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2nd Place award-winner from the American Scholastic Press Association



The Lion's Roar

The voice of Liberty High School students

Liberty High School
850 Second Street
Room J17
Brentwood, CA 94513

Issue 2, Volume 27

December 10th, 2015

FREE

Take a spin over here

RPM Records opens in Brentwood

By Samuel Zehnpfennig
Staff Writer

After flipping through records on a search for an album by Journey, I've got *Frontiers* and *ESCAPE* (or *ESC4P3*) under my arm, in addition to the *Guardians of the Galaxy*. I ask how much the *Cure '45* on the wall is (it's a pretty rare U.K. printing). Upon hearing it's got a pretty hefty price tag to boot, I decide to get it later. While fifteen dollars is probably less than what I'd pay at *Rasputin's* or *Amoeba*, I don't have the money for that this week. I scan through the vinyls one last time, pay for my records, and chat up the store's owner as I wait for my ride at Brentwood's newest spot for music, RPM Records. It's headed up by none other than a 16-year old. Although Adia Douglas' mom is technically the store owner, since 16-year-olds can't legally own property, Adia is pretty much running the store, and her name will be on the contract in a couple of years. I turn to ask her dad Jason if he's heard of Richard Hell and the Voidoids, but Jason doesn't hear me. He's putting a record on, and just as the needle hits the vinyl he's completely enamored with the sound that pours out of the receiver. "He's in the zone now," Adia explains. RPM Records opened up about a month and a half ago, and it's presence is making itself known throughout Brentwood. It's spread by word of mouth among

some of the more enthusiastic music aficionados. LHS's Rock History teacher told the class about it the day after it opened up. Brentwood's local magazine, *110o*, even published a story regarding the owner shortly after it opened. When striking up conversations lately, beginning with, "So, Brentwood has a record store now," people are initially surprised, and then a lot of people say that it's a nice addition to our town. Most people from my generation, however, like to keep music stored on their phone. There are the exceptions, however, but the people (from our school,

at least) whom I see are generally the teachers. A good portion of the people often seen whenever I go record shopping are people who probably grew up collecting jewel cases, cassettes, or vinyl. Regardless of the people who buy records, the store itself is fantastic. It's a small enough place so that their selection doesn't feel overwhelming, like some of the chains of records stores (such as the aforementioned *Rasputin's* and *Amoeba*), and their records are very affordable. Records average in price at about five to ten dollars, with CDs and DVDs costing three,

and Blu-Rays at seven (unless otherwise listed). They also sell cassettes, books, patches, and postcards. Recently, they even got a few record players in stock. So far, Adia's biggest obstacle is keeping the vinyl stocked. She states that some of the best records sell quickly, so it's a constant struggle to make sure they have those in stock. As a result she's always looking for reputable dealers with "staple records." A staple record is a record everyone has to have in their collection and is practically guaranteed to sell. Some examples include Fleetwood Mac: *Rumors*, The Eagles' *Hotel California*, and several greatest hits albums (Journey, Bob Dylan, etc.). But despite this, RPM Records has gained a nice following, and will hopefully become a great addition to this town.



The interior of RPM Records offers a wide variety for customers.

Photos by Samuel Zehnpfennig



RPM is located at 7720 Brentwood Blvd, Suite A



Photo by Michaela Callahan

Callahan's Coffee & Cones

Discovery Bay's
newest spot for sweets

By Laura Gomez
Staff Writer

As soon as you step foot into Callahan's Coffee and Cones the combined irresistible and delightful aroma of sweetness, roasted coffee, and ice cream will make it a uniquely true experience. The whirl of color and flavors from the handmade ice cream will make it feel as if you are welcomed into your own home. Discovery Bay's new shop will hold an inauguration just in time for the city's annual Parade of Lights. On the soft opening held on December 5th, the shop will offer free coffee and ice cream. After the Parade of Lights, Callahan's Coffee and Cones will begin charging their regular prices. According to the Callahan's, owners of the shop, "There will be eight flavors available which will be rotated weekly." In addition, the shop will offer cookie ice cream sandwiches with four different cookies to choose from, alternating as well. Apart from that, Callahan's Coffee and Cones will offer smoothies, bottled drinks and a wide selection of coffee such as frappuccinos and cold coffees. Although the pricing remains undecided, this sweet shop will be among one of your go to's perhaps on a lovely evening in Discovery Bay. Fortunately for one's convenience, the shop will be open twelve hours a day and six days per week. One's pets may also benefit from the grand opening of this sweet shop as the Callahan's will also provide dog ice cream. Whether you decide to make a visit at sundown or early in the morning, the shop will offer flexible hours for one to make a quick stop. The Callahan's explain, "We will be open 9 AM till closing 9 PM." Hence, there is no excuse to make a visit to 1555 Riverlake Road in Discovery Bay after being driven by one's sweet tooth.

You can't handle the youth

Presidential candidates are doing their best to appeal to young voters...but is it working?

By Ian Sullivan
Copy Editor

Young voters have always been a tough nut to crack for local, state, and federal politicians. However, with Ben Carson's rap video coming out, some would say that these



Pres. Candidate Ben Carson Photo courtesy of aattp.org.jpg

attempts have become more and more ridiculous. Government officials have always made ads or done speeches to get votes, but the way they go after young voters has always been strange. This is because people younger than forty are less likely to vote than their older counterparts. According to a survey done by the Huffington Post, many voters younger than thirty years old say that only well informed people should vote. While this may or may not be true, it certainly explains the numbers. The type of study done by the Huffington Post is not unique either. Other sources like Civic Youth, the Washington Post, and even the United States Census have all done similar research and come up to the same conclusion. So even if it seems as if young people are impossible to get a vote out of,

that hasn't stopped Doctor Benjamin Carson from having a rap video produced for his campaign. The neurosurgeon from Detroit, Michigan running to be the Republican candidate for president had Robert Donaldson, a rapper who goes by the name *Aspiring Mogul*, made a rap that was interspersed with snippets of Carson's speeches. The rap, somewhat impressively, manages to hit on many key points of Carson's "Religious Right" views. Even more impressive, is that *Aspiring Mogul* sees the irony in a hip hop song supporting a republican candidate. This song opposes many of hip hop's most famous artists views expressed in their songs. People like Kanye West and Dr. Dre made songs, even albums, poking fun at the Republican Party. Even so, some young people ques-

tion why this song even exists. "Why?" asked sophomore A.J. Mosley when asked how he felt about Ben Carson's rap, "I mean, if you show young voters your policies without talking down to them like children, we'll be more likely to vote for you." This raises a good point. If politicians treated young voters like adults, would they vote more often? Perhaps if they cut out these types of campaigns altogether, more young people would come to the poles to vote. However, this breed of solicitation of their campaign to young people does not seem to be slowing down. Despite articles written by companies like *Vice*, a medium that many young voters read, politicians stubbornly keep on with their somewhat misguided attempts to gain votes from a younger demographic.

Breaking News

The new big fish in pond

World's largest cruise ship to be ready in 2016



The Harmony of the Seas construction in process.

Photo courtesy of www.trbimg.com

By Jayson Phoebus
Staff Writer

227,000 tons, 5,479 double occupancy, and 16 decks; The Harmony of the Seas, set to be built by spring of 2016 and will be the largest cruise ship in the world. The grand vessel will be in the fleet of Royal Caribbean and will be bigger than their two previously largest ships by 1,700 tons. The current ship to hold the title of

“World’s Largest” is The Oasis of the Seas, another Royal Caribbean ship. The Oasis of the Seas is 1,187 feet long and 208 feet wide along with 225,282 tons, however the new and improved ship The Harmony of the Seas is projected to be 1,193 feet long and 226,000 tons, with a maximum cruising speed of 23 knots. Both ships are part of the trio known as the Oasis Class. The Harmony of the Seas promises to be even more luxurious than its

predecessor with an astounding 17 restaurants, a Starbucks, and 12 bars and lounges onboard. The megaship is equipped with water slides, rock climbing walls, an arcade and even a full size basketball court. The Harmony of the Seas is set to make its debut on an inaugural cruise from Barcelona, Spain to Rome, Italy in April 2016. The ship is the most anticipated ship ever built, the only question that remains is, will it live up to the hype?



Comedy Club and their advisor Mr. Romeis take on the challenge.

Photo by Matthew Cailotto

More than one improv group at Liberty: What are the differences?

By Matthew Cailotto
Staff Writer

A new club idea was announced! A group of people decided to make a club... that already exists? The Liberty High School Comedy Club has created an improv team, despite the fact that there already is a Liberty High School Playmakers Improv team. The question on everybody's mind: How are the Comedy Club and Playmakers improv teams different? The biggest difference between the two clubs is that the Comedy Club is open for anyone to join, whereas the playmakers improv team is only open to playmakers. Playmakers improv team captain Mikayla Furey says, “The improv team is made up of Playmakers members only, however anyone is welcome at the shows.” Being a playmaker doesn't only give someone the

ability to try out for the playmaker's improv team. It also gives people the opportunity to participate in their productions that they do. The Comedy Club believed that anybody should be able to try-out for improv and other comedic events. Comedy Club president Jamie Rezendes says, “Our Comedy Club does focus on improv, but we are also planning to work on skits and stand-up comedy.” The Comedy Club is aiming at focusing on different types of comedy, while playmakers focuses primarily on just improv. Playmaker's improv creates a representation of all the witty and hilarious people in playmakers. In terms of laughs, both of the shows are equal. Comedy Club or Playmakers improv team, one may ask? Well, one thing is certain: they are both hilarious and if you are in the mood to laugh, you should go to both of their shows!

Final Exam Schedule

Periods 1 and 2: Monday 12/14

Periods 3 and 4: Tuesday 12/15

Periods 5 and 6: Wednesday 12/16

Periods 7 and 8: Thursday 12/17



Dell'osso Family Farm, located in Lathrop just forty minutes away.

Photo courtesy of pumpkinmaze.com

Beanies!



\$7 each

In Assorted Colors
One Size Fits All

**Make checks payable to Liberty High School
Make an order with any Fandom Club member or with Miss Mack in N4!**

Snow, lights, and ice skating: holiday fun for all ages

By Madison Fagundes
Staff Writer

As the holiday season approaches, many are unsure as to what they should do to participate in the festivities. Even though there is so much to do, many cannot afford it, but Del Osso Farms has just about everything at very cheap prices. This wonderful, family oriented place is located in the town of Lath-

rop and has several fun activities that will be open to people of all ages starting December 12th. One of the many activities at Del Osso Farms is tubing. Starting at 11 AM, for the cost of \$20, kids of all ages will be able to sled down a gigantic man-made hill of snow. Other activities include drive-thru light tunnels - which cost \$3.50-\$20 depending on form of transporta-

tion – as well as old fashion shops, bakeries, and ice skating. “I love Del Osso Farms because it's a good time for anyone, no matter what age” said Tina Fagundes, mother of two. While all of these activities sound like a great time, they won't be open forever! All activities will be closing down January 2nd. Be sure to get out and have some fun while the opportunity is still here



Photo courtesy of blog.umhb.edu

Highest Paying College Majors

By Cheyenne Hicks
Staff Writer

Everyone dreams of college. Going to an ivy league, or staying close to home. Either way it's the big picture we think about, but what about money? In this day and age the main concern on everyone's mind isn't just what college they'd like to attend, but which major to choose, and what will profit them financially in the long run. This begs a very important question; which college majors are the highest paying?

Typical majors sought after due to their widely known high salary intake are careers such as: Chemistry or Biology for studying to become a surgeon, Engineering, and Finance. These majors having a roughly \$80,000-\$100,000 salary. As no surprise Engineering is high on the list, in recent years as technology has impacted our day to day lives in such a big way, that many new majors were born. Those majors include: Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Electronics & Communications Engineering. Although these jobs require a high set of skills, and knowledge, the pay intake is usually around \$90,000-\$120,000. In addition many universities, and state colleges around the country offer a lot of the majors listed above. Common colleges that have these include: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Michigan, Arizona State, and Washington State. Though most universities have very high tuition pay colleges like MIT have special programs in order to help struggling students. According to greatvaluecolleges.net, they say, "MIT even offers a \$100K Entrepreneurship Competition to encourage students to pursue their ideas." Furthermore, even though college is a scary concept and stressful at times, there are always ways to find more information about them, and help discover which career paths are fit for a specific person's future, including the College and Career center, or even talking to teachers around school.

New Year's resolutions across generations



Photo courtesy of www.smudailycampus.com

By Sami Gibbs
Staff Writer

Losing weight, exercising more and learning something new are amongst the most commonly used New Year's Resolutions-but are they just as popular in all age groups? From young children to senior citizens, there is a vast variety of differences in the popular promises that millions of people make for themselves on the 1st of every January. It has been discovered after much research along with asking a variety of sources "what is your New Year's Resolution?", that a person's New Year's resolution correlates with their age group. After asking 6 year old Kennedy Sautter the popular question, she responded with wanting to learn how to jump rope on a balance beam.

Like Sautter's example, most elementary school children have New Year's resolutions directed towards wanting to learn something or to accomplish an unlikely task. Most children give themselves the goal of flying to the moon or saving the world with Superman. Children's maturity level-or immaturity level - contributes to the over-the-top resolutions they make for themselves. As time goes on and the once motivated child with the New Year's resolution of some crazy task matures with age, their resolutions finally become more realistic. As a whole, teens are likely to come up with a New Year's resolution that is directed toward improving themselves and their future. For a lot of high schoolers, college and the future and their well-being are

a thought that many carry in the back of their stress-filled minds. That's why the most commonly used New Year's Resolutions for teens are to raise their GPA's, become happier and to get in shape. With that being stated, it isn't surprising that successful Liberty sophomore Jessica Davis stated that her New Year's resolution "Is to be more positive about myself, even during hard situations." Finally, adults and seniors are the people that use New Year's resolutions the most over children and teens. Unlike them, however, adults use their resolutions as a way to enforce a higher standard of living. Most commonly, adults have resolutions such as losing weight, beginning dating again and overcoming a fear they've had for quite some time. For example, Ally Mackenzie, 22 year old Liberty alumni, said that her resolution is to lose weight for her wedding that's coming up this May. On the other hand, senior citizens are often seen to give themselves a New Year's resolution directed toward helping others and reminiscing on their lives, like going through photo albums more often and spending more quality time with grandchildren. With a positive outlook towards 2016, Charlotte George (age 69), said "This next year I want to spend more quality time with my mother and visit family members down in southern California more often." Whatever the circumstances may be, having a New Year's resolution is the right way to begin a healthy and goal-oriented year, no matter the age.



Macaulay Culkin, the star of Home Alone. Photo courtesy of pixgood.com

Child actors: where are they now?

By Alec Douglas
Staff Writer

Home Alone, The Parent Trap, Star Wars and Full House, what do these classic choices of film and television entertainments have in common? They served as breakthrough starring roles for young child actors that became household names as soon as they were released. Have you ever wondered what happened to some of those actors over the years? Me neither, but we are going to find out anyway. So after asking some students from Liberty if they remember the film Home Alone and its star, Macaulay Culkin, the majority said yes they do. Culkin was one of the most successful and highest paid child actor of all time with a 23.5 million dollar salary. Unfortunately, Culkin could not handle the fame and attention he was getting at such a young age and retired at 14 years old. Years later, Culkin returned to acting in independent films you have never seen and currently resides in New York City. Honestly, the guy is not doing too badly, even though he is not the same cute blonde boy from Home Alone; at least he dated Mila Kunis for a couple of years. Now I am pretty sure we've all heard of Lindsay Lohan right? Well before all the paparazzi trouble, she made her big screen debut in the 1998 Disney remake, The Parent Trap. The film was a box office hit, grossing over \$90 million dollars at the worldwide box office and earned Lohan praise for her acting ability. Lohan continued to star in a string of box office hits including, the now classic, Mean Girls in 2004. Soon after, Lohan became a target for the paparazzi as she began to have DUI hearings, AA meetings and even theft. Lindsay continues to act in films from time to time, her latest being Scary Movie 5 alongside Charlie Sheen. This is a huge step down for Lohan as she was a very talented actress before her career self-destructed. The next on this list is the iconic twins, The Olsen Twins, who were discovered practically by accident on the set of Full House

and were cast as Michelle Tanner, the youngest daughter in the Tanner family. America watched Mary Kate and Ashley grow up on the 8 seasons the show had. After the show, the twins started their own franchise with films, television specials, video games, a series of books, fragrances, make up, basically anything you can think of was made by them for the tween demographic. As the years went on, the sister slowly left the spotlight and stopped acting to pursue careers in fashion. Fun fact: their younger sister, Elizabeth Olson, recently starred in Avengers: Age of Ultron as Scarlett Witch, so at least acting still runs in the family. Finally, the last child star we will go over is from a galaxy far far away. Then unknown 9-year-old child actor, Jake Lloyd, was chosen out of thousands of other young actors to play the role of Anakin Skywalker, a character that will later become the iconic villain, Darth Vader. Due to poor direction and the legacy of said character, Lloyd's performance called annoying, bland and terribly miscast. The film released and the film was a massive box office success almost earning a billion dollars but Jake was often bullied by his own classmates for being in the film and was in constant stress from doing 60 interviews a day in order to promote the film. 2 years after the film, Lloyd quit acting citing that "Star Wars ruined my life". Earlier this year, Lloyd was arrested for reckless driving and resisting arrest. His mother stated that he now suffers from Schizophrenia. It's pretty sad to see that some of these young up and coming actors didn't make it long enough into adult careers to show their acting range. There have been a couple that have, like Ryan Gosling, Natalie Portman and Joseph Gordon Levitt, but actors having fame at such a young age could be very stressful because they never had the chance to be normal kids. Lets hope that young actors of this generation don't suffer the same fate.



The S-wing computer lab was the site of the Hour of Code event of November 18th.

Photo courtesy of Anita Kaddoura

LHS students participate in Hour of Code

Students got a taste of computer science during the Hour of Code event, sponsored by the Code Club and Code.org on November 18th. 96 students took part in the voluntary event.

Pajama Jam!

January 8, 2016

7:30-11:00

New Gym

\$5 w/ ASB

\$8 w/o ASB

\$10 Bid Tix

Red Velvet Yule Log Recipe

By Joshua Rush
Layout Editor

Ingredients:

6 eggs
1 pkg. red velvet cake mix
1/2 cup water
1/4 cup oil
2 pkg. (3.4 oz. each) Jell-o Cheesecake Instant Pudding
1-1/4 cups cold milk
1 tub (8 oz.) Cool Whip whipped topping, divided
1 pkg. cream cheese, softened
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup coconut

Step 1: Heat oven to 350°F.

Step 2: Place large sheet of waxed paper on clean kitchen towel; set aside. Spray 15x10x1-inch pan with cooking spray. Line with parchment or waxed paper; spray with additional cooking spray. Dust evenly with flour.

Step 3: Beat eggs in large bowl with mixer on high speed 5 min. (Eggs should be frothy and lemon colored.) Add cake mix, water and oil; beat on low speed 30 sec., then beat on medium speed 1 min. Pour 3-1/2 cups batter into prepared pan; spread to evenly cover bottom of pan. Gently tap filled pan on counter to remove any air bubbles. Spoon remaining batter into 6 paper-lined muffin cups.

Step 4: Bake cake and cupcakes 15 min. or until toothpick inserted in centers comes out clean. Immediately invert cake onto prepared towel; remove pan. Carefully peel off parchment. Starting at one short side, roll up cake and towel together. Cool completely on wire rack. Meanwhile, transfer cupcakes to second wire rack; cool completely. Reserve cupcakes for another use.

Step 5: Beat pudding mixes and milk in medium bowl with whisk 2 min. Stir in 1 cup Cool Whip. Unroll cake; remove waxed paper and towel. Spread pudding mixture onto cake. Reroll cake; wrap tightly in plastic wrap. Refrigerate 30 min.

Step 6: Mix cream cheese and sugar in medium bowl until blended. Stir in remaining Cool Whip. Unwrap cake; place on platter. Frost with cream cheese mixture; sprinkle with coconut. Refrigerate 15 min.



Photo courtesy of: <http://www.kraftrecipes.com/recipes/red-velvet-yule-log-182145.aspx>

Looking for ways to give this holiday season?

The following locations accept both canned food and clothing:

1. Bank of the West
2. Bank of America
3. The Hope House
4. Fire and police stations
5. Shepherd's Gate
6. Post offices



All about J.K. Rowling's newest "Beasts," coming soon in 2016

By Meghan Frasier
Staff Writer

It's safe to say that many Harry Potter fans have missed the series as much as Voldemort misses his nose, but now they have a new movie to be mesmerized by. It has been recently announced that they will be making a new movie based on the sequel J.K. Rowling followed up with after the original Potter series, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. In this film, Newt Scamander finds himself in New York while studying the magical creatures from the wizarding world. He writes this amazing book, known as *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. This is the book that Harry Potter opens almost 70 years later. Scamander finds himself an adventure, and with the help of a few friend along the way, goes on a perilous journey. (IMDb) Long time Potter fan, Morgan Baptista tells us, "I think that the new movie will be really awesome, but probably not as great as the original Harry Potter movies." She also tells us how she will definitely be there at midnight for the premiere. According to IMDb, even though

there is only one novel, they will be spreading the plot out into three films. The three main stars of these films will be Eddie Redmayne, Ezra Miller, and Ron Perlman. (IMDb) Redmayne will be playing the main character, Newt Scamander, who is also the pseudonym Rowling uses for the author. While Redmayne may not be a common household name, he has starred in many hit movies. Some of these include *The Theory of Everything*, the recent film about Stephen Hawking, and *Les Miserables*, a classic musical morphed into an Academy award-winning movie. (IMDb) The director of the film will be none other than David Yates, the director of the original Harry Potter series. (IMDb) While he is mostly known for his directing talented producer and writer. He has produced four films and written one. (IMDb) While we know that they are still in the process of filming, they have already released the premiere date. This highly anticipated movie will be out in less than a year from now, on November 18, 2016. (IMDb)

Top gifts for the holidays

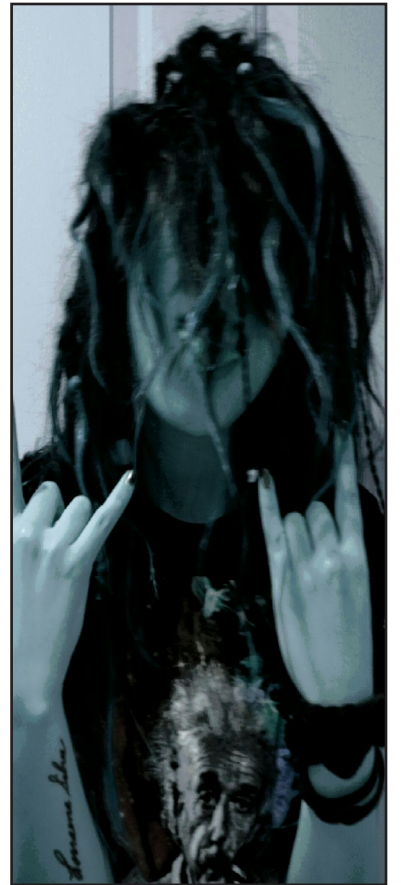


By Gianna Erickson
Staff Writer

Photo from blog.umhb.edu

The holidays are coming which means finding the perfect gift. Trends come and go with what teens want each year. The following gifts are items you can count on to keep up with what's new. There are many popular gifts this year that teenagers are interested in. Although the majority will probably want the following items. When shopping for teens consider their interests or hobbies to help give ideas. The top asked for gift this year is going to be electronics which is something you can't mess up considering all teens are always using electronics. Second is media and games, this includes smart phones,

newest music, movies, and video games. Next up are car accessories, as teens are becoming able to drive they want things to personalize their cars and make it more personalized. Some good accessories would be seat and steering wheel covers, car audio and video, and GPS navigation. The fourth item on the list for top presents is jewelry. Whether it's just a new pair of stud earrings or a gold chain, jewelry is something that excited teens because it can be the perfect addition to any outfit. Watches are also very popular and is something many want. The last thing is clothes, something you can never go wrong with as long as you know the right style or brand they are interested in.



Photos by Alex Hernandez

Dread Girl

Who is she?

By Rachel Ueda
Staff Writer

Imagine waking up and already having your hair done. It sounds like a dream to most of us, but for Alex Hernandez, a senior here at Liberty High School, it's a reality. Two years ago, during her sophomore year, she decided to dread her hair. "I didn't want to deal with doing my hair every day, plus it looks cool on other people", she says. Contrast to popular belief, Hernandez claims that caring for dreadlocks is exactly like caring for normal hair, minus the brushing. She rinses and repeats just like the rest of us. Although, she did admit in order to avoid knots she has to "separate them after washing so they don't eat each other". Now, while the upkeep might be simple, creating them was quite a task. A salon professional is not the one to credit for her dreadlocks; instead, YouTube tutorials, seventeen plus hours, and sometimes a crochet hook for adding beads was what helped Hernandez create the dreads on her own. All that effort paid off in the end though. Not only does it save her time in the morning, but it's a conversation starter. There's usually somebody who will have a ques-

tion or comment about her hair. According to Hernandez, people generally have a positive response. Most of the time they just want to know if she redoes them every morning (she doesn't), or if she washes them (she does). However, there are always those who will judge a book by its cover. She claims people make assumptions about her all the time, saying incorrectly that "I smoke, I'm a vegetarian, I don't shower, and I'm a crazy hippy in general". She has even been called Medusa. But the comments don't faze her at all. "I don't care, I embrace the stereotypes and make jokes out of the assumptions", she proclaims. One of Hernandez's friends, Abby Correa, added, "You don't know how many times I've suggested that she add some leaves or other crazy items into that masterpiece of a hairdo. It's brought us both many laughs and interesting possibilities for her next style. At the moment, Hernandez doesn't know what the next chapter for her hair will be, but plans on rocking her "crazy hippy" dreads until she gets tired with them.

R.I.P H-Wing?

By Alondra Ibarra
Staff Writer

Many believe that once the new building gets finished the H wing will be taken down, but that's not the case. People started asking questions such as, "Will the tree be taken down?" "When will they take down the building and how will it be taken down?" After talking to Mr. Walsh, everything cleared up. He explained that the tree will not be taken down and added that they were indecisive about the occupation of the building. Although the H wing is not in a good condition, it can still be useful for staff. The H wing will either be used for storage or con-



What will be the fate of H-Wing?

Photo by Alondra Ibarra

tinue to serve as classrooms. Liberty High School is still not ready to let go of the H wing for it has been here for many years, and it seems like it will still be around for more.



Last year's championship team celebrates after winning the NBA title

Photo by turner.com

Scholars and athletes:

LHS students excel both in the classroom and out

This year, Liberty High School had 16 fall sports teams earn NCS Scholastic Team honors. According to the school's Athletic Director, Curtis Cunningham, this is a testament to the hard work done by the student-athletes, their coaches, their parents, and the staff at Liberty High School. Below are the teams listed with their team GPA.

Frosh Girls Volleyball:	3.71
Varsity Girls Tennis:	3.64
Varsity Girls Cross Country:	3.58
JV Girls Volleyball:	3.51
JV Girls Tennis:	3.44
Varsity Girls Volleyball:	3.42
JV Girls Cross Country:	3.40
JV Boys Water Polo:	3.37
Varsity Girls Golf:	3.32
Varsity Girls Water Polo:	3.31
JV Girls Golf:	3.30
Varsity Boys Cross Country:	3.12
JV Football:	3.10
JV Girls Water Polo:	3.10
Frosh Football:	3.06
JV Boys Cross Country:	3.02

Can the Warriors do it again? 2015-2016 season off to amazing start

By Jack Harris
Staff Writer

The Warriors were truly golden last year when they won the championship. This year, basketball fans are all wondering if they can do it again. Along with the championship they had the MVP in Stephen Curry and the executive of the year, Bob Myers. The Golden State Warriors had a historical season last year by winning 67 regular season games and only losing two games at home. They also had two all-stars in Klay Thompson and Stephen Curry.

After a successful offseason they have been able to retain twelve of fourteen players from their championship team. They were able to re-sign Draymond Green who was

a free agent to a five year eighty-five million dollar deal. They were also able to sign two key players that they think will help them have an even deeper rotation. The Warriors also drafted Kevon Looney with the thirtieth pick in the draft. Although he won't be able to play for a while because of an injury the warriors think he will be able to contribute. Though the Warriors gained new additions to the team they had to say good bye to a fan favorite in David Lee.

David Lee was acquired from the New York Knicks in 2010. When he was traded to the Warriors they were a lottery team. He helped the Warriors get back to the play offs in

2013. He contributed to the end of the Warriors forty years championship drought. This off season, they said good bye to him when they traded him to the Boston Celtics.

Most team that win the NBA finals usually sign marquee players from free agency but that's not how the Warriors did it. They drafted six players which include Stephen Curry and Draymond Green. The warriors also had one of the deepest rosters in the NBA last year. One of the main reasons they won last year is because of their team chemistry. They have all the pieces and tools to win again this year.

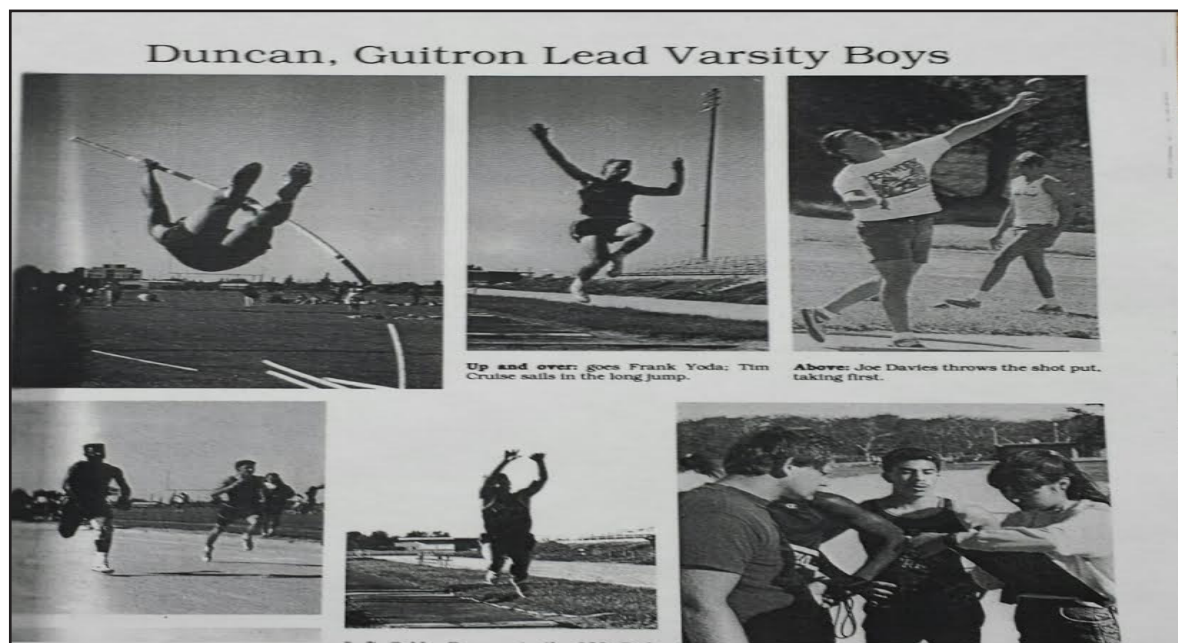
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Too fast and the others are just furious: LHS track record still stands after 25 years

By Daja Zuniga
Staff Writer



This yearbook page from *The Lion's Pride* in 1990 depicts two of the four members of the record-holding relay team.

A lot can happen in 25 years. You can graduate from high school, you can earn a college degree, and you can get married, But, one moment that has lasted the test of time was the Liberty Track 4x100 record of 43.6 seconds and a second place finish at NCS. No Liberty Track team had ever cracked the top 10 at that event and the 1990 team shocked the East Bay by barely losing to De Anza High School in the last ten meters.

The 1990 4x100 relay team included first leg sophomore Andrew Marizzi, second leg sophomore Jason Garcia, third leg senior Rich Guitron, and senior anchor Bobby Duncan.

What's special about that day is that there were many runners from others schools that our 1990 track team beat, that ended up playing professional sports, and even winning a Super Bowl. Like Amani Toomer from De La Salle High School, who played for the New York Giants and became a Super Bowl champion. Also, Je'rod Cherry from Berkeley High School, played defensive back for Cal, then played in the NFL for the Saints, Eagles, and Patriots. Many

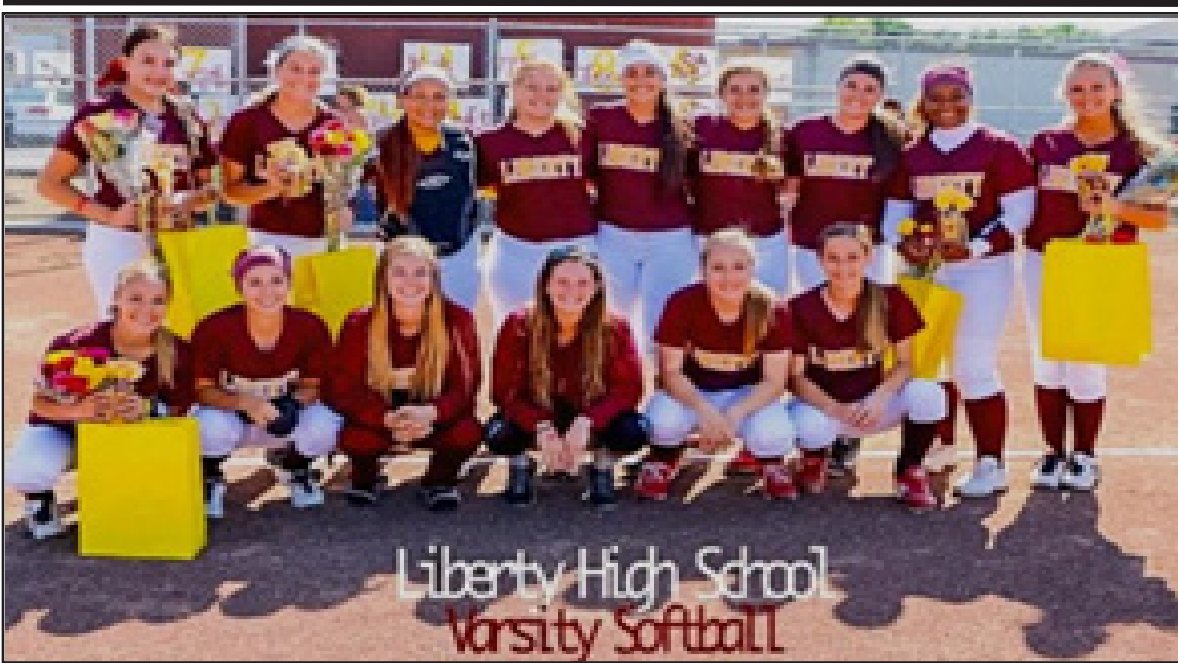
more of the competitors went on and played for professional college sports all around the country.

On the day of the North Coast Section, former runner Rich Guitron says, "During the meet, getting the respect from other top schools felt really good! As an athlete, it's the feeling every sprinter yearns for. It was a great moment for our team and for my personal performance on the third leg, and handing the baton off to Bobby Duncan, our anchor, with the lead in the finals."

He concludes, "Having been a fan of sprinting and the Olympics throughout my life, I feel very proud that I was part of that 1990 4x100 relay team. There are so many great sprinters that come out of the East Bay and to place second amongst all that talent is a great achievement for both our team and a farm community like Brentwood and Liberty. I felt like we showed that we could compete at a high level and people took us seriously from then on out. Liberty was always competitive on field events, but to also be competitive in sprints was great and gave us extra swag!"

Despite the 25 year gap, can our 2016 track team beat the record?

Athletics



For the love of the game

Liberty softball and baseball looking forward to upcoming season

By Emily Muniz

Staff Writer

They don't do it for the aches and pains. They don't do it for the late night studying and homework. They don't do it for the feeling after a tough loss. They do it... for the love of the game. Last season, both Liberty baseball and softball finished league play with six wins and four losses. This qualified both teams for NCS (North Coast Section Play-offs). Unfortunately, the girls lost to Monte Vista 2-1 in the first round and the boys lost to College Park 7-2 in the second round. Their paths to the championship ended early, but Junior

and Varsity player Bria Chassie commented, "I'm confident both teams will make NCS again this year, we have strong players that highly contribute to the teams." The baseball Varsity team hopes to finally beat Heritage and hopefully win BVAL like they did in the 2014 season. Sophomore baseball player Caleb McDonough added, "Playing on the Liberty team has brought out the best in me." Hopefully the best is enough to beat the across town rivals! The Varsity Softball team has shut out three out of the five teams in BVAL and aims to finally match up to Heritage and

Freedom. Senior Varsity player Kyra Gallego believes this is very possible. "We have the potential to beat them; we all just have to work together as a team." Varsity softball coach Stacie del Chiaro voiced her thoughts on the upcoming season, "We need to continue to work hard and be better than last year. I'm looking forward to us showing everyone what Liberty Lions Softball is all about." With the new season right around the corner, many opportunities are out there for both teams. The key will be working together and bringing out the best in one another.

An athlete's super hero

LHS Sports Medicine Academy gives real world job experience

By Hanah Ingle

Staff Writer

You're lying on the field, severe pain in your ankle and the left side of your rib cage; the crowd is roaring, players are standing around you in curiosity. Suddenly, you are lifted into the air and carried into a waiting helicopter. All this may sound all too familiar to Liberty's very own senior Anthony Sencery, who was diagnosed with a fractured ankle and a split spleen due to a football accident. Thanks to the quick judgement and thinking of the Sports Med students, Anthony was able to be rushed to the Children's Hospital and receive the treatment he needed. Treating injuries from cuts to life threatening injuries, our very own Liberty High School Sport medicine (aka. Sports Med)

program is there to the rescue for our athletes. Not until 2001 did the well known Mrs. Heinz begin her 14 year service to this important program. Mrs. Heinz explains the job is ever changing: "We have had injuries such as ankle sprains, muscle pulls, hand sprains, dislocations, concussions, and even things as serious as making life changing decisions." This program is exclusively for Liberty's juniors and seniors; in and out of class students learn medical terms, train to be CPR certified, learn how to treat minor injuries, and are required to volunteer a specific amount of their time to be at hand during sporting events, like football and basketball games.

Boys CC at CIF State Championship



Elliott Portillo, Robert Hodgson, and Micah Delgado competing on November 28th in Fresno. Photo by Robert Hodgson

Super Bowl's golden anniversary comes to Santa Clara



Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara: the home of Super Bowl 50.

Photo courtesy of www.49ers.com

Can't afford a ticket to the Super Bowl? Check out these other celebratory events taking place in the days leading up to the big game:

- January 30th-February 7th: Super Bowl City offers free, family-friendly games and activities for all age groups. Located in Justin Herman Plaza in San Francisco. CBS television will be broadcasting live throughout the week.
- January 31st: Super Bowl parade down Great America Parkway in Santa Clara, featuring over 100 floats.
- January 31st: Fireworks show near Levi's Stadium.
- February 5th: Celebrity flag football game in Santa Clara, followed by local food tasting.

By Brady Peterson

Staff Writer

The Super Bowl . . . A place for festivities, die-hard fans, tremendous food, and a competitive football game. This year, the 50th anniversary of the Super Bowl will be taking place locally in Santa Clara, California at Levi Stadium. Levi Stadium is the new stadium for the San Francisco 49ers, next to the Great America theme park. Having the Super Bowl in Santa Clara is huge because The Bay Area gets to host the biggest football game in the world. Typically, Super Bowl tickets cost up to \$4433. Additionally, the cost of hotel rooms throughout the Bay Area has skyrocketed as a result of the Super Bowl; many hotels in San Francisco are charging an

average of \$1,500 per night, with a four-night minimum stay. The W Hotel has stated that the going rate for their suites is \$10,000 per night. Although many cannot afford to go, students at Liberty High School have very specific Super Bowl predictions. "The Patriots and Panthers will compete in the Super Bowl because they are the best two teams," said Jaxson Bautista. The Super Bowl isn't just about football, it is also about entertainment for spectators. According to The Wall Street Journal, this year's halftime performance will be given by Coldplay; however, Beyonce is featured on their newest album, so rumors are flying as to whether or not she will make an appearance.

Opinion



December babies Michaela and her mom, Angel.

Photo courtesy of Michael Callahan

I was born in December: What it's like to have to share a birthday with Christmas time

By Michaela Callahan
Copy Editor

Christmas is a festive time, when many people are in the spirit of giving and receiving. It is also a child's worst nightmare to have a birthday so close to a time when you are already about to receive so many gifts. However, that is not the case for me. My birthday is two weeks before Christmas, on December ninth. My parents have always been so generous at my birthday, because they do not say, "Just go pick one out from under the tree." like I am sure happens to many kids with the same circumstances. My birthday and Christmas have never had a relation. My mom however, whose birthday is on Christmas Eve, had it a little worse while she was growing up. She recalled, "My birthday was always so sad because my parents would tell me to pick a gift from under the tree and then call it a day." Her parents would also let her brothers pick out presents from under the tree, so that they would not have to hear the whimpers of the other kids who did not get a present. However, my mom said, "I did always get to pick the biggest present, while my brothers had to pick one of the small ones." It is always said that "it is the thought that counts", but when your birthday coincides with Christmas, it doesn't feel like

a whole lot of thought is put into the birthday gift. It is also very hard to go out to dinner when your birthday is so close to this festive holiday, because all of the restaurants are already so crowded with people. My mom expressed, "I came from a large family so my mom would cook dinner every night for us." It was just a part of the routine, so they kept it going through her birthday and Christmas time. Having my birthday so close to Christmas was always a bummer though, because it made it very hard to have a birthday party with all of my friends. Around this time, everyone is going on break and leaving for out of town, so I either had to have my parties really early, or really late. However, there was always someone that could never go because they were busy on all of the days that I was free. I think that December is the hardest of the months to get around because of all of the things that go on. Between Christmas, New Years, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa and all of the different places that people go on vacation during breaks, assembling twelve of your friends to an impromptu day at the ice skating rink for your party is hard to juggle. However, families make it work and in my case my family has made it look pretty easy.

Review: Fallout 4 is the bomb

By Joseph Sanchez
Editor

Ever since I watched Fallout 4 at E3 this year I just couldn't wait to get this game in my hands. Here are my thoughts on *Fallout 4*: To start off on the positive side of things I was really happy with the intro of the game; I won't spoil anything but let's just say this is a very interesting plot from the get-go. Also, I noticed some very small details of the game that really kept me engaged; for example I made my character's name David and the Robot housekeeper in your house Codsworth sees you again he actually says your name which put a genuine smile on my face and this was only the first ten minutes of the game. So the next thing I noticed when playing was the greatly improved animations and whether it be running, walking, crouching, reloading, using a melee weapon and so on, it was a huge step up compared to their counterparts. The dialogue in this game was a controversy when a voice protagonist was to be used in this game, but in my opinion this is a tremendous change, and to me, a good one at that. To me this makes *Fallout 4* seem really cinematic with being able to just walk away from a conversation, or just hearing your character speak; it fills a void I always had when playing *Fallout*. The combat is also one thing this game had to nail down and for the most part, it provides a very solid experience. Let's start with the new V.A.T.S (Vault-Tec-Assisted-Targeting-System) system; Instead of pausing time completely, as seen in *Fallout 3/New Vegas*, it now slows down time for a "Bullet time". For third person combat it works like a charm from medium to long range. In third person, the aiming is very solid again and feels very natural to shoot in that mode. For first person the combat is very satisfying and a much improvement over the previous games thanks to again the smooth animations of the game. Also, if you have a companion and you reach to their highest affinity with your companion regardless whether you choose to romance with them or not, also grants extra

Correction:
Last issue's opinion poll was taken by Hannah Ingle and Nick Duarte

perks unique to them. Now over to the negatives of the game, which thankfully is a much shorter list. The first negative thing I noticed while playing *Fallout 4* and could be just written off as my hardware (Nvidia GTX 660 TI, Core I5 4570, and 8 gigs of ram) was stuttering in the menus; I tend to save often and there would be times where clicking save would take a few extra few clicks to register my input, but thankfully this doesn't happen too often but when it happens to me it is quite annoying. The next thing I noticed was the lack of an FOV slider and mouse acceleration that is not directly changeable within the game. While there is mouse acceleration, it's not a whole lot but it's very noticeable when trying to shoot in third person in close quarters, at least for me. As for the FOV it feels about 60-70 which is decent but again, I wish we could directly change these setting in-game. The last thing that really stuck out to me was just the random bugs that would occur but to be honest isn't a huge deal considering I played this game the first week it came out so this is to be expected for a game of his caliber. But this overtime will be fixed so for now I am not too worried about them. So at the end of the day would I recommend this game to you? Well here are my thoughts: If you liked the other *Fallouts* and wish to revisit the lore once more then I say without a doubt, pick it up; if you have never played the other *Fallouts* however, I would say to pick it up as well because this is a game where you can play for hours and not regret a moment of it. So my rating of this game is an 8/10 and happily so because though this game is spectacular, no game is without its flaws and this is no exception. But I will leave on this note, you are missing out if you don't play this game.



Photo by Sean O'Connell

Santa meets Brentwood PD

Our writer plays Santa, with unexpected results

By Troy Dias
Staff Writer

On November 28 Matt Cailotto, Josh Rush, Sean O'Connell, and I decided to do something nice for the people of Brentwood this holiday season. With my two reindeer, my elf, and me as Santa himself were ready for a spree of holiday cheer. Our celebration of the holiday spirit began at The Streets of Brentwood. We began passing out candy canes to the happy and grateful citizens of Brentwood but no more than five minutes after we began, it happened: we were approached by none other than, the po-po, the feds, boys in blue, the man. A security officer had then instructed us that even though he knew it was with good intentions we couldn't be passing out candy canes to the public. We agreed to halt the distribution of sugary sweets because in hindsight it made sense. Who knows, we could have been crazy people who had been handing out candy laced with cyanide or other deadly drugs. It made me realize that in this world we live in, we have to be cautious of people with good intentions because you don't know if looming behind those good intentions are the shadows of bad ones. Regardless it isn't easy being Santa. Happy holidays and stay safe.

Opinion Poll:

How old is too old to believe in Santa Claus?

By Nicole Schaffer
Staff Writer

Victoria Moore	9th	8 or 9, because you will probably find out at school from friends.
Matthew Landrum	10th	7, because older siblings and cousins would normally tell you first before your parents do.
Jesse Hardman	11th	10, or in middle school because you will start to learn he is not real and just a myth.
Courtney Bagg	12th	I believe there isn't an age where kids are too old to believe. If you believe he's there, he's there, no age necessary.

Editorial Policy

The opinions and views expressed on this page are solely those of the authors, not necessarily the journalism class, its adviser, or Liberty High School.

The Lion's Roar gladly welcomes letters to the editor; they will be edited for the linguistic accuracy, good taste, and space. They may be up to 400 words in length, and are due no later than three weeks before publication to libertyslionsroar@gmail.com. *The Lion's Roar* staff reserves the right to adjust or reject letters to the editor for any reason.

Opinion

Star Wars: The Force Awakens joins the diverse side

By Emily Lutes
Staff Writer

In a galaxy far far away, The Force will awaken in theaters December 18th. J.J. Abrams, the director of the film, shared that he is excited for the film and he can't wait to 'serve it' to Star Wars fans. Although the film hasn't premiered yet, the teasers and trailers have showed multiple different scenes that leave a mystery to the actual plotline because nobody actually knows what is going to happen. Tyler Valadez, a junior at Liberty, explained that he is excited for the film and that J.J. Abrams is one of the few directors that is skilled enough to handle a sacred film like Star Wars. Star Wars has always had different genders, species and races but it hasn't always been as diverse as it should be.

In Star Wars, the typical 'Jedi' has a lightsaber and the force but is usually a white male. There have been a few exceptions but mostly white males have been lead roles in

the films, for example there hasn't been a lead African female or Asian female. J.J. Abrams explained during Comicon that he thinks "it's important for people to see themselves in film." On twitter people have been boycotting The Force Awakens because of the new African American Stormtrooper, Finn. The hashtag #BoycottStarWarsVII was started by online users who believed the film was promoting "white genocide" by having John Boyega play the leading role of Finn. After this hashtag became popular online, other Star Wars fans have been supportive of the new diversity in the film and have helped spread positivity online by tweeting "#Blackstormtroopergetusedtoit"

Boyega explained in V magazine, "I'm in the movie, what are you going to do about it? You either enjoy it or you don't". The new Star Wars film contains more lead-

ing female character than ever, including Gwendoline Christy and Daisy Ridley. Although the movie hasn't premiered just yet, fans have taken that Rey and Han Solo, who is played by Harrison Ford, are somehow related. Daisy Ridley explained, "Rey is so strong. She's cool and smart and she can look after herself. Young girls can look at her and know that they can wear trousers if they want to. That they don't have to show off their bodies."

In conclusion, the new movie is definitely adding more diversity to the new films coming out. After Star Wars The Force Awakens, there will be over three more films to complete the whole saga. Jane Espenson who is a film producer and writer explained, "If we can't write diversity into sci-fi, then what's the point? You don't create new worlds to give them all the same limits of the old ones."



John Boyega and Dasiy Ridley running away from a huge mass destruction.

Photo Courtesy of: <http://www.ew.com/article/2015/04/23/star-wars-force-awakens-connecting-clues-may-reveal-movies-secrets>

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Pumpkin rolls laying on a plate getting ready to be served for others to eat.

Photo courtesy of: <http://dailydishrecipes.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Pumpkin-Pie-Roll-Ups.jpg>

Rollin' in the pumpkin dough

By Ryan Frerking-Ramos
Staff Writer

In the kitchen, pumpkin and cinnamon danced through the air like swans gliding across a shimmering lake. Fresh out of the oven on the rusty, rectangular baking sheets sat the flaky, golden goodness rolled and twisted with the dark orange seeping through the seams of the crust. The pumpkin pie rolls baked for taste-testing were all done and ready for the opinions that awaited them in less than twenty four hours. Made from canned pumpkin, whipped cream cheese, assorted spices, and Pillsbury crescent rolls, they had baked for about thirty to thirty five minutes; producing about twenty five rolls.

The taste testers of *The Lion's Roar* had been instructed of the ingredients that the product possessed in case of allergy or risk of other circumstances. The desserts were distributed and tried. Most of the testers were satisfied, but some had a few suggestions for next time. "Each bite was either a lot of pumpkin or a lot of dough," informed Sami Gibbs of the newspaper staff. "Overall, dude, it was a ten out of ten," complemented Joseph Sanchez, an editor of the once a quarter publication.

The test was an overall success with tips for better testing next time. If you are looking for a holiday recipe, these are great snacks for the occasion.

Jesus or Santa: which is more celebrated?

By Giovanni Martinez
Staff Writer

Christmas is the birth of Jesus. The reason why the holiday is called Christmas is because "Christ" actually means Jesus, and "mas" actually means mass; put those together and you get Jesus's mass. But people don't care if it's Jesus' birthday because they pay more attention to Santa.

Santa Claus is a name that gets tossed around during the holidays. December 25 is well-known as Christmas but it's mostly because of presents and Santa Claus. Santa Claus, is for most people, the main reason people love Christmas. Christmas is known for its sales at stores, presents under the Christmas tree, stockings near the chimney and a jolly old man with a red suit coming down your chimney, leaving presents under Christmas tree.

But, there are a majority of people who celebrate Christmas because of Jesus. I went around asking people who they pay more attention to on Christmas, Santa or Jesus. Out of 75 people, 55 said Santa Claus and 15 said Jesus. Christmas is becoming known as the day of gifts. I grew up with Hispanic parents that are very religious. Which meant on Christmas day we went to church to the mass for Christmas and prayed to God, thanking him for everything we have been given. After mass we go to my uncle's house to be with our family and thankful for what Jesus has done for us. Before we eat, we pray to God thanking him, then we dig in. After we eat, because my uncles and parents don't want to seem different on Christmas, they give us presents. Personally, I don't care about the presents; I just care that I'm with my family and we are happily enjoying ourselves.

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