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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
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Survival of the FIT-test

By Ian Sullivan
Copy Editor

Adaptation of new programs is always a big step in any city, state, or country. The same goes for the new FIT/WIT program that Liberty is just now starting to adopt. FIT/WIT are small pieces of the giant SWSI (School Wide System of Intervention) program that is in place throughout California schools. They were initiated to help students that were struggling with their grades. Similar programs were attempted in California in 2004 and were implemented, but it was left to the schools' discretion on how they should be used. This same program was employed successfully in other places across the United States. Just last year,

Heritage High School put the "Patriots Plus" initiative into effect, a program with similar intentions to FIT/WIT. "... this is something that many schools around the state and nation are doing ... other schools may refer to it as RTI or another other name." explains school administrator Mr. Morris. The FIT program is especially polarizing across Liberty among teachers. "I think it's an excellent idea. ... Scheduling time to take a breath, and catch up if need be is conducive to student success," says Spanish II teacher Mr. Carey He is referring to FIT (Flex Intervention Time) which sets aside half an hour of each period every Thursday. This time would be reserved for individual work time

or one on one time with a teacher. Mrs. Einess, who was on the committee that instituted the new curriculum, says that it was implemented because of new legal obligations being pushed by the state government, but also by the teachers that want more individualized time to help students to succeed. Yet there is some concern that the new program will prove difficult to maintain because of already shortened class times being cut down even further. "I'm not that thrilled about it. I'm pretty possessive of my time with my students. When we switched to block and then A/B scheduling, we lost instructional time. So we are now going to lose more instructional time," comments history instructor Mrs. Bea-



Mrs. Busch's class working hard during FIT time. Photo by Joshua Rush

ver. Because of the full half hour of class time that the FIT program takes away, AP classes have been excused from it due to the pacing of the classes. The WIT program, on the other hand, is not invasive to class time and takes place before school on PD Days. Mr. Morris explains that it is a way that teachers

can send two students to a detention-like program that their teacher refers them to. During this time, students can catch up on late work for teachers for full or partial credit. Both of the new pieces of school life here at Liberty have their pros and cons, but like them or not, they are here for the foreseeable future.



Huge crowds making their way down Main Street as they enter Disneyland. Photo courtesy of Mark Rightmire

The true cost of magic

Disney raises prices to record highs

By Emily Muniz
Staff Writer

It all started with a mouse. Just like the price of a magical ticket to Disneyland once started at one dollar, but times have definitely changed for disneygoers everywhere. Disney raised their prices on October fourth, making tickets and annual pass prices an all-time high. One-day admission has gone from 96- 99 dollars within a six month time span. Annual passes have gone up by at most \$340, making the Premier pass (Disney World and Disneyland) \$1,439, the Signature Plus Pass (no blackout dates) \$1,049, and the Disney Signature Pass(350 days) \$849. Walt Disney chairman Bob Chapek shed some light on why the sudden increase was necessary. "We have to look at ways to spread out our attendance throughout the year

so we can accommodate demand and avoid busting at the seams." According to the Orange County Register, single day prices have risen 140% since 2000, and 13% since the opening of Cars Land in 2012. It's also possible that the newly announced Star Wars Land has something to do with the sudden increase. Disney has provided reasons to justify the increase in prices, but that doesn't change how the decision will affect current passholders and Disney lovers in general. Liberty junior Hayli Greene added, "They're making it more and more difficult for the average family to visit Disneyland! It's sad!" Thousands of others have negatively commented on social media about the new Disneyland prices, but all have a common theme; they all plan on going back to the park regardless of the costly expenses.

The right to die

Death with Dignity law passes in California

By Madison Trimble
Editor in Chief

The hard truth is that we will face death one day; the difference is that some people's days will come naturally, while others will choose that day for themselves. There has recently been much talk about the Death with Dignity Law being passed in California. While the law has not been signed by the Governor as yet, it seems to be on its way. The Death with Dignity Law allows terminally ill patients to request a lethal medication that will kill them. In order to ensure patient safety, there are many rules placed around it. The rules that apply to the Death with Dignity law include: the patient being seen by two different doctors who both give them six months or less to live, the patient must be dying of termi-

nal cancer, they must be eighteen years of age, and they must be able to take the medication themselves. If the patient meets all of these requirements, they may take part in this action in the states of Oregon, Washington, Vermont, and probably, soon, California. The Death with Dignity law was legalized because of a man named Dr. Jack Kevorkian, who took part in assisted suicide for terminally ill people. His first patient was a school teacher in Oregon, which started the discussion of legalizing this action. This eventually becoming the Death with Dignity Law, which first passed in Oregon in 1997. Dr. Jack Kevorkian willfully assisted many of terminally ill patients, about 130, end their lives. Because the act was not yet legal

at that time, he was convicted of second-degree murder and sent to prison for eight years after fighting the case through the court system. Even though Dr. Jack Kevorkian is now deceased, due to liver cancer, his influence still remains. There is much controversy around this topic about whether or not it should be legal. While the doctor definitely had people appalled by his decision making, there were many people who supported him, which is a major reason why the law continues to be passed in additional states. A quote that opened up many people's eyes to the good that Dr. Kevorkian was taking part in was written by a prominent journalist in Michigan, Jack Lessenberry, and stated "Jack Kevorkian, faults and all, was a major force for good in this society. He forced us to pay attention to one of the biggest elephants in society's living room: the fact that today vast numbers of people are alive who would rather be dead, who have lives not worth living." Today this controversy remains, which is why the possibility of the law being passed in California has led to much discussion. For the meantime, patients who truly want to take part in this may relocate to one of the states in which the act is allowed and legally take their own lives.



Dr. Jack Kevorkian alongside his "killing machine".

Photo courtesy of abcnews.go.com-



The view of Discovery Bay is pretty dry due to the recent drought . Photo by Jayson Phoebus

El Nino: will it cure the drought?

By Matthew Cailotto
Staff Writer

Golden lawns; two minute showers; struggling farmers. California’s drought has not done any favors for any residents of California. Little do they know, El Nino is on its way and residents are being warned about possible floods in certain areas of California. If Brentwood residents got a flood warning from town officials, everyone would be confused and would question that statement. However, because of the chance of an El Nino a flood in Brentwood could possibly happen. El Nino is a phenomenon where there is a change in the distribution of warm water in the Pacific Ocean. During an El Nino, wind blows from east to west causing rainfall in the western section of the Pacific, which will grant California much more rain. Everyone is sick of California’s drought, which makes people hyped for the El Nino phenomenon. “I can’t wait, but I am scared” says Julie Hubbard being a science teacher at Liberty High School. Most California residents want the rain in hopes that it will cure the drought. The question on everybody’s mind is: will El Nino cure California’s drought?. Unfortunately, no. Researchers have

predicted that northern California will get less precipitation and snow than southern California. Some parts of California, particularly Southern California, are expected to get up to thirty-five inches of rain. Even with thirty-five inches of rain, the drought would only be eased, not cured. Mike Halbert says, “California would need twice as much its normal rainfall to get out of drought and that’s unlikely.” Easing our year long drought is a great thing, however the El Nino will cause warmer temperatures during the winter, which will cause less snowfall. The problem with less snowfall is the fact that Los Angeles relies a lot on a large buildup of snow to obtain fresh water, not to mention many snowsport businesses will suffer. California is definitely not the only state affected by the El Nino phenomenon. Many southern states such as Florida and Texas will experience much wetter and colder climates, also states like Washington are likely going to experience much drier conditions from this anomaly. Hopefully, the El Nino weather will positively affect California and give us what the state wants most right now: rain.

The Great Migration: Syrian refugees searching for a better lifestyle

By Sean O’Connell
Editor

In the US, we have a saying that the grass is always greener on the other side. For the Syrians and what they go through to get out of Syria, it is amazing how bad it must be there. The last time there was a migration like this was in World War 2. The Syrians are leaving because the Assad regime and the Islamic state are fighting each other, and the civilians are caught in the middle. 3 million refugees have left Syria and a million are moving to Europe to

look for a better life. These people endure the cold, the heat, no shelter, no water, no food; some don’t have families, endure racism, border police, and dangerous smugglers. Thousands of refugees have gone and there are more to come. Germany has said that they will accept eight hundred thousand refugees and have tried to influence other countries but have failed. Some countries like Greece can’t afford to give the refugees basic goods like food and water. Many Syrians live in camps that can be cold, hot, and very unsanitary. In school, stu-

dents are taught history so as not to repeat it. But instead, the migrant crisis has occurred before and it is occurring now, maybe even worse than before because the whole planet can see what is happening to these immigrants. Men and women are holding their children, walking through countries for months or sailing on little boats for weeks. The U.N. has the ability to step in and help those Syrian children who could be, in the future, the next Ghandi, the next Einstein, or the new leaders of the Middle East.



A Syrian child cries in fear and frustration.

Photo courtesy of forexexam.blogspot.com

CONGRATULATIONS

To the following LHS teams for winning their BVAL championship title:

Cross Country

Girls Water Polo

Girls Volleyball

Cancellation of CAHSEE causes curriculum changes

By Laura Gomez
Staff Writer

A recent change to the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) system will now impact current sophomores in high school. As of now, students will no longer worry about meeting this certain requirement to graduate high school due to the recent cancellation of the exam. The cancellation of the exam is due to a test contract that expired with the Educational Testing Service. This contract was only enforced through the exam proctored in May. Hence, the exam destined to take place in July has been cancelled. As a result, the former state standards from the CAHSEE are no longer taught in classrooms. According to Pat Walsh, principal of Liberty High school, “Governor Brown recently signed legislation eliminating the CAHSEE in California. So,

there will be no more administrations of the CAHSEE in schools in our state.” The exam had originally begun with the senior classes of 2006 in which students were provided with the opportunity

to take the exam up to eight times during high school. Now, the CAHSEE will be suspended for three years as of 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 allowing a time to develop a graduation require-

ment that is adequate for the new Common Core Standards. Walsh ensures, “Our students no longer need to pass the CAHSEE in order to graduate.” For some this may be the greatest of news, but it is

certain that the termination of such exam will cause major differences within classroom settings. According to the San Jose Mercury News, “More than 300 students from San Francisco and Oakland alone are affected.” Although a plethora of students are affected, it is known that the system of the University of California has not seen a case in which a student is not accepted for failure to pass the CAHSEE. With the development of new Common Core Standards, teachers, parents, and students realize that the material tested on the CAHSEE reflects a curriculum that has not been utilized in California’s schools for plenty of years. This signifies that fellow students have taken the exam with an outdated curriculum. Hence, it is about time the curriculum begins to develop further and eliminate testing students on standards that are no longer taught.



Students undergoing the pressures of test taking.

Photo courtesy of huffingtonpost.com

Campus Life

School IDs do matter; *here is why*

By Cheyenne Hicks
Staff Writer

You're walking down the hallway at school. Its passing period and you're dreading your next class. You reach your locker exchanging one textbook for another, and all of the sudden you hear screaming and see students running in all different directions. Confused and frightened, you try to hide as well. When all calms down and you retreat from your hiding spot, you find another student and ask what happened, only to be greeted with the news that there was an intruder on campus, with the intent to harm students. This is the exact reason we why we have ID's; to hopefully prevent situations like this. But how could a card with a student's picture on it help to prevent this? This is a question that has been brought up recently due to the strict re-enforcement of ID's. Although it is in the school rules that it is essential to wear ID's at all times, many students refuse or just forget altogether. ID's may not be the most ideal accessory to go with an outfit, but the reality is they're there in hopes to protect us, and make sure that the people on our campus, are only staff, and students. Currently, no student is allowed to come into their classroom without wearing their student ID, and any student walking around must have one on at all times, or they must report to their den. With this being similar to Liberty's tardy policy, it has been deemed unfair and harsh for many students, but look at the bigger picture, they may realize that it comes down to this for the sake of enjoying our very beloved open campus. In the events of the previous school year there was one event in

particular that shocked our community. During the second semester of the 2014-2015 school year, an intruder entered through the front of the campus, passing off as a high school student and was never questioned. The stranger ran over to the "N" hallways, and began shooting students with an airsoft gun, injuring 2-3 people. Before anyone really had full comprehension of the situation, he escaped and was not caught. Assistant Principal Mr. Falconer, believes that ID's are very helpful in making our students easily identifiable to keep them from harm, but also for personal emergency information of the student. "If you recall the hoax that took place the first week of school, there were both a staff member as well as a student that were approached by Brentwood Police officers because they could not be identified as either a staff member or a student due to not wearing their ID's. Therefore, the ID's significantly contribute to keeping our school safe." Falconer explained. ID's have been worn since 2008-2009 by the staff and students of Liberty high school. Our Principal, Mr. Walsh agrees highly with the notion of the policy, hoping that consistently enforcing the policy will ensure a safe environment. He further continued "I have great confidence in our students. With a reminder, I know that all of our students are capable of doing the right thing. We should all wear our ID cards and help to keep our campus safe." Do your part as a Liberty Lion to wear your ID, and encourage others to do so as well.



Ryan Frerking-Ramos clashes with the colossal burger. Photo courtesy of Brentwood P.A.L.

The Lion's Café: One pound in one sitting

Our writer takes on the XXX Challenge at Fatburger

By Ryan Frerking-Ramos
Staff Writer

There some things you can prepare for, like tests, quizzes, and debates. But, other things like earthquakes, wild fires, and other situations are not always the case. I thought I was ready on the fourth of June in 2015, but I had no idea of what I had gotten myself into. My life flashed before my eyes when the Fatburger employee set it in front of me. There it sat three patties, bacon, egg, grilled onion, swiss cheese, and mayo all squished between in a bun at a total weight of a single pound. It was like nothing I had ever imagined. Being just four foot ten inches at

the time I was terrified. But, I was determined as I went to work. Bite after bite I got it down. Then symptoms started to set in. First, my palms started to sweat. I kept pushing on and on. After about 15 minutes, it was conquered. I had eaten it all. My stomach was sore and I felt like I was going to explode. It was the worst pain I ever encountered to this day. I got my picture on the wall and a certificate. In the end, I felt sluggish and tired. If you like crazy, daring challenges this is for you. You can find it at your local Fatburger location. Do you dare?

All you need to know about the Ipen



Apple's newest gadget: the Ipen. Photo courtesy of ibobr.ru/attribute/ipen.html

By Andrew Flores
Staff Writer

Throughout all the years of Apple technology we have had products such as the iPod, iPhone, IMac's and much more. Now we have something called an IPen. The IPen was released by Apple this month. The IPen is able to be used on things such as an iPad pro; it's used for drawings, sketches, as well as activities such as fine art illustrator and detailed 3d design. One of the most popular things about his pen is that it has Apples' ultra-fast wireless connectivity that keeps you connected where

ever you go. The price of one of these pens is \$100. John Scott was asked his opinion on the Pen. He said, "I think this is one of the best things Apple has come up with". Then his wife Jenn Scott said, "I think it's a waste of money; its going to have nothing but problems". The pen includes an on-off button. According to Apple, "Another thing about this pen is that all you have to do is charge it for only 15 seconds and it gives you up to 30 minutes of battery life."

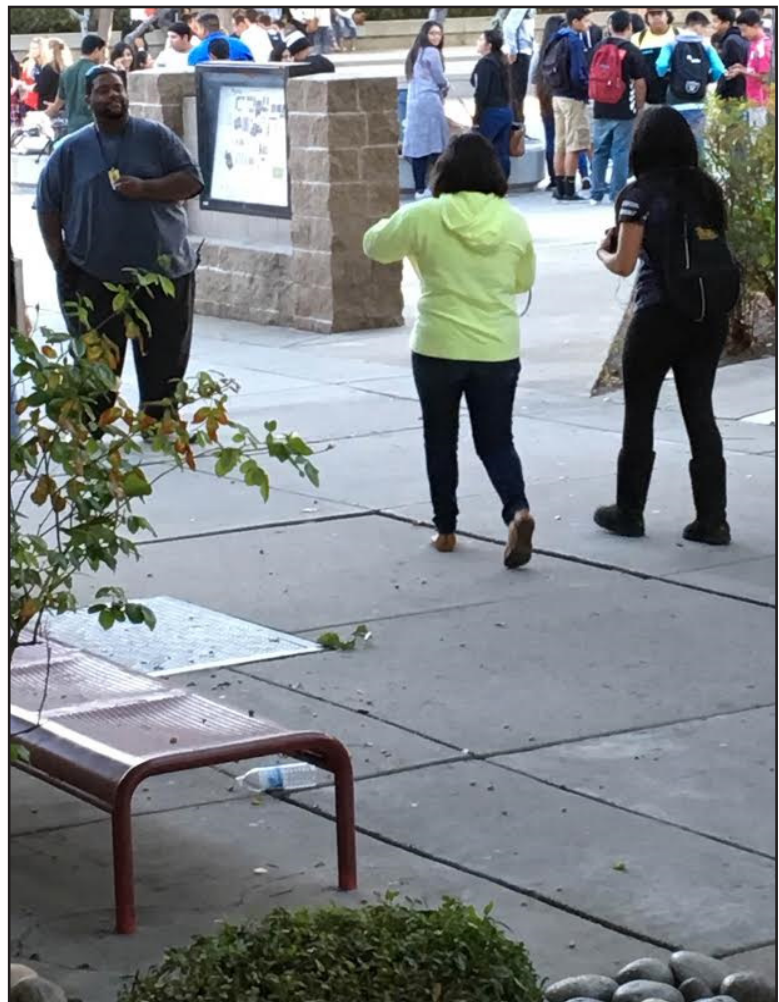
Remembering Lumpy's legacy

By Sami Gibbs
Staff Writer

When people hear the name "Lumpy's" they imagine eating a juicy cheeseburger at the popular restaurant in town. But behind the tasty food and success of the well liked restaurant was Jeremy "Lumpy" Sturgill, a man who left a wonderful impact on his family, friends, workers and customers. On Tuesday, June 16, 2015, people from all over town mourned when it was announced that Jeremy had passed away. It hasn't been made publicized as to what caused his death, but according to Gena Noack, Sturgill had complained about shortness of breath as well as chest pains the previous Monday. Despite what the reason was, lovers of "Lumpy's" the restaurant and the man, Jeremy, showed their condolences and respect all over social media shortly after the sad announcement. "You always were a giving person and always went out of your way to help others...you had a huge impact on our little community."@Jennnnandjuice on Instagram posted about Sturgill shortly after his death. Just like her commemoration to Sturgill, others had the same things to say about this man who dedicated much of his time to serve the community since the opening of "Lumpy's" 7 years ago. Some of the many organizations and causes that he helped out on include: Car Shows, Special Kids Foundation, Veteran Groups, and Toys for Tots. When asked what some of Jeremy's best qualities were, Nicolette Flores, a waitress at Lumpy's, responded by saying "Jeremy was always determined to make the customers' happy. He was always friendly to everyone." She even mentioned that Sturgill would go as far as sitting with the customers to make their experience at Lumpy's that much better. Jeremy's selfless service to the community is one of many reasons why he is so respected amongst everyone who got the pleasure of knowing him during his 35 years of life. Most people remember his legacy as being humble, kind, funny, a great dad, husband, and friend to many. On behalf of the LHS Lion's Roar, we send our condolences to whoever was close to Jeremy and encourage you to contribute to "The Sturgill Family Fundraiser's" GoFundMe page and enjoy a delicious meal at Lumpy's on Brentwood Blvd, where Jeremy "Lumpy" Sturgill's bright legacy is fondly remembered and reminisced by all.



Photo courtesy of Susan Tripp Polard/Bay Area News Group archive



Campus monitor Brian Harris checks for student IDs before school starts. Photo by Jayson Phoebus

Working at nail salons: what are the risks?



A manicurist paints the nails of her client.

Photo courtesy of www.latimes.com

By Rachel Ueda
Staff Writer

Anyone who has had their nails done before knows the distinctive “nail salon” smell; it’s hard to miss that wave of fumes greeting you at the door. While this kind of exposure isn’t very threatening to weekend regulars or walk-ins, the nail technicians who actually handle the chemicals for hours every day could be at risk for serious health problems. Employee’s most common complaints include inflammation of the eyes, nose, and throat, shortness of breath, nausea and coughing. While these concerns aren’t too serious, there are studies showing a link to even more severe health ailments. Earlier this year, The New York Times published a series of articles revealing the hardships nail salon workers sometimes have to endure, including a piece purely dedicated to uncovering personal stories of employees and their experiences with the long term effects of chemical exposure. The article brought to light the common themes of miscarriages, birth defects, cancer and serious respiratory illnesses among nail technician. Two of the woman interviewed had experienced at least one miscarriage and had a child, or knew a fellow salon worker’s child, with a birth defect or mental disorder. Eugenia Colon, a salon owner in Brooklyn, was diagnosed with sarcoidosis, an inflammatory disease. Once she saw the scan of her scarred lungs, her doctor explained to her that when she inhaled acrylic powder the tiny particles scratched the soft tissue of her lungs. Le Thi Lam, another nail technician, was part of a survey taken by the Cancer Prevention Institute of California and spoke about how she had developed a thyroid condition, and then eventually breast cancer. She was quoted saying “I know that manicurists

like me are also going through the same things and having major health problems, but they still hang on to their jobs to earn their living.” It’s obvious that nail salon employees are suffering from an array of medical issues. Not only is that illustrated in the personal stories shared by workers, but scientific studies conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Institution for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) show results that help back up their statements. With all of this information out there accusing nail salon products of being toxic, one can only wonder why these chemicals are still being used. Well, the FDA doesn’t have the right to approve cosmetics before they are sold and they do not have a list of required tests for any certain product or ingredient. There is, however, a list of illegal ingredients, but many of the potentially harmful chemicals, like dibutyl phthalate, toluene, and formaldehyde (also known as the “toxic trio”), still found in products are not banned. It is up to the cosmetic companies to manufacture safe products. Yet, the corporation’s idea of “safe” differs from the worker’s. Plus, there is no hard evidence proving these chemicals are directly linked to the health issues being reported; only research that suggests chemicals are “linked to” certain symptoms or sicknesses. All these loopholes allow for continuous production of cosmetics that may or may not be harmful. However, employees and employers can protect themselves by following safety protocols such as wearing gloves and masks, installing proper ventilation, keeping the door open, and using as many toxic free products as they can until a better solution can be found.



Photo courtesy of <http://www.ruv.is/frett/andlegt-ofbeldi-getur-verid-lumskt>

DEPRESSION: the crippling of the next generation

By Madison Fagundes
Staff Writer

In today’s society, teens are often pushed to their limit. Balancing school, friends, and other activities is a tough job, but why are so many of these teens becoming depressed? According to suicide.org a teen takes their own life every one hundred minutes. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for people ages 15 to 24 and only 30% of teens with depression are being treated. Psychologists believe that while genetics may be a factor, many other situations, such as chronic illness, trauma/abuse, being a part of the LGBT community, or having a lack of support may also cause depression. “These kids are at a higher risk for depression because they carry more stress on a day-to-day basis.” Says psychiatrist, Meghan Fagundes. There are many stereotypes regarding someone who is depressed. People usually think of those with depression as sad people who wear black and cry all the time, but this is not always the case. Anyone can have depression, whether it is a person who wears black and cries all the time, or an all-star football player. “There is no single cause for depression; everyone is different.” Says councilor, Ms. Bigler. Although many depression cas-

es may seem bleak, there are many treatment options. Common treatments are therapy, exercise (sports, yoga, etc.), meditation, support groups, medication, and even hospitalization. While these treatments usually do the trick, they don’t always work. “Electroconvulsive therapy – or ECT - isn’t usually used, but sometimes it is necessary. This is a last resort because it involves inducing seizures to ‘reset’ your brain, which causes memory loss.” Explains Meghan Fagundes. Do you have a friend who is depressed? Many symptoms of depression may not be obvious, but little things like loss of motivation or increased irritability can be signs that there is something wrong. If you notice any of these things, reach out. Depression is like having a broken bone; it can’t just be fixed by telling it to “try harder” or to “cheer up”. In order to heal, a person needs constant support. If you don’t know how to help, talk to an adult or someone who knows what they’re doing. If you know someone who is depressed or considering suicide, don’t hesitate to get them help; some damage can’t be repaired. National Suicide Hotline: 1(800)273-8255

Get your music fix: local concert schedule

By Samuel Zehnpfennig
Staff Writer

Music is universal; no matter what walk of life you come from, be it rich or poor, in the city or out in some rural development, east coast or west coast: music is created with the intention of uniting us. It’s as much of a communal experience as it is a solitary act. You can either listen to it in a stadium full of people or in your room with the lights turned out. Whether its talk amongst friends or greats crowds gathering in front of performers, music is something we can all enjoy. Luckily, some concerts of note have

made their way to the Bay Area. On December 2nd, the Trans-Siberian Orchestra will be playing the Sleep Train Arena in Sacramento (tickets: \$27-\$61.50) and the SAP Center on the 3rd (tickets: \$28-66.50). For those Janet Jackson fans out there, she’ll be playing the Concord Pavilion on May 19th, with tickets ranging from \$35.95-\$209.95. If you want to hear Black Sabbath live, they’ll be playing at the Oracle Arena in Oakland on the 15th of September; tickets are going on sale for \$487.86.

Oh, snap! Liberty has its very own geotag

By Daja Zuniga
Staff Writer

Thousands of students woke up one recent morning to a new surprise. A Liberty High School geotag. A geotag is an electronic tag that assigns a geographical location to a photograph or video and in this case on Snapchat. Certain towns and places have their own geotagging. Brentwood for example has its own. To make a geotag go live in one’s town one must come up with an original design and select the region or town you would want the geotag in. Otu Akpakpa, a senior here at Liberty High School is the one that designed and submitted our geotag. He acknowledged that he wanted to try to submit a geotag after hearing Heritage’s design was denied. He said, “It was pretty easy overall, it just took some time trying to figure out what the geotag should look like.” Students were exited when they heard Liberty had a geotag because we were the first to have one in the school district. Otu concluded, “it’s a pretty cool feeling knowing that people actually use it everyday at school.” However, there are some dangers of using a geotag. Because of the geographical location people may find out where one lives, where one goes to school or where one is,, at that moment. It could be dangerous for young students like us. One Liberty high school student, Hunter Spence, disagreed and said, “I Think the geo-tag was a good idea and I don’t think were in danger because I would hope that we know and are aware of the people who follow us on snapchat.” Despite of the dangers of the geotag, it is pretty cool to have one as a school. Shortly after our geotag went live Heritage and Freedom high schools got their own as well.



This photo by Daja Zuniga shows the LHS geotag.

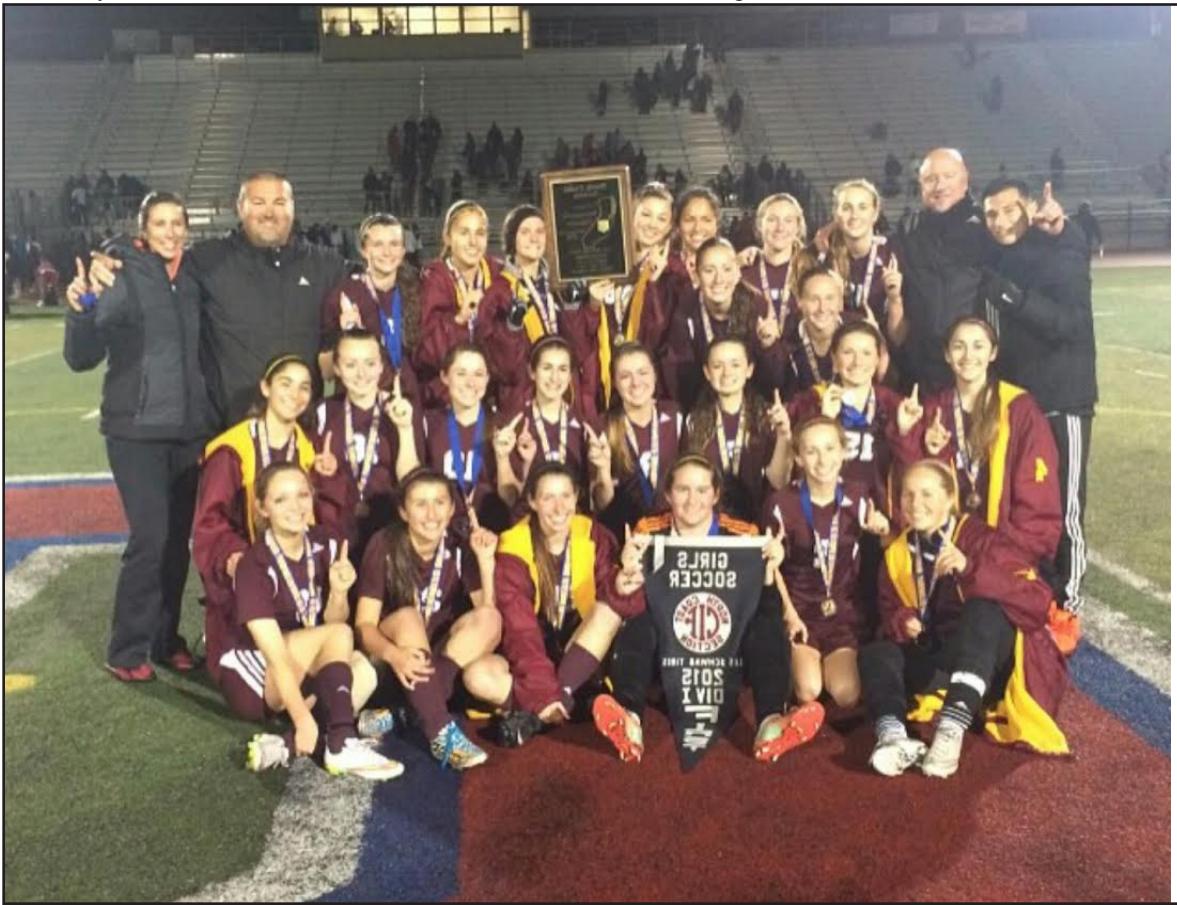
LHS varsity girls soccer: can they net another championship?

By Nicole Schaffer
Staff Writer

90 minutes, that's it. That's all it takes for a win to take place. Less than a year ago on February 12, 2015 one of the greatest accomplishments for Liberty girls soccer happened: Liberty took 1st place in league and showed they are capable of completing their goal. "The goal every year is to improve everyone from when the team first meets to as the team progresses and come out with the most desirable out come as best as we can," said Tony Martins, head coach.

As a result, last year Liberty's Girls Varsity Soccer team carried out 20 wins, only 2 loses, and 2 draws. Though they lost 8 players due to graduation or switching schools, the positions can always be filled by improving the player with the great skills they have. There is not one person who can do it all because it is a team effort, and the formation doesn't depend if the team will win, the players will. Last season, they played a 4-4-2 formation which helped

them succeed throughout the year. "The formation will probably be similar, but I let the count of players dictate what will be done, and the style of play will never be forced. The characteristics of people do the form," informed Tony Martins. Clearly, Liberty Girls Varsity Soccer can and are capable of being NCS Champs again, but it will be a challenge, and they are up for it, giving everything it takes.



Last year's girls soccer team poses after winning their NCS title.

Photo by Haley Bostard

Will the Olympics come to California? San Francisco Bay Area a top contender for 2024

By Brady Peterson
Staff Writer

The Olympics are filled with extreme competition, awesome entertainment, fun games and representing your country. Boston, Washington D.C. or San Francisco are the top contenders for hosting the 2024 Olympics. These cities would have to do a lot to accommodate the Olympics. Cities like San Francisco would have to build facilities so that certain Olympic events can take place. If the Olympics were in San Francisco some events could be held in the Northern California areas. For example, some of the events could be held in Levi stadium in Santa Clara because it is a big yet useful facility. The prices of making the Olympics have a trend of getting more expensive each year. The 2024 Summer Olympics can cost up to ten billion dollars to develop all the facilities so every event can take place. However to have the Olympics held in your city is very good for your economy because everyone is willing to spend money in your city. The Olympics will include top of

the line athletes participating in events. The Olympics are worldwide competitions that take a lot of training and dedication. The United States might have the luxury of hosting the 2024 Olympics in one of our finest cities. The Olympics should be held in America because we have great food, competition, and a lot of excellent entertainment. The Olympics are arranged to compete for your country in a respective but hard working manner. Some of the top sports in the Olympics are basketball, soccer, swimming and track and field. "My favorite sport in the Olympics is basketball because it is the only sport in the Olympics that I play," Max Lawrence explained. In addition, others have the same outlook on basketball. "My favorite sport in the Olympics is basketball because it is fun to watch," Said Khalil Malone. It would be an honor to have the 2024 Summer Olympics take place in the beautiful country of the United States of America.

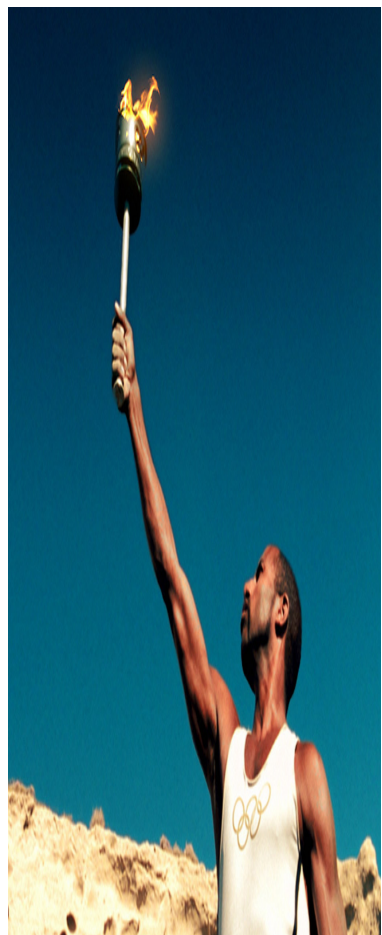


Photo courtesy of tanveernaseer.com



Players from Barcelona and Real Madrid face off.

Photo by www.bbc.com

El Clasico: the game of the year

By Giovanni Martinez
Staff Writer

Rivalries: everybody likes rivalries, such as Liberty versus Heritage, A's versus Giant's, Raiders versus 49ers. El Clasico, Barcelona versus Real Madrid, is known as the biggest rivalry in soccer history. These two teams both are located in Spain. These two teams are the most valuable teams in soccer; both soccer clubs are the richest and most successful clubs in soccer in the world. They are also ranked the most valuable clubs because both teams have the most valuable players that play great in their positions, both have the best players in the world, Real Madrid has Cristiano Ronaldo, Barcelona has Lionel Messi. But each have their own uniqueness into their own clubs such as Real Madrid has the most Champion league trophies then any other club while Barcelona has five Champion league trophies. Barcelona has five UEFA Super Cups while Real Madrid has two, but Barcelona is tied with AC Milan with also five super cups. This rivalry between Barcelona and Real Madrid have been rivals since the early 1930's. Like every other rivalry one has more wins than the other and that one club with the most wins from these two rivals is Real Madrid. In La Liga Real Madrid has seventy-one wins while Barcelona has sixty-seven and with thirty-two draws out of one hundred and seventy La Liga matches. Out of thirty-three Copa del Rely matches Real Madrid has won twelve games while Barcelona has won fourteen games and have seven draws. In the Copa del

la Liga their has been six matches where Real Madrid and Barcelona have faced off and Real Madrid has zero wins while Barcelona has two wins with four draws. In the Super Copa de Espana their has been twelve games where Barcelona and Real Madrid have played against each other and Real Madrid has won six games while Barcelona has won four games and has been two draws. As the list goes on as you can see these two clubs are almost head to head in wins. As the next El Clasico reaches, both teams are looking great with their recent league matches. As I have asked the Jv/Varsity coach of Liberty High school, he said that Barcelona will win the next Clasico because of how Barcelona plays is just incredible hoe they move the ball from each side of the field, how they control pass the ball, how they communicate, and also how they work together as a team. As I have asked soccer fans around school seventy-two percent have said Barcelona will win and 28 percent Real Madrid will win. As the game is planned to play on November twenty first, Lionel Messi injured knee should be recovered by then. Last time Real Madrid played Barcelona, Barcelona beat Real Madrid 2-1, Mathieu scored the first goal for Barcelona then Ronaldo scored the goal for Real Madrid to tie up the game but Suarez scored the winning goal for Barcelona. Who will win? Barcelona? Real Madrid? Will BBC(Bale Benzema Cristiano) beat MSN(Messi Suarez Neymar)? We will have to wait until the day comes to find out.

Royals are baseball royalty

By Joshua Rush
Layout Editor

The 2015 World Series was the 111th Major League Baseball championship series that started with a bang. Ned Yost took over the Royals when they were the worst team in the MLB, but he ended up making it to the World Series. On the other hand, the Mets have won their sixth division title beating the Dodgers in 5 games and swept the Cubs. The Royals made it to the World Series last year and lasted as far as they could but the Giants beat them in the 7th game.

They were defeated physically but mentally they were ready for this year. The Royals didn't start the World Series on a good note. Their game 1 pitcher, Edison Volquez's father died earlier that day. He didn't know during the game but was informed later. Even through the obstacles of the playoffs and last World Series, they still came back fighting and won the best title a baseball player can have: being named a World Series Champion.



Liberty's football teams participate in study hall time after school. Photo by Kristina Busch

In the ultimate battle of grades vs sports, which one wins?

Student athletes must balance academic and athletic life

By Emily Lutes
Staff Writer

Hours of practice, months of training, years of commitment and a few moments to do homework, this is a typical schedule for a high school athlete at Liberty. High school athletes spend hundreds of hours training and practicing for games but they aren't assigned time to do their homework and study for tests. Coach Walters, varsity football coach at Liberty shared the routine that the football team has to participate in daily in order to compete. After school the football players must lift weights for 45 minutes, then the special teams kick for 15 minutes. After that, there is a 55 minute offense training then a 55 minute defense training. Finally, the practice concludes with 10 minutes of conditioning. "On average a football practice lasts about 3 hours." Coach Walters explains. Since a normal practice would end around 6:30, it will still take time for athletes to get home, clean themselves up from a long practice and eat their dinner. After all of this time is consumed on a school night, when will they have time to do their homework? Zakk Lowe, wide receiver on the varsity football team explained that keeping his grades up motivates him to be better because it restricts his time, which adds a challenge. The senior has an accumulative GPA of a 3.91 which is above the requirements the school asks for all student athletes. "District policy mandates a minimum of a 2.0 GPA to participate in athletics. We ask our players to do their best and strive for a program GPA above 3.0 – which we accomplished this year." according to Coach Walters. Although ath-

letes have little time after school to complete their assignments and prepare for their upcoming classes, they are given the opportunity to change that. "We have a mandatory study hall period in the morning in the Library where we monitor the football player's grades and get them help if need be." The method of having a morning study hall has helped athletes because it is a time for them to sit in and really focus, but not all sports have opportunities like this, only football. Kai Bohannon, student athlete, explains that she isn't given any extra opportunities to help with her grades. Kai runs cross country, track and plays basketball, which means that she is a year round athlete, which makes keeping up grades a harder challenge. The junior at Liberty is glad to say she has an accumulative GPA of a 4.06, which she explains, "I always manage my time, I can't ever procrastinate!" Although sports leave students on a short amount of time to get their homework done, it is definitely achievable. "Yeah, playing a sport and taking advanced classes is difficult but it's also beneficial because I am able to work with my teammates on homework, ask them questions and study together." Furthermore, sports take up time and energy but they provide a challenge, which most athletes love, the challenge to balance time. Through multiple interviews, all athletes agree that keeping up their grades is a difficult challenge but it something looked high upon to complete. Hours of practice, months of training and years of commitment are all worth it for athletes who love what they do.

Years of dedication, sacrifice, and determination have finally paid off. Liberty High School Senior Emily Wylie is Crossing the finish line

By Alondra Ibarra
Staff Writer

The athletic LHS senior Emily Wylie dedicates her time running in cross-country not knowing where the big race will end. Ever since the sixth grade Emily has been on the track running faster and faster for many years. All those breathless moments have finally paid off now that Emily Wylie has received an outstanding scholarship to the University of Pacific. In addition, The University of Pacific financial aid program offers all types of financial aid; 35% of that aid is in grants and scholarships. Emily Wylie has received a scholarship for her outstanding athletic performance. Her schol-

arship covers student expenses such as tuition and housing. "I knew I would get better every year but I never expected that I'd be here." Emily added. "I'm glad I have teammates and a college coach that believe in me like the Pacific coach." Furthermore, Emily explained that she saw the scholarship coming because she had already been talking with the Pacific coach for about a year. Emily admits that when it was handed to her she was very happy and thankful. At last, all those obstacles she had to overcome had paid off for Emily Wylie. "Obstacles I had to overcome were

mostly myself, I had to beat my times and get personal records constantly to impress my future coach. Dieting and workouts combined were a challenge," Emily expressed. "But it was all worth it in the end!" Wylie is currently accepted into The University of Pacific where she plans to attend the fall of 2016. Emily decided that she will major in health and exercise sciences; she explains that it revolves around Pre- Physical Therapy. As of now Emily is almost half way done with her senior year and as each day goes by she is one step closer to the finish line.



Stockton's UOP will be Emily Wylie's home after graduating from LHS. Photo by Kim Wylie

The reality of Fantasy Football

By Jack Harris
Staff Writer



Photo courtesy of buzzerg.com

Completed pass, field goal, touchdown, rushing yards, passing yards tackles are all terms used in fantasy football. Fantasy football was invented in 1962 by Wilfred Winkenbach, a business man who was also a partner in the Oakland Raiders organization. And ever since he created it, fantasy football has been on the rise. Fantasy football allows people who love football but don't play to be part of it. It is a statistical game where a group of people compete against each other by virtually managing real players in the NFL. Men, woman, and children can play fantasy football; in fact, twenty percent of people who plays are woman and eighty percent are men. In 2009 Colin Cowherd of ESPN estimated that over twenty seven million people participate in the game. He also said that people who play fantasy football spend an average of nine hours a week during fantasy football season playing. Fantasy football can be played anywhere. You can play it with your friends or people you have never met before. People

can play online or they can create their own league. Fantasy football starts any time before the regular season of the NFL starts. There are many reasons to play fantasy football. Michael Cole, a student at Liberty said, "I play fantasy football because I love football and I like competing against my friends". Fantasy football gives you a reason to watch all of the teams in the NFL not just your favorite team. Coal also stated, "All of my friends play it and it keeps me closer with them". One of the biggest reasons people play fantasy football is for the hope to win money. The betting prices vary from league to league. Betting prices can range from one dollar to millions of dollars. Many people start off betting small amounts of money, but the desire to win more money makes them get more addicted therefore betting more money. The odds of winning are the same whether people bet a large or small amount of money. The chance to win money is what draws people in.

He said, she said

The male vs female perspective
Our writers tackle the subject of PDA

By Michaela Callahan
Copy Editor

PDA about thirty years ago stood for Personal Data Assistant. It was a machine that kept all of your personal and work data, as well as reminded you of the various things that you needed to do during the day. Today, it is known as Public Display of Affection. PDA, comes in many forms, and is usually shown by people who are “in love”. There are certain couples that may go a little overboard with how they show their love in public. For example, two people who are in a relationship are expected to hold hands while they are walking to where they need to go, however; they are not expected to grope each other while they are walking, so that they are blocking the way of other people trying to get to their destination. It makes our peers angry, because not only is it gross, but who wants to have to try their best to avoid these couples in the halls, when it could be avoided entirely? There is a fine line between showing too much of your affection for another and showing the acceptable amount. The acceptable amount of PDA includes holding hands, hugging each other, and an occasional kiss. An unacceptable amount of Public Displays of Affection would include making out, and blocking the way of other people trying to get by. To the couple, it may seem like they are just so infatuated with each other that they do not care what other people may think about them, but to the other people from outside of the relationship, it may be disturbing. I am not saying that PDA should not be shown at all, because sometimes it is nice to show off your relationship to other people around you, but some people need to realize that there is a difference between what should be kept private and what does not need to.



Photo by Kimberly Del Angel

By Troy Dias
Staff Writer

The bell rings to dismiss class and you are on your way to your next class. With your luck, you get stuck behind a couple who are holding hands and you can't seem to get around them. After they advance to their destination you are finally able to pass and get to your locker. However, when you get there there are two people directly in front of your locker playing a good old game of tongue hockey. You politely ask them to move, and in doing so they proceed to flop onto the locker next to yours and continue. Irritated and annoyed you just walk away. Is there such a thing as too much public display of affection? Yes, of course there is. Not many people are eager to see you and your significant other going at it at school, on a bus, at Taco Bell, ect. Even though a majority of the time it is not desired to be viewed, it is tolerable to a certain extent. It is understandable to give one another a little peck before you depart your separate ways to class or hold hands as you are walking. On the other hand light making out seems adequately okay but anything past that is really pushing it. Heavy making out or anything that involves movement of your whole body is most likely inappropriate in a public display. You must remember that even though you may have the overwhelming urge to be in physical contact with your partner at all available times it's not always the best thing to do. In public you must be mindful and courteous of other people because they may find it gross or awkward to watch. But that's not always the case, some people may also feel jealous. People who are not in relationships feel more negative about it than ones who are. I know couples don't intentionally mean to make people jealous because they know it has nothing to do with them but "Its just like a rich person double-parking a Maserati at a soup kitchen: just rubbing it in," said Steven Grimm. I am not speaking against PDA but I do think public display of affection should be moderated to a certain extent. Just be mindful of others and don't let your affection toward one another get in the way of other people.

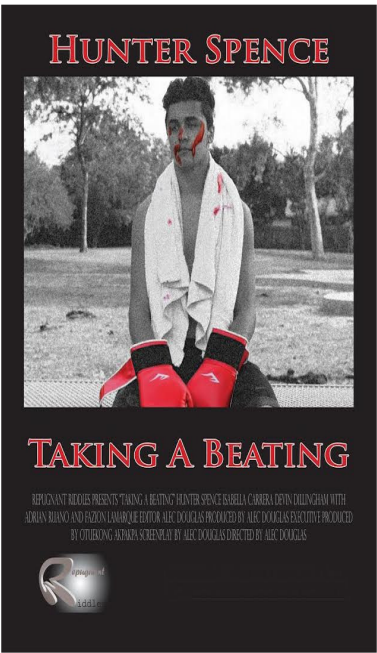


Photo by Alec Douglas

By Alec Douglas
Staff Writer

Times Square, New York. Probably the busiest place in the whole country. Back when I was younger, if you told me that I would have a film that I made shown there, I would have called you a liar. But it happened. Now let me go back to about ten years ago when I was watching movies kids my age probably have never heard of. Watching films such as *Star Wars*, *Indiana Jones* and the *Godfather* got me into more creative writing and messing around with cameras, putting them in different places to replicate scenes from some of my favorite movies. Towards the end of my junior year, I was making short films with some of my friends, which is always fun, but I wanted to make to make something that could touch people emotionally and to show I wasn't just making stupid movies. I've also wanted to make a boxing movie because I like the sport and films like that are usually great. So I developed the film *Taking a Beating*, a story about a teenager who's obsessed with underground boxing due to being beaten by his father as a child and how that trauma distances himself away from his girlfriend. I casted Hunter Spence for his physicality and his natural emotional screen presence, then I casted Isabella “Bella” Carrera for her soulful eyes and emotional acting ability. After filming, a run in with the Brentwood Police (they thought we were gambling on real fights) and editing for hours, I released the film on YouTube. I was a little hesitant to release the film as I didn't know what people were going to think of it but about an hour

Liberty student on the red carpet

Staff writer Alec Douglas recounts his experience at the All American High School Film Festival

after release I got an extremely positive response for the film from my friends and from people I didn't know all that well. So after that I gained more confidence in the film and decided to submit it to film festivals around the country, including the All American High School Film Festival in New York, which is basically the Academy Awards for teenage filmmakers. I didn't think I was going to get accepted into it but a couple of months later, I got an email from one of the co founders of the festival saying that I was officially accepted into the festival. My family was excited for me as well as my friends but I still couldn't believe I got in because I thought I just made an “ok” film but I guess the judges (which includes Kristen Stewart of *Twilight* fame and Dylan Mcdemortt of *American Horror Story* fame) saw something that I didn't see. During the fall break I left for Florida first because my family already had plans to go on vacation down there before the film festival came into my life and then went to New York. I had never been to New York but I was expecting it to be exactly how it was in movies and for the most part, it was. The city of New York is very overwhelming. The amount of people, the size of the buildings and the Times Square area was incredible. It's pretty much a larger and angrier version of San Francisco. After having some New York pizza and checking out Times Square, my parents and I went to the AMC Theater with other filmmakers around my age. This AMC Theater is the busiest movie theater in the country and has about

6 floors inside. My theater was on the 6th floor. After an introduction from the festival founder, Andrew Jenks, my film was the first to be shown. It was crazy seeing *Taking a Beating* on such a big screen, seeing the boxing match between Hunter and Devin felt like something out of a real movie on the screen and I could tell the audience was enjoying it. The film ended and got a great clapping response from the crowd, which was great. All the other films after mine were great too, some were even inspiring to me. After the screening I went to some interview panels to watch professional filmmakers and screenwriters give advice on filmmaking and how to make it in the business, which was really insightful. On Sunday night, my parents and I took a cab over to Brooklyn to attend the Teen Indie Awards portion of the film festival, where I got to walk the red carpet and get interviewed by MTV. I can't say I remember the red carpet and interview all that well because it felt like such a blur but it was an incredible experience. After a energetic opening act from a teenage rock band, the award show began with scholarships and money grants given to the festival winners. It felt like I was at the academy awards except their were no A list celebrity's in the audience. Even though I didn't win any major awards, I feel like my film was liked by a lot of people and inspired me to make even better films. I would like to thank the entire cast of *Taking a Beating* for helping me with my crazy ideas and hope they help me with a lot more of them.



Leave your mark:
purchase a legacy brick!

Students, staff, friends, family and alumni now have an opportunity to leave their legacy at Liberty forever by purchasing a Legacy Brick. A Legacy Brick is a 4x8 brick that you can have up to three lines (18 characters per line) engraved. The Academic Boosters Club, who is sponsoring this, hopes to break ground in putting the first set of bricks down in spring 2016 in front of the school near the lions statues. Leave your legacy for only \$100 per brick. All proceeds go towards new classroom technology. To order a brick go tot the Liberty website and click on the Legacy Brick link.

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.

New club at Liberty?

A gaming club trying to build in size and momentum

By Joseph Sanchez
Editor

Contrary to the majority who say that playing video games are not considered a sport and should not be treated seriously at all, I beg to differ. Specifically, “Counter Strike:Global Offensive” or CS:GO is something that I want to introduce as a new club to Liberty High School. Now I know people will come to me and say video games are not physical and therefore, it is not a sport, and to them I say, you are correct. CS:GO is not a sport but it does require strategy, game sense, and skill to win. In the professional tier they are called “e-sports” which means electronic sports, so they are not physical sports, yes, and that is why we have a different name altogether for them. However, I very firmly believe that they should be recognized as a form of competitive entertainment and be treated as such.

So what is my club going to be? The club is going to be a Counter Strike: Global Offensive competitive club where eight other students will join a team, team “A” being me as a team captain and team “B” being my brother Anthony Sanchez as a team captain. From the eight people who join, four will be picked on each team and the training will begin to play competitive CS:GO matches after school.

The biggest obstacle I face when trying to start this club is the rating of the game, “M” for mature. The Entertainment Software Rating Board, or ESRB, gives these games a rating such as “M” for mature as a guideline for people buy-

ing the game, so this means that it is not illegal to play games rated M if you are younger than recommended. Thus far, I have made ten permission slips that very specifically say that the game is M rated and if a student signs, they are well aware of what they are going to play. For the future, I will create a petition showing just how many people would join such a club and also show that I am not alone in wanting this club at school. There are many other obstacles that this club could face. One of these obstacles is to have ten school network accounts that will only be used for the club to use Steam, a digital game distribution software, to access Counter Strike: Global Offensive at school. Once that is done the club will need computers that can run CS:GO at a decent framerate and have those computers available for the club anytime we so choose to use them. If it is simpler, we may have specially marked computers that say “CS:GO” on them that have Steam pre-installed and fully un-blocked so that we can access CS:GO servers. Now when I say computers, I mean any computers that the school will let us use for the game unless the school wants to provide better computers, as I see this club going long after I’m no longer a student at Liberty High School. This is because CS:GO has the potential to have a ton a viewers and players in a school environment. I’ll leave you with this: according to IGN, in this year’s ESL one cologne (A CS:GO tournament) 27 million unique viewers from Twitch (a website dedicated to watching video games played live), watched CS:GO played competitively.



Gaming enthusiasts playing Counter Strike: Global Offensive competitively in front of a live audience during ESL Cologne 2015.

Photo courtesy of: https://www.reddit.com/r/GlobalOffensive/related/2dtzzz/get_right_with_the_esl_one_cologne_trophy/



A character is carrying valuable stickers of Counter Strike: Global Offensive .

Photo courtesy of: <http://www.eslgaming.com/article/road-cologne-australia-s-long-journey-esl-one-2232>

Opinion Poll:

The US government is redesigning the \$10 bill; they will be putting a woman’s face on paper money for the first time in US history. Which woman should be on the new \$10 bill?

Kofi Arkaah	12	Nancy Reagan
Jessie Arebalo	10	Michelle Obama
Mr.Key	Teacher	Sarah Palin
Aayana Green	10	Michelle Obama

The Liberty Union High School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability.

Dress code inequality: are guys and girls treated the same?

By Gianna Erickson
Staff Writer

There are definitely many girls who get dress coded for inappropriate clothing and do deserve it, but it isn’t just girls who need to be getting dress coded. Boys also wear clothes that are not school appropriate and never get caught or told to change. Some things many students notice that boys wear and get away with are tank tops/undershirts, sagging pants, and inappropriate words, phrases, words or graphics on t-shirts. However, girls are not allowed to wear too short of shorts, dresses or skirts, shirts that show the midriff, spaghetti straps, or tube tops; and during warmer weather, handfuls of girls are seen

in P.E. clothing due to dress code. When there will also be boys who should have to change? Dress code doesn’t seem to be as enforced for them. 94% of students polled agree that girls get dress coded much more often than boys, even when boys deserve to be. Why is it that a girl’s shoulder can be so distracting in class that they must leave and miss part of class time to go change into a shirt but a boy could be wearing something with a naked girl on it and somehow that’s perfectly fine. Male and female students should be more focused on their school-work or whatever they are learn-

ing than paying attention to somebody’s outfit. Girls shouldn’t have to completely hide their body just because a boy in class can’t control himself and do what he’s supposed to do in class. Boys should be able to respect a girl enough to not stare at her body; of course, there are times when the rules apply to a girl and they need to be dress coded because there are limits, but at times it seems that girls get dress coded for pointless reasons that should not be affecting anyone. Boys also should be dress coded as much as girls when it’s deserved.

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