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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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**PROM EXPO**  
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**H<sub>2</sub>O GOES PRO**  
Boys Swim lead with a 4-1 victory.  
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# A HISTORICAL BILL RAISES QUESTIONS

**By: Sarah Rafiqi**  
Editor

On Sunday March 21st of this year, a year long partisan battle ended with the signing of President Barack Obama's Health Care Reform bill.

The historic bill promises to provide health care to an estimated 32 million additional Americans. This means that 95% of those people legally living in America will have health insurance, a great improvement compared to the 83% we have today.

However, the bill will not affect everyone equally. Only the high income bracket and the poor who cannot currently afford health care will be drastically affected. The truth is 60% of Americans, a majority, currently receive health care from their employers. If these people make less than \$200,000, they will most probably not be affected by the bill.

Another factor to consider is that most of the bill's provisions will not go into effect until 2014. An exception to this is prescription coverage for older Americans and children who have been denied

health insurance due to pre-existing health conditions. Also, children will be allowed to remain on their parent's policies, providing they are less than 26 years of age and cannot get health care elsewhere.

The year of 2014, however, promises many more changes. For instance, states will be required to set up new "exchanges" (insurance marketplaces). What this means is that states will have to offer a variety of health care plans for individuals and small businesses that don't get coverage from their employers. At the same time, government subsidies will be available to those earning up to 400% of poverty. Fines will be collected from employers on certain high-priced insurance policies.

with 50 or more workers who do not offer coverage, whether at work or by themselves. Consistently with this, people will have to pay a penalty if they do not obtain health coverage, whether at work or by themselves, a first for the United States.

The bill also promises to rein in health costs. This shall be done through the reorientation of the practice of medicine, making it more efficient. For instance, health care providers will no longer be rewarded by how much care they give, but rather on how well they treat their patients.

Paying for this \$938 billion bill will require taxes and even more changes. Government spending on Medicare will be reduced by hundreds of billions of dollars, to cover the costs. At the same time, there will be the imposing of new taxes. This includes a 40% levy on certain high-priced insurance policies.



PRESIDENT OBAMA SIGNING THE HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL. PHOTO COURTESY OF ZIMBIO.COM

## SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

**By: Madison Tang**  
Reporter

Valencia High's Science Olympiad team continued in its tradition of diligence this year, making it to both the county and state competitions. Science Olympiad is an international organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, increasing student interest in science, and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers. It provides rigorous, standards-based challenges to students, giving them a variety of career choices and exposure to practicing scientists and mentors.

Valencia participates in Division C at the high school level. The students study various science topics, such as cell biology, ecology, physiology, forensics, chemistry, and

more. They also practice numerous building and engineering events, such as the elevated bridge, the "egg-o-naut", the "mission possible", and trajectory. Team members meet with their coaches, preparing by taking hundreds of practice tests and studying diligently. The head coach, Ms. Phillips, as well as assistant coaches Mr. Billhartz, Ms. Leonard, Ms. Aronson, and Mrs. Thompson-Becker, have all put in a great deal of time and dedication to the team and its accomplishments.



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM SHOWING THEIR MEDALS WITH HONOR. PHOTO COURTESY OF MRS. PHILLIPS

In the regional competition, the team placed 5th, ensuring their participation at state. "All of us were very excited to make it to state again this year," says Felicia Hsu (11), one of the team captains, in addition to Jonathan Han (12), Kinh-Vy Nguyen (12) and Berniece Chen (11).

1st place medalists were Jonathan Han and Kinh-Vy Nguyen for the "Egg-o-naut" event, and Thomas Lee (12) and Curtis Wu (12) for the "Write-it-Do-It" event." Felicia Hsu and Berniece Chen placed 2nd in the elevated bridge event, and Felicia Hsu and Rasika Deshpande (11) won 3rd place in trajectory.

On April 10th, the Science Olympiad state competition was hosted at Valencia High School's campus, where a total of fifty-two schools competed against each other. Jonathan Han and Kinh-Vy Nguyen placed 4th for the "Egg-o-naut" event, as well as the mousetrap vehicle. Other students who were

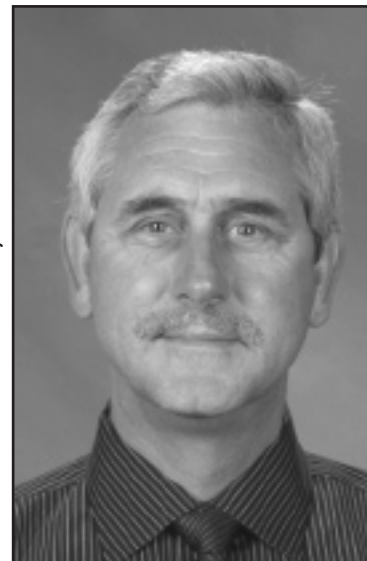
honored include Thomas Lee and Timothy Zhu for "It's About Time," Felicia Hsu for "Mission Possible," and Christina Cui (9) and Shirley Yu (9) for Forensics. Cui and Yu performed exceptionally well, as first time freshmen in the competition.

"We learned a lot, worked hard, and did our best as a team this year," comments Rasika Deshpande. Overall, the team is extremely proud of their efforts and look forward to another promising year of competition.

## MR. BELL: MANAGER OF THE YEAR

**By: Angelica Mora**  
Reporter

Valencia High School's very own principal, Mr. Jim Bell, was recognized with the award of Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Manager of the Year on the morning of Thursday, March 25, 2010, for his excellence in working with Valencia High School's students. Mr. Bell was also recognized in social area in which in, for 22 years. Bell was also recognized in social area in which in, for 22 years. Bell was also recognized in social area in which in, for 22 years. Bell was also recognized in social area in which in, for 22 years.



MR. BELL TAKES HIS PLACE AS THE PY-LUSD MANGAER OF THE YEAR. PHOTO COURTESY OF VHS TIGERS.ORG

From that position he has been an administrator who has taken the school to new heights. When asked about how he feels about being recognized as the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District Manager of the year, he says, "Every award is an honor. But I am at a point in my career when awards and recognitions don't mean much. But as I am always grateful these awards and recognitions. I am happy to be a Tiger." Congratulations to Mr. Bell for his achievements and impressive work with Valencia High School's students and staff.