



The SPECIAL EDITION Lion's Roar

The voice of Liberty High School students

Liberty High School
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FREE

Part of this issue of *The Lion's Roar* is in response to the growing movement against gun violence in the United States. Our purpose, however, is to cover the stories of students attending The March for our Lives and participating in the national school walk-out, as well as those in disagreement, not to shed direct bias on either side of the argument. Despite peoples' various beliefs, countless Americans can agree that this movement, the many people who oppose it, and the constant debating, has been historical. As journalists, it is our duty and moral responsibility to cover and record such events as they are seen.

MARCHING AND WALKING OUT FOR OUR LIVES

March for our Lives: Washington D.C.

By Allie Cone

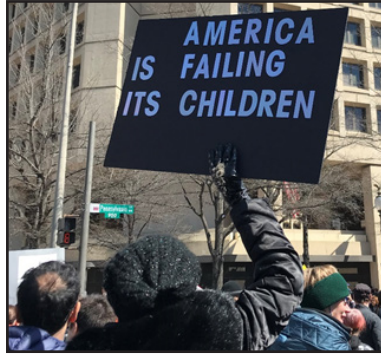
Co-Editor

Generation Z is defining itself. Thousands of young Americans have their eyes set on making strides toward the future they want, the democracy they want, and the public safety they deserve. Many say that Gen Z will continue to move mountains and fill capital streets until their voices are heard. March 24, 2018 will resonate in history as the now infamous March For our Lives, led by Parkland Florida students. The march in Washington DC had over 200,000 attendees, and an estimated over 1.2 million people marched worldwide. The DC march was welcomed by an unexpected sunny day, although there was still snow lining neighboring streets. Metro Trains were filled to the brim of determined protesters finding their way to the

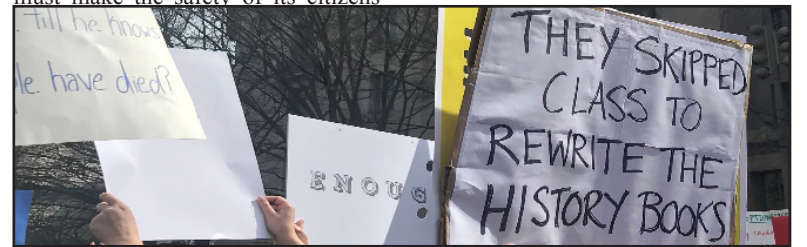
march. People of all shapes sizes, ages, and cultural backgrounds filled the streets for the march, almost all of them carrying a witty sign with their message of desired change. On March 24, Washington DC's skyline seemed entirely composed of banners and signs. The official mission statement of March For our Lives is, "Not one more. We cannot allow one more child to be shot at school...Our children and teachers are dying. We must make it our top priority to save these lives. This is not just schools, though. This is churches, nightclubs, concerts, movie theaters, airports, and more...We may be children, but we are not fighting for just children. All lives are precious, and our country must make the safety of its citizens

a number one priority." In simplicity, the overarching idea of the march was to raise awareness to ideally limit gun violence in America, including the influence the NRA holds over politicians. However, each individual carried their own reasoning and own solutions to the march, in the same way that individuals who are against the movement hold their beliefs closely. Hanna Burns, Liberty junior who attended the DC march, states "I marched for my future children and their generation, in hopes mass shootings will become pure history, no longer a matter of the present." The Parkland students' organization of the marches, and the movement, have shifted the national conversation of gun violence that not many expected.

Signs, signs, and more signs. Protesters occupy the Pennsylvania Avenue with an array of signs and props to demonstrate their views of America's gun control. Voting registrations were waiting on every corner, urging young adults to vote..



Photos by Allie Cone



March for our Lives: Sacramento



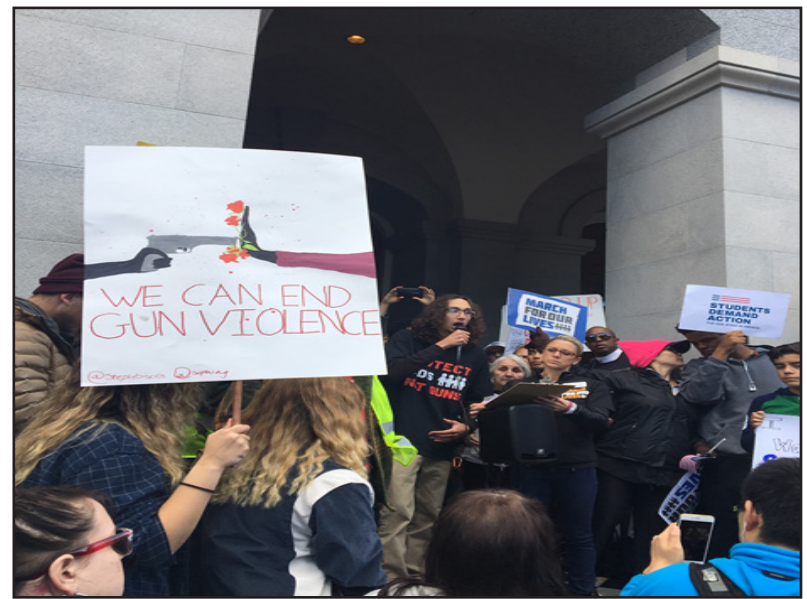
Photos by Lily Aiwohi

Cheers and songs echo throughout the filled park where people of all ages gather together to advocate for change in what time will call the second civil rights movement. Thousands of attendees are seen with gun control advocacy signs and shirts before the beginning of the "sister" March for our Lives in Sacramento, California on March 24th. The movement was inspired and organized by students and survivors of the recent mass shooting that occurred in Parkland, Florida killing fourteen children and three school officials on Valentine's Day. Their words and activism ignited hope for the cause in various cities throughout America, and Sacramento was one of them, especially considering the re-

cent killing of an unarmed black man, Stephon Clark, by Sacramento police. As the march started, people began chanting his name and they included chants calling out the NRA's heavy influence on politics. The march ended at the steps of the Capitol building where various speakers delivered words of motivation for change, personal stories, and repetition of the various chants that were repeated during the mile-long journey. The first speaker was democratic Mayor of Sacramento, Darrell Steinberg, who spoke to his constituents about enacting change. Toward the end of his speech, he directed his words to the array of teenagers and young adults at the head of the movement and said, "This is your civil rights move-

ment. This is your Vietnam movement." His words set the tone for the other speakers following, including a survivor from the Las Vegas shooting, local Californian high school students, and a man who vowed to run for office to enact gun control legislation. Around the area, people with clip boards could be seen asking for signatures for petitions regarding gun control, as well as adults urging younger attendees to register to vote, thus another movement that is bigger than gun control itself or in memorializing gun violence victims. The participants of this march and many others did not simply hope for change: they were taking action towards achieving such individually, and in relation to one another.

By Sami Gibbs and Lily Aiwohi
Editor-in-Chief and Co-Editor



A local high school student shares his thoughts on America's gun culture and what should be done about it to a crowd of over 15,000 chanting attendees on the steps of the California state capitol building.

By Austin Belcher
Copy Editor

Walking out for our lives: Liberty High School



Liberty students gather in the quad ahead of a moment of silence on March 14th.

10:00, over 250 Liberty High School Students walked out of class in a coordinated effort. A majority of the students who walked out were in remembrance of the seventeen killed exactly one month earlier. The rally consisted of a moment of silence, after a reading of the names of those killed in the shooting. The rally lasted seventeen minutes in total, a minute for each life cut tragically short. Some students also elected to walk out in a protest against the gun laws in the U.S. including Elyse Capelli, a sophomore at Liberty and one of the leading members and organizers of the walkout explained,

"If simple guns laws were put in place, thousands of my fellow students' lives could be saved." Capelli went into detail about why she and her peers were leaving class, "It's not just about the seventeen lives that were taken that day, and it's the thousands who have ever fallen victim to gun violence... Something has to be done, I'm walking out to support stricter laws to prevent these atrocities, but also to mourn and remember those who aren't with us today...we are the youth, we are the change." Not everyone attending the walkouts were there in support of gun control, Ethan Ballesteros had his own

Photo by Sawyer Stoddard-Newman reasons for attending. He states, "The schools need to make changes to ensure the safety of their students." Ballesteros made it clear that it was not a gun problem, but a people problem, and it's the school's responsibility to protect us from these dangerous individuals. Jonothan Harrop and Adam Huegi both offer different viewpoints than most on the walkouts. The two juniors remained in class while many of their peers left. Huegi gave his opinion on the walkout, "Students are wasting their time, most of them were there just to get out of class" he also added that those that were in atten-

dance "are standing on others graves to push an agenda". They both came to the conclusion that many students are "un-informed," and "too young" to suggest gun legislation. Harrop gave a more fact-based approach to the issue, "according to the FBI homicide data, 97% of all gun deaths result from handguns, why do they want to ban a gun (AR-15) that accounts for such a minority of all fatalities." The debate is still up whether stricter gun laws could've prevented this mass murder and the many alike, but everyone can agree that this should never happen again and some form of change should be implemented.

**"Students are wasting their time."
-Adam Huegi**

**"We are the youth.
We are the change."
-Elyse Capelli**

A normal day in Parkland Florida ends in tragedy when a nineteen-year-old man, and former student, enters Marjory Stoneman Douglas High school, armed with an AR-15, and in only six short minutes, takes the lives of seventeen students and staff. However, the story doesn't end there; all across The United States, students took a stand and walked out of class to show support for change. At our own Liberty High School, many walked out to bring attention to the cause as well. On a warm spring morning, much like that at MSDHS before the school was altered forever, as the clock struck

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Heritage yearbook battles against censorship demands

By Sami Gibbs
Editor-in-Chief

Hazelwood V. Kuhlmeier was a landmark Supreme Court case in which they ruled that student expressions are subject to a lower level of the First Amendment, as long as a forum is established in the publication. Thirty years following this, Heritage High School's yearbook staff is defending the publication of a particular spread in their book with the same case. Cameryn Riggs, Editor-in-Chief, received arguments against the publication of a spread including various religious beliefs of various students to showcase the diversity of the school. The arguments came from Principal Wells and Superintendent Volta detailing that a few religions were sought after more than others (as per an email sent to teachers), the Establishment Clause, and the concept of religion in the yearbook is plainly unacceptable. Confused and frustrated, Riggs and another editor scheduled a follow up meeting a few days prior. It was there that Riggs included several pieces of evidence to support her argument that administrators are unable to censor written

publications unless it goes against the Espionage and Sedition Acts, is libelous, or scandalous. A primary source that was used was an email from Senior Legal Consultant for the Student Press Law Center, Mike Hierstand, detailing that this goes against the students' rights because "under the CA Ed Code School officials can only censor unlawful speech." Riggs then included references to students' rights given by the ACLU organization as well as the specific codes detailed in California Education. Volta and Wells claimed that the spread goes against the Establishment Clause and freedom of religion. Regarding such, Volta stated that, "You can't cancel out one amendment with another amendment." Volta revealed that his assertions were made because of the advisement of his lawyers and later stated that he "wouldn't be comfortable" defending them in court if it



Jordyn Toscano, Co-Editor, and Cameryn Riggs, Editor-in-Chief, are seen with an award they won for their efforts on the Heritage yearbook.

Photo courtesy of Cameryn Riggs

so happens. Wells was eager to compliment both students on their prospective "bright futures" and intellect, while also stating that previous Heritage yearbooks detailing the various religious practices of students shouldn't have done so. On a strict deadline for publication, Riggs then took matters into her own hands and emailed the Liberty Union High School District's Board of Trustees with the information and a plea to publish the spread. She followed up matters by vocalizing the dilemma from her perspective at a Board Meeting during the Public Comments section. Less than four weeks later, Riggs and her editors went against Volta and Well's enforcements and sent the spread to be published, something that can't easily be undone and fixed. Wells addressed her actions by having a private meeting with Riggs saying

that she later ran the spread "by legal" and they found no legal wrong-doings with the spread and matter as a whole. When asked for a quote regarding her involvement in the matter, Wells said, "The difficult part about a yearbook is that students and parents pay a great amount of money for what they expect to be a non-controversial publication." She also asserted, "Although yearbook staffs enjoy some measure of First Amendment rights and protections, the people paying are not expecting articles that would be found in a newspaper." Riggs claims that she has taken law enforcement classes and thus is "educated on her rights as a person and journalist." When asked about her opinion on the situation now considering she went against authority and published the spread, she said, "I learned a lot because I was sure to do my research. The fact that they were trying to deprive me from something I was completely capable of publishing... shocked me and made me more determined to prove them wrong."

Potty panic:

Liberty administration closes bathrooms

By Isaiah Horat
Staff Writer

Is nature calling? Too bad. For the past several weeks, Liberty administration has been closing certain bathrooms across campus. Many have noticed the changes in availability of bathrooms. According to Mrs. Harper, J bathrooms are permanently locked; E and I bathrooms are locked during lunch time only, but are available during class time. While rumours have circulated about other bathrooms being locked during the day, Principal Harper clarified that while miscommunications may have occurred, her directive was to only close J bathrooms. "I'm sick of them being locked," stated Luchiano Curiel, who explained that a longer distance must be walked. Why is this happening? It is because multiple safety issues have been oc-

curing in the bathrooms, and because of Liberty's high population, it is difficult for supervision to occur. To prevent this, Liberty administration has been closing certain bathrooms during lunch and parts of the day as a preventative measure.

Mr. Areida says, "Kids go in there to smoke. During lunch it's too difficult to monitor every bathroom so they just lock them." With all the students out at lunch, the worry of questionable activity in the bathrooms is an extra stressor. Some students in the J Wing don't mind the extra walk and getting away with a few extra minutes outside of class. As Avery Rhoden puts it, "I don't really care because I see people I know walking around." Many students see taking a nice, excused stroll during

class time as a relief. This situation is likely far more frustrating to teachers than to students.

According to the CA Education Code, it would be illegal to lock all the bathrooms, so there will always be at least one useable bathroom. In this extreme circumstance, that would leave roughly 1,250 students to one girls' bathroom and 1,250 to one boys' bathroom. This situation shows that a few kids making negative decisions in a school bathroom can affect the rest of the student body and staff. It remains to be seen whether or not this strategy will be effective since there are students that will continue to find a way to misbehave, and as previously revealed, a majority of the school is impacted.



Liberty's J bathrooms are often locked, according to some students and teachers, resulting in students being forced to make the trip to the next nearest bathroom.

Photo by Isaiah Horat

**"I'm sick of them being locked."
-Luchiano Curiel**

Trying to prevent nuclear fallout

How the prospect of denuclearization is developing between the U.S. and North Korea

By Reece Watkins-Nelson
Copy Editor

Conflict with North Korea has shown itself in the past decade through threats of obliteration and fiery destruction using weapons of mass destruction. Whether it be from motives of Western democracy, or fear of American dominance, the North Korean ruling family has gone out of its way to invest in an ever progressing nuclear program that threatens our country. Fortunately, our president has opened up that denuclearization talks with Korea are in the working to remove the threat of a possible future WWII. Earlier this year, headlines across the na-

tion exclaimed that Trump was in talks with N. Korea about denuclearizing their country. Overtime, this topic has somewhat been covered up by recent events like school marches and teacher strikes, until light finally showed itself upon the subject again. The Totalitarian state explained, in accordance to South Korean officials, that Kim-Jung-Ung is willing to put aside his nuclear program in order for better relations with the US. "It made it clear that It would have no reason to keep nuclear if the military threat to the north was eliminated and its security guaranteed"

according to the South Korean president's office. In response, Trump states that the US is willing to negotiate with the North Koreans, yet also has regards that it might be a "false hope". "May be false hope, but the US is ready to go hard in either direction" President Trump tweets. Therefore, this next step in US relations would be huge, as we ourselves have not had official diplomatic relations with N. Koreans since 1953 at the end of the Korean War. It is apparent that South Korean officials are scheduled to give a briefing upon what is to happen in Washington.

"With these developments, the door seems wide open to a US-North Korea exploratory conversation of both Sides want one" Mr. Revere a former state department official explained. However, other news sources explain that this "Denuclearization" could possibly mean different to Mr. Kim, and not necessarily get rid of all nuclear assets. "The danger is entering into negotiations with unrealistic expectations that Kim is just going to hand over the keys to his nuclear kingdom. He won't," nuclear expert Vapan Narang provides indicating that the issues' complexity.

Amelia Earhart possibly found

By Luisa Martinez
Staff Writer

Unaware one's life is about to take a tragic turn and change forever, one follows their passion. This is what Amelia Earhart, still one of the world's greatest mysteries, sought to accomplish. However, during her trip in July 1937, the pioneering pilot mysteriously disappeared without a trace after attempting to fly around the world. When the news reached media, almost instantaneously jaws dropped and conspiracy theories arose. The Itasca's ship operators heard her signal last near the Howland Island. It was so strong the ship's radio operator looked overboard but saw only open ocean and empty sky. According to Itasca's commanding

officer, her voice near the end of the message sounded "frantic," and she radioed "we must be on you but cannot see you. Gas is running low." That was her last message and after that it was silence. Subsequently, about eight decades later, bones were found by the former director of the University of Tennessee Anthropological Research Facility, Richard Jantz, on the Pacific Island of Nikumaroro linking directly to what possibly could be Amelia Earhart's. It isn't the first time researchers have examined bones and concluded they belong to Amelia Earhart. Yet, this time researcher Richard Jantz used a new technology called Fordisc

to estimate the sex and ancestry of the remains. He compared the bones to Amelia Earhart's body measurements. Her bone lengths and dimensions were about the same to the bones found. Jantz stated that the bones are without a doubt Amelia Earhart's. The new discovery has fascinated the world and still causes great controversy. As Ric Gillespie, the executive director of the nonprofit organization TIGHAR (The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery), said, "There is an entire final chapter of Earhart's life that people don't know about. She spent days - maybe months - heroically struggling to survive as a castaway."



Amelia Earhart takes her last public photo in 1937.
Photo courtesy of the U.S. National Archives

THE TRUTH ON CINCO DE MAYO

By Alegra Nelson
Staff Writer

Over the horizon, French troops break the line and are making their way up the land. They got more men and better weapons but the fight wasn't easy. Cinco de Mayo, May 5th, is the celebration of Mexico's 1862 victory over France in the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War. Mexico, actually, doesn't celebrate the day in extravagance; that light is shown upon it but not too brightly. What this means is that Mexico acknowledges the day, but it does not get celebrated as a holiday the same as Diaz de Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. Melani Tello, a sophomore at Merrill F. High School and Mexican native, celebrates the day by embracing the Mexican culture with foods, music, and family. In fact, the United States recognize the date more than Mexico by commercializing it with parades, battle recreations, and parties etc. while not acknowledging the history. When asked whether or not she understood the meaning of Cinco de Mayo, Liberty High School sophomore Alexis Munoz, who has been around the holiday her entire life, couldn't answer the question because no one taught her the true history of the day. Cinco de Mayo does not celebrate the Mexican culture or independence (which is actually on September 16), it celebrates a small victory that created hope. In 1861, Napoleon III of France sent a fleet of soldiers to Mexico in hopes of conquering the territory, and sent President Benito Juarez and his government fleeing towards inland. Eventually, General Zaragoza led his men to victory, forcing General Lorencez to retreat after losing around 500 men while Zaragoza lost 100 men. The success of Battle of Puebla merely boosted Mexico's national self-confidence and reputation amongst other nations.

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FFA had a farm, E-I-E-I-O: Liberty's on-campus animals

By Allie Cone
Co-Editor

The school farm: to most Liberty students, it's a fable. The idea of livestock on campus seems to be a myth whispered to unknowing freshman. However, Liberty's farm is a lovely place stocked to the brim with learning opportunities.

Conveniently placed behind the visiting side of the football field, the farm is home to pigs, sheep, goats, chickens, and cows belonging to Liberty FFA students. Raising an animal takes pure dedication and grit. Jeff Lechtaler, FFA parent volunteer, claims, "Seeing these kids take so much time while balancing sports and grades to nurture an animal is a humbling experience." Each animal requires diligent maintenance and care. Pigs need exercise,

sheep need grooming, and cows need to be washed and dried several times a week. Generally, an animal is bought by a student and raised at the farm to be shown and sold at the Contra Costa County fair. Raising animals is an individual project that takes place on school grounds; the farm gives students the opportunity to raise an animal independently.

Spending countless hours with the animals reveals each of their personalities and parting with them by the time fair comes around has proven to be difficult at times. Lechtaler recounts, "There were tears last year, it was sad. These animals have so much personality, and they're all so different. Some of them are sweet and passionate animals, it's unbelievable."

While raising livestock, the FFA participants learn more about themselves

and their work ethic. Colten Power, Liberty senior, states, "Basically, the biggest aspect is time management. Being here in morning until night. It taught me a lot about money, a lot of the kids take out loans for their animals. I had to account for my pig funds, and it makes me feel responsible." Each animal is like a business investment. Generally, animals cost around 1,000 dollars, but have the potential to sell for 2,000 dollars at the Contra Costa Fair. The profits normally go back into the individual students' next animal or college funds. The farm itself was built thanks to grants and business donations. The Liberty FFA program's farm is an educational hub where students and parent volunteers learn much more about life; it's a springboard toward understanding adulthood and responsibility.



The farm has three buildings: one for swine, another for steer, and the third has an assortment of animals. Each animal lives happily right behind the football field. Photo by Allie Cone



On the left sits Big House Beans's revered Lavender Latte, next to their equally-flavorful Belgian waffle on the right.

Photo by Aaron Flory

Lion's Cafe: A review of Brentwood's Big House Beans

By Aaron Flory
Staff Writer

A brand-new coffee house just opened up near Liberty High School under the name Big House Beans, and I took the opportunity to drive there with a couple of friends and review it for the first time... and then a second time... and then a third time.

The truth is I really can't get myself to stop going to this place. Big House Beans sits at 1155 2nd Street, and every time I go there I get a new experience. This is a coffee house that, compared to other coffee shops, delivers legitimate quality over quantity at a fairly reasonable price point. I'm going to be honest. When I first heard that Big House Beans opened up near Liberty, I didn't think much of it. I really didn't know much about what I

was expecting when I walked through the door, and when I did, I became legitimately surprised. At 10:00 am on a Saturday morning, the café had a cool, almost open atmosphere, mainly because about half of the walls of the café aren't walls at all; they're floor-to-ceiling studio windows. It really makes the whole place open up and feel like a breath of fresh air compared to other coffee houses in Brentwood. Through the courtesy of Yelp reviews, I discovered their most iconic drink called the Lavender Latte and it may be the best cup of coffee I've ever tasted in my life. At a \$5.00 price point, this latte gives a floral, aromatic flavor to a usually bitter espresso, and it completely took me in the first time I had it. I had

to order their equally-iconic house-made Belgian waffle just as an excuse to stay. The waffle also comes in at a \$5.00 price point and an extra \$1.50 for a topping of fruit and whipped cream. It truly felt like I was receiving something quality for my money, and for that, I have to recommend this place to the moon and back.

Big House Beans is open from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm every day, and I would stop there every morning on my way to school if I had the money to do so. The service is fast, the atmosphere is great, and, above all, the coffee and breakfast are mind-blowing. Plus, the lattes come with a foam heart on top, which is a nice touch.



For \$2000, people can jump in the sprinkle pit at the Museum of Ice Cream in SF. Photo by Katie Gibbs

Not 21? No problem Las Vegas offers plenty for the underage crowd

By Jamison Capio
Staff Writer

Las Vegas, Nevada, also known as "Sin City," is famous for its countless casinos. Although Vegas may be a tourist attraction for adults over the age of 21, there are many activities a minor can participate in. Many of the options in Las Vegas are on the same street, called "The Las Vegas Strip," for the most part.

"I was only there for a night, and it's a tourist attraction for adults," tourist Jeffrey Barroga says, "Vegas is a money pit basically. I wanted to go bungee jumping on the Stratosphere but I didn't get the chance to."

As an example, if one likes to take pictures, the popular "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Nevada" sign would make a great cameo for a selfie both during the day and the night. The Fountains of Bellagio at the Bellagio Hotel and Casino displays a lovely water show every thirty minutes to enjoy and take videos. There is even a replica of the Eiffel Tower at the Paris Las Vegas hotel. If that's not enough, there's also a relaxing gondola ride accommodated by beautiful scenery at the Venetian Las Vegas hotel.

If pictures do not peak one's interests, thrill-seeking rides are also ever-present. At the top of the Stratosphere Casino, Hotel and Tower awaits three distinct rides: The X-Scream is a giant



The famous 'Welcome to Las Vegas' sign has welcomed visitors since 1959.

Photo by Jeffrey Barroga

teeter-totter 866 feet above the ground, the Big Shot launches the rider 160 feet in the air at forty five miles per hour and SkyJump Las Vegas has riders leap off the tower at 829 feet up before plunging at about forty miles per hour.

Both the X-Scream and Big Shot cost \$25, and SkyJump costs \$119.99. If the Stratosphere rides are either too much, there is also a ride at New York-New York Hotel & Casino named "Roller Coaster", the track is designed to give riders spectacular views of a good portion of the Las Vegas Strip.

After all that walking and touring, hunger definitely becomes an issue. One could start the day at Baguette Café, which is a bit far from the Las Vegas Strip, but relatively close to the 'Welcome to Las Vegas' sign; they serve brunches and breakfasts consisting panini sandwiches and sweet pastries. Then, eat while on the Las Vegas Strip at the huge Bacchanal Buffet inside the Caesars Palace Hotel & Casino, ranked "No. 1 Las Vegas buffet" by *USA Today*. Another place to eat is at the Yardbird Southern Table & Bar located on

the Las Vegas Strip as well, and they serve Southern American food such as burgers, steaks, salads, waffles, and chicken.

The point is, there are many places to visit in Las Vegas; and a variety of activities to keep a minor occupied. From having a nice panini sandwich at the Baguette Cafe, to free falling 829 feet off a tower at the Stratosphere Casino, Hotel & Tower. Regardless of one's age, a variety of activities can be found in Las Vegas.

We all scream for the Museum of Ice Cream

By Trevor Aitchison
Staff Writer

Some people worship it. Some people despise it. Others just eat it. Ice cream is making a name for itself in San Francisco, with the pop-up Museum of Ice Cream. However, the museum is now only offering private group tours for \$2,000-\$3,000. The museum itself takes on a unique design by integrating creamy treats into its furniture and structure as a whole. It strives to create an immersive setting by surrounding tourists in mouth-watering displays and vibrant colors, leaving museum-goers with a feeling of delightful bliss.

Currently, the museum has debuted in four different locations around the United States: San Francisco, Miami, New York and Los Angeles. Maryellis Bunn, the museum's founder, has expressed interest in opening even more locations, stating, "I want to build a Las Vegas hotel with a museum inside."

The museum itself receives positive reviews overall. The idea of having a museum revolving around one single treat definitely draws the target audience of ice cream lovers. "I love ice cream. Any day of the week; it brings me so much joy," said Bunn.

By Nolan Spjut
Staff Writer

The pilgrims and native Americans got along well, Christopher Columbus discovered America, and the United States won World War II for Europe – that is, if you ask the history textbooks, at least. Ever since the Cold War with Russia began, America has been known for its unfaltering sense of patriotism and firmly-held principles, but such an enormous culture of pride has had some undesirable side effects. In addition to being known for its national devotion, the United States is also known for producing educational textbooks that, from certain points of view, favors glamorized history at the expense of the truth. This has been a common criticism from teachers and students alike for decades.

Liberty history teacher Mrs. Thigpen put forth her opinion on the topic: "Stu-

dents are absolutely misled about history, and sometimes in different ways across the country. Each American region emphasizes parts of history that make them look the most important." In

addition, Mrs. Thigpen identified the source of the issue as the curriculum developed by the state, rather than teachers themselves.

Keeping this in mind, teachers try their best to teach an objective form of history. Tweaking teaching guidelines to

Are school textbooks re-writing history?

optimize the level of objectivity is a common chore that any history teacher could relate to. At times, however, removing this widespread partiality can prove to be a challenge in and of itself. Mrs. Thigpen suggested, "We should teach history from different perspec-

tives. Maybe instead of just looking at the American point of view on a historical event, we could also see it from the point of view of Germany, Japan, Egypt, or some other country." Teachers aren't

the only people who have caught onto historical revisionism in our schools though. As they grow older, students seem to be realizing more that the history they've been taught for the last decade isn't always all that accurate. By the time students are ready to graduate,

the damage is done, and can be difficult to fix.

Manuel Aguilar, a former AP European History and AP Art History student, stated, "I never really got to understand the cultures and politics of more foreign nations, if they were mentioned it was only because of their involvement in European or American politics." As students, trusting teachers, putting in research, and staying aware of potential one-sidedness are all things that can be done to reduce the effect of bias on education. An increasingly large amount of attention is being brought to it daily. Perhaps at some point in the future, historical revision in education won't be an issue that the United States is so notoriously known for.

The ocean's garbage disposal: island of trash takes over the Pacific

By Dylan Davidson
Staff Writer

Imagine a pristine field in the center of a valley, surrounded by lush green grass and crisp and fresh air blowing over your face. Now imagine an island literally made of garbage and it also reeks of dead fish and melted plastic. One of these places actually exists, and unfortunately it's not the pristine overlook. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a gyre (spiral or vortex) consisting of marine debris from all over the world. According to a three-year study published in Scientific Reports Friday, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is about 1.6 million square kilometers in size, which is bigger than the state of Alaska; this is larger than previous estimates. It consists mainly of different plastic waste from all over the world. The garbage patch may seem innocent at first, but once people take a deeper look, they can see it many dirty secrets.

The main reason the patch is so dangerous to the environment is primarily the fact that the island is 90% plastic. This is an issue because the pieces of plastic degrade into much smaller pieces and harm the nearby sea animals, because they mistake the particles for zooplankton, and consequently are ingested. Most of the chemicals in plastic are incredibly harmful to fish when ingested. This process more than often ends up killing the fish and poisoning the whole school in that area. But luckily there are clean up efforts in the works.

The Ocean Cleanup is an organization that has been attempting to rid the ocean of pollution since its inception. And it's next big project is the complete removal of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. They plan to do this using an advanced screen system that is tied to anchors, and as the current pushes the

screens they trap the garbage residue in them to be later retrieved and disposed of. When asked how the screens will get to their destination, Boyan Slat, the chairman of The Ocean Cleanup, said, "These systems will automatically drift or gravitate to where the plastic is". This was a main concern for many people, as there was no known method of transporting the screens to the patch. The cleanup effort is slated to begin later this year.

While the patch is definitely physically harmful, to the fish anyway, it's more of a symbol than anything else. The patch is an Industrial Age icon, in the sense that it represents the mass over saturation of plastic in the items that consumers purchase. Hopefully it will turn heads to the mass pollution of the ocean, and maybe inspire people to help clean the oceans.

Chasing cars: how to choose the perfect fit for you

By Cody MacDermott
Staff Writer

It's almost the time to buy that first car you've been dreaming of for years now. The opportunity for your first car is finally at the tip of your fingers. A few things that may be able to help include: stabilizing a bank account, finding the perfect car for the driver's needs and learning about the responsibilities of owning a car. The first thing a person who is looking to buy a new car should do is to find a job or a system that will bring in a steady flow of

cash. This will allow the buyer to be able to find the best car possible for their needs. Coming up with enough money to make a down payment on a car isn't too difficult as long as there is a steady income that is able to pay monthly bills. Once the buyer has collected a substantial amount of money, it is best to visit multiple car lots and dealerships and find information on what type of vehicle could be best for the driver's needs. Some people may be heavy workers and could use a truck to tow things. On the other hand, for people who don't find use for hauling

or towing, a smaller and more fuel efficient vehicle would be a better choice. After the perfect vehicle is selected, take a test drive and make sure the car is everything expected and more. Nothing could be worse than purchasing a vehicle that a driver does not enjoy driving in their everyday life. If satisfaction is met, proceed through the process and secure the right price for the vehicle. Once everything is clarified and you are accepted to purchase your very first car, enjoy it and use it to your own advantage.

The authenticity of astrology

Discovering the truth behind the stars

By Maya Morales-Cartwright
Staff Writer

There are many misconceptions about astrology, from the questionable lawfulness of horoscopes to the name itself. Astrology is the study of the motions and positions of the planets having an effect on humans and their existence.

"I don't believe in astrology because I don't understand how everyone born in the same month is supposed to be alike. I know many people who are the same sign and are completely different people," Liberty High School student Alondra Zepeda states.

More or less, this is a stigma with astrology that is very common. But astrology isn't as simple as anticipated;

it's almost entirely made up of preciseness. A birth chart (otherwise known as a natal chart) is a chart drawn based on the position of the sun, moon and the planets when a person is born, which is accurate when narrowed down by date, time and location. The date a person is born is the "sun sign." The sun sign does contribute to personality but the moon and other planets are what ultimately determine factors such as mannerisms, strengths, weaknesses, and characteristics.

The same principle applies to horoscopes. Horoscopes are a forecast of a person's fate based on the position of the planets in the future in aspect with the sun, but when based only on the sun sign are fairly problematic. They are general and based solely off

of date and not time, or location, making it virtually unreliable. Personal horoscopes are the most reliable; they take the positions of the sun, moon, and planets from a birth chart and integrate them with future forecasts. There are additional ways for people to learn how to interpret their own personal horoscopes, or if inexperienced can purchased detailed reports from astrologers. Astrologists get certified through numerous courses, experience through organizations, and standardized tests taken through colleges that offer that field of study. Depending on their overall experience, they make around \$48,000 on average from creating reports such as future horoscopes, birth chart readings, and partner compatibility.

Should beauty break the bank?

The high cost of maintaining healthy skin

By Stephanie Snodgrass
Co-Editor

Skin. It encompasses our bodies and creates the basis of almost every instinctual human interaction ever. It's the largest organ in the entire body. It carries its own set of stigmas and standards in today's society, as well as many generations before. One's skin can extricate someone from fitting the high standard of beauty, to worthy of being ostracized.

Acne is an especially big deal when dealing with it in high school. That being said, why does something that happens to be so important to the entirety of our existence have to be so expensive?

The beauty industry is competitive, and fast paced, and one thing is guaranteed-- there is always a market for skincare. Every now and then, new trends pop up and take the beauty world by storm. First it was fancy gold oils that could be seen on any beauty bloggers Instagram. Then came the 24k gold masks, glitter masks, facial sprays, Korean beauty products, and even UV

light masks. There are countless reviews, and videos online giving people their two cents on whether a product works, or shows promising results-- but a lot of times, reviews depend on skin type, genetics, and matter of opinion. So what ingredients actually work, and is it necessary to break the bank to achieve healthy skin?

According to an article written by Grace Day, she explains that more people are "taking a more science savvy approach to skincare" now that people have the internet at our fingertips and can target exact skin needs. A constant theme amongst products contain ingredients such as Retinol (anti-aging), Salicylic Acids (acne clearing), Alpha Hydroxy Acids (texture smoothing), Hydroquinones (dark spot lightening), and Hyaluronic Acid (plumping and anti-aging). However, many of these acids, or ingredients with similar properties can be found in natural oils or plants. The fact of the matter is, although not all expensive skincare products on the market are gimmicks, they are not absolutely necessary to have clear, youthful skin.

Left-handed legends

Old wives' tales about being a lefty

By Bryn Wenzler
Staff Writer

Working at a movie theater can be rough when you have to go out of your way to find the only left-handed popcorn scooper hidden deep in the warehouse. Even worse is when you use the left handed popcorn scooper and your coworker makes a comment about how you're related to the devil. Where did these left handed myths even come from? Being left handed seems like something people are born with, but many myths stick to this gene like glue.

One of the most interesting myths is that in the "olden days," left handedness meant being female and right handedness meant being male. It's very fascinating because it's rare for someone to be left handed. Also, the Latin word for left is "sinister;" hence why people think left handed people are related to the devil. Left handed people used to be shunned in society. Only 10% of people are left handed so it's always been seen as unusual.

Right: A 19th century schoolmaster whips a child for writing with his left hand. Other common practices of the time included tying a child's hand behind his or her back, to force the child to utilize the right hand.



Photo courtesy of www.rightleftwrong.com

May 1, 2018

Dancing through life

By Line Jensen
Staff Writer

Spring is just around the corner, and so is the Liberty High School spring dance recital. The spring recital is the biggest dance recital of the year. This year there is going to be 28 routines, 11 solos, six duos, five trios, and six group dances. Senior at Liberty High School, Amanda Turner, is the dancer with the most routines. She is in seven different routines this year. "Each dance has some sort of different style to it, and a different emotional feeling so that is how I separate each dance from each other." Amanda added, "I chose these many dances because I wanted to show of my skills in many different ways and styles." She can definitely feel the stress of it all, but it is all worth it at the end.



Liberty intermediate and advanced dance rehearses before their performance at Liberty's esteemed Day of the Arts.

Photo by Line Jensen

The dance students must turn in an outline explaining why they chose that music number, why the dance is choreographed the way it is, and why they chose that specific costume. The outlines let the dance instructor, Mrs. Leyen, know how many

routines will be performed, and how much class time there is going to be to learn the different dances because every dancer is in four or more routines. Liberty High School's dance teacher Mrs. Leyen says, "It takes a lot of time to organize the recitals, because I have

to take costume changes and variations in the dances into account when I'm putting the program together." There is a lot to keep track of and a lot of planning goes into every class, so every dance is practiced

enough, and all the dancers know their routines. Most of the dances are choreographed by the students, and because the dancers have their own individual style, there should be something for everyone.

Sports, concussions, consequences

By Charlis Vega
Staff Writer

Concussions are widely known to be a common injury due to a hard hit to the head which can leave an athlete unconscious for a few minutes and can make them confused and distorted when they come to. This can lead to symptoms that will show within the next 7-10 days. It can have an effect on the athlete for up to three months to one year. The symptoms may cause nausea, headaches, confusion, and irritability. The sports that have the most common concussions are football, which has a recorded 64% to 76.8%, and boys ice hockey with 54%. The other sports with a total number of concussions during athletic exposure are girls soccer with 33%, boys lacrosse at 46.6%, boys' wrestling: 23%, girls' basketball: about 21%, boys' basketball: 16-21%, girls' field hockey: 22-24.9% , and cheer-leading at 11-14% . Football has the most recorded concussions but, Liberty junior and water polo player, Marea Melander

has had a total of two concussions. One symptom she endured from the head injuries was a difficulty to focus in class, which immensely affected her time at school. These symptoms persisted for two weeks, keeping Melander from the pool for the entirety of those two weeks. Another junior female athlete, Mckinley Siemers, a dedicated softball player, states she was out of her softball season for three weeks during her freshman year for one concussion. Even though she was back on the field in three weeks, her symptoms lasted five weeks. The concussion affected her school work for two weeks because she was unable to attend school. Siemers recalls, "I went to school for half days, and for the next week teachers were very understanding and helpful. It helped that I did not need to worry about school work." These sports are intense contact sports, which puts student athletes at risk for concussions every day they play. Concussions are a serious head injury and can effect everyday life.

A thirty six thousand dollar seat

Being a season-ticket holder



SECT. ROW SEAT

ACCOUNT:



My Blue Jackets Account



A general outline from the 2012-2013 season ticket to the Columbus Blue Jackets hockey team, which can sell for up to 15,000 dollars.

Photo courtesy of selloutdoorjacket.com

By Nafisa Tarin
Staff Writer

The sound of thousands screaming and cheering echoing through the stadium. Your favorite players putting their heart, soul, and sweat into the game; hoping for the win. The taste of the nachos and hot dogs still on the tip of your tongue. Every home game, every win, every loss, every game till the last. Every ticket in the palm of your hands: you're a season ticket holder. Being a season ticket holder comes with its perks: they are able to receive offers and deals that a regular ticket buyer doesn't have access to. A season ticket holder for the NFL receives 20-25% off their order at the NFL shop, exclusive access to the NFL Red Zone and NFL Game Pass. Many teams offer meet and greet events; also, they receive a discount from DIRECTV. Season ticket holder for the Oakland Raiders, Toni Azim expresses, "My favorite perk is that I don't have to be at the games to get extra service, I get exclusive access and deals from TV, and apps from the NFL." If one is a season ticket holder for the NBA, depending on the team, one gets a different selection of offers. Being a Golden State Warriors season ticket holder, perks include behind the scenes game night opportunities, 10% off merchandise, pre-paid parking, a lanyard ticket holder,

and much more. Being a season ticket holder for the MLB San Francisco Giants, one receives autographed items, movie night game, away game road trip, gift cards, a pre-game party, and a Fan Fest autograph session. Season ticket holder for the Oakland Athletics Kasim Tarin, states, "Thanks to these perks, each game has a different experience. We don't just watch a baseball game and leave, at times we are invited onto the field after the game to watch some show, whether it be fireworks or just listening to music. We have our own after-party." The pricing for a season pass is quite expensive: for the NFL, the season tickets average around \$2,000. Season pass ticket holder for the Oakland Raiders, Toni Azim goes on to state that, "To me the price for the tickets were a great deal! I love the Raiders and I work hard for my money so I can enjoy life, the price doesn't bother me." For the NBA, depending on the seating you select price ranges from about \$3,000 to \$36,000. For the MLB, it averages around \$2,500. Now is the price worth it? Season

ticket holder for the Oakland Raiders, Toni Azim states that, "Yes, it is a ton of money although I already attend a majority of the games, so why not just buy a season pass and get tons of discounts and more entertainment." Season ticket holders pay for tickets for every game in the season, now what happens if they don't attend a game? Well, the NBA allows season ticket holders to donate their tickets. For example, the Golden State Warriors season ticket donated will be given to local nonprofits and schools serving underprivileged youth through the Bay Area. Tarin explains, "The best thing is that my money doesn't go to waste; if I'm unable to attend a game I get that money back and I have someone else experience the greatness." If the tickets are donated, the season pass ticket holder receives a full tax deduction equal to the value of their ticket. Toni Azim states, "I always have something to do during the week, my love for sports is what drives me to have a season pass." Being a season ticket holder receives perks, discounts, and upgraded sports game experiences. The prices are high, due to so many trying to purchase a season pass; they have a waiting list for season passes now.

The revival of powder puff: Liberty's long-loved tradition is back



The return of Liberty Powder Puff is Thursday May 24, at 7:00 pm on the Liberty football field. Tickets are \$5 presale and \$7 at the door to support junior and senior lady lions.

May 1, 2018

Splashing into a new chapter

Taylor Hornberger dives into UC Davis

By Adelle Senneca
Staff Writer

Everyone knows about football, baseball, and basketball; however, there are so many other sports that people hardly know about, such as diving. Senior Taylor Hornberger participates on Liberty's diving team. Hornberger has been a participant in the dive team for about four and in a half years. She got interested in it right after she decided to stop participating in gymnastics in search for a new sport, and she stayed with dive after discovering she had the talent for it. According to Hornberger, the hard-

est part about diving is, "getting over my fears." However, her favorite part about diving is the individual aspect and being able to flip every day. Diving has given Taylor the opportunity to get a scholarship to U.C. Davis; which she has accepted. In college she will practice five days a week for two hours in the pool, and a hour in a half on dry land.

Taylor will be going to Stanford to practice on Sundays once a month in addition to her work at UC Davis. One thing that she would like people to know about diving is that one doesn't learn the dives overnight, it takes a lot of hard work and motivation to ac-

complish; and diving is a difficult sport mentally.

According to Hornberger, a "good dive" is any dive with a good entry and good position with a score between five and one half and ten. A bad dive" would consist of a dive breaking position and creating a large splash with a score of zero to five.

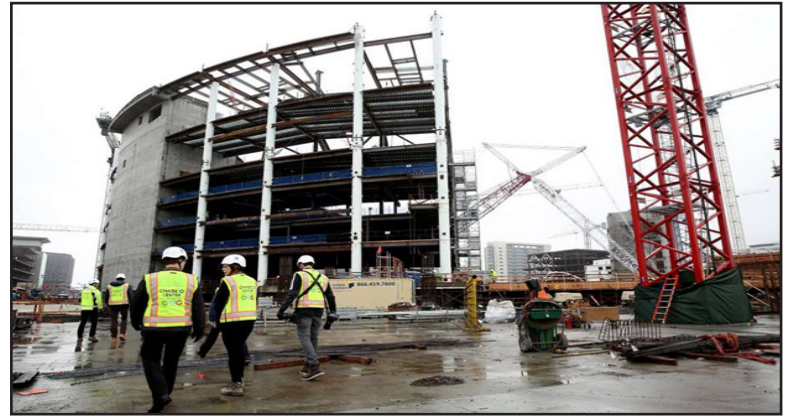
Unfortunately, diving is an underrated sport that doesn't get as much recognition as other sports. Anyone is welcomed to be on Liberty's diving team as long as one is willing to put in the work and dedication to the sport, just as Taylor Hornberger has.

"The best part is getting over my fears."



Preparing to take a dive is Taylor Hornberger on a chilly day. She has a love and a passion for diving, even in the cold.

Photo by Helena Long



The new arena for the Warriors is under construction across the Bay Bridge in SF. Photo courtesy of sfchronicle.com

Golden State Warriors score off the court with new arena

Chase Center to open soon

By Micah Butler
Staff Writer

The Warriors shoot from deep -splash! Soon, Warriors will score a brand new arena. The Golden State Warriors are in the process of building a new arena in San Francisco. Hundreds of construction workers are required to make the arena look like a "state of the art" NBA stadium. The Warriors President, Rick Wells, stated that it took "five years to bring the Chase Center from the drawing board center from the drawing board to the bleachers and that when the arena is finished it will seat 18,000 fans, will feature 44 suites, have 32 court side lounges and 60 theater boxes."

The arena itself will be designed for more than just basketball, as it will be able to host concerts in an intimate 4,000 seat concert hall.

The Warriors president Wells also states that "when people arrive they're going to feel like they're coming to more of a concert or cultural event much more than they're coming to a sports event and that fans, team executives, and players will all be in close proximity." The Chase Center is estimated to cost 1,000,000,000 and scheduled to open in time for the 2019-2020 basketball season.

Dodging the way to championships: Liberty's annual dodgeball competition

By Briana Kenett
Staff Writer

Interesting facts about dodgeball:

Dodgeball was first played in Africa over 200 years ago.

A record was set for a dodgeball game with the most players in 2012 by UC Irvine with 6,084 players.

During filming for 'Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story', Ben Stiller broke three cameras in one scene and hit his wife in the face.

<http://planetairsports.com>



Photos by Briana Kennett

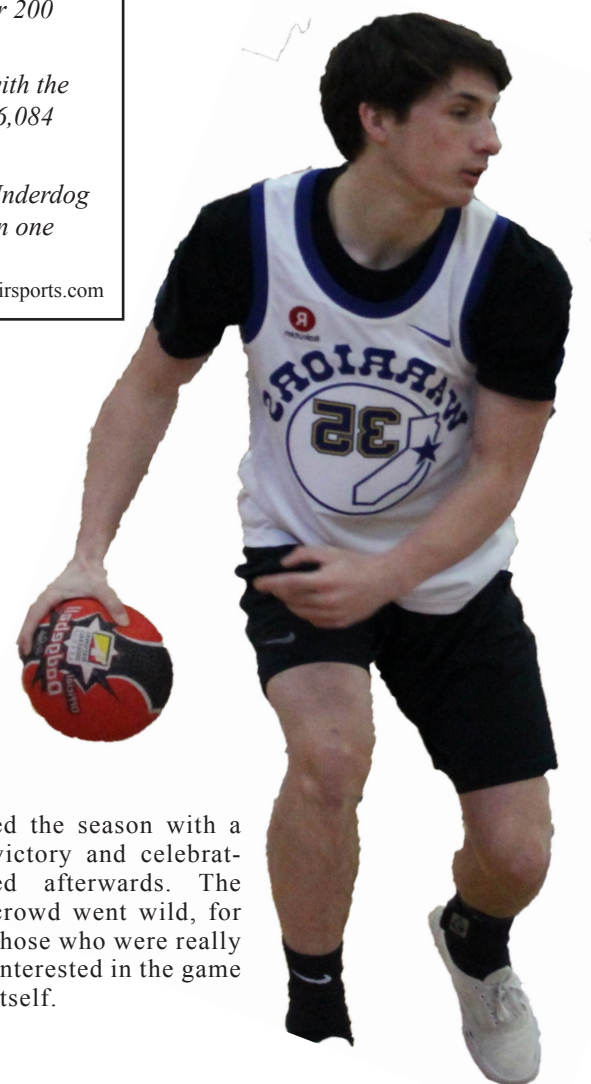
Dodgeball is serious business, as shown by Jaxson Bautista as he launches the ball toward the opposing team.

The finals: Dodgeball is a six on six game, was boys against boys and best out of four. The first game starts and the True Amigos make the cut off, starting on the right foot. But the Check Chasers made the last out claiming their first win. The score was one to nothing and the teams switch sides to show no favoritism to one side or the other. The crowd was, for the most part, was making "oh" sounds and yelling at their team to help them get an out.

The second game starts and it is intense; the boys were on the balls of their feet, the Check Chasers made the first out staying ahead of the game and they ended up taking the win; making the score two-nothing. They were starting to

feel confident but that did not stop the True Amigos from staying headstrong; you could tell on their faces they were getting tactical. The True Amigos were hot and everyone is trying to make an out and with three guys on their side and zero on the side of the Check Chasers, the True Amigos made their first win.

It was the final game and the True Amigos are down by one but were still in it to win it. The game was a make or break; it was possible that they would go into overtime, but the winner of the fourth game was the True Amigos beating the Check Chasers by three. They end-



ed the season with a victory and celebrated afterwards. The crowd went wild, for those who were really interested in the game itself.

First time player Jack Harris prepares to achieve victory for his team.

May 1, 2018

The life of a trans person: my story

By Logan Siordia
Staff Writer

Through recent years, America has been a country that prides itself on diversity. It's full of people from all different corners of the world, building an immigrant country. People around the states have different personalities, languages, colors, and different identities. At school and in Brentwood, its the different unique identities of others that make up our own diverse community. Gender identity is a big part of roles in society, some showing themselves on campus, like boys and girls sports teams, various classes, and other groups. For some, it is a struggle to fit into those groups. This is what comes with being in the LGBT community. Though we have inclusive communities at school, it may still be difficult to find labels and comfortability. Gender identity is a big struggle that some people face, including myself. "Transgender" is an umbrella term, that refers to someone who does not identify with a gender that they were assigned at birth-- whether its male, female, or for some, neither. Every transgender person's experience is different. I am a trans boy, which means I was born female, but realized my comfort level in identifying with the male gender. Gender and sex are two different things. Sex is biological, and gender is how someone identifies themselves, gender being something constructed by our society to label and differentiate each other. Although those labels would lead to individual struggles among people's rights. As a community, transgender people have fought



Marchers hold out a giant transgender flag at a pride parade.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images

hard for rights and equality through the years. The battle still continues to this day, both politically and internally. Politically, many of our rights were hard to fight for, like workplace treatment, bathroom laws, birth certificate changes, and recently, the right to serve in the US military. Some of the big personal struggles I have faced as a trans person is not being accepted by others, self-consciousness, confusion with my identity, and general courage

with moving forward as who I want to be. Coming out to other people is one of the hardest things for me personally when it comes to experiences with other people. My identity is a huge part of me, and there is no certainty when it comes to knowing other people's reactions. It's terrifying and exciting at the same time. Being thought of someone that isn't who I want to be is smothering, trying to meet other people's expectations when all I want to be is

myself. Everyone's experience is different, but for myself, it was both relieving and stressing. Coming out was compulsive for me; I thought I had to do it. By the time I had identified as male for over three years, I knew I had to, as if it were some requirement to deem me "a real boy." I would come to find out that's not true. Doing what's right for yourself is always the better choice. My family was confused, not understanding what it was that I meant

or that it was okay at all. However, the best solution to ignorance is education. With support on both ends, mine and theirs, it's a battle I know I can conquer. Luckily, in our generation, the LGBT community is learned about more and more, but that doesn't make acceptance easy. Transitioning while going to school is another big part of my life. Everyday there's going to be people who misgender me, and though it's expected, it feels like a pain in my chest. I had to make sure all of my friends knew about my identity, and because of the widespread knowledge of the LGBT community, it was easier for me to feel welcomed. When registering, I had my name changed in the school system to what I wanted; The school made me feel like I was in a safer place. We are lucky to have a GSA, a safe space for all LGBT youth. Addressing the transgender, gay, lesbian, bisexual, or any other student here as a whole, how you feel matters the most. It's okay to take time to yourself to come to terms with who you are, and there are is even no need for labels at all. It's okay to feel confused-- it's a part of life and coming of age that everyone experiences. Surround yourself with the right people, and be ready to face challenges amongst the way. Supporters of the LGBT communities are called allies, and they are a big part of making Brentwood a safe place. Every student should feel accepted, and our school should be a safe place for everyone, no matter their identity. Embrace the diversity we have here, and respect everyone's identities. That's what com-

Free the music: rappers unfairly profiled

By Mason Padilla
Staff Writer


NBA Young Boy, Meek Mill, Kodak Black are the most targeted rap artists in the game. They make the dollars, have an insane following, and lyrically please us the most. It is because of these great things, and the color of their skin, that they are being profiled, and punished differently than others, doing the same. It is widely known that cops watch these rappers closely. The police stalk rappers' social media accounts to gain insight, and link crime to the lyrics. This is a gross injustice of First Amendment rights. We are ALL guaranteed freedom of speech, and expression. As for these three icons, they were penalized more severely for their profession, rather than the crimes committed. Not to say their crimes deserve to go unpunished, but there needs to be a more level playing field. The law must be the same for all, regardless of skin color or occupation. We've



South Florida rap star Kodak Black has spent the last several months in jail for gun and marijuana possession.

come a long way from stereotyping, racism, and vast hatred, however, we still have a long way to go. Three of today's greatest rappers, have been jailed for crimes that others might have gotten probation or even just a slap on the wrist. NBA Young Boy, Meek Mill, and Kodak Black have been accused of domestic abuse, grand theft,

possession of a firearm, and possession of marijuana. If they were not black rappers who made crazy money, they wouldn't have such harsh penalties. We all have a different path, and not all of us have the same advantages. We do, however, deserve the same consideration and legal rights to be innocent until proven guilty.



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MRS. HUBBARD
SCIENCE TEACHER AT LHS
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT LMC
Email questions: hubbardj@lhusd.net
FALL 2018

Young people struggle to read analog clocks... but does that really matter?

By Hugo Perotti
Staff Writer

Think about the most controlling aspect of your life. It's not your parents or your teachers, but rather a device so imperative to our civilization that without it, our world would crumble into disarray. This device is none other than the clock. An ancient tool that seemingly dictates your every move. It controls what time to wake up, leave the house, go to your dentist appointment, and everything else near and far between. Everything is controlled by the clock. Society has organized itself in this way for centuries, but the difference today is not necessarily the way it's used, but merely the type of clock we're using. The standard analog clocks have been a mainstay in the timekeeping public for generations upon generations. But their place has dwindled significantly with our current world being surrounded by smartphones and digital technology, which has made the digital clock the most accessible and therefore, most read in the world. With this dramatic shift in the way we tell time the question yet to be asked is, can teenagers still read regular clocks that are present in most classrooms, and if not is



Quick: do you know what time this clock is showing? Sadly, there are students out there who do not.

Photo by Hugo Perotti

this really a bad thing? First though, let's look at digital clocks, which, are undoubtedly faster and easier to read. Digital clocks require no mental math. 12:23 on a digital clock is just what it says it is. However, on a regular clock figuring out the time can be like trying to solve a puzzle. Identifying the hour is a breeze; the exact minute though, can

sometimes be a pain. Trying to read the same time on a regular clock from a generous distance usually precedes something like this: 1.) Squint your eyes and look across the class to read the hour. 2.) Do 5x4 and then attempt to read the three microscopic hash marks and you've finally done it... or instead, you could just use your phone.

Digital clocks are clearly more efficient, so can we really blame teenagers for not knowing how to read a digital clock? "It's the worst thing (to not know how to read a regular clock) because if you don't know how to read it, and you get into a situation when your phone doesn't work-- you're screwed", warned Gianni Oquendo. Most detrac-

tors of digital clocks will usually point to reliability issues or some hypothetical doomsday situation where all of our phones are rendered useless, even though regular clocks at school still need to be plugged into the wall. To find out how well the students of Liberty High School stood up to the challenge of reading regular analog clocks, eight random people were shown a regular clock and were timed on how long it took for them to reach the correct answer. The average was time it took to read the analog clock was about 6.1 seconds, the shortest time was 3.70 seconds, and the longest time was 12 seconds. Even though teenagers can still read regular clocks, an average of 6.1 seconds is way too long to simply figure out what time it is. There is no purpose anymore for holding on to such an inefficient way of telling time. The analog clock will continue to exist in the foreseeable future, but it will never again be the primary clock we use to tell time, and inevitably, like all outdated technology, eventually, no one will know how to use it, let alone have the need to.

Senior ball crawl

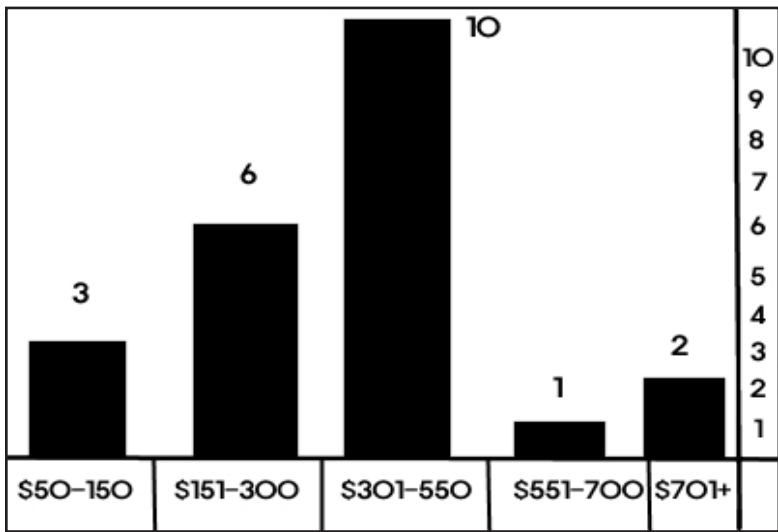
By Nayeli Ayala
Staff Writer

Senior Ball is coming up on April 28th for Liberty High with the theme of Gatsby Masquerade. Seniors at Liberty are currently preparing for one of the biggest nights of their Senior Year. From the dresses and tuxedos to the limo, corsages and tickets, everything adds up quickly. According to theguardian.com in 2015, on average, US families spent as much as \$919 on

their teen's prom. Based on the following graph- surveyed by students in Mr. Rosenbergs' 7th period Government- students are willing to spend anywhere from \$50 to more than \$700. Many parents, maybe even students, probably don't even realize the expense prom brings until the big day is just around the corner.



Some seniors are seventeen at graduation, so is it wise to send them to a foreign country by themselves? Photo courtesy of Getty Images



Graph by Nayeli Ayala

The above bar graph shows that in a poll of 22 LHS seniors, about half of them will be spending on Senior Ball what many adults spend on a monthly car payment.

Kickin' back in the Bahamas

Is the senior tradition really a good idea?

By Alison Bischof
Staff Writer

Starting off summer right, graduating seniors take on their last hoorah with their friends before parting ways in the fall. There are many concerns regarding this senior trip to the Bahamas students take in late June. These concerns include no parental supervision, the fact that it is very expensive, and let's not forget the trip is in a whole different country. For some parents, it can be a hard decision to let their kids go, due to these factors. With everything in life, there's going to be good and bad sides. However, I think there are more pros than there are cons in this situa-

tion. It's the Bahamas, what is there not to do? In the five days the students are there, they can dip into the clear blue ocean, lay out on the beach, watch the sunset go down, and so much more. Talking to the seniors who are going from Liberty, they seem very excited. Senior, Aveena Cline states, "I'm super excited for the Bahamas, because it's the last thing we're really doing as a class and it's a good way to end high school." This trip will be a memorable, fun experience to have for these seniors, who will soon be starting a whole new chapter of their lives.

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"Fortnite" for iOS: a review



While more convenient, the mobile version of Fortnite may not be as great as everyone thinks.

Photo courtesy of Game Tech

By Scott Yoshida
Staff Writer

If you are looking for a game to play on the go, then "Fortnite" for iOS is what you are looking for. It is a simple but sometimes complicated game that can be downloaded on your phone. It was released on Monday, March 12th for iOS and for Android, but in order to play, you must first get the code from the company Epic Games, founders of "Fortnite." Also, it comes with extra codes you can send to your friends. Once you get the code, you'll be set. However, for the graphics and design, that all really depends on how good your phone is. If your phone is new,

like iPhone 6 and up, then you can play the game pretty well. But if you have an iPhone 8 or iPhone X then that will be the best gameplay. For Android users it's going to be tough, because Androids are known for being slow and laggy. The gameplay itself is challenging also. To move around and shoot without being able to change your aim is very difficult. Because of this, it will take time to get good. But that's pretty much the same with all great things in life. "Fortnite" for iOS is the new wave that a lot of people play, however, people that have been playing on

a console like PS4, Xbox, or PC will know that it is more fun and easier. The phone game is just for when you can't bring your console places when you're traveling. I personally do not play the phone game because my phone is old and in shambles, as well as the fact that the console version is much better. I recommend the console version over the phone version for that reason, but if you travel and cannot bring your console, then the phone version is the way to go. Overall, "Fortnite" has proven to be an enjoyable, addicting game, and any version is better than none.

Editorial Policy

The opinions and views expressed on this page are solely those of the authors, not necessarily the journalism class, its advisor, or Liberty High School.

The Lion's Roar gladly welcomes letters to the editor; they will be edited for the linguistic accuracy, good taste, and space. They may be up to 400 words in length, and are due no later than three weeks before publication to libertyslion-roar@gmail.com. The Lion's Roar staff reserves the right to adjust or reject letters to the editor for any reason.

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