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56 Years of Publication

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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 layoff 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 coadvisor, 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.

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Dear Editor

Canned Food Drive Feeds Needy Families

The canned food drive article touched me because it really shows how our community can come together and help families that struggle paying for food. It's good to see how Millikan can be involved and really contribute to the community.

Joshua Streeter Grade 12

Keep It Clean and We'll Wear Jeans

I think that if students want to wear jeans the they should read this article and start to clean up their trash.

Just like the article says, "It's a win-win situation for everyone." The picture really shows that it is not okay to just leave trash on the ground. Many people complain about the birds but there would not be so many if people picked up their own trash.

Kathleen Nelson Grade 11

Coach Diego Leaves Football

It's nice to have had a coach who cares more about his players than winning. I think if there were more coaches who felt that way it would make that sport more enjoyable.

Although the last two years weren't the best for football, overall Coach Diego made a difference in his players' lives.

I liked that the article was about Coach Diego and what he was about instead of counting his wins and losses.

Rick Tapia Grade 12

A Season of Christmas Giving

I really liked how the season of giving article showed that while we are complaining about how we won't have a great Christmas year if we don't get certain things or go out to certain places, there are homeless children who have it much worse than us.

I like how the article outlined the idea of helping them, so they can at least have something of their own this Christmas.

Deira Lacanaria Grade 11

Why Do We Wear School Uniforms?

By Anna León Staff Reporter

It was a chilly morning as I walked to school dressed in my warmest attire. As I approached the front gate an administrator stopped me. "Excuse me, can you please give me your I.D., Miss?" he asked.

Apparently my cream-colored sweater was not white enough to be in accordance with the school uniform policy.

For students in general, these new policies are particularly infuriating. They include, but are not limited to: no stripes, no khaki on top, and no gold/yellow pants.

Most students, including myself, did not plan on revamping our school uniform wardrobe for this year.

Why does Millikan, a public school, have a uniform policy at

all'

Uniform rules date back to 1996 when President Bill Clinton visited Long Beach to praise LBUSD's efforts in requiring public school uniforms. Clinton said at the time that the uniform policy was making schools "safer, drop in crime in elementary and middle school students during its first year. This was exactly the outcome the school officials had hoped for, and because of Long Beach's success other districts around the country followed suit.

According to Dr. Cornejo,

"You can choose Millikan, but you have to choose to wear uniform," Cornejo says.

more disciplined and orderly, freeing teachers to focus on teaching and students to focus on their job of learning."

The LA Times, which reported the story, said that LBUSD had the first mandatory school uniform policy in the country and demonstrated success with a 36 percent

Millikan first instituted the uniform policy about eight years ago.

It was done one grade level at a time. At first parents fought the uniform policy saying it wasn't fair, but Millikan ultimately won the battle. "You can choose Millikan, but you have to choose to wear uniform," Cornejo says.

Principal Daley sees the uniform as the equivalent of an adult dressing for work. "When students dress for a school day, they know it's a work day." When asked why she chooses to wear a uniform when teachers and administrators are not required to, she replies, "I try to reflect everyone on this campus. I love to show school spirit."

I may not be a supporter of the uniform, but I do support efforts to improve education and lessen violence.

Our school has a uniform policy because studies have shown that it has raised test scores and decreased fighting.

Also, it unites our school through our spirit wear. Due to its success, the uniform is here to stay. However, the complaints will always remain.

Opinions On HPV Vaccine Vary

By Jeanette Ramirez Staff Editor

You may see smiling girls on information guides and frilly pink posters advertising parents to vaccinate their daughters against HPV. In the near future, you may see these ads for young men as well

In late October of last year, a federal government advisory committee recommended that males ages 11 to 21 be vaccinated against HPV—a virus that has been found to cause cancer among young men and women.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) young teens can be injected with the vaccine as early as nine years old. In a vote using 13 people, 12 voted in

favor of recommending that 11-and-12-year-old boys be vaccinated. The results were the same for vaccinating 22 to 26 year olds.

Although Dr. S. Michael, clinical professor of pediatrics at the University of Southern California, believes that the

recommendations are valid, they would cost \$38 million. Another lead researcher in developing the HPV vaccination, Dr. Diane M. Harper says that giving the vaccine to 11-year-olds is "a great big public health experiment."

Texas Governor Rick Perry recently issued an executive order requiring the HPV vaccination for girls entering the sixth grade in the state of Texas. Perry faced harsh criticism for his ideals, especially after Representative Michelle Bachman claimed that an anonymous woman told Bachman that her daughter "suffered mental retardation as a result of the vaccine"

Some believe that the HPV vaccination encourages promiscuity. In their minds, mandating vaccinations is like handing out condoms and motel room keys to students; in their minds, it is a huge temptation. However, the vaccination has nothing to do with morality or sexual lewdness. It is simply a health issue.

"Not too long ago, having AIDS had everyone assume you were gay. With HPV, some might think you are promiscuous. But unlike AIDS, there is a cure," comments Oscar Rodriguez, junior. "I think vaccinating yourself and staying alive outweighs any ridicule one might have."

At least 50 percent of sexually active adults will contract the virus. The Guttmacher Institute reported

that 13 percent of 15-year-olds have had vaginal sex. By 19, the amount rises to 70 percent. This is why experts say that it is essential to immunize people before they become sexually active.

Based on those facts, it is safer to vaccinate teens at an earlier age because the vaccine is less effective after a person is sexually active.

HPV vaccines are 89 percent effective against anal cancer in males. The vaccine does not protect against all HPV viruses that cause cancer—it is only effective against 70 percent of cervical cancers. It is not a cancer vaccine, or cure either.

But Gardasil, a vaccine used in the prevention of certain types of HPV, protects against genital warts and anal, vaginal, vulvar, and oral cancers, all of which are associated with HPV, according to the disease agency.

Strange New Years Traditions

By Kaelyn Bruno Staff Editor

Out with the old, in with the new is the common theme of the New Year. However, it's how each and every unique nation celebrates that occasion that makes for a truly special night.

As Americans, it is common to go to a party with good friends, watch Dick Clark count the ball drop, and get that midnight kiss.

That's hardly a strange tradition. For example, in Bolivia, as the clock strikes midnight, people rush to put on yellow underwear over their clothes.

What is the reasoning behind this madness? They believe that by changing into new underwear, their luck will change for the better as well.

Just as crazy, in Denmark they throw dishes out on friends' porch steps. Wouldn't you be mad if you found a big pile of broken plates on your front porch? Well, in Denmark, the more broken china you have on your steps, the more friends you have.

Also, in Puerto Rico, they "wash away" last year's spirit by throwing buckets of water into the streets.

Puerto Ricans clean their homes and redecorate living spaces to start the year anew in addition to washing away last year's spirits.

Even though these foreign traditions seem a bit crazy, one can't help but respect the optimism generated around the world as a new chapter begins this year.

Now in Our 56th Year of Publication

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Cor y don (Kor/iden) n. In pastoral literature a name for a shepherd or rustic

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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

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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-ofstate 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 nonprofit 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



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.

"If we don't compete and

pursue a better college ed-

ucation, we'll be hindering

the high unemployment

rates today."

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 truly interested in becoming an engineer," said Leon. "I thought an engineering club would be the

Members of DSAC

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 engineering club because I am 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.

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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

Still, workers become unemployed and businesses begin closing their our future, especially with doors, pursue paths to support-

2009.

ing 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 highschool 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

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.



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Wrestlers Lock Up More Wins

By Libby Berry Staff Reporter

Wrestling in full spin and the Rams are prepared for it.

Wrestling has been a popular sport throughout history and well liked by Sumerians in ancient Mesopotamia, the Greeks, the Romans, the Egyptians, and Britians in Middle-Ages.

It also adapted into many different styles including Schwingen (Switzerland), Sumo (Japan), and Kurek (Kazakhstan).

Wrestling is one of the most

challenging sports on campus. It requires strength, perseverance, and a strong work ethic. It is also one of the most

successful sports on campus with three CIF Team Champions, 2008 CIF Team Runner-Up, Ten Top-Ten CIF Finishes since 1993, 21 CIF Champions (two State, 4 Masters, 15 Divisional), 85 CIF Medallists (Divisional), 26 Moore League Team Championships, 10 Outstanding Moore League Wrestlers since 1992, and 200 Moore League Champions.

The team is hoping win Moore League and CIF again this year.

Senior wrestler Kevin Gutierrez is looking forward to seeing how far his team can make it with all the work they have done to prepare for season. He says the team stays late every day after school to accomplish their goal of becoming CIF champions. Team member Kenny Brewer, senior, says that wrestling is an im-

portant part of his life. "[It] gives me drive in schoolwork, teaches me discipline, and gives me something to work for," he says.

The team has already beat Poly, Cabrillo, Compton, and Lakewood and had six wins and no losses at their last tournament on December 6-7.

The Rams are looking forward to competing at Moore League Finals at Compton High School on Saturday, Feb. 2, and in CIF in San Luis, Obispo the following weekend.

So far wrestling is undefeated in 2012 and they



PHOTO BY JOYCE RAMOS

JV FIGHTS TO THE FINISH

Carissa Villanueva, number 14, maneuvers the ball out of the reach of a Wilson player while contemplating her next pass to one of her teammates. The JV Lady Rams put in all their effort to defend Millikan at the tournament that took place Friday, Jan. 13 in the Gold gym. The scores were close, but Wilson left with a winning score of 45-39. During the game, Millikan JV player number 22, Kayla Si was injured and immediately received medical assistance.

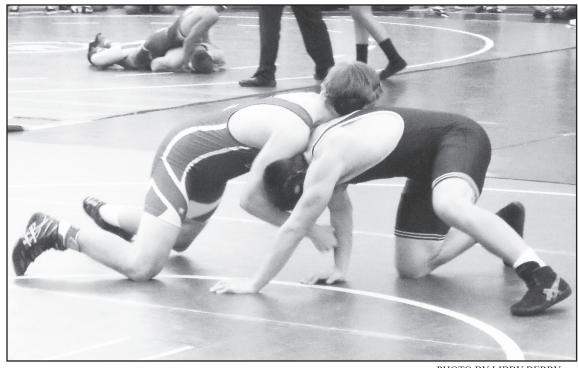


PHOTO BY LIBBY BERRY

Sat. Jan. 28 Millikan hosted the MIT wrestling tournament and clinched winning titles in all weight levels. Schools entered included Millikan, Los Alamitos, Pacifica, Lakewood, as top contenders.

Women's Varsity Water Polo Get Ready to Face Wilson

Sasha Kobliha Staff Reporter

wood on Jan 12 in a heated game hosted by Millikan.

The girls fought valiantly and ended the game with an impressive score of 17 to 3. They

handled the victory courteously and remained level- headed about the substantial win.

When

asked about varsity's game day performance, Coach Roy Contreras commended his team's perseverance. "The girls played a well-rounded game. We have come a long way since the beginning of the season and I hope it translates into league," he said before gathering the girls

together for a poolside speech praising them on a job well done.

"We accomplished what The varsity women's water we practiced and applied what polo team tackled Lake- we learned," said Kylie Vestre, varsity senior. Vestre went on to applaud the team's collective effort, but reiterated there is "always room for improvement."

The Lady Rams later went

on to a close game loss to Poly on Jan. 19 with a score of 13-11. Recently, they defeated the Jordan Panthers with a score

of 20-5, on Jan. 23.

Millikan 17- Lakewood 3

Poly 13- Millikan 11

Millikan 20 - Jordan 5

However, the most anticipated Wilson vs. Millikan game has yet to come on Feb. 9.

If these matches are indicative of the season to come, Millikan's water polo ladies will certainly be bringing their "A" game to every competition.



PHOTO BY SASHA KOBLIHA

Sophomore Emily Knowles, number 4 goes for the ball to make a steal during the Lakewood game on Jan. 12. Knowles was part of the persistent defense played by every Lady Ram this game. Goalie Kayla Smith, let only three goals get by.