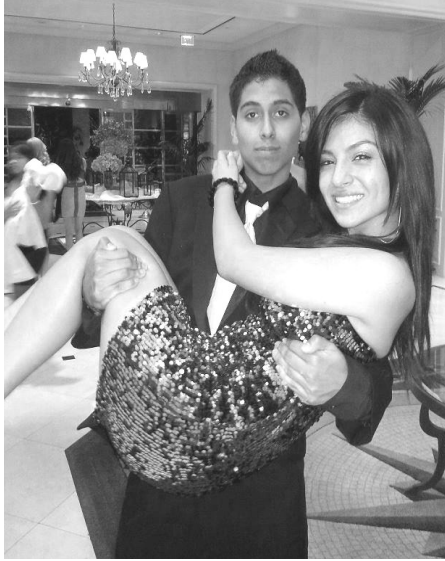


Aviator News

Senior Couples on Campus

By Eddie Arevalo

2013



Melissa Muro and Abraham Najera

They've been together for two years and eleven months. They think what keeps their relationship alive is that they "have different tastes, so that keeps things from being boring." In addition, they "compromise [their] decisions and have a lot of respect and trust for each other's values."

Bridget Flores and Bryan Cano

Together for 18 months, they believe that what keeps them together is "honesty, communication and incredible luck that the other person hasn't gotten tired of you."



Brenda Balbuena and Erick Ramos

Together for almost two years, they think that what has kept their relationship alive is "the fun times [they] have together and how [they] make each other laugh." (Right before asking them, I saw them play fighting and laughing up a storm.)



Omaida Axume and Hector Torres

Together for two years, they've "noticed that it's the littlest things that impact [their] relationship the most," things like "when Hector grabs his guitar and [they] sing" which allows them to experience "a special type of bonding and laughter that keeps [their] relationship alive" and makes it "stronger each day."



Nhi Nguyen and John Kiessya

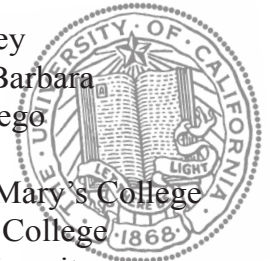
They have been together for almost 21 months, and believe quite simply that the key to a lasting relationship is to "be honest and to show respect."

Colleges

By Nhi Nguyen

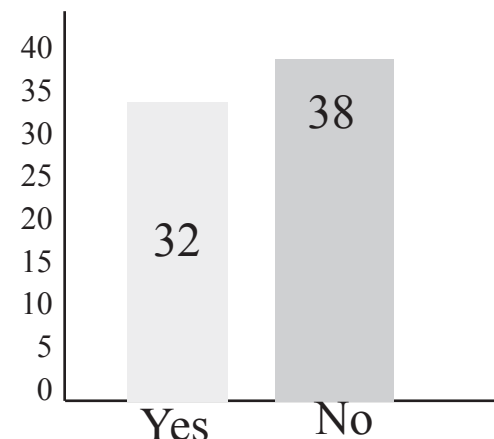
Attending HMSA has many advantages, but the most important is preparing you for college. Here is a partial list of schools the 2013 senior year class applied to...

- ◆ Cal State University of Fullerton
- ◆ Cal State University of Long Beach
- ◆ Cal State University of Pomona
- ◆ Cal State University of Dominguez Hills
- ◆ San Diego State University
- ◆ San Francisco State University
- ◆ UC Irvine
- ◆ UC Riverside
- ◆ UC Los Angeles
- ◆ UC Davis
- ◆ UC Berkeley
- ◆ UC Santa Barbara
- ◆ UC San Diego
- ◆ USC
- ◆ Mount St. Mary's College
- ◆ El Camino College
- ◆ Boston University
- ◆ Occidental College



Do You Have a Valentine?

By Shamera Johnson



LA Clippers: the New Face

of Los Angeles?

By Anthuan Cruz

After many years (emphasis on many) of rebuilding and letting go of potential stars, the LA Clippers have finally built a team that has playoff potential. It started when they drafted power forward Blake Griffin; even with him they were still among the lowest ranking teams in the Western conference. A few seasons later, the Lakers were interested in a trade for Chris Paul, the point guard of the New Orleans Hornets. Paul was traded to Los Angeles, but not to the Lakers. The commissioner of the NBA, David Stern, prevented the Lakers from receiving Chris Paul (but for some reason he was fine with Miami receiving LeBron James and Chris Bosh). The Clippers took advantage of this situation; they took part in a multi-player trade with the Hornets. The Clippers received Chris Paul and the Hornets received Eric Gordon.

This season, the Clippers' bench has improved, mostly through trades. They traded for Grant Hill, Lamar Odom, and Jamal Crawford; on their previous teams, they were placed in the starting lineup. The Clippers have managed to place these players on the bench without complaints. They also signed Matt Barnes, the former Laker.

Other players on the team stepped up their game and became key players. Caron Butler (starting small forward) improved his scoring and defense. DeAndre Jordan (starting center) improved his athleticism. Their bench point guard, Eric Bledsoe, improved his defense, driving, and passing. Altogether, the Clippers have endured a very long rebuilding process and are ready to display their talent.

Currently, the Clippers are doing well, sitting at third place in the Western conference. The main question: will they last? The Clippers have suffered many injuries: Chris Paul, Chauncey Billups, and Grant Hill. They never performed as a complete team. The problem isn't that they cannot execute without these players (they managed to win multiple times without Chris Paul). The problem will occur once all the players return. The Clippers have three small forwards and three shooting guards, none of which are benchwarmers. They all hunger for playing time, and once all the players come back they will receive less of it. Their acquisition of players with high salaries will be a big problem for them once the luxury tax rolls in.

THE LADY A'S ARE EXCITED FOR A NEW SEASON

By TeMera Evans

The Lady A's softball team is not all glitz and glam; it is full of hard-working players, motivation, and a great coach. Mr. Dura grew up with baseball, participated on an organized team at age four, and has proudly coached for 56 years. Mr. Dura wants his players to strive to be their best and make it to the playoffs. He can be a little tough but he only seeks to push his players to the best of their ability and won't let them fail or give up because "this year we have the talent and I know we can go all the way, it depends if the team is ready to step up to the plate or not." Dura motivates his team by building the girls' self-confidence and emphasizing words of the week such as 'pride' one week, 'focus' one week, or 'determination' another week. Dura's most enjoyable part of coaching is "watching the girls grow and improve, when that light bulb comes on and everything we do in practice makes sense to the girls. That's what makes it worth while."

Dura pointed out that the main difference between the current team and last year's team was that last year the girls were senior dominant. They were "cliquish." Everyone has to be a part of the team not divided as they were, [because] they were not motivated. This year the seven returning players are the core that inspires the new members. This year, the team has a sense of pride and they have the talent to go all the way. Also, the Lady A's Softball team gives the players of the team opportunities to meet new people and have fun.

The softball team practices Tuesday through Thursday during CP7 (around 2:10) to 4:45 pm. They perform lunges, catching and hitting balls, running up and down the stairs, resistance training, and "duck walk" an exercise that can be quite painful at times because it awakens unused leg muscles. These exercises build endurance, agility, and improve flexibility.

Sports

THE BALTIMORE RAVENS: SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS

By Enrique Ruvalcaba

The Baltimore Ravens defeated the San Francisco 49ers in dramatic fashion at Super Bowl XLVII. What was seemingly an easy win for the Ravens turned into one of the most epic Super Bowl games ever.

The first half was something to forget for the 49ers. From failures in safety coverage to erratic throws by Kaepernick, it all led to an easy lead for the Ravens going into halftime. A pedestrian cornerback Chris Culliver couldn't cover his man, whether it was Anquan Boldin or Jacoby Jones. Boldin and Jones toasted Culliver all game. He was burned twice by allowing two 30-yard receiving yards to Boldin and a pass interference that kept things alive for the Ravens. Flacco and his crew were able to capitalize on the 49ers' benign defense. Kaepernick wasn't himself in the first half either. He threw an interception and didn't throw for more than 100 yards. For San Francisco, it was a first half full of mistakes on offense and defense.

Joe Flacco, the Super Bowl MVP, was more than efficient, throwing for 287 yards and 3 touchdowns. Everything he threw seemed unstoppable. The Ravens' defense was able to shut down an inefficient 49ers offense quickly on nearly every drive. Jacoby Jones found holes in the defense while Anquan Boldin manhandled and cruised over Culliver on every reception. Everything went the Ravens way in the first half.

The 49ers were able to recover from their errors and surge back into the game. Kaepernick was able to get his game together and almost made the near impossible comeback. Vernon Davis and Michael Crabtree combined for 213 receiving yards, the majority of it in the second half, contributing to the surge. Running back Frank Gore's excellent run game helped throw off a tired Ravens defense in the second half. Whether it was Kaepernick throwing to Crabtree/Davis, Gore running the ball, or Kaepernick running it himself, the Baltimore defense had trouble keeping up with the soaring 49ers offense.

In the end, Baltimore deserved the win. Strategically, Ravens head coach John Harbaugh out-dueled San Francisco's head coach Jim Harbaugh. When it mattered most, John and his staff made the right calls such as the blitz on fourth down on the 49ers' final drive. The 49ers' near comeback saved what could have been a boring one-sided win for the Ravens. It all came down to the wire, but the better team came out on top.

Athlete of the Month

By Juan Dominguez

Hilda Moreno (11) was chosen to be Athlete of the Month by Mr. Kircher, for her extraordinary efforts on the soccer team. Hilda is always passionate about competing; whether it involves sports, academics, or friendly games. This passion makes her stand out among her teammates, and motivates them to do their best in every game.

Like every HMSA athlete, academics are essential to Hilda's role on the soccer team. She balances her schoolwork with sports by "planning [her] schedule" the day before she has a game. It's important that she—and all athletes—maintain a high GPA in order to continue playing. Hilda is always active around her teammates, and makes sure that everyone on the team participates during a game. She is "really friendly" and always eager to help her peers. These traits make her an exceptional leader because it motivates her teammates to act anon on the field and at school. Hilda also manages to leave the audience in awe; According to Phebe Boye (11), "she's a beast at soccer and really good at math!"

Hilda is involved in many activities around school. She is always helping around campus, whether it's tutoring other students or teaching students the basics of soccer. Her friendly impression makes her a trustworthy person, and easy to get along with. Mr. Kircher made an excellent decision choosing Hilda Moreno as the team's role model for February.

The Lady A's softball team has a tradition before a game and after every practice-

The Lady A Cheer (while the team is clapping):

"Pump pump pump it up
Pump pump pump it up
Pump that Lady spirit
Keep that Lady spirit up"

The team is most excited to play Amino and Environmental because of a long-standing rivalry. The toughest team competing against the Lady A's is Firebaugh, who Mr. Dura said, "should be 3 or 4 divisions above the Lady A's." With a combination of hard-working players, a great coach, and practice, HMSA expects the Lady A's to have an excellent season. The first game is Tuesday, February 26th against Windward at Alondra Park and the second is Tuesday, February 28th against Lennox at Alondra Park

COME ON AND PUMP THAT LADY SPIRIT!



Arts and Entertainment



- Music -

Fun.

Elsa Ayala



The indie-rock group from New York has definitely made their mark. They formed in 2008, but only gained recognition this past year with the help of that one song that might have some people annoyed at this point. 2012 was a big year for Fun. with their album *Some Nights* which included singles such as “We Are Young,” “Some Nights,” and “Carry On.” Their first two singles reached the Billboard Hot 100 and received major exposure on television. Their music was featured on programs such as Glee and in commercials for Apple and Chevrolet. Fun. isn’t simply a “current” band right now; they’re ingenious and have made people fall in love with their unique style. When listening to their album one can see a mixture of light-hearted, harmonious, and fun songs. Nate Ruess, lead vocalist, even sounds like Freddie Mercury at times (which is a plus). Nominated for six Grammys including Best New Artist, one can expect an abundance of success for Fun..

The Age of Atlas Genius

Yasmine Gutierrez

How often do you turn on the radio and get sick of hearing the same singles, one after the next? We’ve all heard various bands and artists come out with a single that sticks with us for a little while, but how often do these One Hit Wonders outdo themselves with more lyrical masterpieces? This is a fear that resides in the back of the mind of newer bands, but there’s one that doesn’t have much to worry about: you’ve all heard “Trojans” on the radio by now, whether you listen to KROQ or KIIS FM. Atlas Genius is a poetic force to be reckoned with.

Formed in 2011, vocalist Keith Jeffery, along with his brothers Michael and Steven, and Darren Sell didn’t expect more exposure than what they

could get from their home of South Australia. Their first and most recognized hit, “Trojans,” debuted in the summer of 2011 and has made appearances on MTV and Sirius XM’s National Channel. The band has even taken the liberty to create covers that, in most cases, surpass the originals themselves. Take their acoustic cover of “Islands” by The XX for example: though the original has strong female vocals and a great alternative vibe, Atlas Genius was able to mold a song that would’ve been perfect being played at a concert into one that is more personal and comes straight from the soul.

What is it that makes Atlas Genius so intoxicating? As best demonstrated by “Trojans,” they let the music take control



of the story and scene, having Jeffery’s soft voice help to lead it in the right direction. Even the acoustic version has the guitar setting the scene rather than strong vocals. Instead, Jeffery relies on an intimate approach, and that’s what sticks with the listener. The contrast of the up-beat tempo and the solemn lyrics is refreshing as well as mesmerizing. This is a constant theme that the band has been able to harness and make their own, and transform it however they please. Other singles from their first album, *Through the Glass*, have the same intimacy and spirit, the very core of Atlas Genius.

Their highly-anticipated sophomore album, *When It Was Now*, drops on the 19th. This mastery of music is seemingly rare today, so buy the album, plug in your headphones, and drown out the world.

- Literature -

CRACKING THE PUZZLE-MAKER

Linda Ho



Here’s a book for all you (secret) English and math nerds: Nisioisin’s “Death Note: Another Note: The Los Angeles B.B. Murder Cases.”

A sententious murderer, known as “B,” tries to outsmart the world’s most prolific detective, L. B was raised as L’s potential “backup,” but his intentions go awry. B crafts a mind-numbing trail of clues indicating his next move. These clues are plays on numbers and the alphabet. B’s trademark is leaving the victim in a locked room with Japanese straw “Wara Ningyo” dolls nailed on the walls.

Fans of *Death Note* will surely embrace this spin-off novel, which stars L and FBI agent Naomi Misora. Misora becomes unlikely partners with a man she believes is “Ryuzaki,” but he is not who she thinks he is. Expect a few familiar faces from *Death Note*. While *Death Note* fans will be most enthralled with the novel, background context is not needed to enjoy this murder mystery.

In essence, the novel recounts a clash of two egos: the puzzle-maker and the puzzle-solver. That is, the greatest detective unravels every crime; the greatest criminal creates the unsolvable mystery. Even the characters themselves are arguably enigmatic: Misora is on an unexplained leave of absence, and L keeps his identity private.

Twists and turns abound at every breakthrough, and terse bits of narration add to mounting suspense that finally results in a shattering climax. Ultimately, the reader is left amazed at the intricacies based upon the alphabet and numbers. *Spoiler alert: 1 and 3 form B.* The novel is not a novelty: time after time, the book intrigues and captivates.



BACK PAGE

➤ Valentine's Day: Let's ~~3000~~ the Romance ➤ By Abdul Zahid

FIRST YEARS LAST FOREVER

BY NARDEEN GORGY ✨

Scientists used to think that brain development was determined genetically and brain growth was biologically-predetermined. Now, science has proved that early experiences have a great impact on the brain's development. A baby's brain is like a piece of clay that is shaped by what the baby sees, hears, and feels. The brain cells start to make connections during the first five years of a baby's life. Babies start to develop their personality during this time as well. Any type of social interaction shapes their morals for the rest of their lives. Anything they learn or adapt to at this age stays with them forever. An increase in synapses (connections) allows the baby to memorize things and associate certain objects with certain thoughts or feelings. During the first decade of life, a child's brain is twice as active as an adult's brain. Even though people continue to learn throughout their lives, these early years are thought to be called "the windows of opportunity" because it is easy to absorb a lot of new information.

AVIATOR NEWS

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Yes guys and girls, the spirit of Judgment Day is in the air and in your loved one's head. Valentine's Day is the time to appreciate the love you have for your significant other and to realize how much they really mean to you; naturally this means you have to buy an expensive gift. To understand whether or not Valentine's Day is useful, we have to look at the holiday as a whole, not the Hallmark side of things. Valentine's Day is a horrendous splurge and you're better off without a valentine- unless you don't need money for food.

Valentine's Day's origins have varied between Christian and Pagan roots, but all variations to the legend about the start of the holiday revolve around one man: Saint Valentine. In one version, Saint Valentine was imprisoned by Emperor Claudius II for spreading religion, and while imprisoned he secretly married soldiers to their lovers, as Claudius forbid soldiers from being married to prevent a "female hindrance" so soldiers had nothing to lose if they died in battle. Word of these marriages reached Claudius and he had Valentine executed; Valentine's efforts to keep love alive were remembered and were incorporated into today's conception of Valentine's Day. Another version of the legend has it that Saint Valentine was imprisoned for helping Christians escape religious persecution in Rome; while in jail he fell in love with the jailor's daughter – how *cute*- and wrote her letters. On the day of his execution, he wrote her one last letter and signed "from your Valentine." In short, Valentine's Day centers around the execution of a man who was imprisoned due to intolerance, and whose last act was to try and spread love- might want to put down the chocolates now.

Now, how did we go from a tragic martyr to "I love you" cards and a box of 99-cent chocolates? Money. It became more efficient to get your significant other a printed card with "masterful, romantic text" and "perfect artwork," rather than write a new one every year, because a meaningful, handmade gift is, of course, inferior. So, for the sake of convenience, people moved away from handmade gifts that required effort, and created another golden goose for Hallmark. Normally this wouldn't be a problem, because as we always hear, "it's the thought that counts." But the opposite effect is occurring: gift-receivers now perceive their worth to their loved one based on the extravagance of the gift(s) they are given. This materialistic view is only pushed greater when guys/girls (mostly girls) compare the gifts they receive on Valentine's Day, which creates a competition to see who is the most loved. This competitive complex also makes girls/guys who normally don't care for Valentine's Day and its gifts, desire them as well; this leads to the dilemma of reading between the lines of what your significant other says.

So just how to survive this agony? Simple. Do NOT believe in romance. Agreed, the whole concept of Valentine's Day is to believe in love, romance, couples, and everything else sugary and sweet; therein lays the issue: it is a concept, not a reality. The reality of Valentine's Day is shallowness, filled with material goods to boast about how great of a girlfriend/boyfriend you have, and how much you mean to them based on your gift. Some might argue that this not true, and that their significant other loves them all year the same, so Valentine's Day is any other day and that they don't need materials to be happy...HAHAHA! Well first off you're young, you're inexperienced, and you obviously haven't seen any real diamonds come your way. So no, love doesn't factor into Valentine's Day.

Now, a bias is that girls are the only ones who get crazy on Valentine's Day, but this isn't the case; guys go insane trying to find the "perfect" gift. Guys, let's make it easy on you, buy her something simple, it can be a box of candy (not 99-cent candy, real candy like Hershey's or Godiva for the classy guys), a bouquet, or even a quaint bracelet. However, if you want something she will absolutely adore, make her something. Now that the norm is store-bought gifts, a handmade bracelet or a poem can go quite far, as it's "originality" will give an edge in the romance competition. Keep in mind though; this strategy only works until you start working, then the gifts must be shinier than the credit card used to buy it. Girls, give guys anything, they don't care.

Valentine's Day still brings people closer together- albeit for selfish reasons. The usefulness of this holiday has faded into a shadow of what it used to stand for, but now it has been given a new purpose: introducing yourself to a potential significant other, but that's a whole different article...

****If she says she doesn't want anything for Valentine's Day, DON'T BELIEVE HER!**

"Life consists not in holding good cards but in playing those you hold well." —Josh Billings