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The Paw Print

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Pioneer Valley High School

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Lt. Dan's Creature Feature visits the Mighty Panthers

Araceli Garcia

EDITOR

From corn snakes to boa constrictors, from 25 lbs Iguanas to palm-sized turtles, this group travels around to different schools to show off their pets to the world. But unlike normal pet owners, they brought their slithery snakes to show to the public.

The Lt. Dan's Creature Feature group held a show at Pioneer Valley on Saturday, February 16, bringing along dozens of their

little friends.

"Doing this, I got my first reptile when I was 12. Wait, no. I'm sorry, 9 years old. I've liked them since I was a kid," said Erick Palmer, creator of Lt. Dan's Creature Feature.

What started off as a simple hobby became a life journey to Erick Palmer. His goal? To show the qualities of snakes that people never seem to appreciate.

"I believe that if we started this business it would be profitable. And it's

something we both enjoy," said Myra Wells, Erik's assistant.

Snakes and other reptiles are often feared by people but what most don't realize is how docile reptiles can be.

"Unlike popular belief, they can't kill a person. This snake [Nora] is strong but extremely shy. She won't even eat with us in the room," said Erick Palmer.

This group showed everyone how kind our scaly friends can actually be.



Author holding a pregnant snake.

Photo by Nora Lopez

PVHS SWEEPS Poetry Out Loud COMPETITION

Reinard Bermudez

EDITOR

Two PVHS students took the top spots in the 7th Annual Poetry Out Loud Competition in Santa Barbara on February 6th. The pressure was on as the event was locally televised.

"This [competition] was a way to involve and introduce high school students to poetry," said Paul Willis, current Poet Laureate

of Santa Barbara and the host of the competition.

The competition was fierce as five schools from the county attended, such as the performing-arts-heavy Dos Pueblos High School and the exclusive Laguna Blanca School.



Eduardo, right of Rothstein, advances to state March 24th.

Photo by Nell Campbell

"I feel lucky to be the MC and not a judge," said Willis.

Eduardo Cortes,

senior, won 1st place with his recital of "Ode on a Grecian Urn" by John Keats. He will be

moving on to state level.

2nd place went to Reinard Bermudez, senior, with his recital of "Two Guitars" by Victor Hernandez Cruz.

"It's about presence, poise, tenacity, memory, and your connection with the audience that will get a win," said Willis.

The winner of the state level will receive \$200 and will go on to the national level in Washington D.C.



Take the 26 Acts Challenge

Britney Servin

STAFF WRITER

People all over the world are taking the 26 Acts Challenge in honor of all those who died in the Connecticut shooting.

The challenge is simple: complete 26 acts of kindness for no other than to honor those who were taken in Connecticut.

Small things like holding the door open for someone, giving a stranger a nice compliment, or even smiling at people. Little things like that matters to

people.

Sometimes when someone does something heart-felt and kind for someone else, it affects the one who did it more than the one that received the actual act.

Humans are naturally drawn to the inner goodness of others, and letting that inner shine of goodness is exactly what this world needs the most. People today are so wrapped up in their own problems or pains. But one of the best pleasures of this earth is making someone else's day a bit better.



PVHS student completes act of kindness #11.

photo by Nora Lopez

PAW PRINT STAFF

675 Panther Drive Room 321
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 922-1305 x5321
email: afeher@smjuhsd.org

Advisor:
Arnold Feher
Danny Dearborn

Editor-in-Chief:
Araceli Garcia

Features Editor:
Monica Ramirez

Centerspread Editor:
Joanna Herrera

Sports Editor:
Jonathan Honrada

Creative Editor:
Ariti Tadeo

Entertainment Editor:
Ray Ando

Opinion Editor:
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Photo Editor:
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Staff Writers:
Rose Anaya
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Michael Ruiz
Sarah Segovia
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Brittney Tran
Alexandra Torres
Luis Vasquez
Araceli Vasquez

THE COMING OF AGE FOR FILIPINOS

Jonathan Honrada
EDITOR

Different cultures around the world have birthdays that mark an important time in the birthday celebrant's life (like Quinceañera and Bar Mitzvah). But for Filipinos, it's the Debut at 18 years of age.

The Debut is an old Filipino tradition from hundreds of years ago for 18-year-old women. A lot of Filipino traditions were influenced by Spanish people during their occupation of the Philippines.

During a Debut, the



photo by Nora the Explora Lopez
The dress plays a key role. birthday celebrant has a court of 18 pre-selected friends, usually 9

guys and 9 girls.

The Debut usually begins with the Debutante entering and dancing with those in her court.

Then, 18 male friends with the Debutante have a dance known as the "18 Roses Dance." After that, there is the "Father and Daughter Dance."

Then, female friends of the debutante say some words about her and light a candle (18 in total).

After that, dinner is served and the cake is cut. Lastly, the debutante thanks her guests for coming to her party.



Lance Armstrong during the glory daze.

DOPE STRONG

Daniel Garcia

STAFF WRITER

Imagine yourself, a highly respected member of society. You have it all: the money, the fame, the respect. Then all of a sudden, it is taken from you in an instant.

Lance Armstrong, seven time Tour-de-France winner, was stripped of his titles and his reputation after his confession of using performance enhancers for his seven victories. He was held responsible for using EPO, testosterone, human growth hormone, and several other enhancers.

This hero, this icon, lied and cheated his way to

fame. Not only that, he was a bully. He threatened all those who threatened to reveal his secret.

Mr. Magni is a power lifter with 18 years of experience behind those muscles of his. He has seen what these performance enhancers can do.

“In reality, they work, very effectively,” he said. “But it still doesn’t get around the fact that they’re cheating. That’s all it is, cheating.”

It’s unfortunate that many people participate in the use of these drugs; all they do is lie and cheat to everyone around them.



Lies always catch you at the finish line.

Photos courtesy of Google Images



FOLLOW THE RAINBOW

Luis Vasquez

STAFF WRITER

Ah, St. Patrick’s Day for some it’s a fun holiday where you dress up in green and physically abuse those who don’t, but to others this holiday brings nothing but fear and pain.

I interviewed a man a month ago who seemed distraught at the upcoming holiday. I questioned him about his fears and he told me this. In order to protect his identity I shall call him Shorty.

“Aye ladd I’m trying to find a new play to hide me pot o’ gold. Last year someone came and robbed me blind. All that was left behind was the end of a bloody rainbow. I lost all of me life savings. My family and I had to give up our four story tree house for a one bed one bathroom mushroom.”

Who would do such a heinous crime? The criminal left behind a rainbow. Could this be his calling card? I’ve narrowed down the suspects to three people: Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, and old man Jenkins. Here are my

crime and began to steal from Shorty. Old man Jenkins has his own reason for thievery. Children run across his lawn all the time so chose to steal from Shorty because he thought Shorty was a child.

Since I interviewed



Dont mess with this leprechauns pot o'gold.

Photo by Nora Lopez

theories for the suspects: Mr. Claus got tired of delivering presents for free so he began steeling gold from Shorty. The Easter bunny probably got cheesed off because people kept stealing all of his colored eggs. The Easter bunny then chose a life of

Shorty’s case there have been numerous more cases of gold stolen. Please if you have any information on these thefts, call this number: 1-800 WHERE’S THE CLOVER. Thank you and may god watch over all those shorties out there.

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Center

Panthers That Fight for Our Country

Alexandra Torres
STAFF WRITER

Many people have served and died for our country. They dealt with the tasks us ordinary people wouldn't be able to handle. Our troops have proved our country worthy to be called home. Ever wonder who is behind those prim-pressed, wrinkle free uniforms? Well here are some future troops who are proud PV Panthers today.

Rhett Power, freshman, has the possibility of

joining the military in his mind.

"My family has been in the Air Force," says Rhett, "I think it would be cool to join. I want to learn how to fly and would like to join right out of high school."

Aside from friends being recruited into the



A Panther who already has his mind set for his future.

Photo by Nora Lopez

military, there are also a lot of loved ones who have risked their lives for us.

"My grandfather served in the Korean War," Victoria Torres, senior, tells us.

"He lived a long eventful life, but being in the military definitely made the greatest impact on his life."

Loved ones are a great inspiration for joining the military.

Seeing them stand, proud as they get decorations, or medals, on their uniforms. Watching them show off, feel-

ing honored for have serving for our country, is truly an inspiration.

The military isn't built for everyone, but if you're wondering how too be able to sign up for the military, you can always take a trip to the recruiting center at the town center mall. Or you can talk to Mrs. Apple in the college and career center. She won't be able to help you recruit, but she will give you additional information on who you should contact.

My Future Will Be Like...

Luis Vasquez
STAFF WRITER

Students everywhere have thousands of questions regarding what they will do after high school. What job should I get? Should I go to a two year or a four year college?

People have different expectations for themselves after high school. It would seem the majority of people want to go to school after high school.

"I want to go to UCLA," said Araceli Garcia, junior and Paw Print Editor in Chief.

The plan for most is

to go to a community college for 2 years, and then go to a four year university. A lot of students want to travel somewhere else to continue school. Some are even bold enough to go to a different continent like Europe to go to college. While going to college is a good plan, another plan of some students is to start working.

While working at a job, students can learn important social skills. If you get put in a low spot try hard to rise through the ranks.

However if you really want to succeed in life you need to go to college. You can still get a job to help you

get you through college, but don't rule out going to school.

As you can see, students have different plans for what will happen after high school. Don't feel bad if you don't know what to expect, because things always change. Whatever you expect to happen is never what will happen.



Where most students see themselves in the future.

Photo by Nora Lopez

Spread



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Where Do You See Yourself In Four Years?



"I see myself still in college, hopefully playing soccer for a university."
-Angel Lopez, Junior

"I see myself out of Santa Maria studying to be a dentist or in some kind of medical field and majoring in photography."
-Luis Lopez, Junior



"In four years I want to be protecting my country in the Air Force, dying for my homies."
-Abimael Sanchez, Junior

"Finishing college or university. I want to be a welder."
-Ivan Esparza, Senior



Polls taken by Britney Servin and Jonathan Honrada



Is this what's on your mind? ...Probably not...

Photo by Dora Lopez

Fitting Into Expectations

Ray Ando

EDITOR

As each year goes by, generations get more adapted to the newer technology that pops up instead of hitting the books. It is more distracting then you would think. While I walk around school, I see students involved in the drama of who said this, who said that, instead of working on that essay that is due Friday in English class. Most students this generation do not realize how they might be ruining their future in the long run.

"I believe music and television has a bad influence on our generation," said Gisel Cruz, junior.

Music and television definitely has a bad influence on this generation. If you look what the music is talking about, you mostly hear things about drugs, sex, and many other negative things. In television, some people want to look like celebrities to get people's attention, even if they have to change themselves just to impress other people.

"Friends also have an impact on how you are or the acts you do," said Janelle Casabar, junior.

Have you ever been told to always find friends who will have a good influence on you? Although it is true, most students choose not to look for other friends. Why..? Because they don't want to lose a trustworthy person, nobody does. But sometimes it is better to find new friends who actually make you happy and will help you succeed in the future. People come and go. As much as 84% of older kids, according to TV Patrol, say they do not talk to their old friends in junior high and high school because of the bad influence they chose to do.

"More and more of younger students try to ditch school more often," says an Stephanie Carpientero, junior.

Sadly, this is true. Younger students try to ditch more often to seem "cooler" amongst their peers. They have no interest of bringing their grades up, so instead they give up or just don't try at all. It is really sad seeing students in class disrespecting their teachers just to seem cooler. It is more like the staff is babysitting the students.

Students need to take their education more seriously. Because in a few years, you just might regret everything.



Photo by Jazmin Ramirez

Bumping those “Beats”

Sarah Segovia

STAFF WRITER

Now days you can see just about everyone wearing Beats by Dr. Dre. You can see them at school, the gym, and random people walking the streets with just about every color of the rainbow. These headphones have a unique sound to them, and also have a wide range of designs. All kinds of popular celebrities sponsor the brand to help reach out to younger kids and adults. Let's go on an adventure into the past from where the first headphone was created.

The year is 1910 and the first headphones in history were invented by Nathaniel Baldwin. Baldwin would make them for the Navy in his kitchen. Over time

headphones have improved its look, comfort, and basic use.

Beats do not just have an amazing sound to them; they also are stylish. They come in different sizes, colors, and shapes. Each type of headphone has its own personality. Solos are small but comfortable. Studios are slightly bigger but are better fitting to the ear. Wireless types have a sleek look to them without the mess of the wire. There are many more types but those three are the best selling.

These are some of many reasons behind getting those amazing headphones. Think about the style, comfort, and high defined sound. So stay in school, be safe, and bump those beats.

Ariti Tadeo

EDITOR

I saw Pioneer Valley High School's production of *Almost Maine* which ran from February fourteen to fifteen. *Almost Maine* is a play written by John Cariani. At first, I didn't know what the play would be about. Overall the play surprised me. It was better than I imagined it would be. Some of the acts kept me laughing.

The play takes place in a small semi-existent town in Maine. All of the characters know each other in the tiny town. The play is about how people in the town are struggling in love in their own ways. Either it be new love or love fading away.

The cast's costumes fit perfectly with the time and setting. Since the play took place during winter, the cast wore warm outfits that would be seen in a cold day. The set wasn't extravagant, but great

for a small school production. The lighting was always on cue and never failed. The actors' voices were clearly heard throughout the whole play. When they had to color their words they were colored perfectly. Their pitch was great, because it could be

look at the Northern Lights. Her goal was to see her husband who passed away carry a 'torch'. She blames herself for his death and talks to a man name East about her broken heart. East falls in love with Glory after talking with her and tells her he will help her

put her heart back together. Another act that was amazingly funny was Act Two, Scene Five: They Fell. The scene is about two male best friends talking about how they have had love-lives.

At the end one of the

friends named Chad admits he fell in love with the other named Randy. Randy tells him it's not right, but at the end he ends up admitting he also fell for Chad.

Pioneer Valley High School Drama Department did a great job with the production of *Almost Maine*. It gave me a change of heart. For the next production I'm going to be there on opening night.

Almost Maine Play Review



You can still be close to somebody who is far away. Photo by Jasmin Ramirez

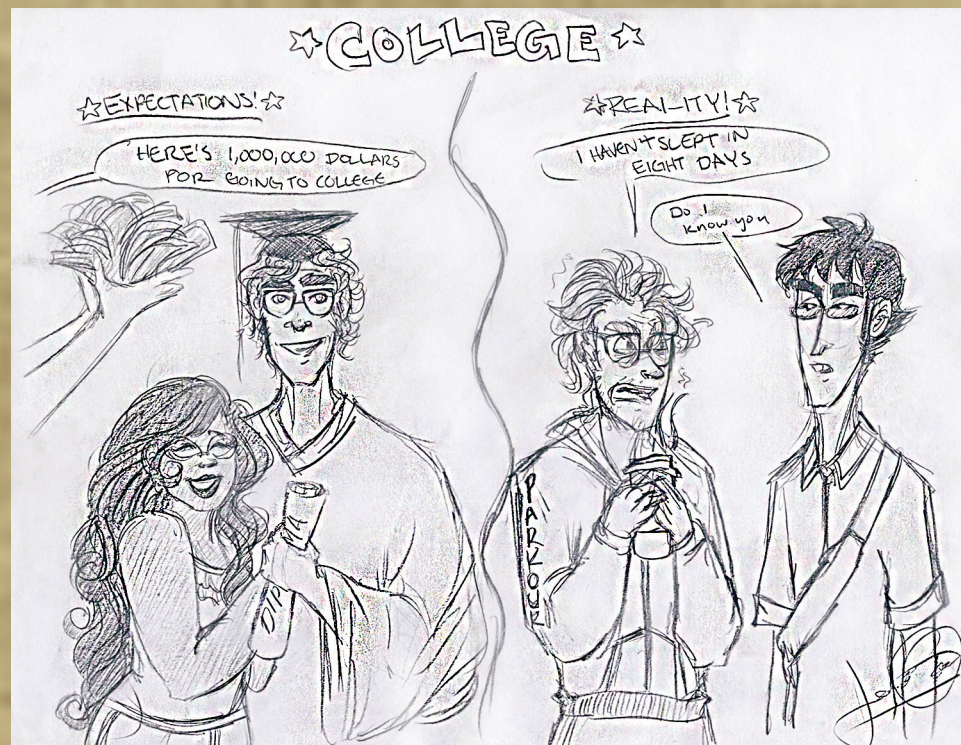
heard from the outside the room. Each role is played by the members of the drama department such as: Ishmael Peterson, Justice Bright, Alaina Friesen and Isabella Aguilar. The cast were very committed to their roles and played them nicely

One of the most heartwarming acts was Act One, Scene One: Her Heart. It is about a widow named Glory who goes to Maine to

Creative



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Jessica Osborn, Junior



Chloe Willard, Freshman



Brendan Patterson, Senior



Mia Andres, Junior



PVHS BOYS SOCCER STRIKES HARD



Photo by Jazmin Ramirez

For two years in a row, boys soccer has reached round two of CIF.

Aylin Lopez
STAFF WRITER

PV Panthers made school history by advancing farther into boys soccer CIF Playoffs than any other team in school this year. The Panthers won against Wilson High School 2-0, but lost to Santa Monica Crossroads in the second round.

“We have our ups and downs, but at the end

of the day we’re a team and we will work our hardest till the end,” said Coach Carlos Robles.

Coach Robles also stated that this has been the best team he has coached in his 7 years.

We couldn’t have done it without our seniors. Juan Robles (#10) has been playing soccer for 12 years, Jorge Ayala (#15) for 13 years

and Christian Vargas (#5) for 11 years.

The team’s favorite memories are playing together as a family and, of course, messing around on the bus ride home.

With a mixture of sophomores, juniors and our star freshman David Madrigal (#9), this team has an amazing talent and a bright future.

Wrestling Team Pins Success

Three boys varsity wrestlers allowed PVHS to finish 40th out of 173 teams at the California State tournament.

Adrian Vera, senior, placed 12th, Roy Ruiz, senior, placed 10th and Miguel Ruiz, junior, placed 7th.

On the girls side we again had 4 girls achieve personal bests at the CA girls wrestling state tourney.

The fun continues as Miguel heads to boys state on Friday, March 1st, and Cour-



teney and Beatriz prepare for girls nationals at the end of March in Oklahoma.

“I’m very proud of them giving me their best this weekend,” said Coach Ilac.



Photo by Alex Contreras

Spring sports brings three new coaches to PVHS.

PIONEER VALLEY SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW

Alex Contreras
EDITOR

The winter sports season is at its end, but here comes spring. With 350 students participating in the upcoming season, what awaits from these sports?

“I hope that we will have a lot of participation, memorable learning experiences, and lots of fun this season,” said Mr. Greg Lanthier, Athletic Director.

Some sports will have new additions.

“We also have three new coaches this year for tennis, volleyball, and golf,” explained Mr. Lanthier.

These coaches are

Coach Mahelona for boys volleyball, Coach Faulk for golf, and Coach Dangourian for tennis.

“The coaches’ goals are to compete and be successful, while the athletes are to learn from those experiences,” said Lanthier.

Track has multiple events, and if you are a fan of the 100 meter dash there is one senior to watch.

“Codie Corbin, who was the running back for football, played basketball, and was league champion for the 100m dash, may be someone to see,” expressed Lanthier.