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Smoke Signal

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A "Grecian Night" Homecoming 2017

By Breanne Turner
Smoke Signal Staff



The 2017 JBHS Homecoming Dance was held in the school's big gym on Saturday, October 21. The theme was a dazzling, Grecian-theme and it did not disappoint those who came.

Many students attended the dance, which started at 6:30PM and lasted until 10PM. When people walked into the dance, they were greeted by Greek decorations that filled the hallway, consisting of strings of leaves hanging all over.

Once one got through the security and the ticket check, the dance had begun!

Right outside on the stairs leading out to the dance, was a lovely harp player, stopping students aside their pathway to listen and enjoy her presence and the music she produced on the strings. All around were golden decorations, solid Grecian statues, silhouetted frames all around of Greek objects, and even a living statue whom was impersonating a Greek goddess, dancing later on.

Activities for students were ready to be occupied, as students were dancing on and off the stage, and outside the gym was a photo booth. With a golden backdrop and tons of props, students could dress up for pictures with their friends.

There was also a shadow cut-out that you could get out of yourself, snacks and water, and even a DJ joining us from Power 106 FM.

Inside the gym was decorated with black curtains, black floors, a stage in the front of the gym for the DJ, mini lit-up stages that people could dance on, and tables people were able to sit at a side.

The gym was dark with flashing lights, and just outside the gym was a fog machine as people had fun dancing.

Valery Saravia, a student at John Burroughs High School, stated, "Homecoming was really fun and I had an amazing time with my friends!"

At the dance, people had a good time dancing and you were able to sit in the quad surrounded by nice string lights if you wanted a break from dancing.

Sarah Lozano, a John Burroughs High School senior, says, "My favorite part of homecoming was hanging out with my friends. It's fun to get dressed up too! After the dance, I went to Yard House with a bunch of my friends and it was a good time."

Another senior student, Mikaela Kaekul, told us "My favorite part of homecoming was dancing with my friends and then going to Wingstop after. I thought the decorations were pretty, and I thought the dancing statue was a little weird. Overall, it was a lot of fun!"

Towards the end of the dance, they announced the final homecoming court. Congratulations to: Leah Davis as Homecoming Queen, as well as other princesses, Hailee Zacariaz, Lauryn Hardy, Kelley Mckeehan, and Sophia Kaloustian, and to Cerain Baker as Homecoming King, and Princes, Hakeem Hickman, Louie Kahn, Spencer Herndon-Hummel, and Cole Kaitz.

Features on the Homecoming Court are located on Pages 7-9.

Burroughs on Broadway Performance Shines

By Megan Mazer
Smoke Signal Staff



Photographer: Olivia Fitch

It's been 11 years since the JBHS Vocal Music Association decided to combat budget cuts with a Broadway review designed to wow show-tune-loving audiences, as well as raise funds that would help keep Burroughs' uniquely excellent choir program flourishing.

"Burroughs on Broadway" has been captivating our community ever since, and this year's presentation, performed on October 13, 14, and 15, was a usual big hit.

The concept of this top notch event is for each of JBHS' four main choirs to present a mini musical, with solos and smaller ensemble numbers from a wide range of previous Broadway shows rounding out the rest of the production.

Along with general and reserved seating, patrons could also opt for the special VIP experience ticket that included a preshow and intermission reception.

In a specially created VIP lounge, delicious appetizers, desserts, and beverages were served by posh waiters and waitresses who bore a stunning resemblance to local middle school choir students.

The performance opened with a bang, as the mixed intermediate choir, Soundwaves, burst onto the stage with a classic 1980's rock mash up from their mini musical, *Rock of Ages*.

It was old-school Broadway for the intermediate women's choir, Decibelles, who in colorful 1950's attire, charmed the audience with selections from *Bye Bye Birdie*.

The Act One finale transformed the stage to a modernized, wacky Lewis Carroll world, as the advanced women's choir, Sound Sensations, brought down the house with show-stopping numbers from *Wonderland*.

The individual acts shone as well, with Cheyenne Arroyo's belted "Get Out And Stay Out" from *9 to 5*, and Ethan Herisse's smooth as silk " I Could Write a Book" from *Pal Joey*, being especially memorable.

Two of the smaller ensemble numbers, *In the Heights*' "96,000" and "In" from *Carrie the Musical*, really ignited the stage, as Joseph Bird gets the comic relief Tony for his delightful performance of "Les Poissons" from *The Little Mermaid*.

Within an explosion of talent and entertaining numbers, the advanced mixed choir, Powerhouse, stood out as the production highlight. The hauntingly beautiful, "The Secret Garden," based on the classic storybook, stole the show with its creative art design, inventive choreography, passionate acting, and high quality vocals.

Lia McHugh was right on the mark as young Mary Lennox and Coen Sosa's portrayal of Archibald Craven was both poignant and skillfully sang.

While all the Powerhouse performers were spot on and, together, created an unforgettable "Burroughs on Broadway" experience, Grace Sessinghaus must receive particular accolades for her stunning and heart-wrenching performance as Lily Craven.

Her classical soprano vocals were professional beyond her years. Technical skill and control combined with genuine emotion that both thrilled, and brought the audience to "an emotional brink."

"This year's 'Burroughs on Broadway' will always hold a special place in my heart," said Miss Sessinghaus.

"Not only was I granted the opportunity to perform as Lily in *The Secret Garden*, but I made so many memories during the show week with old and new friends. I am so lucky to have such a loving and talented team. The energy on stage and support we have for one another is extremely liberating and unique. I cannot wait to see how we grow."

Powerhouse president, Ethan Herisse, also a senior, seconded that emotion. "My last 'BOB' was one to remember. I'm so happy with all the performances, and that we had such an amazing audience every night!"

He went on to joke, "Performing was fun, but watching 'Star Wars: Rogue One' backstage was probably the highlight of the weekend."

The audiences would certainly agree that the force was with all of the "Burroughs on Broadway" performers, expertly guided by Musical Director: Brendan Jennings; Artistic Director: Jen Oundjian (who also choreographs Powerhouse); Director: Jennifer Strattan; Conductor: Dan Scoville; Choreographers: Shannon Ary, Laura Dobbin, Corey Hildago, Dominic Matas, and Jen Stanley.

Special recognition must also be given to Producer: Jessica Good; Set Designer: Kevin Ary; Technical Supervisor: Keith Stevens; Sound Designer and Technical Director: John King.

Let's not forget about the great Lighting Designer: Billy Yakes; Costume Designers: Jagene Funk, Debbie Wade, Joy Pacifici, Kimberly Overton, and Barbara Holton. Catering Coordinators: Kathy Sessinghaus, Connie Trimble, M'Lisa MacLaren, and Rod Richardson as well as the rest of the set construction crew.

Along with these talented and dedicated individuals, it took countless parental volunteers to pull off this special event. Congratulations to all for a job well done!

Upcoming Dates

October 30 - November 3	JBHS Spirit Week
November 1 - 2	Pop Show Auditions
November 2	Choir Pop Show Auditions
November 3	Burroughs Pep Rally
November 4	SAT Testing
November 7	CSU App Workshop

Cutest Ask Winners



By Alex Chen
Smoke Signal Staff

On October 13th, JBHS' Associated Student Body announced that the winners to the annual Homecoming "Cutest Ask" contest are Jaden Varela, a senior, and his girlfriend, Billie Erickson, a junior.

ASB has hosted similar contests numerous times to encourage students to ask their partners to the dance. To participate, students simply had to post pictures or videos of their created ask on Instagram with the hash tag #HOCO2017CUTESTASK.

The winner of this contest receives two free tickets to the dance, followed by their picture posted to the JBHS Instagram account, @we_are_indians.

Dating for eight months, Jaden and Billie were very excited to win the contest and "out-cute" every other couple here at Burroughs. They were also all in for not needing to worry about paying for their dance tickets. Showing the world their love while saving money was definitely a good deal.

At first, it was shared that Billie, completely oblivious to future ask, went over to his house to make posters for the Coldplay concert they were attending. Jaden had secretly made a poster to ask Billie prior.

They proceeded to go the Coldplay concert and were ready to let out their inner-fan, as they are both huge fans. Jaden was able to hide it and act normal, sneaking the poster into the show and hiding it under his chair in the stadium.

Scared that Billie was going to notice something wasn't quite right, Jaden tried to relax. That's when Billie shared, "You missed an opportunity for such a great Homecoming ask!"

Jaden, playing it off cool, said. "Maybe next time."

When Coldplay started playing their hit song, "Paradise," Jaden pulled out his colorful poster that read, "Feels like I'm in paradise with you...HOCO with me?"

It was decorated with butterflies, flowers, birds, as well as a remake of Coldplay's album, A Head Full of Dreams, cover art in the center. It was decorated beautifully, and, as Billie definitely agreed, was very surprised to see what her boyfriend put together.

Jaden was of course extremely nervous to ask Billie, especially in a public space. "I was really nervous while asking her because I held the poster upside down. [Billie] looked at it, laughed a little, and told me to turn the poster upside down. She had a double take, and she was like 'Oh my god!'"

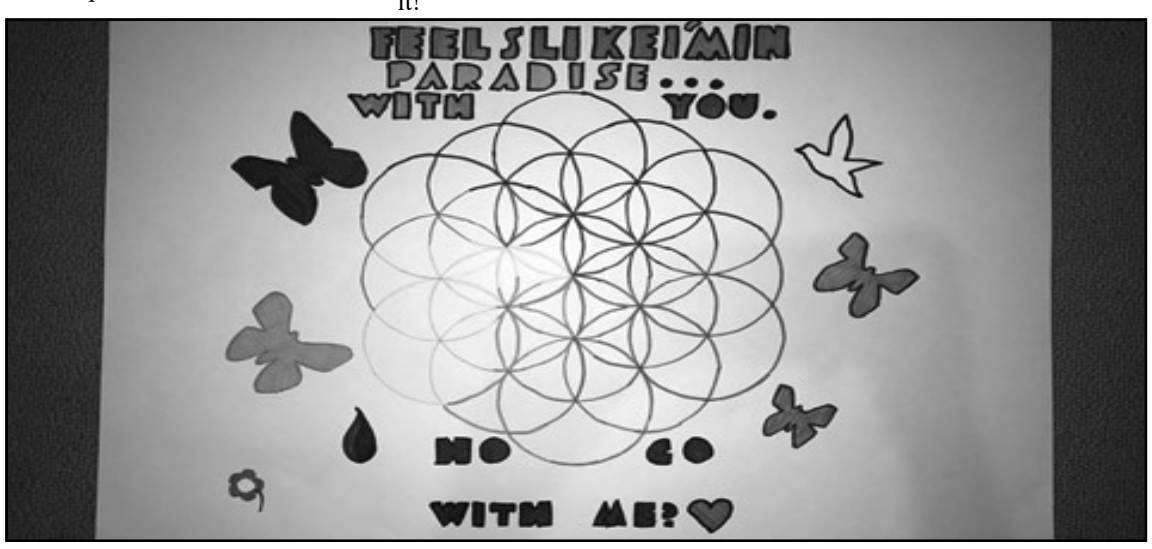
A video of Jaden's ask was recorded and posted on social media later, in which he explained the story of his ask in great details. Almost a week later, ASB announced the winners to the cutest ask concert, and Jaden and Billie were very happy to see that they had won since they did not expect winning at all.

At the Homecoming dance, Billie wore a tan, rose-gold dress and Jaden wore a blue button-up with a gold tie. Both were looking great, and were ready for the dance.

Before the dance, the two, along with their friends, took many pictures to document the moment being Jaden's last homecoming dance. At the dance, they danced, talked, and relaxed in the quad to enjoy the romantic evening.

Afterwards, Jaden, Billie, and their friends went to In-N-Out to savor a delicious meal and spend more time out together. They then went back to his house to watch a Halloween movie.

Although Jaden's ask won the contest, other students had very creatively put together, and cute asks as well. For those that did not win the cutest ask contest this year, ASB will host another one for Winter Formal. Stay tuned for it!



John Muir's World Record

By Lauren Olea
Smoke Signal Staff

Since September 21, 2017, John Muir Middle School is on their way to achieving a Guinness' World Record for the largest Japanese fan dance.

At first, the middle school didn't qualify to be in The Guinness quite yet due to the need for an approval certificate to certify their accomplishment.

They would be on the way to replacing the last record, set at 250 people participating in the previously recorded dance.

The new record in which John Muir students would achieve is having 1,392 participants in their Japanese fan dance, all including students and faculty.

To be able to perfect the dance, students would practice everyday for 15 minutes during their physical education classes.

In order to make the dance more cultural, special additions were added to the scene, including taiko drums, a traditional yagura tower, and 1,500 hachimaki, or headbands, that were made by the students.

The event took place for the middle school's annual cultural appreciation celebration "Japan Day."

It is a good way to teach students about the different cultures around the world, and in this way, it was brought upon the participating students in both a fun and educational way that everybody will remember for a long time.

This an important activity because not many schools have the chance to be able to do something this significant.

It was interesting to see how many people participated and came together for this special occasion. The 11 students who actually came from Japan as part of the Rebun International Exchange Program to be a part of the dance and help prepare was really interesting

Hopefully John Muir will continue to go through this special event as time goes on in order to adapt and celebrate other cultures.

Within the future, hopefully more schools will grasp onto this principle and appreciate the idea.

Overall it is enjoyable to learn everything about this occasion and to see the many people that came out to participate, and it is a great way to learn about and celebrate different cultures around the world.

College and Career Fair

By Alex Chen
Smoke Signal Staff

On Saturday, September 16, 2017, 9AM to 12 PM, the Burbank Unified School District hosted its annual College and Career Fair here at JBHS (last year's fair was hosted inside of the gym at Burbank High) in which officials from more than one hundred colleges show up to promote their programs and career opportunities to students who wish to go to college or join the army.

Schools ranging from the most top-notch schools including UC and Cal State, to local community colleges set up booths with help from student volunteers to give kids and parents better understanding of programs they offer and campus ambiance.

Each college had three to four representatives to distribute flyers, brochures, and pamphlets for any student interested. Most colleges that showed up at the fair were mostly in-state; however, schools outside of California including Arizona state, Michigan State, University of Hawaii, and Suffolk University from Boston all appeared for students who wish to go out of California and explore other environments.

Some of the most popular booths included UCLA, UC Berkley, CSU Channel Islands, University of Hawaii, and CSUN.

Colleges not only gave out informational brochures to advocate their schools, items such as pens, baseballs, masks, and flags were all given out to promote their school even more.

Schools passionately and patiently explained everything to the fast-moving students visiting their booths that they need to know before applying.

These include their required courses, insight questions that administrators ask, ways to obtain financial aid or scholarships, and their annual cost.

Each booth was open for questions and concerns from anybody stopping by their table, and the officials were more than happy to answer. Most families find this event a very helpful and enjoyable one.

In their pamphlets, the colleges provided a description and visual image of what the campus looks like, the surrounding areas of the school, situations with the dorms, the annual cost, their top majors, and their best programs to offer.

This kind of information given really helps the future college students to decide what college to apply for and how to prepare for it.

The event was not necessarily for only colleges to promote, but the military as well.

The army, air force, and the navy all showed up to teach students the benefits and requirements for joining if one aspires to fight for our country. Nice swags were given out to students to keep as well.

In the multi-purpose room next door to where the fair was going on, there was a financial aid meeting being held where officials explained the requirements for applying for financial aid.

Since attending college is incredibly expensive, many financial aid opportunities are made available for families of hard-working students.

An informational meeting for SAT/ACT was held in the library for parents and students to know what to expect on their SAT/ACT tests.

The testing process (how long each section is going to take and materials needed) was well explained for students wishing to take the test in their junior year.

To keep the crowd engaged, the district provided food trucks set up in the quad. There were various types of Mexican foods, as well as soda and donuts for people to enjoy while they read through all the informational pamphlets about their future.

All in all, the College and Career Fair this year was a major success. The room was filled with enthusiastic kids trying to get to know more about SAT testing and college options.

It is very nice that our district hosts events like this to help our students with making the important decision.

Dave and Buster's

By Ryan Hunter
Smoke Signal Staff

It is official, the late nights of sitting at home, bored out of your mind, looking for any excuse to get of the house, will soon come to an end. The days of wandering around the streets thinking to yourself, "does it ever get better?", will be long gone. Finally! Our prayers have been answered by what must be some sort of higher power…The Burbank Mall is getting a Dave & Buster's!

That's right. By 2018, we will all be able to spend our money on what really matters: loud arcade games and overpriced appetizers. Who cares if you'll never win a prize on that claw machine?

Dave & Buster's isn't only about how much money you spend on a claw machine. It's about the good times that are meant to be had with friends and family. It's about realizing that your competitiveness is starting to become a problem when you make your cousin cry by screaming at her when she beats you at skee-ball and it sort of ends her 10th birthday party on a sour note.

In reality, it'll probably be a while before the Dave & Buster's will be open to the public but hopefully it will be well worth the wait and there will be more to do on the weekends than just go see a movie and then Porto's. This is just what the mall needs to attract more people and seem bigger and better.

Burbank's School of Rock

By Isabella Primera
Smoke Signal Staff

The School of Rock band performed their pieces on Friday, September 29, 2017 while Burbank held their monthly gathering, Ladies Night Out, on Magnolia Blvd.

The event was attended by many residents, in and out of Burbank, who were looking to have a fun time with their families and friends talking, eating from the many available food trucks parked along the street, and listening to the live music provided.

The School of Rock Burbank contributed to the live music put on that night. The band finished setting up their equipment by around 5:30 PM, and they began their first set at 6 PM.

The band performed from 6PM to 8PM, taking small breaks inbetween sets.

Their enthusiasm and eye-catching performances did not waiver as the night went on through the time they played.

Their set-list consisted of songs such as Janis Joplin's "Piece of my Heart" and The Rolling Stones' "Gimme Shelter." The band also played the iconic "Smells like Teen Spirit" by Nirvana, and "Seven Nation Army" by the White Stripes.

Megan Knutson, a tenth grader at Burroughs, described the band as, "talented, passionate and very entertaining to watch."

"I think they did really well, and it seemed like they worked hard to get to where they were," explained Halle Mitchell, 9th grader.

If one were to listen to the band performing from around the corner next to Pinocchio's, it would not be assumed that the band is comprised entirely of teenagers. Some, in fact, are still in middle school. These students are considered advanced, as they play at such events just like Ladies Night Out all over Burbank and Toluca Lake; Glendale and Pasadena are included as well.

The School of Rock offers classes in drums, guitar, bass, keyboard, vocals, and ukulele. The instructors, themselves, are all musicians who currently play for bands outside of the School of Rock. These people have gone to schools that include MI, or Musicians Institute, and USC, before starting up their popular music program and jazz program.

One could sign up for their given performance program, taking place in more of a "band setting."

Private lessons are given with this once a week. The performance program has rehearsals on the weekends where students learn how to work and act like a band. At the end of the season, they play a show at a venue that is booked by the school.

Some other choices of music programs they provide are "Rock 101," which is for kids in elementary school that are advanced enough to play instruments on their own, while combining with older teenagers in the performance program.

"Little Wing" is specifically for toddlers; "Rookies" is for children in between elementary school aged up to teenagers. "Rock 101," "Little Wing," and "House Band" are provided for the advanced teenagers.

Their "House Band" represents the School of Rock in many different ways. The teens in House Band are considered ambassadors of the school, as they volunteer at the school and play at different venues.

If one is interested in learning to play an instrument, the School of Rock, Burbank is located on 4516 Mariota Ave. Toluca Lake, CA 91602.

You can also reach the school by calling: (818) 980-1522.

Josten's Ring Contest Winner

By Gabriella Barnett
Smoke Signal Staff

"The Josten's ring is a ring you get for your graduating class. It is seem as a way to commemorate one's high school memories and successes. The fact that you can personalize it makes it that much more relative to who you are. That is why I decided to dedicate it to my years in show choir because of how much it has impacted my life." This was shared by the winner of the Josten's class ring, Kyle Bacierto.

Kyle Bacierto is a senior in Powerhouse at John Burroughs, who was motivated to win this ring when it was included in a raffle. "[There is] so much more luck and no harm that would come from participating; and chances were slim."

When Kyle realized he had won, he shared it was genuinely surprising and couldn't believe it was true. If one is interested in winning a ring oneself, Kyle's advice is, "Well, in general, when it comes to these kinds of things, I would say if nothing bad can happen, why not just do it? I know a lot of people didn't participate, but there's always a chance it could be you."

You can purchase one from their website www.Jostens.com where they sell yearbooks, class rings, and graduation gifts for various high schools and colleges; championship rings for sports are included as well.

"We look forward to bring your stories to life and helping you experience a 'once-in-a-lifetime' over and over again" says the Josten's community (which you can be a part of, they have career opportunities with a variety of professions and you'll definitely find something you love and have interest in).

Josten's was started in 1897, by Otto Josten who set out to repair keepsake jewelry. Everything is custom manufactured, and they help with celebrating traditions. Graduation announcements, diplomas, jewelry awards and more contribute to a memorable graduation experience.

"For more than 100 years, we have helped high school students share their stories, and college students celebrate their achievements. With the Josten's Promise, it's easier to do both; your ring will always have value" states the Josten's Promise.

They hope to encourage students to commit to want to graduate, then get recognition, by having such a cool item to attain. They empower students to express and celebrate themselves with a custom designed ring.



Imagine Dragons

By Sophia Moore
Smoke Signal Staff

With catchy, hit songs like "Radioactive," and "Believer," it's hard to dislike the pop-rock band, Imagine Dragons.

On Sunday, October 1st, 2017, the Grammy-winning band came to the Hollywood Bowl, the 4th stop on their world tour, in honor of their new album, "Evolve."

The band consists of lead vocalist, Dan Reynolds; guitarist, Wayne Sermon; bassist and keyboardist, Ben McKee; and drummer, Daniel Platzman, who all played to a sold-out crowd of 17,000 people at the outdoor amphitheater.

Imagine Dragons played the venue alongside the alternative singer-songwriter K.Flay, and Indie pop band, Grouplove, both of whom opened up for them.

The band played for about two hours, and the set list consisted of many of their top hits, such as "Radioactive," and "It's Time," as well as some of their new chart toppers, "Believer," "Thunder," "Whatever It Takes," and "I Don't Know Why," which the band opened up the night with.

Throughout the concert, the crowd was on their feet and cheering, and the energy level was incredibly high through the whole night. Lead-man, Dan Reynolds, was constantly engaged with the crowd, talking and sharing stories with fans the duration of the concert. There were several moments where one would feel like Reynolds was singing to you, simply because of his eye contact and enthusiasm in performing.

The four-man band not only played on the main stage of the outdoor amphitheater, but a b-stage in what seemed like the middle of the crowd, as well. About halfway through their regular set, they descended from the stage and walked through the sea of people, flanked by bodyguards, to get to the pre-set b-stage.

The band played three songs on the second stage, including, "Dream," "Bleeding Out," and "It Comes Back to You." Imagine Dragons played acoustic versions of these songs, and that inspired the crowd to hold their flashlights in the air.

It was very magical, a crowd of 17,000 people, and their corresponding lights, creating an effect of a sea of lights.

When the band returned to the main stage, they brought down the house, pulling all their top hits from their arsenal. They followed up the acoustic set with back-to-back hits "Thunder," "I Bet My Life," and "Radioactive," to top it all off.

The crowd was going wild, dancing and singing along with the band, adding to the, already loud, atmosphere. Everything else disappeared in that moment, as it was all about being present and cheering with and at the Imagine Dragons, and every fan that showed up.

Following the three-song set that brought down the house, the band continued to play a two-song encore. However, instead of going backstage and returning when the crowd cheered loud enough, the lead man, Dan Reynolds, explained that he "[didn't] want to do that," because it was "silly." Following his statement, he went into his final thank you on the band's behalf, promising that they would be back in LA again someday. At this point, the crowd was overjoyed, and the excitement was spilling over to see which songs would be played for an encore.

After Reynolds' final statement, Imagine Dragons launched into their encore, playing the final two songs of the night. They began again by playing a track off their newest album, "Evolve," entitled "Walking the Wire." The final song of the night was mega-hit, "Believer," which was a blast for the entire crowd.

Imagine Dragons played a strong set from start to finish, keeping the crowd engaged by giving the performance their heart and soul. The concert was also a hit because of the energy level of the band's lead singer, Dan Reynolds. He managed to keep the crowd engaged the entire time, and pump them up, simply by talking with them and conveying that he cared about them, and the music he was performing.

Overall, it was a night to remember, for everyone attending. As they sing in "On Top of the World," "take it in but don't look down, because I'm on top of the world." That, for sure, is one way to put how it felt to be one of 17,000 in the crowd to see Imagine Dragons at the Hollywood Bowl.

Center Stage Gallery Exhibits "Project Neverland"

By Abby Krueger
Smoke Signal Staff

Project Neverland was an art exhibit that featured interesting, new art that told Peter Pan's story. Forty artists shared their work, and their vision of what Neverland was like. This event lasted from May 5 - June 11, 2017 at the Center Stage Gallery in Burbank, California. Many came to see and support these artists unique and insightful works of art.

Project Neverland was created by Casey Robin, and Anika Orrock, and sponsored by Center Stage Gallery, along with The Creative Talent Network (CTN).

The artists were all professionals who worked in either illustration, animation, or comics.

To prepare for this exhibit, all the artists reread J.M Barrie's book to spark their imaginations and create simply beautiful and creative art.

J.M Barrie once wrote "Of all the delectable islands the Neverland is the snuggest and most compact, not large and sprawly, you know, with tedious distances between one adventure and another, but nicely crammed. When you play at it by day with the chairs and table-cloth, it's not in the least alarming, but in the two minutes before you go to sleep it becomes very real." This story has been told countless times, through movies, stories, and certainly, art.

This event was nostalgic for many, being that Peter Pan has been around since 1904. Peter Pan did not begin as a book, but as a stage play, inviting the audience to experience the story with their own imagination. Project Neverland was exciting, vibrant, familiar, and unique. Some of the artists came from as far as Taiwan, while others were local, here in Los Angeles.

This event was free of charge, and offered complimentary drinks such as wine, as well as tasty pastries and treats. Project Neverland brought a wide range of people from children, to adults, and had the power to inspire the imagination.

J.M Barrie also said "Never say goodbye, because goodbye means going away and going away means forgetting," Project Neverland ensures that Neverland will never be forgotten. The idea of never growing up has cultivated itself into a phenomenon.

One often misses the simplicity of childhood, and Peter Pan has the ability to bring anyone back to that time of innocence.

What's ironic, is that the original J.M Barrie play and book embraced the dangers of not growing up. One could say that what was wonderful about this exhibit was that it embraced one of the world's favorite fairy tales, with mature works of art.

The types of art on display included pencil drawings, water color, oil paintings, three-dimensional items such as a working clock- with the Peter Pan crocodile chasing Peter Pan and TinkerBell. There were also sculptures, and a video display that presented the process from conceptual idea to finished works of art. One artist even made an extensive list of moments in the Peter Pan mythology that were never written before. This imaginative speculation was surely inherent to the hopes of J.M Barrie who invited us over a hundred years ago, young and old alike, to the fantastic world of Neverland.

DIY Costumes

By Mackenzie Rivera
Smoke Signal Staff

Who enjoys spending a ridiculous amount of money on a Halloween costume each year, only to wear it once? Nobody does. There is no need to waste time and money on a generic store bought costume that everyone else will be wearing, when it can easily be made at home for a fraction of the price.

Many of the easiest costumes can be made with items found in the closet. Costume options include Rosie the Riveter, a cowboy, Wednesday Addams, and Day of the Dead.

To dress as the cultural icon Rosie the Riveter, from the World War II era, all you need is a pair of jeans, a denim shirt, and a bandana. Ladies can tie their hair into a bun and wrap the bandana around head from the back of head to top of head. All that is left to do is strike the classic muscle arm pose and you are ready to go.

Making a cowboy costume is a fairly simple task. One will need a flannel, a pair of jeans, and boots. Flannel color is up to you! Add a cowboy hat, a bandana to tie around neck, and to kick it up a notch a sheriff's badge (borrow one from a younger sibling or buy one at a local discount store).

For all you ladies who want to embrace your spooky side there is the option of Wednesday Addams from The Addams Family. All you need is a black dress with a white collar, and black stockings with a pair of flats. If you don't have a black dress with a collar you can wear a white collared shirt underneath a black dress. To complete this look those of you who have long hair can braid hair into two low pigtails, if your hair's not long enough to braid you can keep it down and straight.

If you want to bring out your creative side, there is always the option of dressing as the dead from the Mexican holiday Day of the Dead. The sky's the limit with this choice for both boys and girls, the key to this costume is accessory choices.

Boys just need a simple black suit - if you don't own a suit any black clothing will do- and possibly a top hat. For the face one could either wear a mask that has skull like features or paint face (with face paint ONLY) to look like a sugar skull. Face paint should include black circles around the eyes, a black nose, and either stitches drawn across lips up to cheeks, or skull like teeth across lower face (below nose). Additional designs are optional but can include webs and floral patterns.

Girls can wear a variety of dresses. The goal is to either wear black or be festive looking (bright colors, floral patterns, etc.). The face is similar to the boys in that you can wear a mask or paint the face with floral designs, black circles around the eyes and drawing stitches across lips. If you don't want to make a mask or paint your face you can purchase face stickers or masks at a local discount store. To have a more traditional look one should have either flowers in hair or even wear a dark veil.

Bonus: For those who enjoy dressing up not only themselves, but their pets as well, there is a simple costume for any pet of any size. You could dress your beloved pet as a Beanie Boo Baby. To make this costume you will need to cut a large red heart from a poster board (depending on size of pet), write TY in large bubble letters, and attach to pet's collar.

Last Minute Costumes

By Lanthy Nguyen
Smoke Signal Staff

October is here! The most haunted month of the year. Teenagers and kids will go trick-or-treating, carve pumpkins into Jack-O-Lanterns, visit haunted attractions, and dress up as their favorite character.

One of the popular traditions of Halloween is dressing up. Start off the fun by purchasing a costume or even make your own!

Here are some costumes along with directions on how to make them if you are stuck and don't know what to be for Halloween.

First, let's start off with a burglar costume. All you need is: a black beanie, pants, an eye mask, a black and white stripe long sleeve T-shirt, and a pair of black shoes.

Another simple costume that you can try is Monsters Inc.'s Boo. The clothing required to be Boo are: an oversized pink shirt, a pair of purple leggings, and white shoes. Along with the clothing, you also have an option to tie your hair up into two pigtails with pink hair ties.

You and your friends can dress up as Mario and Luigi. You will both need a pair of brown shoes and white gloves, medium washed jeans, blue suspenders, and mustaches.

To be Mario you will need a basic red T-shirt and a red baseball hat. In the middle of the hat, a white circle with the letter M should be presented.

Luigi's costume will required a basic green T-shirt and a green baseball hat. The design of the hat is exactly like Mario's. However, the color should be green and the letter is L.

Want to be Snapchat for Halloween? Warning though, this costume will require you to be yellow from head to toe.

Snapchat's costume will need a yellow shirt with the Snapchat's logo on it, a yellow tutu or yellow skirt or pants for guys, and a pair of yellow Converse. For the girls, you can also enhance the look with a yellow or gold eye shadow and a yellow bow.

Another costume that you can try (it is the most popular costume in school every year) is a cat. All you will need are: black shirt, black bottoms and black shoes; in fact, you can wear whatever you want. The most important things are cat ears and some whiskers on your face.

Love fruits and want to be one? Here's one that you can try, a watermelon. All you will need is a pink shirt and green bottoms. On the shirt make sure to draw some black seeds on there. Seeds should be scatter all throughout the shirt. There are many options out there for you to try and dress up. These are just a few simple suggestions just in case anybody decided last minute that they will also join in on the fun of dressing up during Halloween.

Why dress up during Halloween? Well, what is a better to way to enjoy and hype up the month of October when there is no break and just school every week. No need to be embarrassed, because everyone will be dressing up on Halloween, even the adults do so why shouldn't you?

Too Much Pumpkin Spice?

By Amber Miller
Smoke Signal Staff

During the month of October everywhere you turn pumpkin spice is there. Many food companies will turn their ordinary snacks into delicious pumpkin spiced ones. Although pumpkin spice is an iconic fall flavor, many will agree it has gone overboard.

As all the pumpkin spice items come out during the season, people wonder : is there such thing as too much pumpkin spice? Many will say yes, but pumpkin spice lovers across the world will say there is no such thing as too much pumpkin spice!

Once October comes shelves are stocked with a variety of pumpkin spiced items. One of the most popular pumpkin spiced item is the famous pumpkin spice latte from Starbucks. The pumpkin spice latte is anxiously awaited throughout the year. This year it happened to come sooner than expected on Friday, September 1, 2017.

During fall you can find all sorts of pumpkin spiced snacks at Trader Joe's. They have items such as cream cheese, bagels, ice cream, waffles, and many more that are pumpkin spiced.

There are many delicious pumpkin spiced foods, but there are also some that aren't that great. Since pumpkin spice is crazed over, many companies will turn anything pumpkin spiced during the season.

This year pumpkin spice has gone too far. Sprouts is selling pumpkin spice salsa, which doesn't sound good at all. Many items that are supposed to be savory have turned pumpkin spiced including chicken sausage, pringles, pasta sauce, and many more.
If one has a sweet tooth they might enjoy some pumpkin spiced items that have come out this year. Some sweets that can be found are pumpkin spiced flavored are marshmallows, cookies, Peeps, and Pop tarts.

If one does not enjoy the taste of pumpkin spice they can still enjoy the scent. At Bath and Body there are pumpkin spice scented candles, body sprays, lotions, room sprays, and hand sanitizer.

For those that hate pumpkin spice, you'll have to wait for fall to be over for the obsession to go away. More people than ever are turning things pumpkin spice flavored or scented this year. When it comes to pumpkin spice it's a "go big or go home" situation, and many people are choosing to go big.

It's safe to say pumpkin spice has gone too far. Although there are many great pumpkin spice treats this year, there are also some items that should never be pumpkin spiced. Ever. Things like cookies, bread, and coffee are perfect for an addition of pumpkin spice. On the other hand things like dog treats, gum, protein powder, and chips is pushing it.



Trick or Treating Age Limit?

By Mike Altawil
Smoke Signal Staff

Its finally here! The month everyone has impatiently been waiting for. Yes, it is true, the pumpkin spice latte and caramel cream season has returned once more, as well as the explosion of weekly clown sightings and haunted houses. The holiday that is on everyone's mind: You guessed it… HALLOWEEN!

For those of you who don't know, Halloween is the fascinating holiday where all of America attempts to scare the life out of each other. Many people dress up as their favorite characters, monsters, or objects. Be it Rick from Rick and Morty, the cheap sheet-over-the-head ghost, or the infamous banana man, everyone gets dressed up. Once costumed, you can walk the neighborhood screaming, "TRICK-OR-TREAT", to be gifted with the occasional toothbrush, excess of fun size snickers, and other miscellaneous treats.

Depending on where you live, the candy is ripe for the picking. Everyone enjoys going trick or treating. Many adults and guardians walk with their pirates and princesses wearing costumes of their own. Due to the high number of children going trick-or-treating, it is not uncommon to see adults only going out to supervise their children. However, many other ages join in too. This begs the question, is there as such thing as too old for Halloween?

According to Wikipedia, about 80% of adults plan to hand out candy for Halloween rather than participate, while 93% of children, teens and young adults plan to go out trick-or-treating. Within the 93%, young adults (ages 18-35) go out and celebrate this holiday. Even though the young adults can be a minority in the percentage, the acceptance of the ages 18-35 years old definitely strengthens the argument that there is no age limit for trick-or-treating.

But what about the 20% of adults not handing out candy? We can only assume they may either be escorting their children, trick-or-treating, or watching numerous reruns of old horror movies. Whatever they're doing, they are included in the data, so it's difficult to know how many adults, middle aged, actually trick-or-treat. All we know is that there are some adults that escort their children or trick-or-treat with some friends that represent some part of the data.

The Mercury News published an article about the opinions of many Alameda residents on Halloween. Manera Gill, an artist and resident of Alameda, states, "More than half the adults (who escort their children) are dressed up as spectacularly as the kids." With this insight, we can infer that the Halloween spirit still lives inside some adults. With the amount of effort the parents make to find or create a costume for their child and then to tag along, it is self-evident that these adults still have the Halloween spirit within them.

Unfortunately, with the negative stigma of adults trick-or-treating without children, it has convinced many people to set an age limit for trick-or-treaters. On Today.com, a survey showed that, "73 percent of these (parents) surveyed agree that somewhere between the ages 12 and 17, kids should call it quits".

On the contrary, Today.com also states, "70 percent (of adults surveyed) feel that Halloween is a holiday for both children and grown-ups." So, not only did many of the adults surveyed set an age range for trick-or-treaters, but they also agree that Halloween is a holiday for all.

In my personal opinion, it doesn't matter how old you are. Halloween is a holiday! Besides, no other holidays "set age range."

In all, we celebrate many other holidays to express a deeper meaning. Christmas is not only the birthday of Jesus, but also the practice of giving gifts to those you deeply respect. Thanksgiving is the practice of sitting down and becoming content with your life over a feast of turkey, stuffing and cranberry sauce. And, most importantly, Halloween is the practice of letting our inner child out, does not matter if you're a kid or not.

In fact, maybe Halloween, being a holiday of letting out your inner child, means it's more important that adults and teens trick or treat.

And, let's not forget, it means we, teenagers, aren't out doing something stupid. Well, more stupid than bing eating candy.

COFFEE BEAN VS. STARBUCKS

BY LEEZA POLADYAN
SMOKE SIGNAL STAFF

Two of California's biggest coffee shop rivalries, Starbucks & Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, have to come head to head each season with their seasonal fall beverages.

Both cafes definitely have their own pros and cons. When it comes to all the cute and fancy seasonal drinks, Starbucks seems to have the overall hype, but how many of you knew that Coffee Bean has a really similar fall menu? On top of that, Coffee Bean has an even better quality coffee.

Beginning September 5th at Starbucks, customers were able to enjoy new fall time beverages and foods, including their famous Pumpkin Spice Latte, Pumpkin Spice Chai Tea Latte, and even a Salted Caramel Mocha drink.

The new fall menu at Starbucks includes bakery and snack items. There are pumpkin scones, a caramelized apple loaf cake, pumpkin cream cheese muffins, and even pumpkin cheesecake bars. On top of that, they released a new fall beverage, the Maple Pecan Latte.

Now, many of us can agree that Pumpkin Spice and all these other drinks at Starbucks can be too sweet or syrupy. At Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, the team recently brought back their fall favorites.

They give a short description to the drinks at Coffee Bean, saying, "Where sweet pumpkin and exotic chai tea come together to create a special, seasonal latte." The menu includes Pumpkin Brew Almond Milk Latte, Pumpkin Spice Chai Tea Latte or Ice Blended, and even a Salted Caramel Latte or Ice Blended. This time of year they have a variety of spiced pastries.

So which cafe is better in your opinion? Would you rather have the sweet, fancy drinks at Starbucks that usually are watered down if its a cold drink, or would you prefer the tasty, good quality menu items offered at Coffee Bean? Would you rather have a weird burned after taste that comes with Starbucks' lattes? Sure, Starbucks has good drinks too, and they are really creative, but Coffee Bean just tastes so much better. They use real sugar and powders instead of the syrups and liquid sweeteners used at Starbucks.

Overall, Starbucks has all the hype with fall time drinks, but thats because most people haven't tried the ones at Coffee Bean. Even if seasonal drinks were not an option, Coffee Bean would still win me over. Which would you choose?



BACKWOODS MAZE

BY CAMYLLE ROBINSON
SMOKE SIGNAL STAFF

On Friday October 13th, The Backwoods Maze finally opened up.

This is a kid friendly maze built in "some guy's" front and back yard.

It might seem a little sketchy, but I can confirm that it is totally legit.

It is located on 1912 North Pepper Street Burbank, CA 91505 and the house owner just allows people to come through from 7pm to 10pm on October 13-15, 20-22, 27-29 & 31.

Its also a free attraction, donations are appreciated of course, but it's not required.

Personally, I can remember going here almost every Friday in middle school, it was the spot.

Some of the guys that went to my school used to work there so it was even more fun getting scared by them.

In fact, that's true this year too, a pretty righteous kid named Mace Koenig works there this year, a junior here at Burroughs. Mace said, "The theme this year, it's kind of like 'Fallout' with mutated animal men."

The maze itself is pretty impressive, because when you're in there you can't even tell that you're in someone's actual backyard. It is kind of crazy how well it is built. From what I can remember this was super scary so I went to check it out.

First of all, I forgot how popular it was because there was a long line down the block.

It might have also been because it was Friday the 13th, but still the lines were long.

Anyway, so I finally got to the front and got to in. Right off the bat someone tried to scare me and I just continued to walk through and more people in scary costumes tried to scare me.

It's almost like the mazes at Universal's Halloween Horror Nights, but not as intense.

It was very fun to go through a couple of times, but It didn't exactly scare me that much.

That's only because I don't get scared that easily but it's still a great attraction to go to for a spooky time.

It was also very different from what I remembered. (I mean it has been like five years, but still.)

I would say that this is more an attraction for younger teens because there isn't that much to get scared of. (Don't get me wrong, this was still a good time.)

I feel like this is something you do before your night gets started because it gets you hyped and wakes you up.

I give the owner mad props for this though because it's pretty cool. I definitely wouldn't want to open up my house to random strangers for three hours at a time three days a week for free.

"Such a fun maze!! I definitely will be going back with my friends sometime soon," exclaimed Leah Davis.

And, according to Eleanor Grant, junior here at Burroughs, "They looked amazing yet extremely creepy. Popping out behind walls and grabbed people's legs as they walked by. Even though it left me scared it only lasted about 10 minutes in length. It was dope."

COCO, A MONTH LATE

BY RYAN HUNTER
SMOKE SIGNAL STAFF

The Pixar produced movie, Coco, is coming to theaters this year, November 22nd. The colorful film centers around the Day of the Dead, otherwise known as Dia de Muertos which is the same day as Halloween, (and two days after). So that begs the question, why is Pixar making the biggest mistake they've ever made in the history of the company's existence?

The fact that Pixar is releasing a Halloween themed movie a week from Thanksgiving instead of the week of October 31st is sickening and frankly insulting to the company's fan base.

At this point it would be best for everyone if the movie just didn't come out at all, or waits until next year.

The only rational decision to be made here is that the film be boycotted and pushed back until Halloween 2018.

Pixar must be held accountable for their actions! The toll that has been put on people's emotional and mental state due to the film's release date alone is almost unspeakable.

Not to mention the opportunity that Pixar missed by releasing a HALLOWEEN THEMED MOVIE on THANKSGIVING. Going to watch this movie would have been the best way for children to end a night of trick or treating. But unfortunately, that can never happen and Halloween this year will undoubtedly be ruined for children everywhere.

At the end of the day there is only one question to be asked. How dare you, Pixar? How dare you make those poor children wait until a week from Thanksgiving to see your movie?

Your consistent movie release dates were what once kept this country great.

MINI MONSTER

BY HANNAH HOUSTON
SMOKE SIGNAL STAFF

Are you looking for a new Thai tea or boba place? If so, great news! A new restaurant, Mini Monster, has just opened in Universal Citywalk.

Mini Monster is a new restaurant that provides great Thai tea and a great Instagram picture for your feed. Mini Monster is most known for their instagrammable walls, innovative light bulb cups and jars, cotton candy drinks, and chill environment.

Since this restaurant is so new there is a ridiculously long line to get in. Luckily though I came at the right time and I only had to wait in line for about five minutes.

There is no person greeting you at the doors, but to speed up the ordering process they pass around a menu which is extremely helpful and well thought of.

Looking at the menu I noticed there was not many choices to choose from.

Mini Monsters signature beverages are their Thai teas. There are two different forms of Thai tea you can choose from, a classic Thai tea and a street Thai tea. The street Thai tea, is almost the same as the classic Thai tea, but it has a little bit of a different flavor. For those who aren't in the mood for tea they also sell lemonade, strawberry, and a sunset lemonade. The sunset lemonade is made with blue tea and lemonade which gives off the effect of a purple gradient sunset. These drinks were priced around four to five dollars. One of the many treats you can add on is cotton candy. You also have a choice of ordering you drink in their reusable big lightbulb or their reusable glass jars.

To see their exact menu you must go to the store itself because their website has not put up the menu yet, which is quite inconvenient.

When I went I decided to try the strawberry lemonade in the big light bulb. The wait for it to come out was not longer than five minutes, but I assume on a busier day the wait time will increase. The lemonade was pretty good but I have definitely tasted better. What really won me over were the real strawberries at the bottom and lightbulb my drink was in. The appeal is definitely with how the drinks look and less about the taste of the beverages. I would absolutely go back to try it again, but next time I have to try the famous Thai tea.

I suggest you take a walk down Citywalk and try this new place out for yourself and snap a picture while you're at it! .

If you want to see a menu you must go to the store because their website has not put up their menu.



OVERDONE COSTUMES

BY JORDAN PALMER
SMOKE SIGNAL STAFF

It's that time of year again. In the month of October where there is one day for all ages to dress up in their most desired fashion. October 31st--Halloween. Each year there are always a couple of extremely popular costumes.

One example of this, which we all most likely saw last year, was Harley Quinn and the Joker. These two comic book icons were arguably either the best or most annoying costumes of 2016 after the release of the feature film "Suicide Squad."

How can we all forget about Harambe? The Cincinnati zoo gorilla who was shot and killed after a three-year-old boy fell into the gorilla pit. Harambe soon became a very popular meme for the next three or four months. When Halloween came around, everyone decided to dress like the gorilla.

Another popular costume of 2016 was the killer clown. After many sightings of "killer clowns" across the country it soon became a very popular trend to dress up like a clown and scare people.

Those were just some of the many trendy 2016 Halloween costumes.

Now let's talk about 2017. Halloween is here and I think we can all predict the most overdone/popular costumes.

One costume I think we all see coming is Pennywise, the dancing clown, from the hit remake of the horror film IT. With IT's growing popularity one can only assume that many fans will dress up as this killer clown or maybe even a whole group of friends as the "losers club."

Another Blockbuster of the summer was DC's Wonder Woman. This Amazonian princess may be the Harley Quinn costume of 2017.

Another superhero film released over the summer was Spiderman: Homecoming which brought back a fan favorite character back into the Marvel Cinematic Universe. So I assume that a Spiderman costume won't be too uncommon.

Those popular characters are the *Smoke Signal's* predictions of Halloween costumes this year.

Halloween Time At Disneyland

By Kevin Romero
Smoke Signal Staff

Disneyland is the happiest place on Earth.

Or is it the scariest?

Well, from September 15, 2017 through October 31, 2017 on Tuesdays and Fridays you can experience Halloween Time at Disneyland where you can see Disneyland (in addition to California Adventure for the very first time) decorated for the event with pumpkins as the Disney characters and movies.

In Disneyland, the famous giant Mickey Mouse Jack-o-lantern is back with pumpkins decorating the second story windows of main street.

Even the rides are with the feel of the event, and the guest favorite is Spooky Space Mountain Ghost Galaxy.

Along with Space Mountain, Jack Skellington is back with Haunted Mansion Holiday for the transformation of Christmas cheer and the spookiness of Halloween.

Also, Disney villains are walking through Town Square for photos and character greetings with such villains like Judge Frollo from *The Hunchback of Notre Dame,* the Queen of Hearts, Cruella De Vil, and Lady Tremaine from *Cinderella*.

Mickey's Halloween party is also a special celebration that is separately ticketed from either 7PM to midnight or from 6PM to 11PM on the thirteen nights that it's held.

The guests are recommended to wear costumes.

Also, they have trick-or-treating so that you can bring your little sister, brother or cousin to go and explore the park to get candy from the stations that they have.

Guests can also see an exclusive Halloween Screams firework spectacular.

Then, Frontierland has the traditional Dia de Muertos that will be at the park through Sunday, November 2 (Dia de Muertos is the traditional Mexican holiday that spans Halloween to the two following days).

Now let's get to California Adventure. Carsland is all spruced up for "Haul-o-ween," with Radiator Springs now being called Radiator Screams.

Also, Guardians of the Galaxy-Mission: Breakout! has turned to Guardians of the Galaxy-Monsters after Dark once it turns into night, along with a new look to the building and a new plot to the story.

Buena Vista Street (in Disneyland, not here in Burbank, sadly) will have a Halloween makeover inspired by *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.

The characters are dressed in their favorite costumes like Donald, Mickey, Minney, Chip and Dale, Lightning Mcqueen, Matter and many more.

So, join the creepiness of Halloween at Disneyland and enjoy the things that Disneyland and California Adventure have to offer before the season ends.

Ghost Train Ride

By Isabella Primera
Smoke Signal Staff

The Ghost Train Ride in Griffith Park is back again this year for its 17th annual Ghost Train Ride and it is spookier than ever before. After being gone for a year the Ghost Train Ride and its staff are very excited to be back.

The Ghost Train Ride opened its doors on Friday, October 13th and it sold out not long after the tickets became available online. While the ride is quite spooky, it is also very family friendly. There are no actors that will pop out at you or touch you, making it the perfect ride for younger kids.

The ride consists of thirty professionally designed displays, and certain special effects such as pyrotechnics and fog machines are used to make your ride on the Ghost Train Ride a truly special, and spooky ride.

One will ride on miniature trains 1/8th the size of a normal train and ride through the many different areas of the ride. Music and sound effects make the displays come to life.

One might be discouraged upon arrival by the long line that is seemingly too long for any ride but I can testify that not only is it worth the wait, but there is live music provided by multiple bands such as The Rhythm Coffin, and The School of Rock Burbank's House Band (read about them on Pg. 3).

The ride is located at 5202 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027 and the tickets are $20 per person.

One should not wait too long to buy a ticket because the Ghost Train Ride is only happening until October 31st. Though the online tickets are selling out fast, one can buy tickets at the gate for any number of nights. Tickets for certain days are selling out fast and the Ghost Train Ride won't be around again until next year.

The Ghost Train Ride is a non profit that is sponsored by The Los Angeles Live Steam Railroad Museum and all the staff are volunteers who enjoy helping to make Halloween extra special for kids of all ages. All of the proceeds from the Ghost Train Ride go to maintaining the Los Angeles Live Steam Railroad Museums thirteen acre park facility and the trains that reside there

Geeky Teas

By Halle Mitchell
Smoke Signal Staff

Do you enjoy playing games, drinking tea, and cats? Well, then Geeky Teas will definitely be your favorite cup of tea.

Geeky Teas was it opened in 2016 at 2120 West Magnolia Boulevard, by Donna Ricci.

The outside is lovely white building with lime green accent, but it looks really small. Well, when you walk in it's actually quite big! Remember "It's bigger on the inside than it is on the outside," a famous quote from The Doctor, in the famously long running British Scifi show, *Doctor Who.*

Speaking of Doctor Who, Geeky Teas has a collection of Fandoms throughout its store. Here are a few to get you thinking about what they have: *Harry Potter, Supernatural, Big Bang Theory, Adventure Time, Downtown Abbey,* Dungeons and Dragons, *The Walking Dead*, and many more.

You can buy incredible gear from these shows and other various fandoms.

They sell figurines, trading cards, key chains, and board games too, of course!

Playing games is something you have to do to have a full on Geeky Teas experience. Because at Geeky Teas, everyone can play a game (or two,maybe three maybe?).

Well however many your heart desires because Geeky Teas currently has a collection of over 400 games!

When I was there on September 13, 2017, my family and I played "Splendor." Splendor is a game based on buying and selling.

I enjoyed the game so much and my family did too. We expected the game to be short, but we had such a good time we were there for more than a hour and a half. We laughed, conspired, shared our opinions, and the best part was that we were doing it together.

To play a game you have to pay only $5 per person,but for that $5 you can play as many games as you want!

Before you play you also have to wash your hands because you have to keep the games in good shape.

The process of getting a game to play was easy.

The owner, Donna Ricci, showed us a game and how to play it, then set us off on our merry way!

When we had a question she was there to help and guide us through it.

Another part of Geeky Teas is the Tea, I mean it is in the name.

The Teas are based of the Fandoms they have.

Don't worry if you go kind of late, they have decaffeinated teas too.

The Tea I tried was called "Honey Energy Drink," based off of *Adventure Time*. It's one of the decaf teas, and let me tell you it was one of the best teas I have ever had! It was sweet and had light flavor of hazelnut that wasn't overpowering.

If you want something to dunk or eat with the tea, you're in luck because there is wide arrange of snacks.

English treats are a specialty at Geeky Teas, trust me they're really good.

I got Jammie Dodgers (raspberry Jam squished between two buttery biscuits, a popular British treat that in America one might call a cookie) and Jaffa Cakes (a layer of spongy cake with a orange marmalade center and chocolate on top, what, again, one might call a cookie in America). I recommend those, they are tasty, and difficult to buy anywhere else in the United States.

There were more treats, also English themed, like Cadbury chocolates, and there were also chips and other various candies.

The last thing to mention is the cats!

Geeky Teas is part kitten rescue, on top of being a tea shop, fandom store and game hangout!

There are a few cats who roam the shop which just makes it feel really cozy and give it an at home feel.

I was able to see the kittens through a viewing window,and let me tell you if I was able to get a kitten I would get one from Geeky Teas they are too adorable. If you are looking into getting a kitten adopt don't shop!

Overall, Geeky Teas is an incredible shop.

I am recommending you go there because it will just bring you and your friends and/or family closer.

The weekday and weekend hours are different than each other, and they are closed on Mondays.

If you go track me down and tell me how you like it!

Remember Muggles are welcome! ("Muggle" is a Harry Potter way to say regular human with no magic power at all, so regular, non geeky people are welcome to join in the fun as well.)

More Pumpkin Spice

By Logan Corcorran
Smoke Signal Staff

People love trends, and Starbucks was smart enough in their marketing to capitalize on this and create millions of dollars of revenue with an inanimate object: a cup of coffee. They cultivated a culture for a fandom that already existed, and in doing so became a contemporary seasonal staple. You're not just buying a cup of pumpkin spice when you go to Starbucks, you're participating in a seasonal pastime that was fostered by brilliant marketing strategies and promoted by a community of fans.

This is a very smart decision to make. These marketing tactics have won Starbucks awards in 2014 for their creativity and ingenuity. If you read their award-winning entry, you'll see that Starbucks didn't do any of the above by accident or get lucky – there was a clear, focused plan to foster a community around a product and add a personality that customers can identify with and buy into. In their own words on the entry form, Starbucks' campaign deserved to win "because it engaged customers in a truly genuine way."

There are plenty of lessons to take away from this, but the overall takeaway is this: know your product and know your community. If your community loves your product, take steps to ensure that you continue to foster that. Be genuine, and shape your brand and product to foster authenticity.

Halloween Horror Nights

By Jessica Amaya
Smoke Signal Staff

On September 15th, Universal Studios Hollywood began hosting their annual Halloween Horror Nights. Halloween Horror Nights is one of the most popular Halloween attractions in Southern California. For the last twenty years, Halloween Horror Nights has been a hit.

This years maze line up started with *American Horror Story, Ash vs. Evil Dead, Insidious, SAW, Blumhouse, The Shining, The Walking Dead,* and Titans of Terror, which included Jason, Freddy, Leatherface, and Chucky. Halloween Horror Nights had a mix of old horror stories and new this year.

Not only were there mazes, but Halloween Horror Nights also included three different scare zones. The first scare zone was called Hell-o-ween, the second was called Toxic Tunnel, and the third was Urban Inferno. These scare zones were just a hint of terror before the mazes.

The scare zone Hell-o-ween, had a bunch of vampires, werewolves, ghosts, witches, and scary pumpkins. They roamed around in the front of the park entrance for a frightening surprise as you entered. Although Hell-o-ween gave a great spook, it was far from being the creepiest one there.

The next scare zone, Toxic Tunnel, was down in the lower lot of the theme park. Through the dark, long tunnel, zombie-like creatures would chase you up and down and bring out the fear in someone. This scare zone was better than the Hell-o-ween one.

The final scare zone was Urban Inferno, which was quite terrifying! It was based off of devil and demons. It was the scariest of the three different scare zones. This scare zone was unexpected and frightening.

The two best mazes had to be Titans of Terror with Freddy, Jason, Leatherface, Chucky and Insidious. These two were the most frightening out of all mazes. These were the longest waits, but had the highest reviews about them. Each of them showed the prospective of the killers mind and walked you through the similarity of the actual movie.

The two worst mazes had to be *The Shining* and *Ash vs. Evil Dead*. These two had no point behind their story. Each of them was boring and walking out of them was much better than staying inside.

This past year clearly has made up for the past couple years of Halloween Horror Nights. Lauren Olea stated, "I was actually quite surprised with how scary it was this year".

This year out beat many other Halloween attractions in Southern California.

Halloween Horror Nights was definitely one of the highest rating attractions,

One downfall is how high the pricing is, but Halloween Horror Nights was able to create the fiction of horror and terror and bring it to life.

The final day of Halloween Horror Nights is on the day of Halloween. If someone is willing to risk witnessing his or her worst fears, Halloween Horror Nights is the place to go. Don't miss out before the creepiness ends.

Queen Leah Davis



By Danielle O'Brien
Smoke Signal Staff

Leah Davis, this year's 2017 Homecoming Queen, is head captain of the Dance Team here at John Burroughs High School, this being her third year on Dance team and second as captain.

Miss Davis wore a black velvet dress with gold lines and black heels, with a gold necklace, earrings and rings to Homecoming.

She drove to Homecoming with her friends and after the dance, Leah went to a friend's house and hung out with all her friends. They ate lots of food and just hung out the rest of the night.

Leah said, "It was a nice feeling being nominated. Didn't expect it at all and was probably the last thought that was on my mind."

When asked how Leah felt about the Homecoming dance overall, she said, "I was really excited for my last homecoming with my friends. It was really fun and I didn't expect anything less! ASB did an amazing job!"

According to Leah, her favorite class this year is AP Psychology and her favorite teacher is Ms. Hacker.

In her free time, her favorite thing to do is hang out with her friends and she also works as a substitute teacher at her dance studio.

Leah's goals for the year are to get good grades and to get accepted into a good college to continue reaching and accomplishing the rest of her goals.

Leah plans to be happily married in ten years.

Emily O'Rourke, a fellow student, said, "Leah has such an amazing personality and she can become friends with anyone."

Madeline May said, "Leah is one of the nicest people I know and she knows how to make any situation fun."

When Leah found out she had won Homecoming Queen she exclaimed, "I honestly was not expecting it! It was such a warm feeling knowing that people thought of me and I had one of the best Homecomings my senior year!"

Leah is very involved in school with lots of clubs, such as fashion club and choreographing for the Dance Team during football games.

Leah was a great choice for a homecoming nominee with her happy, positive and loveable personality.

Congratulations to Leah Davis for winning Homecoming Queen!

King Cerain Baker



By Paloma Anderson
Smoke Signal Staff

Cerain Baker, captain of the football team, Homecoming King, and scholar, is known for his honey dipped hair and exceptional skills on the football field.

Cerain has been playing football his whole high school career and has been on Varsity since his Sophomore year.

Cerain does well in school and his favorite class is Culinary Arts with Ms. Moran.

In Cerain's very minimal free time, he works out and sleeps.

Cerain's goals for the year consist of focusing on his passion, football, and getting accepted into a good college.

His plans for the future are to hopefully be working somewhere in the medical field, sports medicine, specifically.

Cerain's inspirations are, as many people can relate to, his parents. Another of his inspirations would be wide receiver for the Atlanta Falcons, Julio Jones.

At Homecoming, Cerain arrived wearing a black dress shirt with black pants that stopped mid ankle, and to accessorize, he added a simple yet flashy gold chain, and paired this all with Calvin Klein loafers.

Cerain came solo to the dance but had a great time with his friends Charlie Rodriguez, Grant Housley, Alex Perez, Randy Acosta, Hakeem Hickman, Zyon Stinson, and Erwin Hernandez.

Cerain got to Homecoming by car and after, headed over to Citywalk to grab a bite to eat with friends.

Cerain was happy to have received the title of Homecoming King but being the humble young man he is, he didn't expect or assume he would win.

Cerain was honored to be nominated and chosen as Homecoming King alongside Homecoming Queen, Leah Davis.

"This senior year gonna be a breeze, ya feel me," said Cerain Baker.

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The Smoke Signal
1920 W. Clark Ave
Burbank CA 91506
kylefitzgerald@burbankusd.org

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Hailee Zacariaz



By Mackenzie Rivera
Smoke Signal Staff

This year, Hailee Kahealani Zacariaz was nominated for homecoming court.

To the dance, Hailee wore a gorgeous burgundy satin dress with gold heels and accessories to go along with the Grecian theme. She attended with several of her best friends.

She arrived to the dance through carpooling with friends, after meeting up at her house to take lots of photos. Time after the dance was spent eating out at Islands and at a sleepover with friends.

When asked how she felt about being nominated Hailee exclaimed, “I was super excited! I feel honored to be one of the ten girls nominated and it's such a fun way to start my senior year, if I do get princess I'll probably cry of excitement! The homecoming dance is just a few days before my birthday, so I'll feel like a birthday princess.”

Hailee is known for her amazing style and kindness. “I love fashion and dressing outside the box of what's trending. Being friendly to everyone is important to me,” she stated.

She maintains an impressive GPA of 3.4. Her favorite class is English 12 with Mrs. Powell during third period, many of her close friends are in that class with her and fill the period with laughter.

Outside of school, an activity that consumes most of her time is her youth club at Media City Church that consists of people from 7th grade to College. She is so passionate about her religion that she doesn't mind investing her time in it!

When she isn't with her youth group she works at Tilly’s at the Empire Center. “I love my coworkers and the environment. I'm very sociable so constantly talking to people is awesome! Also, I am always secretly shopping for myself when I'm on the clock.”

A goal for this year is to make the greatest and most memorable memories for senior year. She plans on attending Santa Monica Community College for two years, as they have a great program for her major, broadcast journalism, and then transferring to Santa Barbara or Hawaii University.

Her inspiration is her youth group leader Bella Oniel as she is “talented, independent, and passionate” for her religion.

Not only was Hailee excited about being nominated for homecoming court, but so were many of her close friends.

“Well, being her best friend makes me so excited for her because she really wanted to be a nominee for homecoming and I'm absolutely happy that she got what she wanted especially being our last year of high school. And to make it even better it is her birthday week. She's a beautiful girl inside and out and I truly adore her. When she found out she got nominated I saw her jump up and down with a big smile on her face in class very excitedly,” said senior, Aileen Lopez.

“Hailee is an amazing person and a close friend of mine! I love her to death and if anyone deserves to win it's definitely her!” exclaimed Senior football player, Hakeem Hickman

“I feel that Hailee was a great nominee to be elected for the Hoco court because she’s got it like that and she deserves to win for being such a great friend and she’s bomb so who wouldn’t vote for her!” said senior, Desiree Lopez

“Well, being so close to Hailee is a privilege. She is an independent girl who will forever and always follow her own path. She has more to offer to this world, more than others. She is extremely funny, gorgeous, and has an outgoing personality. Her being nominated for the Hoco court is unbelievably great. So best believe my baby Hailz will serve looks at Hoco and win,” said senior, Jocelyn Rodriguez

Hakeem Hickman



By Caitlyn Batchelor
Feauture Editor

John Burroughs High School’s 2017-2018, Grecian Nights, themed Homecoming Dance took place on October 21, 2017 and Senior and Varsity Football player, Hakeem Hickmin, was nominated for Homecoming court.

Although Hakeem did not win King, he did however win Prince, along side Louie Kahn, Spencer Hummel, and Cole Kaitz.

Hakeem wore black slacks, a black button-up shirt, and a black vest to the dance with Junior, Jestine Tovar, who wore a beautiful sparkly black dress and black heels.

When asked how he felt about being nominated for King, he stated, “I kant take all the kredit, it’s genetiks.” He then stated the same answer, “Genetiks,” when asked if he expected being nominated.

One quote Hakeem lives by is, “See, ya are what ya are in this world. That’s either one of two things: Either you’re somebody, or you ain’t nobody,” a quote by Frank Lucas.

Hakeem is quite popular among the JBHS students and believes he his most known for watching Netflix in class.

Senior, Kaela Kaekul, said, “I’m not surprised about the nomination, considering Hakeem is a pretty funny guy.

Maintaining a 3.0 GPA, Hakeem says his favorite class is Mr. FitzGerald’s Government class, and his favorite teacher is Ms. Carlton.

“Well, I find it interesting that, despite having Hakeem over the last two years, and him saying that my class is his favorite, I’m somehow not his favorite teacher. I’m not saying it hurts, but it hurts,” said Mr. FitzGerald, not Hakeem’s favorite teacher. “I was suprised when he didn’t win King, but not anymore.”

While not learning, or on the football field, Hakeem watches *One Tree Hill,* then later stated, “but Netflix wanna play games and take it off.”

Hakeem’s goal for the 2017-2018 school year is to, “Learn the Fitz way.” His biggest inspirations are Mr. Fitz, Tupac, and himself.

“Finding out that I’m an inspiration to Hakeem, alongside such greats as Tupac and Hakeem, make me rethink my previous statement. Hakeem’s alright,” said Mr. FitzGerald, an inspiration to Hakeem.

Lauryn Hardy



By Hannah Houston
Smoke Signal Staff

Lauryn Kennedy Hardy is a very well-known Senior on the John Burroughs High School campus. She is most known for her prominent role in choir and many performances in shows and concerts. Lauryn is well-known around Burroughs because of her friendly personality and charming charisma.

Not shockingly, Lauryn was nominated for Homecoming Queen. Personally, she was shocked yet extremely excited about the nomination.

Lauren explained, “I was not anticipating a nomination but when I got it in the middle of class myself and everyone else was very excited for me. After that I couldn’t wait for the Homecoming game.”

Lauryn has been attending John Burroughs since Freshman year after she moved to California from Chicago. She has been in Powerhouse choir for all four years of high school and this year she is the Secretary of Powerhouse.

Páton Hardy, Lauryn’s sister, said, “I am extremely proud of my little sister. I’m glad her talent and beauty got recognized and I’m happy that she can follow in my footsteps, as I was nominated to be Winter Formal Princess last year, before I graduated.”

Lauryn showed up to the dance, on October 21, 2017, with a big group of her friends. She was wearing a long, plum, oriental wrap dress with black heels and gold accent jewelry. Her outfit stood out amongst all the others. She certainly looked the part of a princess.

At Homecoming, Lauryn had an awesome time dancing and hanging out with her friends.

Funny enough, Lauryn was actually outside when they called the names for homecoming court. So when she found out that it happened she ran inside and everyone already knew she had won Homecoming Princess! She was not expecting it at all, but was very excited about it.

Many people hope that she wins Queen for another upcoming dance later on in the year such as Winter Formal or Prom.

After high school, she hopes to attend college at USC with her sister and study acting and theater.

In the future, Lauryn hopes to pursue a career in acting or somewhere in the film industry.

Louie Kahn



By Lanthy Nguyen
Smoke Signal Staff

One of the best thing in high school is all of the Homecoming traditions that are done during the first semester of each school year. Of all the Homecoming traditions, the one most important next to the homecoming football game is the election of the homecoming court. This year, one of John Burroughs High School homecoming court nominees was Louie Kahn!

Louie is known for being ASB President, but among his friends he is known as the “ginger, Jewish kid who knows a lot about politics.” Since he knows a lot about politics, there is no doubt that he will get into the political field.

In addition to being ASB President, Louie is also part of Junior State of America, National Honors Society, and Knesset – a Jewish youth group. He also works part-time as a referee for The City of Burbank Parks and Recreation Department.

Louie is someone who does very well in school and takes his education very seriously. For example, his weighted GPA is 4.26. One of his friends, Miranda Le, describes him as someone who is “Very involved and dedicated.” His favorite class is AP Government and his favorite teacher is Miss Palaski.

One of Louie’s goals this year is to get accepted into his top colleges. The colleges he has in mind are: George Washington, American, Northeastern, or Boston University. At one of those colleges, Louie will be majoring in the political field.

The person that inspires Louie the most to be where he is today and will continue to strive him forward is none other than the former president of the United States, Barack Obama.

Louie was nominated for the Homecoming court because of his friends. His friends told him that they will vote for him. Since his friends told him that they will vote for him, it was not a completely unexpected event for him; however, he was surprised to a certain degree.

When Louie found out that he was nominated, he felt shocked. Instead of wanting himself to win, he endorsed the win of his friend instead. He told people not to vote for him so that his friend, Taylor Keppel, could win.

Homecoming was held at John Burroughs High School on October 21, 2017 starting at 6:30PM and ending at 10PM. Louie wore a suit, black slacks and a black tie, along with a pair of dress shoes to the dance.

Louie did not go to Homecoming with a date, instead, he went with a group of friends. One of the friends that Louie went with to the homecoming dance drove him there.

After the homecoming dance ended, Louie and his friends felt hungry so they decided to grab something to eat at a restaurant.

Kelley Mckeehan



By Jessica Amaya
Smoke Signal Staff

John Burroughs High School ASB announced that Homecoming would take place on October 21, 2017 and that the theme would be Grecian Nights. Not only did they announce the theme, but also the homecoming nominees.

One female nominee was Senior and Varsity Cheerleader, Kelley Kathleen Mckeehan. Kelley was very excited about her final Homecoming dance. She decided to wear a silver, short dress that she purchased at Windsor. With her silver dress, she plans on wearing a floral corsage that matches her outfit.

Kelley was thrilled to say that she will be attending homecoming with her boyfriend of almost two years, Spencer Herndon-Hummel, who as of now has not asked her, but is planning on it. They will be arriving in style in Spencer's 2004 black Mustang. After, they plan on leaving to have a nice dinner at Wood Ranch in Burbank, which happens to be Kelley's favorite restaurant.

Kelley was so shocked and humbled to be part of John Burroughs' 2017 Homecoming nominees. She explained how excited she was to be able to experience this for her first time. Kelley said, "This was completely unexpected." She's ready to have a blast at her last homecoming.

Kelley is lucky enough to have three best friends who constantly show her love and support. Their names are Breanne Turner, Amber Miller, and Leeza Poladyan. All three are hoping Kelley and Spencer both win together, and they did!

Kelley Mckeehan is one of the four Varsity Cheer captains here at John Burroughs High School. She loves football season and is shocked it is almost over. Not only is she in cheer, but also is an active member of the Sports Medicine Club. Kelley is involved in school activities and has high spirit when she goes out and cheers.

She has always been such a great student! Throughout high school, she has maintained a 3.8 GPA. This year, Anatomy/Physiology with Ms. Knoop is her favorite class. She was very indecisive on who her favorite teacher was. She then picked both Ms. Knoop and Mr. Reily.

In her free time, Kelley enjoys working out at the gym. She finds it to be mind clearing and enjoyable. She is an open-minded person and is always willing to try new things.

Kelley has two goals this school year. One is to finish the school year with the same GPA as the past, or make it even better. Also, she wants to finish this school year strong hoping to figure out what she wants to do after graduation.

She is still indecisive on where she wants to go after she graduates. She knows she wants to stay in California and attend a Cal State, but she's not sure which one yet. As of what she wants to study, she wants to one day become an ultrasound technician. She also hopes that ten years from now, she is married with kids. Her inspirations are her parents and grandmother.

Spender Herndon-Hummel



By Leeza Poladyan
Smoke Signal Staff

Spencer Herndon-Hummel was nominated for Homecoming court his senior year and attended homecoming with his girlfriend, Kelley Mckeehan.

Spencer had quite an exciting nomination. He got nominated on the day of his birthday, September 26th, and got surprised at dinner by his girlfriend and close friends. That night, he not only celebrated his 18th birthday, but him and his girlfriend celebrated their nomination with the rest of their friends.

"I cannot believe I got nominated for Homecoming court on my birthday. I can't even believe I got nominated for Homecoming in the first place," he mentioned. "It was an unexpected nomination and it made me really excited to attend Homecoming this year. I didn't expect to get nominated."

Spencer was taken by surprise on the day of nominations and he is happy about it to this day. His girlfriend and homecoming date, Kelley, was also nominated. "I am super excited to be attending with Spencer again and I am thankful to have been nominated alongside him," explained Kelley a few days before the dance.

Spencer wanted to make the night even more special so he made reservations at Wood Ranch for himself and his girlfriend. He drove them to Homecoming and they left at the end of the night to go eat dinner. They ate at the same restaurant the night of Homecoming, as they did the day they got nominated.

In his free time, he works out a lot. He is practically obsessed with bodybuilding and power lifting. Most of us who know Spencer know that he is really good at skateboarding. He started at a young age and now is able to perform some pretty cool tricks.

Spencer is known for his kind heart and seeing the good in everyone. He has always been a helpful friend to everyone and is incredibly social. He currently is a part of the Sports Medicine Club and maintains a 4.0 GPA.

School is Spencer's number one focus this year and he hopes to maintain his 4.0 until the end of his senior year.

He currently works at Millennium Air Products and in the future will be attending a university. He wants to go to school and get a degree in Kinesiology. When asking Spencer about his future, he says he plans to work extremely hard for his degree after graduating from Burroughs.

Until the future, he plans to enjoy every moment of senior year that he can. Being nominated for Homecoming King was one of these memories that he's sure he will never forget!

Sophia Kaloustian



By Amanda Rabadi
Smoke Signal Staff

Sophia Kaloustian, a senior known for her incredible three-year long position in Power House, the highest choir here at John Burroughs High School, had been nominated for Homecoming Court of the 2017-2018 school year. During Sophia's fourth period, AP Statistics class, she could not stop smiling when she was announced as a nominee for Homecoming.

When asked how she felt she said, "I did not expect it at all! It means a lot to me because when my mom was in high school she was on the homecoming court too." Most people would have been excited just like Sophia. She is the perfect nominee for Homecoming.

Sophia is very well-known around school and has made many friendships with a lot of students. She has such a big heart and is so incredibly kind. Maintaining a 3.8 Grade Point Average, Sophia has been recognized to be an incredible student.

Her favorite classes are Choir and English. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Bullington. In her free time, Sophia hangs out with her friends or goes out to eat with her boyfriend, Jacob Purdy. Her goals are to enjoy her last year in high school and have fun doing what she loves, which is singing and performing.

For her future, she plans on becoming involved in the music industry and going to school to further her knowledge of music. Her inspiration comes from her performances.

During Homecoming night, she entered wearing a magenta velvet bodycon from Lulu's and paired it with a necklace. By her side was her boyfriend, Jacob Purdy. Jacob had asked Sophia to Homecoming in the most adorable way by creating a scavenger hunt with clues that spelled out "HOCO?" They both looked very nice that night and even cuter together!

Getting there was very easy for Sophia since she was able to drive herself to Burroughs.

After much anticipation, the names were announced. Sophia Kaloustian had won Homecoming Princess! She was so excited! She was given a bouquet of white roses, and her princess crown. For the rest of the night she took pictures, danced, and had a great night. Congratulations to her and the rest of the Homecoming Court!

The dance finally came to an end at ten o'clock and the night was finally over. A lot of people had gone out to eat dinner or had gone out to an after party. After homecoming for Sophia, she went out with a group of friends and ate some food.

Cole Kaitz



By Mikaela Kaekul
Sports Editor

It was that time of year again at John Burroughs High School! Where everyone gets all dressed up to go dance the night away with their friends or significant other.

This year one of the nominees for Homecoming court was senior Cole Kaitz who ended up winning the title of Homecoming Prince along with Hakeem Hickman, Louie Kahn, and Spencer Hummel!

Cole had asked his girlfriend, senior Sabrina Sullivan, to Homecoming by tying pictures of them to the end of balloon string with a sign that had "HOCO?" written on it and thankfully she said yes.

At Homecoming, Cole had worn a tweed suit jacket with a white shirt and black pants along with a green tie to compliment with his date's dress. Cole had went to the dance with his date along with a group of friends.

When asked about being nominated along with winning the title prince Cole had stated he was "feeling good about getting nominated but I didn't expect it or even being on court."

Cole is an overall great student with an average of a 3.6 GPA. He loves Mr. Carman's class and his favorite teacher is Mr. Valle. He hopes to end the school year off with good grades and hopes to get into Cal State Long Beach to major in art and later on get into graphic designing.

He is mostly known for being on the Boys Varsity Volleyball team and "for being tall," as he stated. In school one of his main goal is to get Pacific League MVP.

Cole had stated how he has many inspirations and some of those inspirations are his closest friends. Seniors Drew Gorsuch, Justin Angelo Paredes-Sison, and Diego Rosal are just a few of them along with his father, Charles Kaitz, and Lavar Ball.

Some of those boys had some sweet things to say about him too!

Drew Gorsuch had stated how "Cole is a really great guy all around and I think he deserved to get nominated because a great looking guy."

"[Cole's] a cool, loyal, reliable guy and it wasn't shocking that he got nominated let alone win prince because of his raging popularity." stated Senior Justin Paredes.

When asking Cole's other friends, senior Kevin Rickman had stated how Cole's "the goat."Along with Justin and Drew, Diego Rosal had said how he knew Cole was going to be nominated because "he's Cole Kaitz, he's a great guy and not bad looking at all!"

Senior Jose Solano exclaimed, "Cole's a fun and respectable guy! He may goof around sometimes but he's a good person."

Girls Tennis

By Sophia Moore
Smoke Signal Staff

With the 2017-2018 Girls' Tennis season in full swing, or rather stroke, Coach Bernhardt has supplied information on all the highlights from the girls' recent games, as followed.

On Wednesday, September 6, 2017, the Girls' Varsity Tennis team played an away game against Crescenta Valley High School. The Indians unfortunately lost, with the final score being (14-4), Crescenta Valley.

Coach Bernhardt recounts that the Indians lost, simply because the other team "was better." He also mentioned that this game was rescheduled, from Tuesday, September 5, to the Wednesday following it, September 6.

One player recounted what it felt like the first time she played against a rival team, claiming it was "really nerve-wracking," and explaining that, "It felt like everything you once knew how to do suddenly leaves your mind, but you tell yourself to stay calm and focus on one point at a time." The tennis player expanded on her thoughts by saying, "'One point at a time' has really been a motivational phrase for me because sometimes you are losing really badly, but if you tell yourself to focus on one point at a time, it reminds you that you are still in the game, you can still fight, and you can still win."

The Girls' Varsity Tennis team also played a match the Thursday following the match against Crescenta Valley. On September 7, the Girls played a non-league home game against Hart High School, in which the Indians won, (12-6). Coach Bernhardt commented on the game saying that playing Hart in a non-league game was "kind of fun, actually." He didn't mention any highlights of the game, but he did give some insight on why the team won the game.

Coach Bernhardt remarked that tennis is "very fragile, either you're better or not." He also went on to explain that he views tennis as a "very individual game," and that even when doubles are played, it's a "very individual team sport." He credited the individuality of the game, and the heart of the player, to the reason for the win.

The Tennis Team also played a home match against Arcadia High School, on Tuesday, September 12, at Burroughs with the final score at (17-1) Arcadia.

Coach Bernhardt stated that part of the loss was due to Arcadia being number one in the league, and that they are a "very strong" team.

Even though the Indians lost the game against Arcadia, Bernhardt remarks that a highlight of the game was watching player Sandy LeMay. He credited the team's one win against Arcadia to her, claiming she "played her heart out," and that her performance was "fun to watch."

The team also played a match against Pasadena High School on Thursday, September 14, in an away game. The score was (11-7), Indians. Coach Bernhardt credits the win as "just one of those things that happen." He also noted that "the weather was nice," explaining that it definitely made a difference.

Coach Bernhardt continued to explain that "[Pasadena's] singles were strong, but their doubles weren't very deep." He also noted that the Indians won seven doubles, and four singles, and he ultimately credited the win to the Indians' strength in doubles. His final take on the team's third league match was that they "had a good time, it was fun, even if it was away."

On Tuesday, September 19th, the team played a match against Burbank High School. The match occurred at Burbank High, in which the Indians lost, (2-6).

When asked why the team lost, Coach Bernhardt simply explained that Burbank had "stacked the lineup," and that they simply "have a stronger team." Coach Bernhardt also mentioned, "we don't need excuses, we lost."

The Girls' Varsity Tennis team also played a home match against Hoover High School on Thursday, September 21st. The Indians won this match, (15-3).

Coach Bernhardt ultimately credited the tennis team's win to their sweep of the singles matches, in which the JBHS girls won all rounds, (6-0).

He also noted that a highlight of the game was Savannah Dorris and Leah Prystupa "sweeping" during the doubles, against Hoover.

The Girls' Tennis team also faced off against Glendale High School on Tuesday, September 26. The match was a home match, that the girls ended up losing (8-10). Coach Bernhardt explained that the game was, "real close," and a "good match."

He also notes that the "girls played well," and "within two or three games, we could've won." He didn't credit the loss to any specific factor, but he was confident that the girls played their best, and that it was a very close game.

Coach Bernhardt also mentioned that Chloe Bookmyer got a "golden bagel" in the singles against Glendale High. A golden bagel is the term given to the action that occurs when a player gets (6-0) in all three games. Bookmyer was very excited about this achievement.

Bernhardt commented that senior Jackie Samsell also played an impressive match in the game against Glendale High School. She won two singles with final scores of (6-1) and (6-3), and finally lost, (2-6), to the "number two player," Coach Bernhardt added.

The Girls' Varsity Tennis team also played Crescenta Valley High School, on Thursday, September 28. The Girls played a home game, and lost, (16-2), Crescenta Valley.

The tennis team's two points were both the results of two doubles matches. Sandy LeMay and Leah Prystupa won their doubles matches, as well as Emma Jones and Savannah Dorris.

When asked why the team lost, Sandy LeMay commented that the girls "lacked confidence." LeMay also mentioned that the team "did try to hit hard," and they're "trying to get their confidence back."

On Thursday, October 5th, the Girls' Varsity Tennis Team played a match against Arcadia High School. It was an away match, and the Indians lost to Arcadia, (17-1).

The one point the Indians scored during the match was acquired by Jackie Samsell, who won her singles match (6-4).

The Girls' Tennis team also played a match against Pasadena High School. The Girls' Varsity team played against Pasadena on October 10th, in a home match. The Indians won the match, (15-3).

The game had a notable set of doubles matches, in which all the doubles players swept.

Alice Weber and Phuong Nguyen especially swept their matches, only losing one to Pasadena. They won two of their games in the set, (6-0), and only gave up one to Pasadena, (6-1).

Following Pasadena, on Thursday, October 12th, the Girls' Tennis Team played a home match against Burbank High School. The Indians lost to Burbank High, (16-2).

When asked why the Girls lost to Burbank, the general consensus from the girls on the team was that Burbank High's team is "good," and they're simply "more consistent."

The two points made in the match against Burbank were acquired by doubles players Leah Prystupa and Savannah Dorris, (7-5). Sandy LeMay also won for the team in the singles matches, (6-0).

The 2017-2018 Girls Varsity team has been hitting hard all season and will continue to do so as the season ends!

Best of luck to all the girls this year.

Football

By Caitlyn batchelor
Feature Editor

Football games are one of the best and most enjoyable sports of the Fall season and our very own John Burroughs High School Varsity Football games are incredibly intense and keep the coaches, players, and the fans on their toes!

Although the JBHS Varsity football team has had better seasons than this one, they have also had worse.

Our Varsity team has had eight games and only one to go! The standings are currently 4-4-0, meaning, after the Homecoming game against cross-town rival, Burbank High School, we will be 5-4-0!

On September 8, 2017, Burroughs started the year off right and beat Royal High School, 45-30.

Sadly, the following Friday, September 15, 2017, we lost to Diamond Ranch High School, 38-23. But just one week later, on September 22, 2017, we picked up our game and beat Pasadena High School, 45-34.

Friday, Saturday 29, 2017, we unfortunately lost to Arcadia by just five points, 31-26, followed by an amazing bring up! Thursday, October 5, 2017, we had an away game against Glendale High School and beat the Nitros, 81-14! It was such an amazing blowout that Quarterback Nathan Piper was able to get the school record for the most throwing yards in one game!

On October 13, 2017, the Indians played the Crescenta Valley High School (CV) Falcons and unluckily lost 38-14, along with also loosing, 40-17, against the John Muir High School, Mustangs.

At our most recent game on Thursday, October 26, 2017, against the Herbert Hoover High School Tornados, the Burroughs Indians won yet another game bringing our season standings to 4-4-0! Although the Indians did indeed beat Hoover High School, 49-14, starting players, Zyon Stinson, Hakeem Hickman, Jacob Real, and Alex Deptula were all injured, yet cheering their team on from the side lines.

Although this recent win against the Hoover Tornados, ended the two game losing streak for our team, there were some incredibly unfair calls made by the referees, causing one of our capitans to be ejected from the game, along with a Hoover coach.

On Friday, November 3, 2017, at 7PM, at Memorial Field, the John Burroughs High School Indians will be playing the Burbank High School Bulldogs for the 2017-2018 Homecoming Football game.

"My team and I are very excited for next week's game and we bouta get redemption for last year's game," said Senior and Varsity football player, Hakeem Hickman.

Do not forget to bring all your pride and spirit and come out on Friday night to support our boys out there on the field while beating those Bulldogs! Good luck boys. Go Big Red!

Photographer: Randy Perez



Girls Golf

By Victoria Macias
Smoke Signal Staff

Over the summer, the Girls Golf team has put in many hours of their time and worked tremendously hard, and now it's paying off! The JBHS Girls Golf team is currently second place in the League with one point over La Cañada, and according to Coach Everhart "Arcadia is the only team currently ahead of us, since they won first place in the game on September 26th."

JBHS played against West Ranch High school on September 14th. The final score turned out to be 199-219, with Burroughs coming in second. Though they did play outstandingly with the lowest score of the team going to Gabija Petrulis, who is currently in her third year of Golf as a Junior, of 40.

Junior Varsity Golf played a game on September 12th against Crecenta Valley High school. The ending score of the game was 266-312, with Burroughs coming in first! The team did wonderful this game and the lowest score of the team was 47 going to Jocelyn Kim, who is a Sophomore in her second year of golf.

On September 19th, Varsity Girls Golf had their third League match against Arcadia, La Cañada, Crecenta Valley, Glendale, and Burbank High school. The final score wounded up to be 213-224-233-249-268, with Burroughs coming in third. Despite coming in third, the team worked amazingly! With the lowest score on the team going to Annie Adachi, this year's team Captain, which was 42.

Then on September 26th, Varsity had their fourth League match against the same high schools from their third League match. In this game the final score came out to be 205-229-231-236-245, with Burroughs coming in second. Even though they lost to Arcadia High School, the team still did great and improved from the last League match. The low score of 42, for the team, again went to the team Captain Annie Adachi. Great Job!

The Junior Varsity Girls Golf also played September 26th against Crecenta Valley and Arcada High school. The final score of the game ended up to be 225-289-293, with Burroughs coming in third. Though the Junior Varsity team held up excellent work with the lowest score of the team going to Abby Powell of 57.

The girl's golf team has been on a steady streak after gaining 2nd place in their fourth League match on September 26th.

On October 3rd, Girls Golf played their next League match at the Santa Anita. Sophomore Jocelyn Kim lead the match with a 45 stroke count, closely followed by Seniors Annie Adachi and Alissa Jarmillo, and Junior Abbie Riggs who all scored 46, placing 2nd. Then placing 3rd and 4th for Burroughs was Junior Gabija Petrulis (48) and Sophomore Sienna Downey (50), respectively.

Sadly, Burroughs did not place first, with the final League match score being 192-231-234-235-255. Even though first place went to Arcadia, Burroughs did extremely well to place 2nd.

Girls Golf showed renewed promise and vigor on October 5th during the Optimist Tournament at DeBell Golf Course. This Tournament was played with twenty different teams, and Burroughs managed to get 3rd! Great Job! Girls Golf also had two low medalists which were Abbie Riggs with a score of 42 and Senior Alissa Jarmillo with a score of 43.

The girls' golf team won against Alhambra on October 11th , scoring 221 to Alhambra's 224.

Burroughs dominated the match in terms of placement, with Annie Adachi achieving first place at 40 points. Gabija Petrulis and Abbie Riggs were not far behind with scores of 43 and 45 respectively. The other placing members, such as Alissa Jarmillo and Jocelyn Kim both placed 4th with scores of 47. Since Sienna Downey could not attend the game, Sophomore Abby Powell filled in, and she scored a score of 51.

Due to the combined efforts and hard work of the team, Burroughs did tremendously well in their match, which is helping them stay 2nd place in the League.

Though before the Girls Golf game on October 11th, they participated in the League Finals at Soule Park on October 10th.

In the League Finals, the top sixteen girls in all of the Pacific League come to participate. Burroughs was lucky enough to have four of our extraordinary golf players to represent us.

Captain Annie Adachi was the frontrunner throughout the tournament with a 43 and a 44, which qualified her to advance to the next round to compete for the CIF title individually. Gabija Petrulis came in 2nd with amazing scores of 48 and 44. Then Alissa Jamillo placed 3th with scores of 50 and 47. Abbie Riggs played excellently and placed 4th with scores of 57 and 61.

For more information about past and upcoming Junior and Varsity Girls Golf games, visit Coach Everhart's website: https://sites.google.com/site/mreverhartmath/


Photographer: Greg Everhart

Cross Country

By Jizelle Sepulveda
Smoke Signal Staff

Burroughs Cross Country team had their second meet of the season which was an invitational called the Mt. Carmel Invitational. The invitational was at Balboa Park in San Diego that took place on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

At the Mt. Carmel Invitational the boys had to run 2.95 miles. As for the girls, they had to run 2.75 miles.

From Burroughs the Senior girls that went to the invitational were Emily Virtue, Catrina Villapando, and Ana Villapando. They ran within a 15-18 minute time frame. Emily got the fastest time out of the three and of the entire meet with the time of 15:43 minutes getting her fourth place in her race.

Next were the Senior boys that went who were Jagdeep Chahal and Jerron Straker. Jagdeep ran his race in 15:52 minutes while Jeron ran his race in 16:44 minutes.

Then came the Junior Girls: Vanessa Reveles and Julianna Navarro, who went to the invitational. Both Vanessa and Julianna ran very close times. Vanessa ran her race in 18:04 minutes while Julianna ran it in 18:35 minutes.

On the other hand only one Junior boy from the Burroughs Cross Country team came and that was Raymond Berrellez. Raymond got ninth place running 16:29 minutes in his race.

In addition Sophomore girls who went to the race were Ceci Whitney, Hailey Gonazalez and Samantha Hoxsie. The girls ran their race with 18 to 20 minutes; with Ceci having the fastest time out of the three and getting 13th place.

As for the Sophomore Boys that went they were Logan Berger, Trevor Villagran, Dane Wright, and Isaac Flores. They all ran very close times: between 18-19 minutes.

Afterwards were the Freshman Girls that went which were Jordan Guzman, Jamie Perez-Fernandez, Olivia Galutza, Kiara Cruz, and Kaia Mouser. All the girls ran their races within 17 to 20 minutes, but Jordan got first place in her race with the time of 17:45 minutes.

For the Freshmen Boys Jimmy Nealis went and ran a great race getting second place with a time of 16:47 minutes. Overall everyone had a great race that weekend.

They then had their first Pacific League meet of the season on Tuesday, September 19, 2017.

The Meet took place at Arcadia Park. For starters the Varsity Girls had a first great meet to start off the season. The girls had ran their race within 17 to 22 minutes; though our very own Emily Virtue got first place with the time of 17:20 minutes.

Then there was Vanessa who got the time of 19:30 minutes; being the next one on Girls Varsity to have finished their races after Emily.

As for Burroughs Soph-Frosh Cross Country Girls there were many that competed, and that did a terrific job, for some it being their first High School Meet. The girls had ran their race within a 19 to 23 minute time frame. As for Ceci Whitney, she got second place with a time of 19:40 minutes.

Next were the Soph-Frosh Boys who all did an amazing job for it being their meet of the season or of their High School career. These Boys had ran their race within a 16 to 21 minute time frame.

Jimmy Nealis got fifth place with the time of 16:48 minutes.

Then it was the JV Boys, Cory Ellis and Joseph Aguayo. Cory ran his race in 16:49 minutes getting seventh place and Joseph ran his race in 18:46 minutes.

Last were the Varsity Boys who ran a great race; who all ran within a 15 to 18 minute race. Jagdeep Chahal got fifth place with the time of 15:04 minutes.

To conclude, our Cross Country team had a great month and we wish them the best at the Bell Jeff invitational.



Photographer: Mr. Chahal

Girls Volleyball

By Mikaela Kaekul
Sports Editor

This 2017-2018 season already has been looking great for the Girls Volleyball team!

So far the girls are 9-1-0 in league and 19-3-0 overall. On the 12th of September the girls played against Crescenta Valley High. The game ended with a score of 3-1, Indians. Then on the following Thursday, September 14th, the girls team won against Muir High School by a score of 3-0.

Unfortunately Girls Volleyball had lost when it came to playing against Arcadia High with the final score being at 3-1. However, despite this loss the girls came back when playing against Pasadena on the 21st by a score of 3-0, Indians. Following this win the team had played Mayfield High leaving with a final score of 2-0, Indians winning once again.

The weekend of September 22nd and 23rd the girls had a tournament. On the 22nd Burroughs Volleyball played against South Hills, which they won by a final score of 1-0, then beat Bishop Amat by a score of 2-0. Unfortunately, on the following day the girls lost against King High School. Then ending off the tournament with a win against Ayala High, 2-1, and South Hills, 2-1.

That following week on the 26th the volleyball girls went up against Hoover and won with a final score at 3-0.

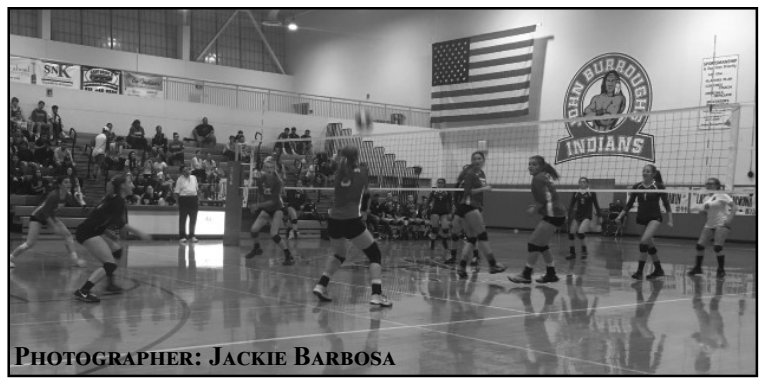
Then on the 28th the biggest game to any Burroughs team had taken place. Going up against Burbank for the first time this season the Burroughs girls volleyball had beat the Burbank Bulldogs with the scores at 25-11, 25-12, and 25-23. Final score being at 3-0, Indians. Good job ladies!

Following that the girls had won against Glendale with a score of 3-0. Then CV once again with the score at 3-1, Indians. The girls had also played Muir and won with a final score of 3-0.

As the season came up to an end, the girls were determined to come out on top! The girls had played against Arcadia, Pasadena, Hoover, and last but not least Burbank High for one last time before season wrapped up and they did not disappoint!

They had beat Arcadia 3-0, Pasadena 3-0, and Hoover 3-0. In the end of it all the girls had won against long time rivals Burbank High with a final score of 3-1, Indians.

This 2017-2018 season was amazing for the Girls Volleyball Team and they definitely did not let us down!



Photographer: Jackie Barbosa

Boys Water Polo Wins Pacific League Championship

By Sarah Lozano
Smoke Signal Staff


Photographer: Gevork Ekimyan

Boys Varsity Water Polo is continuing to live up to the name they earned themselves last season as a determined hardworking team with a goal.

They are starting off this season with quite a rocky start yet never losing their drive and determination, the boys came into this preseason with games against Monrovia High School and the private Catholic schools Notre Dame and Bishop Alemany. With a mix of wins and losses the team continues to work hard as a team through all the wins and losses the team is constantly persevering and striving to showcase the best product that they can.

Captain of Varsity, senior Davo Arakelyan, explains, "This pre-season for us has put a lot into perspective for us it shows us what we need to strive to fix and what we need to continue to do to play our best game possible."

However, not all the captains had the same outlook on how the team has been playing, senior captain Marko Vucetic shared his point of view on the Varsity team's games and explained, "We weren't too focused and underestimated our opponents when we shouldn't have and we've learned from our mistakes, that's what preseason for, it's to work out all the kinks before it get serious."

With this attitude the team is looking like they're going to come back stronger than they have in the past.

This mentality is going to play a crucial role in the team's next few practices and game plans they are going to see what needs fixing and more work and why.

With the team and Coach Jake working closely with each and every teammate contributing what they feel needs fixing, things are bound to start looking up for the talented players once League comes into play.

"We finally have one of our starters back and this is going to provide us with what we need to be able to come back and start winning our game, I am confident this is going to bring us out of this rut we are in and get the ball rolling for the team once again," stated senior player Nicholas D'Agostaro.

The mentality of players can shape the way of the rest of the season and if the boys come Back with a more confident demeanor, there is no stopping the team once they get all their cards in place they are going to secure more wins in the feature and with preseason coming to a close and League finally coming around this is going to give the team the push that they need to become more successful in their season.

Boys Varsity Water Polo came to their rivalry game with vengeance coming off their previous loss against Crescenta Valley. With the score of 27-21 it was a close game but the boys came out on top. They had perseverance and played their hardest and came together to play as one.

The boys were extremely pleased with their win and their captains had a lot to say. When asked Davo Arakelyan the Senior Captain explained, "We played a great game and all around had a good time, this is a big confidence boost going into the League Championship."

With this positive attitude Boys Varsity Water Polo is sure to go far this season. The second of the two captains, Marko Vucetic (Sr) also had high praise for his team. When asked he stated, "It was a good game, we played hard and had fun with it too. Now it's time to work and focus to bring back a League Championship."

The Captains decision to make sure the team was having fun was a big one, and it worked. The team is mostly full of seniors, so they wanted to make memories for their own last rivalry game and their teammates last rivalry game as well.

But the Captains were not the only ones who were having fun. Coach Jake appeared to be very pleased with the boys and happy with the outcome of the game.

Though this team is planning on staying on top and keeping This winning streak going on to the next game. But with the hard work and determination that the team has been putting into each and every game they play they have a high chance of their dream to become League Champions.

It seems that this dream has become reality because on October 26, 2017, the boys Varsity Water Polo team made Burroughs history when they won league with the score of 6-5, a twenty two year dry spell that has not been broken since 1995, this game had the crowed on the edge of their seat it was a close game but the boys pulled through with 3 goals made by Davo Arakelyan (senior). Senior JJ A. scored 1 goal, and junior Chase L. scored 2, his second goal being the winning goal of the game, with only 54 seconds left. The Senior Captains, of course, being thrilled with their team had a lot to say about the game, When asked, Davo Arakelyan exclaimed, "We played a hell of a game and I'm so proud of all my boys and very honored to be one of the two captains on this team. We did not give up at all and all around played an amazing game."

The second captain Marko Vucetic explained, "We played hard, for all this time throughout the season this is what we have been working for and we were finally able to achieve it and bring back the first League Championship since 1995."

Pumped from their win Boys Water Polo is now moving on to CIF, ready for another title.

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