



# SAN MARINO HIGH SCHOOL TITAN SHIELD

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## Marching Band Takes First Place



The SMHS Titan Marching Band and Color Guard celebrate after beating out four other schools to claim the highest score throughout the 3A division at the Golden State Fall Classic championship last Saturday, October 27.

*Courtesy of Brandon Yuan*

By Raymond Nhan  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Titan Marching Band and Color Guard won its first competition of the year at the Golden State Field Classic (GSFC) at Wilson High School in Hacienda Heights last Saturday, October 27.

At the GSFC, the band received a score of 68.65 out of 100 for its overall performance, the highest in the entire 3A division. The Color Guard earned a second place finish in the 3A Gold division with a score of 55.9, while the percussion's score of 61.3 was enough for third in the 3A division.

Clarinet Section Leader Senior Hubert Wong put the results in perspective.

"It is great relative to the normal scores at our first competitions. However, this score tells us we are

an okay band, simply average."

He continued, "our band has executed what is necessary, but just necessary isn't enough. The finer points of the show must be perfected in order [for the band] to be rated higher."

The bands at the competition were separated into divisions based on size. With 105 performers on the field, San Marino had almost the maximum number of performers allowed in the 3A division.

While there were five schools in the 3A division, they were divided into two subgroups, Gold and Red, depending on the size of the band. The bands competing received awards in their subgroups and in their division as well. Competing in the Gold division with San Marino was Las Vegas High School, while North High School, Colony High School, and Serrano

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Football Fizzles in First League Loss

By Deryck Wong  
Managing Editor

Due to an unprepared and ineffective run defense, the San Marino Varsity Football team fell to the Temple City Rams, 9-21, in the Titans' third league contest.

"The bottom-line is that when [Temple City Senior Tailback Williams Do] was running, we didn't want to tackle," said Head Coach D.R. Moreland.

In fact, Williams set the tone early when he ran along the left sideline for 74 yards and the touchdown on the Rams' second play of the game.

"We had a mental mistake.

Our defensive end lined up in the wrong spot, and the end result was a 74-yard touchdown," noted Coach Moreland.

Down 0-7 after only one minute of play, San Marino then proceeded to shore up its run defense throughout the rest of the half. After Temple City had moved the ball deep within Titan territory, Sophomore Defensive End Benny Hung made a crucial backfield stop on Williams on second down and four to push the Rams back seven yards. Several plays later, on fourth and six, the San Marino defensive line tipped Junior

*(Continued on page 16)*

## Girls' Tennis Falls Short of CIF

By Ryan Chan  
Sports Editor

The Girls' Varsity Tennis team continued to struggle in singles, losing all nine points in an 8-10 away loss to the Temple City Rams on Tuesday, October 30.

San Marino once again had to vie with a team that boasted a singles lineup that included a ranked player. Leading the way for the Rams' singles was Sophomore #1 Singles Jessie Huang, ranked 54th in Southern California. However, the Lady Titans parlayed with, according to Head Coach Paula Bush, "possibly the three best doubles team in league." Once again, the Lady Titans needed a sweep from their doubles team along

*(Continued on page 15)*



The #3 Doubles team of Freshmen Anya Laibangyang and Tammy Le swept past all three of their Temple City opponents last Tuesday, October 30.

*Justin Quan//TITAN SHIELD*

## Choir Exceeds 'Superior' Rank

By Emily Chang  
News Editor

The SMHS Boys', Girls', and Chamber choirs attended the annual Fresno State University Festival from October 24 to 25.

Approximately 120 choirs attended the festival. The Boys' Choir and Girls' Choir each performed on October 24 and returned the same day. In Choir Director Mr. Howard Cheung's opinion, the Boys' Choir "pulled

an amazing performance." He feels they "were probably the best in the section out of six choirs." The choir performed "Sing Me to Heaven" by Daniel Gawthrop, "Trilogy of Knighthood" by Julie Gardner Bray, and "Loch Lomand", a traditional Scottish Folk Song arranged by Michael Hanawalt.

Mr. Cheung was also "extremely happy," with the Girls' Choir. "They improved a lot, [although they] had a bit of a pitch problem

for one piece." The Girls' Choir sang "Hymn to the Waters" from the Rig-Veda, "Group III" by Gustav Holst, "Tota pulchra es" from Quarter Motets by Maurice Durufle, and "I Thank You God" by Gwyneth Walker.

Chamber Choir left during lunch on October 24 and came back the following day. The choir roomed at University Piccadilly Inn, directly across from the

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Sophomore Defensive End Benny Hung carries the ball through the Temple City defense in the Titans' 9-21 loss on October 26.

*Justin Quan//TITAN SHIELD*

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# ASB Presents First 'Scary' Movie Night

By Peony Khoo  
Managing Editor

For the first time ever, ASB hosted a Movie Night during a fundraiser. The Colonial Kitchen fundraiser began at 6 p.m. on October 30 while the movie, *The Ring*, began showing in the restaurant at 7 p.m.

"We wanted to combine fundraising with Movie Night so people could come to Colonial Kitchen and enjoy a scary movie before Halloween," remarked ASB Service and Academics Commissioner Senior Ariana Basseri.

The Colonial Kitchen fundraiser was already planned when ASB decided to hold a Halloween

Movie Night. However, the only date available was the same night as the Colonial Kitchen fundraiser, so ASB combined the two.

About 50 people attended—a slight increase from the last Colonial Kitchen fundraiser.

"It was about what we expected, so the room was pretty full," stated ASB Fundraising Commissioner Senior Kevin Lin.

ASB selected *The Ring* for Movie Night to get people into the mood for Halloween the following day.

"People got really scared," commented ASB Activities Commissioner Senior Eddie Yang. "It was awesome."

# Students Dress-Up for Halloween Contest



Senior **Christian Yang's** rendition of Economics teacher Mr. David Irie won first place in ASB's Halloween Dress-Up Contest during break on October 31. Other costumes ranged from Jigsaw to Wonderbread. *Courtesy of Flora Huang*

# Band Dominates in First Competition

(Continued from page 1)

High School competed in the Red division.

The bands were judged in the categories of visual performance, music performance, general effect, and field percussion.

At the GSFC, the Titans performed "Mulan," the Marching Band's field show for the 2007 season. Titles in the arrangement include "Honor to Us All," "A Girl Worth Fighting For," "Reflection," and "I'll Make a Man Out of You."

According to Mr. Tony Nguyen, arranger of the band's music this season and drum coach, "the music was the best part" of the band's show. Mr. Nguyen also noted that the "dynamics and making the sound bigger" were important to the Titans' success.

This year, the band has an edge over the competition. Unlike past years, it has incorporated more

props, including a 30-yard replica of the Great Wall of China, an Imperial Palace, and a fight scene between the regular band and the "Huns," band members clad in dark-brown costumes.

The marching band seniors constructed the replica of the Great Wall of China and decorated two scaffoldings as towers a week and a half before homecoming.

Under new coach Ms. Kelly Morrison, the Color Guard also employed more props this year.

"It's actually really fun because we get to use more props. We have fans, we have petals, we have different flags. This year's really interesting," Color Guard Captain Senior Flora Huang commented.

For the first time ever, the band features a solo by a Drum Major, Senior Toby Morris, who plays the trombone to open "Reflection."

According to Mr. Nguyen, "there are a lot of visual and musical elements where [the band

# Art Department Displays Carvings



Seniors **Ashley Delinko** and **Jenny Tyler** enjoy the art students' Jack-O-Lanterns on display in the art classrooms on October 31. *Dennis Su//TITAN SHIELD*

By Yuan-Yuan Lin  
Assistant News Editor

The SMHS art classes unveiled their annual Pumpkin Exhibit in the Art rooms, 501 and 502, during lunch on October 31.

Art Teachers Mrs. Deborah Hart and Ms. Bonnie Hanson organized this event, and students in all art classes participated.

According to Advanced Art student Junior Lisa Sy, the organizers decided to hold this event to encourage the students and faculty to be "more spirited" during Halloween.

To visit the exhibit, students went through a black, light-blocking curtain, and illuminated pumpkins greeted them in the two different art rooms.

The room was dark, except for the lit-up pumpkins.

Prior to carving, students from each art class had to first buy pumpkins, and then come up with three designs.

"The designs can be portraits or other creative pieces," commented Lisa.

After the students came up with three designs, the art teachers provided knives to carve the

pumpkins, and both Mrs. Hart and Ms. Hanson allotted each student two days to complete their project.

"There are no rewards involved in this event, but seeing [the student's] finished pumpkin was an accomplishment," stated Lisa.

"I could not really tell which pumpkins were more advanced, but there were intricate pumpkins and basic pumpkins mixed in together," claimed Senior Annette Cheng.

Additionally, there were decorations hung around the room to "create the spooky setting."

"The decorations were made from paper, and I thought it was very cool," commented Junior Rochelle Hoffman.

Mrs. Hart and Ms. Hanson lit candles in the pumpkins on the day of the exhibit to illuminate the artwork. Some of this year's designs included "the traditional triangular-face design," a pineapple, witches, cats, monster heads, and other creations.

Rochelle concluded, "[This exhibit] was a thumbs-up, and I really enjoyed attending this year's pumpkin exhibit because the experience was worthwhile."

# Band Dominates in First Competition

tries] to get the audience involved" in the show.

San Marino will continue its competition season on Wednesday, November 14, at the Westminster Thirty-First Annual Field Show and, tentatively, will be performing at the Twelfth Annual Moorpark Battle of the Bands on Saturday, November 17.

The SMHS Titan Marching

Band and Color Guard will also perform at halftime at tonight's football game against Monrovia, in what may be the band's last home performance of the year should the football team not qualify for CIF playoffs.

Mr. Nguyen concluded, "this year's band is unique. It will be hard for future years" to compete at the level of this year's band.



Drum Major Senior **Toby Morris** performs his trombone solo for the song "Reflection" during the band competition on October 27. *Courtesy of Nick Ong*

# CLUB BRIEFS

## Key Club

Key Club attended the Los Angeles AIDS Walk on October 21.

Hosted by Project AIDS L.A., the AIDS Walk took place in West Hollywood. It began at 10 a.m. and lasted until 2 p.m. Approximately 30 club members participated in this annual event.

Prior to the AIDS Walk, Key Club's adult counterparts, Kiwanis International, encouraged its members to seek donations from their communities. San Marino Key Club members raised around \$1,000 of the total \$3,905,723 raised by AIDS walk. The proceeds will go to prevention education and leadership on HIV/AIDS-related policies and legislation.

Key Club Sergeant-at-Arms Senior Hubert Wong commented, "I think this year had an amazing turnout. It seems like more and more people attend each year to support the importance of AIDS education and prevention."

On Monday, October 29, Key Club also began the UNICEF coin drive. Students may place donations in the orange boxes in classrooms until November 9 to raise money for underprivileged children in Africa.

On November 10, SMHS Key Club will attend the annual Fall Rally at Six Flags Magic Mountain from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Southern California Key Club divisions will compete against each other and collect donations for charities.

—**Kimberly Nguyen**//  
Assistant Opinion Editor

## PAWS

PAWS attended the Howl'oween Dog Parade on Sunday, October 28, hosted by Haute Dogs at Livingston Park in Long Beach. The club members volunteered from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Members helped pass out flyers, fill water bowls, direct the dogs and owners through the parade route, and set up chairs. "It was a pretty fun experience and I got to see a lot of cute dogs," reflected club member Sophomore Jackie Hackett.

The parade had many different dogs, big and small, dressed up in different costumes. Some owners decorated wagons to carry their dogs and added sound effects or music.

"There was this huge sushi platter with the dogs as the sushi and the owners as the chefs and soy sauce," recalled PAWS Publicity Commissioner Senior Caitlyn Lee.

At least 500 people attended this event, including 17 members of PAWS.

"The turnout this year was great," concluded Caitlyn. "A lot more people came this year than last year."

—**Andrea Chiu**//Assistant  
News Editor

# Choir Stands Out at Fresno Festival



Chamber Choir prepares to begin its performance at the Fresno State University Festival from October 24 to 25. *Courtesy of Kathie Kellogg*

(Continued from page 1)

university.

In Mr. Cheung’s opinion, Chamber Choir had to perform to the “hardest critics” compared to the other levels in the competition. Nonetheless, the choir still received “rave reviews” from the adjudicators.

One of its adjudicators, the famous composer, Z. Randall Stroope, “loved them.” According to Mr. Cheung, Mr. Stroope said he wanted to work with the choir.

At the festival, the ratings ranged from 1-5, with 1 being the highest. Adjudicators were not allowed to use + or -, but Mr. Stroope said he did not know how to differentiate the SMHS Chamber Choir from the others, so he gave them a 1+ in order to distinguish them.

They performed “O Know to End as to Begin” from *The Hour-Glass*, by Irving Fine, “The Pasture No. 2” from *Where the Earth Meets the Sky*, by Z. Randall Stroope, “Fare Thee Well Love” by Jimmy Rankin and arranged by James Quitman Mulholland, and “Sohran Bushi,” a Japanese Folk Song arranged by Osamu Shimizu.

Chamber Choir member Junior

Cathy Chang felt the festival was “interesting because the other choirs had a wide variety of music. Some had eerie chants and monkey howlings. It showed me the different ways music can be expressed.”

Next year, Mr. Cheung expects Chamber Choir to be one of the five choirs invited back for an encore performance because Chamber Choir is “always good and always solid.”

This year, the festival invited the Chamber Choir back for an encore as a result of last year’s performance at the Fresno festival.

Outside of the festival, the Chamber Choir had choral exchanges with Beaucannon High School and Sunnyside High School. During the choral exchange, the two choirs sang their songs for each other.

Every year, Mr. Cheung never compares the current choir with past choirs because of the different kids and different sounds. He is “always proud of what they do.”

The choirs will also perform in the upcoming Holiday Concert on December 6 and 7, Thursday and Friday, at the St. Edmond’s Episcopal Church.

# Mock Interviews Offer Upperclassmen Insight

By Katie Wu  
*Opinion Editor*

To provide prospective college undergraduates with a better perspective on the interviewing process, the Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) of San Marino organized a mock interview event on October 30 at 7 p.m.

The AAC first proposed the event in August, after several interviewers at the head of the organization noticed that many San Marino students had problems with poor articulation and lack of focus when speaking with college representatives. Committee members Mr. Steve Morris, a Harvard alumnus and Dr. Alfredo Sadun of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) volunteered to head a night in which students could gather and observe the process first-hand and receive experts’ perspectives on a variety of interviewee responses.

Mr. Morris, Dr. Sadun, and a

USC Representative, Mr. Paul Ledesma, held the mock interview in the Webb Theatre. Students reviewed a series of three different “types” of interviews: a “bad” scenario, the stereotypical “good” case, and a more unique interaction embodying the “ultimate” interview. Mr. Morris played the prospective student and Dr. Sadun acted as the interviewer. Topics addressed included reasons for the choice of college, extracurricular activities, what the student offered, and future aspirations.

After concluding the mock interviews, students and parents asked questions about the interview process. The panel discussed attire, mistakes commonly made in conference, and particular qualities sought out in students.

“Our students need to understand that sitting quietly during an interview is a huge handicap,” claims Assistant Principal of Guidance and


Instruction Ms. Mary Johnson. “Not all of our students understand that they’re not bragging, and that they’re there for a purpose.”

The hosts emphasized the importance of focused passion and understanding oneself.

Mr. Sadun believes, “We need the students to be interesting, passionate, and different. They should really just be themselves.”

At the end of the evening, students signed up for 20-minute practice interviews to be held at a later date. After answering a series of practice questions, participants will receive a verbal evaluation of their performances.

Overall, the student reaction to the mock interview night was positive; according to Junior Tiffany Liu, the demonstrations taught “proper conduct in both college and job interviews.” If the feedback for the upcoming practice interviews is positive, the event may be scheduled as an annual opportunity.



NOVEMBER 2007

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17

TITAN CALENDAR

4-9	Rivalry Week -	14	Westminster Band
	CLOSED CAMPUS		Competition
7-8	Class Acts	13	Report Card Distribution
12	Veterans Day Holiday -	17	Moorpark Band
	NO STUDENTS		Competition

# SM Shows Support for a Drug-Free Lifestyle

By Emily Chang  
*News Editor*

Every year, San Marino participates in Red Ribbon Week. This year, the event was from October 21 to 27. “It is a week to acknowledge that there is definitely a problem with drugs and substance abuse and to spread awareness,” commented ASB Activities Commissioner Senior Eddie Yang.

National Family Partnership sponsors the National Red Ribbon Week, which began in 1985 when drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered Drug Enforcement Administration agent Kiki Camarena. This began the tradition of displaying Red Ribbons as symbols of intolerance towards the use of drugs. The mission

of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to present a unified and visible commitment towards the creation of a drug-free America.

This year, ASB set up a table where students could pledge to be drug-free by signing the “pledge tree” which was a large poster of a tree set-up in the Architectural Rally Point (ARP). After signing, each student received a red lollipop, a “live smart” bracelet, and a pamphlet about how to talk to friends or siblings who imbibe or use drugs.

Besides offering lunchtime pledges, ASB also hosted an essay contest about why living a drug-free lifestyle is important. The winner will receive a free ticket to the dance of their choice or a \$50 gift certificate of their choice.

Participation in Red Ribbon

Week is not only limited to SMHS. At the elementary schools, Carver and Valentine, students received red lollipops as well. The ASB at Huntington Middle School handed out wristbands and pledge cards to stay drug-free as a way to show their support for Red Ribbon Week.

ASB Vice President Senior Leo Zhu felt Red Ribbon Week was “pretty successful” and ASB’s efforts “caught the students’ attention and made them at least consider for a moment the risk of drugs.”

Partnership for Awareness, a non-profit volunteer organization primarily focused on drug, alcohol, and tobacco awareness and prevention for students, will host an assembly on November 14 at SMHS.

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# Blooming into a Rose Princess

By Connie Chen  
Features Editor

Exceptional personality, grace, and intelligence – those are three main characteristics that differentiate a girl from the rest of the crowd, especially when she is competing against over 1,100 contestants to become a member of the 2008 Rose Court. It takes exactly the right combination of all those ingredients to create a winner. In fact, Senior Courtney Rubin managed to stand out from the rest of the girls vying for the honor of becoming a 2008 Rose Court Princess.

After completing a series of interviews, Courtney discovered she was selected as a finalist, and had the opportunity to attend the ceremony at the Tournament House in Pasadena on October 8. "The interviews were not long; the shortest ones were about one minute," stated Courtney when explaining the process of selection. "It was all about first impression."

First impressions were very important, especially because the competition was much harder this year. Usually, the Tournament of Roses Board selects

25 finalists, but since "the judges thought so many girls were qualified," 33 girls were present on the steps outside the Tournament House on October 8. With the media, friends, and family watching, the judges announced the name of the finalists one by one. When Courtney's name was called first, she recalled she was "genuinely happy."

Now, as a Rose Princess, Courtney is certainly reaping the benefits. From free jewelry from Mikimoto to a whole new wardrobe from Macy's, the sponsors of the Rose Tournament shower the girls with gifts.

However, Courtney believes that her favorite thing about being Rose Princess is forming new friendships with the other winners. "We all share common interests. We have the same hobbies, and we're in similar events and organizations," stated Courtney. "We bonded so much, and I know we're going to have life-long friendships."

Still, becoming Rose Princess is not just fun and games. "My life has been literally turned upside-down," commented Courtney. With almost daily etiquette/model training and appearances at over 150 events, Courtney has to find a balance between her former and present

commitments, which include cheer and band. With not even 105 days from the time of the court announcements to the day of the 2008 Rose Parade, her schedule is often packed with more than one event a day.

However, she sees this as a learning process, to find a way to work around things. "It's all about coordinating with teachers and trying to find a way to fit everything in." In fact, she enjoys the events she attends, which included a visit to the Children's Hospital. "The whole purpose of us being there," stated Courtney, "is to promote the Rose Parade."

Despite her hectic schedule, Courtney does not regret the way things turned out, and believes trying out for this event is "every girl's right of passage, every girl's dream." In fact, Courtney knew ever since she was in fourth grade that she wanted to be a part of the Rose Court. As she and her parents watched the Rose Parade on a street corner, Courtney recalls that she watched the princesses in awe as they passed by on their float, smiling with poise. "I was waving at them and hoping that they would wave back at me. Just seeing them go by inspired me to try out."

Now, Courtney hopes that as a Rose Princess, she can also inspire

other girls with her grace and beauty during the New Year's Day Rose Parade. Because of this, Courtney believes she won "for the right reasons: to inspire some little girl out there."

Even though Courtney was always determined to try out, she never expected to be named a princess. "I knew specifically that I had less than a 1% chance of winning," she explained. In fact, Courtney's parents did not even pressure her, and her mother was uncertain if she should even try out at first. But, as Courtney started passing through to the finals, her mother saw that Courtney really wanted to be part of the competition, and her parents started giving her their full support.

Overall, Courtney is "very grateful to have this opportunity to be a Rose Princess." For her, the most important goal is to represent San Marino and Pasadena in the best way possible because she believes that too many celebrities are setting bad examples for the youth of America. Courtney hopes that as Rose Princess, she will serve as a different role model for girls of all ages to look up to, a leader that can really bring about change in the world.



"We couldn't ask for more talented and graceful ambassadors for Pasadena, the Rose Parade, and Rose Bowl Game," – Tournament of Roses President C.L. Keedy, in an October 16 press release



# Crossing Between Two Cultures

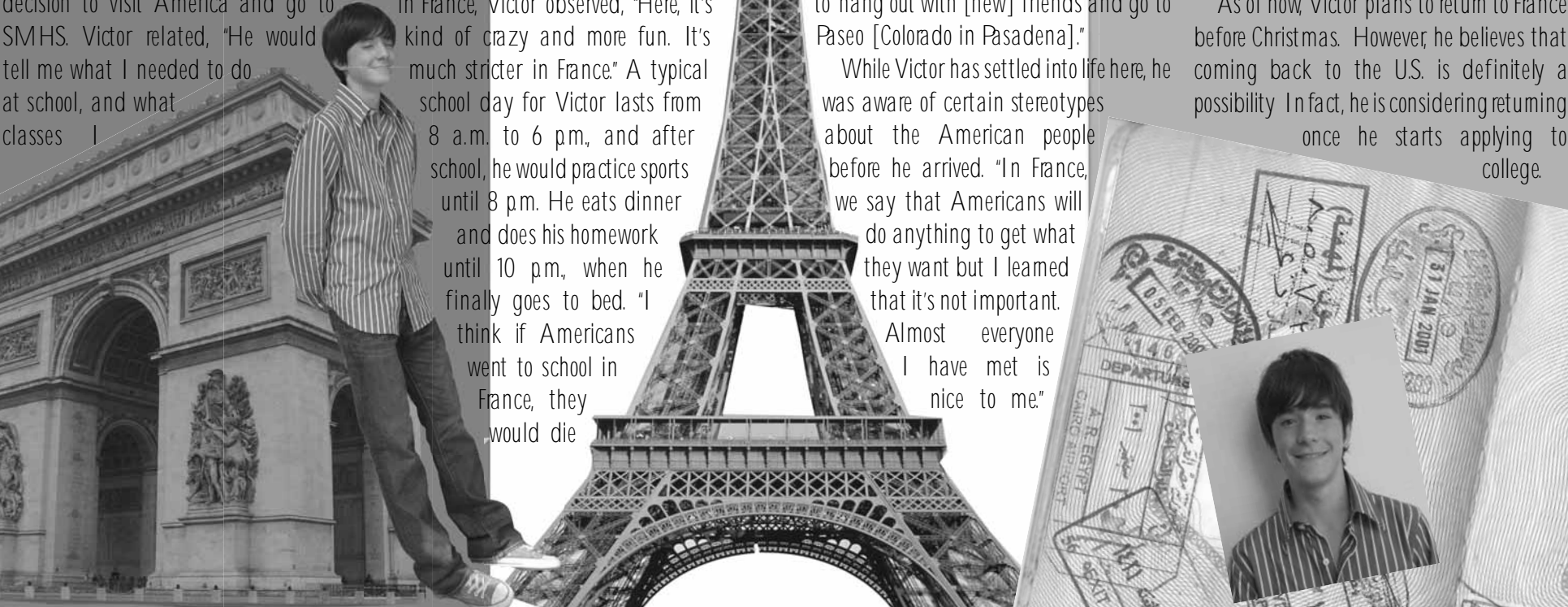
By Samantha Lai  
Assistant Spectrum Editor

Americans often view France as the ideal place to spend their honeymoon or summer vacations, but little do they know that the French feel the same about America. "In France, America is like a dream," Freshman Victor Charpentier expressed. Victor came to attend SMHS as an exchange student from France. His older cousin, Octave Brouard, graduated last year and returned to France. Octave did influence Victor's decision to visit America and go to SMHS. Victor related, "He would tell me what I needed to do at school, and what classes I

should take." However, Victor's main reason for coming is to just experience America. Victor currently lives with the Splichal family, who are friends of his mother. To Victor, the most noticeable distinction between America and France are the differences in school systems. Although Victor is enrolled as a freshman at SMHS, in France, he would still be in middle school, which lasts for four years. At Victor's school in France, the teachers, not the students, transfer between classes. Compared to school in France, Victor observed, "Here, it's kind of crazy and more fun. It's much stricter in France." A typical school day for Victor lasts from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and after school, he would practice sports until 8 p.m. He eats dinner and does his homework until 10 p.m., when he finally goes to bed. "I think if Americans went to school in France, they would die

because it's too stressful," Victor joked. Besides the difference in education,, Victor noted, "In France, you can go everywhere by bus. Here, you have to have a car." Life here for Victor does not vary much from his life at home. Victor plays soccer after school and attends language school every day. He stated, "I feel like I fit in, because I live with an American family and I go to an American school. But I'm still French." He misses his friends and family the most, but he calls them as often as he can. In his free time, Victor prefers to "hang out with [new] friends and go to Paseo [Colorado in Pasadena]." While Victor has settled into life here, he was aware of certain stereotypes about the American people before he arrived. "In France, we say that Americans will do anything to get what they want but I learned that it's not important. Almost everyone I have met is nice to me."

Conversely, Victor has never heard of the stereotype that all French are rude. Either way, he does not believe the rumors are true. Back home, Victor's lifestyle is nearly the same as that of any teenagers in the U.S. Victor's family currently lives in northern France, where he has two older brothers and one younger brother. "My mom is the only girl, and my dad is cool," he commented. Victor plays bass in his rock band in France, and listens to bands like Muse and Red Hot Chili Peppers. As of now, Victor plans to return to France before Christmas. However, he believes that coming back to the U.S. is definitely a possibility. In fact, he is considering returning once he starts applying to college.



# Clearing the Hurdles

By Maddy Wojdak  
Spectrum Editor

All little girls share the same ideal of the perfect life: living in a castle, finding her prince charming, and owning her own pony. Then, as everyone grows up, these wishes are forgotten, since not every girl actually has the opportunity to pursue her dream. However, Sophomore Sarah Havner held on to her hope, pursuing her career in horseback riding to this day. Sarah first started riding horses about five years ago. Her neighbor had started riding, and Sarah wanted to try it. Shortly after that, she attended a summer camp where she tried horseback riding, instantly falling in love with it.

"I think every girl wants to ride ponies," said Sarah. But she,

unlike most little girls who want a pony, she actually convinced her parents to let her ride. She started riding in 2002, just as a hobby. But two years later, she took her riding to the next step: she bought her own horse, a Zangersheide from Belgium which she named Caton Z. After finally getting a horse of her own, she started to compete. Her first competition was at the Flintridge Children's Show in 2006, when Sarah was in seventh grade. It had rained the night before, so Sarah had expected the show to be cancelled. However, it was not, so Sarah went and did her best. On her first course, she forgot about the second jump after taking the first. But after a few seconds, she realized her mistake and went on to obtain sixth, ninth, and tenth place in her different events over the three days of the show.

Sarah is currently one of three students who compete in the division of the school league representing San Marino. In the Freshman Edition in the Santa Barbara Nationals Horse Show, SMHS placed 10th in the equitation finals out of 60 schools. Besides competing in the school league, Sarah also competes in the Interscholastic Equitation League (IEL). Schools from all over Southern California compete in IEL. "I've seen Arnold Schwarzenegger's daughter there. There's

Flintridge Prep, Beverly Hills High School, Westridge, Poly [...]. There are about 80 schools in all," related Sarah. The shows consist of different classes. Sarah explained, "If you think about it from a football standpoint, every class is like a mini game." Each class consists of three courses with jumps in a particular order. The riders go through the course and then they are evaluated on their performance in the ring. The main things the riders are judged on include the position the rider is sitting in, jumping, the number of paces between jumps, and whether the pace is constant. There is also the Flat class, which has everyone walk, then trot, and then canter in the arena. They are tested on how well they can handle their horse. Then there is the under-saddle Flat class in which the judges only look at the horse, not the rider. Through all her competitions, Sarah's most memorable memory also happens to be her worst experience with riding. This past January, when she was warming up in the practice arena, she was going over a hurdle without paying attention to her horse. He tripped, flinging Sarah into the dirt face first,

breaking her nose in the process. "I looked up and saw my horse trotting away without me," remembered Sarah. However, this did not stop Sarah from continuing on with the show. She stated, "I had been looking forward to it for a long time and I was like, 'I'm going to do this.'" To this day, Sarah sticks to her belief of never giving up, and plans on going to a college where she can continue to compete in riding as an NCAA sport after she graduates from SMHS. Then, if everything works out, Sarah hopes to continue with a career in horseback riding.





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# Reality's Best on TV

## Beauty and the Geek Tuesdays @ 8p.m. on The CW

This "social experiment" is in one word: genius. Pairing a beyond-nerdy guy with a super attractive girl could not get any better. Throughout the season, they help each other learn and explore their partner's lifestyles, ultimately morphing them into completely different people. Each week, the beauties have a challenge that tests them on whatever they were supposed to learn that week while the geeks have a challenge that tests their newly found social skills. Examples include the beauties launching a rocket and teaching a grade school class. The geeks have quite different experiments such as rap contests, and giving massages. These challenges are not only hilarious, but they also show how the guys are building

their own self-confidence and how the girls are learning that looks aren't everything. One thing I look forward to is seeing the guys get made over! At the end of each episode, however, one couple always gets eliminated. Meanwhile, the other couples survive and get closer to becoming more than just "the beauty and the geek".

—Alison Chang//Spectrum Editor



## A Shot At Love with Tila Tequila

Tuesdays @ 10p.m. on MTV

Wow. So how can I possibly begin with how bad this show is? Maybe I should start with a little summary. Basically, Tila Tequila is this nobody who became like ridiculously famous because she's got a gazillion friends on MySpace. Then, some big shot at MTV thought to himself: "Hey, if we made a reality dating show revolving around Tila, tons and tons of people would watch!" And thus, Tila Tequila got her own show. Now, those hipsters at MTV are really pushing the envelope here, as *A Shot at Love* is a reality dating television program revolving around a \*GASP\* bisexual! MTV just used the reality dating show formula where one weirdo must slowly get rid of a big group of other weirdos. Besides Tila's bisexuality, there's nothing new. Same crazy contestants, like this Italian guy who wears a speedo with the Italian flag emblazoned on it. Same situation where everyone lives together. Same one-person-talking-into-the-camera vignettes after "dramatic" scenes. After watching this show, I felt my brain begin to ooze out of my ear and collect in a small puddle at the base of my feet. That's how bad this show is.

—Deryck Wong//Managing Editor

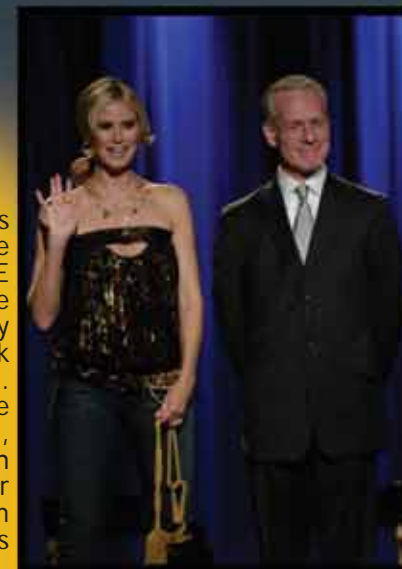


## Project Runway

Wednesdays @ 8p.m. on Bravo

This show has to top every other show on television. I mean, what other show has people racing to design and create complete runway-ready outfits with completely INSANE requirements. I really don't want to meet the person who thought of making clothes out of only plant materials in only two days. But I don't think that is what makes this show so incredibly wonderful. It's the fact that these designers can actually do these challenges! And from the looks of the new season, it should be as good as the last few. Even though there's no "ultra-punk" guy who makes moms cry or a beautiful golden boy, a few of the contestants seem promising. Chris, a costume designer for celebrities such as Madonna, intrigues me the most. I mean, just look at his clothes. A leopard print shirt with a lime green tie? He can't be that boring, now can he? But then there's Kevin, who has the obvious leg up. He owns over 200 boutiques and his designs are going to premiere in a Victoria's Secret catalogue. Does he really need the money to start his own line? Why don't they just put Marc Jacobs on the show as a contestant? Well, no matter what happens with this season, it promises to be just as entertaining as ever. (But the commercials promise that the contestants will not make the mothers cry.)

—Maddy Wojdak//Spectrum Editor



## The Next Iron Chef

Sundays @ 7p.m. on Food Network

It's every chef's wildest dream: to appear on a nationally aired television show that pits cook against cook in a series of grueling tasks set forth by the Culinary Institute of America!!! Welcome to *THE NEXT IRON CHEF*—a heavily dramatized cooking show in which chefs with potential to be world-renowned culinary gods and goddesses emerge from strobe-lit, hexagonal chambers to compete in eight food-related scenarios!! ...and? That's it. Either your passion for edibles extends far enough to sweep you up into the bitter air of competition... or, it doesn't. If not, odds are that the dramatics offset the focus on the food itself, or the constipated Japanese guy [a.k.a. THE CHAIRMAN O\_O] in the theme song really pisses you off. The point of the show completely escapes me. An hour of our time is wasted watching scared culinary underlings scuttle around a kitchen waving sassafra leaves. And as far as humor goes, the only time you'll find yourself laughing is when the quasi-tyrant commentator Alton Brown makes some ludicrous threat like "Well rested, are we? GOOD. You're going to NEED IT." But then again, in spite of everything, *Chef* is a show that will keep you riveted—and even if you're not tuning in every week, you still have to know who won.

—Katie Wu//Opinion Editor



## The Hills

Mondays @ 10p.m. on MTV

Although not alive with the sound of music, *The Hills* is certainly alive with fashion, rumors, gossip, and betrayal, creating an entertaining and addicting reality television show. Well, I guess it's not actually reality if scenes are filmed multiple times, and some conversations are actually scripted. Either way, everytime I tune in, I become lost in the world of Lauren, Audrina, Whitney, and Heidi. *The Hills* follows the life of Lauren as she tries to break into the fashion industry and make it big. She attends the Los Angeles Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) and interns at *Teen Vogue Magazine*. There she met and befriended Whitney. By no means is this show about starting at the bottom of the food chain and clawing to the top because Lauren has enough money to drive a BMW M3 convertible and rent a posh L.A. apartment with her best friend, Audrina. They were not always BFF's though; in first season, Lauren and Heidi roomed together and Audrina lived in the same complex. After the infamous fallout between Heidi and Lauren involving rumors and broken hangout dates, Heidi moved out and Audrina moved in. Will Heidi and Lauren ever get back together? Will Audrina's on-again off-again boyfriend Justin Bobby get in the way of her friendship with Lauren? Only time will tell and I'll be watching every minute.

—Emily Chang//News Editor





### A COMMENTARY ON LACK OF SLEEP

For the average American, it is extremely rare to experience a full night's sleep between the mindless bustle of evening and morning. Everything from the pressures of school and jobs to the demands of a social life weighs on the minds of students and adults alike, hindering not only academic development but also the fulfillment of the doctor-recommended quota of eight-and-a-half hours of sleep per night. America has lost sight of the importance of sleep, focusing instead on tasks more commonly associated with the daylight hours. However, such a dilemma is not completely irreparable, and the solution may be easier than society thinks. Rather than attempting to make the effort to "budget time more efficiently," as countless parents and employers advise their subordinates to do, perhaps the true answer lies in taking on less work.

The truth is a difficult pill to swallow; it is simply that we have become too power hungry, too economically driven, and too bent on outdoing our peers in the business and academic worlds. In the heat of competition, we put aside a necessity that has become something akin to obsolete and pointless in our eyes in favor of overexerting ourselves. As a famed nation of workaholics, Americans adopt the mantra of "work now, sleep later." And while this gets us a trivial amount of extra work completed, the benefits (if they even exist) nowhere near compensate for the costs. Not only does losing sleep throw off our precious internal clocks, but it messes with our congeniality and work ethic — and leads to less work getting done during the more reasonable time slots of the day. And there it is: another reason we have to stay up late in the first place. Even with the help of chemical stimulants such as caffeine, the fact of the matter is, sleep loss is the result of a vicious cycle caused by the combination of wasting time and having too much to do in the first place.

So what it all comes down to is a question of whether or not procrastination is easier to eliminate than a taxing workload. Do we try (once more) and fail (once more) to buckle down and ignore the urge to distract ourselves... or make life more manageable? The answer seems obvious — but of course, easier said than done.

This is where the hard part comes in. If the issue of sleep loss is to be properly addressed, we must realize that the idea of a full night's sleep is not as negligible as we would like to believe.

—By Katie Wu  
// Opinion Editor

## Fires Elicit Meager Government Response

By Brandon Shiau  
Associate Editor of Copy

Security: it is something everybody needs. The United States government, for instance, believes that it must keep the country safe from evil terrorists that threaten America with their malevolent plots. Since 9/11, though, the major domestic terror attacks? Null. Zilch. Nothing. However, the Hurricane Katrina disaster in 2005 and the recent outbreak of wildfires in Southern California have resulted in damage, death, and displacement—breaches of security, in a way. Since the last few years have shown that terrorists are not the only threat to the country, the United States ought to focus on disaster response because, though the recent fires were by no means a catastrophe, no one can rule out a repeat Katrina.

Hurricane Katrina caught everybody by surprise. Despite grim weather predictions, not only did flood control mechanisms completely fail the Crescent city but many victims had no way out and no where to go. New Orleanians languished in their flooded city as federal agencies slowly responded to the crisis. Essentially, Homeland Security failed in its first domestic trial.

Then, mother nature struck Southern California. The fires destroyed thousands of houses and acres of land. The response was

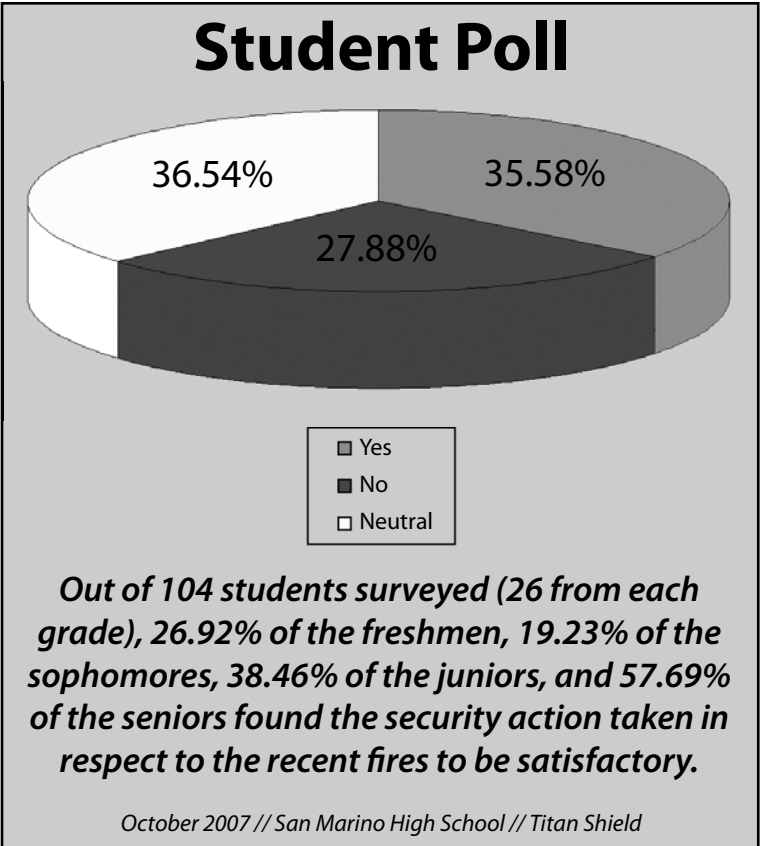
more robust and loss of life much less pronounced than Katrina, but this is by no means an indication of an improvement on the behalf of the government. New Orleans and Inland California are two completely different places. "San Diego is not surrounded by high water, and basic utilities are still functioning for the most part," says Louisiana State University journalist Laura Bratcher (*California Fire Response Barely Better than Katrina*, <http://media.www.kslureveille.com/media/storage/paper868/news/2007/10/30/Opinion/California.Fire.Response.Barely.Better.Than.Katrina-3064480.shtml>). New Orleans is relatively isolated; California is not. Moreover, the California relief effort was by far more prepared and experienced.

It is true that natural disasters are considerably unpredictable, so the country cannot always be ready for such disasters. It is a lot to ask the government to be prepared for, say, drought, wildfire, earthquakes, and flash floods in the west, but they are by far not doing enough. According to writer Anthony Kimery of *HSToday*, "The Los Angeles Times reported that the panel appointed by Schwarzenegger after the 2003 fires recommended several years ago that California buy 150 more fire trucks for emergencies. So far, only 19 have been ordered" ("The California

Fire: Was State, /Federal Govn't Prepared?", [http://www.hstoday.us/Kimery\\_Report/20071029\\_The\\_California\\_Fires\\_Was\\_State\\_Federal\\_Govnt\\_Prepared.cfm](http://www.hstoday.us/Kimery_Report/20071029_The_California_Fires_Was_State_Federal_Govnt_Prepared.cfm)). But the Bush government has not been making the task any easier by busying itself with even more affairs. The war on terror is a pathetic failure of the United States that has cost thousands of lives and billions of dollars. If the government had focused its resources on disaster response rather than attempting to quash

undesirable regimes, it may have been more prepared for Katrina.

The last few years have shown that the Middle East is not the only source of danger, and the US must protect itself accordingly. Hurricane Katrina and the recent wildfire outbreak in Southern California have been more damaging to the country than any terrorist attack since 9/11. If the American government does not divert more of its resources towards disaster prevention, than the country is not really safe.



## Media Recycling Promotes Cultural Stagnancy

By Katie Wu  
Opinion Editor

Every year, the entertainment industry churns out subtle advances in media production that hasten the output of films, television shows, music, and scheduled publications. With so many "premieres" coming our way, it is difficult not to notice the constant recycling of ideas. However, while such facts appear to convey the doom of cultural creativity, it is simply the ever-present need to conform that impedes original production.

It has become an extremely rare experience to have the opportunity to walk into a movie theatre and not have some inkling about how the storyline will unfold. Advertising ensures that the public knows what they are getting into the minute they purchase their ticket; popular themes are emphasized in previews, promising consumers the by-the-book violence, sex, and drama they crave. Films with less familiar subjects are shunted aside to independent theatres and little-known film festivals, while high-budget scandal films starring faces we know and appreciate take top-billing in Hollywood.

In one particular instance, *The Godfather* — a world-renowned film that rests comfortably at the top of several movie-related website charts and is currently ranked as the second greatest movie in American cinematic history by the American Film

Institute (AFI) — suffered two sequels following its debut in 1972, the second of which generated nearly as much hype as the first. Of the top ten highest-grossing domestic films of 2006, 70% were based on unoriginal plotlines (flaunting the euphemism "based on actual events/the novel by such-and-such"), the clear leader by nearly \$200 million being *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*. [<http://www.boxofficemojo.com/yearly/chart/>

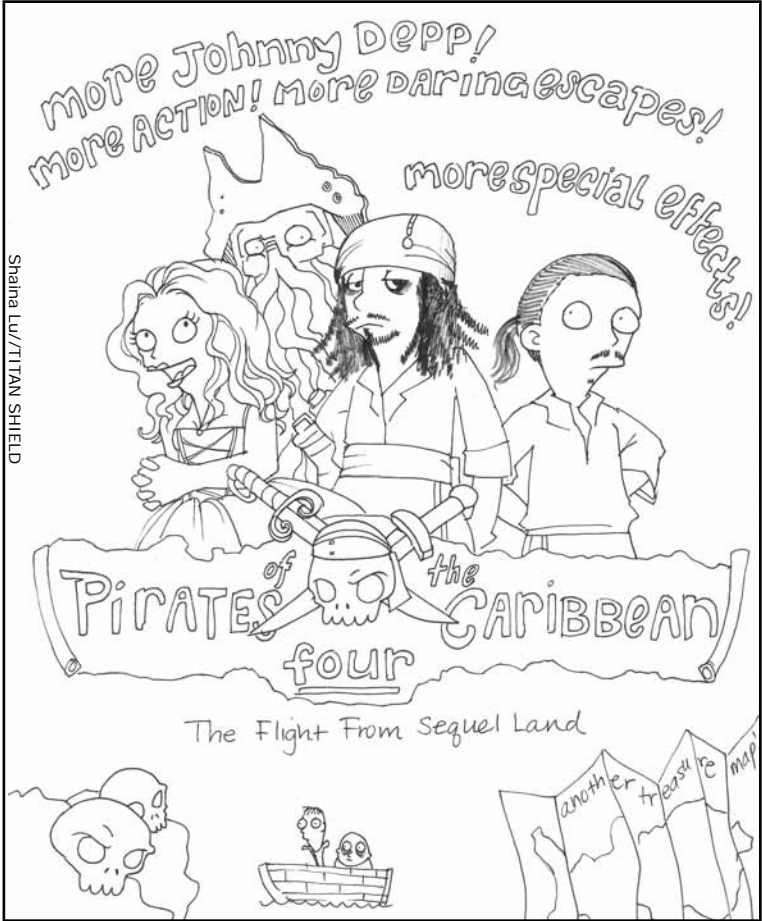
?yr=2006] Viewers unconsciously seek out the familiar plotline of the original, believing they will be guaranteed satisfaction through the use of a story and characters already known and loved. In some ways, the recycling process is a manipulative high-revenue tactic; fans of the first film are nearly guaranteed to watch any sequels that follow. According to Chris Dreyer of Gonzaga University, "People support films that are familiar, craving the stability

that familiar characters and plot lines offer... they are reminded, however subconsciously or abstractly, of the great time they had the first time around." [<http://www.gonzaga.edu/Student-Life/Get-Involved/Student-Media/Charter/apr2006/chrisdreyer.asp>]

On television, the redundancy infiltration is even worse. When it all boils down, there are two main categories: scripted dramedies and reality shows. Plot twists mirror each other exactly; the only difference between separate conflicts is the outfits those involved happen to be wearing at the time. Even comic strips and stand-up comedy have adopted repetition. Stupid rich women are "hilarious"; therefore, they will appear as a recurring theme.

We see the same trite, over-abused plot lines in movie after movie; the same unimpressive foils and "unexpected twists" in novels. America has crumbled into a mess of constant déjà vu [and probably déjà entendu as well] — and there is no emerging from the monotony.

The real question is whether or not originality is salvageable — and despite what seems like a limit to the number of innovative ideas in existence, any concept can lead to several others, if one only chooses to tap the source and further it. Rather than seeking reassurance from familiarity, producers and consumers alike must take the initiative to deviate from the norm.



# 'Plan B' Offers Extended Options for Couples

By Kimberly Nguyen  
Assistant Opinion Editor

Couples have had the option of preventing unpredicted pregnancies immediately after unprotected sex. A pill is currently available via prescription that will prevent the conception of unwanted pregnancies. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has debated over whether or not to allow Plan B, also known as the "morning-after pill," to be available over the counter. Due to unexpected circumstances, couples should be able to purchase this pill without a prescription with a few exceptions.

Couples should be able to have more options regarding the consequences of their actions. However, the question of whether or not Plan B, which is a more potent dose of birth control pills, should be accessible without a prescription has continued on for the last three years. It reduces the risk of unplanned pregnancies by 89% if taken within 72 hours after unprotected sex. The morning-after pill is generally used in the event of failed preventatives, such as a condom breaking or if a birth control pill is forgotten [http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/401861/the\_morningafter\_pill\_overview\_and.html]. However, it should not be used to replace other methods of birth control.

Plan B should be used as emergency birth control that avoids a pregnancy after a contraceptive

failure or sexual assault. Many pro-life activists argue that Plan B is almost, if not completely, like abortion. However, that is untrue. The pill averts a child from being conceived instead of ending a child's life during its growth in the uterus. Plan B acts primarily by stopping the release of an egg. It also may prevent the union of a sperm and egg. In other cases where fertilization does occur, Plan B will prevent the newly conceived embryo from being embedded into the uterus. Plan B cannot and will not work if a woman is already pregnant. However, an abortion kills the fetus after the child has already begun to develop. Therefore, the two choices are incomparable. Also, victims of sexual assault should be able to use Plan B if their doctors recommend it. In addition, the morning-after pill is beneficial to couples because it will hinder the formation of a fetus within 24 hours, a more convenient option than surgical removal weeks later.

Furthermore, the number of teenagers who become pregnant is dauntingly high. Each year in the United States, 800,000 to 900,000 adolescents 19 years of age or younger become pregnant (http://www.siecus.org/pubs/fact/fact0010.html). Many couples, especially teenagers, are financially and/or mentally unable

to care for a life, and sometimes turn to abortion, a controversial practice. Adolescents who have unprotected sex may not seek proper medical care, which may result in an increased risk for medical complications. Also, pregnant teenage mothers may experience

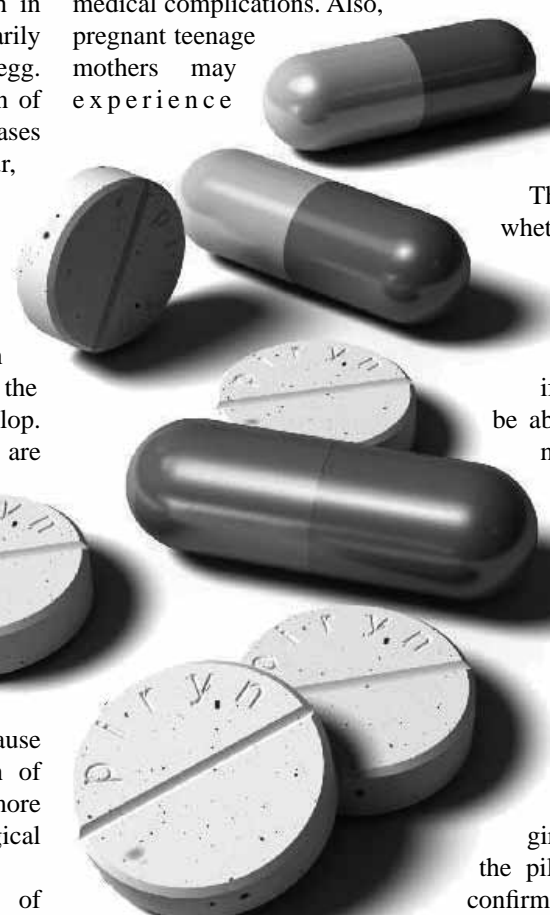
B, couples are able to reduce the likelihood of an unintended pregnancy [http://www.go2planb.com/ForConsumers/Index.aspx]. Although society fears that Plan B will promote an increase in promiscuity and irresponsible sex, the FDA has set regulations to reduce those possibilities.

The FDA has discussed whether or not to make Plan B available mainly because of their concerns about whether girls would be able to use it safely and if girls of all ages would be able to use it [http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9C00E5DE173CF934A35756C0A9629C8B63]. The FDA has finally approved of the morning-after pill and will begin distributing it later on this year. However, the FDA will only permit girls 18 and older to use the pill, and pharmacists must confirm the validity of their ages. Pharmaceutical companies should keep track of the distribution of Plan B because irresponsible couples may abuse its purpose, which is as an emergency contraceptive. Younger teenagers will still require a prescription, and Plan B will not be sold at gas stations, convenience stores,

or other outlets that do not have certified pharmacists or licensed healthcare providers. FDA officials stated that they did not have sufficient data to authorize Plan B for teenagers younger than 18. However, the agency ruled that it could safely be sold to 18 year-olds. Also, the agency is requiring Barr Pharmaceuticals Inc. to sell the two pills in a new packaging that clearly explains how to best use them and the possible risks.

"This is great news for women and great news for women's health," said Cecile Richards of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. "This provides women with another important option [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/24/AR2006082400559.html]."

Ultimately, Plan B will give couples an additional significant alternative and the benefits outweigh the risks. Like all medication, Plan B will induce minor side effects, including dizziness, nausea, and fatigue and will not protect against HIV infections and other sexually transmitted diseases. However, it will reduce the possibility of an unintended pregnancy, which would lead to far less stressful lives for young couples. Nonetheless, Plan B is much less controversial than the option of abortion, and the age limit will prevent an increase in promiscuity. Plan B will present couples with a more simple and less traumatic method of gaining a second chance.



various emotional reactions, such as depression. In addition, babies born to young couples are at risk for neglect and abuse [http://www.aacap.org/cs/root/facts\_for\_families/when\_children\_have\_children]. However, with Plan



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# It's a Piece of Cake!

—Alexa Wei// Assistant Ads Editor

Life is full of choices: paper or plastic, PC or Mac, deal or no deal... But when asked if you would like cake or pie, the answer should be obvious: cake. Think about all those happy times in your life—weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, etc. Who was with you during all of those? If you answered “cake” then give yourself a pat on the back. Cake symbolizes celebrations and happy times. Pie just isn't quite as versatile, whereas cake (pie's more popular and attractive cousin) goes well with basically every topping—especially the king of the dessert world: ice cream. Cake and ice cream go hand in hand like peanut

butter and jelly, milk and cereal, spaghetti and meatballs... mmmm, spaghetti. ...Where was I? Oh yes, the power couple. I bet whenever Angelina gets into a disagreement with Brad, she exclaims, “Why can't we be more like cake and ice cream?” And unlike some celebrities with no talent (cough, models-turned-actresses, cough) cake doesn't just have the good looks, but is a great collaborator willing to share the spotlight.

Just ask cake's best friend, icing. Nowadays, you hardly ever see one without the other. Even though icing probably wouldn't have gone anywhere on its own, cake took it under its wing and BAM! - instant success. Would pie have rendered this service? Probably not, because, icing and pie do

not go together at all. There is no chemistry between them and there never will be.

Icing, aside from being insanely delicious, can be used to decorate cakes with beautiful (and edible!) artwork. When was the last time you saw a pie covered in a bunch of frosting roses or happy cursive writing announcing someone's anniversary? Poor pie must be content with its plain and homely appearance. Pie's unadorned, and often dry, crust was also made to be incompatible with sprinkles, candles, and other little things that can add pizzazz to a dish in mere seconds.

Aside from being a figurative square, pie is sadly confined to one shape—round. Cakes can be made in countless shapes to fit virtually any occasion. Football party? Go for a football-shaped cake! Easter party? Bake an egg-shaped

cake! I'm just not that into you? ...buy yourself a pint of chocolate ice cream for that cake, stat! Once, I saw a cake in the shape of a teapot and man, was it beautiful. While cakes are busy being the lives of parties everywhere, pies are sitting at home, knitting, wondering why they never get invited to places. Let's face it; the real stars of the show are cakes. Some cakes even make for amazing photo opportunities. Take wedding cakes for example. Aside from

being large enough to feed some small countries for weeks, wedding cakes are incredibly photogenic. I guarantee there is a picture of cake in every bridal scrapbook ever made. Where was sad little pie? I guess its invitation got lost in the mail.

To put it simply, I am not insane, cake is superior to pie, and ice-cream-and-cake are the best dessert duo in the history of the world. Hands down. End of story.



## ...or a Piece of Pie?

When the moon hits your eye like a big piece of pie that's amore!

Nothing reminds me more strongly of autumn than pie. Whether the sun shines hot or the thunder rumbles in the distance, to me, fall arrives in the form of pumpkin pie. During any other season, associated or not with hearty gatherings and turkeys, I constantly dream

of pie. Specifically, pumpkin pie, but any kind of pie will do in my heart. Although I might eat more cake in a year than pie, I am forever wedded to that crusty, sweet, and savory pastry in holy matrimony.

Why pie? I adore pie not only for its wide variety of flavors and shapes, but also its simplicity. Pie can function as dinner and/or dessert, and why not have two pies in one day? The arch nemesis of the circular delight, cake,

can hold no candle to pie in this case. If you crave something sweet, a classic apple pie with a graham cracker crust can do the job just fine, whereas cake may only be consumed as dessert. If the chilly weather prompts you to wrap your hands around something warm, dig in to a comforting, creamy chicken alfredo pot pie. Nothing tastes more refreshing or heartwarming than a plain slice of your favorite pie, served cold or hot.

A minor aspect in the debate of cake versus pie is their methods of storage. If you are feeling scientific, perform an experiment to test for the expiration of pie and cake. Leave both out for two hours at room temperature. Which one tastes better? Hint: you should not have to perform this procedure in order to answer correctly.

Answer: the pie tastes better. Note in the Analysis portion of your lab notebook that from this experiment, one can conclude pie always tastes better than cake. Scientific evidence and common sense already support this fact, so don't even bother to research.

Already alienated by intellectual law, cake takes comfort in its popularity. It may appear at all the hottest parties more often than pie, but so does Britney Spears. Like Britney, cake has earned its place in society, but its numerous appearances has deprived it of its reputation, and thus it can no longer perform its duties. Pie should replace cake as the food in all celebrations around the world. Singing happy birthday? A banana cream pie will make your day even more

memorable. Singing Merry Christmas? Enjoy a shepherd's pie.

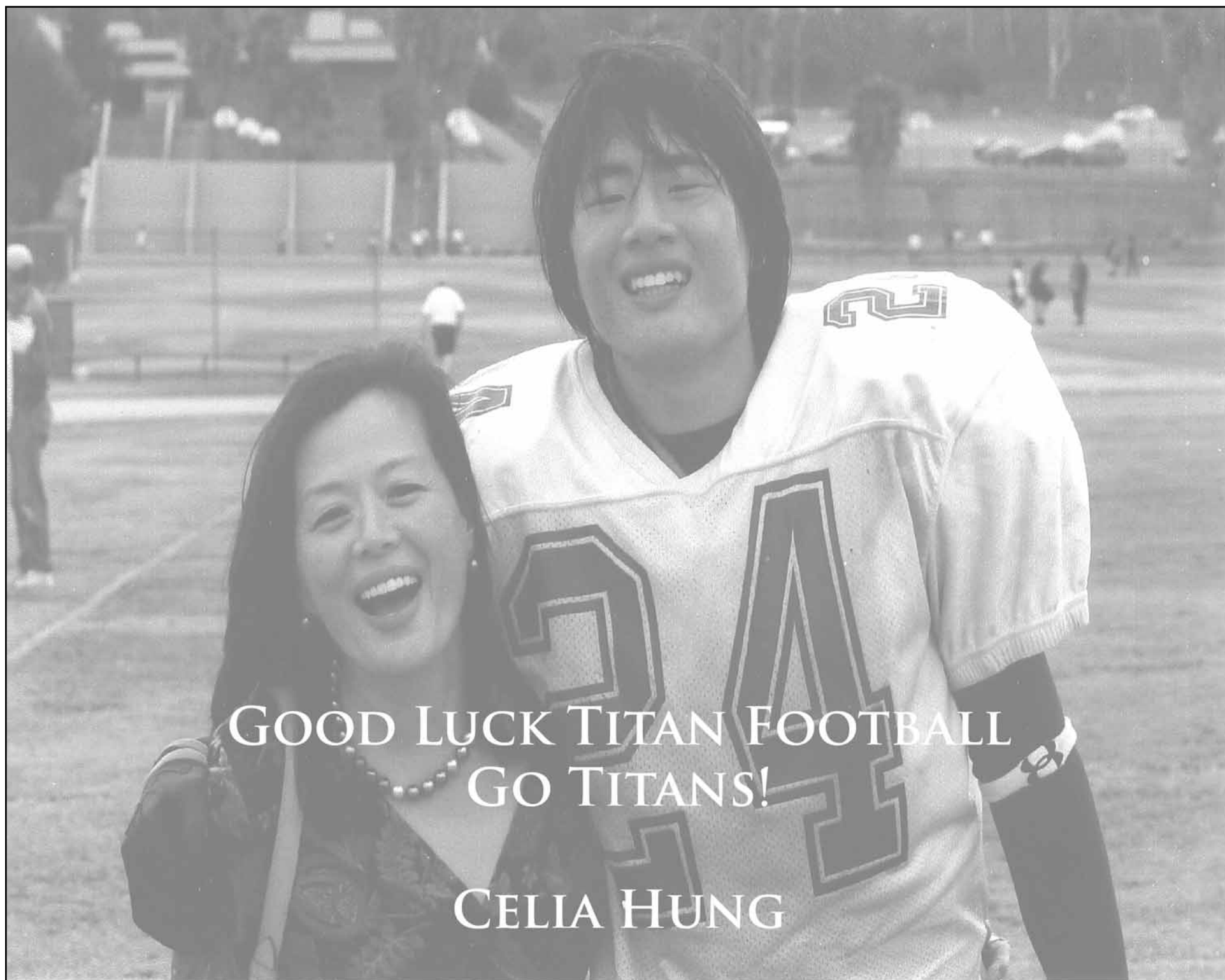
Tragically, cake requires copious amounts of milk to wash out the heavy cream, food coloring, and other artificial substances. On the other hand, Pie ingredients often remain in their natural form before baking in the oven.

So, in contrast to cake, pie lasts longer, contains less sketchy ingredients, and will always just taste better. With all the supporting evidence, pie is clearly the sole survivor proving cake is the loser. Cake, you are the weakest link; goodbye.

—Samantha Lai//  
Spectrum Assistant





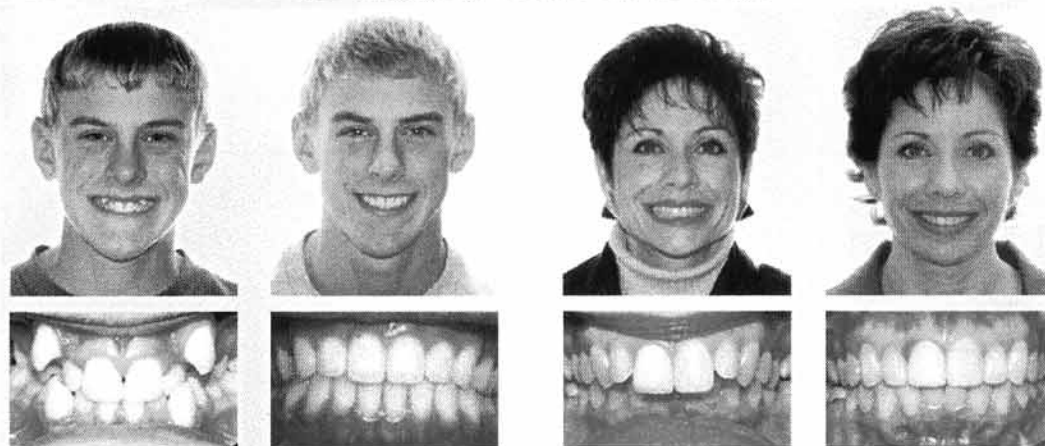


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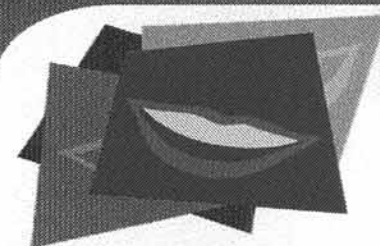
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# Girls’ Volleyball Rams Temple City



Senior Outside Hitter **Mary Hasbrouck** attempts to catch Temple City players off guard by tipping the ball while Senior Libero **Peony Khoo** gets into a ready stance for the next play in the Lady Titans’ 3-1 victory at home on Tuesday, October 30.

Emma Quan//TITAN SHIELD

By **Peony Khoo**  
*Managing Editor*

The Varsity Girls’ Volleyball team defeated the Temple City Rams this past Tuesday in a 3-1 victory, guaranteeing the Lady Titans a spot in CIF playoffs.

“We changed the lineup every game [and] when you’re changing the lineup, it’s really hard to have any consistency,” remarked Head Coach Scott Cameron.

In the first game, San Marino crushed the Rams, finishing the game 25-10. Senior Outside Hitter Mary Hasbrouck had an eight-serve run early in the game that gave the Lady Titans a six-point lead that continued to escalate, reaching a maximum lead of 15 points with the close of the game, 25-10.

During the second game however, Temple City managed to close the gap when San Marino earned a lead early in the game. The Rams trailed closely behind, nearly matching the Lady Titans point for point, until San Marino pulled ahead with a couple of kills from Senior Outside Hitter Nicole Chan, who finished off the game at 25-20.

Despite the two losses, Temple City continued to gain momentum in the third game, once again trailing closely behind the Lady Titans. San Marino held the lead at the start of the game with two consecutive aces by Senior Outside Hitter Becky Hsu and several kills. However, hitting errors by the Lady Titans gave the Rams the opportunity to earn the lead. Temple City added aces,

blocks, and kills to the Lady Titans’ errors to earn the lead and win the third game 20-25.

“It’s just amazing how the games suddenly start getting tight. [Temple City] played such great defense. They go to the floor and read [the ball] well, [so] it’s hard to pound them off the floor,” commented Coach Cameron.

San Marino again maintained a slight lead throughout most of the fourth game. Missed serves and hits by the Lady Titans gave the Rams a lead at 17-18. Both teams remained neck-and-neck, until Senior Setter Kimberly Tsui earned the team an ace to end the game, 26-24 and match, 3-1.

“We don’t handle success very well. We get up and lose focus,” commented Coach Cameron.

Both Senior Middle Blockers Emily Barth and Alex Ferraco added 14 kills each to the San Marino’s score in the Temple City match. Alex also contributed 9 blocks. Furthermore, she only had one hitting error out of over 40 hits.

“Our two middles are the key for us. [They] play really well and that’s the difference,” added Coach Cameron.

The victory against the Rams brought the Lady Titans to 7-3 in league, ensuring at least a third place finish in the Rio Hondo league.

On Monday, San Marino also defeated the Monrovia Wildcats. Although the Wildcats managed to take the Lady Titans to a five-game match on Thursday, October 25, San Marino crushed Monrovia 3-0.

“They could’ve beat us if we showed up and didn’t play well [but we] played very well and took care of business,” remarked Coach Cameron.

The Lady Titans beat the Wildcats, 25-20, in the first game. In the second game, the Wildcats led, 7-19, at one point. However, the Lady Titans made a comeback to win the second game, 28-26. In the third game, the Wildcats were unable to come back from their two losses. San Marino won the third game 25-23. Emily had 16 kills to contribute to the Lady Titans’ victory.

“We played them at home and beat them [so] I felt fairly comfortable that they weren’t going to beat us. They have one great player, but you [have] to have the ball handling from the other players,” stated Coach Cameron.

The Lady Titans also played rival South Pasadena yesterday, November 1, in their final league match. However, results were not available at press time. The Lady Titans’ last encounter with South Pasadena resulted in a close 2-3 defeat for San Marino with a 16-18 loss in the fifth game. Yesterday’s match determined second place in the Rio Hondo League between South Pasadena and San Marino. If necessary, a tie-breaker game for second place will take place today.

“If we get second, we have a very good chance of beating who[ever] we play [in CIF Playoffs],” concluded Coach Cameron. “We won’t get blown out unless we get really nervous.”

# College Football Upsets Jumble BCS

By **Raymond Nhan**  
*Assistant Sports Editor*

No one would have imagined at the beginning of the college football season that at any point South Florida or Boston College would be ranked number two in consecutive weeks in the Bowl Championship Series (BCS), but times are changing.

With all the upsets and nail-biters, the 2007 College Football season has been one of the most memorable in recent memory. Being ranked either one or two in the polls this year has been more of an omen rather than the point of pride which it traditionally holds. After Stanford’s sacking of the men of Troy and Cal’s fall to Oregon State, there is no such thing as a guaranteed win in the Pac-10.

But, it doesn’t appear as if the Trojans or the Golden Bears are the only ones who are suffering from the wrath of the underdog, as the entire nation has become prone to dropping the supposed “sure-fire” wins. You know this is a season of upsets for the ages when Michigan falls to Appalachian State to become the first team ranked in the Top 25 to lose to a Football Championship

Subdivision team.

Perhaps just as surprising as the huge upsets, though, are those Cinderella teams. After Boise State’s upset win over Oklahoma in the 2007 Fiesta Bowl, it has become evident that more parity exists in college football now than ever before. With the downfall of the powerhouses, BC, Arizona State, and Kansas have emerged as the teams to beat (along with Ohio State) in 2007. Not only are these teams undefeated, but they have also beaten some pretty good squads along the way. Boston College over Virginia Tech? No way. Kansas beating Kansas State? Impossible.

Unfortunately for the Southland’s favorites, the balance of power in college football has not been particularly kind to them. USC opened the season as the consensus number-one team in the nation but has dropped to number 19 in the BCS. It probably should have been a sign for the Trojans to pick up the slack after a narrow three-point victory over Washington, but apparently the men of Troy did not hear the wake-up call since they fell to Stanford team, led by a quarterback making his first career start. Then the following week, what do the

Trojans decide to do? Go into the fourth quarter trailing Arizona. But many still believed that up until last Saturday, USC still had the chance to play for the national championship. However, the men of Troy can kiss any hope of a national championship goodbye after their 17-24 loss at Oregon.

Just like the Trojans, UCLA has had its share of problems, as well. After wins against BYU and Stanford, the Bruins got annihilated by Utah, 6-44. But even as it appeared as if the Bruins were getting their season back on track with victories over Washington and Oregon State, they fell to Notre Dame, which was winless at the time. Fortunately for the Bruins, though, they’re 4-1 in Pac-10 play, and if they win out, they can be smelling roses on New Year’s Day.

All in all, this has been one, crazy football season. Right now though, one question remains unanswered: At the end of the season, who should play for the BCS National Championship? Simply put, those with the best records. For the past several seasons, it has appeared as if the participants in the National Championship game have been chosen based on legacy rather

than a team’s performance that season. In the past four seasons, three teams have gone undefeated throughout their regular season and won their bowl games, but because of the computers, were barred from playing for a National Championship. Despite their immaculate records, Auburn, Utah, and Boise State never received a chance to play for college football’s crown, while

Florida received a shot at the national title even though it had a tarnished record at the time.

In essence, all that can be done now to ensure that this college football season goes down as legendary is to get the national championship matchup right. So, if BC finishes its regular season undefeated, hope that the computers finally give the little guys a chance on the big stage.



Appalachian State’s shocking win over Michigan during the first week of the season set the tone for what has become a crazy, wild, and unpredictable season of upsets in college football.

Duane Burleson//Associated Press

# Tennis Ends Season with Close Loss

(Continued from page 1)

with one or two points from their singles in order to beat Temple City. Unfortunately, the Rams took all nine singles points and one doubles point, led by Jessy, who defeated all three of her opponents, 6-0.

“South Pasadena has two ranked players, La Cañada has three, and Temple City [has] at least one, so we can’t win in singles. In doubles, I just told the kids all the way along, we can only win if you win,” commented Head Coach Paula Bush.

Sophomore #1 Singles Jeannie Peterson began her day at center court against Jessy. She had problems returning Jessy’s serves and dominating ground strokes, eventually losing 0-6. Juniors #2 Singles Supriya Kumar and #3 Singles Chloe Chang also struggled early, both losing 2-6 to their respective counterparts.

On the doubles courts, San Marino’s #1 Doubles team, consisting of Senior Alyssa Velasco and Junior Jessica Ecung, started off strong, defeating their opponents 6-2. San Marino’s #2 Doubles team of Senior Lauren Chan and Freshman Marsha Chang added another victory,

winning 6-3, despite needing to call for a line judge at 4-2. Starting as San Marino’s #3 Doubles were Freshmen Anya Laibangyang and Tammy Le. After their game score reached 4-4, the duo broke Temple City’s serve and held the break to win 6-4.

In the second round, the scoreline was 3-3, with both teams showing obvious strength in either doubles or singles. Jeannie continued to struggle in her second round match against Temple City’s #2 Singles, committing unforced errors which lead to a 2-6 defeat. Supriya’s game was also plagued by unforced errors as she lost to Temple’s City #3 Singles, 1-6. On the third court, Jessy also blanked Chloe 6-0, using deep shots to force easy approach shots.

However, the Lady Titans maintained their dominance on the doubles court, sweeping the Rams once again. Alyssa and Jessica quickly set the tone with their net play and won 6-0. Lauren and Marsha did not start off as well, falling behind early after giving up easy volleys. However, they battled back and took the lead after breaking their opponents’ serve. At 5-4 and down 15-40, the two won three straight points off key volleys and serves, finishing the

match at 6-4. Tammy and Anya also fell behind early, but were able to adjust to their opponents’ style of play and won 6-3.

With the scoreline at 5-6, Temple City’s singles continued their dominance, underlined by Jessy’s third 6-0 victory of the day over Supriya. The woes continued, as Chloe lost her final match 1-6. At this point, San Marino had already lost mathematically, but the Lady Titans continued to fight. Jeannie took her final set to 3-5 before key unforced errors ended the match.

In their final round Tammy and Anya completed their sweep over in doubles, defeating Temple City’s #2 Doubles, 6-0. Also, Alyssa and Jessica cruised to a 6-1 victory. For the second time of the day, Lauren and Marsha called for a line judge but lost the last three points of the set as they fell, 4-6.

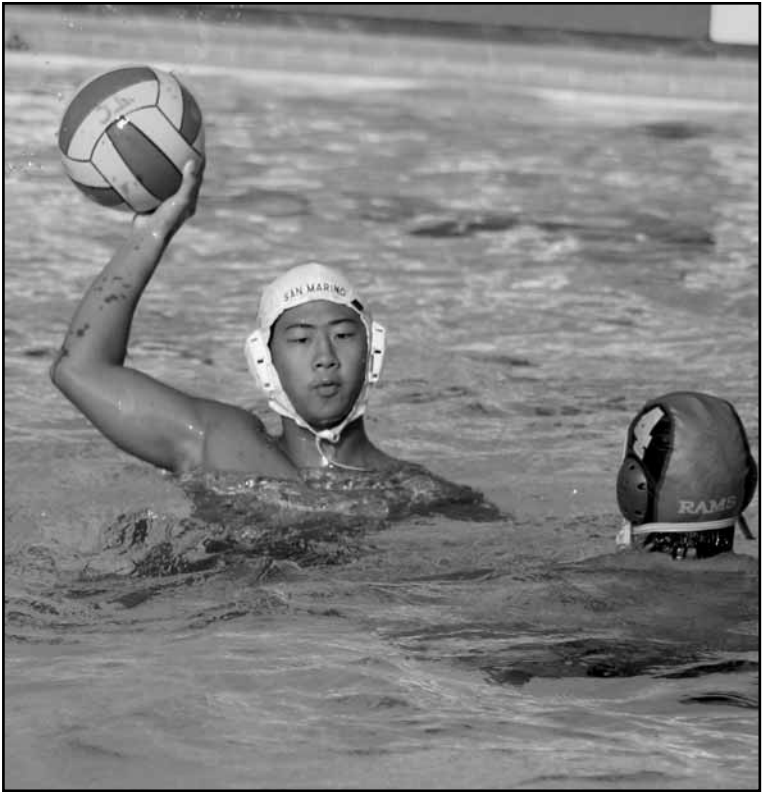
The loss at Temple City ends the Girls’ Varsity season, as the team did not qualify for a CIF spot. They officially finished up yesterday at League Championships, but results were not available at press time.

Looking toward next season, Coach Bush expects to continue to dominate in doubles as the Lady Titan will only lose two starters.



Junior #2 Singles **Supriya Kumar** prepares to fire her backhand on Tuesday, October 30, at Temple City.  
*Justin Quan//TITAN SHIELD*

# Boys’ Water Polo Suffers Loss to Rams, 2-13



Senior Captain **Kevin Lin** scans the pool before shooting the ball on Tuesday, October 30 at Temple City.  
*Jon Wong//TITAN SHIELD*

By **Dennis Su**  
*Managing Editor*

The San Marino Boys’ Varsity Water Polo team lost to the Temple City Rams, 2-13, last Tuesday, October 30, falling out of contention for a CIF berth.

“We just didn’t play our game,” Junior Hole Set Kevin Hon explained.

The Titans started the game well, when Senior Captain Kevin Lin blocked a shot by the Temple City hole set.

The Rams quickly mustered up a goal, popping in a goal from set while Junior Victor Chang was caught on the off-side.

Sophomore Goalkeeper James Adams made the first of his three saves several plays later as a result of Junior Alex Phillips’ defensive pressure on the Temple City hole set.

San Marino could not convert its successes on defense into

goals, as the Rams forced the ball away by double-teaming Junior Hole Set Joe So.

Temple City then scored its second goal when the Ram hole set slammed in the ball despite the presence of several Titan defenders.

Alex put San Marino on the scoreboard midway through the second quarter, lobbing in a shot from the halfway mark over most of the Temple City team.

Unfortunately for San Marino, the Rams went on a tear, scoring five unanswered goals in the span of several minutes in the quarter.

The Titans finally managed one more goal in the game when Kevin Lin drove in from the left, and then passed the ball to Joe, who pounded the ball into the back of the goal to leave the Titans trailing, 2-7.

In the third quarter, both defenses held the game to a stalemate until a Temple City

player put in a midrange shot that slipped through James’s fingers, extending the Rams’ lead to 2-10.

Temple City continued to wield defensive control throughout the remainder of the game. However, the Rams only scored two more goals over the rest of the game.

At the start of the fourth quarter, Head Coach Casey Holcomb put in mostly reserve players and allowed James to play in the field, substituting in Senior Michael Hsieh at goalkeeper. With the game winding down, neither team scored, leaving the final score 2-12.

Kevin Hon noted that because of the relative youth of this year’s team, next year’s team will have a more successful season.

This game dropped the Titans to 1-6 in Rio Hondo League play, leaving the team to play for fourth in league at Monrovia yesterday. However, results were not available at press time.

## Junior Varsity Stats

Results current as of Wednesday, October 31, 2007

	Boys’ Cross Country	Football	Girls’ Tennis	Girls’ Volleyball	Boys’ Water Polo
Record	N/A	2-1	4-4	7-2	0-7
Last Game	N/A	27-21 Win at Temple City on Oct. 25	5-13 Loss at Temple City on Oct. 30	2-0 Win vs. Temple City on Oct. 30	2-9 Loss at Temple City on Oct. 30
Next Game	N/A	3:30 on Nov. 9 at South Pasadena	N/A	N/A	N/A



(Continued from page 1)

Quarterback Morgan Hatch’s pass high into the air, allowing Junior Linebacker Dylan Bensinger to cradle in the interception on a momentum swing for the Titans. Unfortunately, the San Marino offense gave the ball right back to Temple City following a three and out.

Conversely, the Titan defensive line continued to come up with important tackles for loss of yardage in order to force the Rams into third and long situations. On San Marino’s third possession of the night, the Titans finally managed to effectively move the ball downfield, eventually setting up a six-yard score by Senior Tailback John Trawick.

“They realized that they had their backs against the wall, and they decided that they finally needed to play tough,” mentioned Coach Moreland.

Following a missed extra point by Junior Kicker Daniel Cistic, San Marino remained behind 6-7.

The Titan defense forced another Temple City turnover shortly afterward when Junior Defensive Back Mikeal Rollins intercepted a poorly under-thrown deep ball from Morgan. That pick essentially sealed the score at 6-7 at the end of the first half.

San Marino seemed to take advantage of the momentum swing to start the second half by marching downfield to set up a 35-yard field goal by Daniel, pushing the Titans ahead, 9-7.

However, the Rams quickly responded with a 3:39, nine-play drive consisting entirely of rushing plays to shift the lead right back to Temple City, 9-14. The Rams never faced a third down on the drive as they bulldozed their way into the end zone.

Though San Marino held the Rams to only seven points in

the first half, Williams broke the game open in the second, “when they put him back there as the quarterback all by himself and he was just running up the middle,” explained Coach Moreland.

“That’s something that we didn’t really prepare for because that wasn’t one of their more popular formations that we [saw] on film, so that caught us off-guard. [In addition, last] week, we were not allowed to practice because of the smoke. Anytime you take our guys out of their regular routine, they get all flustered and kind of taken out of their game.”

In contrast to Williams and Temple City moving the ball up and down the field throughout the rest of the game, the Titans just could not establish a rhythm again.

Unable to find space between the tackles, John was continually stopped near the line of scrimmage. Junior Quarterback Steven Wright also found it difficult, as he was sacked three times on the night, and seemingly under pressure from the Ram front four all night long.

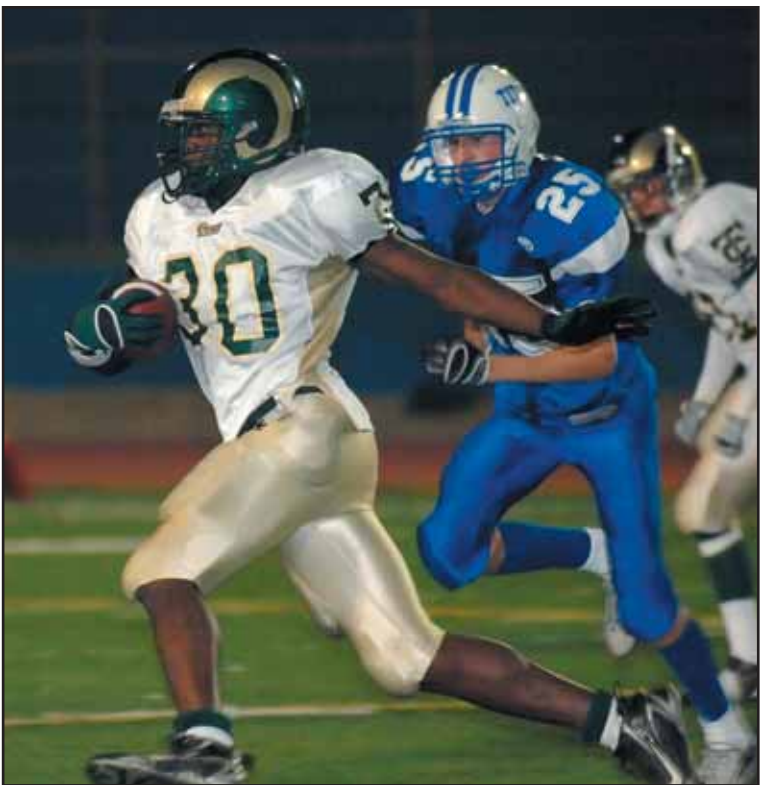
All in all though, Coach Moreland felt that they dealt well with the Temple City pass rush, despite that fact that, “[It was] probably a little bit frustrating for him.”

On top of that, the San Marino receivers dropped Steven’s passes all night long.

“Any dropped pass is unacceptable. I don’t know why we weren’t catching them, [probably just] a lack of concentration,” said Coach Moreland.

With 10:43 left in the game, Williams walked the ball into the end zone on fourth and three to increase the lead to 9-21.

From there, the game was



Temple City’s Senior Running Back **Williams Do** speeds past Senior Captain Defensive Back **Alden Weiss** on October 26.  
*Justin Quan//TITAN SHIELD*

essentially out of reach for the Titans, as Williams kept plowing through the San Marino defense to keep running down the clock. Then on the other side of the ball, the Titan offense struggled to string together first downs.

“[The team] obviously knew they were in a really big hole that they had to come back from, and they knew it was going to be a battle. I would imagine they didn’t feel real good about themselves because we didn’t play our best game today,” added Coach Moreland.

The game eventually ended at 9-21, dropping the Titans to 5-2-1 overall and 1-1-1 in league play.

“Hopefully they learned that if you don’t come and give your best effort on every single play all the time, you’re going to get beat,” continued Coach Moreland.

**Titans Take on Wildcats**

Tonight, San Marino continues its push to make CIF playoffs as the Titans play host to Monrovia.

The Wildcats come off of a 26-38 loss to Blair last week, and are currently in a three-way tie for first place in Rio Hondo League play along with the aforementioned Vikings and the Temple City Rams.

“Our ultimate goal is to make it to the playoffs. We put ourselves in a little bit of a hole, and we’ve got to go back to the drawing board. We’ve probably got to win out [our remaining two games], so that’s what we’ll be working on. We’re going to come back next week and practice harder and work and do whatever we can to beat Monrovia,” concluded Coach Moreland.

2007 Varsity Football League Schedule

10/12 La Cañada

T 7-7

10/19 Blair

W 29-28

10/26 Temple City

L 9-21

11/2 Monrovia

7:00 p.m.

11/9 @ South Pasadena

7:00 p.m.

# Cross Country Ends Season at Mt. SAC

**By Brandon Shiau**  
*Associate Editor of Copy*

The majority of the SMHS Cross Country team traveled to Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC) to compete in the Mt. SAC Invitational on Friday, October 12.

They also competed at the Rio Hondo League finals yesterday at Crescenta Valley Park. However, results were not available at the time of publication.

At Mt. SAC, the Boys’ Varsity team managed to achieve fifth place overall out of 25 schools with sufficient points in the third heat of Boys’ Varsity high school Division IV/V race of the day (#23).

Senior Cristian Raether led the boys in 10th place at 17:20, followed by Sophomore Sean Silva at 30th, exactly one minute later.

The third Varsity Titan, in 37th, was Junior Captain Raymond Nhan, coming in at 18:33.

The San Marino ladies ranked ninth out of 21 teams with enough

points in the second heat of the Girls’ Varsity high school Division IV/V race (#25).

Junior Sarah Tolley came in 15th in her varsity race at 21:06, barely beating Senior Captain Jasmine Quan-Liu, who came in 17th, nine seconds later.

Junior Nikki Miller soon followed in 23rd with a time of 21:30.

Head Coach Ernest Ramirez commented, “I was happy with the team overall,” noting that the ladies once again beat the arch-rival South Pasadena Tigers.

He added, “This year is the first time we’ve raced in a Division IV/V race [which] definitely gave us more competition.”

Though San Marino has traditionally been a Division III school, because of a slight decline in total school size, it now falls into Division IV.

The Mt. SAC race, though not related to the Rio Hondo League, is significant for the Titans because of its unique characteristics.

The invitational, the largest in the world, usually involves 20,000

plus competitors from elementary school through college and Divisions I-V.

Also, Coach Ramirez believes that “it’s a challenging course; there’s probably no other course like it that we race on throughout the entire season.”

Those who did initially qualify for CIF will revisit the course, the location of prelims, in a few weeks.

During the week of October 20-24, poor air quality from the wildfires forced the runners to cancel practice for several days. Coach Ramirez was uncertain at the time of how the break would affect the Titans’ performance at their last normal competition of the season.

However, he is certain that, overall, the season was “fulfilling.”

“We probably didn’t have as [many runners] as in previous years, but we compensated for that by working harder,” he stated.

With the season coming to a close, Coach Ramirez looks to next year, when he hopes to recruit



Senior **Cristian Raether** begins his stride as he departs from the starting line during the Mt. SAC Invitational on October 12.  
*Jilly Ko//TITAN SHIELD*