




Robert Andrew Millikan High School 2800 Snowden Avenue Long Beach, CA 90815		Volume LVIII http://lbmillikan.schoolloop.com	Issue 3 December 2013
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The Show Goes On: Splendor in the Grass

By Daniel Evans-Nakamura
Staff Editor

Millikan’s drama department performed this year’s fall play ‘Splendor in the Grass’ to an ecstatic audience in the auditorium from Nov. 21-23. Based upon the Oscar-award winning 1961 film of the same name, ‘Splendor in the Grass’ is a romantic drama that takes place in pre-Depression Kansas. The play’s central characters are Deanie Loomis (played by Molly St. Pierre), and her boyfriend Bud Stamper, (played by Zach Sanchez) who is the son of one of the wealthiest families in a small town before. Their relationship comes to an abrupt end, causing Deanie and Bud to continue their respective lives apart from each other. “The play is about love,” St. Pierre says. “Everyone

has lived through this story. Two kids are forced with a hard decision that forces them to go through hard times.” Sanchez echoes the sentiment, adding, “The characters have a hard time being themselves in their relationships because of influences from their parents.” QUEST senior Austin Fresh plays Deanie’s mother and de-

room was flooded last summer. “‘Splendor in the Grass’ was intended to be shown in the Black Box Theatre,” says Wendy Atwell, drama instructor. The Black Box Theatre was part of the drama room. “I would prefer the show be in the Black Box,” says Atwell, “because it’s an intimate show. You need to be able to see the expressions on [the actors’] faces. In the auditorium, this is harder to accomplish. So we went with a very simplistic, minimal set so we could let our performers drive the plot forward.” Despite unplanned adjustments that had to be made prior to opening night, the audience enjoyed the play and complimented the strong skills possessed by all of the actors. For exclusive backstage photos and video interviews, visit Corydon Plugged In on the Millikan Website.



PHOTO BY DANIEL EVANS-NAKAMURA
COMPASS seniors Zach Sanchez and Molly St. Pierre perform their lead roles in Splendor in the Grass.

New High Schools Come to Long Beach

New Site to Be Similar to CAMS

By Charles Blanchard
Staff Editor

Hill Middle School will begin to transition into a new CAMS (The California Academy of Math and Science) High School. According to LBUSD, the district has decided to phase out Hill Classical Middle School over a three-year period. The current CAMS, on the Cal. State Dominguez Hills campus admits only 175 students per grade out of the 1000 that apply every year. Only incoming ninth graders can apply due to the rigorous curriculum. Creating another CAMS close to CSULB has some benefits. Students will be able to use the college nearby for advantages that other high schools may not have had. CAMS stu-

dents, for example, are able to learn in college-level labs and earn 22 units of college credit by the time they graduate. Millikan principal, Jeffrey Cornejo is not worried about them taking away too many top students. “QUEST is offered as a GATE program, but still allows students to do extracurricular activities and have an academic life. CAMS is less extracurricular and more academics.” Dr. Cornejo, whose son attended CAMS, said the hardest part of having a child who attends CAMS is that you have to go all over So Cal for group projects. The new location will also allow more students to attend, including those who may not have been able to go to the original CAMS due to transportation hardships.

Browning Breaks Ground Summer of 2014

By Daniel Evans-Nakamura
Staff Editor

LBUSD plans to continue its school expansion with the establishment of another new high school. Richard Browning High School is planned for Signal Hill, at the corner of Redondo Avenue and Hill Street. Construction is to begin Summer 2014. Browning will follow a similar blueprint set forth by McBride High School, another new campus that began accepting freshmen just this year. Both McBride and Browning are smaller high schools, built for 800-1000 students, compared to the 4,000+ students that attend each of Long Beach’s existing traditional high schools. Until now, the last new high school to open in Long Beach was Cabrillo, 18 years ago. Like McBride, Browning will be based upon three career pathways, similar to the smaller learning communities that are already in place at schools across Long Beach. McBride’s pathways include criminal justice and investigation, engineering, and medicine. Students who enter these pathways take electives that are designed to prepare them for careers in the related fields. Browning’s pathways are designed to prepare high school students for careers in tourism, hospitality, and recreation. These areas were chosen due to local demand for jobs in those areas, as reported in the Press-Telegram. Long Beach’s second largest employment sector is hospitality, which is a major part of the Browning High School project. “The proximity of the school to the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles makes it a good location for internships in the tourism industry,” says Vivien Hao, LBUSD communications director, in the Press Telegram article. “The school is being designed for those career paths,” she says.



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Dear Editor

Sushi-Kara Rolls Up Flavor

The restaurant review section is something I always find interesting. Frank Carrillo covers all the info you need to know about these restaurants. I don't even like seafood but reading his review made me want to try it.

Juan Gutierrez
Grade 11

Millikan Welcomes Michele Mize

The article was a nice way to introduce Millikan to a new teacher. It was probably a transition for her to come to a new school and not know very many people, but the article was a nice way to allow people a chance to get to know her.

Sara Foster
Grade 12

Alone With Your Smartphone

I found this article ingenious. It is the type of article that will make people talk. And since it's about lack of depth in modern communication, it is a perfect fit. We hate to be seen as vulnerable, so we push away from intimacy, scared of what could come of it. We then still seek intimacy subconsciously and settle for self-promotion. If people embraced the quality of friendship we deserved, we would be so much more content with our lives.

Kameko Rios
Grade 12

Water Polo Triumphs Over Moore League

This article gave the mens water polo team the praise and recognition it deserves. I know many people on the water polo team and I know they have worked hard to get where they are now. The team has dedicated countless hours to practice and training. Best of luck to our team as we strive for the Moore League title.

Stephanie Hammond
Grade 12

Corydon Staff



Corydon (Kor'iden) n. In pastoral literature a name for a shepherd or rustic

Now in Our 58th Year of Publication

The Great Common Application Catastrophe

By Michelle Sahlin
Staff Editor

As December rolls in and seniors are scurrying to send their college application to that one dream school, the least of their worries should be, *I hope my application sends!* However, because of this year's new version of the Common Application, (a non-profit company which send college applications to numerous private schools across the world), many students, recommenders, and even the Common App staff themselves have become extra anxious over the upheaval that the company's website is causing for applicants. This fall, for the Class of 2014, the Common App initiated a "new and improved" version of the college submission website, hoping to make the college ap-

plication process more efficient for both students and those who recommend them. But what the Common App failed to do is test their product. Consequently, a plethora of system glitches infested the website, causing unneeded stress to seniors and their recommenders. Seniors applying for early action to colleges opened the Common App browser and were bombarded with technical difficulties right away. "A main problem I ran into was that the system did not accept some of my teacher recommendations, and I had to mail them in to the schools," said Alison Pirie, a Millikan senior. Not only were the applicants facing problems, teachers and counselors had setbacks as well. Pamela Cathcart, English co-department chair, stated, "I didn't have the right software for the

new system so I couldn't open it. But once it worked, the new Common App is simple both for the recommender and student." With the Common App staff flustered by the commotion as they rushed to fix the malfunctions, colleges were not impressed. Cornell's associative vice provost for enrollment, Jason Locke stated in *Forbes* magazine, "I've been a supporter of the Common App, but in this case, they've really fallen down." Hidden beneath all the complaints and chaos however lies a solution. Many seniors may not know that the colleges on the Common App, such as Chapman University, Boston University, and Columbia University, are aware of the problems their prospective students are facing and have extended their deadlines for early action students.

Scott Anderson, the Common App senior director for policy, assured students and recommenders on the Common App website that they are "committed to resolving these issues promptly." With this, the Common App updated their Help Center on the website, answering many of the common problems applicants and recommenders are facing. The Common App should be ready for regular admissions. As Scott Anderson added, "I think we have addressed the major issues that [applicants] are seeing." Although seniors may feel stressed beyond compare, they should stay calm, avoid procrastination, and remember that colleges and the Common App group are aware and are working to fix these problems. This should keep seniors level-headed and excited for college submission season.

Black Friday Becomes Gray Thursday

By Hector Renteria
Staff Editor

Black Friday is traditionally held the day after Thanksgiving. However, this year, it was on Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is the one uniquely American holiday to spend with your family. That's the main reason people celebrate it (other than gobbling down as much food as they can.) Not all stores opened on Thanksgiving, though. Marshall's, Trader Joe's, TJ Maxx, Costco, and Home Depot did

not participate in the event. But big names such as Target, WalMart, Best Buy, and Macy's opened on Thanksgiving Day. Target was open from 8 to 11 p.m. Thursday night, and was opened until 11 p.m. Friday night. When the weekend shopping ended, major retail sales rose 2.3 percent (\$12.3 billion). Average shoppers spent \$407 compared to \$423 last year. The total amount spent was \$57 billion, according to the National Retail Federation. People are already calling

Thanksgiving "Gray Thursday". Maybe the folks who work at those stores for \$7 an hour would rather spend the holiday with their families. After all, if they worked three hours Thanksgiving night, would the \$21 really be worth it to them? It was certainly worth it for the commercial giants, though, and they're the ones who make all of the rules too. But also we can choose not to shop at stores such as WalMart where greed is more important than family and reclaim Thanksgiving for the holiday it was intended to be.

All About Eggnog

By Danielle Pulido
Staff Editor

It's that time of year again. Time to break out the eggnog and fruit cake. But do you ever wonder why we eat these festive foods for just one season? Eggnog, for example has a particularly interesting history. According to Frederick Opie, a professor at Babson College in Massachusetts, eggnog has its roots in British aristocracy. "In the winter, the wealthy would drink warm milk and egg beverages seasoned with pricey spices such as ground nutmeg and cinnamon and expensive liquors like brandy and sherry to keep it from spoiling," he says. Eggnog is an easy and inexpensive drink to prepare for the holidays. Chef Alton Brown of Food Network has created a tasteful way to do it. First, take four egg yolks and beat them until they lighten in color. Gradually add one-third cup of sugar and continue to beat it until it is completely dissolved. Next, place four egg whites in the bowl of a stand mixer and beat to soft peaks. With the mixer still running, gradually add one tablespoon of sugar and beat until stiff peaks form. Then, whisk the egg whites into the mixture. Lastly, chill and serve.

What Happened to Thanksgiving?

By Caitlyn Richard



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The Corydon encourages its readers to submit letters of commentary on any school issue. We reserve the right to edit letters for content or space. All letters must be signed with the writer's full name and grade level and sent to Room 833. The Corydon is also available on the Millikan website: www.lbmillikan.schoolloop.com

Goodbye STAR Tests, Hello Smart Balance

By Charles Blanchard
Staff Editor

Standardized testing is something most students don't enjoy, and this year most students will take fewer of them.

The State of California agreed to replace the STAR test with a computerized version known as Smarter Balanced Testing. These new and improved tests will challenge students with college and workplace questions, according to the California Department of Education.

The new state exams are based on the Common Core State Standards, which are meant to reflect the real world. Forty-five other states have modified their tests to fit this format.

According to Jean Davis, co-chair for Millikan's math department,

the test will also be digital and requires a student to record their answers on a computer.

This new way to test students can be compared to a videogame. For instance, when an answer is correct, you will be given a harder question. When the answer is incorrect, a question like the previous one will appear.

The new tests will be put into place in the 2014-2015 school year.

However this year, juniors will take the Early Assessment Program (EAP), which allows the CSU's to determine college readiness in math and English.

Sophomores will still take the California High School Exit Exam, (CAHSEE). Freshmen and seniors will not take any state tests this year.

The new testing for-

mat has brought new concerns. Among them is the technology required to administer the tests.

"The test is computer based," Davis says, "but there are not enough computers for everyone to take it."

The testing will also take much more time to complete, according to Davis. "STAR tests took about two days last year, and this will take about two months. One class will go into the labs, then another, then another."

Students may have a hard time adjusting to the new test since it is the first time they have taken a test of this format.

In the first year, new tests will not affect the school's Academic Performance Index, which measures yearly academic growth in schools. In subsequent years, they will affect our API.

FRANK WITH FOOD

A Cheesy Review



By Frank Carrillo
Staff Editor

The savory pepperoni lays perfectly on top of the warm, melted cheese tastes just as good as it looks.

Portofino's Pizzeria and Deli Restaurant serves a variety of delicious Italian-inspired food.

There are dining tables inside as well as *al fresco*. When you walk in the dining room, you can feel the casual vibe and cleanliness of the establishment.

The menu offers a variety of traditional Italian food. The warm garlic bread with a bit of pesto on

top serves as a great appetizer.

The various types of calzones are a favorite for anyone. Meat Lovers, Combo, or the Portofino Calzone are all good choices.

Vegetarian? Have one of the various meatless choices, including the vegetarian Calzone and Melissa's Vegetarian Pizza.

Portofino's offers a wide variety of choices of toppings, ranging from your good pal pepperoni to the seldom used artichoke and eggplant. The dough is homemade and once you take a bite of it you can tell. There's no shortage of

cheese either.

The first bite of the pizza is one to remember. The combination of the authentic dough, generous amounts of cheese, and your favorite flavors will have you rethinking your life, wondering, *Why have I not had a slice of this pizza sooner?*

Portofino is located at 5900 E. Spring Street, just a short walk from Millikan.

Delivery is within the Millikan neighborhood, and you can call (562) 429-2600 to order your favorite pizza, calzone, or other delicious dishes off of their menu.

¡Hola, Señorita Sanchez!



PHOTO BY: JADE-ERIN HARGROVE

New teacher Jeanette Sanchez feels at home at Millikan.

By Jade-Erin Hargrove
Staff Reporter

Say hello to a new Spanish teacher, Jeanette Sanchez in Room 904. She was a born and raised in Long Beach and this is her first year officially teaching here at Millikan. However, she isn't as new as we think.

She actually attended Millikan and graduated in the Class of '01. She served as a long-term substitute teacher for four years before being offered a permanent position on the staff.

While she attended Millikan as a student, she was very active, determined, and successful.

She was in an SLC geared toward science and math—similar to the

GREEN Academy—and knew she was destined for higher education. She became the first of her family to graduate from college.

Sanchez attended CSULB and earned her credential to teach history, but after teaching in Spanish, she decided to be an educator of her native language.

She is also working on her Master's degree in education from CUI (Concordia University, Irvine).

"Dr. Cornejo's saying 'Once a Ram, always a Ram,' is true," Sanchez says. "I couldn't go anywhere else but Millikan because there's no place like home. I love the diversity of our campus. Not just the students, but the staff as well. It really

gives you a sense of community."

When asked about her hopes and wishes for her students, she said, "I really am here for my students. I just want to see them succeed."

Her students *must* succeed because there was nothing but positivity about her.

Sam Davis, PEACE junior, said, "I really like her because she gives me a fair chance at Spanish."

Benjamin Fisch, QUEST junior, stated, "She's the best teacher ever!"

When asked what motivates her, Sanchez said, "Motivation? To think I'm making a difference in my students." Millikan gained a fantastic new teacher.

2014 Winter Formal Will Be Like 'Heaven on Earth'

By Victoria Lahney
Editor-in-Chief

Winter Formal will be held on Saturday, February 1 at the Hilton located on West Ocean Boulevard in Long Beach.

The dance starts at 8 p.m. and ends at 11:50 p.m.

The price for tickets start at \$50 from December 16- January 17. The price goes up to \$60 on January 20. The final ticket price is \$70 from January 27.

Contracts are now available in the Activities Office, Room 643. In order to attend the event, the contract must be taken to the attendance office,

the banker, the library and then to the administrator to be cleared.

This year's theme will be 'Heaven on Earth.' Formal attire is required and it is important to dress appropriately.

Tuxedos are not required for male students but are recommended, along with coats and ties.

Elegant dresses are recommended for ladies. Dresses that show bare midriffs, deep cleavage or open backs that fall below the waist are not allowed.

If a student fails to follow the dress code, they will be sent home with no refund. For more about the dress code, check the con-

tract.

No one will be admitted into the dance after 10 p.m. and no one will be allowed to leave before 11 p.m. Once a student leaves the dance, there is no readmittance.

Millikan is the only school in the Long Beach school district that calls the parents if a student arrives later or departs earlier than the designated times.

Winter formal is for all Millikan students in grades 9-12 and their guests. Each student can invite one guest from another school or a graduate as long as Mrs. Stevens-Chapman approves the guest.



Soccer Season Kicks Off, Rams on a Roll

By Danielle Pulido
Staff Editor

Boys Soccer

The boys began their season on Dec.3 against North Torrance. Millikan won with a score of 6-0.

In their most recent game, Millikan tied against South East with a score of 0-0.

The boys team had a strong season last year, coming in first in Moore League.

Coach Rod Petkovic expects this season to be a successful one as well, despite the loss of many team members.

“We lost 21 players from last year’s team,” Petkovic says. “We have very hard and determined new members on the team this year.”

Team captains include Nathan Martin, Michael Quinn, Rodrigo Castellanos, and Jesus Vargas. Returning players include Muny Chan, Rey Angulo, Alfredo Juarez, Brendan Werstine, Carlos Alas, and David Guerrero.

Girls Soccer

The girls soccer team kicked off their season against Huntington Beach on Nov. 26. Millikan lost against them

0-1 and tied against Mayfair, 1-1 so far in the season.

The girls team is coached by Tino Nunez who was a graduate of Millikan in 2002. He has won numerous soccer championships from CIF to NCAA. He spent the last two seasons training the girls team and was chosen to head the team.

Nunez is excited this season and believes he can help lead the girls to new heights. Nunez said, “I feel Millikan can compete. Now it’s about winning. With the new coaching staff, the girls have coaches that believe in them.”

Captain Bianca Moncada-Martinez describes Coach Nunez as someone with determination

and dedication.

“He knows what he wants, how to get it, and takes the time to explain it to each one of us,” she says. “With his passion and persistence, he makes you want to try harder, run faster, and above all, be a better player.”

In addition, Coach Gabe also leads the girls team and is described as a committed and hard-working coach.

“He allows us to make mistakes so we can learn from ourselves and reflect on personal strengths and weaknesses as players,” says Moncada-Martinez.

“He gives us credit when we do extraordinary [work], and

nothing less, and he always has an honest approach about everything.”

Moncada-Martinez also expresses her love and dedication to soccer. To her, the most important thing to have when playing soccer is to have heart.

“If you don’t play with heart, then you’re not playing. You’re just running around, going through the motions without any feeling,” she states.

“But if you do, then you go through every tackle, you’re always hungry for the ball, always looking to support or slip through or score. It’s amazing to watch and even more so to experience.”

Millikan Wrestling Duals Begin

By Frank Carrillo
Staff Editor

The sweat drips off their foreheads as the coaches shout at them to keep going.

Millikan’s wrestling team is renowned for its many Moore League titles and CIF championships.

At Western High School on Nov. 26, JV participated in a dual meet that had teams from Warren, Santa Fe, and Western high schools.

Although Millikan beat Warren and Western, they lost to Santa Fe. Millikan took home the 2nd place trophy.

Every year in early December, Millikan hosts the Millikan Duals, one of the longest dual meets of the season.

This event has teams from various schools and lasts for two days.

This year, on Dec. 6 and 7, at the Millikan Duals, Warren High School ended up winning first place in varsity.

However, many wrestlers from Millikan got 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals for their individual weight classes as well as many other high schools at all levels.

Zain Ali, varsity wrestler, lives by the adage: “Pain is tem-

porary, but success is forever.”

“Wrestling is the toughest sport that I have ever experienced,” says Alexis Gomez, varsity wrestler. “It takes dedication and really makes you work.”

Pamela Perez explains that the girls on the team were recently made into an actual team after wrestling with the guys.

“Girls on the team are more than just wrestlers because they are there to prove that girls can be just as strong and skillful in the sport,” she says. “Wrestling is both mental and physical strength and the girls are there to prove that we can accomplish that.”



Varsity player Reggie Pope (left) dribbles the ball while his teammate, Jake Beaver (middle), blocks an opponent.

Mad for Millikan Basketball

By Danielle Pulido
Staff Editor

Michelle Sahlin
Staff Editor

Millikan boys basketball season took off on Nov. 14 with the frosh-soph, JV, and varsity teams hosting a night of blasting music, great prizes, and basketball games at an event called Millikan Madness.

“Basketball fans should look forward to seeing us play,” varsity player Reggie Pope (#24) stated. “We have a unique kinship that sets us apart from other teams and I think we can win a CIF championship this year because our coaches have prepared us to succeed.”

Girls Volleyball Served Up a Great Season

By Jade Hargrove
Staff Reporter

Megan Honey
Staff Reporter

despite all the injuries that occurred.

From playing this season, Cox said she gained patience and the determination to complete a task.

After months of dedication and hard work, the girls volleyball season came to a close at 6-6.

Varsity finished fourth in Moore League and their ranking went up over 100 spots in California.

“The season brought the team together,” said varsity co-captain Kyra Cox,

According to varsity co-captain Lauren Miller, their spirit is what makes the team stand out. “We always come out [with team spirit]” she says.

“In the end of the season, we did well and gained a lot of skill and trust,” said Mariel Turner, JV team member.





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