot of popcorn.

4. If scary movies aren't your thing, there are plenty of **other Halloween movies** to watch. Take a trip back in time and watch *Halloweentown*, *Twitches*, or *Casper Meets Wendy* on Disney Channel throughout October.

5. If you have never experienced the phenomenon that is *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, there is no better night than Halloween to do so. The Retro Dome is showing the raunchy classic at 9:00 p.m. on Halloween, so dress up with your friends and have a ball! There is no way this experience will disappoint.



# It's Just Normal

By Niki Griswold  
Staff Writer

Acceptance and tolerance are two lessons drilled into the minds of children as soon as they are able to notice differences between themselves and others. As a result, the presence of homosexuality in modern society has become so widely evident that, for most in our area at least, it's simply an accepted aspect of everyday life. It's the new normal.

Within the last several years, TV shows including gay, lesbian, and bisexual characters have gained in popularity. The Emmy Award-winning *Modern Family* features a gay couple and their take on the everyday struggles any family would have to face. In *The New Normal*, a thriving gay couple embarks on the journey to have a child with the help of a surrogate mother. A main character on the widely popular show *Pretty Little Liars* is openly lesbian, and deals with the typical difficulties of a high school student. *Make It or Break It*, a TV show on ABC Family, portrays a bisexual male and his relationships with Olympic-bound American gymnasts. *Law and Order*, *90210*, *Glee*, *The Good Wife*, *Mad Men*, *Greek*, and *True Blood* are only a small sampling of a list that goes on and on.



Clearly, gay and lesbian characters are no longer a rarity on television, and the popularity of these shows speaks for themselves. Such characters are not restricted to a single environment, but are integrated into every facet of society, plunging through every barrier with no signs of stopping.

But it is not just in the entertainment industry that homosexuality has been prominent. The fashion industry has been one of the most prominent yet subtle supporters of the gay empowerment. Homosexual fashion designers have been accepted for years, and in the most recent seasons, the androgynous appeal returned as female models began to strut down the runway in gorgeous variations of the male pantsuit. Pixie cuts along the lines of legendary model Twiggy's famous 'do and delicate features on both male and female models have blurred the lines of masculinity and femininity, encouraging the public to accept new types of beauty in the neverending quest to maintain "cutting-edge fashion."

Thanks to the influence of industries like fashion and entertainment, homosexuality is becoming less and less of an anomaly. Acceptance and tolerance have encouraged the public to accept people for who they are, past the barriers of sexual orientation. The integration of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals has become so complete within the last decade that acceptance of homosexuality is now far from a rarity—it's just normal.

# Gucci Gucci, Louis Louis, Fendi Fendi, Prada

By Kendall Perata, Elaine Xie, and Chitra Marti  
Staff Writers and A&E Editor

As Heidi Klum famously says on the popular TV show *Project Runway*, "In fashion, one day you're in, and the next, you're out." The 2012 Spring and Summer Fashion Weeks demonstrated just how true that is, as the styles were bigger, bolder, and more vivacious than ever. And the excitement of fashion does not stop there: take a trip around the world to see what's in store for next season!

## PARIS FASHION WEEK

### Symmetry

Marc Jacobs wowed again in Paris when designing for Louis Vuitton. This runway was arguably the best of the whole month, playing off the idea of juxtaposition. Models walked in pairs wearing contrasting colors and designs, looking almost three-dimensional. The pairing was exquisite and showed a new trend towards matching and symmetry.

### Neon

With the loss of designer John Galliano, Dior was one of the most anticipated collections of the season, and certainly blew away all critics. With jackets and dresses in bright colors, Dior let the world know it had arrived, and I am sure we will see many young fashionistas do the same this season.

## NEW YORK FASHION WEEK

### Eastern Influences

The East has not only been influencing politics this year, but fashion as well. Modern takes on the traditional Indian sari abounded in Marchesa and Vera Wang. Filled with bold colors and luxurious patterns, grand designs created an expensive feel to the entire collection.

### Black and White

Black is back again, but this time it's accompanied by white and the occasional burst of red. The majority of Alexander Wang's and Marc Jacobs' collections were made of black and white in different shades, patterns, and styles that pointed towards minimalistic shapes and futuristic textiles.

## LONDON FASHION WEEK

### Futuristic

Starting off with simple white but blossoming into vibrant ombré pinks, reds, and blue-greens, Burberry's Christopher Bailey combined these colors with unusual silhouettes, such as shoulders obscured with elongated pads. Below the chest level, however, the satin-esque fabric was fitted to the skin, rounding out the futuristic feel of the whole collection.

### 1950s Picnics

A quite different theme also resonated through Fashion Week: a "return to the elegance" of the 1950s. Colors included white, poppy red, and porcelain blue with fine detailing in mustard yellow. To make the theme more modern, however, Temperley added sheer fabric, mainly to skirts and veils.

## MILAN FASHION WEEK

### Romance

Dolce & Gabbana's ideal sensual woman wore prints resembling watercolors in her skirts, shirts, and dresses. Stripes and patterns made to look like candy made the figures more attractive, and the lighter, flowing skirts added to the romantic feel of the collection. Robert Cavali joined in with flowing fabrics, creating perfect beach wear for next summer.

### Anything but Black

Gucci's collection was not revered for its unfocused inspiration, but one thing is for sure: black did not have a place on the runway. From neon to pastel to patterns, Gucci refused to fade into the background, and bright colors are the perfect way to accomplish that.





# MONARCH CRITICS

## The Master

By Monica Love  
Staff Writer

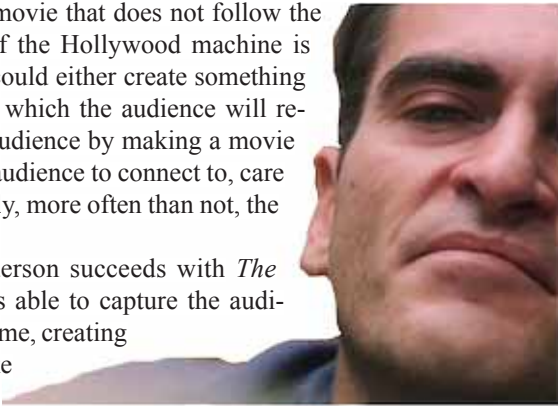
Making an original, distinct movie that does not follow the regular movie-making formula of the Hollywood machine is always a risky feat. The director could either create something unique and thought-provoking to which the audience will respond well, or he could lose the audience by making a movie whose topic is too elusive for the audience to connect to, care about, or understand. Unfortunately, more often than not, the latter occurs.

However, Paul Thomas Anderson succeeds with *The Master* in making a movie that is able to capture the audience's interest while, at the same time, creating a unique piece of art quite unlike anything recently in theaters.

Joaquin Phoenix brilliantly portrays the volatile, demented World War II veteran, Freddie Quell, who accidentally stumbles into the world of Lancaster Dodd and The Cause, a cult (loosely based on Scientology) that strives to return humans to their original, perfect, non-animalistic selves by ridding them of primal emotions. Freddie is, without question, the animal, while Dodd is the domineering Master.

The acting from many of the actors, especially Joaquin Phoenix, is superb. When Oscar season comes around, you can expect Phoenix to be up for Best Actor in a Leading Role. In this challenging and difficult role, he convincingly conveys Freddie's idiosyncrasies in a natural and believable way, with no falsity whatsoever. The cinematography is also well done, with beautiful shots of picturesque scenery and effective use of close-ups to connect the audience with the characters.

However, it might be hard for some to follow and understand the movie, because it is not presented in a traditionally simple, clear-cut linear plot. Not everything is fully explained, and the audience leaves the theater full of contemplation. However, that contemplation is one of the keys to success: it creates a connection between the characters' lives and the audiences', a connection that forces viewers to rethink their own existence. And that is the mark of a truly worthy movie.



## Ed Sheeran

By Meghana Killedar  
Staff Writer



Having performed at some of the biggest venues in London including Olympic Park, British singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran is finally, and deservedly, becoming a familiar name in America.

His superstar status seemed cemented after the uproarious reception he received at Alice's Now and Zen Fest on September 30, in San Francisco's popular Golden Gate Park.

A hyped-up crowd comprised mostly of teenage girls eagerly awaited his performance through other outstanding acts like Hedley, Tristan Prettyman, and American Idol winner Phillip Phillips. His ability to get a crowd going was immediately obvious as he opened with a powerful rendition of "Give Me Love," in which he conducted a willing audience as a gospel choir.

After this energetic performance, Sheeran encouraged the crowd to sing along before starting into his classic "Lego House." Between songs, the always humble Sheeran repeatedly thanked his fans, who fondly refer to him as "Ginger Jesus," for attending. Making creative use of his iconic tenor guitar, Sheeran sang, rapped, and looped the track "You Need Me, I Don't Need You" to perfection, before closing with his popular ballad "The A Team."

Ed Sheeran's amazing musical talent is further showcased on his debut album +, which has sold over 2 million copies worldwide, along with five independent EPs and countless covers. But don't worry about having missed out on this performance: Sheeran has promised to return to San Francisco on Feb. 8, 2013, so be sure to check him out then.



## IN A NUTSHELL



By Janani Rangarajan  
Staff Writer

Ellie Goulding, in her new album *Halcyon*, has a knack for picking creative words for album titles; the obscure word "halcyon" means "calm" and "peaceful"—two things that were certainly absent in her latest album. Her songwriting lacks, as 15 out of 18 songs are about breaking up, and the other three do not stray far. But Goulding does stay true to her unique voice—a cross between Dolly Parton and Bjork—which allows her to sound vulnerable without breaking. In addition, the thumping beats from *Lights* are still present, especially in songs such as "Don't Say a Word" and the single "Anything Could Happen." The pop and electronic are perfectly balanced (perhaps influenced by Goulding's new boyfriend Skrillex).



By Nicole Rejer  
Staff Writer

I wish I could give *The Second Law* a good review, since Muse is one of my favorite bands, but nothing worked for me. I cannot even tell if I am listening to Muse or some random band that specializes in space rock music, the kind you hear on *Star Trek*. I was expecting high-energy, empowered music, but I got nothing of the sorts. I knew that Muse had been working in a new direction for this album, but is it necessary to stray so far away from the music that brought the band millions of fans worldwide? The album is a series of random impressions; the only cohesion is a rare chance for bassist Chris Wolstenholme to take the center stage on vocals, the highlight of this album. And this *is* Muse—most of the time I have their songs on replay!



By Mitchell Hanson  
Staff Writer

I walked into the movie *Pitch Perfect* expecting something pretty fantastic. Great reviews, over-advertising, and funny previews all made me expect something perfect, as the title might imply. Unfortunately, the movie was very far from perfect. *Pitch Perfect* is about Becca (Anna Kendrick), who wants to move to LA to follow her dream of being a DJ, but her father forces her to stay at college instead. The movie follows a group of outcasts as they struggle to make it in the a cappella world — basically a glorified episode of *Glee*, except with humor. I will admit, the movie had some funny scenes: Fat Amy (Rebel Wilson) had fabulous one-liners. Sadly, these few moments of humor couldn't make up for the predictable and cliché plot.



By Mariel Magee  
Staff Writer

Mumford and Sons, known for their unique, folky banjo sound, have released their new album *Babel*. With instrumental breaks in a few songs such as 'Ghosts That We Knew' and beautiful, inspirational lyrics, they allow the listeners to really feel the emotions behind these songs. "We were quite intentional on this record with intimate moments and saving those," Ted Dwayne, the bassist explains. But only a few songs create these quieter moments, maintaining that energetic sound for which they are loved. With Marcus' raspy, heartfelt vocals, Winston's fast banjo playing, Ted's heartfelt bass, and the unique accordion/keyboard sound of Ben, it is clear they are more confident with themselves and their music.



# FOCUS ON PSYCHOLOGY

## horoscopes

By Sydney Chiu  
Staff Writer

**Aries (March 21-April 19):** energetic, determined, courageous, impatient

**Taurus (April 20-May 20):** creative, trustworthy, patient, stubborn

**Gemini (May 21-June 20):** curious, expressive, kind, unable to focus

**Cancer (June 21-July 22):** compassionate, sensitive, protective, insecure

**Leo (July 23-August 22):** outgoing, dramatic, the center of attention, arrogant

**Virgo (August 23-September 22):** loyal, hardworking, detailed, overcritical

**Libra (September 23-October 22):** peaceful, fair, social, holds grudges

**Scorpio (October 23-November 21):** observant, passionate, resourceful, jealous

**Sagittarius (November 22-December 21):** humorous, kind, optimistic, impatient

**Capricorn (December 22-January 19):** responsible, ambitious, patient, unforgiving

**Aquarius (January 20-February 18):** original, independent, clever, aloof

**Pisces (February 19-March 20):** compassionate, gentle, accepting, escapist



## TEACHER P

By Justin Ta  
Staff Writer

**Fear.** The feeling we get when we when we feel paralyzed, or just v unpleasant feeling, but we have al at Mitty! Let's take a look at are saying about the

**Mr. Kevin Brazelton:** My great needles and having blood drawn because when I was very young, I at our cabin in the mountains then I passed out and woke This was pretty traumatic a

**Mr. Tom Motroni:** I have a pre because I fell when I was a little some pane glass windows. I w happened, so it's stuck wi

## FEAR FACTOR

By Sanika Puranik  
Staff Writer

Against the non-descript carpet of a classroom, a microscopic spider silently crawls along. An ear-splitting scream startles students as they look around in alarm. Is it a wasp? A bear? Mr. Fallis? Once spotting the creature, most chuckle, amused by such an inconsequential thing, but to many, arachnophobia is no laughing matter.

Everyone has a fear; whether it is arachnophobia, an extreme fear of spiders, or pentheraphobia, fear of mother-in-laws. Though the source of much anxiety and occasional embarrassment, being afraid is the very emotion that ensures our survival. Fears have prevented us from walking into traffic, purposely stepping on rattlesnakes, or, in the case of many Mitty students, not studying for finals.

The environment is also a significant factor in developing fears. Living in drastically varying areas and experiencing different cultures, certain groups are exposed, as well as shielded, from varying dangers. For example, a heavy meat-eater is more likely to fear tofu than someone with a vegetarian diet. While While admittedly difficult, subduing fear can be beneficial as well. As Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Fear has its use but cowardice has none."

## NATURE VS. NURTURE

By Arielle Sanghvi  
Staff Writer

When your friend receives a good grade on a test, you remark, "Wow, you're so smart." Most likely your friend is intelligent. But how did he get that way? Is he naturally gifted or is he simply the result of an enriched environment? Nature versus nurture is one of the leading debates in the science world today.

The nature side involves a person's genes. We know that genetics determines the characteristics we are born with; however, the debate lies in abstract traits in our personalities. Intellect, anger, athleticism, and even alcoholism are just a few that a person might have the genes for.

Then there's nurture—the environment shaping who we become. Supporters believe that the mind is a blank slate sculpted by outside factors such as parenting, education, and other experiences.

What most people yearn to know is which view is the right one. If humans can determine the correct way to develop the brain, they can mold and manufacture people with certain characteristics. Sadly, debating whether the answer is nature or nurture is like wondering whether putting cheese on a pizza or baking the pizza determines its overall taste. The brain is actually a combination of both environmental and biological factors that form who we can ultimately become.



## fortune

You can find the col all over the world - palm fortunetellers. Just five dolla future holds, from new love to But what draws people to th of what their fate

There are over thirty different k known to mankind. From the method called Crystallomancy, t Alectromancy (the observation grain) and Pyromancy (gazing over the world have relied on the find what lies in the

So whether you use roosters or is an idea that allows us to hav when it often looks daunting

By Sanjana Sa  
Staff Writer





# PHOBIOLOGY

## PHOBIAS

break out in a cold sweat, want to run away. It's an I had it, even the teachers t what two teachers air phobias:

test phobia is probably . I think I have this fear was doing arts and crafts and I cut my finger; up on the ground. and embarrassing!

ttly bad fear of heights, e kid—actually through as about five when it th me ever since.

## telling

orful signs eaders, psychics, ars to see what the o unexpected riches. e unknown world holds?

inds of fortune telling usual crystal ball, a o crazy beliefs such as of a rooster pecking at into a fire), people all ese various methods to eir future.

palms, fortune telling e fun with our future, and overwhelming.

athy

## STYLES OF THINKING

By Clarissa Vokt  
Staff Writer

The human mind is a powerful thing. It controls our thoughts, which have the ability to change the course of our life. We cannot accomplish anything without thinking it up first; great thoughts create and precede great actions. It is universally known that destinies, good luck, bad luck, fortune, misfortune, are all results of thinking. However, distorted thinking can skew the perception you may have of yourself, your relationships with others, and your life. These can negatively impact your life, and should be avoided.

Here are styles of distorted thinking that you should avoid:

1. **Filtering:** You take the negative details and magnify them, while filtering out all the positive aspects of a situation.
2. **Polarized Thinking:** You see things only as black or white, good or bad. You have to be perfect or you're a failure. There is no middle ground.
3. **Overgeneralization:** You come to a general conclusion based on a single incident or piece of evidence. If something bad happens once, you expect it to happen over and over again.
4. **Mind reading:** You think you know what people are feeling and why they act the way they do. In particular, you are able to extrapolate how people feel towards you.
5. **Blaming:** You hold other people responsible for your pain, or blame yourself for every problem.
6. **Personalization:** You think that everything people do or say is some kind of reaction to you. You also compare yourself to others, trying to determine who's smarter, better looking, etc.
7. **Emotional Reasoning:** You believe that what you feel must be true – automatically. If you feel dumb and boring, then you believe that you really are dumb and boring.
8. **Fallacy of Change:** You expect that other people will change to suit you if you just pressure or cajole them enough. You need to change people because your hope for happiness seems to depend entirely on them.



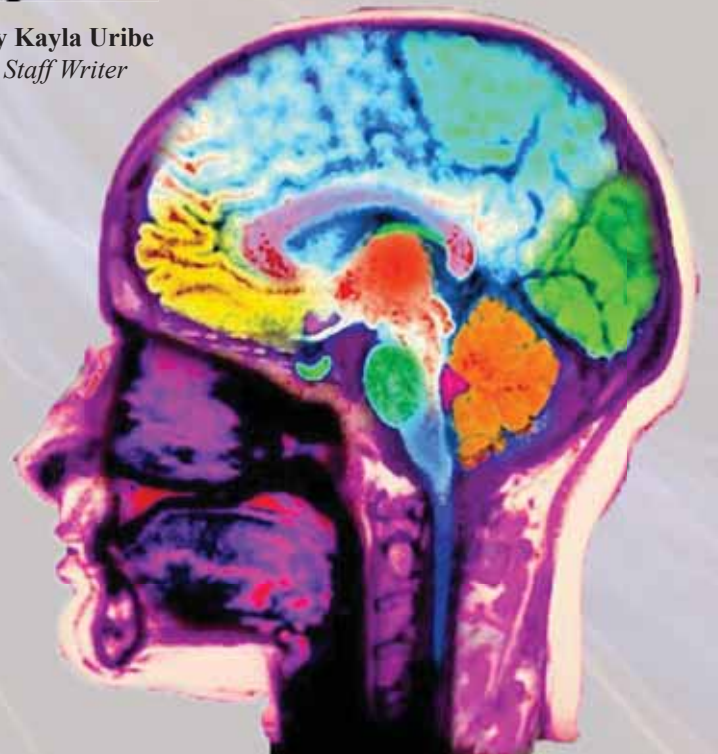
## Dunbar's Number

By Kayla Uribe  
Staff Writer

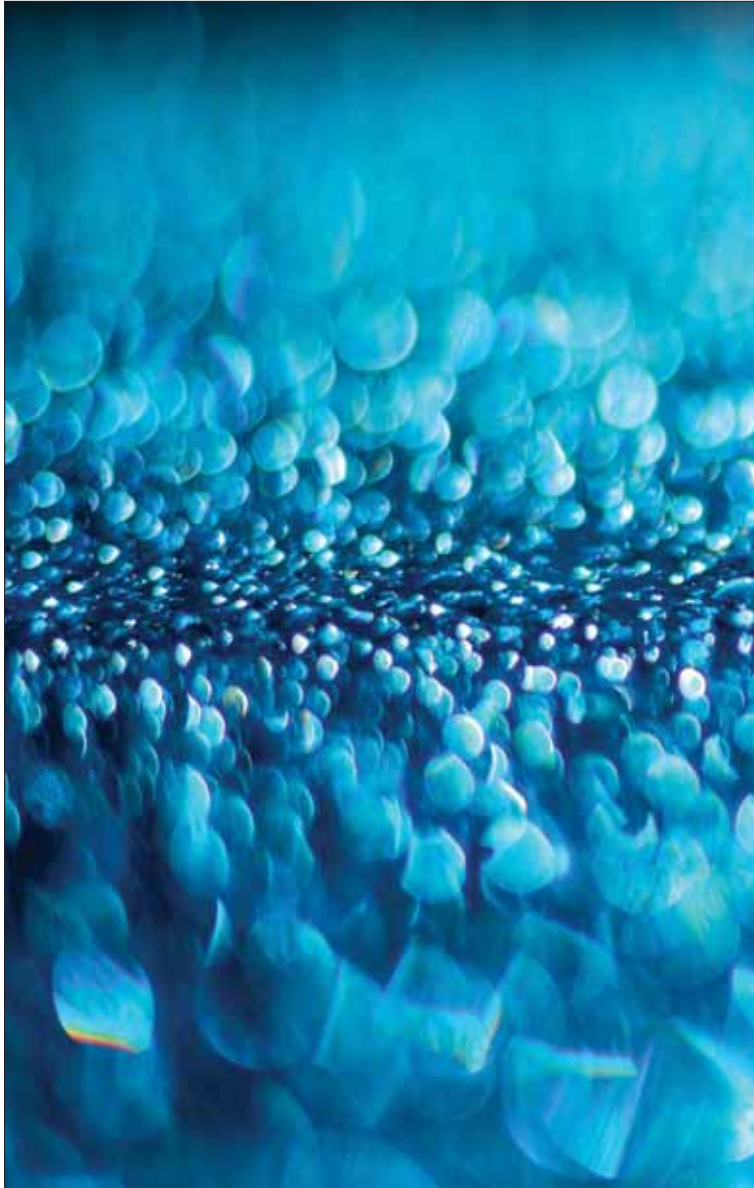
To be blunt, you don't care about everybody. As harsh as it seems, it's a big world and it's impossible to maintain meaningful relationships with all 7 billion of those people. After a while, they just become a blur. There's an explanation for this: Dunbar's Number.

While studying monkeys, anthropologist Robin Dunbar found that the size of their brain determined how many relationships they could form with other monkeys. Dunbar took this information and theorized that there was a limit to how many relationships humans can have: 150. You can conceptualize 150 people as "actual people." Anybody outside of your "sphere" is a one-dimensional character.

Unfortunately, being more intelligent doesn't increase this number because it's determined by the neocortex size. However, the smarter you are, the more complex these relationships become. A recent study suggests that this applies to social networks as well. Have a thousand friends on Facebook and have no idea who some of them are? That's Dunbar's Number at work.







## Amanda Le

**Three words that describe your photography.**  
Impact. Aesthetic. Reflection.

**What is the one thing that you like most about photography in general?**

I love how photography can allow you to capture a moment in time. Even though anyone can take a photo, the way you capture it can affect the meaning of the picture.

**What is your inspiration?**

My inspiration comes from the work of famous photographers. Although I do not have a favorite, looking at their work helps me to determine what kind of photos I like or dislike.



**Interviewed by Kerri Yen**  
*Staff Writer*



# Through the Lens:

## Monarch Photography



## The Bridge

*Beyond the Lens*

The photograph encompasses the path of life each individual must travel. It depicts a silver bridge with the Golden Gate Bridge in the background. At the forefront of the picture, there is the front of the bridge that represents the beginning of life's journey, which could be a new year's promise, a change of lifestyle, or beginning a new school year. Just like the focus of the photo, the beginning of the journey is clear. In contrast, the background of the photo depicts the rest of the journey as unclear. We have no way of knowing what the future holds, and things don't always go according to plan. Sometimes we may become frozen at the beginning of the bridge, afraid of what the future might hold, and become discouraged. Even though what lies ahead of us is unclear, we must gather up our courage and cross the bridge, completing the journey. What awaits us at the end is sure to be as grand and magnificent as the Golden Gate Bridge.

**Julia Borello**  
*Staff Writer*

Natalie Manibo





Hegec Dela Rosa

Megan Bagget



# Vi·sion | vizh-uhn | (noun)

*a vivid, imaginative conception or anticipation*



Megan Bagget

Megan Bagget



Carlisle Micallef





# Justice Awareness

## Profiles in Justice



### SPOTLIGHT ON: REBECCA KOSHY

Manasi Patwa and Nikita Dandia  
Staff Writers

Part of the responsibility of an Archbishop Mitty student is to be committed to furthering the cause of justice and fairness in society. Rebecca Koshy, a senior here at Mitty, has taken her desire to assist others a step further by starting Bijoux Benie, an organization that works towards fairness and justice for women in need.

#### What is Bijoux Benie, and what is its purpose?

Bijoux Benie is a social venture started by Rebecca and her sister Malaika. Bijoux Benie means “blessed jewels” in French, and the name serves as a symbol of the organization and its goals. Jewelry, designed by the girls and their mother, is sold and ten to fifteen percent of the selling price goes to fund education for girls in India. In addition, Bijoux Benie hopes to hire women in need to actually craft the jewelry; by doing so, the women can earn their own livelihood at a fair wage. Rebecca seeks to empower women living in poverty or in poor conditions, and Bijoux Benie does just that.

#### What motivated Rebecca to start this organization?

Born and raised for part of her life in India, Rebecca has seen the poverty and suffering of women there. After coming to the United States, Rebecca developed a desire to make a change. Realizing how blessed she and her family were, she decided to do something to ensure that others could feel “blessed” as well. Rebecca, her sister, and their mother collaborated to combine entrepreneurship and service into Bijoux Benie two years ago.

#### How does Bijoux Benie impact society in a positive way?

There are many girls in the world who lack access to education, safety, and good living conditions. Bijoux Benie has partnered with Nanhi Kali, an organization that works for a similar cause, and sends money to girls’ schools programs and resources. Education can help to empower women and make them prominent members of the community. Rebecca ultimately hopes to hire women to make the jewelry, instilling independence and confidence in the women.

Rebecca hopes that by the end of 2013, her company will be able to provide education to 100 girls. To learn more or get involved, please visit [www.bijouxbenie.com](http://www.bijouxbenie.com), or contact Rebecca Koshy.

## MAP CORNER UPCOMING ISSUES

Brianna Mims  
Staff Writer

### The Environment

MAP is now taking a stand on environmental issues. Erika Kawaguchi, Vice-President of MAP, states, “this is our first year taking a stab at it, and we hope to advocate legislation that will preserve our natural resources and promote renewable energy and sustainability.”

### Homelessness

MAP aims to spread better awareness about homeless teens and veterans in the Bay Area in an attempt to help give them a chance to thrive and build a better future.

### School Budget Cuts

For so many of us, college always looms over our heads. However, increases in tuition may cause some to wonder if college is really an option at all. MAP plans to advocate their position on these rising tuition costs. Additionally, the group will tackle public school budgets cuts on nutritional plans.

### Human Trafficking

“Around thirty million people [are] trafficked every year; one hundred thousand are American children trafficked within the U.S.,” explains Kawaguchi, “making human trafficking the fastest growing criminal industry in the world.” As a result, human trafficking is a crucial issue MAP will be covering again this year. MAP has already passed legislation and formed an alliance with Representative Zoe Lofgren’s office in an attempt to spread awareness.

## Leveling Appalachia Mitty Students Meet Mountain Top Removal

Brenan Balbido and Sankar Srinivasan  
Staff Writers

Mountaintop removal has long been a dominant way of coal mining in the Appalachian mountains. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, Appalachian mountaintop removal mining accounts for 4.5% of our electricity. Yet for every ounce of energy we receive, one of the most ecologically diverse regions in the United States is severely damaged.

This is how the destructive process unfolds: Before mining begins, mountain surfaces are cleared of all foliage, which destroys hundreds of square miles of Appalachian forest. After this procedure, millions of pounds of explosives blow off the tops of mountains so miners can access deeper coal seams. Finally, while processing coal, tons of toxic coal sludge and chemical byproducts are dumped into open and volatile areas such as rivers. Such a practice has scarred the Appalachian mountains forever. In fact, the Environmental Protection Agency has highlighted a study showing that it will take hundreds of years for forests to recuperate from mountaintop removal.

Archbishop Mitty organizes an immersion trip to the Appalachian Mountains every summer where students can directly learn about the devastating effects of mountaintop removal. One participant, senior **Brian Nguyen**, witnessed this process firsthand and explains how “reading about mountaintop removal in my Environmental Science AP class didn’t have the same effect as standing there at the mountain—a wasteland that had no end.”

Mountaintop removal clearly scars the landscape forever, but the greatest loss is arguably for the residents themselves: their once peaceful rustic lives are being disrupted by mountaintop removal mining. Debris fills the air during explosions, with bedrock whizzing by at dangerous speeds; water quality for these residents is also significantly diminished, as high levels of salinity and unsafe metals leech into the water. People living in houses up in the mountains are often forced to leave their homes due to dangerous conditions.

Mitty students on the Appalachian Immersion Trip met a man whose life is this reality. The mountains surrounding Larry Gibson’s lifelong home were destroyed because of the coal that lay underneath. It seems as if the government finds the coal in these residents’ backyards to be more valuable than their property rights. Senior **Kelvin Leong** says, “speaking with Larry Gibson gave me a new perspective on mountaintop removal. It isn’t some distant environmental issue that should only concern the government. It is widespread, affecting real people living ordinary lives—all of us should be concerned.”

Here in San Jose, a percentage of our energy comes from coal extracted by mountaintop removal, and this issue does affect us directly. It is clear that the era of surface mining is past. In a world where new technologies are emerging and where new communities are developing, it is only practical to continue to adapt as we have done so for ages. The practice of mountaintop mining is without a doubt one that exploits nature and mankind for nothing but a temporary reward.

Larry Gibson started a foundation to raise awareness, called the Keeper of the Mountains Foundation. To learn more, please visit [mountainkeeper.blogspot.com](http://mountainkeeper.blogspot.com).

## What the Frack?! The Dangers of Hydraulic Fracturing

Arjun Balasingam  
Staff Writer

Imagine having to drink water that is so thoroughly saturated with natural gas that it combusts when a match stick is struck near it. This unbelievable situation is reality for some fellow Americans. As oil and gas companies set up operations to exploit the rich natural gas reserves underground, and install noisy drills and other large equipment in the countryside, they are slowly destroying the environment and the tranquility that people have cherished for generations. In his documentary *Gasland*, filmmaker Josh Fox explored the effects of this crisis, as he visited communities in 32 states throughout our nation.

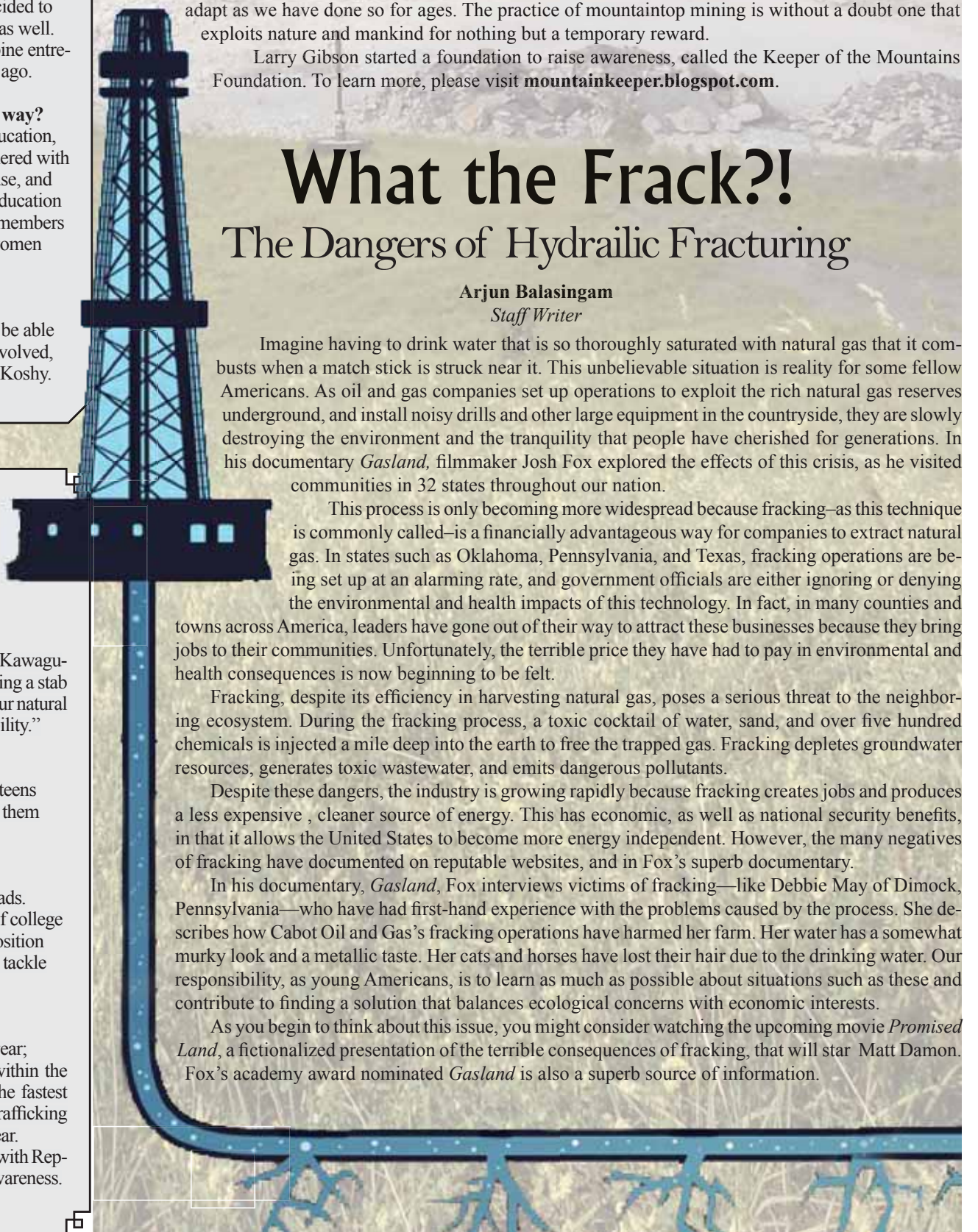
This process is only becoming more widespread because fracking—as this technique is commonly called—is a financially advantageous way for companies to extract natural gas. In states such as Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Texas, fracking operations are being set up at an alarming rate, and government officials are either ignoring or denying the environmental and health impacts of this technology. In fact, in many counties and towns across America, leaders have gone out of their way to attract these businesses because they bring jobs to their communities. Unfortunately, the terrible price they have had to pay in environmental and health consequences is now beginning to be felt.

Fracking, despite its efficiency in harvesting natural gas, poses a serious threat to the neighboring ecosystem. During the fracking process, a toxic cocktail of water, sand, and over five hundred chemicals is injected a mile deep into the earth to free the trapped gas. Fracking depletes groundwater resources, generates toxic wastewater, and emits dangerous pollutants.

Despite these dangers, the industry is growing rapidly because fracking creates jobs and produces a less expensive, cleaner source of energy. This has economic, as well as national security benefits, in that it allows the United States to become more energy independent. However, the many negatives of fracking have documented on reputable websites, and in Fox’s superb documentary.

In his documentary, *Gasland*, Fox interviews victims of fracking—like Debbie May of Dimock, Pennsylvania—who have had first-hand experience with the problems caused by the process. She describes how Cabot Oil and Gas’s fracking operations have harmed her farm. Her water has a somewhat murky look and a metallic taste. Her cats and horses have lost their hair due to the drinking water. Our responsibility, as young Americans, is to learn as much as possible about situations such as these and contribute to finding a solution that balances ecological concerns with economic interests.

As you begin to think about this issue, you might consider watching the upcoming movie *Promised Land*, a fictionalized presentation of the terrible consequences of fracking, that will star Matt Damon. Fox’s academy award nominated *Gasland* is also a superb source of information.





# Ambassador Chris Stevens

## Honoring a Man Who Stood for Justice

Leanna Syrimis  
Staff Writer

On September 11, 2001, the world lost sight of its goals for justice in acts of outright malice and terrorism. On September 11, 2012, it happened again, with the senseless murders of Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans at the U.S. Embassy in Libya.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recounts, “Ambassador Stevens risked his own life to lend the Libyan people a helping hand to build the foundation for a new, free nation.”

And so he did. As the U.S. Embassy’s Ambassador in Benghazi since May 22, 2012, Chris Stevens was a man who fought passionately for justice, notably in the Middle East.

Clinton continues, “He cared about the people and saw hope in their future. He told me he knew the dangers but was committed to democracy and diplomacy above all.”

First joining the Peace Corps and later working for the State Department, Ambassador Stevens developed a love for the Middle East. Stevens had a powerful vision for peace and diplomacy in Libya, which he emphasized could only come about through the mutual understandings between both the government and its people. For over two decades, Stevens devoted and risked his life to promote unity and stronger relationships among the peoples of the Middle East.

The truly heartrending part of Ambassador Stevens’ story is the circumstance surrounding his death. Though the facts are still somewhat unclear, one thing is for certain: Stevens, a true advocate for justice, met his untimely death in a militant raid on



the U.S. Embassy in Libya, the land he loved and so selflessly worked to save.

The anti-Muslim slander video, “The Innocence of Muslims/Desert Warrior,” that went viral on YouTube may have incited this senseless loss of life.

There are also suspicions that jihadis attacked the U.S. Embassy in Benghazi and

found easy blame in the video and protests of that day.

In his speech to the United Nations General Assembly on September 25, 2012, President Obama said that “[Stevens] built bridges across oceans and cultures...He acted with humility, but stood up for a set of principles—a belief that individuals should be free to determine their own destiny, and live with liberty, dignity, justice, and opportunity.”

Let Ambassador Stevens be an example for us. As a man who valiantly gave his life while working for justice in the Middle East, Stevens was a light of hope in the darkness of oppression and violence that too often strangles our world. It is our obligation to carry on Stevens’ dream for equality and continue his mission to spread justice around the world in any small way we can.

Whatever the cause of this shockingly violent attack, we must honor the work of the four Americans who gave their lives in Benghazi, striving for justice and diplomacy beyond our borders. We must respond with peace rather than violence and cherish lives and legacies of these four brave individuals by furthering our pursuit of global peace.

# Russian Riots

## Feminist Punk Band Fights for Free Speech

Laura Cervantes  
Staff Writer

What do feminism, punk rock, and human rights have in common? Not too much. But when executed correctly, they can start a revolution. One Russian feminist punk-rock band’s (whose name has been omitted) fiery lyrics and song titles have landed them in a some serious trouble.

The band members, who wear brightly colored clothes and knitted balaclavas (a close-fitting garment covering the whole head), caused a sensation in February when they burst into the Christ the Saviour Cathedral in Moscow and performed ‘Punk Prayer’ in defiance of the interconnection of church and state, as well as in opposition

to Vladimir Putin’s repressive regime. The performance lasted all of forty seconds, but its impact will last much longer.

Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, 22-year-old philosophy graduate, Maria Alekhina, 24-year-old charity worker and environmental activist, and Yekaterina Samutsevich, 30-year-old computer programming graduate, are the women behind the movement.

They were arrested on March 3, the eve before the presidential election, for hooliganism. They were subjected to 24-hour video surveillance in a cage-like structure. Their numerous appeals were rejected. These women, who are also mothers, are being told their parental rights could be taken away. Their families are receiving death threats, and anyone thought to be involved with the movement has been questioned.

On July 30, the trial began, and on August 17, the women were found guilty and sentenced to three years in prison. But guilty of what? What these empowered women did

was voice their opinion. These women serve as a reminder that we are the privileged ones.

The reactions among the Russian people are varied. While some firmly believe the government is overstepping their bounds specified in their national constitution, others are demanding harsher punishments. Their intrusion into a religious practice leaves some faithful individuals even demanding capital punishment.

The trial of these women has struck so deep because it reminds us of some of the

**“Our performance contained no aggression towards the public—only a desperate desire to change the situation in Russia.”**

most basic reasons why we listen to music. Music can transmit ideas and feelings with the immediacy of lightning, and art has the potential to cut across barriers. It’s because of this powerful idea that

individuals can make a difference. Their shout has been heard around the world. From celebrities to advocacy groups, this Russian band has evoked feelings of duty and communal change in people.

Despite Samutsevich’s release on Oct. 10, the other two remain in confinement and will be sent to a penal colony for two years.

Suzanne Nossel, executive director of Amnesty International USA, sums up the situation accurately: “To see these two women sent to a Russian penal colony for the crime of singing a song undercuts any claim that Putin and the Russian government have to democracy and freedom of expression.”

Currently, most of the world is in solidarity with this band and its imprisoned members. On Oct. 18, the band landed on Art Review’s annual ranking of the 100 most influential people—the Power 100.

Clearly, these women are more than just “hooligans.”



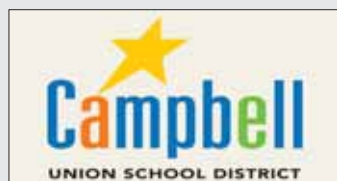
# Five Fun Places to do Christian Service

Rasika Raghavan and Catherine Gong  
Staff Writers



## Project Access

To impact the community directly, Project Access works one-on-one with low income families in affordable housing apartments to keep them educated, healthy, and employed. High school volunteers are needed to interact with family members in a number of ways. Students can serve as after school tutors, art teachers or dance instructors. To fill out a Volunteer Application, go to the website: <http://project-access.org/>



## Campbell Union Schools

Are you interested in performing arts? At Campbell Union schools, volunteers can be on stage and get service hours at the same time. They are looking for students to help out in their third to eighth grade drama programs. For more information, call Whitney Holton at 408-341-7264, or email her at [wholton@campbellusd.org](mailto:wholton@campbellusd.org)



## Marianist Community

The Cupertino Marianist Community is a religious community of brothers and priests whose senior members need assistance with their day-to-day activities. When volunteering here, students will be able to work with the director of nursing in attending to the brother’s health concerns, dining and meal preparations and groundskeeping. If interested, contact Br. David Betz, activity coordinator, at 831-332-4495.



## OSF

The Organization of Special Needs Families (OSF) in Cupertino is a non-profit project that focuses on introducing special needs kids to a fun, welcoming environment, and is always looking for high school volunteers that are 15 years or older. To sign up, go to the website <http://www.osfamilies.org/> and click on the Volunteer tab. There are 3 upcoming mandatory training dates left for 2012.



## Cupertino Middle

Cupertino Middle School is a new place to serve the community. They have a class that works with special needs children and are looking for high school volunteers to help students with their homework, assist in class, or just spend time with them. To apply to be a volunteer, students can call the Cupertino Middle School office at 408-245-0303, and explain that they are interested in volunteering.



# SPORTS

## Cross-Country: Leading the Pack

By Michele Garlit  
Staff Writer

After two successful WCAL races, the Mitty cross-country team looks to continue its surge and finish strong.

The Women have dominated their division in the early going. In each meet they have competed in thus far, they have ranked as one of the top two teams overall.

Senior Molly Haar expressed her lack of surprise at the team's success saying, "We have been working really hard to get to the point where we are today."

All that hard work has certainly been paying off. Molly has been in the top ten for each of her races, including impressive second-place finishes overall in both of the first two WCAL meets this season.

At Golden Gate Park, the team took first place handily on the strength of strong performances from junior Olivia Brobst, and seniors Ashley Dattalo, Olivia Rintala, and Ashley Noronha, who placed third, fourth, fifth, and sixth respectively.

The men's team has come out firing on all cylinders as well.

In the WCAL opener, the men's team beat out rival Saint Francis for third, while senior Richard Guzikowski placed sixth individually.

The team followed this up with a solid fourth place finish at Golden Gate Park, with Guzikowski once again leading the way and capturing second place overall.

With so many talented athletes on the team this year, the Mitty Cross Country team hopes to continue this trend of success en route to a season definitely worth remembering.

## Football: Monarchs Look to Finish Strong

By Tyler Gray and Cherie Cole  
Staff Writers

The 2012 football season has been an up and down ride full of highlight wins and heartbreaking defeats for Mitty. Coming off a successful 2011 campaign where the Monarchs went 7-4-1, expectations were certainly high for this year's team.

As expected, the Monarchs have proved to be extremely competitive in all facets of the game. With a 5-2 overall record and a 2-2 mark in WCAL play, the Monarchs are looking to finish strong.

The Monarchs faced a difficult task in week one when they faced off against the Los Gatos Wildcats. The team wanted to test themselves by scheduling a strong opponent in their opener.

Senior quarterback Wyatt Hansen led the Monarchs and controlled the game throughout. He ended the night by completing 9 of his 14 passes for 209 yards and two touchdowns. The game was a hard fought battle that ended in a 28-20 victory.

After a close game in week one of the season, week two was completely the opposite. The Monarchs faced Leland and absolutely dominated, winning 34-7.

This blowout win was a good tune-up for the Monarchs' biggest non-league game against perennial power and rival Palo Alto. In a back and forth contest, the Monarchs used their defensive line to wreak havoc on the Palo Alto offense, and in the end, were able to knock off the Vikings in a 28-27 victory.

"The pass rush and intensity were keys to beating Palo Alto," said senior defensive end Jason Sutton. "We were focused and forced lots of third-and-long situations."

Sutton finished with video game stats as he recorded 10 tackles, 3.5 sacks, and a forced fumble. "We knew it was going to be a tough game because we've had a lot of history with them, and coming out and beating them at their turf was a big deal," Sutton added.

The Monarchs have now beaten Palo Alto in consecutive seasons and finished their pre-season schedule on an impressive note.

In league play, Mitty's two victories have been eventful to say the least. After a slow first half against Riordan plagued by five turnovers, Mitty came together in the second half to defeat the Crusaders 38-17.



Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

Junior Kyle Evans leaps to make the sensational catch

In the following week, Mitty seemed dominant with a 28-7 halftime lead over Valley Christian, but the Warriors would not go away. The game was deadlocked at 42-42 in the closing minutes, and despite even trailing in the second half, Mitty scored on their final drive to win the game. Hansen found Sutton for a 30-yard touchdown pass with only 28 seconds left, and Mitty came out victorious with a 49-42 win.

Although Mitty has had electrifying wins, they have also had their fair share of heartbreaking losses. In their first league game, the Monarchs took on Serra, one of the tougher teams in the section. The Padres proved to be too much on this night and escaped with a 30-21 win, dropping the Monarchs to 3-1.

Although this loss was their first of the season, the Monarchs prepared quickly for probably the biggest game of the season as they faced off against Bellarmine in the annual night game held at Mitty.

The Monarchs got off to a great start on the defensive side of the ball as they continued to force punts and eventually capitalized on their field position.

Hansen scored on a five yard run to give Mitty a 7-0 lead in the second quarter. The defense continued to dominate and kept the Bellarmine offense scoreless in the first half.

In the second half, Bellarmine broke through and tied the game at 7-7, but senior Phil Langlois was able to tack on a 40-yard field goal in the fourth quarter to retake the lead. The Monarchs couldn't hold on, though, as Bellarmine connected on a long pass to steal a victory in the closing minutes.

On the two losses, senior wide receiver Jacob Wesson said, "Despite our two tough losses, I believe we can rebound as a team and compete for a CCS title."

The Monarchs have rebounded indeed, and now look to finish their season strong before the playoffs.

Regarding the season, Hansen added, "We've battled through a tough schedule, and I couldn't be prouder for our team. I believe we will come together to finish strong."

The 2012 Mitty Monarchs have been extremely successful and although they have suffered two difficult league losses, they are looking to enter the playoffs on a high note.

"Our goal is to win the rest of our games this season," said Wesson, "and to meet up with Bellarmine and Serra again in the playoffs."

## Athletes on the Rise

### Claire Wang: Synchronized Swimming Champion

By Erik Chu  
Sports Editor

When the Olympics come around every four years, synchronized swimming does not get the attention of races or diving. Many do not give much thought to the sport and might even categorize it as "jazzercise in water."

So we are extremely fortunate that within our own Mitty community we have sophomore Claire Wang to inform us about the unheralded sport of synchronized swimming.

Claire is not only a member, but also the team captain of the USA National Synchronized Swimming Team that recently won the gold medal at the Pan American Championships held in Cali, Columbia.

Though she was originally a speed swimmer and a ballerina, she was introduced to synchronized swimming when she attended her first show at the age of nine. After that, she became enamored with synchronized swimming and immediately joined the Santa Clara Aquamaids, an organization known for producing world class swimmers.

Claire quickly learned that synchronized swimming was extremely difficult. She says that it "is not what most people think. It requires strength, power, but at the same time, demands elegance and grace."

As a result, synchronized swimming involves hours and hours of non-stop training.

In order to compete at the highest level, Claire must take weight training, dance, gymnastics, circus class, and speed

swimming for five hours every day.

"The process can definitely be arduous and time-consuming," says Claire. "But it is my love for synchronized swimming and the camaraderie and support that I receive from my teammates every day that pushes me that much harder."

Robin McKinley, coach of the Santa Clara Aquamaids and a former Olympian, praises Claire for her outstanding work ethic and leadership.

"Claire is one of the hardest working kids I have ever met," said McKinley, "She has put in more time than any other swimmer, and it has obviously paid off."

Moreover, Claire has taken up an interest in helping the younger girls, whether it be through advice on techniques or motivation.

All of the hard work and dedication paid off on September 2, 2012, when Claire led the 13-15 year-old USA National Team for Synchronized Swimming Team to a gold-medal in Pan American Championships in Cali, Columbia. It was a great experience for Claire, because it was her first taste of intense international competition.

Claire wants to continue synchronized swimming, and she has her sights set on competing on the biggest stage of the world: the 2020 Olympics.

If Claire's recent accomplishments are any indication of what Claire's future may hold, there is no reason why Claire cannot become a legend in the world of synchronized swimming.



Photo courtesy of Claire Wang

Claire at the Pan-American Games.



# Dominating Once Again

By **Brian Consiglio**  
Staff Writer

Success is nothing new for the Women's Volleyball team, and this year has been no different. After a 25-12 record last season and a second place finish in the WCAL, the Monarchs are off to an incredible start with an undefeated 20-0 record.

Standout senior Allie Wheeler leads a core group of returning players, including last season's San Jose Mercury News Sophomore of the Year, Clare Powers. These upperclassmen have been supported by several emerging sophomores, including outside hitter Natasha Kosowicz.

Back in September, Mitty hosted a two-day invitational in which the Monarchs defeated several of the Bay Area's elite teams, winning all of their matches while not losing a single set as they took home a sweet-tasting first place finish.

"What has been key is being able to step into practice and work hard to get what we need to get done," said Allie Wheeler, a dynamic talent who contributes both as a setter and right side hitter. "We all have a common goal. Each of us have a lot of different talents, so when we come together, we are unstoppable."

The hard work has definitely paid off, as the Monarchs are currently ranked 10th in the nation, and 3rd in California.

The Mitty Women's Volleyball team has been one of the premier programs not just in the Bay Area, but the entire state for over a decade.

Coach Almazan-Cezar, in his 13th season as head coach, has been the most successful Women's Volleyball coach in Mitty's history.

He reached his 400th victory during his tenure at Mitty, and his 600th career win in the same year.

His refusal to become complacent and his passion for accomplishing more has been the driving force behind his team's tradition of excellence.

"We remind ourselves that the only thing constant is change," says Coach Almazan-Cezar, "Nothing stays the same. If we're not getting better, we're getting worse. Therefore, we do everything we can do to get better each day."

His philosophy has continued to work this fall, as the team has won every match thus far, and has only dropped two total sets.

Against St. Francis, the Monarchs won all three sets, with outside hitter Clare Powers leading the way with 16 kills.

A few days later, the team met up with St. Ignatius to kick off league play, and swept the Wildcats in three sets, 25-10, 25-14, and 25-21.

Senior Anne

Marie-Schmidt had a spectacular performance with a team high 15 digs, and junior setter Kelsey Crawford contributed 23 assists.

Finally, against Presentation, the Monarchs swept all three sets for a 14th consecutive victory, leading them to first place in the highly competitive WCAL.

Most recently, the Monarchs dominated the competition at the Presentation's Panther Challenge, dropping one set in the entire tournament.

In the championship match, the Monarchs swept St. Francis of Sacramento two sets to none.

Junior Shirin Tooloee stepped up and had a great game with six kills and, on the defensive side, senior Anne Marie Schmidt had another consistent match with ten digs.

Look for the Monarchs to finish the season strong and make another run at the CCS and NorCal Championships. And then after that, a run at another state title.



Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

Junior Kelli Gerrans goes for the dig

# Surging Towards the Postseason

By **Jorge Rodriguez**  
Staff Writer

With Coach Aaron Waldrip at the helm, the Monarch women's water polo team is off to an outstanding start. With league victories over Valley Christian, Presentation, and St. Ignatius, the team has spring-boarded to one of its best starts in years.

Led by sharpshooting junior Sabrina Sherrin and sensational sophomore goalie Maura Cantoni, the Monarchs are off to a brilliant 13-8 start overall, with a 3-2 record in WCAL action.

At the center of this encouraging run, the Monarchs won four straight against strong competitors Aptos, Soquel, Pioneer, and Carmel at the Aptos Tournament.

The Monarchs were led by goalie Maura Cantoni, whose 40 saves led a strong Mitty defense.

However, Cantoni feels that the real turning point so far this season has been "beating Sacred Heart Prep in the Saint Francis Tournament because they are a very tough team that we haven't beaten in previous years."

After that signature win, Mitty has posted a very respectable 7-6 run.

Asked about what she thinks has led to the Monarchs' success, sophomore Cantoni answers, "Our hard work in practice has translated

to the games."

Cantoni's words have certainly held true in the early going as the Monarch offense has absolutely shined.

Senior Suzanna Hodder and junior Sabrina Sherrin have combined for a mind-boggling 25 goals and 9 assists in eight league games so far this season.

Thanks to these great efforts, the Monarchs currently hold third place in the WCAL standings, and have the most wins of any team in the league.

However, Cantoni asserted that her sights were not set on merely getting into the playoffs. She said that her main goal by the end of the season was "to go undefeated and beat St. Francis."

On October 17, the Monarchs had their chance to accomplish this goal when they faced off against the Lancers in a pivotal match-up.

Despite an impressive showing by junior Orla Maclean, who led the way with 3 goals and 1 assist, the team fell short in a tightly contested 13-8 loss to St. Francis.

Fortunately, Mitty's strong start has the Monarchs still thinking about playoff success. The team looks to continue its astounding run throughout the rest of the season in the hope that it will lead to a surge in the postseason.

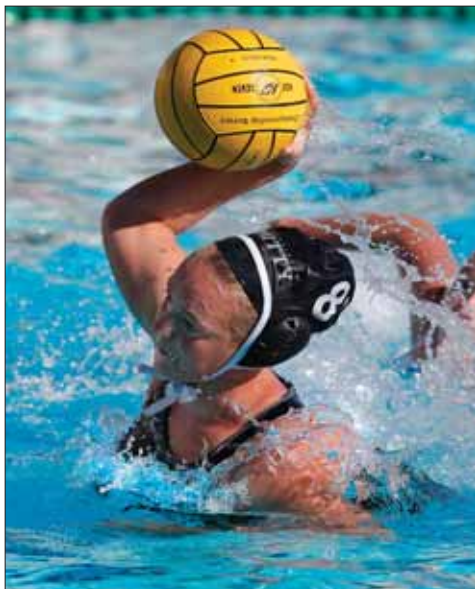
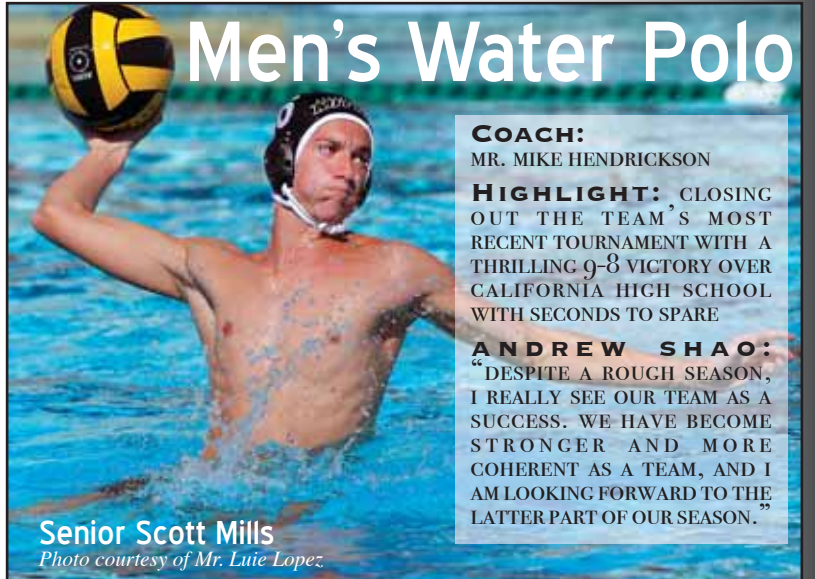


Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

Senior Cathy Cantoni prepares to fire at the net

# Highlight Reel

## Men's Water Polo



Senior Scott Mills

Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

**COACH:**  
MR. MIKE HENDRICKSON

**HIGHLIGHT:** CLOSING OUT THE TEAM'S MOST RECENT TOURNAMENT WITH A THRILLING 9-8 VICTORY OVER CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL WITH SECONDS TO SPARE

**ANDREW SHAO:** "DESPITE A ROUGH SEASON, I REALLY SEE OUR TEAM AS A SUCCESS. WE HAVE BECOME STRONGER AND MORE COHERENT AS A TEAM, AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE LATTER PART OF OUR SEASON."

## Women's Golf

**COACH:**  
MR. MATT GARRISON

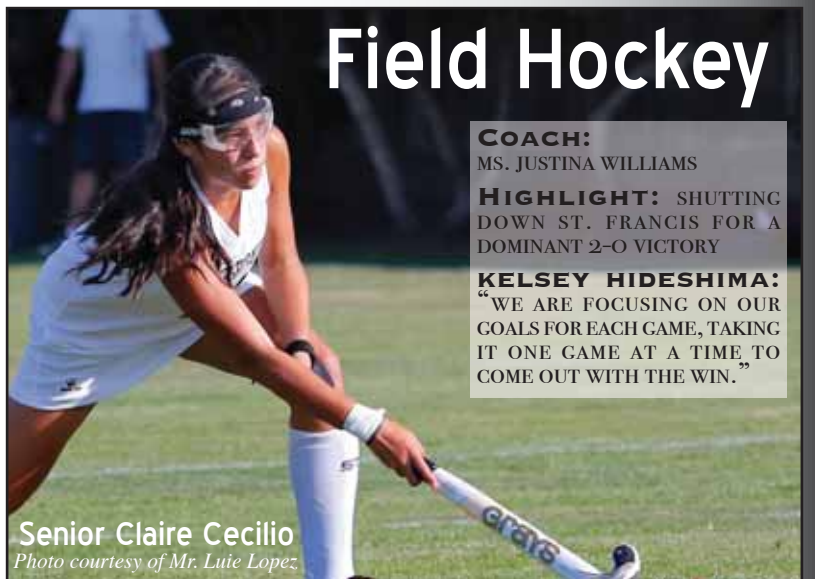
**HIGHLIGHT:** DEFEATING NOTRE DAME BELMONT ON SENIOR DAY AT LINCOLN PARK

**DANI AIELLO:** "THIS YEAR OUR TEAM IS STRONG. WE DON'T GIVE UP AND WE ALWAYS PUSH EACH OTHER AND OURSELVES TO CONSTANTLY DO BETTER. WE ARE ALL THERE FOR EACH OTHER NOT JUST ON THE COURSE BUT THROUGH EVERYTHING."

Senior Enja Ahearn

Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

## Field Hockey



Senior Claire Cecilio

Photo courtesy of Mr. Luie Lopez

**COACH:**  
MS. JUSTINA WILLIAMS

**HIGHLIGHT:** SHUTTING DOWN ST. FRANCIS FOR A DOMINANT 2-0 VICTORY

**KELSEY HIDESHIMA:** "WE ARE FOCUSING ON OUR GOALS FOR EACH GAME, TAKING IT ONE GAME AT A TIME TO COME OUT WITH THE WIN."

## Women's Tennis

**COACH:**  
MR. JASON SCALESE

**HIGHLIGHT:** BEATING LEAGUE RIVAL ST. FRANCIS 5-2 TO REMAIN UNDEFEATED

**JESSELYN WANG:** "OUR TEAM HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE WE ARE ALL VERY WELL-ROUNDED AND SUPPORTIVE OF ONE ANOTHER ON THE COURT."

Sophomore Lauren To

Photo courtesy of Prolmage

Compiled by **Stephen Kwok**  
Sports Editor



# Booking It: The Art Department's New eBooks

By Riya Dange & Jennifer Sherwood

Staff Writers

Only a few months ago, any Visual Arts student who was stumped by an artistic concept had only two options: leafing through the black-and-white packet handed to him/her during class or running to Room 510 to consult an art teacher. One glance at the packet, which contained few pictures and was—in Mrs. Lemak's words—"blah," was usually enough to discourage most students from even opening it. However, that all changed the day that Mrs. Nicole Limoges and Mrs. Peggy Lemak created their very own eBooks.

"We've never had a book for the art class before," Mrs. Lemak begins seriously, with a thoughtful frown on her face. "There's never been a book that was exactly what I wanted." According to Mrs. Lemak, the process began during a long car ride to Nevada. "I'm on the low end of the tech spectrum," she jokes, "but it was easy to work with iBooks Author. It was very user-friendly."

She estimates that it took her about forty to forty-five hours to complete her big project. However, she adds that the eBook was easier to create because, having taught visual art for several years, she knew exactly what material she wanted to include.

Whatever time was saved in obtaining text material, though, went into a meticulous search for pictures to accessorize the pages of the eBook. According to Mrs. Lemak, an astounding 95% of the artworks displayed in her eBook are the work of Archbishop Mitty students through the years.

About her method of selection, Mrs. Lemak explains, "Mrs. Limoges and I are artists. We care about how it looks. The text had to be even with the bottom of the picture, and it had to wrap around just right." She even proudly declares that before publication, she proofread her eBook at least six times. "I am offering extra credit to any student who finds a mistake in it," she remarks with a smile.

Mrs. Lemak asserts that the iPad has definitely been an asset to the class. Although it contains similar content as the packet, the eBook is more visually engaging than the packet

ever was. In Mrs. Lemak's words, reading about the concepts of lines, shading, perspective, and more is "now an artistic experience."

Mrs. Lemak then went on to express her satisfaction at having a finished product—a sense of achievement that any artist can relate to. However, her book *The Elements and Principles of Art* is not the end of the line. She intends to write more books about one-point perspective and the like; these eBooks, she says, will include links to websites and line-by-line Keynote tutorials on various artistic concepts. Furthermore, she highly recommends the eBook as a project or presentation medium for students. As Mrs. Lemak puts it, "If I can do it, a monkey can do it—you can do it."

Mrs. Limoges, meanwhile, teaches several different Visual Arts classes. These include Digital Photography, 2D/3D Design, and Studio and Computer Art 1. Her class of choice for the integration of the eBook, however, is her Digital Photography class, as it offers the greatest opportunity for the students to learn from something other than lectures.

Her eBook, titled *Digital Photography 2012*, is eleven chapters long and still growing. "It took me fifty to sixty hours, I suppose, to get to where I am right now... to gather all of the material." She then clarified that she intends to add more material to it, since she wants the eBook to be packed with as much helpful information as possible.

Like her colleague, Mrs. Limoges ensures that only student art is featured in her eBook. She makes it as relevant and relatable to Mitty students as she can.

She acknowledges, "This book offers so much to my students. This medium allows my students to view colorful artwork examples for each unit at the touch of their fingertips. It is a great reference that is never lost in the depths of a backpack. It's packed with beautiful photography that no photocopy can compete with."

Although there were many other reasons for the creation of her eBook, Mrs. Limoges greatly enjoys the customization and the connections in the book. "There's never been a book for Digital Photography, and there's a lot out there, but not the way I teach," she concludes.

Clearly, the many hours that went into the creation of the eBooks have paid off, making art courses easier to understand and much more entertaining to learn in. With the creation of the two new eBooks has come an entirely new method of learning in the same Room 510.



## New Teacher Feature

By Veronica Marquez & E. Maya Ruiz

Staff Writers



### Highpoint Hikers

**Names:** Ms. Kristy Calaway (left) and Miss Leslie Guarascio (right)

**Subject:** Freshman & Sophomore Religion (Calaway), General Science & Biology (Guarascio)

**Interests:** Ms. Calaway enjoys volunteering, as she used to work in a parish in Oakland. Also, she has a strong interest in advocacy and government. Meanwhile, Ms. Guarascio enjoys dancing and paddle boarding.

**Enthusiastic Exercisers:** Ms. Calaway hikes and runs half marathons, while Ms. Guarascio enjoys backpacking, playing volleyball, and ice climbing. She will be

the new Freshman Assistant Soccer Coach.

### Chemicals React

**Names:** Mr. Andy Montoya (left) and Ms. Alice Kwan (right)

**Subject:** Environmental Chemistry & Chemistry (Montoya), Chemistry (Kwan)

**Interests:** Mr. Montoya enjoys skateboarding, weightlifting, and building radio controlled helicopters. Meanwhile, Ms. Kwan enjoys eating junk food, playing video games, and watching *The Big Bang Theory*.

**Adolescent Adventures:** Ms. Kwan moved here from Hong Kong when she was 15. When Mr. Montoya was a freshman, his friends helped him ask someone to the Homecoming Dance. He found out days before that it was the wrong girl, but he happily went with her anyway!



### Class of 2007

**Names:** Miss Kate Thomas (left) and Ms. Jennifer Lesnick (right)

**Subject:** English (both), Speech & Debate (Thomas), Mock Trial (Lesnick)

**Interests:** While Ms. Thomas is interested in scrapbooking, watching old movies, and archery, Ms. Lesnick enjoys rock climbing, yoga, cycling, going to concerts.

**Fashionable Facts:** Both Ms. Thomas and Ms. Lesnick graduated from the Class of 2007. During her time at Mitty, Ms. Lesnick did makeup for the school plays. On the other hand, Ms. Thomas adds that if she did not become a teacher, she would have pursued a career as a fashion designer.



### Saint Martin's Mentors

**Names:** Ms. Sandy Ocegüera (left) and Ms. Carolyn Doyle (right)

**Subject:** English 1 & American Literature (Ocegüera), Freshman Religion (Doyle)

**Interests:** During her free time, Ms. Ocegüera enjoys writing, reading, and soccer, being that she played for the National Mexican Soccer Team. On the contrary, Ms. Doyle enjoys reading, knitting, and biking with fellow teacher, Mrs. Kate Slevin.

**Similar Pasts:** Both Ms. Ocegüera and Ms. Doyle taught middle school students at Saint Martin's before coming to Mitty.



### Our Gregarious Giant

**Name:** Mr. Aaron Waldrip

**Subject:** Spanish I & Spanish II

**Interests:** Mr. Waldrip was a volunteer ESL teacher (English as a Second Language), enjoys telling funny stories, and likes anything related to water polo.

**Previous Jobs:** Before coming to Mitty, Mr. Waldrip had an eclectic resume: worked in Sales and Recruiting and taught in Utah and at the University of Hawaii, where he also coached water polo. For a while, he cooked professionally as well!



## THE MONARCH

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### Photo

Emily Guzman, Brian Nguyen, & Rachel Wakley

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