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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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OCAD ADVANCES TO STATE

On March 11th-14th, OCAD will be going to Sacramento.

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POP CULTURE DISCUSSION

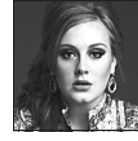
Does pop culture have historical value?

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TIGER REGIMENT HEADS TO HAWAII

Regiment will be participating in Hawaii Invitational and more.

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ALBUM REVIEW

Be sure to check out the review of Adele's new album, 21.

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EVERY 15 MINUTES PRESENTATION STUNS THE SCHOOL



AN OFFICER CHECKS TRAVIS HAWLEY'S (12) VITALS AND PREPARES TO MOVE HIM. PHOTO BY: VIVIAN HERNANDEZ.

By: Nathaly Romanes
Features Editor

On Feb. 10 and 11, Valencia High School experienced the Every 15 Minutes program. Twenty-four students were chosen to participate in this reenactment (of lives taken every 15 minutes because of drunk driving).

Every 15 Minutes is a two-day program, focused on high school upperclassmen, "which challenges them to think about drinking, driving, personal safety, the responsibility of making mature decisions and the impact their decisions have on family, friends, and many others." [CHP]

In the beginning of the school year, there was spec-

ulation whether or not this program was going to be able to happen due to monetary reason; as money is an issue now-a-days. Mrs. Cathy German had hopes that ASB would be able to raise the money through fundraisers but Officer Steve Martinez (Valencia's School Resource Officer) didn't feel the same.

"I wasn't as optimistic about ASB raising the money. I heard about the grant [offered by California Highway Patrol, Office of Traffic Safety] and went ahead and applied to it," stated Martinez.

Early Jan. this year, Martinez received a written conformation that Valencia High School would receive that grant. (Article continued on page 3.)

CHEER ADVANCES TO NATIONALS

By: Emilie Cady
Reporter

On January 22 at Yorba Linda High School, Valencia High School's competition cheer team placed third at a competition held by the United Spirit Association (USA), qualifying them for nationals. Nationals will take place from March 25 through March 27 at the Anaheim Convention Center. Depending on how well they do on their first performance at nationals, they will progress to finals and have a shot at winning the USA jackets and trophy.

The girls chosen to go to Nationals were taken from both Varsity and Junior Varsity squads. The captains are Morgan Ramos (12) and Lauren Gonzalez (12), and the rest of the squad includes Alexxa Cervantes (12), Jazmin Espinoza (12), Natalie Christiansen (12), Sandra Chavez (12), Bre Garcia (12), Caitlyn Giamarino (12), Jayde Dellomes (11), Becca Eddleman (11), Andi Sandler (11), Shelby King (11), Chrysalin Tran (11), Tori Hernandez (11), Brittney Gonzalez (10), Jessica Espinoza (10), and Sarah Perez (9).

Valencia's cheer team has come a long way in developing more skills and working to create better performances for their audiences by practicing harder than ever, including having practice during the summer.

"[The team's] skill level has risen to a level where they are better competitors," said Mrs. Georgianne Bryant. "They've made a lot of progress, so I think we have a shot at making finals."

The team will be competing in the "Show Cheer Novice" division. They will be performing both a stunt routine and a cheer dance to a medley of songs put together by a pro-

fessional music editor with moves choreographed by a professional choreographer.

This USA national's competition will be the last competition this year, and both captains have confidence that their team will do well.

"Overall we've prepared very well; we've been working since the beginning of the summer and have worked really well as a whole," said Gonzalez. "I think we'll do pretty well; [the competition] is something we've never done before so we're pretty excited," said Ramos. Valencia students were able to get a glimpse of what cheer will be performing in nationals at the February assembly.

CHEER SHOWS THEIR ROUTINE DURING THE ASSEMBLY. PHOTO BY: SEJAL PATEL.



WATER DAMAGE RELOCATES THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

By: Samantha Green
Reporter

The counseling offices experienced water damage in the department due to roofing damages discovered on January 31st.

The counselors were moved to room 1006 until the trailers had been set up in the north end of the library, close to the Memorial Garden. The Attendance Office was relocated to the Career Center or Room 901, and the Health Office was moved to Room 704 in the Cafeteria.

Mr. Joey Davis explained that the construction on the counseling offices was initially supposed to start at the end of the year. Due to the damage from construction, it will begin earlier. Mr. Mike Guest and Mr. Fred Jenkins will now have new offices rather than partitions and all the offices will be renovated.

"We're trying to find the silver lining," said Davis. "Now they [the construction workers] have plenty of time to do their work and it will be done."

As time passed by, the deterioration of the ceiling increased, causing Douglass to be the first to move. She was soon followed by the rest of the counselors.

"I was the first counselor that was displaced and I felt a panic, but luckily I adapted to the changes," said Douglass.

Even though displaced, the counselors felt satisfied sitting alongside each other in Room 1006. Room 1006 was a science room so the male counselors sat on the lab posts while the female counselors sat alongside each other in rows.

Wires hung from the ceiling along the walls in order to keep everyone connected. This array resembled a game show or telemarketing office. Difficulty arose because there was no privacy or space to work. The experience was more enjoyable to some than others, but they all showed the tenacity of our school's staff.

"It's exciting, it's like a slumber party, it's like camping, you lose a lot of the comforts but you have a lot of the people you enjoy being with," said Dr. Greg VanderKooy, school psychologist.

OCAD TEAM ADVANCES TO SACRAMENTO AS "WILD CARD"

THE STATE COMPETITION TAKES PLACE DURING MARCH 11TH-14TH.

By: Boyoung Kim
Reporter

On Feb. 10, Valencia High School's junior/senior Orange County Academic Decathlon (OCAD) team once again placed in the top three of Division I schools, qualifying them to be one of the sixty schools to advance to state.

Valencia placed third in the county, with 89 individual medals amongst the three sub-teams categorized by decreasing requisite grade point averages: Honors, Scholastic, and Varsity.

The entire competition was held on two discrete days, with students taking the first five of the ten subject exams on Jan. 29 and the latter five on Feb. 5.

Laila Atalla (11) placed first overall in Honors, having earned top scores in each subject. Also in Honors overall, Rachel Leiken (11) placed fourth,

and Elizabeth Knarr (11) placed fifth. Allen Lin (11) performed fifth overall in the Scholastics division. Zoe Thompson (12) took home the fourth place prize and Tessa Young (11) placed fifth overall in Varsity.

"I was really proud of myself, and the team, because placing overall meant that all the hard work we've put in since May paid off. And I was excited about receiving a scholarship," said Knarr.

In its beginnings, the OCAD team had placed in the top ten of county while it currently places in the top three. However, students' interest and dedication to the team and competition have grown, improving the school's performance, which, in turn, bred further dedication and success.

The 2008-2009 team was Valencia's first to proceed to state as the top school and last year's freshman/sophomore team placed first in both Division I and Super Quiz.

The competition consists of ten rigorous subjects: Art, Music, Language

and Literature, Super Quiz (the subject of which this year was Geology), Essay, Speech, Interview, Mathematics, Impromptu Speech and Economics.

They are led by teachers Mr. Fred Jenkins, Dr.

Samuel Myovich, Mrs. Jamie Jauch, Mrs. Danielle Connor and Mrs. Mindi Foote. The theme for this year was the Great Depression, which is integrated into each of the subjects.

"The students need to be able to retain and work with large amounts

of information, have a strong work ethic, and be interested in the subject matter," said Jenkins.

Rather than a burden, however, these subjects enrich the students' academic experiences in allowing them to cover liberal arts subjects that are usually not offered in high school while applying this knowledge to a competitive environment amongst their teammates.

Seniors Angel Weber, Jason Khoe, Steven Oei, and Quianna Waltman will be joining the six who placed in county overall to compete at state.



STEVEN OEI (12) GLADLY TAKES HIS AWARD.
PHOTO BY: SEJAL PATEL.

GIRLS STATE: MALLORY GRISMER'S STORY

By: Allen Lin
Reporter

Mallory Grismer (11), Kajori Purkayastha (11), and Reetu Inamdar (11) have been selected as Valencia's choice, and two alternates respectively, to go to Girls State, a leadership conference hosted by the Placentia American Legion Post, a veteran's organization. Girls States is a weeklong event, going from June 26th - July 2nd, that will bring together girls from across California on the Claremont McKenna College campus.

Grismer took some time to talk to the school newspaper about this momentous event. "I'm really excited. I've wanted to go since I was little and my dad told me about the time he went

[to Boys State]," said Grismer.

At Girls State, the girls spend the week setting up a mock government, from the representatives, to the mayors, to even jobs such as dog catchers. Grismer spoke about how it affected her father, stating that "the experience has helped him throughout life," and went on to state that "It's kind of giving us a feel of how it's going to be when we're doing our parents' jobs."

As part of joining Girls State, applicants must show experience in leadership, list activities, give an interview, and write an essay.

On campus, Grismer is part of CSF, made the Honor Roll, is a Distinguished Scholar, has taken AP courses, has done Mock Trial the past fall, and is the VP and cofounder (along with Inamdar) of the Reviewers, a club about

literature. Off campus, Grismer is the Junior Representative at the PTSA, plays the piano, does drama, draws, and writes poetry. "I love art," said Grismer.

Grismer chose the essay prompt about meeting any person, living or dead. Her choice was Abigail Adams. "I chose Abigail Adams because she was a strong woman back [during] the [American] Revolution. Women are strong today, but back then it was easy for women to fall into the background. She was in a partnership with her husband and fought for what she felt was right... She wasn't arrogant or self-absorbed. A lot of historical figures, such as Napoleon, act to be remembered, [while] she followed her heart and did what was right." "I think it'll be the experience of a lifetime," said Grismer.

SAVE YOUR BLOOD FOR MARCH 10TH'S BLOOD DRIVE

By: Richard Ma
Reporter

On March 10, Valencia High School will be hosting its second blood drive of the year. Students are encouraged to come to the cafeteria to help give back to those in need and save lives. "Valencia has taken part in this blood drive for over 20 years," informs Mrs. Cathy German, Valencia's activities director who has been actively participating in the blood drive.

The blood collected from the blood drive is delivered to the University of California, Irvine Medical Center, where it will be used for a variety of causes, such as for cancer patients

who need blood transfusions to survive or for premature babies who need blood transfusions as well.

When asked which student was most responsible for aiding in the blood drive, German responded

that "Katy Johnson (10) is a major sponsor for organizing the blood drive." Johnson has been participating in the blood drive since her freshmen year, and is a significant part of the blood drive process. The blood that Valencia's Associated Student Body (ASB) collects every year has had a huge impact on the lives of others.

In order to participate in this charity, volunteer donors must be at least:

- Be seventeen years old
- Weigh at least 110 pounds
- be in good health
- Have a valid photo ID.

All blood types are accepted and encouraged. We need all the help we can get in order to take full advantage of this blood drive.

"[The Tigers] collected a total of 71 units of blood during the first blood drive of the year," informs Johnson. Considering that each unit can save up to 3 lives, the Tigers have saved a whopping 213 lives with just one blood drive. The Tigers plan to double the units of blood for this year's blood drive, which will ultimately save approximately 426 lives. With the Tigers' commitment, Valencia will definitely be able to achieve this goal.

On March 10, the blood drive truck will arrive at Valencia, and will be located near the school cafeteria. The truck will arrive at 8:00 AM, and will remain there throughout the school day.

IN BRIEF

MARCH 10TH

ASB SPRING BLOOD DRIVE

COME SENIORS, MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND DONATE BLOOD IN THE CAFETERIA. PICK UP A BLOOD DRIVE FORM FROM A ASB MEMBER
8AM TO 2PM

MARCH 10TH-12TH

VHS SPRING MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

COME SUPPORT THE VHS DRAMA IN THE AUDITORIUM
TICKETS ARE \$10, BUY YOUR TICKETS FROM THE ACTORS OR IN ROOM 212
7PM TO 9PM

MARCH 14TH-15TH

ASB INFO MEETING

DO YOU HAVE INTEREST TO BE IN ASB? THIS MEETING IS FOR YOU.
@ LUNCH

MARCH 18TH

MUSIC IN THE PARK

COME SUPPORT THE VHS DRAMA IN THE AUDITORIUM
TICKETS ARE \$10, BUY YOUR TICKETS FROM THE ACTORS OR IN ROOM 212
4:00 PM - 9:00 PM

MARCH 22ND

ASB APPLICATION DUE BY 10AM

DON'T FORGET TO DROP IT OFF IN THE ASB ROOM

MARCH 23

SPRING BAND CONCERT

COME SUPPORT THE VHS BAND
6:30 PM - 10:00 PM:

MARCH 25 FOOD FAIRE

HUNGRY? DON'T FORGET TO BRING MONEY
@ LUNCH

MARCH 26

SADIE'S DANCE

LADIES IT'S YOUR CHANCE TO ASK, COME OUT TO SADIE'S
8PM-11PM