



PREMESA WINNERS 2011

Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement, also known as MESA, is provided to encourage students in the fields mentioned in the name. Students

are expected to use creativity to solve challenging, everyday problems. So what exactly happens during Pre-MESA Day?



Students arrive at their given MESA center and check-in their projects. Here at HMSA, Aviators were given the chance to go to USC and compete against other high schools. These schools include: Foshay, Bravo Medical Magnet, USC Mast, Washington Prep, South Gate, South East, Venice, Alhambra, and Culver City. After projects are dropped off, students are taken to separate rooms based on their math level to take a math test. Students are allowed to take either a group test (free-response) or solo (multiple-choice). Once testing is over, students are free to wander and watch others carry out competitions. When lunch rolls around, all the results are calculated. The ceremony consists of a mini-pep rally followed by announcements of the winners. Those who have won will be taken to the MESA Regionals on April 9th. This is where students who have won from other centers gather to compete against the best of the best.

EggXpress 9/10:

-1st: Michael Castillo* and Andres Gonzalez*

-Honorary 5th: Zainab Umaji* and Rofida Rakha *

EggXpress 11/12:

-Honorary 4th: Christina Nguyen* and Jenifer Toc*

Mousetrap Car 11/12

-Creativity 3rd: Cherilyn Yee and Amandarose Webb

Windmill:

-1st Place Power, Vehicle, Voltage, and Overall (16 in total):

Daryl Casio*, Jerome Casio*, Samuel Reyes*, and Mohammed Tootla*

Manilla Mechanics:

-Creativity 3rd: Pia Bayani and Maira Jamil

-Strength/Weight 1st: Pia Bayani* and Maira Jamil*

Civil Structure:

-Creativity 1st: Christina Nguyen and Jenifer Toc

-Creativity 3rd: Randy Ovalle and Jovanni Villa

-Strength/Weight 2nd: Cherilyn Yee* and Maheen Sayeda*

Human Brain:

-Tied 2nd: Malak Alamad* and Gabriela Salgado*

Math Solo 1:

-3rd: Erik Bautista*

Math Solo III:

-1st: Nikki Chan*

Math TeamQuest A:

-2nd: Alan Cifuentes*, Serratia Krank*, and Be-teana Leyretana*

Math TeamQuest B

-3rd: Julio Serafin*, Jose Malagon*, Jesus Salcedo*

Math TeamQuest C:

-2nd: Portia Bayani*, Pia Bayani, Daryl Casio

47 Medals/ribbons in total

*Going to regionals (25 total)

Spring Fling '11

Thank goodness midterms are over! Celebrate the 3/4s mark with your fellow Aviators at Friday's Spring Fling. Numerous activities abound at the afternoon carnival, and as the afternoon turns to evening, the excitement will head into the cafeteria where the same DJ from winter formal will play a wide array of danceable music from 8-11.

The 2nd annual spring fling is actually two events, and as a result requires separate admission, but a ticket to both events can be purchased for ten dollars, not bad for seven hours of entertainment. Because one event transitions into the other, formal attire will not be required, although if you want to show up in a tux no one will stop you!

The differences between the two include the fact that the carnival is open to the public while the dance is for Aviators only, so no guest passes will be written. Because the carnival is open to everyone, you do not need your ID to enter, but student ID is required for the dance.

Each class and club will have the opportunity to make money during the carnival through various booths featuring an array of food and activities. The proceeds of the dance itself will go to the seniors.

Anticipation is high; last year there was a jump house thoroughly enjoyed by some of HMSA's less mature students, but only for 5 minutes, not long enough according to Kangaroo Dominguez.

Perhaps he will buy two tickets this year to solve this problem.

Other successes from last year help build excitement. Other sources are cited as saying the ice cream was good, fish were available for good ping pong ball throwers, and a wide array of music from various cultures was enjoyed. Rumor has it there was a marriage booth and pictures taken that may or may not have made their way to homerooms. The pie eating contest was also a great success.

The success of last year's spring fling makes this Friday's version a must-attend. Midterms are over and everyone deserves to be rewarded!

Blue Ribbon Celebration

This year, our school's academic performance was honored in Washington D.C. with a Blue Ribbon Award. Only 21 other schools in California have received this national award.

Our school will be holding a Blue Ribbon Celebration on campus on Saturday, April 9th from 2 to 4 p.m. The event is open to all students, alumni, teachers (past and present), and their families. Invitations, which will be mailed soon, need to be presented to attend. Congresswoman Maxine Waters is expected to attend and guest speakers include junior Jennifer Vasquez, Erin Gomez (mother of students Ashley Cooper and Christian Gomez), Mrs. Bayani, Mr. Berumen, School Board President Alexandre Monteiro, and Superintendent Dr. Helen Morgan.

Appetizers will be served and tours for community members will be given. Come enjoy the results of all your hard work!

Talent Show...back on?

Mr. Berumen held a meeting with the seniors on Monday after school, and apparently Talent Show may still happen if the seniors can come together and elect a committee to spearhead the operation. A final decision on the issue is expected no later than Friday so at least by the time of the Spring Fling we'll know one way or the other!



tech review!



IPAD 2?



The I-Pad2 was released March 11th with new improvements. In addition to more storage space, it's lighter and contains a camera both on the front and back, making skyping easier. Not much else was changed, so if you want to upgrade your I-Pad it's not worth your money especially since the starting price is around five hundred dollars. The I-Pad is still the king of the tablets, but with version 3 inevitably in production, skip this edition.
—Tran, Deanne

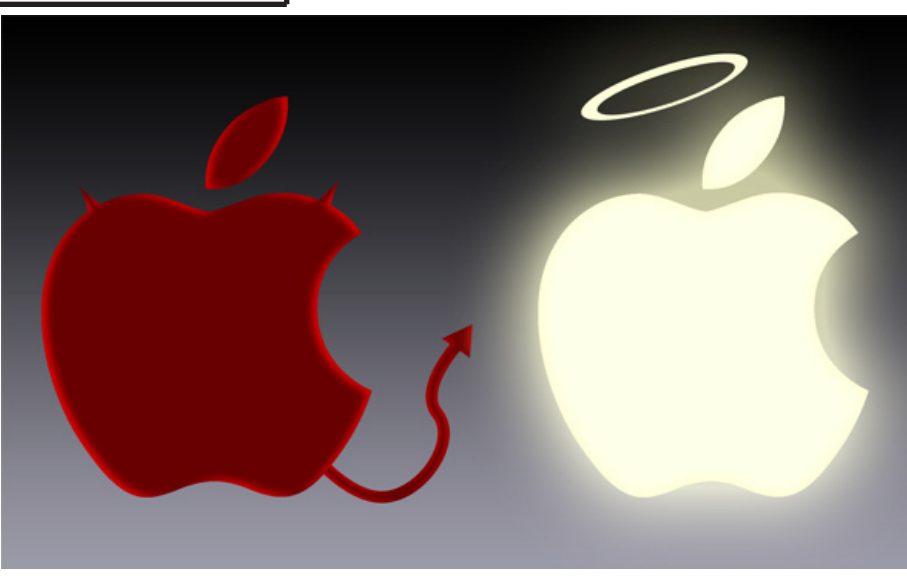
Professional Cameras from Nikon as well as Canon are extremely popular. If you plan on buying one and are a beginner at photography it's recommended that you start with the Nikon D40. It has a compact size and a memory sd card slot for transferring pictures into your computer.
By Tran, Deanne



GOOD!

The increase in technology has allowed the U.S. to advance in medicine, surgery, computers, games, and other innovations that make our daily life safer and more enjoyable. Due to increase in technology most of America is better off in life compared to less-developed third world-countries. Mr Launius, an Economics teacher, agrees with advancement in technology being a good thing, stating "The 'have-nots' of this country have more than the 'haves' of most other countries." It's true that there is much to complain about in America, but without utilization of current technology there would be an even greater percentage rate of people who are uninsured, unemployed, or without a home to call their own.
—Tootla, Mohammed

TECHNOLOGY
GOOD OR BAD?



BAD!

The U.S. is one of the most advanced countries in the world yet it is so wasteful and dependent. The NewYork Times shows a study that states the U.S. produces "roughly 30 million tons of food waste each year." It is because the U.S. has so many ammenities (as a result from technology) that the U.S. can afford to waste so much. Technology, generally speaking, is a great thing. It helps the lives of people around the world, but the U.S. is dependent on it to a fault. If the U.S. were forced to live without the internet, an alarming majority may not know what to do with their life, and cease to function in just the first few weeks, because we are so dependent on technology that we can't live without it. It's almost like a drug.

Superman
Deanne Tran

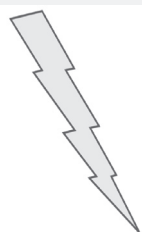
If I could be any superhero it would be Superman. Superman has the ability to fly, the best superpower anyone could possess. With the ability to fly I wouldn't have to sit and listen to my parent's lecture every morning on the car ride to school. I could go anywhere I wanted without worrying about gas and traffic. With my superpowers I could charge people money if they needed help with moving or any other heavy-duty work. I could also use my strength to threaten my sister if she annoys me in any way. Superman's superpowers will help me enjoy life.



SUPERHEROES

Spiderman
Elsa Ayala

Spiderman is the best superhero anyone could want to be. He has the best qualities: honesty, loyalty, courage, determination, and the element of surprise. Spiderman is the alter ego of Peter Parker, who is your average nerd in high school. Peter Parker is the perfect guy to play a superhero because no one would expect it. At first he doesn't understand his new-found powers and has trouble adjusting to his new self. Eventually he adapts to fight crime; even going up against his best friend's dad, the Green Goblin. When he defeats the Green Goblin, the relationship between him and his best friend, Harry changes. We could relate to every single one of these emotions and that's why Spiderman is relatable to all audiences. Spiderman is someone we could all admire because he is everything that a superhero symbolizes.

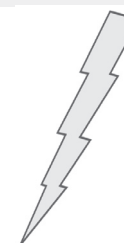


Iron Man
Lubna Malik

Ever since I was a kid, I have always been thrilled by action movies and cartoons. From the range of all the superhero movies that I have seen, I would have to say that Iron Man was the best. This movie is not just another story about a guy gaining super powers and fighting impractical bad guys; it's a way of life. I like to make life more dramatic and adventurous by incorporating the ideas expressed in Iron Man into my everyday life. For example, Tony Stark says, "If it's one thing I've proven, it's that you can count on me to [entertain] myself." Whenever I get tired or bored of doing something, I like to find ways to entertain myself.

The character of Tony Stark (Iron Man) is someone whom I strive to be. Yes, it is true that he is arrogant and sarcastic; however, he is also intelligent, creative, and independent. Unlike other superheroes, he chose to invent a machine (his suit) that would improve this world and better the lives of numerous people. When he was forced to lie to the public about his identity, he chose to follow his heart and told them the truth. Similarly, I want to be able to make my own decisions and choose the person that I am.

Although the movie may seem unrealistic, it has given me the courage to face reality. Whenever Iron Man is confronted by an opponent, he not only uses his powerful weapons as an advantage but also his brain. Instead of randomly throwing attacks, he skillfully plans out a strategy to defeat his rival. Similarly, whenever I am met head-on with an obstacle, I utilize both my brain and my weapons to overcome the barrier. Iron Man may not be compelling to a typical female teenager, but the movie holds a special purpose in my life: the genuine message of how happiness can be achieved through courage, love, and super powers.



Poison Ivy
Melissa Quezada

Poison Ivy is well-known for being the villain in many Batman comics. Her intelligence and unique personality are often times overlooked and ignored. Poison Ivy, whose real name is Pamela Lillian, plays the strong leading role as a masterful and inventive criminal. Armed with long dark red hair and a suit made completely out of plants, she's a character who is hard to ignore. Her extreme love for nature and protecting the environment lead her towards evil in hopes of forcing the world to follow her cause. Her most powerful ability is the fragrance in her genetically-modified flowers that allow her to become the desire of any human man which even includes Batman and Robin. From her dominance of men, to her sensitive dedication to the natural world, Poison Ivy is a character I would want to be even though she is labeled as a villain.

Dark Knight
Juan Dominguez

The Dark Knight (Batman) is unique in that he does not have superpowers like his counterparts, Superman, Spiderman, and Green Lantern. Batman lurks in Gotham City, waiting to help people when they are in danger. Batman's inventions are one-of-a-kind because no other superhero has something similar to them; other superheroes rely on their powers and other abnormal features. These inventions help the Dark Knight fight crime without superpowers. Superman is an alien; he has nothing human-like (except his appearance) and he is indestructible. The Dark Knight has his own way of fighting crime, while other superheroes have the same style: Flying into the sky and using their heat vision or abnormal muscles to beat the villains. So if you do not like the Dark Knight, then you should not even waste your time with the other superheroes. However, keep this in mind: the Dark Knight knows where you are...

Special thanks to the Artists:
Rayahna Marable
Pedro Martinez
Johann Webb
Aaron Herrera

SPORTS



Softball with the Ladies By Enrique Ruvalcaba and Yasmine Gutierrez

Home runs, strike-outs, and RBIs; this might sound like a bunch of nonsense to you, but for the Lady A's Softball team, it's a way of life. Whether they are a starting freshman or a returning senior, vigorous conditioning and practices have made them into the hard-hitting sluggers they are today.

Health teacher Mr. Dura coaches this team, and is optimistic about them. He stated, "[I hope] we get to make the playoffs. This is the first year that the softball team is eligible to go to postseason and it would be really good for these girls to make the playoffs in their first try. As part of the Harbor League, we've got a chance."

Mr. Dura continued elaborating on what the team will face: "[The Harbor League] takes the top two teams [to go the playoffs], and we kind of know who the first place team will be. Unfortunately it's not us, but we got a good chance at being second place and making the playoffs. That's what we're shooting for."

Their season this year started on the first week of March, and there will be a total of 15 regular season games. The regular season will end in the second week of May. Postseason elimination games will start soon afterwards. Last year the ladies played 22 games in this fashion, and had a record of 11-11.

The team has faith in their coach to push them through the season. Captain Christine Rodriguez (12) says that Dura's mentorship and his initiative make him a great coach. Likewise, Nataly Gaitan (10) says, "He's like the bombest coach ever. I love him."

What makes the Ladies easily noticeable is their personalized sweatshirts. Each sweatshirt has a nickname that stems from the player's actions and disposition. Rodriguez's nickname is "Senior baby" because, according to her, "Last year, I [hung] around the seniors a lot." The sweatshirts have been approved as their school uniform, so Ladies can wear them any day. Next time you see the Ladies, make sure you tell them to keep up the good work.

Support the team on their next home game at Alondra Park on the 5th of April against Animo Leadership. Watching the Ladies play may turn out to be a historic event. Exciting moments are bound to happen with our Lady A's on the field, anywhere, anytime.



Swinging with the Boys By: Jamson Chuc and Juan Carlos Dominquez

Who has heard about HMSA's Baseball Team? It is one of HMSA's lesser-known athletic teams, but they are here and they are working hard. A blue flier with information on last year's performance was posted in the Building C cafeteria and Building B hallway, but that was taken down during the start of the second semester. If you were lucky enough to read the flier, you already have an idea of them. If you weren't so lucky, here's your chance to learn about them now.

The team is directed by Coach Hurwitz, who also works as a teacher at Bud Carson Middle School. Coach Hurwitz constantly makes the team condition by batting, pitching, scrimmaging and base-running, amongst many other exercises.

Most of the current players have had some experience with baseball. For example Sophomore Anthony Rodriguez says, "[I've] practically [played] my whole life." However, you don't have to be experienced in baseball to be on the team. During the first recruitment meeting, Coach Hurwitz stated that experience is not needed to play: last year, Thuan Tran, now alumni, joined the team without prior experience, learned along the way, and ultimately ended up becoming a key player.

The season officially started on March 8. Practices were being held before the season in order to prepare the team to play ball. They've had one scrimmage against Inglewood High which resulted in their first victory. The team also won their first two games against Vistamar, the last by a difference of 14 runs. Hopefully, the boys will use these games as a model and will continue to support each other during the many games to come.

The Aviators need to realize that the baseball team has the ability to win its way into postseason play. The next home game will be on Thursday, April 14 at Alondra Park against Pacific Lutheran. Cheer the team on and watch the boys hit homeruns!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- STILL INTERESTED IN JOINING X-COUNTRY? TALK TO MS. KHAN FOR MORE DETAILS. REQUIREMENTS TO JOIN THE TEAM INCLUDE A DOCTOR'S PHYSICAL, ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY, AND THE WILLPOWER TO WIN!
- CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GIRL'S SOCCER TEAM FOR THEIR FIRST PLAY-OFF APPEARANCE! IT SEEMS THAT THEIR HARD WORK PAID OFF.

The Aviator News Staff 2010-2011

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