

Wildcat Tribune

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Gifted: A Letter from the Editor

By Mimi Evans Editor-in-Chief

If, four months ago, you told me that we would have successfully published six issues at the speedy pace of two a month, I would have laughed and said you were dreaming. But, with the help of an amazing staff and an immortal advisor, we have accomplished just that

Neon green, orange, pink, purple, blue and wintergreen (there's a difference!) may just be colors to some people, but to the Tribune Staff, each color is a triumph. Each color brings to mind a story that goes so much beyond each article. I can't spot the color again without being reminded of an emotion—the exciting newness of neon green, the humor of a bright pink. Each page represents not only the words printed on it-but the countless meetings, discussions and interviews that brought the piece to where it stood, proud on the front page or nestled like a hidden treasure in the corner of page three.

My proudest achievement as an editor of this paper is knowing that the *Tribune* gets students involved. The *Tribune* is an outlet, both creatively and scholarly, for students who have a passion — a passion to write, to take photographs or simply a passion for Keebler's cookies. Tribune members care about the life they are creating for themselves, and they couldn't care less what anyone else thinks.

Blessed is simply not enough of a description; I am truly gifted with the presence of every single *Tribune* member who sacrifices a little extra studying time to be a part of something brilliant. HEY YOU *Tribune* staff, we may be a "little" crazy, a "little" sleep-deprived—but we are beautiful and valuable nonetheless. After all, we have issues.

New Parking Lot System Poses Problems for Parents

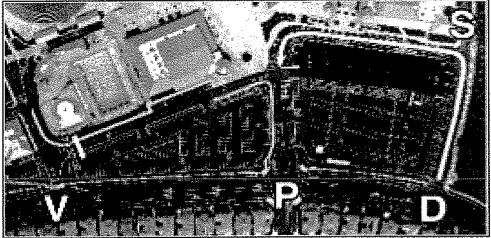


PHOTO COURTESY OF DVHS SCHOOLLOOP.COM

The new drop off system has greatly helped faculty and students in the mornings, but has also caused many headaches for parents.

By Meghal Sancheti Staff Writer

A new parking drop-off system has recently been established to ease traffic congestion in the school parking lot.

But to many recent late-comers, this new system seems to have created a few different problems with the drop-off system. This new system serves to divert traffic from the entrances of both DVHS and Venture School so that only students and faculty members with parking passes can enter the school without any hassle, while the other drivers (mainly drop-off parents) make a roundabout to enter the school via

the Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center and exit through the main entrance.

Though the system means well, the reactions from many students and parents aren't too positive, hence the headline of this article, "Parking Problems". As of now, divided traffic must converge into one line outside the Performing Arts Center. This unstable route may have disaster written all over it, even without the fact that pedestrians still use the same route and must be given the right of way.

One frustrated parent states, "Now I have to spend between 15 minutes to 20 minutes in ensuring that my children have reached school. As a working parent, I find myself at a disadvantage because now I have to remove extra time just to get the children to school. Also, if I don't, I might even be late to work."

Some people, however, were fortunate enough to not be stuck with the short straw. If you take into consideration how many student and faculty drivers are now able to safely park their cars without the fear of collision, the method may not seem as faulty.

And in the end, that seems to be the purpose of the whole idea; making parking easier for students so that they can get to class on time.



A glimpse of the parking lot madness before school.

POLL: How Many Hours Will You Spend Over Winter Break Studying?

Malila 18:3

Six Fun Facts About Candy Crush

By Kristi Seto Staff Writer

With over 500 million players, Candy Crush has taken over many people's lives. Parents forget to take their kids to school and teens hide their phones under desks during lectures, even excusing themselves to play in the bathroom. Here are six interesting facts about Candy Crush;

- For every 22 Facebook users, there's I Candy Crush player.
- 2. Four words: Candy Crush Themed
- 3. Candy Crush tweets could write 4.500 novels.
- 4. Candy Crush receives \$900k every
- 5. There is Candy Crush cake.
- 6. There is a Candy Crush movie (which is fake, luckily).

Underclassmen Strive for Success to Play Varsity Sports outs. For example, freshman practices, fitness and condimates and her current school

Staff Writer

Everyone likes a success story of a self-made man who rises from rags to riches. At DVHS, the stories of underclassmen athletes who made Varsity this year are even more awe-inspiring and astonishing. Many people ask, "How can you be so good at tennis?' or questions of a similar sort. These people are ruled by the common misconception that only the "good" and talented underclassmen make Varsitv. But those underclassmen in Varsity aren't just talented. They have years of dedicated practice, opportunities and support from family and friends. These factors gave them the skills equivalent to, or even surpassing their older teammates; more importantly, it allows them to make Varsity as freshmen or sophomores.

Unsurprisingly, all the Varsity underclassmen athletes interviewed said that their sports are their passions. Perhaps it is that undying passion that drives them to such lengthy practice sessions before tryNeil Braganza of Varsity Cross Country, who placed 20th in the 2013 NCS XC Championships, says, "I've been running almost every day for about 40-45 miles a week and 2 hours a day." Likewise, sophomore Siddharth Raj of Varsity Men's Soccer says he had the advantage of 16-18 hours of weekly training in the weeks leading to tryouts. And, to an even greater extent, freshman Gabriel Manansala of Varsity Men's Basketball "practiced at least 5 hours a day, 7 days a week" before tryouts. These underclassmen train extensively with the full intent to get better—well over 10 hours a week for most. They know that their talent alone is not enough. As Braganza says, "I did know a lot of runners in the Varsity team, but only hard work got me in that group".

But what's hard work and practice without opportunities to showcase improvement? The majority of underclassmen in Varsity had opportunities of early exposure in elementary school to their sport, access to sport clubs, weekly tioning sessions and tournaments—where the bulk of their greatest accomplishments lie. Freshman Joelle Ho of Varsity Women's Soccer is most proud of her club team winning this summer's Adidas De Anza Force Premier showcase, Similarly, freshman Margaret Qu of Varsity Women's Volleyball says, "I helped my [previous] team get into 4th at Reno Far Westerns and got the title of Division Champion multiple times." This also demonstrates how vital teams and coaches are in any athlete's success. For Manansala says, "My previ-ous coach was one of the top coaches in California for the AAU league. My team was ranked #1 in all of California." These Varsity underclassmen, compared to the athletes who did not actively participate in practices and tournaments, had the enormous advantage of more experience and skill from their own opportunities of improvement.

However, Qu credits her improvement in volleyball to not only opportunities, but also support from her teamcoach. Many other Varsity underclassmen said they receive support from coaches, teammates, friends and family. Raj says, "My parents drive me to training and matches, pay the team fees and donations, as well as provide me with encouragement". Freshman Kolette Cho of Varsity Women's Soccer says, "They have sacrificed their own time and plans, and I am really lucky to have

The underclassmen on Varsity teams interviewed said that there is more than just skill and talent to become a Varsity athlete. Many also commented on their work ethic and good sportsmanship that helped them make Varsity teams, the fruits of years of experience from practice and opportunities. There is no such thing as a self-made athlete who relies solely on his or her talent. It's the underclassmen who committed to practicing, seized opportunities and were blessed with supportive parents and coaches who made it into Varsity.

FREE SAT & ACT Practice Test

Where: C2 San Ramon

3191 Crow Canyon Pl #A San Ramon, CA 94583

When: Saturday, December 21

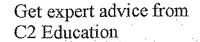
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Aclebrates the Affilian Season with Az!

Space is limited, call or email to reserve a seat:

925-806-9000 san.ramon@c2educate.com

Deadline: Thursday 12/19



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- To Grad School and Beyond
- Secrets of a Harvard Grad
- Top 5 Facts Successful Students Must Know





Naughty Dutch Kids Stuffed in Bags and Sent to Spain

By Eunice Chan Staff Writer

An old man in red with a long white beard is bringing presents to good children. People in bright outfits are happily prancing around. Presents are being exchanged. There are cookies, chocolate and gingerbread men everywhere.

It's Sinterklaa or St. Nicholas' Day, a Netherlands holiday celebrating Sinterk-; laas (St. Nicholas), the bishop of Turkey.

During late November, Sinterklaas, a tall gentleman who wears red and white bishop's robes, arrives on a boat at the Netherlands from Spain, where he spends the rest of the year. Many people gather to watch his arrival, and even more watch him on TV. He then rides around town on a white horse named Amerigo while his helpers, Zwarte Pieten, poke fun at bystanders and throw pepernote, small ginger biscuits, around. The rest of his stay is spent visiting streets, schools, and hospitals around the country until Sinterklaas.

When Sinterklaas finally arrives, there are celebrations, cookies, games and gift-giving, not just among the children, but with the adults too. At workplaces, or

among adult family members, they'll give surprises to each other. Surprises are similar to Secret Santa. The presents are often wrapped creatively, such as hidden in a bag of trash and accompanied by a funny poem signed by Sinterklaas.

During Sinterklaas, children sing songs to Sinterklaas until they hear a knock on the door. If they've been good, then they'll receive a bag full of gifts. Later that day, some children may receive sinterklaasavond or pakiesavond, which are the names for presents during the evening.

Finally, at the end of the day, children put out their shoes next to the chimney or the back door, hoping to find little treats and gifts such as gingerbread men, or chocolate letters. At night, Sinterklaas rides his horse over the roofs while the Zwarte Pieten goes down to get carrots and hay left for the horse by the children. If the children are good, they receive presents, but if they are bad, they are whipped; if the children are really bad, they are put in bags and brought to Spain.

Finally, on December 6, Sinterklaas is over, and the children return to their everyday life. Then comes December 24 and the children buzz with excitement again.



St Nicholas with his staff and bag of treats.

On Christmas Eve, Santa Claus (also called 'Christmas man' to avoid confusion) comes from Lapland, Finland to deliver more presents!

The next day is Christmas Day, which consists of a church service and a family meal, at which point everything has calmed down.

The older children and teenagers receive their primary presents during Christmas while the younger children and toddlers receive their main presents during Sinterklaas. With twice the opportunities for presents, the benefits for Dutch children outweigh the risks.

Wildcat Tribune

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Editors

Mimi Evans, Editor-in-Chief Ifedunni Segun-Abugan, Managing

Liya Khan, Op-Ed Editor

Veronica Liow, Arts & Entertainment

Irene Chang & Michael Shi, Copy

Alicia Ho & Michael Tohin, Web

Ye Bin Shin, Photography Editor

Writers

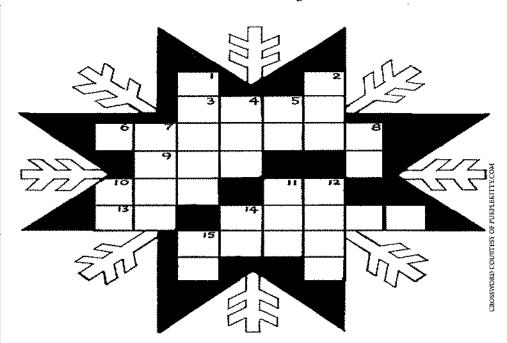
Eunice Chan, Irene Chang, Pooja Kini, Victoria Lu, Andi Mo,

Pondharshini Sadasivam, Kristi Seto,

Paul Shin, Sarah Siddiqui

Faculty Advisor

Ms, Decker



3. The largest continent 6. First month of the year

9. Frozen water

10. Part of the verb "to be"

11. Either, -

13. Steamship (abbr.)

14. Covered with snow 15. The part of the flower you put

To move in time with music

2. Used to row a boat

Short for Susan

5. Iowa (abbr.)

7. Tunes

8. Yard (abbr.) 10. Like

11. A single thing

Capital of Italy

14. Street (abbr.) 15. Spanish for "yes"

Review: 'Catching Fire' Burns Up at Box Office

RATING:

By Veronica Liow A&E Editor

It is difficult for a sequel to match the power of its predecessor. It's even more difficult when the sequel is part of a major Hollywood franchise, and harder still for a sequel (or any movie for that matter) to live up to its literary counterpart. Somehow, "Catching Fire", the second of four installments in the "Hunger Games" franchise, manages to do both.

"It's action-packed and keeps your heart racing. The ending was a total cliffhanger," says sophomore Dorothea Cheung.

Freshman Robin Fu believes that, "Through Katniss' experiences, 'Catching Fire' represented the break from the grasps of society."

"It was so much better than the first movie!" commented sophomore Keshovel Bachu.

These people and their opinions are similar to those of many, ranging from teens to adults. Many believe that "Catching Fire" is one of the best films they have ever seen, including me. Where do I even

begin to describe this film that reached \$161 million in the box offices on just opening night?

First, the graphic designs, from the shape and structure of the arena to the texture and individuality of the outfits—including Cinna's fabulous mockingjay dress—were absolutely stunning, especially since it gave such a vivid view of what people saw in their minds while reading the novel.

The actors played their parts to perfection; they all morphed into their character and executed their roles in the most precise way. Johanna Mason, played by Jena Malone, was admired among many teens because of how rebellious and fierce she was. She represents the badass every teen desires to be. Finnick Odair was also a star favorite, not only of the Capital, but also the audience! Sam Claflin matched Finnick's seductive looks and personality to the utmost accuracy. The way he reacted to Annie Cresta's cries, which were mimicked by the jabberjays, so excellently showed the humanity inside Finnick, especially to Katniss who realized then that Finnick wasn't as shallow or Capital-obsessed as she thought he was. Last but not least is Jennifer Lawrence, who played the protagonist, Katniss Everdeen; Lawrence's

Got something to say to someone? Too shy to say it to

their face?

Send a "HEY YOU" to dvhsheyyou@gmail.com or

submit via our website or Facebook. Staff & teachers welcome too!

For more "HEY YOU"S check www.thewildcattribune.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THEWRAP.COM

beautiful acting portrayed the psychologically damaging effects of violence. It was evident during the Victory Tour how distraught and traumatized Katniss was even through all the fake smiles, all accurately seen through Lawrence's acting.

"Catching Fire" is a must-see; the themes presented throughout the novel are sewed so neatly into the plot-line, especially the psychological trauma of death. The actors listed above are only a few of the many that portrayed their character so well. To experience it all, catch "Catching Fire" at your local theatre today!

"HEY YOU!"

HEY YOU, MM, don't get mad at me.

HEY YOU, Roses are red, Violets are blue, Will you marry me Lord Sess-homaru? -Love, Jaken

HEY YOU, Mrs. Cincotta, Can you please please please feed met?!?

HEY YOU, MM, You smell nice, you're pretty, and unblock me on facebook.

HEY YOU, DH, I can't get over your camo print pants and your style...I'm sure I'm not the only one:) #stayfierce

HEY YOU, what bro what naw, are you kidding, Raphael is totally the hottest -SE

HEY YOU, Hey Newspaper staff! Read this. You know what you should do? You know what this paper needs? Students should be able to submit their own comics and artwork into the paper! Make that possible! YOUR PAPER NEEDS COMI

HEY YOU, Teresa you are not a savant.

HEY YOU, Onais better be there fool #NoShownais

HEY YOU, #Bronais #SwagnaisNiazty #OgetahunnaNiazi #DoesntwearaPoloNais #OallNdayAerreydayIevenonaholidayS

HEY YOU, SS, okay.

HEY YOU, EC, you are bright as a night sky.

HEY YOU, Kshvl pls, I'm waiting for that tutu.

HEY YOU, Project SmARTS, you are wonderful, giving people. Way to help out Lockwood on Saturday!

HEY YOU, students, be safe over Winter Break.

HEY YOU, DL, violence is not allowed in LD! Talk things out; you are a debater...

HEY YOU, SZ, your spreading is really cute.

HEY YOU. DNA, Happy Birthday! (cake or cookies)

HEY YOU, MT, spreasing speed of 207 wpm.

HEY YOU. Ben's brother, get ready for triple Ms. Reeadye intros.

HEY YOU, NN, you're so cute with glasses.

HEY YOU, English department, you rock all the socks.

HEY YOU, M an M we caan't stop. I know. That's not even an inside joke.

HEY YOU, I didn't know Winter Formal was a flashlight dance :(.

HEY YOU, Mr. Ingram is my spirit animal.

HEY YOU, Mr./Ms. Breaking Bad, is it too late to start a conversation?

HEY YOU, Fruity candy canes: yay or nay? #thosewrappersdo