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# Does the press bad-rap kids? 

By Sari Aizley, Editor

INSIDE CLASS!

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## CLASS! Publications

A monthly mewspaper for and
about hish school mitents.
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"We're being portrayed as slackers."
"When [young people] are represented, they are often portrayed as criminals or victims."

These views were reported in a National Public Radio story on how the press treats young people.
"I can't really relate to the paper because...I don't feel like it's talking to me," said one student. "We aren't represented...we're talked about instead of talked to."

The reporter, Brenda Trembley from NPR's affiliate in Rochester, NY, talked with Nancy Woodhull, the professor who directed a University of Rochester study in a class called "Press Images of Generation X."

Students did a survey of newspapers and magazines (including Newsweek, Time, USA Today and the New York Times) between Sept. 13 and Oct. 11. NPR reports, "They counted and categorized the types of articles written about their peers, from the front pages to the sports sections.
"They concluded that Generation X and, in particular, people ages 18-23, are mentioned too little and too negatively in the print media." Woodhull noted that the students were distressed about what they found. "While [this age group] makes up nearly 11 percent of the population, certain sections of the newspaper seem to exclude young people regularly," she says.
the business section, only 10 were relevant to readers in the 18-23 category. The students also noted that the majority of Basic High School

We Will Not Allow You
to give us such an Stop the Comics. EMPTY LABEL Stop the ArRepresenting Only Doubt An Arbitrary Name Symbolic of NOTHING
but the VALUE
that No One Cares Enough to search for.
ticles.
Stop the Rumors.
There is NO GENERATION X There is only US Our DREAMS And What We DECIDE to be.

Only four percent of front-page news stories were about young people. Of 2,000 articles in stories that DID relate to their age group were about young, white males.

One student observed that none of the publications they surveyed asked young people for their views on the approaching elections. She didn't want her age group to be singled out, just included.

Woodhull said that students she talked to feel they are portrayed as not caring about the future. She sensed "fear...about how they will participate in the workplace or...not get the opportunity to."

Professional journalists met recently to discuss the Rochester study. Bob Giles, editor/ publisher of The Detroit News, felt the study was too narrow to be valid and that the 18-23 age group is not as newsworthy as other groups because "they aren't doing as much at this point in their lives."

Still, Giles worried about the decline in the number of people reading newspapers and about attracting young readers.

## COVER. They couldn't discourage her

 Nicole Elliggwood. a recent fancho High School graduate., is now a sophomore and pilotinstructor at the US. Air Force Academy. See page 12
## Hello

We are Here
We have Voices
And Opinions
And Goals.
We Believe in Ourselves And are Ready
To fight the battles That you have set
?UT DO YOU HEAR US?
TAKE OUR STAND?
no.

You are too busy LABELING us DOUBTING us CONDEMNING us our Capabilities our ways to HAVE FAITH N OUR

But We Will Succeed And We Will Not Be GENERATION X -
 finds itself in a close race for the championship. The coach is confident because he has an unbeaten 98 -pounder who is all but assured of a win today. But the southern zone champion from Basic High School puts Hug's superstar on his back, costing Hug High the state crown.

The Basic champion, Jimmy May, and Hug coach Lon Gwyn met for the first time that day, but it would not be the last. Now, 23 years later, Gwyn follows May as wrestling coach, while May takes over as head football coach after 16 years with the wrestling team.

Coach Gwyn graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a degree in physical education and communication and a minor in sports psychology. He has three sons in college, all wrestlers, and a daughter, a model and dancer. Gwyn says his children are his greatest accomplishment.

Coach Gwyn learned his wrestling skills growing up in Bakersfield, Cal. At youth centers, he participated in only one sport, wrestling, and he competed in it year round.

Two often-asked questions Gwyn gets are," How do you expect to fill Coach May's shoes?" and "Which one of you is the better wrestler?" To the first question he says, "I have total respect for Coach May's shoes, but I prefer to wear my own." To the second question he replies, "Comparing Coach and me would be like comparing a golfer to a basketball player."

Gwyn feels that this year's team has five state championship possibilities and at least seven possible state placers. He sees his strongest assets as Junior 112-pounder Matt Azevedo, who most recently pinned California's top 112-pounder at a tournament in Arizona, and Senior 119-pounder Adrian Aquino, fourth place finisher in the freestyle nationals. He sees this year as an opportunity to show everyone that Eldorado is the team to beat in high school wrestling today -- and tomorrow.

## A lot of bull -- and broncos, too

## by Jessica Peterson

Last year EHS welcomed the Rodeo club. Eldorado has 10 members and there are about 30 citywide. These young men and women ride bulls and broncos, as well as compete in barrel riding and other activities.

Member Chuck Rich states, "It's fun to meet new friends and compete with people all over the state." He competes in the bull and bronco riding, which he hopes to continue when he gets to college. Rich says his goal is to compete on the professional level.

Lisa Williams competes in the barrel and pole competitions. Her favorite thing about the club? "All the cowboys and wranglers!"

## A WORD TO THE WISE/ The Message <br> by Hamaas Gilchrist



Hamaas Gilchrist

Jld\} A rose will still rise in the garden of despair-
Youth\} But my fate will demise within society's care-
Jld\} My son, My son, At one time you burst with pride, Now you cower in the shadow of a rose that died-
Youth\} My father, society thought conceit of my dread, But I fear the unknown, so I lift up my head, Keep my glare to the sun so my steps can't be traced, I hold my head to the sky to keep the tears from rolling down my face-

## A campaign for good grades: Students take part in election process

Rebecca Schumacher's government classes were given the opportunity to take part in the election process in lieu of a term paper or extra credit. Students in her classes volunteered to work 20 or more hours at the campaign headquarters of County Commission candidate Lorraine Hunt.

Ms. Schumacher's goal was for her students to learn more about the specifics of working on a campaign and just how important one vote can actually be.

For a couple of weeks these dedicated students walked District G, talking to the registered voters about the candidate. The volunteers also had the option of phoning the voters they missed on their walk.

Students reported that many people contacted by phone gave the message that "it's a secret ballot, dearie." Mary Winsor, a senior and one of the many volunteers, says," It's been an interesting and fun experience, and I'm glad I was able to be a part of it." Senior Janelle Ament says, "It was fun and it gives you more insight on political views and the way politics works."

Also their efforts apparently were valuable as Lorraine Hunt defeated Karen Hayes in the general election by more than 5,000 votes.

Even with some rude residents slamming doors in their faces, and having voters hang up on them, it was still an exciting process to be a part of. All those involved had a great time and earned a grade for it, too.


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## How to make an compressian

## By Kim Howey

The new printmaking class introduces the various methods of printing. Taught by Mr. Robert Been, the 60 students are studying five types of silk screen printing.

Also on the agenda are computer-generated graphics for shirts, engravings, sandblastings and glass etchings. Students will soon learn how to operate the lithograph equipment in the graphic arts room.

The year's final projects will incorporate the various types of printing they've mastered. For example, one project will require the student to scan an original piece of art work on a computer andtransfer it onto a tee shirt or glass.

Been is very enthusiastic about the new class and plans to expand and build it into a "self-sufficient" program in the future.

## Students discuss world-class issues

## By Tim Holt

Attending the 39th annual Sun Youth Forum last month was "really interesting and a lot of fun," according to senior Christy Bumgarner, one of the 49 Bengals who attended the day-long meeting at the Las Vegas Convention Center. More than 800 students from secondary schools throughout Clark County were represented.

At the end of the day, Max Williams was selected to make a television presentation, summarizing his group's conclusions, and Roscoe Sullivan did the same for a newspaper article in the Las Vegas Sun. Kim Howey and Charalee Smith served as their groups' recorders.

The students were divided into 14 groups with moderators to discuss subjects such as the U.S. role in the changing world of the 1990s and nuclear waste disposal in Nevada.

Moderators included County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson-Gates, TV-8 newsman Gary Waddell, journalist Steve Shore, Sun executive Danny Greenspun, and school board member Dan Newburn.

Cynthia Schenauer said, "It was a good experience because we learned what other people thought and how they reacted to new ideas. I felt it was a good project because we don't often have the chance to express our views, especially on such important issues."

On the other hand, Kim Howey said, "Too often I saw students refrain from expressing their own views, in fear of ridicule from their peers, or they wouldn't open their minds to other viewpoints."


Max Williams, Bonanza senior, listens intently during a discussion at the annual Sun Youth Forum. Max was selected by his group to make a television presentation summarizing the outcome of the daylong session held at the Convention Center.

## Wrestlers grapple to top in Bulldog Growler

## By Paul Trimmer

Bonanza's wrestling team began its 1994 season with a bang, winning the recent Bulldog Growler Invitational in Mesquite. The Bengals finished 20 points ahead of the second place Rancho Rams.

Bonanza Senior Justin Henderson, 185 pounds, and sophomore Matt Walker, 119 pounds, led the squad by winning championships in theirweightclass. In addition, Henderson was named the Outstanding Wrestler in the tournament.

Other Bengals placing were Kevin Brown, $100 \mathrm{lbs}, 3 \mathrm{rd}$; Kevin Gomez 112 lbs , 2nd; Brad Maynard, 126 lbs , 2nd; Ricky Leathley, 134 lbs , 6th; Eddie Traasdahl, 142 lbs , 5th; Jason Walker, $152 \mathrm{lbs}, 2 \mathrm{nd}$; Jim Cavin, 152 lbs , 3rd; Josh Rodriguez, 160 lbs , 3rd; Ken Elm, 215 lbs , 5th; and Turner Graham, heavyweight, 2nd.

To charge by phone, call $474-4000$

## December Events

December 17-7:35 pm Runnin' Rebels vs. Fullerton Tickets: Balcony only, $\$ 10$

December 20-7:05 pm
Thunder vs. San Diego
Tickets: $\$ 15, \$ 12, \& \$ 9$

## December 21

 Showboat Shootout Houston vs. Penn Stare, 5:30 pm George Washington vs. UNIV Lady Rebels, 7:30 pm Tickets: Adult $\$ 3$, Sr. \& Child $\$ 2$
## December 22

Showboat Shootout
Consolation Game, $5: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ Championship Game, 7:30 pm Tickets: Adult $\$ 3$, Sr. \& Child $\$ 2$

December 27 -7:05 pm
Thunder vs. Phoenix
Tickets: $\$ 15, \$ 12, \& \$ 9$

December 30-7:05 pm
Thunder vs. Denver
Tickets: $\$ 15, \$ 12, \& \$ 9$

## Mai Vuong

US History classes got an up close and personal lesson about the history of "Old Glory," our American flag, during the American Heritage Flag Program, sponsored by the National Guard.

The lecture center housed 10 American flags representing different historic periods, all exact replicas of the originals now on display at the Smithsonian Institute.

Patriotic music enveloped the students as they entered the room. Four Durango Junior ROTC Color Guards presented the colors of the American and Nevada flags while the students paid their respect to our country.

The guest speaker was Sergeant First Class Ray Hurd of the National Guard, who is also the secretary of the Durango Parent Advisory Committee. Hurd informed the students of the significance of the displayed flags and how their evolution tells about our past.

He also presented a film outlining the history of the flags from the American Revolution to the War of 1812 and provided a set of books about the different flags that have flown in America.

Durango student Deneb Ranciato says, "I thought it was a great representation of America history, where Durango students can recapture the past and [gain] inspiration from our ancestors.

## Art class creates graphics experts

## By Amanda Laney

Many students at Durango now have the chance to learn job skills at school that they will use in "real" life.

Jose Delfin teaches the Computer Art class at Durango. He started the class because he wanted to teach students an employable skill. Most jobs in graphics and advertising today involve the use of computer art. Employers prefer workers with experience and this class will provide the students with the experience they need for the job.

The class has 28 students and the only prerequisite is Art 1. The computer programs used for the class are Illustrator and Photoshop.

Delfin acts as a customer and students produce products for him, such as advertisements, business cards, and covers for story books. The students
must always meet the deadlines he sets.

Students seementhusiastic about the class. Jennifer Stone, a computer art student, states, "The computer art class is better than other art classes because it is different -- you get to create on the computer instead of on paper."

Tracy Africa, another student, comments, "It's a fun class to be in."

The projects that the students create on the computers are amazing. Sketching without a pencil and painting without a brush are among the options.

Delfin feels that the class is a tremendous asset to the students, he says. "After taking this class students can go out and get a job in the computer art industry."


Bloody Donation -- David Vogel gives moral support as blood donor Damon Waldron gets "run through," during Durango's Blood Drive last week. Seventy-seven units of blood were donated during the drive sponsored by United Blood Services.
(Amy Meyer

## INSIGHTS

## Use Freedom Carefully

By Irene Goya
It's safe to say that teens today are very different from teens in the past. Every day, the world becomes more liberal in matters that concern age.

Teens now have more freedom and control of their lives than teens before, and that's good. Unfortunately, some teens do not know how to handle this new-found freedom and power.

Adolescents have come to the conclusion that they are invincible. It doesn't matter if parents disagree, in fact, that's "cool." Illegal? Who cares. "What, you don't agree?... Here, tell it to my gun."

Rebellion has always been a part of teenhood, and it's completely natural, but many "young adults" are overdosing on the stuff. It's okay to have boundaries. It's even better to have the strength to stay within them.

Being lectured to is not going to solve anything, but I'm a firm believer in the chaos theory.

Every motion you make, a handshake, a misplaced hair, a blink of an eye can effect the weather in China. Just remember everything you do effects something.

Let's say you are driving twenty miles over the speed limit. Not only are you endangering other vehicles, pedestrians, and light poles, you're also depleting the ozone layer by burning fuel, which causes global warming, which intensifies the sun's ultra violet light, which causes skin cancer on some guy in Florida.

It doesn't stop there.
The effects are forever multiplying. Your little action creates a chain of reactions that never stop.

You may not know it, but people look up to you. Don't disappoint or mislead them by mindless actions that serve little or no point.

Be someone who is truly unique.

## Ant students draw top howars

## By TJ McMahon

Six Durango art students walked away with first place awards at his year's Jaycee State Fair held at Cashman Field.

Diona Linardo was named Grand Champion for her pen and pencil drawing ddy bears sitting on a rocking chair. Diona, who has been drawing since che was a young girl, said "I was surprised when I won," but she was doubly srised because it was her art teacher Linda Guifferda-Baker who entered her drawing. Linardo hopes to make a career of art in the future.

Christina Rogers received a Judge's Choice Ribbon for her felt marker drawing of a barrel cactus. Rachel Dombrowski was awarded a Reserve Grand Champion Ribbon for her multicolored pencil drawing of a butterfly.

Andrea Rudish, Stacey Lindberg, and Marnie Weible together created a painting which depicted the labels from their favorite junk food and won the Grand Champion Ribbon for their efforts.

The creations of these students will be on display in Durango's Instructional Support Center.


## That's Mr. Baldy to you!

Scott Campbell tries out his hairdressing techniques by altering Coach Mike O'Dea's bowl cut to a much more stylish do. The crowd watched in awe at last Friday's assembly as each of the members of the cross country team got a chance to take the shears to O'Dea's hair. O'Dea promised his team the honor of shaving his head if they won the state championship and they took him up on his promise.
(Amy Meyer Photo)

## 1994 Legend and Expedition earn awards in Reno

## By Chris Davis and Gia Winne

Bonanza's 1993-94 yearbook, The Legend, and the school's weekly newspaper, The Expedition, received awards from the Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism, during High School Journalism Day at the University of Nevada, Reno.

The Legend took the second place yearbook award in the regional competition, while The Expedition was awarded third place page design. Gia Winne, editor, attended an interviewing class nducted by Mark Sion, of the Reno Gazette. Scion, who has interveewed people such as Steven Tyler of Aerosmith and many other well known public figures, passed on some of his knowledge to the journalism students.

Chris Davis, editor of the The Expedition, and Rachell Fish, copy and layout design editor, attended a session on photojournalism conducted by Ira Gostin, a freelance and Associated Press photographer. Another class attended by Durango students was TV Broadcasting, which gave them hands-on experience with TV cameras.
"I am totally satisfied with the journalism staff members, but I am dissatisfied with the lack of recognition," states advisor Flint Shoop, referring to Durango's lack of recognition for producing both a weekly and monthly publication.

## New club will help AP students

A new academic club will help advanced placement students at Durango. Lisa Devore-Milke, English AP teacher at Durango, began the club in order to encourage her students to take the AP test in the spring. The club will assist the students and their parents in paying for the test.

Approximately 30 Juniors enrolled in English Literature and Composition AP attended the first English Advance Placement Club recently at Milke's home. Guest speaker Elizabeth McGhee addressed the topic of timemanagement, stress-management, and priorities. McGhee is certified by the State of Nevada, and has a masters degree in clinical social work.

McGhee pointed out some of the symptoms of stress such as having trouble focusing, bladder problems, weight loss, weigh gain, and headaches. However, she says, "Not all stress is bad, because it motivates us to get things done."

One tip for managing stress is to purchase some sort of planner that allows a student to organize the need-to-do things, prioritize the most significant aspects of his/her life, and make appointments.

McGhee adds, "In addition, always remember that stress can be controlled, but is never unavoidable. The key is to focus on what you want to do and learn to make sacrifices."


GETTING CANNED -- Durango students surround some of the nearly 4,000 cans of food collected in this year's food drive to help feed Las Vegas' needy.

## Durango can deliver

By Amy Meyer

A little extra credit can go a long way in helping the hungry in Las Vegas.

To encourage the donation of food for the school's second annual Canned Food Drive, Durango offered a donut party for the first period class with the most canned goods. Last year's first period class winner, math teacher, Cindy Holt, hoped for the title again but Lisa Milke and her class captured it with more than 1,000 cans.

Bringing in non-perishable items gave quite a few of students extra credit. This, in essence, was buying a grade, but
since it was for a good cause most teachers encouraged it and students applauded it.

Robin Thomas's fifth period leadership class organized this annual event. Last year's food drive accumulated more than 1,500 cans of food. But this year's drive surpassed that with close to four thousand cans.

The food was given to the Catholic Community Services, to St. Vincent's shelter, and to the Weekend Assistance Program.

## CALENDAR

Friday, Dec. 16
Tuesday, Jan. 3 Wednesday, Jan. 11 thru Friday, Jan. 13 Monday, Jan. 16

Last day before Winter Break Back to School today

Semester Exams (half-days) Martin Luther King's Birthday (no school)


WINNING FLOAT -- 1st place honors to the Class of '96

## Rancho scores big in band and ROTC competitions

Rancho's ROTC Honor Unit participated in two recent meets. They scored highest in the VFW National Armed Drill Competition for Air Force Jr. ROTC at Cashman Field. The team also earned Honor Unit status during the last annual inspection. All schools are inspected and the top $20 \%$ in the country are considered to be honor units. Rancho has been an honor unit for 14 of the last 15 years.

The band earned a second-place award in the recent UNLV Band Spectacular against 12 teams from Nevada, California, Utah and Arizona. But Rancho drum majors Carl Jamerson and Melody Munson brought the Outstanding Drum Major award back to the school. At the Silver State Invitational, Rancho earned a Superior rating for the first time ever. Information provided by correspondent Donnie Ellis

## Rancho student art on exhibit

## by Raechel Grimblot

An art show, exclusively displaying Rancho art, opened this month at the West Las Vegas Library and will continue through January 31, in the Gallery, located at 951 West Lake Mead Blvd. Approximately 35 pieces of 2-D and 3-D advanced, intermediate and beginner's art are displayed. Any student who attends the show and gets a library card can receive extra-credit by showing the card to his or her teacher.

## Happy Kewanzaa!

## by Tifane Paul

We have Christmas, we have Chanukah, and we have Kwanzaa. What makes it different from other holidays is religion: Kwanzaa is not a religiously oriented holiday. Instead, it focuses on principles of life in Africa.

The celebration of Kwanzaa began in 1966. Maulana Ron Karenga, a prominent activist in the Black Power movement in the 1960's and 1970's wanted to give AfricanAmericans an opportunity to celebrate their common customs. Kwanzaa is Swahili for "first fruits of the harvest." It does not represent any specific holiday, but incorporates elements of festivals celebrated throughout Africa.

This seven-day festival begins on December 26, and runs through New Years Day. Due to its newness, many people do not celebrate Kwanzaa, but here is how you can.

Each of the seven days celebrated has a guiding principle; umoja (unity), kujichagulia (self-determination), ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose),

THE BONE -- Sir Herkimer's Bone returned to Rancho for the fifth year in arow when Rancho beat Las Vegas High at the 38th annual Bone game. Above, Curtis the Rancho Ram, prepares to receive the bronzed cow bone that the two schools adopted as a trophy nearly four decades ago.

kukumba (creativity), and imani (faith).
To celebrate, all you need is a kente cloth, a straw hat, an ear of corn for each child in the family, a silver goblet to use as a communal cup, a seven-branch candle holder, and seven candles-one black, three red, and three green. Each candle gives light to the seven principles of Kwanzaa. The black candle represents the people, the represents struggles, and the green symbe' izes hope for the future.

Place the candles and straw hat in the center of the dinner table. On the first night gather the family and reflect on the principle of umoja. Next fill the communal cup with wine and let each family member take a sip. Then pour a drop over the fruits and vegetables. Throughout the last six days, light each candle nightly and discuss the remaining principles daily. The highlight of Kwanzaa is the sixth day. Prepare lots of rich cultured foods, immerse yourself in your heritage, and have a Happy Kwanzaa!

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## Proposed

 new schedule gets mixed reviewsby Jeremy Bussell

Rancho may be in for a change next semester, under a new schedule proposed by Principal Barry Gunderson. The plan would allow students to spend more time in classes. This would provide more time for students to have individual attention, which should lead to better grades.

On Monday and Tuesday, students would attend classes as usual. On Wednesday, students would attend first, third and fifth periods for 100 minutes in each class. On Thursday, students would spend 100 minutes each in second, fourth and sixth periods.

Lunch schedules have not beer worked out yet, but two ideas have been proposed. One, everyone taking lunch at the same time, might be a problem because there are sc few restaurants near campus -- and nearly 1,100 go off-campus for lunch every day. The second is not to have lunch at all, instead giving students a 15-minute nutrition break halfway through the day that woulc end at 12:30.

AP Government students conducted an opinion poll and founc that students, for the most part, opposed the schedule but teachers, tentatively accepted it.

## Art competition draws to a close; three from Rancho are honored

Each year, students from Rancho's Advanced Art classes enter competitions at the district, state and national levels. This year, two from Rancho won awards and another was honored by having her artwork published.

Juan Yanez and Steve Huntsman won First and Second place awards, respectively, at the recent J.C. State Fair Art Show at Cashman Field. Yanez received airfare for four people to tour the Houston Space Facility, as well use of a rental car and a two-night stay at a Houston hotel.

Kirsten Weight's design has been published by the Silver State Federal Credit Union in its widely-distributed calendar. This is the third time Kirsten's art has been in the calendar -- once on the cover.

Information provided by correspondent Raechel Grimblot

## Politician's life not simple

## by Jeremy Bussell

Running for a public office may not be easy, but the students in Mrs. Bourque's first period AP Government class tackled it anyway. The assignment: Convince the class that your group is the best for whatever office you are running for. It seems impossible to please the multitudes and still not raise taxes in the process. This is probably why the issue of taxes was avoided.

The most popular issue was crime. All the groups agreed that harsher penalties for all crimes need to be enforced throughout the country. One group was adamant about finding a way to get increased manpower for law enforcement agencies.

Another big issue was immigration. The class was undecided on what to do with immigrants who committed crimes in the United States. However, it was agreed that immigrants who have been convicted of crimes elsewhere should not be allowed into the U.S.

Other issues were health care, welfare, and foreign trade, with an emphasis on increasing exports and decreasing imports, possibly by raising the tariffs on imports.

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## If you are lucky, you stay after schoal <br> by Carrie Deak and Laconda Johnson

Basic High School students entered a new year with an all new and advanced Biology II class which deals with DNA testing, fingerprinting and cloning. The class costs $\$ 75$ to $\$ 85$ a semester and requires students to stay after school.

According to science teacher Clayton Sellers, Biology II began with 19 students: one senior, nine juniors and nine sophomores. Sellers began the class to expand the ordinary science curriculum.

Tosomestudentssuch asjunior Adam Golden, "It sounds pretty interesting." Golden said he entered the class because his biology teacher, asked him to join. Golden said he does not mind staying after school for the longer class. "It's fun and we do a lot of experiments."

## Someone's in the kitchen with Binah

## By Amber Schutz and Augusta Domingo

This year Toni Purtill, home economics teacher, is teaching a new class during sixth hour --Food and Nutritior Science, one of only three food science classes in the Clark County School District. The district provided a $\$ 7,000$ grant to buy equipment for the class.

Food science teaches nutrition, food production, and how chemistry relates to food. Purtill says students benefit from this class because it makes science relevant to their lives.

Students learn about food science by experimenting. Purtill's class conducted an experiment by separating students into groups making chocolate chip cookies. Each group omitted one ingredient to test the effect it had on the cookie. The experiment demonstrated why each ingredient is important to the cookie and how each affects the product.

Those interested in the food science class, may check the course book and sign up next year.


Leilani Amparano, a student in the new American Studies class, is shownhere working on an ethnic background project. Leilani likes the innovative two-in-one class offered for the first time this year. "It would be a good college prep class," she says, and recommends it to others

## Stamp Addiction

TOYS - RUBBER ART STAMPS - SUPPLIES and MORE!
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { - Pogs } & \text { Movie Classics } \\ \text { - Magic the Gathering } & \text { Stocking Stuffers }\end{array}$

- Magic the Gathering - Stocking Stuffers


Henderson Swap Mart
538 S. Boulder Highway, Henderson
558-0258

## Teachers volunteer for teaching-team

by Brenda Feldhouse and Gina Vaughan

American Studies, a U.S. History and American Literature class, opened for the first time at Basic High School this fall.

The class for juniors is taught by John Wallace, history teacher, and Jennifer Williamson, English teacher, both of whom volunteered to teach the class.
"I felt the classes went together - hand in hand," Wallace says. Junior Lester Anderson agrees, "The classes fit together well."

Some students believe the day goes by faster in a two-period class. "After a while you lose track of time, you're doing things and time flies," says Junior Gail Gonzales. Williamson adds, "I was worried about the length of time, but it goes by so fast that most days I don't even notice it."

So far students seem to enjoy the class and their teachers. "It's pretty much fun playing games and learning at the same time, "states Amy Loza. Jon Jacks says, "It's easy, and you learn more because you have more time to do things."

## Petrie family tradition continues

## by Steve Zyla

Senior JimPetrie has been named to the second All-Conference football team as a middle linebacker. He led the defensive squad in tackles and was a major factor in Basic's improved 5-4 record.

Petrie says his biggest motivation for is winning and doing his best when he is on the field.

His goals this year are to be selected to the first team All- Conference team and lead his team in tackles. However, those goals don't mean as much to him as winning does.
"I would sacrifice personal glory for the team's sake," he says. Jim is
also a varsity wrestler.
Assistant coach John Wise describes Petrie as a "football player whois striving to be the besthe can be."

Petrie is striving to be the best he can be because he is trying to follow in his older brother's footsteps. Petrie's brother played for Basic and has also starred in college football.

The success of both their sons have made Jim's parents very proud. Jim, like his older brother, would like to play college ball at the University of Nevada, Reno, and then go into physical education and coach high school football.

# Great simging buit no $\mathbb{F}_{\text {uidge }}$ 

by Jeff Hoskins

"It was overwhelming to see a whole group of people on chairs and another group sitting on blankets on the two hills after that."

This was Erin Trafton's response when asked how it felt to perform in front of 3,000 people for the Youth, Sing, Praise program, which took place at the Shrine of the Lady of the Snows in Bellville, Illinois.

Erin got the chance to be part of the YSP program when she sent an audition tape of her singing and a letter expressing her relationship with God and with other people. The YSP program selected 90 high school students nationwide to perform Andrew Lloyd Weber's "Jesus Christ Superstar."

The project included a week of grueling practices that lasted as long as 12 hours a day with only 1 hour for break. "The practices were brutal on our vocal chords and we had to drink up to eight bottles of water a day to help our voices," Erin says.

A high point of the trip for Erin was when the group went to Union Station where they visited a fudge factory and sang for an hour for free fudge.
"It seems like we were singing forever, and we didn't even get the fudge," she adds.

## Gorman students join ranks in War on Hunger <br> by Patrick Feil

A $\$ 30,000$ donation ensured success for our recent fundraiser, Hunger War '94. In total, we raised $\$ 32,524.50$. The idea for this campaign came from Brother Cory and the Senior volunteers.
"Because of the amount of money and recognition we got, it is definitely going to be an annual campaign." says Brother Cory. He thanks all the students who participated, especially
Seniors Jerry Dunn, Kyle Christiansen, Sabra Smith and Andy Kilduff, for their long hours of work.

During the campaign the students had support from radio station KKLZ with live broadcasting, updates, and interviews with juniors Christiansen and Sarah Waters.

The money raised will be split between Oxfam America worldwide organization, and two local agencies, the Catholic Worker and Crossroads Family Shelter. The $\$ 30,000$ check will be used locally.
"I was happy I got the chance to help," says senior Jerry Dunn. "They had a good program and it made me feel good to help the hungry."

## December/January calendar

December 15 Men's Wrestling Gorman at Rancho
December 15 Women's Soccer Western at Silver Bowl \#7
December 16 Advent Liturgy
December 19 Semester Exams Periods 1 \& 2
December 20 Semester Exams Periods 3 \& 4
December 21 Semester Exams Periods 5 \& 6
December 22 Christmas Break Begins
January 3 Women's Soccer Gorman at Clark

January 3 Men's Basketball January 6 Bonanza at Gorman Women's Basketball Gorman at Bonanza
January 4 Men's Wrestling Gorman at Silverado
January 5 Men's Wrestling Western at Gorman
January 5 Women's Soccer Gorman at Durango
January 5 Classes Resume
January 5 Faculty Meeting Dismissal at 1:15
January 6 Men's Basketball Cimarron at Gorman

Women's Basketball Gorman at Cimarron January $7 \quad$ G2 Dance 8:00-11:00 January 11 Preliminary Elections for Prom Men's Basketball Oakhill Aust. at Gorman Women's Soccer Cheyenne at Silverbowl \#7 Men's Basketball Gorman at Silverado Women's Basketball Silverado at Gorman Martin Luther King Day (No school)

Feeney volunteers to keep unwanted pets from death chamber The death penalty is given to animals within 45 days of their arrival at the Clark County Animal Shelter because there is not enough room to keep all the animals. Each month from 1,200 to 1,500 are destroyed Gorman student Brian Feeney donates many hours of his time to the "alternative" shelter, the Nevada Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, a no-kill facility that can house 130 cats and 32 dogs until they are adopted.
"I've always liked animals and want to help care for them," Brian says. "It's sad when you see a homeless dog or cat walking down the street trying to fend for themselves." His family has already adopted two dogs from the NSPCA plus another that was homeless and on its own.

## Movie Review <br> Intervieu with the Vampire

by Vanessa Cruz
It's disgustingly awesome! I'm not saying that because Brad Pitt is just gorgeous with long hair and fangs and Tom Cruise is adorable when he's mad. No siree, it's the perfect combination of comedy and blood. Christian Slater, who plays a writer, interviews Brad Pitt, as a 200 -year-old vampire named Louie. Louie told the story of how his immortal soul was born into darkness. His daughter, Claudia, whom he created, destroyed his maker, Lestadt (Tom Cruise). In the end...... I don't want to ruin it for you. Get out and see it; it's definitely worth the money.

## UNLV's Continuing Education spring semester might be the right answer!

Register for ACT and SAT Preparatory Classes
(Brush-up courses in Algebra, Basic Math and English Grammar are also offered)

## "All these little kids asking us questions"

An interview with Sarah Call,
Vice President, Western High School student body.
"How is high school different from elementary?" "Do you get pressure to use drugs?" "How do you try out for cheerleading?" "Has visto violencia en la escuela?"

These are some of the questions faced by Sarah Call and Jeff Reeves, Western students who spent a day talking to five fifth-grade classes at Sunrise Acres Elementary School.

Eight Western students were recruited recently for the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program: Quaid Quadri, Courtney Potter, Jonathan Hicks, Natasha Williams, Jason Williams, Jennifer Petersen, Jeff Reeves and Sarah Call. Their assignment: go into the elementary schools and answer the children's questions.
"We had no training," Sarah says, "we just walked into the classrooms and were on the spot, all these little kids asking us questions." She noted that the fifth-graders were very excited, very well-behaved, and had some really good questions.
"One class was almost entirely Spanish-speaking," Sarah recalls, "but I knew Spanish from taking classes for three years, so it was helpful. But the kids saw I was out of my 'comfort zone,' so they switched to English to help me out."

The students, who are all involved in extra-curricular activities, were asked by school administrators to take part in DARE. In addition to being student body vice-president, Sarah is a varsity cheerleader, member of the varsity soccer team, and secretary of both the Honor Society and the Art Guild.

Jeff is the senior class vice-president, a varsity football player, and a member of the track and wrestling teams.

Oh, yes, for those who don't speak Spanish, the question above translates to "Have you seen violence in school?"


## FLASHBACK!

## Nicole held onto her dream, returns to Western to share it

By Jonathan Hicks
Nicole Ellingwood has been busy since she graduated from Western High School three years ago -- today she is an instructor pilot for the United States Air Force while still a sophomore at the Air Force Academy..

As Cadet Colonel in Western's ROTC, Nicole was outstanding and her determination and hard work carried her all the way to the Academy.

There, she became an instructor pilot. She teaches in S6S 2-33 gliders and performs solo acrobatics in the ASK 1-26. Earlier this year, Nicole had the opportunity of taking the stick of an F-16 Fighting Falcon at speeds exceeding Mach 2.

Nicole recently visited Western to speak to the Careers classes. She talked about employment opportunities with the Air Force and encouraged students to choose a dream and never give up, no matter how stiff the opposition.

Many people had tried to discourage Nicole from trying to get into the Air Force Academy and becoming a pilot. They said she would never be accepted and she would never fly. Female fighter pilots are very rare, they said, and the competition would just be too tough.

With determination -- and the constant support and encouragement of her friends and teachers -- Nicole was accepted by the Academy.
"Hold on to your dreams," she told us, "for if dreams die, they are a broken-winged bird that cannot fly." Nicole held on to her dream and now she's flying with the best of them.


DRAMA CLUB cast (from left) Kristy Paulsipher, Waiella Clark and Kimberly Morris

## A little laugh, a tender tear -that's what drama club did this year

## By Arianne Sorreta

The Drama Club this year presented two comedies and two dramas -- to a full house every night.

The Freshman play, Dream Jobs by Graham Jones, was the story of five girls and their dream jobs. Although the freshmen did not win any awards this time, they showed great potential for many spectacular productions to come.

Cinderella Wore Combat Boots by Jerry Chase was presented by the sophomores. It was a hilarious comedy with that extra vitality that results from lots of audience participation and it won the Best Play award for the sophomores.
While all the cast members deserved an award, Katy Vermillion went home with one as Best Supporting Actress.

The Junior play, The Girl in the Mirror by Bruce Jacoby, was a serious drama about a girl who decided to end her life. As she hung between life and death, she was faced with a decision: to come back to life or to move on to the "great beyond."

The senior play, The Asylum by Jerome McDonough, was full of symbolism about life. It evoked a variety of emotions, depending on how the story-line related to the personal experiences of each member of the audience.

Steve Hendricks was named Best lead actor; Jamie Huston was honored as Best Supporting Actor; and Andrea Erickson as Best Lead Actress. Tracy Brunson shared the Best Director award with Stacey Jackson, who directed the senior play, and Tuesday Morris received the Best Assistant Director award, also for the senior play.


## CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER

 SPEAKSWhen the Rev. Jesse Jackson addressed the students of Western High recently, senior Sarah Call makes closing statements and expresses thanks to on behalf of the student body. To the left of the honored guest is student Karen Henderson. Jackson expressed his thanks by planting a kiss on Sarah before he left.

## His speech touched our hearts

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, civil rights activist and former candidate for president, spoke to the students of Western High School last month. In a special assembly, Jackson urged students to stay in school, avoid drugs, and have pride in themselves. He talked about his own history, of poverty, and how he was able to make something meaningful of his life.

Jackson had come to Las Vegas for a prior commitment and, as always, he wanted to talk with high school students while he was here. Western's Assistant Principal Cynthia Morris arranged for his visit.
"I was honored that the Rev. Jackson would take time out of his schedule to come and speak to us," says Karen Henderson, President of the Human Relations Club. "His speech was very inspiring to me."
"His appearance was testimony to his support of the youth of America and his dedication to the educational system," says James Edwards. "His speech seemed to touch everyone."

Sarah Call and Karen Henderson presented the Rev. Jackson with a Warrior pin and a Warrior basketball shirt. The guest put on the shirt and posed for photos while the student audience broke into the Warrior Chant.


## 7eddy bears

## aned trask cares:

Key Club won second place in the trashcan painting competition at Heer's Park, part of Park Pride Day. The theme of the art was "Nature Deserves It."

We also joined 100 other Key Clubbers from all over Las Vegas at Clark High School to make teddy bears for needy children. Our goal was 200 bears, but working together we surpassed that goal for a grand total of 242 bears.

And, in the last few days, Key Club members have helped out at the Festival of Trees and Lights.


## many thrills

## in life...including education

By Stacy Buckway

When the announcement came over the intercom, we looked at each other, surprised that we were to report to the gym for an assembly during fourth hour. Do we have a basketball or football game today, we wondered as we walked into the gym. Because there were so many students there, we knew there was to be a guest speaker and, judging by the "welcome" posters hung throughout the room, it was to be the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Students of all races and cultures gave the Rev. Jackson a standing ovation and I believe he was very pleased to see how glad we were to have him at Western High.

After the pledge and introductions, the Reverend was soon speaking directly to us. Western students were very attentive and did not let the TV camera steal our attention.

He started with an exercise to get us warmed up for his speech. We were to stand and repeat his words --"I am somebody" -- and this drilled into our minds that we can be anything we want....and it doesn't matter if we are red, yellow, brown, black or white.

He told us how he got through school and attended college on a scholarship. He told us of his activities in high school, such as football and choir. He made us feel grateful for what we have and he inspired us to accomplish what we don't have. He told of his trials in learning a foreign language. He never could speak French and got his high school diploma and college degree thinking he had outsmarted his teachers. Yet, years later, an ambassador visited his house and spoke to him in French. He taught us that it will only be our embarassment if we don't try to learn.

He talked about how he tries to get rap stars to rap about how they accomplished their dreams through education and not about how they have it so bad. He pointed out that there were many thrills in life, among them graduating from high school and going to college. And he said we must put "Hope over Dope."

We hope everyone remembers his words and will try to apply some of his ideas to his or her life.


|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| SPORTS CALENDAR |  |
| Wrestling |  |
| Dec. 17 | Silverado Invitational |
| Dec. 20 | Spartan JV Tourn. (away) |
| Dec. 28/29 | @ Upland Invitational (CA) |
| Jan. 4 | Gorman |
| Jan. 5 | Cheyenne |
| Jan. 6/7 | @ Kingman (AZ) Invitational |
| Jan. 7 | @ Green Valley JV Duals |
| Jan. 18 | @ Western |
| Jan. 19 | @ Cimarron-Memorial |
| Jan. 21 | El Toro Invitational (CA) |
| Jan. 26 | Clark |
| Jan. 28 | Soph/Frosh Tourn @ GVHS |
| Women's |  |
| Soccer |  |
| Dec. 15 | @ Cheyenne |
| Jan. 3 | @ Western |
| Jan. 5 | Cimarron-Memorial |
| Jan. 13 | Clark |
| Jan. 17 | @ Bonanza |
| Jan. 19 | @ Durango |
| Jan. 24 | Gorman (Ed Fountain Park) |
| Jan. 26 | Cheyenne |
| Jan. 31 | Western |
| Men's |  |
| Basketball |  |
| Dec. 15/17 | Virgin Valley Tourn. |
| Dec. 28/30 | Moapa Valley Tourn. |
| Jan. 3 | @ Durango |
| Jan. 6 | Cheyenne |
| Jan. 13 | Gorman |
| Jan. 17 | @ Western |
| Jan. 20 | @ Bonanza |
| Jan. 24 | Clark |
| Jan. 27 | Cimarron-Memorial |
| Jan. 31 | Durango |
| Women's |  |
| Basketball |  |
| Dec. 19/22 | Lady Wolves Tourn. (Basic) |
| Dec. 28/30 | Moapa Valley Tourn. |
| Jan. 3 | Durango |
| Jan. 6 | @ Cheyenne |
| Jan. 13 | @ Gorman |
| Jan. 17 | Western |
| Jan. 20 | Bonanza |
| Jan. 24 | @ Clark |
| Jan. 27 | @ Cimarron-Memorial |
| Jan. 31 | @ Durango |

## Alan Jackson: Epitome of country singer by Josh Barnard

One of country music's hottest stars rocked Las Vegas at the usual jukebox-rocking concert hall, the Thomas \& Mack Center. Alan Jackson performed for a sellout crowd with another rising star of country music, Faith Hill.

Hill opened with some seldom heard songs and radio favorites. Although not everyone was dancing in the aisles, Hill did tease a few star-struck cowboys.
Jackson, again in top form, opened with his hit Song of the Year, Don't Rock the Jukebox, a tribute to the legendary George Jones. Slowing the beat with Tonight I Climbed the Wall and Who Says You Can't Have it All,

Arguably the greatest country song ever, Jackson performed Chattahoochie, then Dallas and Midnight in Montgomery during his great encore.
Jackson is the epitome of a county singer. No jumping off the stage, no dancing with fire, and definitely no chorus girls in string bikinis, Jackson is a good ol' country boy.

## Students light up many lives

## By Mary McMurrin

Student Council reaches out to help the needy and elderly this holiday season, continuing their involvement in community service activities. A service committee has been formed with chairpersons Mary McMurrin and Angela Allen. The group recently had a scavenger hunt food drive, wrapped 1,000 gifts for The Festival of Trees and Lights, painted scenery for the Gift Shop at the Hilton (sponsored by The Festival of Trees and Lights), helped feed the homeless at St. Vincent's Shelter, and helped register entrants for the Arthritis Foundation Turkey Trot.

During December we have been busy working with our four adopted grandparents from The Henderson Convalescent Hospital, Along with the National Honor Society, we bought them gifts from their "wish lists" and the gifts will be delivered by Santa Claus, himself. We also carolled and made gingerbread houses with the elderly residents.

Our student council has learned that the real way to feel the holiday spirit is to reach out and help some one else.

## SPORTS SHORTS

News from court, field, track

## Reporter: Lori Parcells

The Silverado women's cross-country team has had a great season. In a meet at Huntington Beach against more than 100 teams, Silverado placed first among Las Vegas schools and 15th overall. They ran a three-mile course over difficult terrain including grass, asphalt, hills, pasture land, even through Huntington Beach Central Park.

Coach Debbie Sullivan says, "This team is the most self-disciplined, hard-working team I've coached in 18 years of coaching."

## Reporter: Chris McDonald

This year's men's tennis team has one of the top singles players in Nevada, and a couple of doubles players with some of the best talent Coach Mike Mundt has ever seen. Team captain (and number one player) Chris McDonald traveled to Florida to train with some of the top players in the world, and took part in teaching others. McDonald is ranked in the top three in Nevada, and top ten in Intermountain. Star doubles players Tommy Greney and Darryl McDonald admit the team is inexperienced, but they work well with the talent they have.

Women's tennis is outstanding with starting singles players Pam Hansen and Anne Kingsley and doubles players Lara Parmenter and Angie Sullivan. Last year's zone quarter-finalist and team captain, Parmenter says, "We have all improved since we met Coach Clements. Coach has taught us to play and have fun, and not to be pressured about winning or losing."

## Reporter: Devon Jean

Several Silverado athletes are to be commended for their awesome achievements. Ryan Conklin was selected to play•on the All-Conference first team in men's soccer; Shana Singer received an honorable mention for the All-Conference women's volleyball; and Janene Spelts is to be the first Silverado candidate to attend the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership seminar.

Fiona de Gorostiza was recently honored as the American TaiKwonDo Association's 1994 world champion, junior division.

Note: January's SPORT SHORTS will include a feature by Benjamin Fields on how to be a better bowler.


## FROM THE

## EDITOR'S DESK

By Cindy Davis, Editor in Chief
Suicide. Some say it is the easy way out. ome say it is the only way out. Some say $t$ is a selfish escape. The fact is, suicide is an irreversible end.

Suicide has become an epidemic in America. Teens feel more and more as though they are alone. The suicide rate over the last 30 years has skyrocketed 300 percent.

We seem to lose touch with more teenagers every day and lose hope of helping them. Many teens of today have grown up with dysfunctional families, drugs available and gangs surrounding them every day.

To some, these factors create endless problems, some too horrible to mention, and the outcome is suicide. One main problem is that teens do not realize that nothing is so horrible that it cannot be talked about. You have the right to feel what you do, but please talk about it before it consumes you.

No matter how lonely you may feel, there is always someone who will listen. Asking for help is a strength that we wish more people possessed.

Friends and teachers may seem to ignore you, and people can be less attentive at times, but the important thing to realize is that it does not mean they do not care.

People who commit suicide always leave someone wondering "Why?" or "What could Ihave done to prevent this?" If aperson is contemplating suicide, they really need to consider the people near to them who will be affected.

One suicide that has affected many teenagers is the young rock star Kurt Cobain. He left behind a wife and young daughter -- was it fair to them that he didn't ask the ones who loved him for help?

The people who surround you will lways be willing to help out in some way, but first give them the opportunity jefore committing anirreversible actupon yourself.

Tomorrow sometimes looksfar away, but remember that situations change contantly. If you think your predicament is something you can't live through, think again.

Live for every new day, which can bring you unexpected happiness. Keep your head up and prove you can conquer all. The bottom line is: you are irreplaceable and life is something you should grab hold of and try not to let go. It is such a wonder to be living in the first place; sit upstake adeep breath ,and filly yout lungsa with the pure scent of life.


EGG BABIES - What a crack-up!

## Argue, argue, argue your way to a career

## By Kevin Larsen

Students interested in politics, a career in law or politics (or even just a good argument) would enjoy Forensics class. It's not only a class, but an organization of debaters. The leader of this arguing frenzy is Mrs. Karen Vaughn.
"The debate team's goal is to help students learn persuasive speaking and eventually to compete in debates and individual speaking events, as well as earning points toward the NFL [National Forensics League]," says Mrs. Vaughn.

The Forensics Team recently went to Cedar City to compete against about 100 students. Irene Mitchell earned sixth place.
[Editor's note: results of the Dec. 9-10 debate competition at Green Valley High were not

Destroying aur future? By Larry Gradel, Assistant Editor

Do you take environmental issues seriously? One of the most important is rain forests. They once covered 80 percent of our planet but in the past 50 years, people have obliterated more than half. By the time you finish reading this, 150 acres of African, Latin American and Asian jungles will be destroyed. We chop, burn or bulldoze a tropical rain forest the size of Washington State every year. At this rate, we'll lose all the rain forests by the year 2010.
[Why are rain forests important to you? Think cocoa and vanilla, malaria and cancer...and watch for the

## Don't break baby's heart

(or anything else)

## By Alana Joseph

Egg babies are much fun and have been at Valley for a very long time.

Mrs. Serraile, Valley's Child Development teacher, has had students carrying theiregg babies for a week, to see how students would deal with the pressures of taking care of children and how it feels to be a parent.

The students have very imaginative ways of dressing their babies, and different ways to express how they love and take care of their "child."

Some just wrap their egg babies in a little blanket, then into a basket to carry them around. Others are more into it: they have little beds and pillows. Some students have even made a body for their
babies. They have nearly everything a real baby has, including arms and legs. Some students even draw little faces on their egg babies and add hair.

The students become very protective about their babies, whosometimes get kidnapped -- or even killed -- because some people who don't have the class cannot understand the pressures of parenthood.

One main reason that some students get so upset about their babies is that if you don't have your precious bundle at the end of the week, you have to do a long report about what happened to your baby and how it happened.

It's even harder when you have to make funeral arrangements.

## SPORTS SHORTS

## MEN'S BASKETBALL.

This year's basketball team is loaded with talent, great depth and quickness. Senior John Howell says, "We will be the surprise team of the city." The team wants to be more aggressive and play harder than any other team they play this year. Despite not having much size, the Vikings had some great showings since the season began. (Norbert Gyorfi and Sara Butler reporting)

## LADY VIKINGS BASKETBALL

The team's goal is to go to zone, but they first need to learn the different style of basketball introduced by new Head Coach Peila, who plays an up-
tempo style. "One of our strengths is the athleticism and quickness of our guards," the coach says.

The Varsity team did some successful fundraising, collecting aluminum cans and seeking donations, and they've raised $\$ 3,000$ to purchase new uniforms, sweats, practice jerseys, t -shirts and shoes. (Alana Joseph and Corlinna Carter reporting)

## FOOTBALL HIBERNATES

The Vikings ended their season on the winning side, 5-4. Alphonso Wilson, the MVP was honored at a banquet last month.
(Tasha Pittman reporting)


## Women' soccer kicks off season

 By Mike FecteauUnder the leadership of coach Judy Barton, the Lady Eagles soccer team is preparing for the tough competition they will face in their 18 -game schedule. Asked how the team would fare this year, Barton says, "They're a very young team and very athletic; they'll win as many as they think they can."

## CLASSIFIED ADS

GARAGE SALE: Dec. 16-18. Clothes, furniture and miscellaneous items available.

896 El Camino Way, Boulder City
Fourth-hour English II (DS) loves Leah and Hermon!

Howdy to Eric at Rancho! Love April, Jill and Lauren

Happy birthday to Pania McMullan on December 16! Love Always, Your
"Cousin" Kara Pohe
FOR SALE: 1985 Isuzu Trooper II, newly rebuilt engine, runs great, $\$ 3,400$.

Please contact Jana at 293-4250.
Happy birthday to Haley Arnaz on December 17.

Your best friend, Jeny Bania
Thanks for the donuts, BCHS Administration!

XOXO
Journalism
Hello to everyone from Girl's State '94! Love. BCHS's Anna Lindskoog, Jeny Bania and Christina Wammack


COOLER THAN NITROGEN .-- The BCHS Science Club say they "specialize in fun." Shown here are club members (from left) Heidi Harr, Trey Delap, Kara Pohe, Brady Dehn, Erica Vaughn, Jeny Bania, and Katie Aldworth hoisting a chemistry beaker.

## Racu eqge \& moldy bread: Christmas superstitions <br> By Hermon Ghermay

People have always had a need to explain the phenomena around us, and these explanations are the basis of today's superstitions -- even those surrounding Christmas.

Scottish and French beliefs include one about babies born on Christmas Day: they will have the gift of prophecy and the power to see and command spirits.

In the ancient Dutchy of Swabia, on Christmas Eve, girls went to the woodpile to draw straws to learn about their future husbands -- a thin stick meant he would be tall, a thick stick meant fat -- and they discovered who would be the first girl married by circling a blind-folded goose and waiting to see who the goose went to first.

In England, it 's believed that bread baked on Christmas will never become moldy -- and that if a you eat a raw egg first thing on Christmas morning, you will be able to carry heavy weights.

Some people in the German Alps believe that all animals can talk on Christmas Eve and that, if a dog howls on Christmas Eve, it will go mad that year.

## 4 Seasons Sports, Inc. <br> 3870 East Flamingo (At Sandhill and Flamingo) 458-6244 <br> Many styles of Letterman Jackets available All schools available <br> Prices start as low as \$99! <br> DeLong Letterman Jackets with leather sleeves: only $\$ 150$



## Embroidery!

 Patches! Custom back designs! All available!
## Students must take a stand

By Heide Harr

The final bell rings. Students scurry through the halls, eager to grasp their freedom. Within moments, the school once again becomes quiet, empty. Few wait around to speak with one another. School has become a lamentable burden to many of us.

How have we made it this way? We may blame the school district, the school board, the administration -- but, for the most part, the fault lies in our own heads. As students, few of us consider education a privilege. We agree that it is important to learn to read and write, but too many expect a little excitement with it.

Many say that we are lazy, the Generation X of confusion and lackadaisical intention. Yet, we have grown up in a society that values television with more ardor than it values the members of society, themselves.

We must prove by our actions that this image of us is wrong. We must talk -- not only to each other but to the teachers and the administration -- and, if necessary, we must shout!

If we don't get involved with our schools and our own lives, we will not gain the knowledge we need to have control of our future.

## Respect -- Is there any?

By Pania McMullan
Thirty hours a week, 120 hours a month. This is the average time a high school student spends at school, not including extracurricular activities. Some students love it, some hate it, but we all have to be here.

And we aren't the only ones: teachers put in just as much -- and more -- time at school. We're all here for education, but I have noticed that it is getting more difficult for education to happen because something is lacking in the relationship between student and teacher.

It's called respect -- the best basis for any relationship. So why does it seem to be the most difficult thing to bring into the classroom?

Too often I have seen students being disruptive in classes just to get a rise out of a teacher and too many students take for granted the opportunities that are offered to students every day at school. But not all the blame can be placed on students; teachers can make us seem like ungrateful kids who are only in school because we have to be.

The first step to improving the situation is understanding: students must understand that their priority is to learn and that teachers are here for us. Teachers must understand that some of us really want to be here and that we aren't a bunch of braindead teenagers.

After all, 120 hours a month is a lot of time. We can make it worthwhile...with a little respect.


Photography by Kristine Abi-Karam

> Kappa Leaguers, Omega Gents stress education, leadership, service
> [Continued from November]

## McFadden attributes award to teamwork

After 11-and-a-half years in teaching, Clark High School's Jana McFadden has been recognized by the National Science Foundation as Nevada's Teacher of the Year in the field of mathematics.

McFadden is in her second year in the AMSAT program at Clark. "I think the outstanding math teacher today is the person who knows when to use technology to back up the algebra and algebra to back up the technology," she said.

In addition to teaching at Clark, McFadden teaches in-services locally and is a active member of the Rural Alliance Grant, where teachers visit the rural areas of Nevada to share their ideas. She is also the president-elect of the Southern Nevada Math Council.

As part of her reward, she and her husband will be flown in March to Washington, DC for four days. On the first day, she will meet with U.S. Senators. Next day is the award ceremony and a state dinner. On the third day, she will share her teaching techniques with math teachers from the other 49 states, after which they will bind a book containing all the shared ideas. Her trip will end with a cruise on the Potomac.

McFadden will also receive a grant for $\$ 7,500$, which she plans to use to buy her students new CBLs (calculator base labs) to allow them access to the science probes in the science classrooms.

McFadden says, "I give a lot of credit for the award to Beth Isaacs and Carol Adamson, because it really helps when you have a good team."

## SLAC: "walk in others' footsteps"

## By Durell DiLuzio

The Kappa League is the first high school fraternal organization in Las Vegas, started in 1990 to help young men who welcome help. Statistics suggest that an inordinate number of Black males get pulled into the dangers of society, get involved with the wrong people and in wrong situations. These young men need to find their way out of the damaging cycle -- and that is why the Kappa League was formed.

But it is not an organization limited to African-Americans. It is open to male students in grades 9 through 12, chosen for their maturity and academic skills. Members are Gerald Davis, Bryon Ross, Greg Allen, James Nival, Dante Proctor and Willy Connors.

The Kappa League is involved in many community services and fund-raisers and the organization stresses academic achievement and leadership skills. Members also enjoy the lively art of "stepping" -- making rhythm and music with your feet. "We step to show the heritage of past African-Americans," says Davis.

A second fraternity, The Omega Gents, also welcomes young men. This organization originated with the Omega Psi Phi college fraternity, which began in Georgia in 1911. Its youth organization -- Q-Pups -- was started in 1985, originally for the purpose of keeping junior high students off the streets and out of gangs. Since that time, Q-Pups has moved to the high school level.

Last year, Andre Denson changed the name from Q-Pups to Omega Gents. Denson, advisor of Omega Gents is currently the dean of students at Bonanza High School. Member Billy Richardson says, "Omega Gents has given me self-pride. It brings out character and takes away shyness. It also makes members aware of things occurring in the community and gives us the chance to repay society for what we have been given."

The main focus of this fraternity is on cultural activities in the community. Members have also served the community by holding canned food drives, helping elderly residents move, and painting apartment complexes. Members are required to take part in interviews and to have a 2.0 GPA .

Students Learning to Accept the Challenged, advised by Cindy Burke and Laura Rogge, is a new club at Clark High School. Although it is not new in Clark County, Clark High is the only school that has SLAC. The purpose of this club is "to make community and school be more aware of the challenged," and it will make students aware of what daily life for a challenged person is about.

Activities during the year will include trying to write your name while someone shakes you (relating to cerebral palsy) and molding clay in a bag (relating to multiple sclerosis). SLAC will also sponsor other activities such as wheelchair races where mobilized people will use the chairs. Another is "going blind" for one day: Students will go to all their classes with someone at their side.

SLAC will try to contact Mayor Jan Jones to declare Clark's Handicapped Awareness Day. Meetings are held every Wednesday at 1:45 p.m. in room 236. There are no requirements for SLAC membership and everyone is welcome.


## Life after high school?

## By Danielle Garone

Last month, GVHS embarked on a new tradition, Career/Future Day.

On this day, faculty members created classroom activities to promote the students' planning for the future. Instead of conducting class as usual, teachers arranged special activities to enhance the student's learning of possible careers and other choices.

Activities included visits from GVHS alumni who returned to speak about their college experiences. Parents were also encouraged to take part. They visited classes and spoke about their occupations and areas of expertise. English instructors helped students prepare resumes and packets for job-hunting.

Junior Adin Francis stated, "I enjoyed Career/Future Day because it gave me a chance to explore various opportunities about college and career choices."

The hope is that by dedicating a school day to planning for the future, students will be able to make decisions about their lives after high school.


By David Gallagher and Lauren Romano
With the close of the fall sports season, the teams at Green Valley High School have emerged as top competition in the Sunrise Division.

Men's tennis won Zone and became eligible for the state competition, where they finished a close second, losing to Reno by 107 games to 103. Kevin Gonsalves and Kenny Carluto were outstanding doubles players and Matt Mullin was Green Valley's outstanding singles player, coming in fourth.

Women's tennis took second in their division with a record of 8-1. Jamie Lee Foster, Meredith Sanders, Lezley Barrett, and Monika Kawka all earned seeded positions in Zone. Foster went through the season with only one loss.

The women's cross country team qualified for State after coming in fifth place at zone finals. The state competition was held at Moapa Valley High School where the women's team placed second. Although the men's cross country team did not make it to State, senior Michael Hyte qualified as an individual runner and placed tenth.

The women's volleyball team finished third at the state tourney in Reno last month. They lost their first game but won their second.

## Band wins Governor's Cup despite butterflies

## By Greta Erbe

When the members of the GVHS marching band stepped onto the bus to Reno, they never expected to be the Nevada State Champions when they stepped off again in Green Valley after a long trip.

As they packed their over-stuffed bags, grabbed their instruments and kissed Mom goodbye, their blood was rushing and nerves were tingling with anxiety. They were off for a competition that no band from Clark County had won in 15 years.

They stepped onto the field to perform their show, which was based on music by Queen; the drum majors slowly raised their hands, up went the instruments and out came...perfection.

Not only did the judges come to the conclusion that the GVHS band was the best overall, but they also named it best band in the division, best drum line, and best woodwind and brass section. The band directors are Diane Koutsulis and Dan Jordan.
"The hard work and constant rehearsals really paid off," says Everett Taylor, drum major. "Practice made perfect." The marching band has many competitions and this was just the start.


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## Green Valley students salute award-winning teachers

By Rebekah Mcbeth
GVHS has been the home of outstanding students and athletes who might fall into the category of Gator Greats. But how do we refer to the many outstanding teachers at our school? Couldn't they also be called Gator Greats?

Teachers Ellen Ebert and David Thiel certainly deserve this title: they recently received the annual Presidential Awards for their outstanding teaching in science and math.

Ms. Ebert, a four-year science teacher at GVHS, was declared the state winner of the secondary Presidential Award for Excellence in Science. In March, she will go to Washington, DC for an awards presentation. She recently was named Executive Director of the Nevada Science Project,


Science teacher Ellen Ebert is the Nevada State winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science. She will receive her award in the nation's capital in the spring. the premiere science organization in the $\qquad$ statMr. Thiel, a two-year math instructor at GVHS, was honored as one of the top three state finalists in the secondary Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics. Mr. Thiel is a member of the Southern Mathematics Council and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

The teachers had to submit an application along with an essay on an educational topic, plus a lesson plan that demonstrated a unique method of teaching.

Ms. Ebert's 18 -page application consisted of a variety of topics, such as teaching philosophies and motivational techniques. Mr. Thiel presented a lesson in which he demonstrated that students can measure a mountain accurately without leaving campus. All it took was a tape measure and home-made sextant.

The judges included, among others, academic administrators and former winners of the Presidential awards.


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## Women's volleyball

 team reaches top spotAlthough finishing as a runner-up in the Southern Zone Tournament, the women's varsity volleyball team is now Class AAA State Champion after defeating Cimarron-Memorial in a tight match. (Carli West reporting)

## Student scavengers brave the cold to feed the hungry

## By Carli West

Despite frigid temperatures, the Student Council sponsored its fourth annual scavenger hunt recently.

The 21 teams that participated in the event were sent out to search for the canned foods items on the list. For each list completed, a turkey was given to a needy family for the holiday. Most teams returned with all the items on the list, and some 30 families were given turkeys.

The canned food collected was sent to St. Vincent's Homeless Shelter.

The first team, The Buttercreamers, returned with their completed list in about a hour. The team consisted of Mike Hafen, Seth Jones and Ray Germain. For being first, they received coupons for two large pizzas from Little Caesar's and a C.D. of their choice.

The second team to arrive consisted of Chris Caples, James Conway, Jeanette Farrugia and Robyn Shultz. Each received a C.D. and a share in a large pizza from Metro.

Missy Larsen, Michelle Osborn, Kristin Puhl and Robyn Sheer came back next with all their items and won C.D.s and a coupon for a pizza at Little Caesar's.

Fourth place winnersLydiaMun, Nicole Nardozzi, Erik Smith and Rhonda Uselding won free passes for Santa Fe ice skating.

## Movie Review

## Pulp Fiction...between the eyes'

By R. Dylan Todd
You'll laugh. You'll cry. You'll cringe. Yes, folks, it's Pulp Fiction. Quentin Tarantino's hilarious blood-fest boasts an all-star cast including Samuel L. Jackson, John Travolta, Uma Thurman, Harvey Keitel, Bruce Willis, Chris Walken and, in his debut, The Gimp.

With a great cast and an even greater story, this high-octane thriller of gigantic proportions consists of a number of vignettes -- each a separate, yet interlocking, story.

First we see Honeybunny and Pumpkin who are planning a heist in a diner. Then we are introduced to Jules and Vince as they prepare to make a hit for their boss, Marsallis, while carrying on a great conversation about the sexual implications of foot massage. Later, Vince is to take his boss' wife out on the town -- a great story that really "gets the adrenaline pumping."

The next installment features a boxer named Butch who doublecrosses Marsallis and then, before leaving town, must retrieve his grandfather's watch which his ditzy French wife forgot. Funny and suspenseful.

Finally comes the most hilarious, the bloodiest and best part -- Vince and Jules back at the hit, Jules experiencing a "miracle," Vince making a mess with a corpse, Honeybunny and Pumpkin deciding to rob the diner....

I hope you don't think I spoiled the movie for you, but if I did, see it anyway. You will not be disappointed. With Pulp Fiction, Quentin Tarantino has aimed, fired and hit the target right between the eyes.

## Moonwalk to the stars

By Suebrett Tonic
Cheyenne student Ronique Dailey has been impersonating
Michael Jackson since she was ten and is now a top Michael Jackson tmpersonator. "My family is a showbiz family," she says. "We either ing, dance or model."

In her performances, she occasionally does songs that she wrote herself, but she usually lip syncs. She learns dancesteps by watching the VCR in slow motion, and she proudly says that it took her just a couple of hours to learn to moonwalk.

No one prepared her for what often goes along with a performer in the news. "There are people out there who are against what I do, and they throw comments at me like, 'Michael's gay,' or 'We knew Michael was a girl.' It doesn't really bother me."

One thing Jackson is famous for is his countless facial surgeries. Dailey says that she will never have facial surgery to look like Michael, or go on a major diet to be as skinny as he is.

Dailey works for the IRS in the bankruptcy department, doing clerical work. Her busy schedule doesn't include much free time. "It's hard because sometimes I have performances that are over at midnight. Then I come home and get my things ready, and still get up for school. It's hard, but somehow I manage. I also have my own performing drill team called PYT (Pretty Young Things) and a singing group," she adds.

Dailey has performed at places such as the Imperial Palace, the Maxim, and the Excalibur. She has also been on A Current Affair, and the Rolanda Show. She competes in pageants and, not surprisingly, she's zored first place in every pageant she's entered. Maybe this will be the case when she competes on Star Search on a date not yet announced.

Dailey would like to pursue a career as a criminal lawyer, but in the meantime, she's focused on her own R\&B album which is due out in May. After high school she wants to go to college, probably UNLV, and become a professional entertainer.

As a performer she's taking it to the limits of her talent and having fun while she's doing it.

Wednesday, Jan. 4
Wed-Fri, Jan. 11-13
Fri-Sat, Jan. 13-14
Thurs-Sat, Jan. 19-21
Fri-Sat, Jan. 27-28

## CALENDAR

Financial Aid Night for Seniors \& Parents
Exams
Football Clinic
One-Act Plays
Honor Band Concert, UNLV

## Student art on display in library and Summerlin

The work of Cheyenne Art Club members will be on display throughout the year in the newly-opened Image-Maker Gallery in the library conference room, according to art teacher Vicky Richardson. Students, parents, and teachers are invited to view the exhibit, which is changed every eight weeks. The public may also view the art show during regular school hours.

## Student art at Summerlin

An even more extensive art show has just opened in the Summerlin Library, featuring work by many Cheyenne art students. Displays include drawing, painting, photography and ceramics. This show, sponsored by the Art Club and the Cheyenne chapter of the National Art Honor Society, is presented in conjunction with the Miller School for mentally and physically challenged children.

Art club "visionaries" demonstrate their talents in other somewhat practical endeavors that enhance Cheyenne's image. Under the leadership of Scott Mercer, Art Club president, and Tevye Jensen, vice president, the Club recently transformed a non-descript patch of sunbaked vegetation, otherwise known as the Cheyenne football field, into an awesomely garnished patch of sun-baked vegetation.

Club members are currently in the process of producing a "mutated" comic book.

Thanks to editorial contributor Alicia Ochoa

# Don't stereotype cheerleaders, please -they are hard-working and community-minded 

## By Carrie de Souza

Do you believe in stereotypes? If so, you are not alone. Many people judge others before they get to know the person.

In particular,many people . end to stereotype a cheereader as a slim, blond, blueeyed beauty who dates the football quarterback. This is
not true of all spirit squads. At Cheyenne, anyone with the ability and drive and, most important, the grades may try out and be eligible to become a spiritleader.

Every member of the squad must agree to follow all the rules of the Cheyenne High School Spiritleaders constitution.

Cheyenne spiritleaders practice four days a week no matter the season. In summer, they attend cheer or dance camps -- or both, as the varsity squad did this past summer.

These camps teach technique and conduct skills, sideline cheers, jumps, dances, cadences -- and
how to work together as a unified squad.

## The age-old question.

What is the difference between a spiritleader and a cheerleader? They are very similar. Both groups cheer for their sports teams. The only difference is that spiritleaders dance and cheer while cheerleaders only cheer.

December 22

Showboat Shootout
Consolation Game, $5: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ Championship Game, 7:30 pm Tickets: Adult \$3, Sr. \& Child \$2

December 27-7:05 pm
Thunder vs. Phoenix
Tickets: $\$ 15, \$ 12, \& \$ 9$

December 30-7:05 pm Thunder vs. Denver
Tickets: $\$ 15, \$ 12, \& \$ 9$


SAM BOYD
$S T A D$ I UM

## Culturama transparts little anes to foreign lands

## By Mike Slate

Elementary school students, grades 3-5, came from throughout the valley to visit the Academy's Culturama: An International Experience. This was an International Studies (I.S.) project that offered the children a "journey" into as many as 35 countries that speak Spanish, Japanese, Russian, French or German.

Culturama was set up in the gymnasium. Five booths represented each culture--either a neighborhood, school or game area. The visitors spent 20 minutes at each booth, then rotated to the next one. Since each booth represented a different country, a customs mini-booth was needed for each of the five booths. Here passports were stamped and money was exchanged from American dollars to Spanish pesetas, Japanese yuans, Russian rubles, French francs or German deutchmarks. The elementary students used the exchanged money to buy items and play games at the booths.

Funding for Culturama was through a $\$ 2,728.30$ grant requested by Mrs. Shillingstad, Spanish teacher.
"Espanolandia will be estupendo (wonderful)," she said just before Culturamaopened. The Spanish booth looked like a city plaza, complete with clock tower. For just a few pesetas, each elementary student received a personal pinata.

Nihon Maru, the Japanese booth, looked like the inside of a traditional Japanese house. A play, "NohDrama," was shown to the young visitors. The actors wore masks and a picture of Mt. Fuji could be seen in the background. Pictures from Japanese Manga were hung on the walls and the children played Jan Ken Po, a Japanese rock/scissors/paper game. "I thought it was a fun experience for the I.S. students to teach the elementary kids,"
says Ms. Larson, the Japanese teacher.

In Russkayazema, elementary students paid a few rubles to see Peter and the Wolf, which was shown in a Russian puppet theater. One of the sections of the Russian booth looked like a typical Russian summer house, a getaway cabin (dacha). There were Russian foods for the students to purchase. Another section looked like Red Square, complete with St. Basil's Cathedral, the Criailin Wall and a gate leading to Lenin's burial place. "I think the kids liked it, but it was a lot of work for us," says Mr. Reeves, the Russian teacher.

Franceland was divided into three sections. One, a French living room at Christmas time, included a tree and shoes lined up by the fireplace because the French put presents by the shoes, not under the tree. Another was a typical Quebec winter scene. (Here, students learned the French song "Vive la Vent" (Jingle Bells). The third was a French kitchen, where the children paid a few francs to learn how to make (and eat) crepes, which are sweet tortillas.

Deutchland, according to Mr. Johanson, the German teacher, "was a great opportunity for the German majors to teach, and it shows they really know the language." That booth was also divided into three sections: one a marketplace where the visitors paid deutchmarks to make a cuckcoo clock; another was a German living room where Sankt Nikolas (Santa) gave out candy; and a third section represented the Berlin Wall before it was torn down. Each child received a rock that looked like a piece of the Wall and each signed and tagged a paper that represented the Berlin Wall.


## Free time. What's that?

By Arlevia Bell
With the busy schedules of today's teenagers, there is rarely any free time. How you spend it is very important.

During the school week, there isn't a lot we can do after homework. We tend to stay indoors instead of going outside -- it seems our generation isn't that athletic.

We know that a phone is a teen's most vital resource, but why? "There's nothing else to do," says Alicia K. Brown, a Cimarron-Memorial sophomore. Academy freshman Monica Taylor says, "You can always watch a lot of TV." But is just what girls think?

Guys talk on the phone also, but spend more time outside. Senior Omar Orr agrees with this. Freshman Will Covington loves talking on the phone but adds, "I read literature and participate in interscholastic activities, including school athletics." Tony Fonseca, a C-M senior, writes rhymes. And there are teenagers that work in their free time. Markus Kelly, a Cheyenne junior, says, "It's a cycle. I work [at school], sleep, then work all week." Like other students with jobs, he thinks we need a longer weekend or no homework.

Is this just "a Generation X thang"?

## CALENDAR

Dec. 14-15 One Act Plays (Black Box Theatre, 7pm)
Jan. 4 Dance/PE Demonstration (Black Box, 7pm)
Jan. 17-31 Foreign Film Festival (Cafeteria, 2:30-5pm)
Jan. 20 Carnival of Animals (Auditorium, Noon \& 7pm)
Jan. 24 Percussion Ensemble (Black Box, 7pm)
Jan. 27-28 Theatre: "Godspell" (Black Box, 7pm)
Jan. 24-Feb. 4 Gallery art show, "Goldspell"(Black Box, 5pm)

## WHAT I THINK

## Gifted students have too little challenge An Editorial by Monett Haley

What does it take to be a Distinguished Scholar (DS) or be in an Advanced Placement (AP) class? For many of us, it requires only about an hour of homework time a day because many DS and AP classes have become so watered down that it takes little or no effort to maintain top grades.

Textbooks have been "dumbed down" by two levels in the past 20 years, according to Joan Beck, columnist for the Chicago Tribune, and basic skills programs have diluted the curriculum in hopes that fewer children will fail or even feel challenged.

It seems to me that the classes for "gifted" kids have been dragged down to the level of "regular" kids in an efforto create oneequallevel.

James Fenimore Cooper wrote that "the tendency of democracies is, in all things, to mediocrity, since the tastes, knowledge and principles of the majority form the tribunal of appeal."
What about those who rise above mediocrity? Are we hurting our giffed students by
striving too hard for equality?
According to a U.S. Department of Education report, only two cents of every $\$ 100$ spent on education goes to pro-grams for gifted and tal-ented students. The reportconcludes that "not only does the unchallenging curriculum bore the most intelligentstudents, they are also under pressure to dumb themselves down to be socially accepted by classmates."

Helping the gifted doesn't have to be expensive and shouldn'ttake away fromthe educational resources of otherstudents. Simple things like choosing more appropriate textbooks, giving challenging assignments, or reorganizing the way a class is conducted can keep students frombecoming bored for lack of a challenge.

Don't getme wrong --not all our DS/AP classes are too easy. But there are those which require almost no effort. These are the ones that need to be broughtup to the DistinguishedandAdvanced levels they claim to be.

## Marching band toots its own horn for top honors

It's been a stellar season for the marching band. In Southern California's largest competition, the band brought home the Sweepstakes trophy for Best and in the AAA division. In the Star of Nevada competition against 30 bands rrom the Southwest -- including nine from Nevada -- LVHS won Best of Nevada and aSuperiorrating. Other awardshave been wonby The Rhythmettes and Best Drum Major honors went to LVHS's Doug Olave, Cassie Taylor, and Samantha Morales.
(Gwendolyn Alvarez, contributing reporter)

## Exchange student

 finds school easier here
## By Stacy Mayhew

Believe it or not, there is someone who doesn't like Taco Bell burritos or McDonald's Big Macs. It's junior Katja Poetzsch, a foreign exchange student from Germany.

Katja says that education system is different from ours. German students are assigned to one of three schools based on academic potential demonstrated in fourth to sixth grades. About 15 percent of the German student population is permitted to attend the Gymnasium, which is for university-bound students who will specialize in certain study fields such as medicine and law. Then there is Realschule, a combination of academic and practical training thatends in the tenth grade. These students usually go into fields such as business, nursing and data processing.
"School is harder in Germany," says Katja. Every day there is a different schedule. For example, on a Monday, the classes are math, sports, Russian, German, biology and geography. On Tuesday, there are history, physics, chemistry, German, biology and English.

A school day consists of 12 to 14 different classes, six to eight hours a day. There is no such thing as multiple choice or true/false testing; rather, all tests are essays.

Sports in German schools are different as well. They have only a boys' soccer team; if you're a girl, you cannot play. In German schools, there is no dress code and there are no security officers.

Katja says there seem to be more teachers in the U.S. who do not discuss, but rather hand out "busy work." But, she adds, "There are also good instructors such as my French teacher."

Katja's hobbies include playing basketball, writing letters, listening to music and being with friends. She also played volleyball and table tennis.

She wanted to be a foreign exchange student "to be a part of teenage life in America." When she returns to Germany, she will go to college to pursue a career in psychology or social work.
"I like it in the U.S. It's almost what I expected it to be," Katja says.

## Vegas High food drive successful

For some people in this country, there was no Thanksgiving. But the Student Council's 39th annual Thanksgiving food drive raised enough donations to feed 60 families. The boxes of food were distributed to St. Vincent's, the Salvation Army, the Senior Nutrition Center, and the Women, Infant and Children's Organization.

Student Council purchased some items and the faculty donated money to purchase Cornish game hens. (Shannon Bowen, contributing reporter)

## SPORTS SHORTS

The cross-country team has a weekly Wildcat Rabbit Attack -- one runner gets a head start and the rest of the team tries to catch him.

The women's golf team can't compete because they have been unable to recruit enough players. What? With 2,500 students at LVHS?!

Themen's varsity bowling team at Vegas is among the top four in the district. The women's team is slow starting because of the many new bowlers. They'll catch up, too!

Women's basketball has a good chance to be in State Tournament.


