

PAGE 9 MOVIE REVIEW:
A CHRISTMAS CAROL



PAGE 12 HOME-COMING GAME

PLACENTIA'S OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY RUNNING NEWSPAPER, EL TIGRE IS A STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER IN THE PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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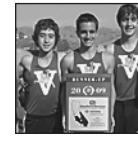
AVID
Preparing students for college and the future
— page 04

CHALK ART

Students show off their artistic talent for Red Ribbon Week.
— page 05

GOING GREEN

Saving the environment has never been this easy.
— page 07



CIF CHAMPIONS
Boys Water Polo and Cross Country both make finals.
— PAGE 12

Dancing the Night Away at Homecoming

By Josh Sumahit
Reporter

The night of November 7th was a night where Valencia Tigers were able to get away. It was the night that was anticipated for weeks on end - Homecoming. The Homecoming Dance took place at the Discovery Science Center in the city of Santa Ana, also known as "The Cube". The site that ASB selected for the night's festivities was certainly one in a million. The dance started at 8 o'clock and ran until 11. The parking lot of The Cube was packed with limos and cars filled with Tigers who were more than



Sarah Jackson (12) and Monica Stanford (12) posing for a picture. Photo Courtesy Of Yearbook

anxious to get in line. Throughout the whole night Tigers danced, talked and enjoyed the activities that the Science Center provided for entertainment. As Senior Carissa Jimenez put it, the dance was "bomb diggity". Senior Jay Sandoval said "it was extravagadocious", and junior Chelsy Suarez added that "it was definitely awesomefullicious". The Cube contained two floors of fun. The bottom floor was cleared and made into a dance area where students could get there groove on. The top floor had a variety of activities set up for the students' enjoyment. For instance,

the hockey simulator seemed to be the student favorite of the night. When the music came on it had everyone wanting to dance, especially when the song "cha-cha slide" came on. Tigers happily rushed to the dance floor to let loose and have some fun. With that being said, it is apparent that everyone had an amazing and enjoyable experience at Valencia's 2009 Homecoming dance.

Cure for Cancer?

By Josh Sumahit
Reporter

Since the month of October, there has been added inspiration to find a cure for cancer. From left and right companies, organizations, and volunteers have been contributing anything and everything they can to help doctors find a cure. For example, volunteers visited local tattoo shops to get a specially made tattoo which was a specifically made design for "The Cure". The proceeds of the tattoos were donated towards the funds for Cancer Research. There have been multiple cancer walks to raise much-needed funds for the research project. At one of the walks, there was a total to 4,678 people dedicating their time and energy, making a difference by helping to raise much-needed funds to support

cancer research. Various companies and institutes have joined the fight against cancer as well, and have started to help fund the research and collect donations as their contribution towards this deserving cause. You too, can make a difference and help change the world by doing something that can and will help not only our generation, but many future generations to come. Even simple tasks like collecting box tops or the lids to specially-marked yogurts, can greatly aid the cause. Any effort put forth to this research project will make a difference no matter its magnitude. To this day the research project still continues and more and more people are getting involved to make a difference and help change the world, one step at the time.

CONNECT TO U-DRIVE: ANYWHERE

By Palmira Muniz
Reporter

Reports, term papers, and essays. We all have to do them in order to do well in our classes. Most of the time these writing assignments are required to be typed. For the students who do not have access to a computer at home can come to the school library or computer lab to do these assignments. Students can save their work on the school's U-Drive. But what happens to the students who do not have access to a printer at home since we are now not allowed to use USB drives or even check our email in the computer lab? There is now a solution: students being able to use the U drive at their home computers, as well as having all their work saved on the schools system as well. It is a new and convenient way for students to access their work from multiple locations. Now you can access your school work from home.

STEPS TO CONNECT

- 1) Open Windows Explorer
"Start -> All Programs -> Accessories -> Windows Explorer"
On Windows 2000 or below: "Start -> Programs -> Accessories -> Windows Explorer"
- 2) In the address bar type "ftp://216.100.89.242"
- 3) When the dialogue box comes up prompting for username and password enter your logon credentials
How connect to with OS X Finder:
1) From within Finder Command + K
or
On the Finder menu bar

- click "Go -> Connect to Server"
- 2) Where it asks for the Server Address type "ftp://216.100.89.242"
 - 3) When the dialogue box comes up prompting for username and password enter your logon credentials
How connect to with FileZilla (Mac or PC):
1) Open FileZilla FTP Client
2) On the Quickconnect menu bar type the following information
Host = 216.100.89.242
Username = "Your Username"
Password = "Your Password"
Port = 21
3) Then click the "Quickconnect" button.

Staying Healthy Through the Flu Season

By Shannon Hsu
Editor

It isn't hard at all to notice how many students have been missing from classes in the past few weeks. There is only one explanation for why all of a sudden, many students seem to have vanished into thin air and reappear several days later: flu season is here again.

There is no definite timespan in which the "flu season" occurs, but it usually ranges from fall to winter, when people are more susceptible to catching illnesses. The flu is not necessarily caused by cold weather, however, but the reason why so many people fall ill with it is because it is wildly contagious.

In addition, this year, we not only have the "traditional" influenza to deal with, but also, the strain that first began appearing last spring: the H1N1 virus, more commonly known as "swine flu."

Contrary to popular belief, the H1N1 virus is not necessarily fatal, along with the "normal" flu, but the main problem, is, as previously mentioned, the extreme ease of the disease to spread from person to person. In fact, the H1N1 virus is so highly contagious that it has the ability of infecting people from up to ten feet away from the source.

Usually, influenzas enter the body through various mucus membranes, including the mouth, nose, and/or even eyes. When one coughs or sneezes, the virus is then expelled through these passages, where it becomes airborne and easily inhalable by people in the vicinity. As such, it is common knowledge that it is important for those who are already infected to cover their mouths and noses when they cough or sneeze in order to prevent spreading it even further.

However, people are sometimes in doubt whether the sickness they have is a form of influenza or just a common

cold. Both are respiratory illnesses, but the symptoms vary slightly. People who have caught a mere cold should experience less severe symptoms than those of the influenza, including a stuffy nose, coughing, sneezing, and mild fatigue. Victims of the influenza, however, will feel symptoms beginning to affect them relatively quickly, which may include fever, extreme fatigue, and dry coughing. Headaches and chest pains, and chills are also commonly seen in those who suffer from the flu.

There are, however, ways to prevent yourself from being infected by the flu. While there is no guarantee that you will be invincible or immune to it, taking precautionary measures will highly reduce your chances of catching and/or spreading the disease. Most of these are simple actions that require little more than common sense, such as covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze, turning away from someone who is coughing and/or sneezing when they

do so, washing your hands periodically, and avoiding touching things that do not belong to you personally. Students who become infected should not come to school until they, for the most part, can no longer feel the flu symptoms to avoid infecting others. It's also important to wash your hands before and after touching your eyes, mouth, and nose. Getting a flu vaccination is also one of the best things you can do to prevent yourself from getting sick.

If worst comes to worst and you end up catching the flu no matter how hard you try to protect yourself from it, there are always antivirals and over-the-counter medications you can use to treat and ease flu symptoms. A trip to the doctor's office won't hurt either. A healthy diet including many vegetables can also boost your immune system. In any case, be sure to stay cautious and do everything you can to stay healthy this flu season and in the future.



In Brief

December 3: Comedy Sportz Match

- Come support Valencia's Comedy Sportz Team! An entertaining show guaranteed to make you laugh. 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. It is \$5, but you may also want to bring extra money for pizza and drinks (\$1 each)!

December 5: SAT Testing

- 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 a.m. here at VHS. Study hard and good luck!

December 11: Winter Dance Show

- Watch the Girl's Dance Team and All Male Hip-Hop showcase their best moves in the Auditorium from 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

December 11: Holiday Food Faire

- Support the school clubs and organizations by purchasing delicious food at the Holiday Food Faire. Many different types of food to keep everyone's taste buds satisfied!

December 15: Winter Choir Concert

- Enjoy a night of singing by the talented VHS Choir. In the Auditorium, from 5:00-10:00 p.m.

December 16: VHS Band Holiday Concert

- Be immersed in beautiful music and talent provided by the VHS Band. Auditorium, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

December 18: Pancake Breakfast

- Breakfast is the most important meal of the day! So come to school between 6:20-7:45 a.m. and eat delicious pancakes provided by our amazing teachers and staff. The best part? It's FREE!

December 21-January 1: Winter Break

- Have a wonderful Winter Break. Happy Holidays! See you in 2010!

January 10: Yellow Ribbon Week

- Support Yellow Ribbon Week by wearing yellow and participating in the chalk art contest and other activities during that week.

January 11: Miss Placentia Pageant

- The annual Ms. Placentia Pageant is not only about beauty, but brains and talent as well. Come show your support Tickets \$18.

“BLANSY BLANSY”. A PERFECT WAY TO TOAST *THE FOREIGNER*

By: Shekhina Rivera
Reporter

This year's fall production was "The Foreigner" by Larry Shue. It is a comedy that takes place in rural Georgia. The plot is very enticing and has many interesting characters played by talented actors and actresses who truly enhanced the character's persona. Froggy Leseur, played by Chace Evans (12) and Keanu Silva (9), and his friend Charlie Baker, played by Christopher Giadrosich, (12) and Davey Linam (10), come from England to escape from Charlie's boring and deceitful life. They end up in Georgia, to meet up with Betty, played by Haley Holmes (12) and Haley Montero (11), who owns a rundown lodge. Being the shy person that he is, Charlie is shocked when Froggy says that he will be staying at that lodge. Charlie says that he does not like to talk to new people. Froggy comes up with a plan where Charlie does not have to talk at all. He tells Betty that Charlie cannot speak or understand English. There is much humor to this, because all the characters open up to Charlie, and tell him all of their personal secrets. Catherine, played by Emily Sharp (12) and Paige Fielding (10), a young debutante who is engaged to David, played by Simon Federman (12), has a very emotional and touching moment with Charlie, as she confesses how she truly feels about everything that is going on in her life. She is unhappy with her relationship with David, who is also the father

of their unborn baby. Everyone thinks that David is the "good guy," the one that is the most trustworthy. Behind his façade, he is actually using Catherine to get her money once they are married. Catherine also has a younger brother named Ellard, played by Jacob Trammell (10), who was considered a bit "slow" and is often the butt of everyone's jokes. David blames everything on Ellard, and he cannot do anything about it because Catherine and Betty always take David's side. Owen, played by Ben Cercea (11), is David's accomplice and helps David with his plan on taking the lodge away from Betty. In the end, Betty, Catherine, Ellard and Charlie all work together in defeating the Klu Klux Klan, which David and Owen are a part of, who try to take Charlie away because he is a foreigner.

The play's set was put together very well and received many positive comments by the people who watched the play. It was realistic, and each detail was carefully placed by the wonderful stage craft crew, along with some volunteers from the drama students. It was obvious that a lot of hard work was put in creating the set. The play itself was an enjoyable show to watch, and definitely worth the ticket price. Haley Holmes (12), Emily Sharp (12), Simon Federman (12), Chace Evans (12), Chris Giadrosich (12), Haley Montero (11), Ben Cercea (11), Jacob Trammell (10), Davey Linam (10), Paige Fielding (10), and Keanu Silva (9) who gave spectacular performances that amused the audience throughout the play.

The Stage Manager for the play was Tabita Cercea (10) and Jake Fry (12) was Assistant Manager. The Actors and Actresses will like to give thanks to Ms. Stanton, the Drama Teacher, and Fred Ronquillo who did an amazing job with the stage for the play.

Homecoming Assembly: Comedy Sportz

By Shekhina Rivera
Reporter

The theme for this year's homecoming assembly was all about Crime Scene Investigation / CSI, which complemented the theme for the homecoming dance, DNA: Dance the Night Away. Josh Rangel, Shawn Hamlin and Chase Brothers were the three main "characters" and the two tiger mascots were also a part of the show. The assembly kicked off with the Girl's Song Team showing off their new

moves. Following after, the Cheer Team flaunted their amazing stunt skills. The homecoming court was then introduced to the entire school. Freshman Prince and Princess were Kevin Escalante and Jessica Espinoza, sophomore Prince and Princess were Allan Lin and Jessica Sandoval. Junior Prince and Princess were Angie Egusquiza and Daniel Chavez. Senior Prince and Princess nominees were Cesar Valdez and Hepi Ramirez, Quin Hernandez and Dalia Valencia, and Shahin Fadakar and Ryan Osborn. The homecoming court played

an intense class competition game, which involved eating jell-o through a straw, running up the bleachers and retrieving a balloon with a note in it. The note had the competitors look for a teacher with a magnifying glass, in the end the winners were upperclassmen. After the court was introduced, the boy's hip hop team performed their new routine, as well as some free styling at the end. The hilarious and always crowd-pleasing Comedy Sportz match between the teachers and students was also an exciting part of the assembly.

VHS alumni, Alex Torres and Dominic Ortiz were the referees for the match. With games such as "Forward & Reverse" and "Slideshow," both teams had the whole gym laughing. Audience feedback determined who would win the match, and the roaring crowd's applause and laughter showed that the obvious winners were the teachers during the first assembly, and students during the second assembly. "It was a great display of Valencia pride," says Bernard Quijada (12). "It was great," adds, Preston Treadwell (12).



Comedy Sportz Performing At the The Assembly Photo By: Michelle Powell

VALENCIA DRAMA SHINES AT FESTIVAL

Valencia Shows Off Their Natural Talent When Performing At DTASC, The Fall Festival.

By Angelica Mora
Reporter

DTASC stands for Drama Teacher's Association of Southern California, which is organized and run by drama teachers that are in charge of everything that happens in DTASC. The drama teachers meet three times a year to organize the two festivals that involve great acting and talented actors that showcases the best performances of each high school.. There is a Fall Festival in October and a Shakespeare Festival in April. The teachers choose various acting and technical theatre categories, a school to serve as hosts, committees, and student-teacher opportunities at the meetings. The style of acting involved in this festival are both interesting and unique; therefore, an outsider might see a scene and not understand why the judges find it so wonderful. It is highly competitive, but it forces competitors to think of fresh new ideas and to maximize their creativity through real

acting that adds emotion and talent into the scene. The DTASC festival has been apart of Valencia's history ever since Mrs. Stanton, the current drama teacher, began teaching here twelve years ago. When Mrs. Stanton was asked if there were any well-known people that have gone through DTASC to get to where they are today, her reply was, "Yes. Many famous people from Richard Dreyfus, to Demi Moore, Val Kilmer, Kevin Spacey, Mare Winningham, and Cuba Gooding, Jr. have all gone through



EMILY SHARP (12) HOLDING THE HONERABLE MENTION. PHOTO BY: DOMINIQUE RIUTORT

DTASC to receive the opportunity to be where they are now." Mrs. Stanton also added, "DTASC has become a verb and adjective to describe the style of performance. One might DTASC a scene up or say, 'That scene is so DTASC-y!'" The October festival was fantastic; everyone made it to semi-finals and "Large Group Serious", which includes Emily Sharp (12), Chris Gladrosich (12), Casey Forester (11), Sarahli Necoechea (11), Daniel Chavez (11), Haley Carroll (10), and Ben Cercea (11), along with Stage Craft made it to finals and received honorable mentions. The Festival is exciting and unlike any

other. The acts were magnificent and each high school provided stiff competition. Competitors break out into frenzy when they hear that their secret school code has been named to move on to the next round. However, the competitors remain focused on their performances and respectful to host school sites. "DTASC is like the Academy Awards for high school Drama students. It was an amazing experience." - Emily Sharp (12) "DTASC is like the Academy Awards for high school Drama students. It was an amazing experience" states Emily Sharp (12). Overall, it is a rewarding and entertaining experience that all participants enjoyed. While some competitors in another field might vandalize a school during downtime. DTASC competitors might break out in an improvised song joined by other kids from other schools. When I asked Mrs. Stanton what her views on the kids breaking into song her reply is "It is quite fascinating to watch."

EL TIGRE

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Editor -In-Chief
Ben Cercea

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Shekhina Rivera
Josh Sumahit
Madison Tang
Sargun Singh
Hinal Patel

Photographers
Jack Dauley
Wan Po
Michelle Powell

Advisor
Rachel Schiff
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