



Cross Country Makes History!!!

By: Rikki Maestas



The 2008 girls varsity cross country team made history for San Manuel High School on Thursday, October 30th at Reid Park in Tucson, Arizona. Seven girls spent a strenuous 5 months working towards winning the 2A south region championship title. These seven girls were junior Alexis Bowman, freshman Victoria Madrid, seniors Mayra Tamayo, Rikki Maestas, Gabby Sanchez, Camille Corral, and sophomore Priscilla Enriquez. Summer cross country practice began with a speech from Coach Vince Majalca saying, "The road to region starts here, ladies," and those words stuck with them at every practice and at every invitational race. In order for the girls to come out victorious, each and every runner had to run a 3.1 mile course in a time that they had never hit before. Bowman, Tamayo, and Madrid placed in the top 20 spots, qualifying individually for the state meet, with the other four girls finishing in the top 45.

While anxiously awaiting the results of the team's score, the girls all sat together holding hands, praying that all of their hard work and determination had paid off. When it was announced that Pusch Ridge Christian Academy, their biggest rival, had taken runner-up champions, the girls knew they had done it. It was that exact moment that the tears came, along with hugging, screaming, and jumping.

As being one of the runners who had the privilege to have this experience with these amazing six girls, I have to say thank you to each and every one of them and especially to coaches Vince Majalca and Alicia Hauweghen. The faith each team member had in themselves and each other along with the encouragement from the coaches is what made our team stand out from the other 16 teams that competed in that race. Our team ended up winning the title by 17 points. It was one of the most amazing feelings I have ever experienced because it was something that we all worked for and it did not come easy. We started the season all having the same goal in mind, region title, and we promised each other we were going to do everything we could to attain that goal. We had 5:30 a.m. practices before school, we spent several practices running only hills, we killed ourselves (or at least it felt like it) everyday at practice, we sacrificed the "good food" like chips, burgers, and soda, as well as our time and especially our energy. It was exhausting, and very often we wanted to give up. All of it was worth it the instant we heard the name of our school being announced the 2008 2A South Region Cross Country Champions.

Being a member of the student body at San Manuel Jr./Sr. High school, every student at this school should know that their classmates made history that day at Reid Park. We did something that has never been done...we brought home a region title for San Manuel Jr./Sr. High School and that will never be forgotten.

What a year for the Cheerleaders!!

By: Christina Hall

The cheerleaders have had an intense year, but with the support from family, friends, and the community they are back and ready to go. This basketball seasons' spirit line consists of eight varsity girls. The returning to varsity are Heather Carter, Cynthia Roan, Courtney Encinas, Rikki Maestas and Sheri Sierra. Newcomers to the varsity squad this season are: Brianna DeChamp, Priscilla Enriquez, and Sylvia Roan. The returning JV cheerleader is Samantha Arcienga. JV's new comers are Rudi Romo and Bernadette Camerena. Liz Zazueta, the head coach tells me that her squad, "enjoys supporting the Miner teams. She believes the support from the "Pit" during the games is awesome. During Practice the team has been working hard on the stunts for the basketball games. The two teams worked hard on the routine "In the Ayer". Because of their injuries, team members, Helena Sanchez and Armnia Sharp return as honorary managers this season. They have become the coaches right hand". Many faculty and school members notice how important our spirit line is. They give the crowd great enthusiasm and after everything they have gone through they keep progressing by giving their all and doing their best. Good luck to the cheerleaders on this season and others to follow!

Mat Maids sit low but reach high!

By: Christina Hall

The San Manuel Mat Maids finally pulled through after going on a search for a new coach this season. The Coach, Sabrina Cazares, is a school teacher at the First Ave, she plans to be coach of the mat maids for many years to come. She has found that the girls have formed a special bond and work well together as a team. Starting from scratch they're making their way to the top. The returning mat maids are Captain Ayisha Rodriguez, Captain Alyssa Najera, and Christina Hall. The new comers to the squad are Arianna Tamayo, Kirsten Johnson, and Virginia Magallanes. Their main goal is to raise money to go to state with the wrestlers. Coming together to support the wrestlers is one of their main jobs. They plan on having lots of fun through out this season and future ones to come. Even though they sit beside the mat their enthusiasm brings the wrestlers spirit up, up, up! The mat maids would like to thank the community for all the support they have shown. Good luck mat maids! We wish you well.

Girl's Basketball

By: Alycia Franco

The girl's basketball team has had quite a year this year. They were extremely determined, worked very hard and gave it their all. It was tough because so many of their games were away which meant a lot of traveling for them and missing a lot of classes, but they managed to stay on top of things, way to go girls! Mr. Smith said he has six players that he really considers starters: Nani Bayardo, Mayra Tamayo, Victoria Castillo, Brittney Smith, Stephanie Perkins, and Melanie Groves. Captains were Mayra Tamayo, Melanie Groves, Stephanie Pekins, and Stephany Jimenez. I was able to interview Mr. Smith the coach and Stephanie Perkins, one of the starting six and also one of the captains. This is what the two had to say.

Q. Are you impressed with your team mates devotion to do well this year?

Mr. Smith: "Yes, this team is the most focused and ambitious team I've had in the eight years I've been head coach."

Perkins: "At the most yes. We've never given up in games and I'm proud of that. Things might have not gone the way we planned sometimes, but I know that we'll pull ourselves together as we always do. I'm also very impressed with our managers."

Q. What do you think of the schedule this year?

Mr. Smith: "It's been very challenging especially with the amount of away games we had."

Perkins: "I think that it has been pretty tough on all of us, on the coaches as well as the players. We've made it this far and hopefully we continue to do even better."

Q. What was the most challenging obstacle the team faced this year?

Mr. Smith: "The lack of height on the team."

Perkins: "I think having to shake off our tough losses and pick each other back up and keep continuing to do well is the most challenging thing for us as a team. It's heart breaking to give it our all and the results in the end don't come out as we wanted them to."

Salt N' Pepper #3



Snacks & cold drinks!

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Virus Almost Kills School Computers

By: Rudy Hill

On Tuesday, January 20 Mammoth/San Manuel Unified School District got hit with a major computer virus. This virus is called the Salidity Virus. It infected computers nationwide causing many computers to be shut down for an extended period of time. Salidity is a sleeper virus which means that it is set to go off at a certain time and date. Salidity was set to go off on January 20, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. during President Obama's inauguration. No one is truly sure why they created the virus. For all we know it could have been made as a grudge against Microsoft, or even an attack against our new President. What we do know for sure is that whoever created the virus was a professional.

Here is a quick overview of types of viruses. A virus is a small piece of software that is attached to an ordinary file. It has a chance to replicate each time the program is run. When ever the file is run, the virus is run as well. Trojans is a computer program that claims to be another program, but whenever it is ran it can cause major damage for example wiping your hard drive. They cannot replicate automatically though. Worms are the nastiest type of virus because they are the ones that open up backdoors so that many other viruses can get in. A worm replicates a lot faster than the other two because it attaches itself to a network so that it may spread when machines connect to it.

Salidity is composed of many viruses that came in through a back door that was opened by a worm virus that was placed in the front lines. Attached to the worm was a Trojan virus that carried all kinds of viruses in it. The funny part of the virus is that it contained a commercial grade key logging virus called Iopus Starr Pro Key Logger. This is a key logger that major companies buy so that they may keep track on what their employees are up to. This key logger is what made us realize that this was no amateur virus maker. The Trojan was called Backdoor Rbot ELB Trojan. The Trojan's main job was to bring in spyware, malware, remote access tool, hack, and steal your data. There were some malware that came in that shut down a lot of your computer protection and cleaning software. One malware shuts down your Windows Task Manager, not letting you shut down its processes from there. Over 1,300 viruses were found on just one server, but many more were found on other machines as well. This virus can also attach itself to a USB device and travel that way by infecting machines that the USB is plugged into, so students do not plug your USB keys or devices like MP3's into the school's computers at this time unless you want to infect your home machine when you plug them in at home. If you did plug it in you can take them to room 37 for cleaning.

Our District Tech and some other techs have found a way to remove this virus. They have been going from computer to computer, classroom to classroom, school to school just to get rid of this piece of monstrosity. They have cleaned up all the teachers' computers as well as some of the important student machines that are used for yearbook and newspaper. This virus is no laughing matter; it steals information from whatever computer it has infected. I am warning you once again do not plug any USB device to the school's computers.

Senior year...So far

By: Camille Corral

All our high school years have been leading up until the day we will become seniors. Now that the time is finally here the excitement is mounting and (most of us) cannot wait until graduation. We seniors have less than three months to go!! With first semester over the time seems to be going by faster with each passing day. For seniors who have been waiting for their senior year to come just so that it could be over wouldn't you think we would be ecstatic to hear news like this? Senior year tends to have a big influence on our lives up to this point and it is hard to believe that one day we are going to miss this.

For me senior year has put a lot of things into perspective, one thing that I have realized is that SMHS has been my home for just about four years now and no matter how badly I want to leave a part of me will never forget or regret this place. Even though I have only lived through half my senior year I am enjoying the perks that do come with the senior territory. One of my favorite things about being a senior is that the teachers are a little more lenient when it comes to the rules. They do pile up the homework and stress the importance of our grades but at least we get some slack on some rules. Mr. Miles for example has on occasion let us text during class, and he even let us make a mess in his extra room. When you are a senior filling out scholarships becomes a daily ritual, but this comes with an advantage too. Since everyone at our school wants us to succeed the counselors are constantly finding new scholarships for us to fill out and apply for, and they just so happen to do this during class. (and if you are lucky during Mr. Adami's class)

Senior year does put us to the test and it forces us to accept change but it is a fun and amazing year. Good luck and I hope the rest of our senior year only gets better, keep up the good work class of 2009 we are almost there!

Wrestlers are Back for More!

by: Christina Hall

Wrestling is a sport not many choose to do. It consists of a lot of training and plenty of focus. Wrestling is a sport that deals with both physical and mental strength. The head Coach for the San Manuel wrestling team is Mr. Manny Yubeta. Assistant Coaches to the wrestling team are Vince Majalca, Rick Majalca, Daniel Najera, Raul Baeza, and Sam Clark. Mr. Yubeta, has a hard working group of men and they all strive for excellence. Returning this year to the wrestling team are Frank Smith, Anthony Segovia, R.J. Segovia, Adrian Ortega, Jose Vasquez, and Angel Medina. New to this year's wrestling team are Ben Adami, Phillip Adami, Eric Cook, C.J. Curry, Anthony Lopez, Wyatt Pena, Alex Villanueva, and Chris Wilson. Managers for the wrestling team are Lexy Bowman, Victoria Madrid and Noelle Medina. The wrestlers will be heading for state on February 13th and 14th. Working hard and succeeding is what our wrestlers are known for. The motto this year is back 4 more. This motto means they are trying for their fourth region title. A wrestling season is always tough but it's the determination that keeps our guys winning. During a wrestling match it's amazing to watch how the crowd goes wild for the wrestler when the match gets intense. It's exciting to see them win and also exciting to watch our Miner wrestlers progress through out the season. We would like to wish the Miner wrestlers the best of luck at state! Congratulations on making it to the top!

Rylarian: Interview With Courtney Encinas

By: Desiree Watson

Q:What is Ryla?

A:It's the rotary leadership awards, a leadership camp where high school students go to learn how to become leaders and help people; it's a lot of fun and there's great food. It was in Chapel Rock, Prescott.

Q:What was it like?

A:It was an amazing experience,you met random people who become your family in less than a week. There was a rock wall, zip line, and a cat walk. One night we had a culture walk,another night a dance,and the last night a bonfire.

Q:What was your worst experience?

A:It was between the egg drop and leaving. Leaving was probably the worse. You get so close to your team,you don't ever want to leave them or the food .

Q:What was your best experience?

A:It's a three way tie:Being with my team,the food (they piled your plates ask B or Merrina),and the dance.

Q:What did you like about it?

A:I mentioned it all, but if I must mention it again the people, all the activities, the hot chocolate, the dance, and the food. (Sorry, Rudy made me mention it, but I can't blame him)

Q:What did you hate about it?

A:Leaving,freezing my butt off,and having to work out shower schedules. Being in a cabin with about 36 girls and only two bathrooms is not exactly fun.

Q:What did you think about the counselors?

A:My favorite counselor was last years counselor,his name is Angelo, he goes to U of A and he is part of Roteract.

Q:What is Roteract?

A:It's the college level of Rotary. They have a high school one called Interact.

Q:Where were the foreign exchange students from?

A:Chile,France,Belgium,Portugal,Brazil,there were more, but I can't remember.

The Rotary

By: Desi Watson

The Rotary international is the largest international service organization. San Manuel's Rotary has been here since 1957. Also since 1957 they have been sponsoring the Rotary track meet and giving out scholarships. The Rotary's main focus world wide is to eradicate Polio from the world. They have followed through with by giving out vaccinations worldwide. Our Rotary here in San Manuel main focus is to help kids who show promise to get to college. The Rotary's motto is "Build good will and friendship." Most members in the Rotary are business people, they meet every tuesday at 7: 00A.M. Our student Rotarians are Camille Corral, Mayra Tamayo, Jessica Harrison, Gabrielle Sanchez, Rikki Maestas, Ralph Medina, Mario Sanchez, Heather Carter, Adriana Gonzalez, and Willie Garcia. The Rotarians for January are Angel Olvera and Tiffani Kent.

School Clubs

By: Desi Watson

The AP club is one of the many clubs at San Manuel High. The president of the AP club is Willie Garcia. Mr. Adami is the teacher in charge of the AP club. The main reason for the AP club is so that the students will have a way to pay for the AP test. They have done many things to raise money. Another club we have is SADD or Students Against Destructive Decisions. They meet to help students so they want make destructive decisions. We have an Art club they meet to do things that have to do with art. These are must the clubs that we have in San Manuel High.

A First Hand Look at Windows 7

By: Rudy Hill and Preston Casillas

All testing was done on a Beta version of Windows 7, 32 bit.

Later this year Microsoft is planning to release their latest operating system called Windows 7. According to them this is going to be the best Windows system to date. We were a bit skeptical when we heard that Microsoft had improved their software because they said the same thing when they unveiled Windows Vista. Windows Vista was basically the worst operating system on the market, and that was one of the reasons we didn't believe Microsoft. When we started the install on W7 (Windows 7) we noticed that they kept a lot of Vista themes, but after we installed it,that is when we saw the potential this OS had.

They redid the main settings that we are used to seeing in previous Windows OS (Operating System). The menu that pops up when you right click on something was redone so that people could not easily delve deeper into the machine to mess with the main settings. A lot of your folder options are still available, but this makes a computer technician's job a little harder. Accessing your main files is still the same. They have the start menu the same as it was in Vista, but it's not that big of a deal. The real shocker of W7 was that Microsoft was using a lot of things that are found mainly in a Linux OS. As we looked even closer at the OS we saw some other things that are in many of the Mac operating systems. The thing that we liked about W7 was that even in its Beta stage it was just as good and in some cases better than Windows XP.

We are not really big Windows fans, but W7 seems that it is going to be a really good operating system. This is the OS that will bring Microsoft back into the battle of the OS's. The OS only takes up a little over three gigabytes of hard drive space and it only need 512 megabytes of RAM to run. W7 runs better than Windows XP does on XP's minimal computer requirements.

The main problem that we seemed to have encountered a lot was that W7 did not like Legacy Hardware (Old Computer Parts). When we tried to update the drivers for the hardware it could not find anything. W7 seems as if it is going to be a new start for Microsoft, and we hope that Microsoft will build better OS's off of this one.

Pros:

It is User Friendly.

It has a nice interface.

Files are easy to access.

It works with legacy software, but not a 100% effective.

It installs quickly and easily when upgrading from Windows XP or Vista.

It is compatible with computer cleaning software.

Cons:

It is not entirely compatible with legacy hardware.

When reinstalling the OS it messes up during extraction.

It will not install if the machine has a Windows OS before XP.

It is harder for Computer Techs to access areas that are hidden from Basic Users.



Prom 2009!!!!

Anorexia

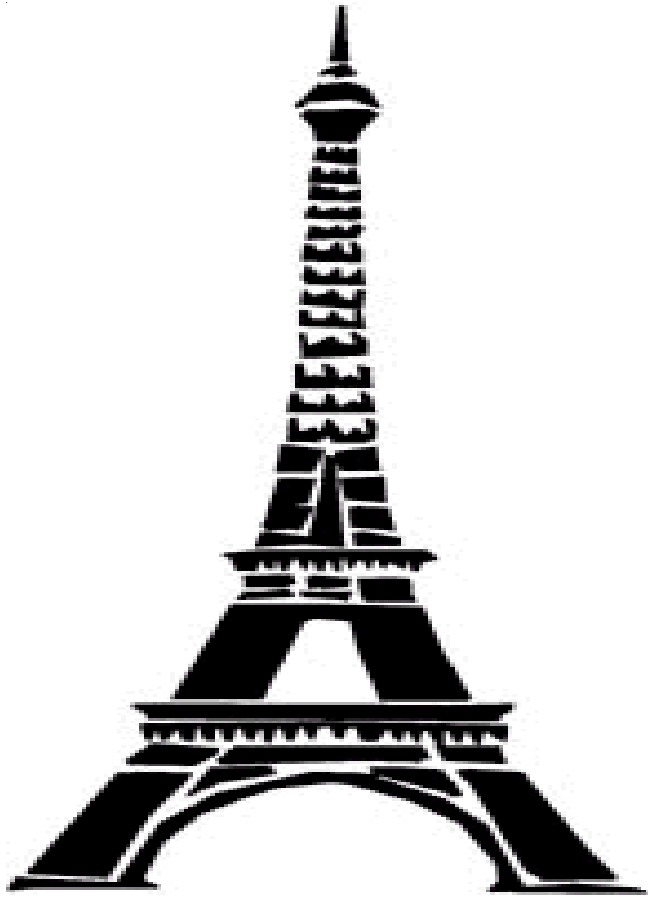
By: Alycia Franco

Date: April 4, 2009

Time: 8 P.M.-12 A.M.

Place: Omni Tuscon National.

Theme: Paris The City of Love.



This year prom is going to be the time of your life so don't miss it. Bring a date, dress to impress and have fun!!!! Number one thing to remember have a n *Alcohol* free prom!!!!!!

No Alcohol= Fun Prom!!

Let's talk about something most people choose to joke about. Anorexia may not seem like a big deal but in fact it's actually deadly. Why do so many people choose to laugh about it instead of trying to help the people who have this eating disorder. Laughing and making fun of people with this eating disorder only makes it worse. Why not try and help make it better! One of the biggest problems with anorexia is some people want to be anorexic because they think it will make them look good.

Do you think someone you know might have anorexia? It's not hard to figure out if they do. If they are starting to refuse to eat in public you should be concerned or at least pay closer attention to them. Maybe they can no longer do the things they were able to do because they are too weak. Weakness, along with brittle skin, shortness of breath, anxiety, and obsessiveness about calorie intake are all symptoms of anorexia.

People with anorexia think it's not a big deal and that there is no major effect from it, however, they are seriously mistaken. Anorexia has so many harmful affects on the body such as: shrunken bones, mineral loss, low body temperature, irregular heartbeat, permanent failure of normal growth, and development of osteoporosis and bulimia nervosa. Brain and nerves stop thinking right, fear of weight gain, sadness, moodiness, irritability, bad memory, fainting, and changes in brain chemistry are all possible. Hair might start to thin and become brittle, the heart might have low blood pressure and a slow heart rate as well. A person will also become anemic along with other blood problems.

Remuda Programs for Eating Disorders is one of the many places victims of anorexia can go for help. Remuda is located in Arizona and Virginia and offers separate programs for women, adolescent girls and children. Patients at Remuda have a team of professionals, including a primary care provider, psychologist, psychiatrist, therapist, dietitian and a host of nurses. For more information on anorexia and how to get help visit www.remudaranch.com



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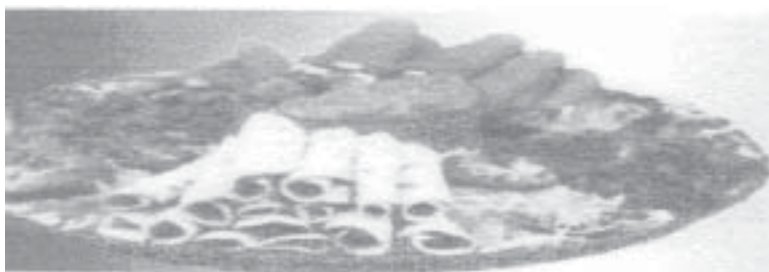
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San Manuel Ink.

By: Camille Corral

Everyone has different opinions when it comes to tattoos, some people like them and others strongly disapprove. Having just got a tattoo myself I have heard opinions from both sides. Most of the students showed interest in my tattoo and I really didn't hear anything negative from them. The teachers on the other hand had more to say. Mr. J scolded me and warned me that I might have Hepatitis or even AIDS! Mr. Adami expressed his opinion by stating that he thought tattoos look like bruises. And good old Mr. Smith yelled at me for drawing on myself. Even after hearing these comments I'm still happy with my tattoo and I would like to get more in the future. I am not the only student at this school who has an interest in tattoos; here are some others that might change your possibly biased mind about getting "inked"

How many tattoos do you have?

Why did you get a tattoo? Do they have any significant meaning to you?

Do you plan on getting more?

Do you think tattoos are attractive on the opposite sex?

Do you think you will like your tattoo in forty years?

George Quijada

I have four tattoos. I always wanted to get them. All four have special meaning. My first was Jesus on my back so i know he is always with me. Second was Have Hope on my wrist for my grandmas breast cancer which my sister and cousins have. Third and fourth were believe and Achieve on both my triceps, these two tell me to think exactly what they say and to never doubt myself. Yes I do plan on getting more but not right away. Tattoos aren't something that you want to rush, you have to live with them, if its something worthless you will hate it in the future. Yes i think women are very attractive with tattoos, but not too much and no tramp stamp. It shows they have a little fun side to them. But to both guys and girls don't ever put someone else's name on your body. Yes forty years from now I believe I will like them because I thought about them hard and they will still mean good things to me at that old age. It will remind me of who i was today.

Alyssa Martinez

I have one tattoo. Well I got the tattoo because my dad and I bonded over horses. We actually got matching tattoos. Some people say its dumb but they don't understand how much it means to me. I want to get a lot more! It really doesn't matter to me. A tattoo can be a major turn off. Of course! When I'm like seventy I'll show them to my grandkids even though they will probably look like shribbled blots.

Keep in mind when thinking of getting a tattoo that it is a big decision. As cool as tattoos might seem getting one could be a huge mistake. So if you are thinking about getting one don't make a rash decision, think about it and talk to your parents before getting permanently "inked".



Counselor's Corner

By: Camille Corral

Believe it or not our counselors do more for us (the students) than just change our classes. Their main goal is to assure that we are all successful in school and anything else we might have in our future. Their goal for the seniors is to make sure that everyone is on the right path to graduate by checking up on our grades and ensure that we are taking the right classes. As for the rest of the student body our counselors want to help them prepare for their future in the same ways. Here is some advice they have for underclassmen to prepare them for their senior year and beyond:

- Volunteer! The main component for nearly any scholarship you will be applying for is volunteer work. Scholarships do not want students who volunteer occasionally, they want student who have volunteered for all four years of their high school year or more.
- Join clubs, student council, SADD, FCA, band/choir, or any other type of club will look good on an application.
- Start caring about your letter grade. An A counts for 4 points towards your G.P.A, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0 so if you get a low grade in one class that can affect your G.P.A greatly.
- Come in to their office to get a regular check up on your grades, class rank, or any other questions you might have.
- Take classes at the Early College/First Step Program that CAC offers. Not only does it look good on your part, but if you want to get a chance at a higher grade in a class you might be able to retake that class at CAC.
- Start looking at the scholarships that you are going to be interested in applying for that way you will know what they require and you will have an opportunity to fulfill the requirements sooner than later.
- Take the PSAT as a sophomore or junior. Also it is recommended that you take the ACT at the end of your junior year so you can experience the test before your senior year starts. You get three chances to achieve the highest grade possible on the test and the experience will show you what you need to focus on studying to get a higher grade. Most universities require a 23 (there is no requirement for junior/community college) the best grade possible on the test is a 36 composite score, and scholarships start passing out the big bucks for a score of 28 or higher. Our school will be hosting the ACT test on June 13 this year for anyone interested.

Check with the counselors for any up coming dates that you should be aware of.

Twilight From a Guy's Perspective

By: Rudy Hill

First of all let me start off by saying don't judge a book by its cover. *Twilight* to me looked to me like it was going to be a good movie, but in fact it was the one of the worst movies I have ever seen. I thought that since it was a vampire movie that there was going to be at least some blood and gore, but all it showed was a bite mark and a cut that was caused by broken glass. I was really disappointed with the vampires. They did not have fangs, they were not the least bit frightening, and they did not burst into flames and die when they got in direct sunlight. To me I thought that it was a really stupid idea to make a vampire shine like diamonds in direct sunlight. Vampires are the creatures of the night. They are only supposed to go out when there is no sun or when there is heavy cloud coverage.

Okay, back to the movie. The whole movie was a story about abstinence. Edward is trying his hardest to not give in to his urges for Bella. She wants him, but he wants to stay abstinent. She is willing to do anything for him she doesn't care what might end up happening in the end. The acting I thought was terrible. Edward was too serious and it seemed as if he was trying to hard to play a role that he was not meant for. The character Jasper was a joke. He looked as if he was constipated. Bella was just as bad as Edward. It seemed as if she kept on forgetting her lines and didn't seem to be in character most of the time. To me the only one that actually played her role really well was Alice. She was the one that seemed to not mess up as much as her fellow actors. Another thing that I thought was ridiculous was that Edward has qualities that almost make him a super hero. Like he runs super fast, he climbs trees like a monkey on steroids, and he can stop a five thousand pound van with one arm.

To me the whole story line was kind of a joke. A girl falling in love with a vampire, and actually wants to turn into one seems ridiculous. I never read any of the books and do not plan to read them after watching this movie. In my opinion this movie was a disgrace to all vampire movies. The part in the movie that I thought was really stupid was when Edward told Bella that he and his family were the vegetarians of vampires because they only drank animal blood. All in all I thought the movie was horrible and a waste of my time, and I do not recommend this movie to anyone. It is mainly directed toward the audience of teenage girls.

My Bloody Valentine 3D



By: Rudy Hill

My Bloody Valentine was a pretty good movie just by itself, but with the 3D effects to go with it made it a really good horror movie. The movie goes right into it starting off with horrifying events that are the base of the whole movie. After the first thirty minutes or so it skips ahead to ten years later. The characters in the beginning have all started their lives and are coping with the pain that happened to them ten years ago. The thing that really gets the audience thinking is that after the unfortunate event that happened ten years ago one of the victims leaves town and then returns later.

Although he is the main character he is the link that makes everyone in the movie look like the killer. I do not want to reveal too much about the storyline of the movie to you, but I will tell you that it is suspenseful and full of parts that will make you jump. The ending is as twisted as the movie itself. I can tell you that making this movie in 3D was an excellent idea. During the movie you have a pick axe swung at you, a gun in your face, and you end up becoming splattered with blood. Guys this would be an excellent movie to take your special Valentine to if you want score some points with her, and girls this would be a great chance to see how tough your guy actually is. The entire movie was great and the graphics were greater. The only thing I did not like about the movie was that you had to wear these big dorky glasses, but at least they are not the red and blue type 3D glasses you normally get.

Swift is Fearless

By Zoey Fowler

In a recording industry where Nashville is dominated by male singers in their 30's and 40's, a 19 year old young lady stands her own. On her her debut albums in 2006 three million copies were sold. Taylor Swift has become a role model for teens across America. Taylor Swift in *Fearless* sticks to her favorite topic boys, boys, boys. In files noted as "love struck" or "angry at you". Taylor now added a new category called "Tell me why". She sings of princess and ballroom gowns with kissing in the rain. *Fearless*, is a combination of girl talk and a young girls diary. In my opinion Taylor Swift's new CD is a confession that is personal and true

Can You Name The Bands?

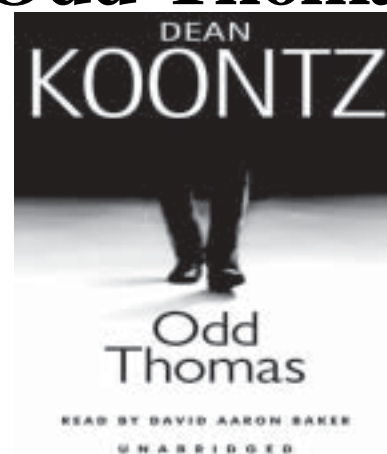
By : Zoey Fowler

Think you know every song in the book. Test your knowledge. In the paragraphs below are songs and lyrics. The lyrics are transformed into a little story. For all those "music lovers" lets see if you can name those bands.

I want to be 17 forever like the song. Or be an angel on the moon . And have an avenge that is sevenfold and say 'Dear God' but remember to leave out all the rest. Some days you can hate me. But the next day I'm still so addicted to you. So, would you lay here? Would you just lay here? Would you lay with me and just forget that I'm a womanizer. But we do have a love story if you only say, "Yes".

Good luck! Remember sometime the answers are in the lyric. Try coming up with a few on your own. Simply take lyrics from your favorite songs and try to piece them together into a story. Believe me this can take up some of your time if you're really bored.

Odd Thomas



By: Carolina Sharpe

How many times have you found a suspenseful and mysterious book which also is somewhat humorous and catches your complete attention? Does it also have a main character which is witty and sarcastic? It hasn't happened too many times to me, but recently I read the book *Odd Thomas*, that has those traits. It is written by Dean Koontz. The book starts out a little slow with the main character, Odd, explaining his simple life. Later he starts revealing that he can see and talk to ghosts although they can't talk back. Nearly all the ghosts are friendly and timid, until one day Odd sees a couple of evil spirits lingering around a stranger he's never seen before. The story unravels into an immense story you won't want to put down. Koontz writes in vivid details that make you feel involved in the story. I would definitely recommend it to those who love a good mystery novel.

Picture from [<http://www.popcritics.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/07/oddtomas.jpg>]

New School Uniforms for High School

By: Carolina Sharpe

As we all know, next year students are required to wear uniforms for school. This is something the majority of us students are resenting. However, thanks to the junior class student council, next year jeans and solid/plain colored T-shirts. They went to the school board and asked if these were reasonable and appropriate changes to the policy. The school board approved. I decided to ask Mr. Ryan what his opinion is for this new uniform policy for high school students.

Q: What do you think of the changes in the uniform policy?

Mr. Ryan: I like them, these changes still distinguish who's in high school and junior high. High school students are older so they should have more choices in what to wear.

Q: Why do you think it'll be easier for students to follow this dress code?

Mr. Ryan: It's plain and simple. This change has more specific rules.

Q: What will happen to those who disobey the dress code?

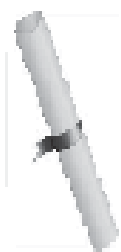
Mr. Ryan: The punishment will be similar to the Junior highs. For a better understanding, refer to the student handbook.

Q: Do you think students are going to be more satisfied with these changes?

Mr. Ryan: Yes, I believe both will be happier. High school students still get to wear jeans, but must still look proper.

Q: What was the students' motivation to bring up this idea with the school board?

Mr. Ryan: The juniors wanted a middle ground, especially since it will be their senior year when uniforms will be enforced. They didn't want to look completely like the junior high, but also wanted to follow the uniform dress code.



Graduation Announcements

By Stylart

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Kentucky Teacher Takes Students To Inauguration!

By: Rikki Maestas

A San Manuel High School Alumni is now teaching at a high school in Kentucky. He decided to take some of his advanced students to the inauguration. This man is Mr. Smith's son and I was lucky enough to have been able to talk to him and ask him a few questions. This is what he had to say.

Q. How many students did you take to the inauguration?

A. 50

Q. How much did it cost?

A. About \$730.00 per student. This money covered four nights in a hotel, a tour of D.C., tour of museums, and a few students were able to go to one of the inaugural balls.

Q. What made you want to take your students?

A. We began planning the trip in September and at the time we were thinking either Hilary Clinton or Barack Obama was going to become president. We knew that we were going to be witnessing history one way or the other and we wanted to be a part of it.

Q. What students were able to go?

A. Journalism students, U.S. History students, A.P. Political Science Students, A.P. Government students, and two sophomores.

Q. Why were only two sophomores able to go?

A. Well it had a lot to do with the classes they were taking. We also didn't want to take students that were younger than 16 years old because there were going to be hundreds of people there.

Q. What kind of impact were you hoping seeing the inauguration of the first African American would have on your students?

A. I wanted them to get a sense of the inauguration and that it was such a big deal. I wanted them to see the first African American be inducted because it was a life-changing experience that could maybe impact their lives personally.

Q. Do you think your students got everything out of the inauguration that they could have?

A. Yes. For the most part it is still sinking in for everyone and most are still in awe.

History of the Miner Man

By: Desiree Watson

How many of us know where and when the miner man came to be? In 1967 the mascot was a mule, not the miner man. We don't know when miner man came to be. We don't know whether or not the miner man even has a name. If the mascot was a mule to begin with, then why create the miner man. As far as people remember we have always been the Miners. Where did the miner man come from and why doesn't he have a name? He came to be in the seventies. So this year we've decided that the miner man needs a name.

Name The Miner Man

By: Nani Bayordo and Desi Watson

As we know the miner man doesn't have a name so we are having a contest on what the miner man's name should be. So fill these slips out and bring them into

Mr. Smith's class

What you want to name the miner man: _____

16 Year Old Experiences Inauguration First Hand

By: Rikki Maestas

I had the honor of interviewing one of the students that went to the inauguration with Mr. Smith's son. The student I was able to interview is named Lila Leatherman and is a senior at Woodford County High School in Kentucky. This is what she had to say about the inauguration and the whole experience that came along with it.

Q. How old are you?

A. 16

Q. Were there other people your age at the inauguration?

A. I had friends from a summer program that I know went. There were a lot of different age groups and the age group of 18-24 was represented very well.

Q. How did you feel when you found out you were going to have the opportunity to go to the inauguration?

A. The month or so leading up to the inauguration became more and more realistic and I just became more and more excited.

Q. If you were of age to vote, would you have voted for Obama?

A. Definitely!

Q. Being so young, do you feel that you got the full effect of the inauguration or do you think you would have gotten more out of it if you were older?

A. I feel that I got as much out of it as anyone else. Everyone got the feeling of excitement and inspiration. Another one of my teachers said that his experience was so great that if he could have he would have gone to more inaugurations.

Q. What kind of fund-raisers did you do since is cost over \$700.00 per student to go?

A. We didn't really fund-raise. The money needed to go was paid out of pocket by the parents and families of the students that went. I was very lucky my parents were able to afford to send me.

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