

The Mustang

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San Dieguito High School

800 Santa Fe Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

May 27, 1988

Students awarded by Parents' Club

By Jamie Wynne Shantzer

Eighteen representatives of San Dieguito's sophomore, junior, and senior classes convened at a special awards ceremony sponsored by the Parents' Club. In recognition of some bright, positive role models, each student was presented with a \$50 savings bond and certificate. Awardees were selected by teachers of all departments, and the students were later notified to meet Tuesday, May 10 in the school library.

Amye Billings, a member of the junior class, said she was quite surprised at receiving a call slip in history — "I didn't know what it was all about."

These honorees were chosen for their efforts in helping to improve the quality of living in the community. "They tend to do everything in the spirit of service, and are not involved in drugs or lost in the material

world," according to the Parents' Club memo.

Sophomore class members include: Jessica Houde, Gia Giammarinaro, John Stanfield, and Guillermina Alaniz. In the junior class are: Billings, Amy Van Hooser, Joe Ahadian, and Don -Wei Chai. Seniors include: Rafael Navarro, Sylvia Fernandez, Dan Boyer, Daniel Moreno, Denise Lehr, Kristen Scanlan, Bob Hartman, Beth Bowers, Jennifer Haley, and Geraldine Mann.

The Parents' Club, in the last few years, has become affiliated with the Board of Realtors, which has generously donated money to the "Dollars for Scholars" program.

Four seniors will be chosen at the Senior Awards Ceremony, each to receive a \$100 scholarship. Two additional scholarships, each of \$300 will also be awarded.



Photo courtesy of Greg Van Hooser

Twelve of 18 students honored by the San Dieguito Parents' Club on May 10. Pictured: (back row l-r) Kristen Scanlan, Sylvia Fernandez, Jennifer Haley, Joe Ahadian, Daniel Moreno, Geraldine Mann. (Middle) Don-Wei Chai, Rafael Navarro. (Front row l-r) Dan Boyer, Robert Hartman, Amy Van Hooser, Amye Billings.



Photo by Roman Koenig

Traditions are special

...Especially high school prom. The Princess Hotel was the sight of the "Midnight Masquerade," held last week. See the Mustang's special prom photo essay on pages 6 and 7.

'89 Cheerleaders named

By Michelle Humphreys

After approximately a month of practices, screening, and tryouts, the 1988-89 Varsity Cheerleaders were chosen on April 18. They are Deanna Robins (head cheerleader), Sharon Emery, (co-head), Kim Ansell, Kerry Powers, Joanna Heron, Nicole Zaroday, Michelle Johnson, Tiffany Avilgt, Karl Davidson, Cara Bollisario, Tara Marvin, and Beth Lennik.

The new advisor for the

Cheerleaders will be Vicky Snyder.

Practice for the cheerleaders begins on June 20 and continues throughout the summer. Both Junior Varsity and Varsity squads will attend Cheerleading camp at the University of California at Irvine July 6-9.

During camp, they will be involved in various different competitions on both an individual and team basis.

Grad Nite on the Nile slated

By Todd McKendrick and Wendy Pickett

The second annual Grad Nite, "An Evening on the Nile," will take place on June 16 at 9:30 p.m.

This "spectacular" event will take place in the Mustang Gym. The Parents' Club is putting on this "extravaganza" to insure a fun and safe place to be on Grad Nite.

Penny Snow, a Parents' Club member says, "We have had considerable donations from the Rotary Club and Sunshine

Gardens along with many other businesses." Along with all the help from local businesses, over 50 parents have donated "over a thousand hours" in making decorations.

Todd Hunter, a graduate of the 1987 class was amazed at the variety of things to do last year. "You could play in the casino for prizes as big as boats." The carnival row was a place to test your skill and luck. Dancing to popular bands, and enjoying the "tons

of food" offered through out the night were also part of the fun. Hunter feels that "anyone who does not attend this year's Grad Nite, based on last year's response, will miss the best night of high school."

Tickets will be sold on Monday and Friday in the front of the gym at lunch; over 275 students have purchased tickets already. The tickets cost \$35 and a T-shirt will be an extra five dollars.

CAPS Scholarships named

By Stephanie Mowrey

This year's winners of the "Class of 1985 CAPS Scholarships" have been announced. The six \$500 winners are: Jose Aguirre, Sylvia Fernandez, Denise Lehr, Brian Mandell, Rafael Navarro, and Susie Park.

The winners were chosen based upon school involvement, need, and factors such as teacher recommendations and future plans.

The California Assessment Program administered an exam in December of 1984, to test the skills of high school seniors.

In October of 1984, the program decided to include a monetary incentive; the larger the improvement from the previous year, the more money the school would receive. In March of 1985 the results were published and San Dieguito's marked improvement earned the school

a total of \$85,000.

A CAP Committee was established to decide the proper methods for spending the funds. \$40,000 was put in a bank account and the interest earned is divided annually for the scholarships.

On June 9 at the Senior Awards Assembly, the 1985 Class officers will present the awards to this year's recipients.

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Guest Speaker addresses Sandinista support

By Jim Yardley

In two of the most controversial presentations on Nicaragua to date, Sister Mary Hartman, head of the Nicaraguan Human Rights Commission, and Chris Alario, a volunteer for the Nicaraguan resistance, spoke to students as part of the Library Lecture Series.

Hartman spoke to a filled library on May 10 as part of a speaking tour for San Diego County schools sponsored by the San Diego Teachers for Nicaragua. She spoke of her experiences of working and living with the people of the country for 26 years. She also gave her opinions on U.S. policy in the region, the Contra resistance, and Nicaragua in general.

Speaking of the country itself, she said "Nicaragua is a democracy." Hartman continued, sharing her insights about the people of Nicaragua, saying, "(The people) hold no grudge. They can make a distinction between the American people and the American government."

She was highly critical of the U.S. government that, in her words, was bent on "the destruction of Nicaragua." She specifically condemned the State Department for distorting the facts about Nicaragua, claiming "some were outright lies", as well as the Central Intelligence Agency for its involvement in its affairs.

Calling the Nicaraguan resistance, better known as the Contras, "assassins, rapists, and murderers", Hartman proceeded to list several atrocities committed by the rebels. As a result of the war, basing her statements from Amnesty International and America Watch reports, she said 50,000 Nicaraguans were killed, 11,000 orphaned, 250,000 displaced, and 3 billion dollars in damage done to the economy.

Although Hartman stated that the Sandinista government was guilty of some human

rights violations, she pointed out that there is no institutionalized torture nor death squads unlike other

Central American countries and that "...due process is in effect." She briefly mentioned in her presentation that the billion dollars in Soviet and Cuban aid was merely to stabilize the economy in Nicaragua and to help fight against the rebels.

To counterbalance her views, Alario, a UCSD graduate in political philosophy, a reporter covering Central America, and a non-paid worker with elements of the resistance movement, spoke to students on May 20. He denied many of the allegations brought up by Hartman, and went so far as to

state, "(Hartman) is more dangerous than any Sandinista when speaking to an American audience because she lies not through her teeth, but through her heart. She commands more credibility for lying for the Sandinistas because she is an American. She has not only betrayed the American people, but the Nicaraguan people as well."

Besides being critical of Hartman for not being fault-

finding of the Sandinista government, he also found fault with U.S. policy as well, putting the blame on Congress, calling them "535 secretaries of state" as well as the CIA for their fractured policy. "U.S. policy in Central America is not something to be proud of - we pursued our interests at the expense of others," he said.

Alario first pointed out that the revolution to throw out dictator Anastasio Somoza was not a Sandinista revolution, but rather an anti-Somoza revolution and that the Sandinista forced out many political factions when they consolidated power. "The Sandinistas have been known to lie and to go back on their promises," he said, citing an Organization of American States agreement that he claims the Nicaraguan government violated concerning human rights, the national economy, and foreign policy as well as the "72-Hour Document", a Sandinista document translated by the State Department listing their Marxist-Leninist goals

and ideals.

He had high praise for the Contras, stating that the rebels "...do not fight for money, glory, or the U.S., but for freedom for their own people." He claimed that a third of the resistance is made up of former Sandinistas and that 90% of the Contras

are peasants. "(The revolution) was to uplift the poor, but most of the poor are fighting," he commented.

When questioned on human rights violations, he admitted that the Contras were guilty on some occasions of committing such acts. But he said that this was not a policy and that the Sandinistas have done far worse, using the Mosquito Indians as an example of the brutality of the government, at one time comparing its policy to genocide.

Both Alario and Cathy Stratiff, the librarian, urged students to make their own conclusions. "There are many points of view on this subject," said Stratiff. Alario also said, "It's up to you to seek the truth."

Pros and cons of closed campus examined

By Karin Tamerius

The growing debate at San Dieguito High School over efforts by some members of the school board to close the campus has raised questions among both students and faculty about the benefits and disadvantages of such a policy. In order to clarify the issues, here is an examination of two different high schools in San Diego County which have closed campuses: Vista and Grossmont.

The most frequent argument made by those in favor of closing the campus at SDHS is that it will reduce absences and tardies. When asked if that was indeed the case at their school, students at Vista replied that it did not appear to significantly impact either. It appears that while Vista is almost completely enclosed by a fence, students often leave campus through the parking lot exit. As one student remarked, "When I want to leave school (unlawfully) I just wave and make eye-contact with the guards and they let me through." The students agreed that there seemed to be no great effort on the part of the administration to enforce the rules unless there was an obvious violation.

The story at Grossmont, however, was completely different. All of the students interviewed believed that the closed campus is a significant deterrent. As one student explained, "It isn't worth the hassle." Unlike the situation at Vista, students at Grossmont are automatically questioned if they attempt to leave campus

during school hours and the punishment for such an infraction of the rules is all day in school suspension. Surprisingly, the Grossmont campus is described as being very spread out, a fact which would seem to facilitate attempts to leave school, however, students deny that this poses a problem for the administration.

While students at both schools expressed a desire for an open campus, students at Grossmont felt that it was not a great infraction on their freedom. They all agreed that the school's distance from fast food places would make it virtually impossible for students to leave campus for lunch and return in time for class and they did not doubt that opening it would increase the number of tardies. They also felt that the closed campus was especially beneficial for the cafeteria which has a virtual monopoly on the sale of food items.

While the students at Vista were unable to identify any real benefits from their school's policy, they did comment on some disadvantages. "Because the rules are so poorly enforced," one student explained, "it creates the attitude that school rules are to be ignored." And another echoed his sentiment stating, "No one respects the rule."

Only one student at Grossmont was able to identify any real disadvantage to the closed campus policy. He believes that sometimes because students don't want to go to one class, they end up ditching the entire day of school.

The debate over the campus policy is not likely to be resolved soon, however, by examining the way it works at various schools in San Diego County, we can get a better understanding of how such a policy would work at San Dieguito. Perhaps Jeff Mengoli, a student at

Grossmont High School, explained it best when he said that the effectiveness of the policy "will be different for each school" and that each school "should examine itself individually" before deciding on any particular policy option.

Results of the Open Campus Survey		
Are you satisfied with the open campus policy at San Dieguito?		
	Y	N
Parents	18	23
Staff	74	24
Students	1090	12



Tony Francis

PHOTOGRAPHY

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Mills follows unusual path

By Angela Oxford

"Have you ever looked at the underside of a glacier? It's the most incredible blue — an electric blue — utterly exquisite."

An unusual, intriguing statement, made by an unusual, intriguing person: Jane Mills. A veteran English teacher of 12 years, eight of which have been spent at San Dieguito, Mills is far from being a "typical" teacher.

"I hope that when I grow up I'll get to have a dog," says Mills, who regrets never having owned one. Even though she has never had a dog, this New Jersey native has done many things that most other people haven't, such as climbing the Chilcoat Pass in the Yukon Territory.

"I looked at that thing," said Mills about the 1500-foot tall Chilcoat Pass, which is about two-thirds of the way through a 50-mile trail following the route of the Klondike gold discovery,

"and I said, 'I'm going to climb that mother, and I'm going to be different when I get to the top of it!'"

Getting to the top of the Chilcoat Pass did indeed change Mills, who thought when she got there, "I'm different now. I can do anything!"

Besides hiking, Mills also enjoys being with people, cooking, weaving, and, befitting an english teacher, reading.

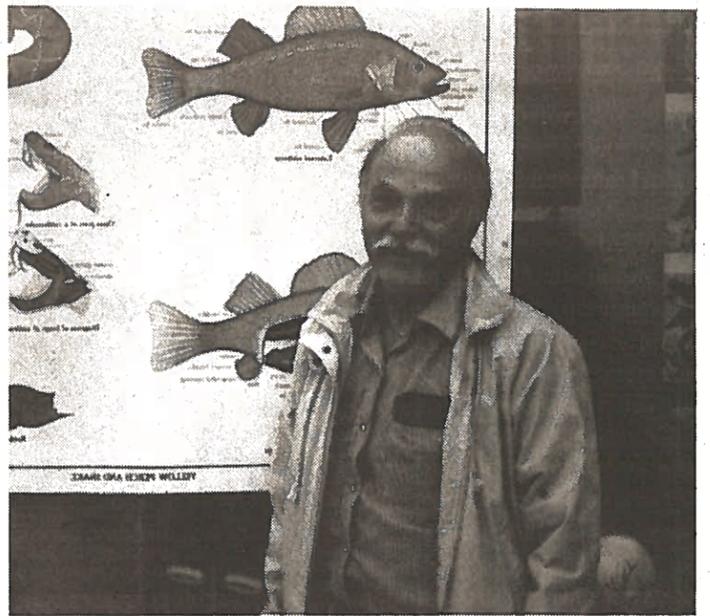
"My tenth-graders are going to kill me for this," said Mills with a mischievous smile, but one of her favorite books to teach is "Crime and Punishment." She also enjoys teaching "Oedipus Rex" and the Canterbury Tales.

Not only does Mills do unusual things outside of school, but she has had unusual, even scary things happen to her in school as well. While still a fairly new teacher, Mills was walking down the

halls at lunch and found two kids ("kids— hah! — big burly GUYS!") coming at each other with chairs.

"You can't do that," said Mills, calmly walking between them, and the boys stopped. Turning around to leave, Mills started "shaking all over," not believing that she had just stepped between two guys that were ready to kill each other with chairs.

Unfortunately, this will be Mills' last year teaching at San Dieguito. She hopes to get the job of head resident at Pendle Hill, a Quaker study center just outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This job includes the overseeing of the housing of those who come to Pendle Hill, as well as kitchen and maintenance duties. If this opportunity does not work out, however, she will move to northern California where her son lives.



Hewitson to retire

By Deidre Helmstetter

The man with the ear-piercing whistle is retiring.

John Hewitson, famous for blowing his whistle when his class occasionally becomes "utter chaos," has decided to retire after teaching biology for 26 years at San Dieguito.

Hewitson says he only uses the whistle three or four times a year, but he wears it a lot "just in case things get rowdy." He doesn't blow on it very hard, though, because it can make a very loud noise. For instance, there was a time when two students were fighting out by the fence near his room and since many people were watching them, it was noisy outside. Hewitson went outside and blew the whistle as hard as he could. The result was the fastest dispersing of a mass of people that anyone has ever seen.

Besides teaching Biology I, Hewitson has also taught

Human Science and Biology II. As for choosing Biology over some other subject, Hewitson says that he has "always been interested in animals and their diseases."

In 1959, Hewitson took a sabbatical leave and went to New Zealand. He taught for one year and the second year he studied the problems of the fisheries.

Now that he is retiring, Hewitson would very much like to go back to New Zealand for a year or two, but he wants to take care of his elderly mother for a while. Until he goes to New Zealand, however, he is going to savor the free time he has and enjoy "not having to get up at 5:30 in the morning anymore."

Principal Sal Ramirez commented on Hewitson. "He is a fantastic teacher and he has made a tremendous contribution to students at this school. We'll miss him."

How to improve your Karma

Does it seem to you that nothing is going right in your life? Maybe you failed a test, crashed your mom's car, and were fired from your job at Burger King all in the same week. And to top it off, you weren't even asked to prom. Have the fates conspired against you? Maybe they have. Maybe you deserve it. Here's things you can do to prevent

future karmic disaster:

1. Don't hang up on the school's computer-calling system.
2. Use the telephone book instead of calling directory information.
3. Clean your plate.
4. Use a footnote.
5. Don't take up two parking spaces.
6. Start your physics project

before it's due.

7. Don't use the Express Lane in the supermarket when you have 11 items.
8. Return your shopping cart to the parking corral.
9. Don't pretend that you're 13 years old so you can get in for half-price.
10. Conserve toilet paper.

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Working world is strange experience

By Jim Yardley

"Uniform's in the back."

Those were the first kind words that greeted me from an employee who had the unfortunate luck of working two eight-hour shifts, one of them being the graveyard shift. I had just arrived for my first day and needless to say, I was a little nervous. This warm greeting didn't help.

I was lost in an unfamiliar and new place. I put on the ill-fitting shirt that I grabbed from the locker and walked back to the office. For the next several minutes, I filled out paperwork. I then received the briefest orientation imaginable. The manager came in and belatedly welcomed me, saying that I would enjoy working here, etc. I got my key to the cash register and I was thrust back into the wonderful world of working.

I didn't have the greatest day — I didn't even have an ok day! I stumbled blindly around, trying to calm disgruntled customers, fighting the credit card machine that would occasionally jam, and hunting for items that I no idea where they were kept. I constantly looked at my watch, hoping that time could go faster, that I could wake up from this nightmare.

To top it all off, the manager said that there was money missing from the shift. Wonderful. This meant I had to try to find it and if I couldn't it would be taken from my pay. Murphy's law was right: if anything can go wrong...

When I finally got home that day, my dad asked me, "How was the first day on the job?" I replied it wasn't as bad as I thought it be.

It was worse!

Testing a friendship

Before me stands a tall lanky fellow. I approach him and say, "Hi bud, how's it going," or something to that effect. I normally greet my friends in this manner.

The fact is that I have been friends with this person for approximately three years. In that time I have watched him go through a total change. Not only in physical appearance, but in personality as well. This change was rather abrupt and had me extremely confused on several occasions, but once I understood the source I began to understand exactly why the changes were happening. The changes can be attributed to one thing and one thing only: the girlfriend.

Before now I never realized the pure insanity and complete change of psyche that can be caused by something as simple as falling in "love." The quotes are there for a special reason which will be explained later.

This friend of mine, his name is left out to protect myself, basically left behind all of his previous morals to suit what his girlfriend thought best. I guess that would be all right if the girlfriend had more sense than he does. Unfortunately, that is not the case.

Since he met this girl he has started smoking; something he used to view as stupid and lowly. The way he dresses has totally changed from rather stylish to clothes which are purchased at the Goodwill. He thinks it is cool because of the cost, despite his general upper middle class status.

In general terms, she possesses him as one would a piece of property. The funny thing is that neither of them realizes it.

Some people may say I am being too critical. Some may say that I am jealous, because his girlfriend takes time away from our friendship. Perhaps both are true, and they may be responsible for my seeing a big change in his character. However, he is my friend and no one can deny me the right to worry about what is happening and will happen to him if things continue as they are.

Despite his change he remains a good friend that can generally be depended on in times of need. This is something I am grateful for because it is good to know some things never change. His demeanor remains mellow unless you accidentally maul his cigarettes, in which case, he turns into the literal Mr. Hyde.



English words cause mix-ups

By Fiona Russell

"I know that you believe you understand what you think I said, but I am not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant." Think for a second. It's not that confusing. In fact, you've probably experienced those exact words, well, not exactly in those words but remotely related to the situation. Anyway it's all confusing, especially if you're a foreigner to a country that has its own expressions and language.

You're an American you've arrived in Britain on a vacation (holiday) and experience a hunger pang which erupts into a loud growl from your stomach, and you rush to "fill the spot" so to speak. You find a store (shop), and ask for a packet of chips. Here you would learn that in the U.K.

chips are defined as hot fries, and you become aware that you are not quite on the same communication level, although strangely you are both speaking English.

Unfortunately, while traveling as a tourist, you will encounter communication problems, unless of course you know the "English" language. If you don't, well just buying a simple article of clothing will highly increase your blood pressure. An example might occur when buying "knickers."

"So" you say, "what's so different about buying knickers?" Well, the U.K.'s definition of "knickers" is: women's undergarment for lower half of body. So, you see, the result could be an embarrassing situation, just like a San Dieguito High School French teacher experienced while on

vacation in Britain. She innocently attempted to purchase a pair of knickers in "Harrods of London," by asking for a pair of "corduroy" knickers and the reply from the clerk was, "Well Madam, we have woollen knickers, but we don't have corduroy."

Another confusing aspect of the clothing language is the difference between a bathing suit and a costume. The costume is something you wear on Halloween, right? Wrong! A costume is something you wear in the pool. Well, whoever's right I'll never know. I guess we'll continue having our own languages and thinking we're right. In a sense it all makes sense, it keeps the world alive, so we can constantly debate the right and wrong and the funny consequences of the differences.

Creative Corner

Implement
I think I like black best
It flows better and my words look cleaner.
They sit in a cup with Japanese inscriptions waiting to be used by my creative mind.
One fits most perfectly between two fingers.
I choose it most often to help me put my cluttered thoughts down for others to view.

By Stephanie Mowrey

Joe
There once was a man named Joe
Who wished to produce a show
He aquired a play But quit in a day
For he lacked sufficient dough

By David Wolfe

"Confusion"
Confusion, Illusion
Is all I know,
Commotion, Emotion
Allows me to grow,
Suspention, Detention
Cleansing me,
Scheming, Dreaming
Makes Me Free.

By Shannon Sullivan

THE FLY

I once saw a fly on the wall,
Whose form was ever so small;
I watched for a moment
Then wanted to torment,
So I smashed him and watched him fall.

By Rich Oesterheld

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Hawkes sings for service



singing alto for the La Jolla Civic/University Symphony Chorus.

The La Jolla Civic/University Symphony Chorus, has brought Hawkes an opportunity to not only enjoy what she loves so much, but this summer for two weeks Hawkes will travel Germany, Austria and Italy with her husband, daughter and 80 other members of the choir.

"We will sing in many villages and at the same time tour the countries," she said.

Hawkes brings a little brightness to everyone's day. She displays her roses she has grown in her garden and encourages everyone to smell them.

Although Hawkes is known as the receptionist and switchboard operator for SDHS, she also has many other duties including being the driver's training secretary, athletic secretary and as she says "general all 'round greeter."

By Fiona Russell

"Music is a natural high. We'd have less drugs in schools if we had a good music program," says Shirley Hawkes, receptionist and switchboard operator for San Dieguito High School.

She has good reason to have this opinion. Hawkes has been

involved in music for most of her life. She started singing at a young age, took violin lessons and joined choir in seventh grade. "My school's strong music program was the basis for my interest in music," she stated.

This interest in music has led Hawkes to devote 10 years to

Hunting for 'Red October'

By Don Murphy

Tension mounts across the world as a Soviet submarine carrying nuclear warheads makes its way to the United States.

This is the basis behind Tom Clancy's novel "The Hunt for the Red October."

The games the superpowers play and the stakes for which they play them are excellently portrayed. A large amount of research on Clancy's part is obvious from the beginning, and the actions of military and political leaders are realistic.

The idea of several Soviet officers on a submarine deceiving their entire crew, and making good their escape to America is somewhat remote. Fortunately Clancy covers any possibility of disbelief in the reader's mind by following a logical course of events.

Despite the large scale on which the novel is based, there is good character development. The abrupt setting changes from one place to another can be frustrating, but the necessity for these types of changes is soon realized.

Those who are easily bothered by the way international politics are handled in real life should save themselves the frustration of reading this novel.

However, "Hunt for Red October" is an excellent novel if high blood pressure, increased stress, and time are not of concern.

Those who have read Clancy and are interested in reading other works by him should look for "Red Storm Rising" and "Patriot Games."

Murder in my past

By Deidre Helmstetter

One of my former classmates is a murderer.

A boy at my old school in Japan killed his girlfriend. My mother's friend spoke very briefly about a murder taking place, but not wanting to discuss it, she just said that the boy was around my age.

My mother went on a vacation to Japan in January to visit our old friends, and I asked her to find out who this person was. Two-and-a-half weeks went by and there wasn't a day when I didn't go through my old yearbook, trying to figure out who it was.

When my mother finally returned, she related the story to me: Scott, (one year younger than I), had a Japanese girlfriend who became pregnant, but didn't tell him about the baby. Instead, she got an abortion. Scott was infuriated when he found out about the abortion, and in a fit of rage, he killed her.

I don't know how Scott killed her — I don't think I really want to know. I knew Scott

quite well. Scott's older brother, Mike, was my good friend's (Debra) boyfriend. On the way home from school, Debra would want to be with Mike, so Scott and I would sit in the train together and talk.

Most people did not get to know Scott very well. He always kept to himself. His appearance, namely tall and blond, did not fit with what seemed to be his low self-esteem. Talking to him, I found out that he had many problems. His school work was below average, he was having problems with his immediate family, and he did not have any close friends to fall back on.

Scott came from a missionary family, and since Mike was such an open Christian, I thought his problems would straighten themselves out.

Obviously, they didn't. All of those frustrations that I kept trying to help him with continued to build up, and led to this explosion.

I don't know — it is so hard for me to believe that someone I knew well actually killed a human being.

Place for which I stood

By Jamie Wynne Shantzer

A plane soaring overhead rendered the day more typical. I could hear my next-door neighbor mowing the lawn, and I just stood there at my window sill thinking of what I might do to create a more interesting and, perhaps, educational weekend.

I invested my interests in La Jolla, my serene little Mediterranean of the West. There, I strolled the steps of history in the old Cove tunnel, a minor experience of major enjoyment. One enters the tunnel from Coast Shells, a quaint shop situated right above the blue Pacific. Upon descending the first step, I noted a tremendous drop in temperature — the walls were slick with wet limestone and the smell was crisp and refreshing like the fragrance of a Paris rainstorm. I paid one dollar admission to the tunnel and just seeing a young, out-of-shape woman panting her way up 141 steps was worth every penny of it. When I finally reached the bottom, there was a balcony on which I stood and savored the

scene with my eyes.

The outlet of the tunnel is about twenty-four feet wide. The incoming wave carves its signature in the wooden stilts which support the balcony. The jagged cliffs serve as a kind of framework for the beauty that is so native to La Jolla. From my tiny hole in the rock, I can see the entire skyline of North County, from the forbidden zones of Black's Beach to the power plant at San Onofre — it is quite a sight.

It only takes five minutes to experience something that many have never taken time to do...fifteen if you wish to relish the moment like I did. And if descending tunnels is not appealing, there are a number of other sites to see and enjoy. Take an hour at the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, the Cove Theatre (where the most noted foreign films premiere), or visit Bird Rock. There are also many wonderful book stores and art galleries — La Jolla is suburban intelligence in action. Give yourself a break you won't forget...or regret.

The SAT course that passes the test.

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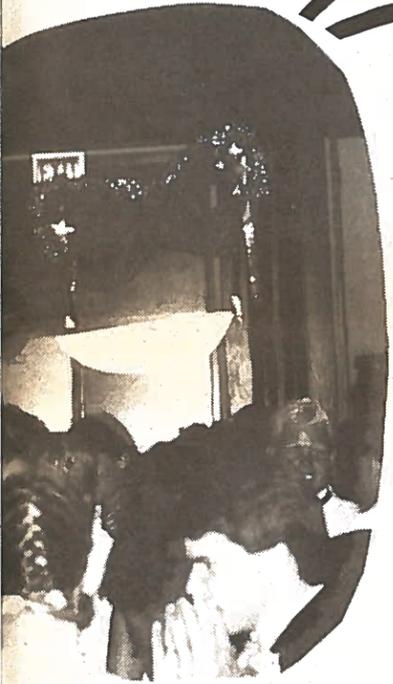
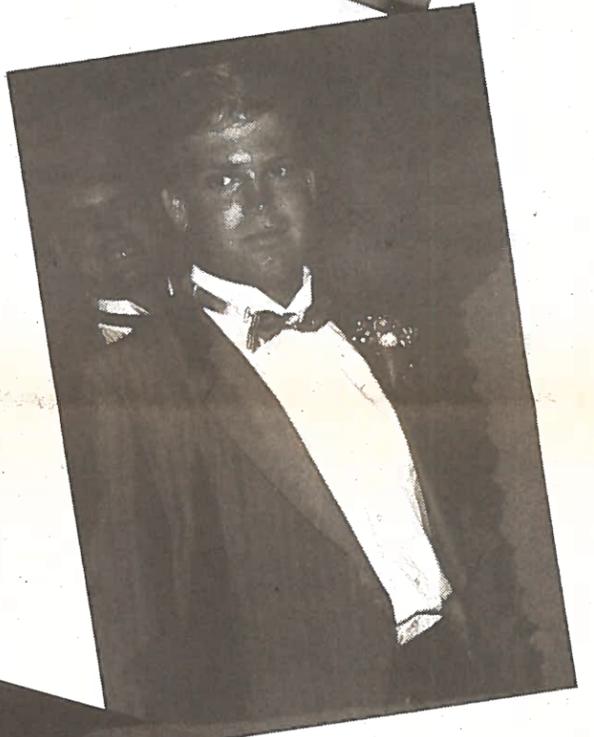




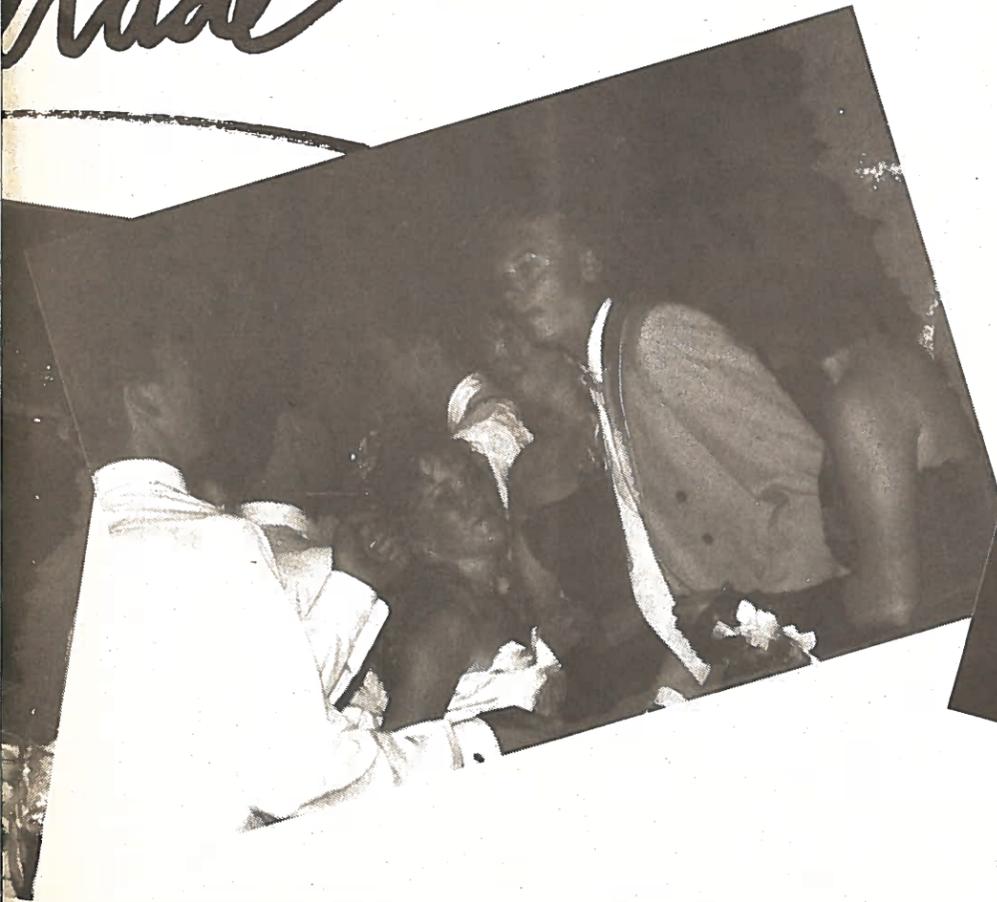
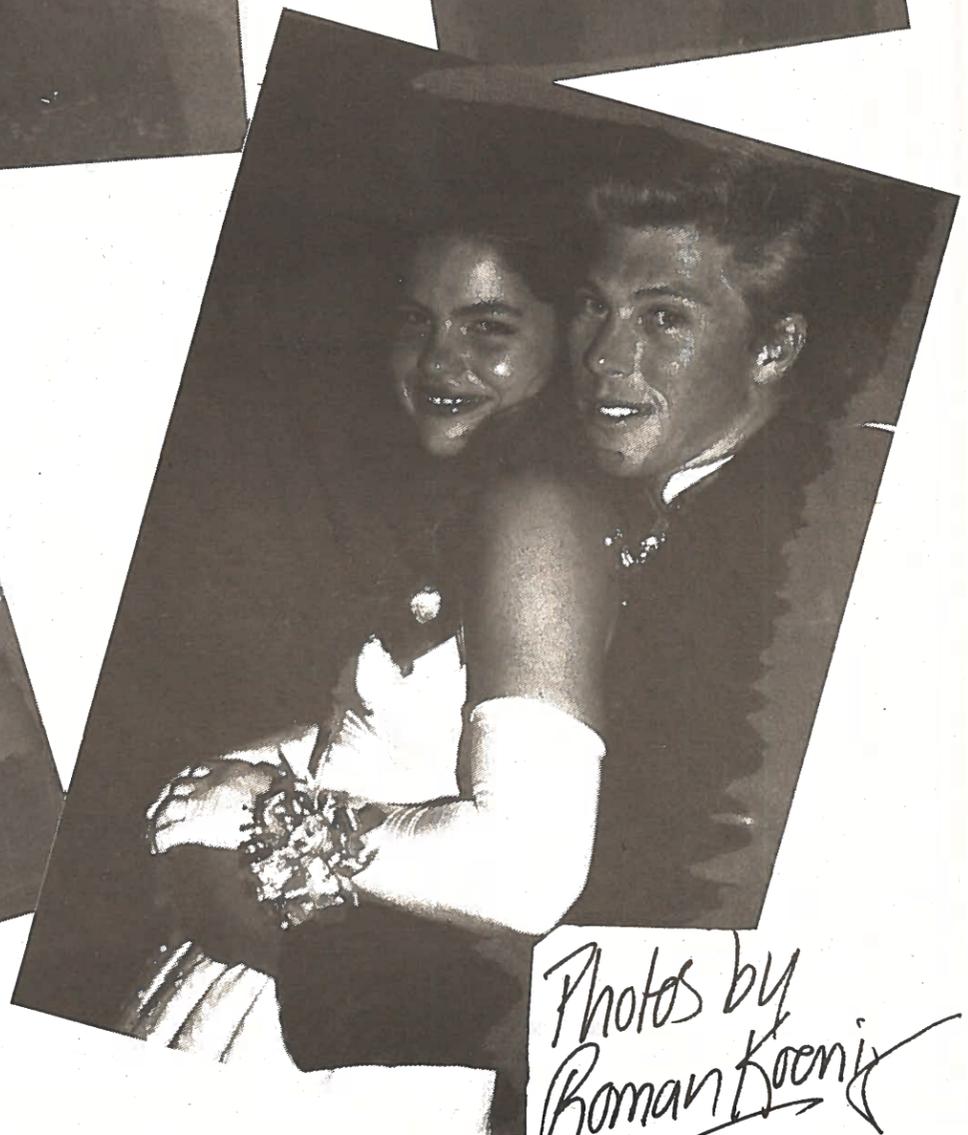
Photo courtesy of Tia Bonacore



ht



made



Photos by Roman Koenig

Looking through the mouth of Shamu



Photo courtesy of Sea World

By Rikki Org and John Steckert

From their outward appearances, Debbie Wozniak and Ernie Scott are just ordinary people. Ordinary, that is, until they go to work. There, they become literally "fish in water." For it's they who are two of Sea World's "walk-around" characters.

Essentially, a "walk-around" (as it is called there) breathes atmosphere into Sea World. They are there to greet guests entering the park and set the mood for the day.

"A walk-around character is a special type of entertainer," said Wozniak, who is the production lead (head production person). "They entertain an audience through means of personal contact and interaction, thus setting a mood for the guests."

Currently, there are nine characters serving Sea World. They consist of: Shamu the Whale, Virgil Pelican, Pete and Penny Penguin, Sir Winston Walrus, Oppie (O.P.) Otter, Cap'n Kid, and Arthur C. Turtle. Two other characters are now in the process of joining "Shamu's crew," Dolly Dolphin and Cecil Sea Lion.

Of all of these, Wozniak has two particular favorites, Penny and the Cap'n.

"If I was in a mischievous, flirtatious mood and I wanted to flirt with men, then I would wear Penny Penguin. But if I wanted to be an ambassador to Sea World and be an official greeter, then I would want to wear the captain," said Woz-

niak.

"You know, if I wanted a little more of a challenge. I'd have to change my mode and be more macho, more manly." (Speaking of the Cap'n, respectively.)

One of Wozniak's most memorable experiences came while she was in Cap'n Kid.

"When I was in high school, I had a lot of friends that were deaf, so I learned how to sign (sign language). We had a Deaf Awareness Day at Sea World and I had a little girl come up to me. Cap'n Kid is the only fingered costume that we have. The girl gave me a hug and her parents were signing to her. So I tapped her on the back and she turned around and I was able to sign 'I love you' to her. She understood me and she signed it back and hugged me."

It was the first time Wozniak was "really able to communicate a direct message to somebody while in costume."

Wozniak began her Sea World career seven years ago in the food service department. She was a seasonal worker at a concessions cart until her senior year in high school, when she requested a transfer to the entertainment department.

"My best friend was a costume character here and that's how I heard about the job," said Wozniak.

But perhaps the most inspirational reason for the transfer came from her father.

"My father was a costume character so it's kind of a fami-

ly thing for me," said Wozniak. "He was the Planters Peanut man when he was growing up. It was kind of funny that I went on to be Penny Penguin, so it was kind of a family joke. I always wanted to be one. I thought it was so neat that he was a 'peanut man.'"

During her three year stint as a costumed character, Wozniak had had many experiences. Her most embarrassing occurred during a show entitled "Up with People" where she was one of two penguins.

"We had just gotten a new pair of feet. The feet you wear are about twice the size of your normal shoes. They were half-an-inch longer than the ones I had been dancing (practicing) in and half-an-inch made all the difference in the world."

As she skipped up a flight of stairs, part of her foot caught the edge of the last step causing her to do a summersault in costume. Coming up dazed, she treated as part of the show's routine. The 4000 spectators were never aware of what happened because, concurrently, the penguin on the other side of the stage had fallen at the same time for the same reason.

The position Wozniak currently holds, production lead, has been with her for about three years. She is responsible for the hiring/firing, costume maintenance, and the getting the people out to there places on time. Occasionally, she still gets into costume to show her employees that she "respects what they're doing."

One of those employees who helps Wozniak run things smoothly with the costumes is Scott. Scott, who is currently an assistant lead in walk-around characters, began his career in costume doing promotions for a movie theatre in Santee.

"I was Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, and a Care Bear for the 'Care Bears Movie.'"

He was in the newspapers, he had a good time doing it, and people thought he was good at it. Therefore, when Sea World held a job fair, he didn't hesitate to go.

"I saw a public service announcement on Channel Eight telling about the job fair so I went and got lucky."

Since then he has portrayed many Sea World characters, but his two favorites are Shamu and Winston.

"I like Winston because for me I can move the best in it," said Scott. "In Winston you can do more things, like dance. I can also do more things personally wise."

Scott most commonly portrays Shamu because it's the quickest to put on, taking about two minutes.

"It is the most popular, if you like to get attention, just put on Shamu. He get's attention."

One of Scott's most memorable moments in costume came while he was in Shamu.

"I was just sitting on a planter box wall and this little girl was screaming in pain. She walked over and had a bandaid on her arm. I guess she had just

come back from somewhere she had gotten hurt. And she's crying and crying and comes over and goes 'Shamu I hurt my arm' with tears coming down. She then said, 'Will you kiss it and make it better?'"

Scott leaned over and kissed the wound "and the tears disappeared." The girl became happy and began to pet Shamu.

"I thought it was neat for me," said Scott.

Scott has performed at the Holiday Bowl and the Super Bowl.

On a typical work day, a person in costume will spend up to one-hour in costume, one-hour out. This is for the safety reasons since it does get a bit hot in the costumes. Ice-vests are worn while in costume, but they don't last long. During the summer months, time in costume can go as low as 30 minutes. All walk-arounds have this as their number-one dislike about the job.

All in all, Wozniak and Scott both enjoy what they do.

Scott has met Joe Piscopo and has gotten into an MTV party (tickets were worth \$250) free. Wozniak has met Brooke Shields while in costume.

"It's a great job. It's always different, which is something that hardly anyone can say when they get a job," said Scott.

Wozniak added, "I think everybody should be able to get into a costume and see what the world looks like from the inside-out."

Volleyball faces tough test for CIF

By Eric Johnson

Friday the 13th was indeed a day of bad luck for the San Dieguito Boys Volleyball team, as they were edged out by Poway in their match that decided the Palomar League championship.

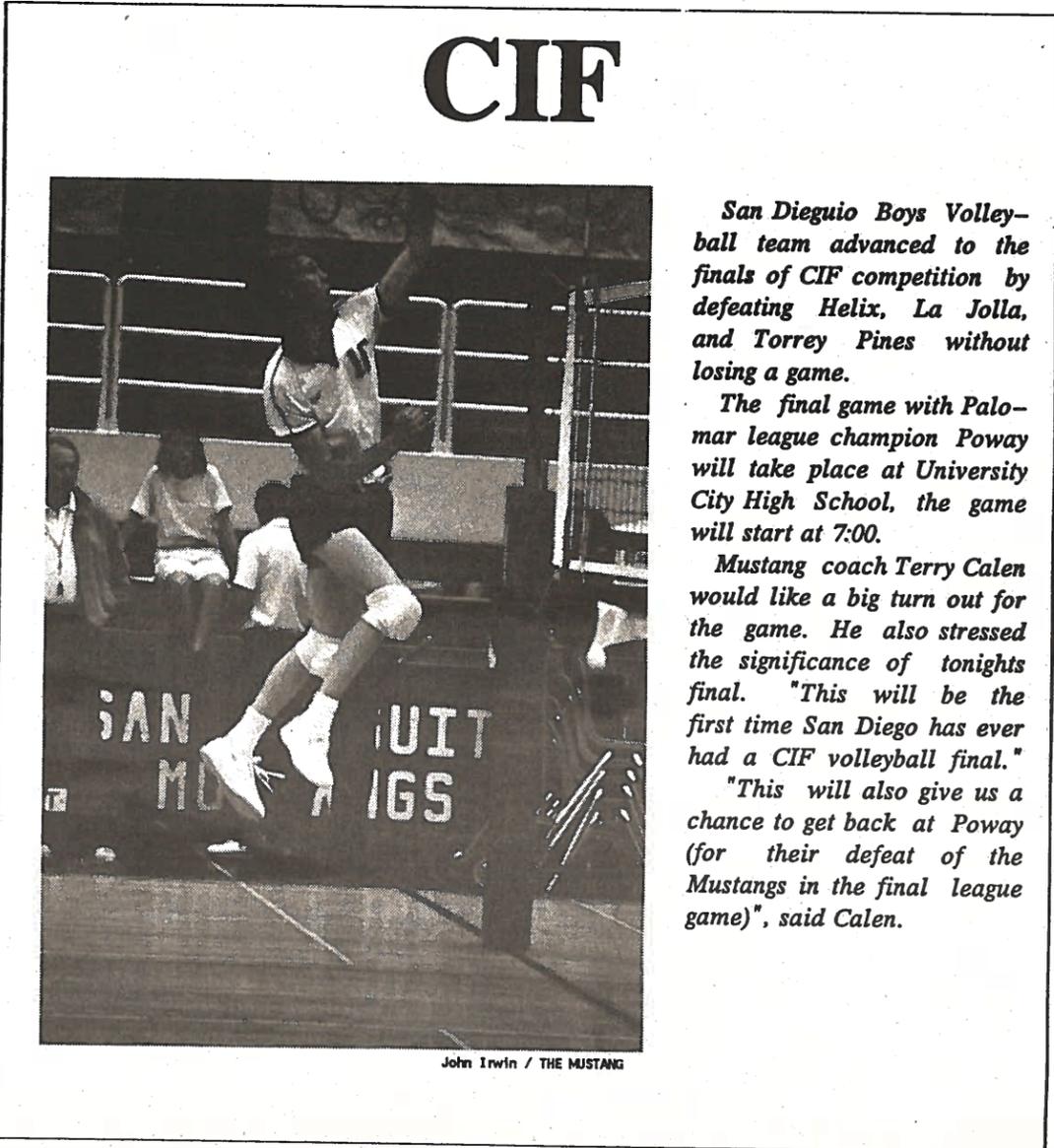
Playing on their home court, the Mustang Gym, the team moved ahead in the beginning by taking the first seven points in the match and also snatching the first game by a score of 15-4.

It looked as if the evening was in the hands of the Mustangs. With the solid play of David DeWolf, junior, and the setting of Jeff Zevely, senior, the Mustangs looked unstoppable after a few key spikes by Stace Lougeay, senior, and Jeff Homer, senior.

Defense, too, was unwavering with efforts of Mike Knappick, junior, and Todd MacDonald, senior. In addition the play of Wade Gilliam, junior, and Eric Sullivan, sophomore, added to the first victory of the match.

The match was not going to be settled with just one game. It would be going to five. Coach Terry Calen said that Poway is a "good team, every match goes to five. We (the Mustangs) have won 7 of the 13 games" between the two teams.

The second game showed this equality between the teams. The game fell into the



John Irwin / THE MUSTANG

hands of a strong Poway attack. The Mustangs did counteract this threat by tying the score at 4-4, but this was all the Mustangs could muster in the game, losing 15-9.

In most matches, the third

often determines the victor. Though San Dieguito fell behind early, they initiated a comeback with the beat of a drum as inspiration. The comeback came to close when, they tied the game 10-10.

This is when the Mustang

attack began to shine as they quickly took the game 15-12. The standing ovation from the crowd soon was hushed as the Poway Titans moved unexpectedly to a 4-0 lead. This lead expanded to seven at the score of 9-2. At this point

San Dieguito began to show signs of a comeback by adding two points to their total. This was too little, too late. Poway regained a tie with Mustangs 2-2 in the match.

The season was left to only one game. Who was going to win? No one knew. The first point was won by San Dieguito, but Poway responded with a backlash of five points to lead 5-1. At this point, it seemed the Mustangs would have given up, yet they sparked a comeback to lead by one (6-5).

Poway, again retaliated with six straight points to move ahead 11-6. The Mustangs tried again to regain this lost ground, but the two points they did earn making the score 11-8 was not enough.

Slowly Poway took a point at a time to move themselves closer to the Palomar League Championship. They did so at the expense of the Mustangs in the last game 15-9.

Even though the loss to Poway was devastating, the Mustangs entered the CIF Tournament with one goal in mind: meet Poway in the finals. The Mustangs made one step in this direction by defeating Helix in only three games. Though the finals are scheduled for Friday, bad luck will not be a factor, for the match is on the 27th, not the 13th.

Golf slices season

By Derick Mains

For the first time since 1985, the San Dieguito Golf team earned a spot in the year-end CIF tournament. Not only did the team go CIF, but the Mustangs also sent three golfers to individual competition.

The Mustangs finished the year with a league record of 4-8 which was good for a fifth place in the seven team Palomar league. However due to a team withdrawal, the Mustangs received the last at large birth in the playoffs.

The team chose the right time of the year to put together their best 18 hole score as they shot 402 to put them in 8th place out of 16 teams. This score put the Mustangs ahead of Fallbrook and Mt. Carmel who both finished ahead of the Mustangs in league play. Mustang coach Steve Armstrong stated that this was "a good way to finish a disappointing season".

In the team competition the Mustangs were led by senior Eric Charos and junior Tony

Ager, both shooting 37's. This combined with solid play from the rest of the team helped the Mustangs to their good performance.

Doug Jacobs, Charos, and Ager all qualified for the individual CIF competition by playing well in the league tournament. In the first round of play, Jacobs and Ager just fell short of qualifying for the second round. However Charos, with a strong 76, made it to day two of the tournament. Charos played better in the last round as he shot 75 to place 20th.

"I felt that putting would be the key to success and I putted well all week", stated Charos.

After graduation Charos will attend a golf/business school in hopes of becoming a

golf pro. Along with Charos, Jacobs' future will include golf as he will attend college on a golf scholarship.

With eight returning lettermen, the Mustangs have high hopes for success next year.

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Track team features outstanding individuals

By Chris Lieber

"Excitement" is only one way of describing the CIF track athletes who participated at Balboa Stadium.

The chosen few qualified to partake in the CIF Preliminaries, Saturday, May 21.

Practice has paid off for these athletes, and for Coach Mike Davis, it makes practice more worth while.

"Practice is more rewarding now than normal," said Davis. "I'm working with the very best kids, and it's fun to watch the cream of the crop."

Davis said that he was excited going into CIF.

"It'll be a lot of fun," said the head coach. "We have a better chance of qualifying for the finals than ever before. It's not an exercise of futility, but an exercise in advancement."

Distance runner Jaime Butler felt good about her chances in CIF.

"I feel like I will do well in the two mile (on the May 28), and if I qualify in the one mile, I don't think I will run in it because the two mile is my strongest event. I don't want to get too tired by running both races in the finals," said Butler.

The girls short relay team qualified for CIF with a school record breaking time of 50.1 seconds at Poway High School in the League Championships.

"I am pretty pleased about how we did in League Finals," said

Kathy Conklin, a member of the relay team. Other members include Susannah Thomas, Kristin Martin, and Jenny Barker.

Geraldine Mann, in the 800, was "excited" going into Saturday's competition as well.

"I am looking forward to qualifying for CIF Finals and perhaps p.r. (personal record). I feel that League Finals was harder competition than CIF Prelims will be," said Mann.

Martin also did well in the 200 giving herself a shot at CIF.

Matthew Lehman and Rick Maiatico entered as the only boys left. The polevaulter felt good since they had already vaulted against some of their top competitors at Poway.

"Our league (Palomar) and the Avocado League have, on the average, produced the top vaulters in the state," said Lehman.

They said their greatest competition has been "ourselves".

"It is a very mental sport," they added.

Ron Hawkins, their coach, was impressed this year with his vaulters performances.

"I am very proud to have two of our vaulters in CIF. I was also very proud that, for the first time in our history, all of our vaulters made it to League Prelims and League Finals. That was a great accomplishment."

"Matthew won (League Finals) and that was a great accomplishment also. Our chances are good, and we should do well against all of the other vaulters in the county. I am hoping that both of our vaulters will go to the state meet in Cerritos, near Los Angeles, although the competition will be very stiff for both of our guys to go."

As she had hoped earlier in the week, Mann did quite well against her competition. By taking second in the 800 she now will move on to the finals tomorrow, again at Balboa Stadium.

"I felt strong and had a good race," said Mann. "I made all of the right moves at the right times, although I had a bad start. I also really liked the track," she added.

Martin put forth a fine performance as she also placed second, in the 200.

"I'm excited (about CIF Finals), but nervous," said Martin. "It was intimidating because every one else seemed so confident."

She said that at the end of the race, "I was so happy."

Lehman topped all heights as he soared to a league record 15'7".

"I am so glad that I did well on Saturday," said Lehman. "I want to do well next week to qualify for the state meet in Cerritos."

Davis said that he is happy that this many girls are participating.

"This is the most amount of girls that I have sent to CIF," said Davis.

Miringoff grabs title

By Deidre Helmstetter

Mike Miringoff, a junior, has shown us once again what a superb tennis player he really is.

Last Wednesday, Miringoff played his finals league game against Mark Ellison from Torrey Pines High School. By beating Ellison, he won the Palomar League Championship.

Miringoff didn't lose any singles before the CIF league championship match. He also played doubles with Mark Daniel, but his individual rank was better than the team rank.

Miringoff began to play tennis for fun when he was seven years old. He later began competing at age nine.

Besides winning the Palomar League Championship, Miringoff has demonstrated his skill as a tennis player in other ways, too. Last year, the tennis team was the runner-up in CIF. As a freshman, Miringoff made the Varsity team.

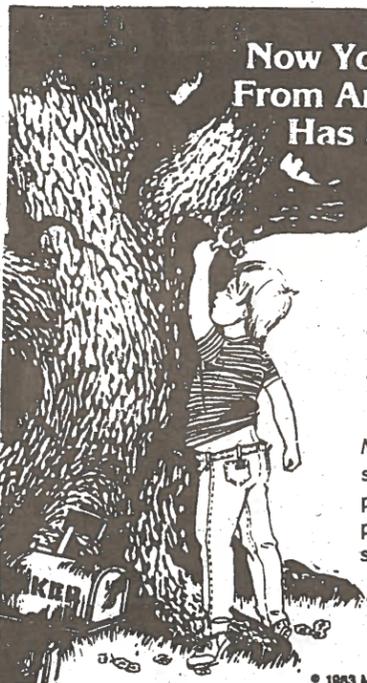
As for Miringoff playing tennis in the future, he would like to go to college with a tennis scholarship. The two schools he would like to attend are Pepperdine and the University of Arizona.

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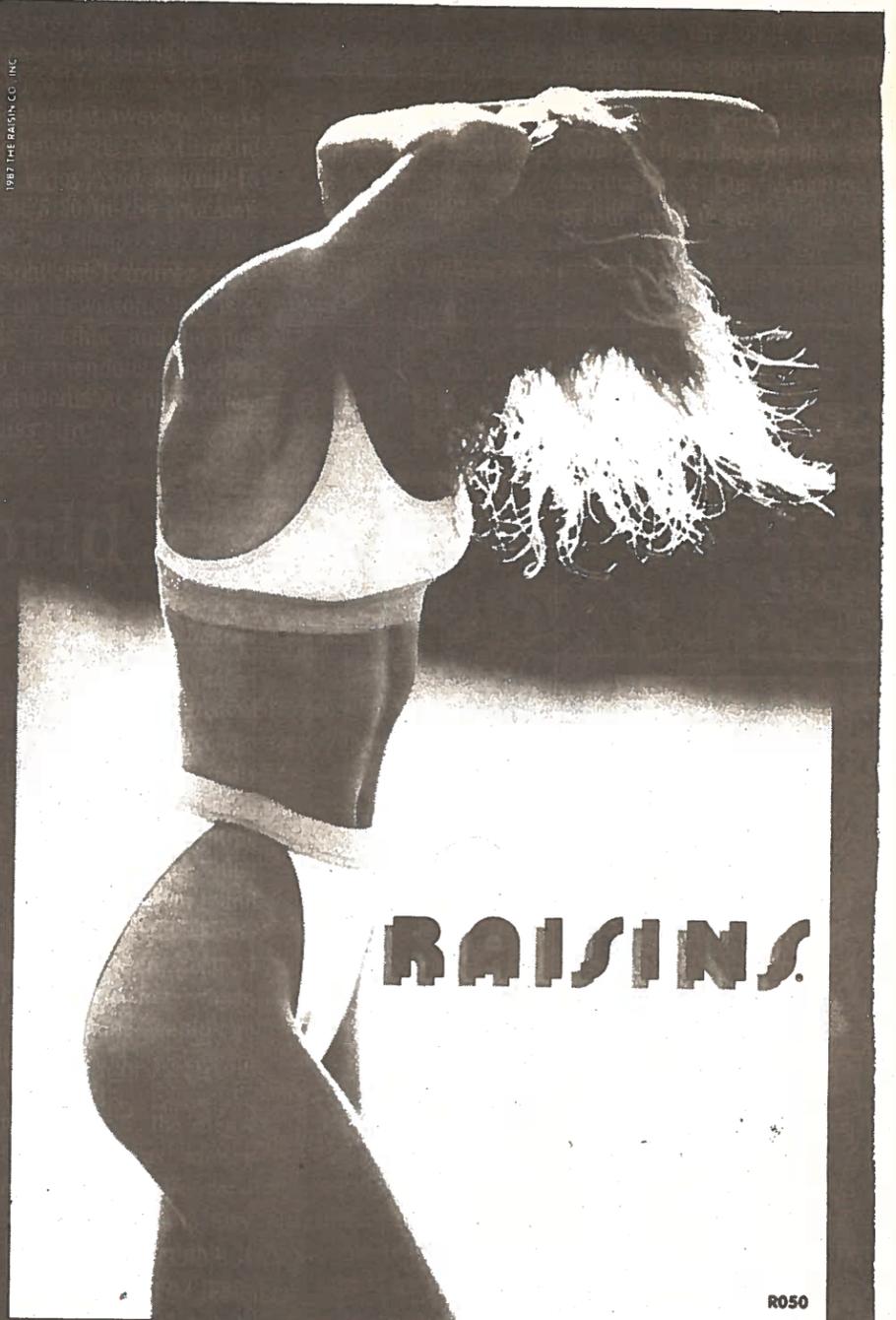
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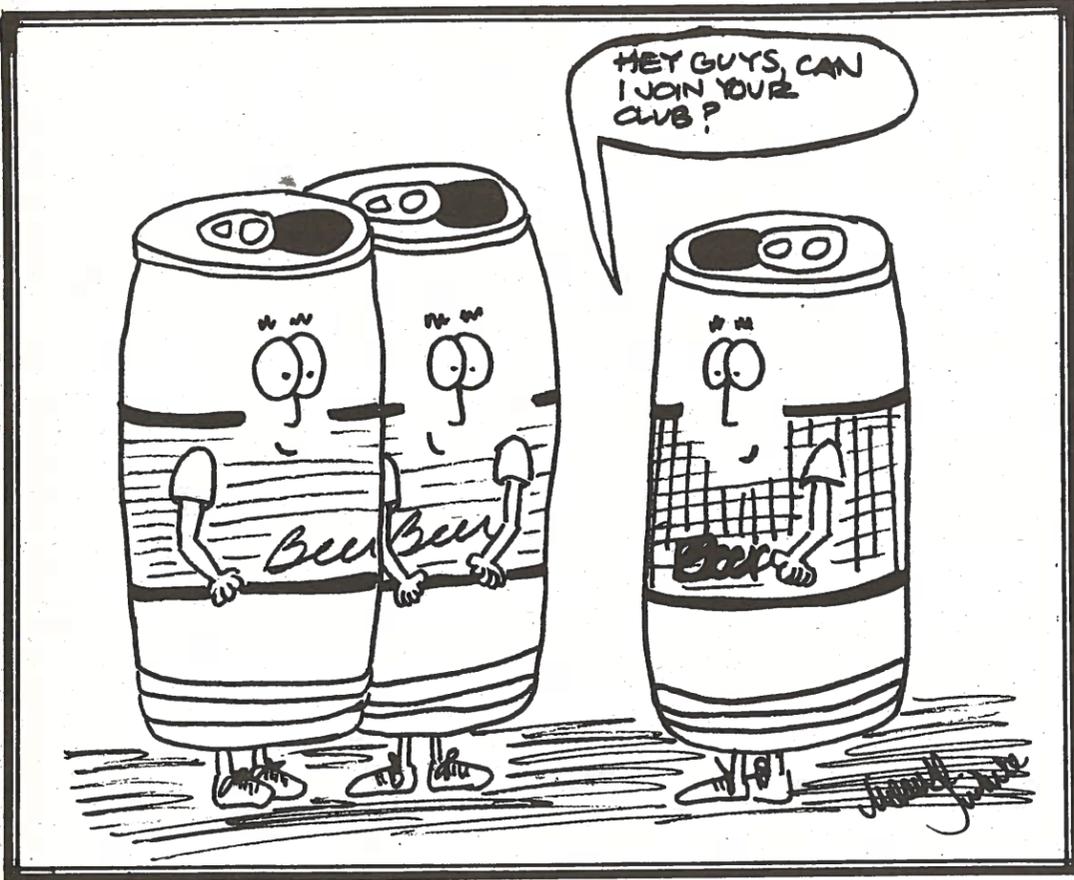
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Opposition to Alcohol Use

A few days ago during an A.P. review session, I overheard some people discussing their intention to drink on the night of the prom. I wasn't particularly surprised, that sort of thing has been going on since alcoholic drinks were invented (a fact which high school drinkers are always quick to point out), but it still bothered me.

As a result of my discomfort with the whole issue, I commented to one of them that I couldn't understand why they felt the need to do that sort of thing. The comment was an unfortunate one for several reasons. First, because people are very defensive on the issue and second, because I had used the word "need."

Seconds after my statement, I was bombarded from the right and left by accusations that I was being judgmental, that I was attempting to force my beliefs onto other people, and that I was being an all around prude. While the charges against me probably weren't entirely off-base, they served no useful purpose other than to convince me that my opinion was not going to be considered because they had already made their decisions on the issue — and, out of fairness, so had I. It seems that over the past few years, peer pressure has taken an unusual turn. At the same time that students have been trained by parents and teachers how not to be pressured into doing things which they feel are wrong, they have also learned how not to be pressured by friends into doing things that are right. It has become an incredible crime among friends to pass judgment on another's actions if those actions in any way suggest that they are wrong on an issue of moral significance. Because of this, people tend to react negatively to any type of questioning of their actions — no matter how innocent.

My comment also instigated verbal abuse because I had used the word "need." The word incorrectly suggested that these students were addicted to alcohol in one way or another. On the contrary, these were students who, to the best of my knowledge, drank only on extremely rare occasions. This misstatement only served to encourage within them the defense mechanism mentioned earlier, and they were even more unwilling to listen to my arguments. In reality, the point I had been trying to make was that I didn't understand why they had a desire to drink the stuff in the first place.

These admissions made, I would like to take a few moments to address this issue in a way that I hope will not trigger the defenses of those reading. I particularly hope that this will be recognized by the students mentioned above.

There are several trends in society today which are manifested in students at San Dieguito, and at least one of these is particularly frightening to me. It's frightening because I don't know how it can be resolved without risking even greater problems in the future.

I will admit now unabashedly what I have hinted at so far: I am opposed to student drinking alcoholic beverages under any circumstances. I won't go into my reasons here, for fear of triggering those defense systems again; I want you to listen to what I have to say beyond that.

Working off of that base, the problem I see developing is that the new focus of nationwide campaigns against drunk driving have one serious flaw, and that is that they don't take a hard enough stand against drinking itself. There is a distinct message being sent to students by parents, teachers, community members, and other students which suggests that the only harm of drinking is drunk driving. They seem to have forgotten that students use alcohol, like any other drug, to escape the problems of daily life. I'm not saying that they believe that they can't have fun without it, but I am saying that there is a general consensus that you can have more fun with it, and that is in itself damaging. I ask you, if students need alcohol to get the most out of life now, what will they do when they're out of school and faced with real life problems?

I believe that organizations such as SADD are truly beneficial to a society as a whole. However, it worries me that we are so unwilling to take a stand against drinking itself. Granted, it is much easier to convince someone that it is wrong to kill another person than it is to convince them that it is wrong to harm themselves — particularly when that link is so difficult to comprehend. Still, I do not believe that the difficulty of that fight warrants giving it up. It is not necessary to quit the battle against alcohol in order to fight the battle against drunk driving as long as drunk driving is presented as one of the more serious harms of the original abuse.

Cliques: A Negative View

People, for the most part, enjoy being with other people. It's natural. There's a sense of security when one is within a group of friends. And it appears that here at San Dieguito, little groups (we'll call them cliques) have become too dominant and some people have taken the concept to its extreme.

The student body has divided into several bodies. Just about everyone has become associated with some sort of clique or social group. However, there are a few groups that have gone too far and over-emphasized the phenomenon of simply "grouping together."

One such group is known as the "502 Crew." The name alone should be enough to make one realize the focus involved here. Since when has it been considered "cool" to get traffic violations for drunk driving? We admit that at first it was slightly humorous, but the novelty has long since worn off. One is constantly reminded of their presence on campus through the form of graffiti or some type of similar evidence. By swarming together to create this little "club," its members have shown

everyone exactly the type of people that they really are. Like any other clique, they all dress the same, and they all listen to the same music. However, speculations as to what they do together when they're not at school can be left up to you, the reader.

Another group which is easily noticeable in the halls of San Dieguito is the "TKE," or "Tappa Kega Encinitas." A clever name no doubt, but that's about it. Apparently this clique, which is mostly made up of "jocks," has lost its status, so to speak. Once the dominant group, they have seemingly become overpowered by the mighty "502 Crew." Maybe the members of these groups saw "The Outsiders" too many times when they were younger. This clique is also responsible for public reminders as to their presence and identity. For what reason? Your guess is as good as ours.

We realize that it is fun to be with friends, and we too are guilty of "clique-itis," but some individuals are simply taking the concept too far. Answers as to why they feel it necessary to do so are hard to come by. Maybe the whole idea could have also stemmed from

seeing "Grease" as a child. Deep down inside, everyone longed to be in a gang like the "T-Birds" or the "Pink Ladies." And perhaps these people were embarrassed to admit this until they found other people who had the same repressed desires. Naturally, they felt an attraction to each other, and cliques were formed as a result. This is only one possibility, however. But perhaps it is truly the reason why the 502 Crew, TKE, Wolverines, Wild Boys, and even the satirical Null Set (0), were formed.

There are cliques at most every school in the area, if not in the entire nation. We are not trying to promote stopping them altogether, because if taken seriously they are a socially accepted fact. It just seems that the concept has been taken too far by some of these groups. Any group of people, be it a club or clique, whose main objective is to drink and drive or deface walls with graffiti has taken the clique concept to an embarrassing extreme. Perhaps the people in those groups should be more individualistic, and realistic for that matter.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

YAY for the last issue of the "Mustang" (May 13)! I especially appreciated the Editor's Note (after Sheffo's letter) and the "Students Voice Opinions" articles. Though EVERYTHING (from great school news coverage to reviews to features to sports to arts) is important, I applaud your important reminders to us of all of our right to free speech and of our right and learning in

making mistakes. Bravo! 'Tis the stuff which the real world is made.

Thank you all for your work and for your courage.

Terry Hendlin

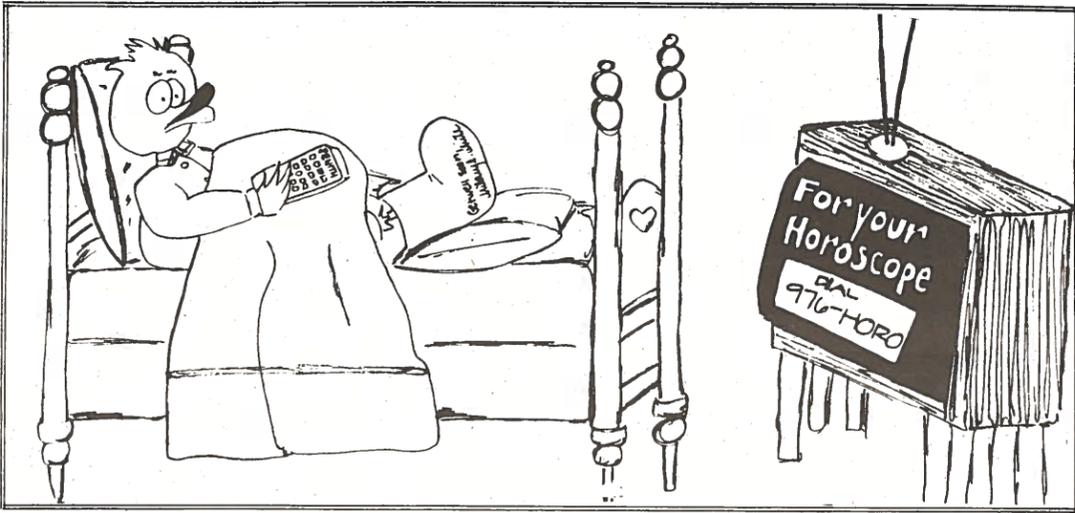
Dear Editor,

In response to your editorial, "Blacklisting: Unfair and Unnecessary," I would like to concur with the opinion of Ms. Photinos. There is no purpose in publicly

humiliating people; not being able to graduate from high school with your class is punishment enough.

I cannot imagine why the administration would allow this to happen. It smacks of stonings and stocks of medieval times. Apparently from the list displayed in the office window we have reinforced the adage that history does indeed repeat itself.

I.L. Oxford



Lame Ducks deserve respect

by Jeni Jerome

Lame duck, according to Webster, is "an officeholder who is nearing the end of his term."

Whether they be the President of the United States in his second term, or a high school principal preparing for an indefinite leave, lame ducks deserve respect.

Recently, on the national scale, the American public has witnessed contemptuous actions of two former Reagan advisors. These two people have published demeaning accusations concerning the president. From this situation, the public should question why these supposedly loyal presidential advisors waited until they left their positions before bringing up their complaints and criticisms. Did these advisors do it out of "a true sense of duty" to the American public and their country, or did they have their allegations published for personal retaliation? The underhanded attack on the president during his lame duck

days has the implications of malicious content.

On a local level, two Torrey Pines seniors are guilty of attempting to publish several comic strips and a column degrading the position of their school principal, Dr. Robert Sanchez, in the school paper, *The Falconer*. The pieces were edited out by the student editor and the paper's advisor, on the basis that the pieces carried "malicious" intent and made unsubstantiated accusations. Thus, the pieces were libelous. The focus of the one column portrays Principal Sanchez giving "Bob's Leadership Guide" to the new principal. A few bits of advice contained in this "leadership guide" of how a principal should present himself includes: "The safest place to be is in conference. No matter what has gone wrong, if you're in conference they can't touch you...NEVER walk through the quad without at least one vice principal. You need your vice so it looks like you're talking over important

matters and surveying the campus on your way to stuff your face...Don't take a public stand on anything...Don't get involved." These suggestions are indirect complaints from these two students. The problem is that these students are making charges, through false caricature, that they can't support.

The integrity of the President and of a principal have been put in jeopardy, causing the men in these usually highly regarded positions to lose the respect they deserve. If there were any complaints of allegations meriting attention, they should have been voiced sooner, in a more constructive manner. Pot shots after the fact only serve to degrade those men who are lame ducks.

For the position they hold as well as their individual stature, the President of the United States and a high school principal deserve respect, regardless of a lame duck status.

SDHS: Looking Back with Pride

By Steve Ritea and Jim Yardley

As journalists, it is much easier to write an editorial in which you denounce something, rather than writing one in which you praise it. And comparatively with San Dieguito, as with any other high school, parents and students alike may find it easier to criticize and find fault rather than appreciate all that our school has to offer. But the numerous positive aspects of SDHS must not be overlooked.

First of all, SDHS' open campus policy proves that the administration has a significant amount of faith in students to return to class on time and conduct themselves in a responsible manner.

Additionally, it is a known fact that SDHS has a long history of high and enduring academic excellence. This has been proven by the high score that SDHS received in last year's WASC accreditation. Additional evidence of this lies in the increasing average SAT score at San Dieguito, and the significant number of students who go on with some sort of continuing education after graduation (i.e. four-year college, junior college, etc.). Also not to be overlooked is the strong Advanced Placement/Honors program at SDHS.

Reconstruction of the school has been designed with student

interests in mind. Many classrooms on campus have been completely remodeled. But improvements have taken place outside as well as inside. Much landscaping and replanting has been done, i.e. the recent addition of Strawberry Court to campus. Even the Library has been remodeled, not to mention the bathrooms.

But perhaps the most important and influential factor adding to San Dieguito's excellence as a school are the teachers. Upon entering a teaching job, many are faced with the option of either approaching it as "just another job," or really taking the time to make sure that students will learn what they are taught. And the former is more often than not the case at San Dieguito. Many teachers go out of their way to help students with academic as well as personal problems, and give them any extra help they may need. Learning, more often than not, has come from an understanding relationship between the student and the instructor.

Teacher pride in San Dieguito, along with the constant support of the administration, has made SDHS a place where students can truly grow to face the future that lies ahead of them. There is no doubt that our school has become an ideal training-ground for the reality of the outside world.

Focusing on stress for success

By Jamie Wynne Shantzer

At first glance, they look like any other teenagers — clad in blue jeans, braces fastened tightly over the front teeth, some wearing starched oxford shirts, others wearing glasses, ivy-league cardigans and penny loafers.

Not long does one ponder before it becomes apparent that these young people are in a world apart from the everyday high-school student: a world of lipoproteins and laminar flows, of H-2 genes and 27 cygnus, of paraquat ELISA and the 3x + 1 problem. They are the symbols of America's future leaders. They are the whiz kids, and most of them are foreigners.

What accounts for their early knack for knowledge? Is it heredity or hard work? Thomas Edison once said that genius is one percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration. According to Richard Plas, chairman of biology and earth science at New York's Stuyvesant High School, most of these kids have been fortunate enough to have either an

aspiring father or mother or an inspiring teacher. Most have had both. (As did young Tom Edison, whose mother quit teaching school so she could teach only him. "Everything I am," the great inventor later stated, "I owe to my mother.")

If, by some phenomenon, a student lacks the desire to pursue education further, it is unfair to push him. The kid will end up resenting his parents and hating school altogether. The best motivation is that which is self-originated. If a student enjoys studying, and can owe his success to his parents' dedication, there could be nothing more mutually rewarding.

"I want to make my parents happy," said Hong Huynh, 16, a San Diego Westinghouse Science Search finalist who fled from Vietnam on a crowded boat eight years ago and now craves biochemistry, Cary Grant movies and the Constitution. "They gave up their home, furniture, everything, so I could get an education. I don't want to disappoint them."

Physics finalist Sheeyun Park, 17, wasn't about to disappoint his parents either. "Nearly every month, when I was 12 or 13, Dad brought home books — philosophy, Shakespeare, 'Pride and Prejudice' — and said 'Here, read these,'" recalls Sheeyun, who moved from Korea to New York 14 years ago. "If I needed books for courses, they gave me the money. If I wanted sneakers, they said, 'Keep the old pair.'"

Prodigies uncovered in the early years used to be children of Jewish immigrants, many of them refugees from Nazi-ruled Europe. Knowledge, they were reminded again and again, was a passport to success in America. In this decade, the competition is dominated by offspring of immigrants from India, Taiwan, South Korea and Vietnam.

Thirty-three of 60 scholarship winners in the Westinghouse competition have been the children of foreigners. Certainly, this decade is a tribute as much to immigration as to education.

In a recent achievement report, American 12th grade chemistry students placed 11th on a 13-country list. In biology, they finished last.

Chetan Nayak, the top Westinghouse winner this year, isn't surprised. "When it comes to science education, the United States is practically a Third World country," he says. "Most high-school students in America get one or two years of science at the most. In other countries, like Romania, kids are expected to take six or seven years of science."

U.S. teenagers are ill-prepared for the technological demands of the coming century. A lack of qualified science and math teachers is much to blame. But more important than this, American students must stop considering education a burden. And for those who compete viciously with other classmates, they eventually become bitter towards learning. The U.S. boasts some of the best schools in the world. It is time that these valuable resources are utilized.

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