

Campus News

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Op-Ed

# Aviator News

## § Campus News §

### The Fallback Dance

—KAMERA FORD & MONIQUE EJENUKO—

HMSA is having its first Fallback Dance for the year of 2013-2014, and all students are welcome. It will be held on November 1, around the end of Spirit Week. Having this dance will be a great way for students of all grade levels to spend time with one another.

Students who attend HMSA know that classwork, homework, tests, and quizzes are rigorous. Everyone needs a break from all the stress that is placed upon them at school, and the Fallback Dance is the perfect remedy. This dance gives everyone the opportunity to come out of their shells and meet new people, while also being able to hang out with old friends. Like always, the dance will be chaperoned by Mr. Berumen, Ms. Smith, and Ms. Reese. Even with her busy schedule, Ms. Reese was kind enough to take time out of her day to give us all some information about the upcoming dance.

According to Ms. Reese, “the dance will begin at 8pm and end at 11pm, on November 1. The price for the dance is cheap, ranging

from only \$5-\$10. You do not have to be eligible to attend the Fallback Dance. Also, students’ pockets and bags will be searched for security measures.”

Students echoed Ms. Reese, who said, “Lots of people, especially the incoming ninth graders, are getting many log entries. The dance is a way for the students to take their minds off of school, relax, and have fun.”

Freshman Kevin Candray comments, “Dances are nice and I would like to attend one.” Sophomore Kimberly Rivera agrees, “I think dances are a great way to meet people and blow

off steam.” Junior Javier Guevara affirms, “Dances liven up the high school experience.” This dance is going to be great, and some students, including myself, are already excited and can’t wait for the Fallback Dance.

ASB President Marc Ninapaytan also gives us some more information about the dance. Marc declares, “Let this be the unifying year for all Aviators. This event will be held at our surprise HMSA location. Expect it to be poppin’.”

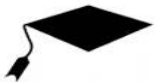


### All About MESA

—MUTIARA SUKANTRI—

Looking for a club that nurtures your love for math and science? Join Mathematics, Engineering, Science, and Achievement (MESA)! This group opens opportunities for students interested in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to expand their knowledge outside the classroom. Students have a chance to be in CP MESA or the afterschool club. “Each group is assigned different projects that should be completed by MESA Day, where students will face other schools head-to-head with their creations at USC,” Jose Martinez explained. Projects in-

clude packaged egg-drops, robotics, mousetrap cars, and balsawood bridges and gliders. Not only do people work on interesting projects, they also interact with those who have similar interests. Being a part of MESA looks well-rounded on college applications. If this is the right club for you, contact Mrs. Bayani, Jose Martinez, or Brian Moncada



### Tolerance Club

—SAMANTHA GUTIERREZ—

With the 2013-2014 school year well into its first month, our school clubs have already formed and are preparing to make this year a fun (and productive) one. One such club includes Tolerance Club, supervised by our very own Ms. Sharpe.

This year, significant changes can already be seen. In fact, there

are now twice as many members in the club than there were last year. New topics will also be discussed, such as social injustice, women’s rights, LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender), gay marriage, and much more. The club has also welcomed their new elected president, Francisco Requeña (Senior),

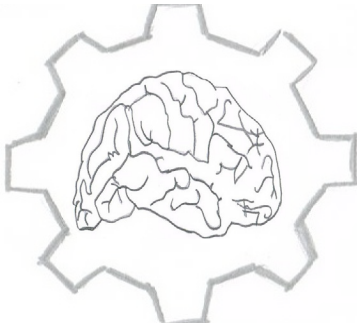
This 2013-2014 school year, the nation has changed its classes to fit a new program: Common Core. The subjects that affected are English and Math.

According to Common Core State Standards, “The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers.”

Ms. Siegler explains, “Common Core attempts to be universal, so that states are more accurately measured (much like SAT results are used to compare students across the nation).”

Common Core classes have advantages and disadvantages. Ms. Bayani comments, “Common Core standards address the students’ focus on critical thinking; it is an eye opener to real life applications of all fields of study. For now, the only challenge we are facing is the transition stage, where we are all neophytes to this curriculum.”

Students will have to approach these new classes in a different matter. Ms. Siegler says, “Students are expected to work hard, try their best, and be accepting of new ideas



that may challenge/change their thinking.”

These classes have a different difficulty level than what our students are normally accustomed to.

“Common Core requires more of logic, reasoning, calculations that justify your decision,” states Ms. Bayani. Teachers had to make some adjustments to meet the standards set by the state.

“We started planning on that since last year; it took us almost a year to change the curriculum and prepare ourselves for the transition, knowing that we don’t have enough resources and that we are limited to what we have,” Ms. Bayani affirms.

Ms. Siegler closes by saying, “Common Core also allows for much for collaboration between grade levels and content areas, and I think this is going to be something that changes HMSA for the better.”

### New AR Logs

—MARYAM SULTAN—

The weeks before AR (Accelerated Reader) points are due are some of the most hectic weeks of the year. Everyone crowds in the libraries and computer labs and runs around trying to find books. But now, these are the first weeks we received our AR logs in HMSA. For freshman, the whole concept of AR points is new. But for the upperclassmen, what’s new is the log itself.

This fall, the logs are personalized, with our names, grade, ZPD, and homeroom teacher printed on the log and given to us. If we lose

it, we have to go to Mr. Berumen to print out a new one. That will keep us all motivated to keep those AR logs safe. All the information about due dates, points needed, and additional rules are also printed out on the log.

While some people might dread reading and the whole concept of AR points, Mr. Berumen has some noble expectations for us. He says that because AR started he wants students to find at least one “life changing book.” Hopefully, each one of us finds one.



## Key Club: Wondering Where You'll Fit In?

—KRISTINE LOCSIN—

How do you feel?! At every event, Key Clubbers, from the various Pirate Penguins (D19N), Beasty Bunnies (D19S), or Ninjas (D13S) are heard and seen. Aside from the peculiar but catchy names, Key Club has a major emphasis to serve children and teens.

What is Key Club? “**Key Club International** is the oldest, largest, and most successful non-profit student-led organization for high school students” (cnhkeyclub.org). It helps members develop leadership skills through serving others, working with others, and building character. Have you seen the words “D19N” posted in school? D19N

stands for Division 19 North. Since Key Club is represented in 30 countries, it is broken up into four categories: Club, Division, District, and International. There are many components in each of the categories, but all you need to know is that our members belong in the HMSA Key Club, Division 19 North.

HMSA Key Club is led by advisor Ms. Mendoza, who feels that Key Club is “an important way to earn community service and be good citizens.” Vice-president Beteana Leyretana asserts, “Key Club is an incredible experience [and will] greatly impact anyone’s life.” Key Club is an efficient way

to finish the required 100 hours in less than 4 years (if members go to most volunteering events presented during the Monday meetings). According to Ms. Mendoza, Monday meetings held in the MPR are “mandatory but exceptions are made for those in sports.” Fundraising is an important component in Key Club, Ms. Mendoza emphasizes, because “part of the money goes to Kiwanis, Pediatric Trauma Program (PTP), other charities, and fun events like Bowling Night. Key Club [also uses the money] for administrative resources”. Although this may seem like a lot of money to fundraise, Key Clubbers usually

sell after-school snacks and Pirate Penguin t-shirts in addition to collecting donations. HMSA Key Club raised an estimated \$2,000 for the Relay for Life event this year.

Above all, Ms. Mendoza would like new members to “attend meetings, perform community service hours, and represent Key Club in a positive manner.”



(Image taken from: [www.cnhkeyclub.org](http://www.cnhkeyclub.org))



Key Club members attended the Monday meeting in the MPR.

## No Pink. No Tiaras.

—KARLA GUARDADO & BRYANA CARRILLO—

Freshmen and Senior English teacher Mr. Jahnke was recently gifted with a sweet, little bundle of joy on April 29, 2013. Born at about 3AM, five-month-old Charlotte Jahnke, nicknamed Charley, is Mr. Jahnke’s first child. According to Mr. Jahnke, she will probably not know her real birth name until she sees her birth certificate, because everyone calls her Charley.

Before Charley was born, Mr. Jahnke “wanted a baby boy but that was pre-parent talking.” After seeing Charley come into the world, Mr. Jahnke believes “a happy, healthy baby is all that matters. What a relief that is behind everything.” Mr. Jahnke is more than happy to have a new family member in his life even if it was not his preferred boy.

Although having a baby is exciting, it can also be a pain. Unfortunately for Mr. Jahnke, Charley does not currently sleep through the night and, since she has no teeth, is constantly drooling. To make matters worse she will begin eating solid foods in a month, which tends to get extraordinarily messy. Unlike most people who view work as stressful, Mr. Jahnke sees teaching as

more relaxing than taking care of Charley. After picking her up after work Mr. Jahnke works harder between the hours of 3:30 and 6:30 PM than he does at school. As a new parent he has no time to relax and cannot do anything without taking Charley into consideration; simple tasks, such as going to the mall, becomes difficult because of the car seat. What Mr. Jahnke most looks forward to is his daughter asking him to leave her alone because when she does, he can finally have a life again.

However stressful a new baby can be, Mr. Jahnke never expected such a rewarding gift: “Changing a diaper isn’t so bad...she’s cute and everything” he says.

As a new father, Mr. Jahnke sees students in a different way; he now understands that some students may not have had the same opportunity to have parents help them in reading or math. With his new understanding, he feels more empathy for students’ parents and no longer gets upset with students who do not progress quickly.

An interesting fact about Charley: she has Mr. Jahnke’s

large hands. He hopes that Charley’s big hands will help her successfully play several sports, including basketball and softball. As an active guitar player, Mr. Jahnke expects that his baby girl will learn how to play the guitar as well as he does. However active a participant he’ll be in Charley’s guitar skills, he does not plan on participating in holiday events or major milestones. Although he is pressured by his wife, Mr. Jahnke does not want to go trick-or-treating with Charley nor does he want to go on her first trip to Disneyland.

The most unusual of aspect about Charley’s future is how she will grow up around Mr. Jahnke’s rule: “No pink. No tiaras.” Charley will not be having any pink clothing or accessories in her wardrobe and, most unusual of all, Charley will not be a princess anytime in her future. Mr. Jahnke’s explanation for his decision is that parents are essentially preparing their young girls into believing in a job that does not exist. “Being a princess is not a job,” he says. However, she will go to college, she will not lag, and one day she will get a real job. Until then, though,



Charlotte “Charley” Jahnke poses for the camera as she proudly wears an “I Love Daddy” shirt.

Charley has no hope of becoming a princess, even if it is for pretend.

As for students and staff wondering if they will ever meet Charley, she might go to “Talent Show or Multicultural.” Hopefully in the coming months, everyone will get to meet the little, non-princess who has taken control of Mr. Jahnke’s world.



## The Last of Us

—YASMINE GUTIERREZ—

The summer of 2013 was a good one for gamers: Bioshock Infinite, Deadpool, and Remember Me were only a few of the titles that kept people up for days at a time, yet there was another game truly worthy of the Game of the Year title: The Last of Us.

Junior Jesse Torres “heard about it during the summer of 2011 and would watch every possible development video and read every development article and ‘fangirled’ when [he] saw [Naughty Dog] released a gameplay demo at E3 2012.”

In the break of fungal infection that leads to a contagious pandemic, Joel witnesses the death of his daughter, forcing him to move on and to become a brutish man with no sense of empathy. Working

“Gaming’s *Citizen Kane* moment – a masterpiece” – Empire

with the black market smuggling contraband, he now has a new mission: bringing a fourteen-year-old girl, Ellie, to another surviving faction in one piece. While traveling with her, Joel finds that she is immune to the infection and is the one sign of hope that the world has had in 20 years. As they kill and maul, their goal of surviving turns into the mission of staying together.

Although the theme of “zombie apocalypse” has quickly come in and taken over the mainstream, Naughty Dog was successful in turning this played-out concept into a memorable story.

A chief complaint from players was that the whole game felt too much like a movie. The storyline is pretty extended, spanning through

the events of a year, but that should make it more interactive and connected: even PlayStation Official Magazine Australia said it’s “emotionally draining... [but] absolutely one of the finest games of this generation.” Playing an FPS (first-person shooter) with no character development doesn’t bring the same sensation.

A good example of this is Left 4 Dead. It’s another infection-based FPS, but it begins and ends the same way: moving forward with guns and killing the infected. It’s always fun to play, but players don’t feel the same connection with Bill, Louis, Francis, and Zoey as they do with Ellie and Joel.

A concept that makes this infection interesting is that cordyceps



fungus in the game is real. Though it doesn’t really control the human mind and produce a fungal outbreak on the brain, it does have some control over the actions of small bugs and snails, and the fungus really can be seen growing on their heads.

Even though this genre isn’t for everyone, and some people despised the ending (either play it or ask someone who has to find out), many YouTube Let’sPlayers have done play-throughs and it received 10/10 across the board from IGN, Official PlayStation Magazine, EDGE, and other acclaimed gaming critics.

## VIDEOGAMES

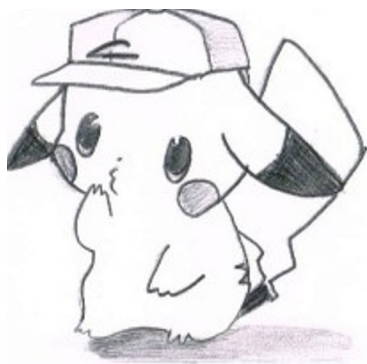
### I Choose You, Pikachu!

—LEANETTE ESTRADA—

We all know one of the hardest childhood decisions was choosing between Charmander (obviously the best one), Squirtle, and Bulbasaur.

It was frustrating to know that your rival Gary, “The Pokémon Master,” always knew the weakness of your starter Pokémon. Remember people thought Magikarp was so weak that nobody wanted to catch it? Come on, you only had to train it for 20 levels until it turned into a powerful Gyrados. How can we forget our first legendary? Of course we never used a Master Ball to catch Mewtwo, Rayquaza, Groudon, or Arceus. Who can forget that epic fail moment when you forgot to save your game before battling the Elite Four? That was something we all went through and that moment was excruciating for all of us.

With the new Pokémon X and Y games coming out, these memories can’t help but return to us. Yes, the new Pokémon games will never be as great as the older ones, but these games have the potential to give Pokémon gamers a taste of nostalgia. The new game is said to tie some of the original Pokémon and other original features to the new generation of Pokémon and features of the game. While many Pokémon fans may be skeptical about the new game because it includes the new generation of Pokémon, one fellow student sees the true meaning of



being a Pokémon fan. Manuel Ceballos mused: “The regions and the Pokémon may have changed over 15 years ago, but the adventure and the heart of the games has persisted for five generations of Pokémon: to catch them all and to be the very best.” Let’s face it, Pokémon will never be as great as it once was but that doesn’t mean one must forget about its roots. These new X and Y games were designed with the original Pokémon fans in mind. So, for those original Pokémon fans who are looking for a blast from the past or for a gamer looking to enter the world of Pokémon, Pokémon X and Y is a great game to satisfy those desires.



### AMC’s Chart Topper Returns for a Fourth Season

—ADRIANA SANDOVAL—

**TWD displays motifs of survival of the fittest and a loss of humanity & sanity in despondent debauchery**

Millions of people across the country are counting down the days until October 13. As some might be aware that is the day the season 4 premiere of “The Walking Dead” airs on AMC.

“I was SHOCKED by the ending of season 3 because it was so different from the book. The governor is a great story line but I can’t wait to see what happens back at the prison in season 4,” enthuses Ms. Enger.

For those who aren’t familiar with the show, according to LA Times, “TWD is clearly a sophisticated story of how civilization resembles itself in the wake of disaster, there are still a lot of zombies wandering around.”

TWD displays motifs of survival of the fittest and a loss of humanity and sanity in despondent debauchery. LA Times also released a review saying “Writer and director Frank Darabont (“The Shawshank Redemption,” “The Green Mile”) seamlessly stitches together grand American traditions including the western, the separated-family drama and, of course, the post-apocalypse tale, creating the first zombie epic, with sprawling storylines, archetypal characters and imagery.”

The show is based on a comic se-

ries, but the two differ. Certain characters died in the show that didn’t die in the comics and vice versa. Also, there are characters such as the fan favorite Daryl Dixon who were not included in the comics but were made for the sole purpose of the television series. Gaby Rodriguez claimed Daryl as her favorite character. When asked about her favorite character Ms. Enger said, “On the TV show, my favorite character is Daryl. He is fiercely protective but in a very calm way. In the comics, I really like Andrea and Michonne for their strength adapting to this crazy new world.”

Senior Jenny Arechiga decided, “I hate ‘The Walking Dead.’ I find it boring, unrealistic, and dull. It shouldn’t be allowed on national television.” Sophomore Ajaratu Hamid said, “I’ve never seen the show. The thing scares me.” Ajaratu is among the many people that have this mindset about TWD. The show is quite gruesome but come on – you’ve probably seen a person or two lacerated by this point in life. Ms. Enger exclaimed, “I LOVE The Walking Dead. My friend Stephanie got me reading the trade paperbacks but now I’m all caught up on the

**\*See TWD on page 4\***

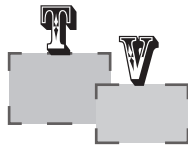




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**\*TWD continued from page 4\***

single issues. I also enjoy the TV show for surprising me with major deviations from the comic. I've been fortunate to meet 'The Walking Dead' creator Robert Kirkman a few times and even attended the 10th anniversary party at SDCC this year. He's hysterical and super nice; I wanted to get something signed as a thank you for my friend Stephanie and he drew a zombie for her!"

Who will die this season? Senior Sergio Rizzo predicted, "I think Glenn or Tyreese will die this season." Ms. Enger expected, "The next character to die will probably be someone we all love. I'm still recovering from issue 100!"

As far as character development goes, Sergio Rizzo commented, "After season 3 I don't like Carl

anymore." Ms. Enger pointed out, "Every character is extremely well developed except one – Rick. I'm so sick of his guns blazing cop approach to everything; he's a flat character whose attitude is going to get people killed. I'd love to see what a new leader would do!"

Why is TWD any different than typical zombie storylines? Well, Ms. Enger said, "The Walking Dead is different because it's a show about people, not zombies. The zombies are predictable monsters but the people can be surprisingly heroic – or monstrous. It was pitched as the story of what happens after a typical zombie movie. It's about life more than it is the dead."



## Technology

Imagine creating a solid model from a digital image by designing any item in 3-D and printing it! The first 3-D printer was built in 1984 by a genius by the name of Chuck Hall. Mr. Gullikson, who has experience in 3-D printing, calls it "the future of engineering technology." In 2009, Earlington High School in St. Paul, Minnesota, he and other students created wrenches, models, and trains with programs called Autodesk and Autocad. He remembers that the most amazing part about the experience was that it was inexpensive yet effective; with the prices starting at only \$300, many people are able to create models. Ms. Kang, an art teacher with previous experience in 3-D, says that 3-D printing is similar to sculpting. She went on to say that the process would be similar to creating a model; the only difference is that modeling the item would be done digitally on a computer.

Another 3-D printing device is the 3-D Doodler Pen, which will be widely released in 2014, but also releases for a limited time in June. The 3-D Doodler pen allows objects to be created in midair and on the spot.

Mr. Gullikson sums up the steps to get started in the 3-D printing business: learn a 3-D program such as Autocad and buy a 3-D printer.



## Summer Album Reviews

—BRANDON AZUOMA—

Although summer is technically over, we are still feeling the impact that summer left on us. Whether it's the heat, the fashion, or even our sleeping schedule, we still can't get those things – and these summer jams – out of our heads.

**Born Sinner** – Born Sinner is artist J Cole's second studio album. Born Sinner has reached gold in album sales. The memorable tracks on the album are "Forbidden Fruit" and "Power Trip."

Rating: 3.5/5

**Yeezus** – Yeezus is Kanye West's sixth studio album. Mr. West takes a bold move by calling himself the equal of Jesus. Yeezus steps outside the boundaries of hip hop by bringing an artistic side to it.

Rating: 3.5/5

**Watching Movies with the Sound Off** – Artist Mac Miller's second studio album is a hit. Miller's album features songs "Gees" and "Watching Movies." Mac Miller incorporated many features in to his album to make it as good as it is.

Rating: 3.5/5

## The X Factor

—GISELLE VAZQUEZ—

Starting its 3rd season on September 11, 2013, "The X Factor USA" has already started out successfully. With two previous judges, Simon Cowell and Demi Lovato, and two new judges, Paulina Rubio and Kelly Rowland, the hit talent TV show had over 6 million views (Huffington Post). With new episodes every Wednesday, the show has thousands of people audition in different cities all over the United States. The contestants then need to receive 3 out of 4 "yesses" from the judges. Once they are past

the audition, they go through a new "4 Chair Challenge," where the top 40 contestant compete for spots on the live shows. Out of 56 students surveyed, 37.5% selected the "X Factor" as their favorite talent based TV show followed by "The Voice" at 25%. Senior Jenny Arechiga exclaims, "I'm so excited [for The X Factor]. I'm peeing myself at the moment, but I don't like the new idea of the 4 Chair Challenge." Which contestant will you be rooting for?

## Fashion Forward Uniforms

—AUJENE BUTLER—

Polo shirts and khaki pants are the basis of our uniforms here at HMSA. Style and personality is projected through each and every one of our outfits through our accents to the uniforms. Some students do not recognize their ingenious fashion forward outfits. Just last week a student rocked a general midnight black Jansport backpack with a khaki skirt, white HMSA polo, and black boots with a messy bun. The contrast between the black hair and white polo really showed her personality. Just today my eyes came across Ryan, a junior, who knows how to accessorize the uniform from head-to-toe. Ryan rocked a green HMSA polo with medium-dark khaki cargo shorts with a pair of pink Nike shoes and mix-match black and pink Breast Cancer awareness Nike socks. When I interviewed him he gave an insight as to what motivates his stylish clothing:

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**Me:** "Why do you wear pink?"

**Ryan:** "Because it supports the fight against breast cancer and it is my favorite color."

**Me:** "Do you know anybody with breast cancer?"

**Ryan:** "Honestly no but it is a good cause and I fully support it."

He was definitely a high trender this month, right alongside with senior Ariana Gary who has had her fair share of fashion forward uniforms. When in-

terviewing Ariana she seemed to have had her sense of style set:

**Me:** "If you had to describe your style in three ways what would it be?"

**Ariana:** "Simple, boho chic, and comfy really sums me up."

**Me:** "Who or what inspires your sense of style?"

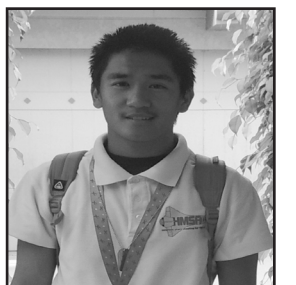
**Ariana:** "I have a close friend who inspires a few of my looks as well as celebrities like Vanessa Hudgens."

**Me:** "What is a must-have when accessorizing your HMSA uniform?"

**Ariana:** "Rings and nail polish are my bare essentials."

Ryan, Ariana, and the anonymous girl as well as a variety of other students have learned the tricks and traits of spicing up the simple khaki pants and polo shirt. Students realize that they can accent their outfits simply by adding a scarf or the right shoes; even the right hairstyle can make all the more difference. Turning something that is totally geek into totally chic is awesome! Just remember we all have our own style from exotic belts to our lanyards. We are all unique, fashionable, and share the same goal here at Hawthorne Math and Science Academy... Success!

Ryan Aquinde



**Doris** – This album is Earl Sweatshirt's debut studio album. This is a critically acclaimed album because of all the hype Odd Future, his label group, has been getting. This album features songs such as "Chum" and "Whoa."

Rating: 4/5

**Magna Carta Holy Grail** – The Hip-Hop legend Jay Z made his twelfth studio album! The album features many hits such as "Holy Grail," "Tom Ford," and "Picasso." Jay Z continues to make his legendary legacy expand by giving the world another album.

Rating: 4/5

**Trap Lord** – This album is A\$AP Ferg's first studio album. The album features songs such as "Shabba" and "Work." This is a well-produced album that tells the story of A\$AP Ferg's success.

Rating: 4.5/5



# SPORTS

## New Girls' Volleyball Season

—BRICE CAPANGPANGAN & JACQUELYN FLORES—

**“This season is looking out to be just great.”**

**—Mr. Kircher**

The new (school) year means a new season for our girls' volleyball team. With many players from previous years along with some newcomers, the team definitely has potential.

The new season started out strong with our Aviators taking a win against Lawndale, outscoring their cross-town rival three times. With the help of both captains, senior Amber Burns and junior Kimberly Ngo, the girls were on a winning streak.

However, their next few games were a little shaky. “I think the team needs to be more unified. The difference between the classes definitely leaves a

gap between some of the players, and that's probably the most major thing we have to overcome,” said Hanna Cartagena, one of the new players.

The team has been training hard and seems to be dissolving their issues. For example, their latest game against CAMS showed that they are still a force to be reckoned with. Although they were disheartened in their first set by losing 16 to 25, they rallied back to a very close loss in their last set with the score being 23 to 25.

The captains are really taking to their roles and are sharing their responsibilities. Co-captain Amber influences the team to do better not only by improving herself but also handling the team as a real leader. She even sits down with the team to discuss

what they need to improve on. Co-captain Kimberly Ngo aids the team individually by offering advice to those who need and/or want it. She inspires the team with her plays such as diving even when the ball appears to be too low. The motivational leadership of the captains does not go unnoticed. According to fans that went out to support the team, there has been a lot of great performance from all the girls on the team, whether they're out playing or cheering their teammates on from the bench.



The Girls' Volleyball Team on the bus.



## New Cross Country Coach

—ISAAC GORGY—

This year, the cross-country team has a new coach: Mr. Gullikson. He began coaching the cross-country team late last year while Mrs. Bawaney was on maternity leave. This season is full of both speculation and expectations.

Mr. Gullikson ran twenty marathons throughout his life. He also runs five to six days a week. His experience with running will be very beneficial to the team. Because he is a runner himself, he will have an easy time understanding the challenges facing new members. He had different types of coaches train him, who passed on a lot of coaching experience.

When I asked the team how well Mr. Gullikson is training them, they

agreed that he is training them very well. One of students, Einstein Lopez (10) praised, “Mr. Gullikson does a great job preparing us; he pushes us to a good limit.” Both team captains, Abraham Ramirez (12) and Nancy Ruvalcaba (12), agree that Mr. Gullikson is preparing them to win.

Everyone on the team is confident about Mr. Gullikson's coaching abilities. Mr. Gullikson is motivated to lead the team to victory. He knows all the team's advantages and disadvantages and more importantly, he knows how to work on those disadvantages. Mr. Gullikson explains how he challenges the team with different activities: “We do long distance running, hills



The Cross Country Team after their run at the beach.

running, beach running...different types of running.”

Both the team and Mr. Gullikson are looking forward to a successful season.

## Lunch Basketball

—ANTHUAN CRUZ—

Many students wonder why the boys at school (including myself) play basketball during lunch. They wonder why we choose to play through the heat and come into class drenched in sweat and stained with dirt. Some of us risk getting hurt every day due to how rough and serious the play gets. We play because it gives us something to look forward to, allows us to never lose our edge in the game, and creates bonds between classmates.

At times, school can be very frustrating. By the time we reach lunchtime, some students desperately want to go home. When that

clock hits 11:40, all of us know that it's game time. Since we do not have a basketball team, this is what we do to compensate. Sophomore Isaac Gorgy comments, “I wish this school had a basketball team and [maybe] that when Mr. Berumen sees us play, he'll consider starting one.” Those 40 minutes of activity are exactly what we need to get us through the rest of the day. Freshman Richard Aban says, “I play just to shoot, to not lose my touch, to play with my friends, and to practice.” While working on the hours of work that HMSA may bless us with, many of us lack the time to

practice and improve our game. So instead of doing our homework last minute, know that we spend those 40 minutes at lunch being productive and active.

Playing basketball at lunch is a quick way to create bonds and meet new people, regardless of grade level. I remember that as a freshman I connected with other freshmen easily due to our love for basketball. As soon as we had built a small team, the upper classmen came in and challenged us. Though we did not have as much team chemistry as the upper classmen, we still had fun and became well acquainted

with them. Playing basketball is a quick way to welcome the incoming freshmen and help them get comfortable in our school.

Though we enter our 5th and 6th period looking like we just came back from war, know that our appearance afterwards is a small price to pay for a rewarding experience. We may not have an organized team or practices, but we are still able to connect and help each other improve.

Southern California Hockey

—BRIAN LU—

LOS ANGELES KINGS  
SEASON PREVIEW

After a quiet off-season, the Kings are gearing up for the upcoming season. They were forced to make adjustments to their roster after veteran defenseman Rob Scuderi signed with the Pittsburgh Penguins as an unrestricted free agent. With the new, lower salary cap, it was tough for the Kings to make many moves in the free agent market, but with General Manager Dean Lombardi’s wits, they were able to make big moves. Since the Kings are still optimistic about Willie Mitchell’s injury status, they signed veteran defenseman Jeff Schultz. According to NHL.com, the Kings went out and traded backup goalie Jonathan Bernier to the Toronto Maple Leafs for Ben Scrivens, Matt Frattin, a 2014/2015 2nd-round pick, and \$500,000 in cap space. With the lower salary cap this season, getting an additional \$500,000 is definitely a big asset for the Kings. Additionally, Frattin is expected to fill a big void on left wing because former Kings left winger Dustin Penner went on to sign with the Anaheim Ducks. Overall, the Kings have a similar roster to their 2012 Stanley Cup winning team, and they are looking forward to repeating their playoff success.



ANAHEIM DUCKS  
SEASON PREVIEW

The Ducks had a huge offseason this year with huge trades and signings. The Ducks traded power-forward Bobby Ryan to the Ottawa Senators for Jakob Silfverberg, Stefan, Noesen, and a 2014 1st-round pick. NHL.com reports that 43-year-old Teemu Selanne also announced that he would play one more year for the Ducks after rumors of his retirement this past season. According to NHL.com, two-time Stanley Cup winner with the Ducks and Kings, Dustin Penner, signed with the team this past offseason after finishing the past season with only 2 goals and 12 assists in 33 games. If he wants to succeed, he will have to go back to his 2005-2006 form when he scored 29 goals and 16 assists. (He won the Stanley Cup that year.) The Ducks look like a dangerous team once again. As long as they limit their injuries this year, they will be a threat in the playoffs.



(Images taken from: [www.sportslogos.net](http://www.sportslogos.net)  
AND [www.fathead.com](http://www.fathead.com))

Will Football ever return to L.A?

—ALBERT RIVERA—

The football season had kicked off again, and still Los Angeles remains without an NFL team. It has been nearly 20 years since we have seen a professional football team play in Los Angeles and now there have many talks of bringing it back. In order to bring football back to L.A., whichever team that wanted to come would need a new stadium. The proposal was to build a new NFL stadium in the heart of Downtown L.A., next to the Staples Center and the Los Angeles Convention Center. Last year, the proposal was approved by the Los Angeles City Council by a unanimous vote of 12 to 0 to build a 1.8 billion dollar, 1.7 million square foot stadium named Farmers Field.

Completed by the year 2016, Farmers Field would be built in the current location of the West Hall of the Los Angeles Convention Center, fit over sixty eight thousand people, and have a retractable roof. This worried many people instantly because they feared the massive amount of traffic that a new stadium could bring, but the proposal also includes thirty two thousand new parking spaces within a short, fifteen-minute walking distance from the stadium.

The other major complaint with the new stadium was that people were afraid that the hefty price tag of \$1.8 billion would be paid by the taxpayers’ money. Luckily, the funding for the stadium will be privately funded so the taxpayers won’t have to worry about their money being used in entertainment.

This was exactly one year ago. Today, there seems to be no construction going on in Downtown L.A. What happened? The problem is that the company that was initially going to finance the project, Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG), no longer seems interested in building the stadium ever since Tim Leiweke stepped down from his President and CEO positions in the company. Because of this and the fact that no team applied for a change, the NFL has also abandoned the idea of placing a team in

L.A. With no support from AEG or the NFL, would Los Angeles ever get a football stadium?

Recently, with the start of the 2013-2014 season, talks have begun to re-emerge about the long forgotten Farmers Field. Los Angeles City councilman Tom La Bonge has written to both the NFL and the L.A. City Council to reaffirm their interest in bringing football back to L.A.

In his resolution to the city council, he wrote, “Although football has a great history in the city of Los Angeles, it has not hosted an NFL game since the Raiders went back to Oakland prior to the 1995 season.”

Another man interested in seeing a team in Los Angeles is Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones. An influential man in the NFL, Jones is probably more aware of what’s going on in the inner workings of the NFL.

In an interview with the NFL Network, Jones said, “I feel more imminent about a team being in here, that it’s more imminent than any time since we haven’t had a team in Los Angeles.”

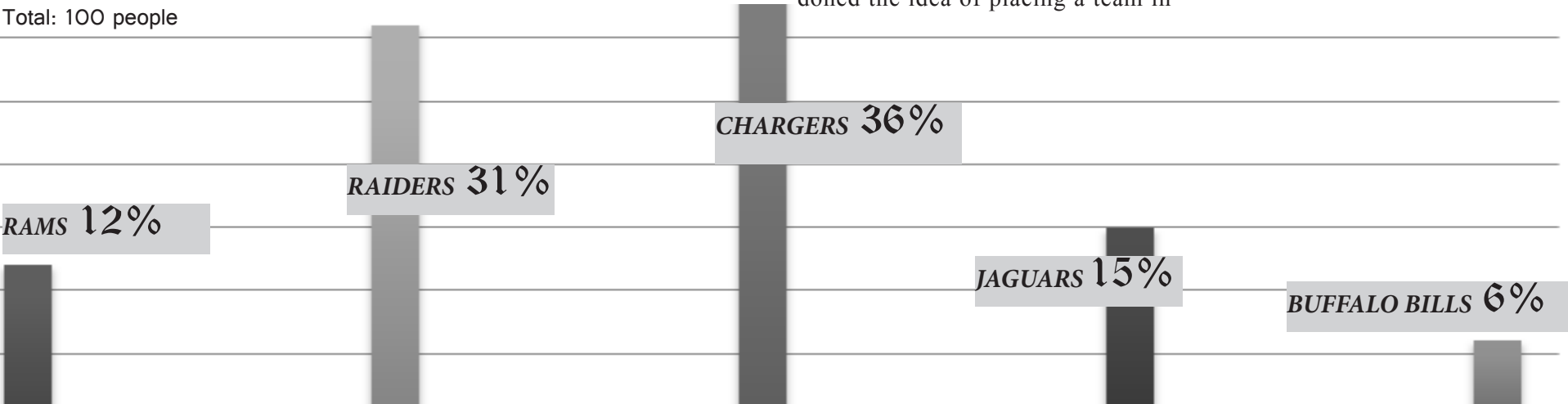
Even with the support of the people, both the AEG and NFL won’t continue with building Farmers Field unless they have two teams that are willing to come to Los Angeles. But what teams would leave their cities to come play here? Quite a few.

The St Louis Rams could come back to L.A. because the St Louis Convention and Visitors Commission and the Rams are unable to reach an agreement on renovating their stadium. The San Diego Chargers and the Oakland Raiders are also having the same problems renovating their own stadiums. With all three of their leases ending soon, they could consider moving back to L.A. All three teams have strong ties to Los Angeles and Los Angeles would be more than happy to take them back and restart our football legacy.

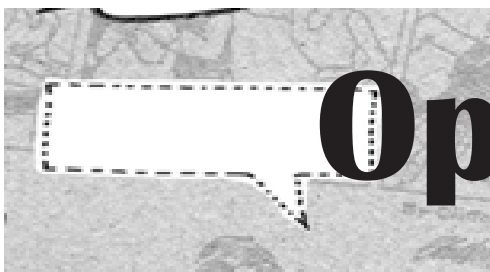
Which NFL Team Should Come to LA?

—MAYRA HERNANDEZ—

Total: 100 people







### Should the US Get Involved with Syria?

—JESSE TORRES & OGECHI OKAFOR—

It seems like two years ago (it was actually) that the United States withdrew out of the Middle East, in what was a decade-long conflict. But now, President Barack Obama feels it is the duty of the United States to get involved in Syria. But what Americans must know about Syria is that it's very complicated. Syria itself is made up of many groups such as Christians, Jews, Sunni Muslims, and Alawites – just to name a few.

You learned may have learned about the Cold War where the U.S. and USSR competed for allies in developing countries which had no previous alliances when NATO was formed. Russia was able to reach an alliance with Syria with help of diplomacy as well as giving weapons to the Socialist Ba'ath Party, which was led by Alawites. Their leader is the father of the current ruler, Assad.

Since the Ba'ath Party took over in 1970, Syria has been segregated; scholarships and higher-paying jobs mostly go to Alawites. The majority of Syrians is composed of Sunni Muslims who feel that the Alawites have rejected the teachings of Islam. This, combined with

the Sunni Muslims being repressed for 40 years, helped the 2010 pro-democracy Arab Spring spread.

Pro-democracy protests in Syria were quickly apprehended by the Assad Regime. Assad had protesters imprisoned and killed. Part of the army defected and became the Free-Syrian Army. The thing is, while originally there were many rebels fighting for democracy, many rebels are now supporters of radical Islam and Al-Qaeda. Some rebel groups have massacred Christian villages and Jewish communities.

You may have seen on the news that Syria has chemical weapons. Allegedly, President Assad's Syrian government has stockpiled chemical weapons, and using it against Syrian citizens. While still keeping information from American citizens, President Obama wants everyone to agree that we should go to war. Well, here's the problem: the government is still keeping information from American citizens. It is the American citizens who fight for this country, so shouldn't we know the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

War hawks like John McCain feel

America must arm the very rebels sponsored by the terrorist group who carried out attacks on American soil that took thousands of innocent lives. Why must we get involved and help a group that we fought against in Iraq and Afghanistan for 10 years at the cost of American lives and trillions of dollars? What happens if this group takes control of Syria? Will this save or kill millions of lives? Will a new dictator come into power?

We interviewed U.S. military soldier, Eugene Okwuchi Okafor, who responded, "The civil war going on in Syria is between Al Qaeda and Hezbollah. Although we are generally trying to help citizens in Syria, by doing this we are also helping Al Qaeda. This will probably get Hezbollah angered at the United States. I think we should stay out of foreign conflict for now." Now that you've heard what a U.S. soldier has to think about the Syrian conflict, do you still think we should intervene in Syria?

The U.S. debt is at \$17 trillion



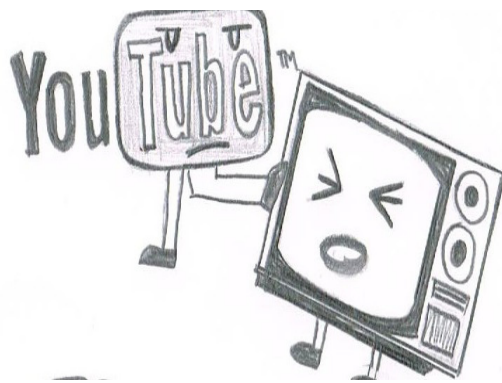
(Weyant, Christopher. "Fatigued." The Cagle Post. Sept. 9, 2013.)

and counting; unemployment is at about 8% and yet we feel we should take sides based on accusations of chemical weapons? Assad may have chemical weapons but how will we get them out of a country that is in the middle of a violent civil war? There is no real answer to the conflict and so it is best we stay out of it and try to fix ourselves before we try to fix another country. We must turn our attention to the domestic problems at home like police brutality, immigration reform, and the public school system. America must stay out of Syria.

( Sources: vlogbrothers on YouTube, USAToday.com, aawsat.net)

### YouTube vs. TV: Which is More Distracting?

—NISHRAT KHAN & OGECHI OKAFOR—



Distractions are all around us. Numerous people might argue that any type of entertainment is distracting, but have you ever compared them to each other? Which type of entertainment is more distracting, YouTube or television?

If you really want to fail an exam for school, just go on YouTube; YouTube is the best place for you to get side-tracked. It has numerous things that can prove exactly why it's more distracting than television. On YouTube, you can listen to all of your favorite songs and

artists. You can even watch some of your favorite political figures fight and yell at each other about their disagreements on certain things. Now, politics and music videos are not the only things you can watch on YouTube. Here are lists of things you can do on YouTube: watch tutorials, news, funny videos, parody songs, movies, shows, trailers, fights, and gossip channels.

Yes, YouTube is extremely distracting, but sometimes it can be helpful. If you are a good hard-working student, striving for that good grade, YouTube is the place to go. There are multiple tutorials on how to do math problems for every single grade. People in junior high can watch tutorials on how to do algebra problems. People in high school can get help on algebra, trigonometry, and calculus. YouTube is a place where people can just sit down and watch anything they like, which is exactly why it is more distracting than

television. If you turn on the television right now, you'll probably see some show or movie on. Why bother turning on the television? There's YouTube.

Television is simple, yet over the years it has advanced so much and you can say that many people enjoy their time watching it. Getting distracted by TV is very common; here are so many types of shows and also different channels that pertain to everyone. When you come home on a busy day, the one thing one would want to do is relax on the couch and watch TV. When watching TV, people do not realize how fast time goes by because of how distracted they are by the TV. Well, there also is DVR where you can readily record your shows and watch them later, but if there is a really good show on most people would want watch it right when it airs instead of waiting.

Most students might turn on the TV while doing homework to just have that background screen to watch, but if you

see something interesting on the screen then your attention will be diverted toward that instead of what it should be on which is your homework. Not only are shows the distracting part of TV, so are the commercials. Nowadays companies try to advertise their product in a way that is interesting and draws your attention. Maybe you see a really cool commercial on TV and you're so into it that you want to know more about it. So if you probably look it up on the Internet like I do, your mind is so distracted by that one commercial that you totally forget about your homework. Television is one of the most distracting things around now that diverts your attention at any time.

Even though some people might say television diverts your attention, YouTube is and always will be the one thing that will get anyone distracted the most.

### AP Class Cancellations

—MARIA F. HEREDIA & ISABEL RAMIREZ—

Ms. Garcia put much effort into making plans for her AP Spanish Literature class that was sadly cancelled. Ms. Garcia, Mr. Berumen, Mrs. Ramos, and Ms. Jordan all tried to make the class possible,

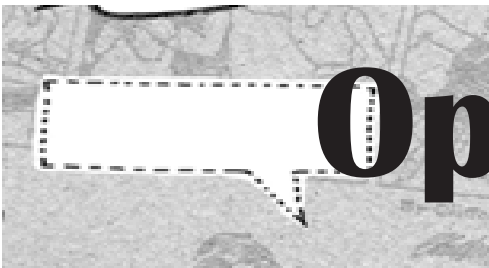
but incorporating it would affect the number of students in the other Spanish classes. The cancellation was definitely disappointing to students who looked forward to taking the class and completed the work.

Granted, some of us may not have finished—or started, for that matter—but the simple anticipation of reading Spanish literature and being able to interact with Ms. Garcia was something to look forward to.

But, unfortunately, we were notified in August that we would have a free period in our schedule rather than the AP Spanish Lit class.

As many of the upperclassmen  
**\*See AP on page 8\***





*\*AP continued from page 7\**

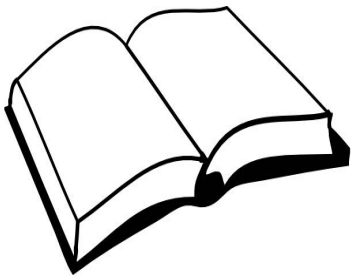
know, Ms. Garcia has a passion for Spanish. She, as well as other teachers at this school, would enjoy the chance to teach something they are not only passionate about, but admire beyond measure. It’s true that we students may never truly understand any teacher’s passion and why they admire what they do, but to have been able to expanded one’s knowledge would have been more than satisfying. When we asked Ms. Garcia what she thought of the resulting class arrangements, she explained, “Ms. Jordan and I were truly heartbroken with the outcome.”

Her heartfelt response only doesn’t reflect her disappointment but also the feelings of those seniors who were hoping to take their third year of a foreign language. It is still unknown whether or not Ms. Garcia will be able to teach her passion to students next year, but one thing to bear in mind is that this wasn’t done to intentionally harm these students.

“In order to offer one AP Lit class, the other classes had to be

outrageously crowded. It was one of those things where we had to go with the lesser of two evils,” Ms. Garcia explained.

We have had one fewer teacher in the Spanish Department since last year, and Ms. Garcia pointed out, “in any situation where teachers, resources, money or whatever gets cut down, the domino effect takes a toll on it.” Sometimes we must do what is best for us all, and this decision, while affecting the students who were to take the class, lessens the problems of overcrowding in the Spanish department.



**The Unnecessary Fear of HMSA**

—DAX CAPANGPANGAN—

With the start of the school year and the arrival of new freshmen, there is an extremely common misconception about this school that needs to be cleared. Although many people don’t like to admit it, there is a fear of applying to HMSA and a constant fear of failing out of HMSA.

Though it is completely understandable to be anxious and fearful of anything HMSA because of its high standards, living in constant fear and anxiety and stressing over everything school-related, is physically and mentally unhealthy. HMSA is known as a stricter, more difficult school, but it’s also known as a more rewarding school. Because of this promise of difficulty, people tend to spend their first few months or the entire first school year fearing talking to the teachers or triple-checking homework to see if they did it correctly enough to avoid getting a log-entry. This fear can make people high-strung and is known to cause some people to age faster (there are quite a few students with silver hairs), as well as making some people freak out so much as to forget everything they needed to know for a test. Many freshmen stress out because of misleading rumors they hear before they even attend school.

Before students apply to HMSA, they hear scary stories of discipline and workload in high school, but it is all just exaggeration. It’s the perfect ploy to catch the attention of over-protective but caring parents and also a great filter to make sure only those students that

are committed to seeking a higher education are allowed to pursue a path that guides them there. And it works. Most students here are most definitely looking for a—gasp—education (as much as their log-entry sheets and lunch-detention words tend to differ), so there is a common fear among students of failing and getting lower grades than they’re used to. But there is no reason to be afraid of HMSA; the teachers promise that if the students apply themselves and actually want to learn, they can easily pass their classes with ease as long as they are willing to seek help. As long as students act like the diligent students that HMSA wants them to be, they should be fine, but this doesn’t mean their lives should be completely devoted to school.

If people’s lives were completely devoted to success in academics and later, in their career, their lives would be devoid of color. How can one live without a break or some self-indulgent time? The answer: not at all. Life without relaxation or enjoyment is not really living. It’s just being. There are also clubs and sports in school to help open up one’s cold, antisocial shell. School isn’t only about academic- or book-learning, there are social interactions and experiences people remember for the rest of their lives. Students are encouraged to study diligently, but they are also encouraged to live their high school days as any teenager would. HMSA is still a high school, just one with higher standards, so go have fun and make time to relax.



**From the Desk of the Editor-in-Chief**

—LINDA HO—

This is the start of a new school year, the last one in high school for some. With a new year comes a reworked newspaper, which you now hold in your hands. For returning students, this year’s paper seems like a non sequitur. This is not the case. Rather, the “Aviator News” has evolved; we have a new adviser (Ms. Hall), we consist of more staff members, and we are adopting a more decidedly journalistic bent. Although both our writing and layout styles reflect such changes, our mission remains the same: “to serve as an outlet for our aspiring writers.” Now, with more staff members than ever, including more editors, a business manager, and a full-fledged layout team, we hope to improve our craft and truly serve as the authoritative voice of the students. To be more accurate, we strive to converse with the student body itself, hence the quotes from students and teachers. The true conversation, however, will be in the form of letters to the editor. You, the reader, can send in your reaction to a piece, be it admiring or criticizing. Emails can be sent to [dax\\_ca14@hsdstudent.org](mailto:dax_ca14@hsdstudent.org) and [linda\\_ho14@hsdstudent.org](mailto:linda_ho14@hsdstudent.org). With the same vision sharper in focus, I wish you happy reading on the behalf of all the “Aviator News” staff.

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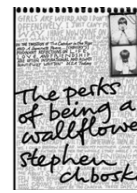
\*Art drawn by Zunera Akram



# BOOK REVIEWS

## •NOTE from the Editor•

–BRIAN MONCADA–



Hello all! The Book Review section is currently short staffed and is open to any and all HMSA students wishing to voice their opinions in all things books. For your article to be considered for printing, simply send in your review to Brian\_mo15@hsdstudent.org by the 15th of every month. If you are having some trouble, refer to following examples.

...

We don't want only genre, title, and description, we want personality. Make sure you tell us why you love the book (look at the reviews about *The Crimson Crown*) or hate it (look up a few paragraphs). Looking forward to seeing your emails on the 15th!

## Page Burners

In trouble? Need to send an SOS smoke signal? This book is the perfect kindling!

The *Crimson Crown*, the fourth installment of the “Gray Wolf Throne” series by Cinda Williams Chima, was a novel for which I waited a year and a half. I spent countless days afterwards imagining what would happen next, what wordly creation Chima would print, so that I could rush into Barnes and Nobles and pick it up still warm from the press. I waited for so long. I thought about it for so long. I even dreamed about it. I finished it in two hours. I spent the next hour and a half trying to find my receipt and wondering when Barnes and Nobles closes.

This book now currently resides downstairs under the couch propping up that wobbly leg. The book makes a mockery of the intricate web that Chima weaved out much too convenient. \*Spoiler Alert\* Oh, what's this, a door? Let me go look around. I found the secret that no one has ever found! Not one person in 1000 years has ever discovered it! Let me use this secret to rewrite the rules of this world and make myself king and marry the woman I love!

***The Crimson Crown***  
–BRIAN MONCADA–

Let's get to the point. People don't die. Characters don't change. Nothing is ever that simple, nothing is ever so perfect, and that was a key idea that Chima established early in the series. The protagonist is a sorry character who previously had his moments but was never lucky, had a big mouth, and bit off more than he could chew. Suddenly he can swallow up everything that the world has thrown at him and proceed to rule it? It was a sorry excuse for a book. *Twilight* – *Twilight* was better than this. *Twilight* had a better story line. *Twilight*. Do you know what that means? It means rats get poisoned by attempting to eat the pages.

Save your money. Want to read it for the 22 points its worth? Sure. Go ahead. Do it. This book is the reason why puppies cry. The *Black Plague* doesn't even want to go near it. I warned you.

***The Cuckoo's Calling***  
–OMAR AMER–

*The Cuckoo's Calling* by Robert Galbraith (a pseudonym for J.K Rowling) is a novel packed with mystery and filled with unexpected turns and surprises.

The story begins with the death of supermodel Lula Landry, which causes an uproar in London. The rest of the novel revolves around this death, giving the reader an in-depth look into the life of Luna. The reader is also introduced to Cormoran Strike. A private detective that has been through a lot, he is on the edge of the cliff. He's given up on life and is just coming out of a rocky relationship. As if to save him from his downfall, he is assigned the task to look into the death of Lula. His detective skills kick in, and the chase to find out more about the death begins. He falls into the world of money makers and struggles to uncover the truth.

With the usual distractions, tricks and false leads that every detective goes through, it's a surprise the story doesn't seem to be merely another detective novel. Description and detail play a big part, giving us a clear glimpse into the world of a working detective, right till the end. Surprise and expectation also separates this book from the usual private investigator stories. Knowing J.K Rowling's past work, it is no surprise that this book comes out to be a great story. It's a book a reader will make sure to squeeze in one more page before putting it down.

For those of you looking for a great book and something to get those AR points out of the way, you're out of luck. But this doesn't mean you shouldn't read it. It's a great book nonetheless, and should be picked up when the chance arises.

## Page Turners

***Flying Into a New World***  
–FABIAN LEIVA–

Like fiction? Common Core nonsense got you down? No worries, our magnificent AR requirements will allow you to venture into the fantasy realms on your own time. Go on *Stravaganza* with Mary Hoffman. The “*Stravaganza*” series features six books: *City of Masks*, *City of Stars*, *City of Flowers*, *City of Secrets*, *City of Ships*, and *City of Swords*. In fact, I ran into the second work in our very own school library.

I was diving into the book and the series blind – I had no idea what the book would be about, and I had no idea that it was even part of a collection. Like other typical productions, *City of Stars* begins slowly; it introduces the characters, the setting, and the struggle of a young teenage girl. Blah, blah, blah, we've read all this before. What's interesting is that the protagonist has a connection to an alternate world (or a past one), best described as Renaissance Italy. Once Hoffman portrays this uniqueness, your eyes become bound to the book's pages, and it seems impossible to misplace the book. Despite all the cheesy set-ups and happenings that make little sense, this book shows distinct value.

So if you are not looking forward to analyzing some glamorous non-fiction pieces in English, don't flip tables – read *City of Stars* to make up for the lack of fun. If you're not satisfied by Hoffman's work, don't worry about that! The AR system offers a generous 18 points at a modest level 6.1. Reading this one book make me want to read the rest of the series! Do you want to read about the activities of sloths, or do you want to read about a winged black horse? Your choice.

***The Perks of Being a Wallflower***  
–LEANETTE ESTRADA–

If you liked *The Catcher in the Rye*, then you will definitely enjoy this touching novel. Charlie, the protagonist, is a social outcast. A typical wallflower, he gets bullied at school and would rather take the forty minute walk home than take the school bus. Charlie is sixteen years old, and the start of high school will change his life forever.

Doesn't this sound like one of those cliché stories where the loser turns out to be the cool, popular guy? Although this is true for Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, wait and you will find so much more. This book is going to catch and surprise you every time you turn a page.

The story starts off with a series of letters written by Charlie and are sent to an anonymous person, who he calls Friend. Through this, we learn about his life, new friends, his family, and especially Charlie himself. Charlie himself is a total enigma. He has mental breakdowns, gets angry easily, sees things, and then faints. Right before he starts high school his best friend Michael suffered a tragedy, but there is also another, more heinous reason for his problems. At school, Charlie meets Patrick and Sam (who are stepiblings) at a football game. They are also considered outsiders, but cooler ones. Patrick, also called Nothing, was a popular kid before his stepsister Sam introduced him to “good” music. They introduce Charlie to the world of teenage mischief. Parties and punk-rock music become new parts of Charlie's life and for the first time he knows what it really means to have good friends.

What makes this book so memorable and authentic is its reality. As an adult it takes you back to when you were a teenager, as a child it shows you what lies ahead, and as a teenager it inspires you. And as we all know, the time you find who you are and where you belong to is when you're are a teenager.

Images taken from (in order):

www.goodreads.com AND www.barnesandnoble.com