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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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# STATE BUDGET CRISIS IMPACT CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS

By: Elizabeth Knarr  
Reporter

As the budget crisis in the state of California worsens, the number of Reduction in Force (RIF) notices sent out to teachers each year heightens. RIF notices inform teachers that their services may no longer be needed in the next school year.

The RIF situation is more complicated than it appears at first glance, Mr. Jim Bell, principal of Valencia High School, explains. For the first year after they are hired, teachers have temporary status. These "temps" can be released after one year of teaching, with no RIF notice needed. However, during their second year of teaching, teachers receive probationary status, and their third year, they become permanent, or tenured.

Probationary and tenured teachers require RIF notices before they can be let go for the coming year. By state law, teachers must be notified via RIF notice by March 15 if their job is in jeopardy, and they must sign a paper saying that they received their RIF notice.

However, receiving a RIF notice is not the end of the road for most teachers.

RIF notices can be rescinded, depending on the budget scenario at the end of the school year. "I would estimate that over half the teachers on campus have probably been RIFed at some point in their teaching career," stipulates Bell.

With the current budget situation, Governor Jerry Brown is attempting to put in place a car license tax extension, to continue currently implemented tax increases for another five years.

This license tax extension, if passed, would be the best case scenario to save the public education system.

Even if the tax is extended, the school district will still have to cut an estimated \$7.5 million next year, most likely through furlough days. In this scenario, most teachers would have their RIF notices rescinded. However, if the tax extension

does not pass, over \$15.5 million will have to be cut from the school district budget, in which case the majority of the RIF notices will not be rescinded.

These budget cuts will be district-wide, explains Bell, and will probably affect our school less than others in the district. Because Valencia is the largest school in the district, and there are fewer younger teachers on campus, it won't be as greatly impacted,

which means Valencia will lose fewer teachers, coaches, and advisors as compared to other high schools.

"Even in the worst case scenario [car license tax extension doesn't pass], RIF will impact us less than the other three high schools in our district. What is worrisome, however, is that we will lose management and classified staff, which means the teachers will have less support in the classroom," says Bell.

"PINK SLIP HARVEST" SHOWS CARTOONIST'S REPRESENTATION OF THE LAST DAY TEACHERS CAN RECEIVE RIF NOTICES. CARTOON BY: KIARRA LUCKIE.



## PORTABLES ROLL AWAY, TEACHERS FORCED TO PULL THEM BACK

By: Allen Lin  
Reporter

Last Sunday, March 20th, several portables rolled away, causing property damage and obstructing traffic for more than an hour. Five portables rolled away, but two were stopped when they hit cars. Mr. Rogers, Mrs. Leone, and Mr. Borgese all had their portables roll away.

Nobody was harmed in the incident.

Few teachers were present to haul the portables back, but several nearby residents came out to help the effort. There were approximately forty volunteers helping the teachers.

"We had support from the community. One gentleman offered his truck to help haul the portables, but it couldn't take the load. It was going so hard, the tires were smoking," said Borgese.

Bringing the portables up was quite

difficult, as they had to be pushed uphill. They rolled downhill quickly (one bystander who had a stopwatch on hand timed it at four minutes), but it took approximately an hour and twenty minutes to bring them back up.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DR. GREG VANDERKOOY, MS. CAROLYN DOUGLAS, MRS. CAROLYN DOUGLAS, MS. KENIA SANDOVAL-RODRIGUEZ, AND MR. MARK STANLEY. PHOTO COURTESY FROM: SEJAL PATEL.

"[The portables] rolled for a couple of minutes, and they were building speed until they hit the curb and stopped cold. I thought [the portables] were going to go through a couple homes," said Borgese.

The portables affected nearby traffic, as commuters and churchgoers struggled to get past the block.

There were an unusual amount of cars using the road that day.

"[Peoples' cars] were jammed, trying to get to church, but the street was blocked. People were going crazy trying to get by. Police showed up to direct traffic, and some resorted to driving on the sidewalks."

Clean up was a major issue, as items in the classrooms rolled about and shook while the portables barreled down the street. In addition, wires were disconnected, which meant electricians had to come to repair them.

"When my portable hit the curb, everything slid forward, and things fell off the wall. I didn't manage to finish cleaning up that day, so I had to have my students help out. All the wires broke, so I was working without electricity," said Borgese.

Mr. Rogers' portable ran into a Volkswagen bug. The owner is not pressing charges against the school.

## IN BRIEF

- April 8  
End of 3rd Quarter  
This marks the end of the 3rd quarter. Only one more quarter left tigers!
- April 9  
Tiger Pride Day  
Come show your school pride and help beautify our campus!
- April 15  
Pancake Breakfast  
Who doesn't love pancakes? Come get your FREE pancakes between 6:20 - 7:45 in the school cafeteria.
- April 18  
Beginning of Spring Recess  
Students have a week off from school. Have fun and be safe!
- April 26-29  
STAR Testing  
Standardized Testing and Reporting begins for freshmen, sophomore, and juniors. Eat a healthy breakfast and good luck!



# JAPANESE CLUB RAISES MONEY FOR DISASTER

**By: Jeremy Beyon**  
Reporter

On Friday March 11, 2011 at 14:46 JST (Japan Standard Time) in the western Pacific Ocean, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake hit the coast of Japan and triggered a extremely destructive tsunami wave up to 33 feet, minutes after the quake hit. This disaster resulted in over 9,199 deaths, 2,722 injured and 13,786 people missing. To make matters worse, six nuclear power reactors in Fukushima were forced to shutdown due to the earthquake.

It is very evident that Japan is not in good conditions, yet people all around the world are finding ways to help the nation. At Valencia High School, the situation is no different. The Japanese Club at Valencia High School has started to raise money for this disaster. The people in charge of this event;

Mrs. Carolyn Ikuta, Charlene Shi(10), and Nathene Cheng (12) have stated that this is the worst devastation to afflict Japan since the end of World War II and the Japanese Club want to help anyway possible. They hope to contribute in some way to the relief efforts to help the people afflicted in Japan. Donations made through the VHS Japanese Club will send the donations to the Red Cross. Besides donations, the Japanese Club will raise money through T-shirts, wristbands, and video game competitions with entrance fees. Donations are expected to be accepted through at least till the end of April or beyond that.

For now the Japanese club have no idea how much they hope to raise, but do hope to raise a good amount. Through this relief disaster funding, the VHS Japanese club hope to raise awareness that the disaster is the worst to hit anywhere, and though people perceive Japan as a rich nation, the country and especially people in Fukushima and Sendai areas are in desperate need of help.

# BOYS STATE CANDIDATES HEADING TO CONFERENCE IN SACRAMENTO

**By: Reetu Inamdar**  
Sports Editor

After the success in choosing the last three candidates for Girls State, the Boys State applications were sent out during the week of March 12. The Boys State conference allows selective students to learn more about the American government along with citizen's rights and responsibilities within the system. The three candidates were selected from our school to apply for this program. However, they were all chosen by default by the American Legion committee as the other schools failed to send representatives. William Nguyen (11), Jason Chi (11), and Kevin Romeyn (11) were all chosen to represent the schools in the Placentia-Yorba Linda district.

The three boys will be attending the Boys State Conference in Sacramento from June 17-24. Jason Chi says, "I am pretty excited and I look forward to spending a week at the boy's state conference." The Boys State conference is held by the American Legion Boys' State, founded by Hayes Kennedy and Harold Card. The selected students spend one week not only learning the system and forms of government, but they also enact the entire election procedure and form a small paradigm of the U.S government as well. "This is going to be a great experience and I am really interested in learning more about the government and politics," said William Nguyen.

On March 12 the boys selected from the school were sent to present a speech. Out of the three boys, only one was to be chosen to represent Valencia. Three boys from the district, one from El Dorado, Esperanza, and Valencia were to attend the conference. However, no representative from El Dorado and Esperanza showed up, allowing all three chosen candidates from Valencia to attend. Jason Chi commented, "It just shows how Valencia is a great school and how much we care about state affairs."

The boys who are selected to go not only create a stimulation of the election processes for the executive, legislative, and judicial branch, but they also make time for recreational purposes. William Nguyen says, "I'm pretty pumped about going to Boys state and I am sure that I will have a great time."

# NHS RECOGNIZES TOP STUDENTS OF THE SCHOOL

**By: Boyoung Kim**  
Reporter

Valencia High School's top students have been evaluated for admission in the National Honor Society (NHS) during the past month. The NHS is one of the nation's most prestigious organizations designed to recognize outstanding and well-rounded high school students and reward these students with a generous scholarship.

In order to be eligible for membership, students must demonstrate excellence in each of the four areas of the Society. These four areas consist of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

Scholarship is determined through the requirement of maintaining a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. These students who have achieved this GPA are then further considered for their activeness in leadership, service, and character.

Students of commendable leadership are those who promote their

school or community, contribute novel ideas in order to move the school or community forward, and are dependable and resourceful. These students portray the epitome of a valuable leader with strong optimism and enthusiasm, while inspiring other students to strive to make the school a better environment.

Service is another significant aspect of the NHS membership, and it requires that students make valuable contributions to their community or school without any form of payment. These students donate their service to their community without expecting any rewards, and do so solely for the purpose of being a good citizen.

Through all these activities,

students of the NHS are expected to culminate their academic careers with good character, which is defined by high morality, ethics, cooperation, high standards of honesty and dependability. These students are chosen for their courtesy, concern, and respect for others, while leading a clean lifestyle.

The NHS, however, not only recognizes these students through admission and an accompanying ceremony, but also urges them to pursue further proactive involvement and leadership in their schools. One such example is Tiger Pride Day, during which students will participate in a campus-cleaning.

Acceptance into the NHS will be honored during the Induction Ceremony on Apr. 13 in the Valencia auditorium, when students will receive their membership card.



PHOTO COURTESY FROM: ASBACTIVITIES. ASB-WIKI.WIKISPACES.NET

# "PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE" HITS A SCHOOL NEAR YOU

**By: Nathaly Romanes**  
Features Editor

On Wednesday, April 6, Ezperanza High School will be hosting "Pathways to the Future" from 6:30-9:00 p.m.

This event is targeted at all eighth through eleventh graders and their families interested in learning about colleges, careers and more. It is expected to revolve around twenty-five workshops about: UC Admissions, CSU Admissions, Private Colleges, Community Colleges, Trade/Technology Schools, Military Academies, SAT/ACT, Scholarships, Financial Aid, College Athletics, College 101, and ROP just to name a hand full.

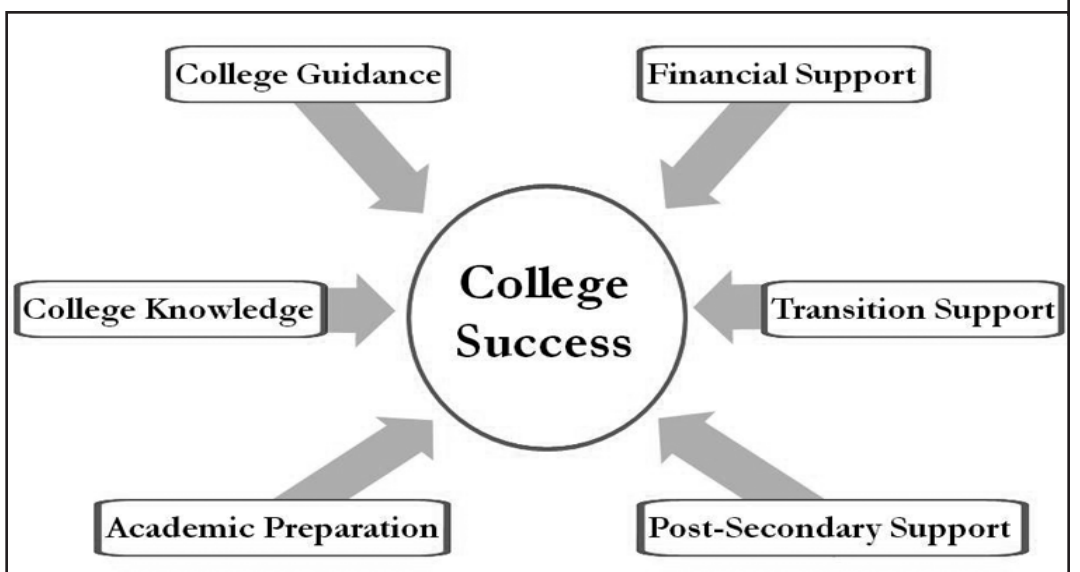
College is an essential tool for people to have, educators have stressed to high school students, especially in this economy. A lot, but not all, of high school students don't take further education very seriously.

A person that graduates high school and only has their high school diploma only earns about \$1.2 million in their lifetime, compared to the minimum \$2.1 million with a bachelor's degree. Clearly these numbers prove that it's incredibly smart to continue educating themselves after high school. It is important for students and their parents to inform themselves about what steps they have to take to pursue their dreams to have success. Programs on Valencia's campus, such as AVID (Advanced Via Individual Determination), focus on guiding students to take the right classes that fall into the "A-G" category. The "A-G's" represent the general education courses California schools of higher education (college/university) expect from students applying to their campus. Note, colleges and universities expect a minimum of 2.0

G.P.A, which now-a-days does not really get you anywhere, since it has become very competitive because people are aware that college is their future. Becoming aware of what options students have is essential for their success, which is expected and should be wanted from each and every individual. Like Mr. Brandon Frank explained,

"There are so many things about preparing for and applying for college that are not common knowledge, so this event [Pathways to Future] will uncover the hidden curriculum associated with post-secondary education." To get to Ezperanza High School, the school's address is 1830 N. Kellogg Drive, Anaheim, California.

SUCCESS IN COLLEGE BEGINS WITH THE RIGHT ATTITUDE. PHOTO COURTESY FROM: NEWSCHOOLS.ORG





## ASB ELECTIONS

**By: Dominique Riutort**  
A&E Editor

It's that time of year again, it's time for the ASB elections. The freshmen, sophomore, and junior classes have the opportunity to elect those students who they think will best represent them during the upcoming school year. Last year, the Class of 2011 chose seniors BreAnna Garcia as the Associated Student Body(ASB) President, Conor Watkins as the ASB Vice President, and Dominique Schorn as Senior Class President.

Those students who wish to involve themselves in constructive, educational activities find this to be an excellent option. Being a member of ASB allows the students to enjoy their school year to the fullest while also working on their personal leadership skills which will definitely prove beneficial in the workforce, and as an extra bonus, it looks

great on college applications.

Those who want to join ASB have to apply and then be interviewed by current members of ASB. Those students who want to hold officer positions in ASB are then given the chance to run for election. Then, during election time, Valencia students are given the opportunity to vote for their candidate of choice depending on their grade. They choose the candidates of their grade to represent them in important decisions. The incoming class of seniors have the chance to vote for the following year's ASB President, ASB Vice President, Senior Class President and other important positions.

Senior Class President Dominique Schorn feels that running for ASB officer positions is very beneficial.

"If you're running, you need to be willing to communicate with your class and even if you're an underclassman, it is still [a great opportunity] because you get responsibilities," Schorn explained.

## TRADING CARDS WITH EVERY MEAL

**By: Sarah Rafiqi**  
News Editor

The Valencia High School staff have decided to add a toy with every lunch served on campus. The toy will be teacher trading cards and will be implemented as soon as the new health-code lunches will be introduced. One of VHS' vice principals, Mr. Joey Davis, had this to say about both the new, healthier lunches and the trading cards: "We're really excited about the new lunch system and the prizes."

The original idea for the trading cards stemmed from Mr. Gary Robinett, one of the teachers here on campus. He was at first inspired by watching his students play with game cards, and decided to use this concept to better connect kids to their school.

"You see kids play with things of their own intellectual abilities," Robinett explained, "and we need things like this [teacher trading cards] for high school students. That way they'll have a reason to come to school and know what classes to attend."

Robinett's idea was taken to a committee of teachers for discussion. Once the idea had been approved, it was introduced to the

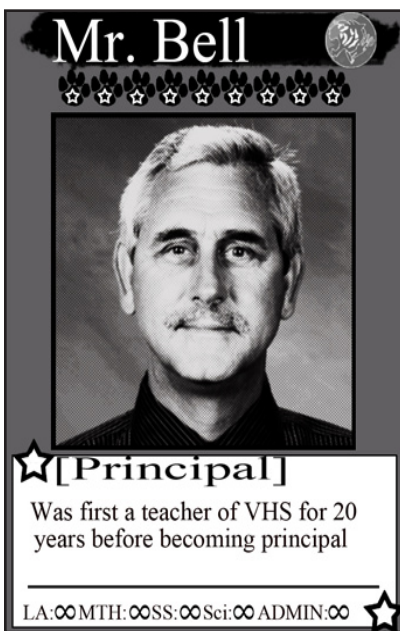
art department, where the fundamental design was created.

The resulting product depicts a teacher's picture in the middle center, with their name in the very top, left corner. Below the name

and the to the right lies a row of stars. Depending on the level of seniority of the teacher, they will have a different number of stars. Below the picture there is a brief description of the teacher's classes and credentials. Naturally, the teachers' cards will have strengths in certain areas over others, and students will need to collect a certain number of points in each subject matter to progress on to the next grade level in the game.

Special cards will be of administration members and other members of Valencia staff that are not actual teachers, such as our librarians, and the people who work in the Attendance and Finance offices. These cards will hold special points that students will be able to use when playing with friends. Robinett confessed that he is even going as far as to offer 5% extra credit to any of his students who can score the rare, gold Mr. Bell card.

Although the exact date for release hasn't yet been announced, some teachers are already imagining what their cards will look like. "Saintly" was the word Robinett used to explain what he wants his card to look like. "I'd be a saint. Patterned after the card of St. Jude."



PLAYING CARDS LIKE THIS ONE OF MR. BELL CAN BE FOUND IN YOUR NEXT SCHOOL MEAL. CARTOON BY: CHRISTINA CHAVEZ.

## TIGER PRIDE DAY IS COMING UP

**By: Shannon Hsu**  
Opinion Editor

On April 9, Tigers will be given the chance to help make Valencia a better place to learn while showing school spirit and possibly earning community service hours. Tiger Pride Day is an ongoing school tradition where students

can come on a Saturday and work together on a variety of tasks to improve the school. This includes repainting buildings, picking up trash, cleaning windows, and other campus beautification activities. For some students, such as National Honor Societies, participation is a requirement. However, what seems like a series of boring tasks can become a meaningful, cooperative experience for all students. This is a perfect chance to become more involved in the school's affairs.

Divided into teams, students and teachers typically work together to help out around campus. Participants are to arrive at 8 o'clock in the morning, and in preparation of getting messy due to the nature



GIRLS HELP OUT DURING TIGER PRIDE DAY. PHOTO COURTESY FROM: VHS TIGERS.ORG

of many of the jobs that need to be carried out, meaning old shirts and pants that you don't mind getting dirty. The event is set to conclude at around noon, and a snack will be provided some time during the day. Groups will probably participate in more than one activity throughout the day.

"I haven't gotten the chance to participate in Tiger Pride Day before," says

Isabel Hsu (12), who will be joining other Tigers in the event for the first time, "So I'm looking forward to being able to help out around campus this time."

"Tiger Pride Day was a lot of fun last year," says Tiffany Nguyen (12), who has participated in previous Tiger Pride Days. "I thought cleaning up and repainting would be no fun at all, but everyone works together, and even though it was pretty tiring, I actually ended up having a really good time."

All students are welcome to participate this time, so clear space in your schedules and get ready for a productive morning to help our school shine. After all, we are students of this school and should do what we can to contribute to our campus.

## VALENCIA TIGER PROFILE: FELICIA HSU

**By: Emilie Cady**  
Reporter

Felicia Hsu (12) is one of many of Valencia High School's most successful students. With extracurricular activities, International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP) classes, and an above 4.0 GPA, there's no mistaking that Hsu is indeed an accomplished Tiger. As well as being an IB/AP student, Hsu has also been involved in many activities in and out of school. She is a member of the VHS Girls' Tennis Team, and is also involved in Orchestra, Science Olympiad, Chemistry Olympiad, and plays Piano.

Hsu volunteers outside of school and this past summer, she spent about 40 hours a week conducting research at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) about the use of nano wires and chemical sensing. "My parents are extremely supportive of me, and they are the reason I am able to be involved in all of the extracurricular activities that I am," said Hsu.

In order to achieve the level of success she has, Hsu has had to work very hard in all of classes, especially so with the IB extended essays and thesis paper added to the chaos. "Senior year is the hardest year in IB because it goes by quickly because there are many deadlines to meet," said Hsu.

Fortunately, Hsu was able to finish her IB thesis paper early due to the fact that the subject of her paper happened to be about the research she conducted over the summer. To study, Hsu makes outlines for her History classes and does extra practice work for Science and Math. She claims to be a conceptual learner, which explains her preference of Math and Science over History. "I don't like just memorizing things, I like learning where they're coming from," Hsu explained. Hsu's parents and teachers have all been very supportive and helpful during her probably very stressful four years at Valencia. "I love all of our teachers, especially the teachers in IB. they're extremely support-

ive and open, and they're always there when you need help," said Hsu. Her friends are also there along the way not only to study with her, but after working especially hard for a big project or test, Hsu says that she and her friends 'work hard, then party hard' to relieve the tension that had been building about school. Hsu has been accepted to many



FELICIA HSU HAS BEEN ONE OF THE FEW ACCEPTED TO MIT. PHOTO BY: SEJAL PATEL.

prestigious colleges and universities. She has been accepted to MIT University of Engineering, the Universities of California of Los Angeles, Berkeley, Irvine, and San Diego, Yale University, California Technical University, Duke University, Harvey-Mudd University, and the University of Southern California.



## FINALISTS OF ART CONTEST ANNOUNCED

By: Sejal Patel  
Reporter

Wonder who the Leonardo de Vincis and Michelangelos of Valencia are? Deanna Lopez (12), Janet Ascencio (9) and Jessica Chung (11) showcased their awe-inspiring art pieces at the 2011 Placentia-Yorba Linda Library Art Competition which was last March.

All three students received awards or High Recognition, with Chung taking first place overall. The First place winner prize in this competition was High Recognition and 75 dollars.

Chung's motive to enter the competition was to take initiative in the movement of creating awareness that American art programs need more attention. She explains that European art programs should act as a model for our education system.

Chung's winning artwork, appropriately

named the Morning Frog, was of a frog sitting on a

log. The painting has distinguishable details on color, wrinkles, and visible textures. When looking at the painting, at first glance, there is a snake in the upper right hand corner that is not noticed. Chung employs a blending technique of colors that is inconspicuously used to separate the snake from the vines.

Chung explains that the snake is "a conflict be-



JESSICA CHUNG RECEIVED 1ST PLACE IN THE PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA LIBRARY ART CONTEST. PHOTO COURTESY FROM: VHSART-GALLERY.BLOGSPOT.COM

cause the snake could possibly eat the frog". This is to elucidate that everyone has problems and should remain calm and collected like the frog.

Lopez's art piece was done on acrylic on board, like the Morning Frog. Her artwork depicted a woman dressed in a red Hispanic gown, eloquently positioned with her back towards the viewer. There is a correlation of a red rose in the dancer's hair and an inverted rose in the mirror.

Lopez comments that the upside down rose in the mirror signifies "the reverse exaggeration of the dancer's dress and poise". Lopez chose to draw a dancer with evidence of Hispanic culture to represent her heritage and her upbringing.

Ascencio's painting is of a lion done in charcoal. She chose the lion because it best expressed her talent. Her artwork was done in charcoal because that was the technique she was most comfortable with using. Ascencio commented that she had "a wonderful experience and it was a pleasant surprise to find out that I won honorary recognition". She is also very excited for next year's competition to show more of her work.

Valencia's art talent will next be presented at the Art Show located in the cafeteria on May 25-27. Unlike the Placentia-Yorba Linda Library Art Competition the Valencia Art Show will only show work done from Valencia students. Come and support our artists and see more Valencia talent.

## DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS

By: Jeremy Beyon  
Reporter

Every year in May, Valencia High School holds a ceremony that essentially acknowledges the yearly academic Honor Roll students. An Academic Honor Roll student is one that has achieved a grade point average of at least 3.80 or higher for their prior fall semester report card. These awards that are handed out to the hard working students are called the Distinguished Scholar Awards. Distinguished Scholar Awards are rewarded to all students in each grade level who have met or exceed the requirements of at least a 3.80 grade point average.

This prestigious event is held in the Valencia High School Auditorium, and each distinguished scholar students are introduced by grade level one by one. Through this event the students receive an academic letter for their achievement. At the end of the ceremony there is a small special presentation for the seniors at the Distinguished Scholars Night. Each senior that has earned the Distinguished Scholar award is questioned about their favorite teacher through their years at Valencia High School. They are also asked to reflect their education experience and memories as a Valencia student at Valencia High School. The person that is in charge of Distinguished Scholar Nights, and makes the Distinguished Scholars possible is Mrs. German.

## FROM THE EYE OF A TIGER

By: Samantha Green  
Reporter

Reflecting upon the lives of the homeless seems to touch me in many ways; they've showed me what makes up the true human condition. They help create an appreciative feeling and an understanding that uncertainty can enter our lives at any point in time. After communicating with the homeless on numerous occasions I've come to the realization that these people are teachers who help individuals like myself in the pursuit of ones self. Being teens we go through life with a cosmic spiral of events leading up to our graduation. Many of us think that's it but in truth it's just the beginning. While trying to run away from this freight-train of events we seem to stumble upon many different questions, the main one being, "What's next?"

Should we go to college, start working or get married (that's a stretch)—what ever it is we are plunging head first into this sea of troubles, stress, and depression. Sorry to be negative kids but its true, pretty soon we'll be paying taxes, worrying about bills and thinking about the next big thing.

I met people who were well educated individuals that thought they knew it all but ended up in places they can't explain. Many dressing like we do and teaching me that the people we least expect may be homeless and the unpredictability of it all can hit us like a flash of lightning.

I met a man that used to attend Valencia, he saw me in my El Tigre sweatshirt and stopped me to ask me if I attended this school, I said yes and told me his story. He was on the wrestling team and got good grades; he then graduated in '84 and then moved on to a job rigging ships. With the decline in the economy the need for his job also declined. It was simple story and a rather compelling one, because it was an every day story, one that we gloss over.

These people don't have much but they had something. They had joy, many of us don't even understand the meaning of this. I couldn't understand why these people seemed to laugh more than I, or to smile at just the scoop of the meal I would give. These people managed to find a positive from a negative; that's the core of the true human condition, resilience.

## FOR THE BOOK ENTHUSIAST, THERE'S A CLUB FOR YOU

By: Emilie Cady  
Reporter

Recently, a new club has been added to the vast array of clubs and activities at Valencia, The Reviewers. Like its name suggests, The Reviewers is a book review club who chooses books to read and then comes together to discuss and compile a review about the book for other students to look on.

The Reviewers are headed by co-presidents Reetu Inamdar (11) and Mallory Grismer (11) and headed by VHS Librarian Mrs. Joy Millam, and usually meet on designated Fridays after school in the Valencia Library. The group meets at least once a month, usually on Fridays afterschool in the library. In order to choose books, group members submit their choices into a suggestion box, and the suggestions are then approved by the board members. Already, they have read Cloaked by Alex Flinn, and they are also currently working on reading Revolver by Marcus Segwick. The Reviewers' goal is to eventually have a collec-

tion of book reviews available for students looking for something to read in order to help them in their search for a novel that suits their interests. There are a variety of book genres to choose from that appeal to both boys and girls, such as Mystery, Science Fiction, Romance, Historical Fiction, and many others. "We have a diverse collection; we like to appeal to everybody," said Inamdar. However, the club isn't necessarily like a class such as Language Arts. Aside from compiling a collection of reviews, the group members really just come together to discuss their thoughts on the novel itself: the characters, plot, and their personal favorite part of the book.

"It's a great way for people who like to read to get together and talk books," said Millam.

"We encourage avid readers to join this club. It's a great way to review books and make friends that have similar interests," said Inamdar. The club had their kick-off meeting on March fourth, but it's not too late to join! Forms can be picked up at the library, or students can just talk to Mrs. Millam or the club presidents to get involved.

## DANCE MARATHON: WILL YOU FALL LAST?

By: Nathaly Romanes  
Features Editor

On April 8, Valencia High School will be hosting a Dance Marathon in the Old Gym. This event will consist of dancing for seven hours to pay off student debt.

The dancing will consist of forty-five minutes nonstop, with a fifteen minute break in between those segments (to hydrate and not overload their bodies). This process repeats itself until the seven hours are completed as part of the marathon.

In order to be part of the Dance

Marathon, one must fill out an application and preferably look for sponsors that will offer to pay money for their dancing per hour (i.e. five dollars per hour, for seven hours will earn the student thirty-five dollars towards paying any student debt off). The deadline to have applied to be part of the marathon was today, April 1 at 10 a.m.

Another fun and surprising fact about this dance marathon is that ASB has planned it to be-

come a flash dance. A flash dance is characterized as a (school) dance that will be occurring within a short period after it has been advertised; a dance out-of-the-sudden. Doors will open at six o'clock p.m. at \$5 to enter the dance after the marathon itself.

PHOTO COURTESY FROM: WWW.VANITYFAIR.COM





# IS OUR GENERATION DESENSITIZED TO WORLD AFFAIRS?



**Elizabeth Knarr**  
Reporter

**YES**

With videogames, movies and television shows at the fingertips of our generation, the vast amount of information we have access to is ever-increasing. Yet much of this information has a negative effect on us as people, because it causes us to become desensitized to the violence and bloodshed that occurs in our world.

Since the dawn of television, shows have grown progressively gorier and bloodier, just to spike their ratings and heighten their entertainment value. This national fascination with death and destruction transfers over to the videogame industry as well, with games centering around gunshots, explosions, and killing. This leads to a belief that such violence is commonplace and even acceptable, and it minimizes the damage violence causes to people who actually have to experience it in everyday life.

The immense amount of violence that our generation is exposed to at a young age through entertainment and the media leads to a large degree of apathy when exposed to real-world violence and traumatic experiences. Seeing people get shot and blown up on a television screen desensitizes us to the grim reality that many face on a daily basis, such as the current events in Libya.

Hearing about the Libyan people being fired upon by their own government would ordinarily resonate with people, invoking their sympathy and perhaps a desire to help change the situation. However, because so many have been exposed to violence and warfare, they no longer see it as being impactful or meaningful.

This apathy transcends contemporary world affairs and also affects adolescents' opinions of historical events. Catastrophically devastating affairs, such as World War II and the Cold War, become downplayed in students' minds, because they no longer comprehend the sacrifice of the soldiers, or the ravages of war. Videogames that center on war and violence greatly demoralize the sorrow and pain that was felt during this time.

It is easy to forget the devastation of taking someone's life away, because today, points are awarded for killing people. The youth of today will never understand the hardships that soldiers had to face during war. Unfortunately, with each passing generation, the negative effects of apathetic teenagers will accumulate, until the word "war" is completely devoid of meaning, and we have absolutely no ability to comprehend the suffering it causes.

The desensitization of our generation due to videogames, movies, and television shows is regrettable, but it doesn't mean that we all have to stop playing Black Ops. Rather, we have to make a conscious effort to recognize the devastation of war and violence, and realize that real life is no videogame.

## "MAN ON THE STREET"



**Matt Sanders (9)**  
"No because the Internet causes us to be globally aware."

**Maddie Cooke (10)**  
"No, the exposure to internet has caused the generation to be more connected."



**Clarence Chu (11)**  
"Yes, because people already forgot about what happened in Japan."

**Alonso Mejia (12)**  
"No, because to some extent the media allows us to know what's going on."



**Jasmine Kyi (12)**  
"Yes, not many people pay attention to world affairs."

**Mrs. Klingaman (Librarian)**  
"No. I think because of technology we are aware of the world and it's hard to ignore the stuff going on in Libya and Japan"



**Reetu Inamdar**  
Sports Editor

**NO**



As technology continues to grow and advance, many students have not become desensitized towards world affairs. Due to increasingly advanced mediums of technology, students are able to access news and features that allows them to connect to world affairs instantaneously. Cell phones, Internet, and other forms of mediums allow our generation to cultivate as well as become more sensitized towards modern affairs. Cell phones have provided easy access to information as well as are updated quite frequently, causing students to be more aware of the political, economical, and social affairs. More innovative technology such as Iphone, Android, Blackberry, and other cell phones contain applications that allow streaming of events in minutes.

Students are now more inclined to create clubs, help organizations, and spread the word around. For example, the devastating earthquake in Haiti has had a tremendous impact on our generation. Many organizations such as the Mercy Corps Haiti Earthquake Fund, Partners in Health Haiti Earthquake Fund, and many more just prove that the world has become aware and sensitive to the situations presented in foreign countries. These organizations were brought by people of our generation to help provide relief to those who suffered in the Haiti earthquake. Many people may attribute the fact that video games adhere to the desensitization of our generation. However, children nowadays are no more desensitized towards world issues than they have been in the last century. The shooting and killing that video games display are also displayed in movies, since the early 1900's. In fact, many children do acknowledge that video games are quite different than the real world, despite the realistic graphics presented in video games. Lastly, the increase in technology allows students to empathize through social networking. Social networking has dominated the world as many people contact and connect with others through online resources. The simple post or tweet allows friends, families, and other people to know what is going on in the world and also display trends of sympathy as they send their condolences and views on world affairs. The current uprising in Egypt gained momentum from social networking and has thus shown that our generation is not only been increasingly active, but has also provided their input on the political situations throughout the world. The creation of social networks has had a significant and tremendous impact on society. Therefore, our generation is more sensitized towards world affairs through modern technology.

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## 1ST, 2ND, 3RD DIMENSION AND So 4TH

By: Richard Ma  
Reporte

Throughout history, scientists have proposed a theory of a universe outside our own. But does such a universe exist?

What exactly is the fourth dimension? In order to put it in simpler terms, imagine a piece of paper as a two dimensional universe. This piece of paper has various dots

that represent people and objects. To make things simple, we will refer to these "people" as Flats. The Flats can only see objects that are laid flat on this piece of paper (for example a line or another point).

Now imagine a three-dimensional sphere placed on top of this piece of paper. Instead of seeing the sphere as a whole, the Flats can only see the point where the sphere intersects the piece of paper, which is a point. As the sphere goes through this piece of paper, the Flats can only see the two-dimensional version of the sphere, which is a circle. In essence, when this three-dimensional object passes through a two-dimensional universe, the Flats will see a point appearing out of nowhere, which then morphs into a circle. Now replace the two-dimensional universe with our three-dimensional universe, and

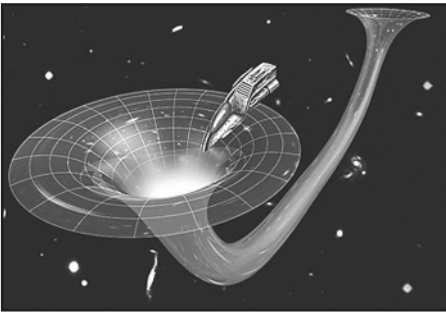


PHOTO COURTESY FROM: YANKEES.LHBLOGS.

you have entered the fourth-dimension.

It may seem like just another part of a science fiction movie, but there may be some truth in this hypothesis. While it is hard to believe, there may be a possibility that another universe exists outside our own. The universe is an endless mass of space that is filled with infinite possibilities, so why can't there be a fourth dimension.

Those who are skeptical about the thought of a fourth dimension have every right to think so. This is simply due to the fact that

no one has ever witnessed the fourth dimension firsthand. In order to enter the fourth dimension, one must create a rip in the universe (much like one would create a rip in a piece of paper). This, in effect, creates a

wormhole in which objects can travel through (see picture). Because this is impossible to do with modern scientific knowledge and technology, we will never be able to enter the fourth dimension. But this does not mean that the fourth dimension does not exist.

The fourth dimension can provide an answer to life's most intriguing mysteries such as Bigfoot, Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and even unicorns. Could these mythical creatures be inhabitants of the fourth dimension, trying to make contact with us? This is one interesting hypothesis to the striking world of the fourth dimension.

## WITHOUT SCHOOL I WOULD HAVE NO CLASS... GET IT?

By: Allen Lin  
Reporter

Hello Valencia! It's your most favoritest reporter, Allen Lin, here. I got a comedy column! They must have picked me for my responsibility (ha!). It's certainly not for being funny.

Actually, I take that back. I am funny, in the way a leech is funny. I correct people's humors. It's not my fault that my jokes are painfully bad. Sure, reading my shtick may be bad right now, but at least you aren't too sanguine! Wait, the sanguine humor relates to hope and courage. Let me get back to you on that.

Well, I think I'm too stuck in the past (you young whippersnappers). Let's talk about some events that matter now. You know, news. It's in my job description. I report news.

Recently the Vice President (oddly enough, the job has little vice in it, at least not that I know of), stuck a reporter in a closet. Evidently keeping reporters stowed away while the Vice President isn't unusual ("Biden" his time as always), but

the choice of location is rather odd. Then again, given the Vice President's reputation for gaffes, maybe it wasn't such a bad idea. Maybe they were hoping that if they stuck the reporter by the brooms, he'd be swept away.

In Illinois, some 2500 rubber ducks were stolen from the police. The ducks were meant for a fundraiser for the Yorkville Citizens Police Academy. But look at the bright side, these fresh young students have their first case!

A 92-year old Florida woman shot at a 53-year old man after being refused a kiss. Love may be blind, but I was unaware it also frequented retirement homes. Soon Helen Staudinger, the kissing not-quite killer, will be meeting another blind anthropomorphism of a concept: Justice. Speaking of which, I've wondered how Justice could see the evidence if she's blind. One wonders if on some days, she just plays it by ear.

Well, that's all for now, folks (and not a moment too soon). Remember, laughter is the best medicine. It's why, as part of Obamacare, we're instituting a new clown division.

## COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN

By: Samantha Green  
Reporter

When was the last time you listened to yourself speak? So everyone knows what freedom of speech is right? If you don't it means that you have the right to say what ever you want to say and to express your opinion. One way of expressing our opinions or how we think is the way we use our languages. My interest peaked in fascination when I noticed that the language we (teenagers) speak varies from the adult population and separates us from them. It individualizes us because when we speak we display apart of whom we are and our thoughts. Our language has manifested itself in many ways for example with slang. We change things around so that it's more difficult for not only adults to understand but also for people we deem as outsiders. We use things like expletives to express ourselves, different expressions, we mix in different languages and make up words and this creates that interesting dynamic that's now in our school. Language or the language we use has become a way for groups to stay together in a tightly-knit setting. For example some students may use more expletives than others and they get along better with students who don't. Or people who speak a certain language will group together because the mutual understanding they have with each

other is similar. This is seen especially when there's a cultural basis behind the language being used. This dynamic creates a diverse and interesting setting but at the same time we don't have an understanding of how to communicate on a greater scale. Especially with adults or people who aren't apart of our group. This then becomes a problem when entering the world because of the language or slang we've been conditioned to use with our friends. Our colloquial language lacks the formality needed to communicate with people of high prestige, honor or respect. If we use it, it may be seen as disrespectful, or people will look at us funny, because quite frankly when was the last time you listened to how we speak with our peers? We sound crazy. This is what has happened since the beginning of time, there is slang for every time period but right now at this point not only is our language radical but also our approach in how we speak it to adults and our peers. There's a lot less respect and our openness to certain discussions has increased while modesty has decline. The point we always need to have limitations and that healthy balance. You want to be able to have a discussion with your friends but also a discussion with someone that can impact your life in an intellectual sense. Our slang is a barrier to us and different generations but we need to acknowledge the importance of diplomacy, respect, and as our school hosts, 'pride, tradition and excellence'.

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# WEAR A MASK WITH DTASC

By: Allen Lin  
Reporter

On April 30, 2011, Valencia's drama students will be at Fullerton Union High School, which is located at 201 E. Chapman Ave, Fullerton, CA 92832, for the Drama Teacher Association of Southern California's (DTASC) Shakespeare festival.

Each year DTASC hosts a Fall Festival competition and a Spring Shakespeare competition. Different schools host each year, and Valencia has hosted twice.

The competition has such events as the audition monologue, Shakespeare's Families, Shakespeare Humor, Shakespeare CSI, Shakespeare the Musical, a scene from King

Lear, and a scene from Much Ado about Nothing. These events were chosen during a June meeting by the drama teachers involved.

The group drama event involves three to six participants selecting and performing a serious scene from King Lear. There is a time limit of eight minutes.

The group comedy event is similar, but involves a comedic scene from Much Ado about Nothing instead.

For the audition monologue, each participant has five minutes to perform two contrasting monologues to show their acting versatility. Each school can enter two students. The monologues must come from Shakespeare, and the featured plays may be used. Actors are allowed no more than two chairs as props.

In Shakespeare's Families, up to four actors perform a scene that demonstrates a family relationship. This scene may not come from the featured plays.

In Shakespeare Humor, two actors perform a humorous scene from Shakespeare. These

scenes must be played straight; they are not parodies of the original. Again, these scenes may not come from King Lear or Much Ado about Nothing.

In Shakespeare CSI, four actors perform a scene from Shakespeare involving murder. This scene may not come from the featured plays.

In Shakespeare the Musical, up to ten actors perform a scene which may go for up to eight minutes. However, there's a twist. "[At any time] actors may break into any song of their choice at any time ala the film Moulin Rouge," said Grace Stanton, Drama teacher.

DTASC was founded in 1929 to further the cause of educational theatre by creating a network where teachers and students can show their skills and share ideas.



PHOTO COURTESY FROM: QUESTGARDEN.COM

## MOVIE REVIEW: *THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU*

By: Shannon Hsu  
Opinion Editor

*The Adjustment Bureau* is a "science-fiction" thriller starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt, directed by George Nolfi, who has also been behind *The Bourne Ultimatum* and *Ocean's Twelve*.

The movie begins as the political career of David Norris

(Damon), a senatorial candidate, takes a sudden turn as his successes are interrupted by an election loss. He is rehearsing a speech in the bathroom of a hotel when he finds Elise (Blunt) hiding in one of the stalls after having crashed a wedding, and she motivates him to write a better speech. Several days later, he meets Elise again by chance on a train, but when he arrives at work he is confronted by a body called the "Adjustment Bureau". *The Adjustment Bureau's* job is to direct peoples' lives as fate would, being lead by a figure known as the "Chairman". David is told that he wasn't supposed to meet Elise more than once, as it wasn't part of the plan for his

life, and if he tells anyone about the Adjustment Bureau, his memory will be erased.

However, David continues to try to find Elise. When they finally meet again several years later, the Adjustment Bureau does everything it can to separate the pair from each other

so their lives would go according to plan, using special doors to transport themselves across the city. David is forced to decide whether he will let his life be controlled by the Adjustment Bureau, or if he

should find a way to make his own "fate".

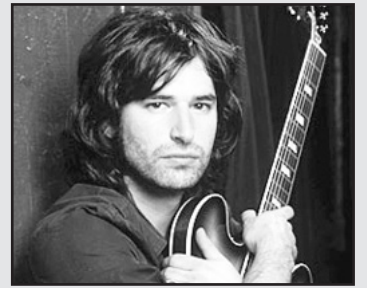
*The Adjustment Bureau* appeals to a variety of audiences' tastes, and is likely to be particularly entertaining for fans of *Inception*, or even *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* – some of those appealing elements are shared by the movies. Not only does it provide an enjoyable movie-going experience, but it also poses some questions that we can contemplate ourselves: are we in control of our own lives, or is everything dictated by a higher force? All in all, *The Adjustment Bureau* delivers a smooth blend of action, romance, creativity, and the occasional dash of wit that makes today's expensive movie ticket costs worth every cent.



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# UPCOMING

Pete Yorn  
House of Blues  
Anaheim  
4/10/11  
\$30



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Kid Cudi  
Hollywood Palladium  
Hollywood  
4/18/11  
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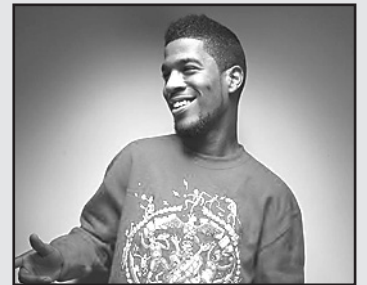


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# CONCERTS

## BOOK REVIEW: *THOSE THAT WAKE*

By: Emilie Cady  
Reporter

Have you ever wondered what it would feel like to be forgotten by everyone that ever knew you, to be missing on every file that ever held your information? In *Those That Wake* by Jesse Karp, two teenagers who had never before met come together when a force beyond human comprehension begins to infect the minds of everyone around it. The setting is New York. The citizens have been affected by another terrorist attack after September 11th called Big Black that took the feelings of fear and despair from the first attack and cemented them in everyone's mind. Now, the New Yorkers walk with their heads down, hiding themselves in their cell phones and televisions. The weather itself is drab and dreary, sucking any hope that's left from everyone's soul. The main characters are Mal and Laura, who live in almost different worlds: Mal is in the Foster program, and Laura is a loved and cherished child. Though it seems

they would never meet, they are suddenly thrust together after Mal's brother goes mysteriously missing and Laura's protective parents forget her very existence. They, along with three others, are then sought by the New Yorkers whose minds are composed of nothing but an idea, an idea that compels them to conform or destroy anything and anyone not yet infected by it. The four survivors are then forced to either fight for the right to control their own future or to succumb to the overwhelming presence of nothing. However, in order to have a chance to free themselves and everyone around them, they must overcome the brainwashed citizens and confront the idea itself. Told from a third-person viewpoint, *Those That Wake* is an exciting novel about the search for one's identity and the unbelievable influence of a simple idea on the human mind. *Those That Wake* is an exciting and intriguing novel that is interesting to both boys and girls. The unsolved secrets within the ideas surrounding the characters in the novel will have you tearing through the pages and cause you to begin questioning the very basis of thought itself.



SHOWING EXCELLENCE THROUGH RECOVERY

“PUTTING” THEIR HEARTS INTO IT

**By: Reetu Inamdar**  
Sports Editor

The boys tennis team is working their way to victory as they continue to focus on their skills and their strategies. The boys

practice everyday and continue to hone on their fundamentals. The boys are excited to participate this season and are dedicated and focused in their goal - which is to do well in League and in CIF.

“So far the season has just started,” said Coach McCall. The team has made progress and they are trying to work on fundamentals, their tactics, and their mental game in order to succeed in the season. McCall comments, “[w]e are making progress. The single players are doing well and the doubles need to focus more in their fundamentals. But overall, I am quite content with the way the season has started.” The boy’s tennis team had gone to the CIF finals and lost, however, they are planning to make their big comeback.



MICHAEL IM (10), DANIEL KIM (11), HENRY LEE (11)  
PHOTOS BY: AADILA PARUK

The boys are working on their efficiency and skills. Tarlochan Rakhra says “[l]ately we have been running, volleying, serving, and working on our doubles strategies.” The boy’s tennis team is working diligently and efficiently in order to do well this season. McCall says, “I expect the boys to work hard and improve every day. Effort is what matters.”

The team is also pretty excited with the starting of the league as it is 3-0 overall. They are anticipating success and continue to work hard to reach this goal. Rakhra remarks, “We have more expectations in league.” The boys are working especially hard since the last year seniors have graduated. McCall says, “We may not have quite as many superstars, but we have more depth this year.” Similarly, Rakhra agrees saying, “[It is] challenging since we lost a lot of seniors and we are working hard to recover from that.” McCall comments, “I look forward to getting out here. It’s one of the best parts of my day.” As the boys continue to take on Pacifica High School on April 5, they hope yet another victory.

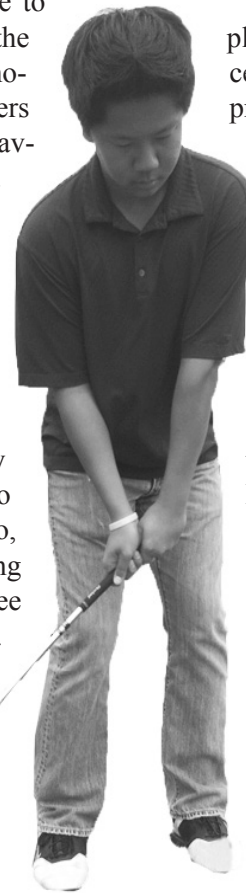
**By: Jeremy Beyon**  
Reporter

Spring sports have long been in season, and the Valencia Tiger Golf Boys have been working hard on the golf course to achieve their goals by the end of season. At this moment the Valencia Tigers have a home course average of two hundred ten which is five over on the front nine per player. By the end of season the golfers hope to win league and place well in CIF. So far season has been going very well, and according to the head coach, Castillo, “We have five qualifying scores and we need three more to make it to CIF”.

Currently in mid-season, the varsity team is composed of four seniors, three sophomores, and one freshman. The seniors are Sean Zajac, Kyle Vanderheide, Snah Desai, and Kyle Hayden. The sophomores are Michael

Shum, John Shin, and Sagar Desai. The only freshman on the team is Justin Fernandez. Out of these golfers, four of them are returners. From the team, Coach Castillo states some of his most outstanding players are Sean Zajac, Michael Shum, and John Shin.

As a team, the golfers explain that their key to success is hard work in team practices and working on their game outside of our team practices. The team also believes that they have a good group of student athletes that strives to be successful. For now the Golfers short term goal is to be prepared for the Cypress golf meet on March 22. Their long term goal in season would be to be successful in the league finals which will take place at the Los Serranos Country Club. Another long term goal for Coach Castillo is to have a league champion in the long run. Besides Coach Castillo, the other coach who makes this golf program a success is Kehli Bowen, the Assistant Coach.



GOLFER JOHN SHIN (10) PREPARES HIMSELF FOR HIS SHOT. PHOTO COURTESY FROM: SNAH DESAI.

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