

# CORYDON

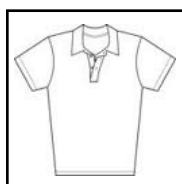
Cor - y - don (Kor/iden) *noun.* in pastoral literature, a name for a shepherd or rustic

## 56 Years of Publication

Robert Andrew Millikan High School  
2800 Snowden Avenue Long Beach, CA 90815

Volume LVI  
[www.lbschools.net/millikan](http://www.lbschools.net/millikan)

Issue 5  
February 2012



**Why Do We Wear Uniforms?**

Page 2



**Tuition Costs Affect College Decisions**

Page 3



**Rams Wrestling to Lock Up More Wins**

Page 4



PHOTO BY KAITLYN MARTINSON

### GLITZ AND GLAM ON THE DANCE FLOOR

While having the time of their lives, seniors Emily Henderson and Rachel Dennison, along with junior Katherine Zofrea, danced the night away at Winter Formal on Saturday, Jan. 28 at the Rose Center in Westminster. Halfway through the event, junior Victor Picazo was crowned king and junior Velveth Alarcon as queen.

## Aid for Out of Work Teachers

By Joyce Ramos  
*Staff Reporter*

Normally pink is a color meant to invoke softness and comfort. Yet, this same color happens to be the hue of a letter no teacher wishes to see in his or her hands. It's called a pink slip.

Unfortunately, last year, nearly 800 teachers received lay-off notices (or pink-slips) based on seniority, due to the education budget crisis occurring in California.

The Long Beach Unified School District and California State University, along with private sponsors, decided to help by initiating the Alternative Induction Pathway program.

The program is designed to help newly unemployed teachers complete the required classroom field work to receive their clear credential without paying any fee for the tuition.

The beginning teachers complete the field work by teaching in a mentor teacher's class room for 60 hours over the course of an entire school year. During this time, they also submit as-

sessments, participate in online discussion boards, and compile a portfolio of documents.

In addition, the program provides LBUSD workshops and seminars to aid teachers as well.

The coordinator for LBUSD's Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment department, Lori Grace says, "Many of the participating teachers, who were discouraged and unsure where to turn after being laid off, have expressed deep appreciation for this opportunity to remain engaged in the profession."

Millikan journalism co-advisor, Courtney Bonner, who is currently participating in the program says, "I'm grateful for the experience. Long Beach is the first district to do this kind of program and they're doing the best they can under the circumstances."

The Alternate Induction Pathway program will continue to open doors for teachers and give them the opportunity to receive the preparation necessary for their full credential.

## Millikan Mourns Loss of Crystal Hammock

By Chelsi Harris  
*Staff Reporter*

Millikan deeply feels the loss of special-education para-educator Crystal Hammock, who passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 12.

She leaves behind two sons, Joseph and Jacob Norman, and two grandchildren, who were her world.

Colleagues of Ms. Hammock described her as a hard worker with a sweet, gentle spirit.

"Working with her brought about such a wonderful atmosphere. We were unified and had each other's backs," says Quentella Hale, one of Ms. Hammock's closest friends.



"She was my confidant and like a mom to me, a family member. It was such a pleasure working with her," Javier Arvalo stated.

Services for Ms. Hammock were held Tuesday, Jan. 24 at Calvary Church in Long Beach.



PHOTO BY AMIRA LATIF

### MADSEN NATIONAL CONTEST WINNER OF iPad 2

Emily Knowles was met with much surprise and happiness as she learned that she attained second prize, an iPad 2, in a contest created by the German band MADSEN. They played at Millikan on Nov. 8, 2011. The contestants were supposed to create either a picture or video that relates to the band. People nation wide entered and Knowles was one of the few to win. First prize was a trip to Germany, second prize was an iPad 2, and third prize was an iPod gift card.

**CAHSEE Testing for  
10th Grade—Special Schedule  
*February 7 and 8***







## Tuition Costs Affect College Decisions

By Jeanette Ramirez  
Staff Editor

Palms are sweating and fingers are shaking as graduation approaches. The class of 2012 is now beginning to feel the pressure of the future.

Many seniors have spent their afternoons applying for colleges and scholarships—which causes one to wonder how they could possibly continue this process day after day and still keep up with their schoolwork.

The constant worry that preoccupies most seniors is deciding what college gives them the best options.

According to the National

Center for Education Statistics, there are 629 four-year public colleges, 1,845 four-year private colleges and 1,666 2-year public and private colleges. That makes 4,140 institutions in the United States from which to choose.

It is important to know that when choosing colleges, out-of-state schools require higher GPAs and test scores. Costs and tuition are higher, too.

When asked how much sophomore Amy Gonzalez believed colleges charged for tuition, she responded, “I don’t know--about \$340 a month?”

In fact, public four-year colleges charge an average of \$8,244 and full-time out-of-state tuition

averages \$12,526. Private non-profit four-year colleges charge, on average, \$28,500 per year in tuition and fees. Public two-year colleges charge at least \$2,963 per year in tuition and fees.

In-state tuition is typically half the amount of out-of-state tuition. It is assumed that your parents, as tax payers, contribute to funding public education.

Private schools, however, are not funded by the state; they receive funds from donations, awards, and tuition paid by the students.

To help students afford the pricier costs, private schools also give out larger-sum scholarships and loans.



PHOTO BY ANNA LEÓN

### MILLIKAN PLACES IN SPEECH COMPETITION

Junior Marlena Trafas assumes the role of J.K. Rowling while practicing for a speech competition on Wednesday, Jan. 11. Trafas took 1st Place in Oratorical Interpretation with her exuberant interpretation of J.K. Rowling’s Harvard Commencement Speech. freshman Sophie Berg, juniors Allison Michel and Andres Lopez also placed at the competition.

## Engineering Club Comes to Millikan

By Rosanna Ly  
Staff Editor

QUEST senior Brian Leon has created the first ever engineering club at Millikan. The club is fairly new and has a wide variety of students.

“I decided to create an engineering club because I am truly interested in becoming an engineer,” said Leon. “I thought an engineering club would be the

perfect way to learn more about this field while having some fun with others.”

The club’s goal for this year is to provide knowledge in different areas of engineering by competing with each other in a wide variety of projects.

Proposed projects include propelled rockets, tooth pick bridges, cardboard boats, mouse trap cars, and miniature hot air balloons. Teams of four people

will compete with the other teams for bragging rights and, possibly, prizes.

“This club is about getting to know others who are interested in the field of engineering as well as to just have fun competing in a wide variety of lab games,” says Edgar Mendoza.

Sponsored by Physics teacher Tracey Herrera, meetings are held in Room 811 during lunch, every Wednesday.

## Unemployment Helps to Fuel Education

By Amira Latif  
Staff Editor

We all know that unemployment brings hardships: tight budgets, failing economy, fewer jobs. But it also has what can be called a benefit--an increase in college graduates.

According to the Bureau of US Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate today is 8.5 percent, a great drop from the 10 percent rate it was in 2009.

Still, as workers become unemployed and businesses begin closing their doors, pursue paths to supporting themselves: education.

QUEST and PEACE juniors Adriana Barreto and Kassandra Ortiz-Lopez explain that “if we don’t compete and pursue a better college education, we’ll be hindering our future, especially with the high unemployment rates today.”

CNBC also showed that when the job market starts to crumble, the unemployed go back to school to become more employable after graduation.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the unemployment

rate for those without a high-school diploma is 14.2 percent, while those with a college degree it is 4.2 percent.

The great influx of the unemployed is creating a huge pool of applicants for universities and colleges, making the entrance to college more competitive than ever.

Yet economists say that this generation is the first to face a future worse than the generation before it.

Junior Allison Michel comments on how the current economy is influencing her pursuit of an education. She explained that no matter how high the tuition hike is in college, she will apply to universities because of the increase in competitiveness in the job market.

“I want to be in control of my future and the economy is not going to take that chance away from me,” Michel stated.

It’s the educated who will be able to earn and support themselves. So, if you were underestimating the power of education, think twice and think about the future.



ONLINE course

**\$55 OFF**

COUPON CODE: ( ODE15 )

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS AND ATM CARDS ACCEPTED

**DON'T WAIT ANY LONGER**

Take advantge of our

**ONLINE DRIVERS EDUCATION PROGRAM!**

LOG ON AND CHECK OUT OUR MONTHLY SPECIALS!

**www.AbTeenDrivingAcademy.com**

**714-379-6711**

**1-2-3 Easy steps to Driver Education**



- 1- Enroll in our Online Course
- 2- Complete the Course at Home
- 3- Receive Certificate of Completion in mail



**DMV Approved**

Members of DSAC  
(Driving School Association of California)





**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK**



