



# El Rodeo



## Music-loving Mr. Lyons looks to strike a chord at The Ranch

BY NAYELI HERNANDEZ  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

At only 42-years-old, Mr. Jonathan Lyons has done everything from dabbling in the music business to teaching United States History. His next stop in life is at our very own, El Rancho High School.

Mr. Lyons comes to us from Gabrielino High School in San Gabriel, where he was an Assistant Principal for the last six years. The move to El Rancho wasn't at all planned or expected.

"Most people, if they're looking to move forward, they don't spend that much time in one area," said Mr. Lyons, "To be totally honest, this was a late process. I had already started school, and I didn't think I would come here."

Up until the Welcome Back Assembly, Mr. Lyons hadn't even stepped out past the administration office. However, even that didn't stop The Ranch from making the best of impressions.

"I started doing a deep dive on the school... And you get this real kind of, energy," said Lyons, "It kept coming back to me that there is this real sense of enthusiasm and the morning of the assembly was when I noticed a massive humanity in the stands that was pretty incredible."

Lyons will be 43 years old this October and within these years, he has worked teaching AP/CP United States History and as an activities director at his former high schools.

However, education hasn't been the only area of a career in his life. Lyons

has a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communications with an emphasis on Radio, TV, and Film from the California State University, San Bernadino. His schooling quickly leads him to a career in the music industry before he received his teaching credential from California State University, Northridge and his Administration Master's Degree at the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

"At one point I worked for Madonna's record label (Maverick Studios)," said Lyons, "I was in promotions so I can actually lay claim to the fact that I have been in the same room as Madonna."

Growing up in San Bernadino and working in the heart of the music industry, Lyons has quite a diverse taste. His iPod is complete with anything from Nirvana, Pearl Jam, and The Cure to Chance the Rapper, Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar, and the legendary Tupac.

In his free time, Lyons can be in his car chauffeuring his three sons to sports practices and cooking classes. Aside from being on the road the majority of the time, Lyons enjoys watching a lot of TV shows, with his favorites being *Game of Thrones*, *Mr. Robot*, and any sports.

As for his plans at The Ranch, Lyons is "going to go slow" seeing as too many changes at once can be confusing. Lyons' goal for the school is to show people in the city and the community that your initial thoughts of El Rancho aren't at all what the school is.

"We have fantastic kids, we have fantastic teachers," said Lyons, "My job is to be



Photo by Daniel Reveles

the head cheerleader. I want to tell everyone 'This place is fantastic and here's why'."

Lyons is most intrigued to experience the annual Night Pep Rally and is excited for all activities where the school is together, much like our first Homecoming Dance off campus.

As a student in high school, Lyons "really enjoyed" his experience and was involved in activities such as ASB, Yearbook, Newspaper, and Homecoming float building. Because of this, he advises students to appreciate their years in high school.

"Have fun," said Lyons, "En-

joy the experience... High school is the last opportunity where you can be both an adult and a kid at the same time."

Lyons wants all Dons to know that he is meant to be a resource to the school and it isn't always a bad thing to be called to his office. He supports all of the students at The Ranch and is willing to listen to any and all ideas.

"The door is open," said Lyons, "Come on in and let's talk about [a problem you have] and let's figure out a solution."

Keep an eye out for Mr. Lyons and say hi at the next football game!

## Dons bleed Dodger blue at Chavez Ravine

BY ETHAN SEPULVEDA  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER



Photo by Noah Perez

Dodgers Stadium bleeds blue, so it's no surprise that 150 El Rancho students had some peanuts and crackerjacks at Dodger Stadium, this past Saturday.

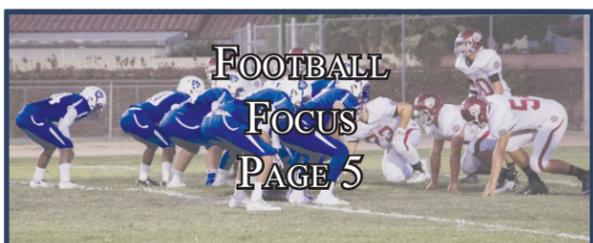
For the past 3 years, the 'Kids 4 Dodgers Baseball' program has been providing 'an all-day game day experience' to programs in communities throughout the Greater Los Angeles area that might not have the opportunity to go, and Pico Rivera's Generation First Degree program was chosen. The program gave free tickets to students (who signed up for the game through College Blueprint, EAOP and the College and Career Center) to the Los Angeles Dodgers V. Colorado Rockies game.

'Kids 4 Dodgers' provided the students with 3 charter buses to get them to the game and with the ticket provided, students were able to redeem \$10 worth of food at the venue and were

given a free T-shirt. Dons had a chance to snack on quarter-pound hot dogs at Extreme Loaded Hot Dogs, smoked BBQ wings at Think Blue BBQ and 1/3rd pound burgers at Elysian Park Grill, or any of the other restaurants that Dodger Stadium is filled with.

The game was especially emotional for Dodger fans as it was Vin Scully's second to last game as the Dodgers' play-by-play announcer, after being with the team for 67 years. A tribute video to Scully's work was played and students received a bronze commemorative Vin Scully coin, that was only given to the first 50,000 fans that attended that night's game.

Dons witnessed a landslide victory, with the final score 14-1, in the Dodgers' favor. The night concluded with the Dons riding the charter buses back to the Ranch, thinking back on the memorable night they had at the 'ol ball game.



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## The “Happiest Place on Earth” just got happier

BY KAYLA PEREZ  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

For the next decade, the *Walt Disney Company* is going to be making amazing expansions to both of their theme parks that reside in Anaheim, California. Each park is receiving large pieces of land that will have an awesome theme for customers to interact with. Certain rides will also be taken out and renovated to a modern or classic theme.

The *Tower of Terror* is one of the rides in California Adventure that will be replaced. The theme of the ride will be changed to the hit blockbuster, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, and will feature guests transporting to another dimension by flying in Peter Quill’s ship, the *Milano*. Although the

new ride will result in the sad loss of the internal hotel environment. However, the nostalgic terror of the ride’s infamous drop will remain and keep guest thrilled.

California Adventure will also be receiving new land where the current Disney parking lot resides. It has not been announced what exactly this land will be used for; however, an exciting rumor has surfaced that it is going to be a *Toy Story Land*, similar to the one at the Disney park in Shanghai.

Disneyland is currently undergoing construction for the brand new *Star Wars Land*. The release date has been confirmed for sometime in 2018-2019. *Star Wars Land* will have two new rides; one that is similar to *Star Tours* and another where guests will be able to ride Han Solo’s Mil-



lennium Falcon. This new renovation will be a dazzler for guests to travel to a galaxy far, far, away,

Release dates have not been confirmed for any other lands besides *Star Wars Land*,

but we can expect promotions for construction at the park soon.

## Trump’s visit to Mexico a waste of time



BY MIGUEL CHICO  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

On the 31st of August, President Enrique Peña Nieto of Mexico invited presidential candidate Donald Trump to discuss where Mexico stands with Donald Trump.

Nieto began the discussion by pressing on Trump’s comments and policies on Mexico, and even said he was willing to work together with him. This was the opposite of what many believed would happen, which stirred con-

trovery, considering Trump’s ego and his opinion on Mexicans.

Trump’s signature promise is building a wall on the border and having Mexico pay for it, yet President Nieto didn’t challenge the idea during the conference.

It seems the conference with Nieto didn’t make a difference in Trump’s ridiculous policies, either. Trump’s speech later that day in Phoenix, Arizona promised the same as before on how to make “Make America Great Again.”

Both men took to twitter, with Trump tweeting, “Mexico

will pay for the wall!” Nieto later responded, “I repeat what I said in person, Mr. Trump: Mexico would never pay for a wall.”

According to *The New York Times*, the wall was never discussed, and Trump himself agreed. Now, we are either dealing with a lying Trump or a Nieto who took action too late and failed to discuss anything of importance at the conference. This entire meet-up seems like it was a waste of time, and Nieto doesn’t understand the difficulty of changing a stubborn man’s mind.

Many agree that Nieto’s meeting with Donald Trump was the worst diplomatic disaster in modern history, which is not an understatement. The Mexican president is “prepared to take action” if Trump is elected, meaning a possible war!

I pity Mr. Nieto, not because he failed at changing Trump’s mindset or both of their tweets, but because so much effort went into meeting a selfish, orange, hate-filled man, and it’s just a matter of time before Donald Trump ruins all of America’s foreign relationships with every other nation.

## Word on the Street

What do you think about the Tower of Terror being demolished?



“They shouldn’t take it down because that’s where me and my family bond while waiting to go on. It’s our favorite ride.” - Miguel Adame, 11



I didn’t mind that the ride is being taken down because I go a lot, but I really don’t like the ride” - Sarah Navarro, 11



“I think they’re trying to capitalize on the Marvel movies even if they lose the timeless feeling that Disney has.” - Jocelyn Ortega, 12



It’s really sad because it’s like a key part of Disneyland. When you think of Disneyland, you think of the Tower of Terror.” - Jasmine Chan, 12

## El Rodeo

*El Rodeo* is published monthly except during vacations by the El Rancho High School journalism class. The *El Rodeo* offices are located at 6501 S. Passons Blvd., Pico Rivera, CA 90660 in room X-1. The paper is printed by *The Gardena Valley News*.

*El Rodeo*, the student newspaper of El Rancho High School is an open, public forum for student expression and an opportunity to discuss its audience’s issues of concern. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the position of the school board, administration, sponsors, parents, student body or advertisers.

The Editorial Board, which consists of the editor-in-chief, section editors, and assistant editors, will determine the content of *El Rodeo*.

Student journalists on the *El Rodeo* staff will make every effort to publish following the legal definitions of libel, obscenity and invasion of privacy. Consistent with California Education Code section 48907, the staff will refrain from printing material that may incite students, be a violation of school regulations or disrupt school operations. At the beginning of each semester, journalism students will be reminded of the legal, financial and ethical implications of each article they write.

Ed Code 48907 affirms the right of high school newspapers to publish whatever they choose, so long as the content is not explicitly obscene, libelous, or slanderous. Also, there shall be no prior restraint of material prepared for offi-

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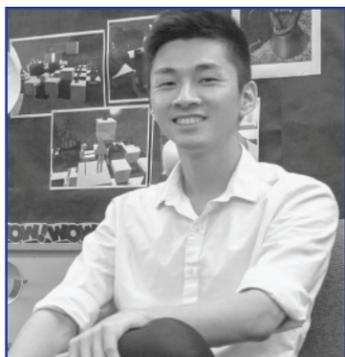
El Rancho High School



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# El Rancho welcomes new staff members



**Mr. Chiang:** "I used to be a graphic designer for packaging logos for Amazon and Ebay, and I also used to breakdance."



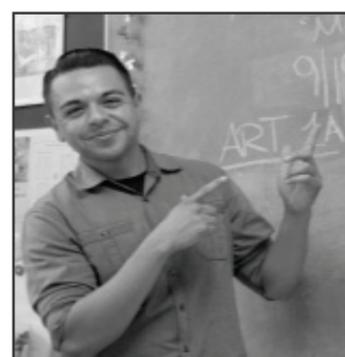
**Mr. Goyenaga:** "I love reading Harry Potter books!"



**Ms. Kim:** "12 years ago, I promised myself that every year I would travel somewhere I've never visited in the world. I've been able to keep that promise so far."



**Mrs. Tsakim:** "I like skydiving, ever since I tried it for my 18th birthday."



**Mr. Magdaleno:** "I am an El Rancho alumni... and I like to dance folklorico"

## AP Computer Science offered for the first time at El Rancho

By NOAH PEREZ  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

AP Computer Science Principles better known as AP CSP is a new class here at El Rancho High and nationwide. AP CSP gives students the foundations of computer science and has students explore how computing and technology can change the world around us. According to the College Board says that the class has a unique focus on creative problem solving and real-world applications.

"Computers are integrated into our society. Computer science is an extra set of tools that people can apply in their regular lives" says AP CSP teacher, Mr. Crone. AP CSP prepares students for college and future careers such as a software applications developer, computer systems analyst, Web developer, and much more. After college, students can even go straight into working for big technology companies such as Google and Microsoft.

The class involves writing code to make apps, specifically for Android systems, and covering computer science topics like the internet, what is it? How does

it work? Also subjects like cyber security. This class studies how the evolution of technology has affected our society and culture. Mr. Crone says "computers are changing our lives."

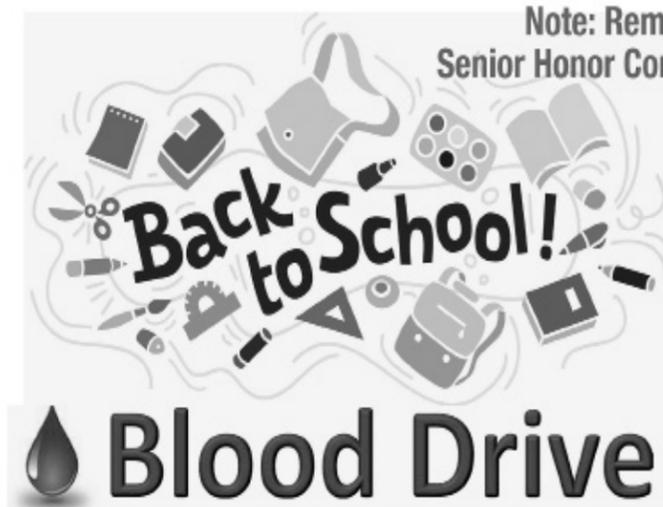
AP CSP has been in the works since 2008 and is backed by the National Science Foundation. The College Board is working with 50 leading high school and graduate computer science educators who have tested the course in their classes, to give students an engaging learning experience.

AP CSP student, Jose Alcalá, in Mr. Crone's first period class, said he wanted to join the class because he wants to grasp the fundamentals of computers. He also mentioned that they code in a language called Blockly, though he wishes they can learn more languages like JavaScript, C++, Python and more. "I enjoy AP CSP, but I'm kind of nervous for the AP test. Hopefully, Mr. Crone's guidance will be a big help."

If you want to check out the class go to B101 and talk to Mr. Crone about the new AP course, or even speak to your counselor about transferring if you are interested in the class.

## El Rancho High School

Note: Reminder  
Senior Honor Cord Program!



**Date:** Friday, September 30, 2016  
**Time:** 8 am to 2 pm  
**Location:** Cafeteria

To sign up please see Mr. Sorenson, Key Club Advisor in Room Q2

### Before Donating

- Be in good health
- Eat a nutritious meal
- Drink plenty of water
- Bring valid photo ID
- Weigh at least 110 pounds
- You can donate blood every 56 days
- Be at least 17 years old (or 16 with a signed parental consent)
- Tattoos and piercing are permitted if they are healed and were done in a California-licensed facility

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\*excludes CIF games

[erUSD.k12.ca.us/elrancho/](http://erUSD.k12.ca.us/elrancho/)



## This day in history...

Today is chewing gum day.



A case of Ebola was found in Texas in 2014.

LA Dodgers Don Drysdale (23-12) wins 13th straight game, 7 by shutouts



Today is national save the koala day.



Today is hug a vegetarian day.

# 4 SPORTS

## Girls' tennis set to ace season

BY NAYELI HERNANDEZ  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

This year's Girls' Varsity tennis team plans on working hard to achieve their first championship in Del Rio League.

The girls began preseason on August 29, against Los Altos High School. After a compelling game, the girls won with a score of 16-2.

The team finished just as strongly as they started this preseason with a 16-2 win against Paramount High School.

After losing their first League game to La Serna High School on August 22, the girls are reflecting on challenges they face as a team.

"As a team, we just have to work on finishing points," says Girls' Varsity tennis coach, Eduardo Galindo, "When we're ahead, we can't let people come back and we can't give up."

The team has high expectations for themselves after an 8-2 record this past preseason. One of their strongest assets is the amount of seniors and sense of unity that comes with a strong bond between one another.

For most of the team, stakes are high this season. This is the last opportunity for the seniors on the team to make a lasting impact for the school.

"As a senior, I'm going all out," says Varsity co-captain, Jocelyn Rivera, "This is my last year and I'm giving it my all. This season for me is basically go big or go home."

The majority of the senior returners have been playing for the team since freshman year and only want the best for their last year.

"We want to be champions this year," says senior, Isabel Gonzalez, "Last year we came in second place for Del Rio League and I know we can be first this time around. We're going to take it all this season."



Photo by Noah Perez

## Cross country team strides toward a first place finish

BY BERNICE VEGA  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The Cross Country team has started their 2016 season with high hopes.

The team has attended the Rosemead and Woodbridge invitationals with nothing but good outcomes.

These results have been consequences of the hard work and dedication they have put into running throughout the summer.

One of Cross Country's captains, Esmeralda Morales, has already broken the school record of 17.47 with a time of 17.27.

When asked about how she felt about her score she responded with, "I still want to do more, I still want

to improve, so I'm not done there."

The overall goal of captains and coaches this season is to stay focused and to grow as a team.

Coach Guevara says one of the expectations for this year is "to have a united team" and to "put pieces together."

The Cross Country team not only strives to be the best in the sport but also in sportsmanship.

Although Cross Country is known to be an individual sport, sportsmanship is still a key goal for the El Rancho High School Cross Country team.

Both boy team captains, Jonathan Maciel and Eric Estrada, claim the challenge of injuries has taken a toll on the team lately. However, CIF is still a guaranteed outcome this season, and there is nothing but good to come.



## Boys' water polo aims to stay afloat

BY SEBASTIAN ARZATE, EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The water polo team kicked off its season on Wednesday, September 7 with their first game against Temple City High School. Even though the team put in all of their efforts, it was a tough game which resulted in a loss for the boys. However, they view this as an opportunity to learn from their mistakes, and improve as the team heads into their season, as well as a way to determine where they stand in comparison to other teams trying to reach CIF.

Junior Jose Mancilla believes, "the team is full of potential just like the teams before us it just depends on the hard work that we put in." He remains optimistic that the team will have a great season. Mancilla thinks, "The program is doing very well with young athletes who are full of potential, and could get this program to the top," Mancilla says.

Head Coach Mr. Whittier continues to lead the boy's team, with this being his second year taking over the program. Senior, Ben Sanchez, trusts his coach, "Our coach has us work on fundamentals since basics are important to him." Team captains Ben Sanchez, Andrew Gonzalez and Jose Mancilla look forward to a great season and believe they have the ability to defeat with other Del Rio League teams throughout their season.



Photo by Daniel Reveles

Pico Rivera Christmas Baskets Committee presents

# TRICK-OR-TREAT FOR HUNGER

SMITH PARK POOL DECK • 6016 ROSEMEAD BLVD

**SATURDAY**  
OCTOBER 15  
8:30AM - 12:30PM

Volunteer for a good cause. Volunteers will go door to door to collect canned food and non-perishable items. All collected food are distributed to needy residents by the Pico Rivera Christmas Baskets Committee at the annual Christmas Baskets Distribution in December. Volunteer check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Volunteer collection briefing at 9:00 a.m.

For more information, call (562) 801-4430 or fill out a volunteer application at [pico-rivera.org](http://pico-rivera.org).

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# Dons look to reclaim championship tradition

BY ETHAN SEPULVEDA  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER



Photo by Noah Perez

With the 50th anniversary of El Rancho going to the national championships, El Rancho's football team has their eyes on the prize. Beating the Bell Garden Lancers on September 16th, 67-12 and with a 2-2 record, the Dons are determined to land a spot in playoffs.

"The overall morale of the team is high this year," says senior, Varsity captain James Garcia. "We have a lot of returning players, and we are going into every game pumped," Garcia added. With the Dons heading into the Del Rio League, not only is the varsity team giving their all, says senior, captain Humberto Sanchez, but the JV and Freshman teams are also. "They are still learning, but they are doing good."

"Although the 50th anniversary of nationals is this year, the team is "taking it one game at a time," says captain Gabriel Huerta. "We have to stay grounded", Huerta continued. The Dons are going to have to use that strategy when it comes to their next game against the Cal High Condors, who the three captains all agreed are going to be their main obstacle in the Del Rio League.

When asked on how El Rancho's students and teachers can show their blue pride at football games, the captains said that seeing Dons in the stands "boosts morale and keeps the team going", especially at Homecoming, which is October 7th at 7pm.

## Vela's love of the game drives him on the field

BY SEBASTIAN ARZATE  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

As the football season kicks off, Junior Jason Vela gets ready to take on this year's challenges. Vela has been playing football for seven years beginning at the age of eight for the Wolverines and Dons.

Starting at an early age paid off as Vela was part of the varsity team as a Freshman. He was moved up toward the end of the season by his coaches who saw great potential in him. As a Junior, he continues to have his starting position over seniors as a running back.

Vela scored his first touchdown his sophomore year during league when El Rancho was facing California High giving them the advantage. This year, he has set high expectations for himself as he plans on "scoring five touchdowns and rushing for 500 yards before the end of the season," as well as supporting El Rancho in becoming league champions and heading to CIF. Vela's love of football comes from his close bond to his teammates who are like family to him the competitiveness of the game, outrunning the other players while he runs the ball.

Vela's motivations are his "teammates and friends, but especially my family since my dad's the one that got me started." He's one of Vela's biggest supporter, and he's a huge fan of the sport. "My dad always coaches me to become and all around better player," Vela says. He hopes he will be able to accomplish all of his goals and have an amazing season with his football family

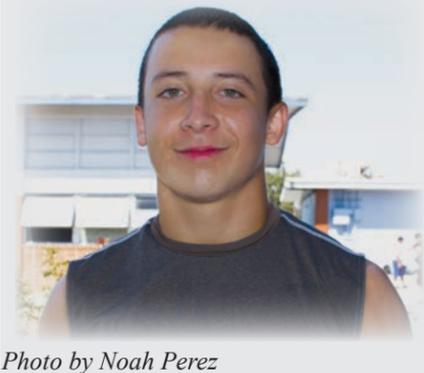


Photo by Noah Perez

## Jacob "MISTAVUHSACE" Romero is Simply Irresistible



Jacob Romero picking corn out of his teeth leftover from the elote he had earlier that day.

BY JOCELYN ESTRADA  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

From skating on the city hall steps to making beats so sick he has to take medicine, Jacob "Mistavuh-sace" is simply irresistible! Although labeled by his peers as a "class clown", he can always be found volunteering at pep rallies and managing to keep his studies on track.

Attracted to many different carnivorous textures, Jacob is a connoisseur of fine wings from Wing Stop: specifically boneless mild or traditional lemon pepper, and King Taco's carne asada nachos. Unfortunately, many of the girls on campus have an appetite for mainly *hot cheetos with cheese*.

Speaking of girls, our Romeo Romero is single and ready to mingle! His ideal Juliet is a woman who can take a joke as well as make a joke; And as cliché as it sounds, looks are not the key to this stud's heart.

"I know you might hear this a lot, but I mean it when I say that looks don't matter!" says Romero, "My girl can't be timid, she's gotta be outgoing and risky like me." MISSvuh-sace needs to stay up out them streets if she

can't take the heat, word to Lil Yachty.

Jacob is seen by his peers as a fearless and exciting character, someone who people can easily get along with. He makes many connections through his "comedic character" which he trained while growing up watching shows such as Spongebob, Jimmy Neutron and Rocket Power. "Skateboarding and jokes in a show, what tops that?" says Romero.

Many may not know that our irresistible jock is a multi-instrumentalist. In other words, he plays multiple instruments, such as the drums and guitars. So if you get lucky, ladies, you might just get a romantic, one-man serenade from Mistavuh-sace himself, right outside your window!

Romero idolizes talented musical figures such as Andre 3000, Lil Yachty, Denzel Curry, The Roots and Odd Future. His go-to song is "Minnesota" by Lil Yachty, so if you're looking for him, just play the song and he'll come running like a bull. He uses these artists as inspiration for his own music, one being most popularly known by many Dons, "Kroger Ketchup".

The story behind his song was influenced by constant remarks of his

friends saying "he's got the sauce." In other words, he's got "the look" and tops himself off with only the best! He remembers growing up with Kroger brand in his household, so as he began thinking of a song, the lyrics "I've got the sauce, call me Kroger Ketchup bottle" stood out and made the most sense. It is one of his few released songs and was produced entirely by him! Sporty, creative, outgoing and talented; He's the full package!

Even at sixteen years old, Jacob has a full idea of where he'd like to go and what he'd like to do in life. He wants, not to be famous, but to have his music go far. Even as a songwriter or producer, he just wants his story and music to be heard. He encourages everyone to live life to the fullest, and "never be afraid of what others think of you."

Although he appears to be quite the busy bee with football practice hoarding his schedule, Mistavuh-sace never loses sight of his aspirations and stays focused. Remember to keep an eye out for his new music releasing soon!

### SEASON SCHEDULE

Diamond Bar	
8/19/2016	AWAY
Norwalk	
8/26/2016	HOME
Capistrano Valley	
9/02/2016	AWAY
Newport Harbor	
9/08/2016	HOME
Bell Gardens	
9/16/2016	AWAY
Cypress	
9/24/2016	AWAY
California	
10/07/2016	HOME
Santa Fe	
10/14/2016	AWAY
La Serna	
10/21/2016	HOME
Whittier	
10/28/2016	HOME
Pioneer	
11/04/2016	AWAY

## Mark Your Calendars: Homecoming Week 2016

BY ALEKSEY SOTO  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

The beginning of October brings enthusiasm about everything pumpkin spice, Halloween, and, of course, Homecoming Week.

Homecoming Week kicks off on Monday, October 3rd, and each class will show their spirit by decorating their designated gates on campus. The classes will also get to play games such as Elephant March and Food Coma and compete for class points during lunch in the quad.

The Blue Pride Runway will be on Tuesday and the class presidents, along with their advisors, will strut their stuff in their best blue costumes and show their pride.

The Homecoming Carnival will be on Wednesday, where clubs will be selling different foods in the quad. Each club brings something unique, whether it's a sweet treat or fast food.

Thursday night is the long-awaited

Night Pep Rally, where each class cheers their loudest for class points and performs a choreographed skit. "It's going to be lit," says Julio Ornelas, junior class president, "everyone's more competitive this year." The seniors are hoping to take the win for the second year in a row, but the juniors aren't giving up so easily. "[We] have a lot of surprises for you" Ornelas added.

On Friday, the Homecoming princes and princesses will be announced during lunch at the Homecoming assembly. The Homecoming football game starts at 7 P.M. against California High School. During half-time, ASB will reveal our Homecoming king and queen.

Finally, the homecoming dance, themed "A Black and White Affair" will take place on Saturday, the 8th of October, at the Pico Rivera Golf Course. "It's the first time we're going to have the dance not at school," Pep Commissioner, Mia Alvarez, says, "I feel like it's going to be a lot of fun." 50 extra tickets are being sold.



## California Youth Court Summit 2016

BY RAFAEL GONZALEZ  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On the days of June 23 to June 25 the El Rancho Law Society club took 10 students to The Summit held at University of Santa Cruz. The Summit, held every summer is an event that consists of a valuable learning experience for high school students interested in law and this year was no exception. On the first day of The Summit, we were received by prominent members of the law community in California, including Judge Wesley and we were introduced to the program as well as to other high school teen courts in California. The next day, we took three workshops that gave us more depth of the process of teen court as well as aspects involving the breaking of laws, such as drug abuse and psychological disorders. Among these workshops, there was a cyberbullying class, a drug abuse class, an administration of justice class, and many others. On the last day of The Summit, we participated in the Farewell Assembly in which we took a group picture to capture the moment before heading back home. Overall, The Summit was an amazing experience that we in the El Rancho Law Society will never forget.

The following were student summaries from the workshops they attended.



### Cyberbullying

At the beginning of the workshop the speakers asked everyone to go to the stage. Once there we were told to gather in a circle. We then went around the circle introducing ourselves and listing our favorite form of electronic communication. After we did an activity in which we were told questions based on our life that were related to our race, gender, and age. If the statement applied to us, we'd step forward and then step back. We then were split into four groups, those who've bullied, those who've been

bullied, those who have witnessed bullying and have done nothing to stop it and those who have witnessed bullying and have acted against it. We then proceeded to watch videos and a presentation on how everything on social media stays on social media.

### Divided We Stand

This workshop was very diverse from the others. As we came in not knowing what to expect, we viewed videos based on discrimination. In the first activity we all lined up and we had to take steps back or forth based on race, gender, sexual orienta-

tion, and religion. In the second exercise, we got into a circle and the presenter would read off certain characteristics such as skin color, and if we had been discriminated because of them, we had to get in the middle.

### Violence within Families

The workshops began with an activity in which statements were read, based in relationships, and members of our youth court and other students had to walk to disagree section or an agree section. After every statement was read and the students went to their section, students from each section were asked to explain their point of view. After, Judge Symons presented information based on restraining orders.

### Substance Abuse

Drug use is usually experimented in teenage years and not adult years. Repeat of incarceration does not work in stopping a drug addict from repeatedly using drugs. To stop drug addicts from doing drug, there must be treatment for them. All behavior is contingent on the nervous on the brain. There is grey and white matter in the brain. The grey takes care of the thinking portion and the white enhances neuron communication and make connections. Therefore, I recommend that we take drug use into consideration during our cases as this can cause certain behavior.

## CLASS POINTS

SENIORS 204

JUNIORS 167

SOPHOMORES  
138

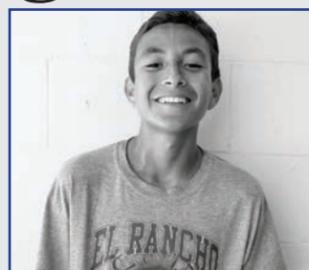
FRESHMEN 131

## Word On The Street

### What school event are you most looking forward to?



"The event I'm mostly looking forward to is Night Pep Rally because we get to dress, dance and listen to music."  
-Nataly Ojeda, 9



"The event I'm looking forward to in Night Pep Rally because Juniors are going to take it!"  
-Hugo Vera, 11  
Photos by Samantha Chavez



"Homecoming week because I think it's the most exciting week of the whole year and everyone gets really hyped for it."  
-Francesca Castagna, 12

# El Rancho clubs offer something for everyone

By KATHERINE HERRERA  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Want to know which club you fit in at the Ranch? Here at El Rancho, many students participate in after-school and lunchtime clubs. He or she who desire to be more active in their community, meet new people, or prepare themselves for their future should join one of the following clubs here on campus:

**Academic Decathlon:** team of Juniors and Seniors that extend their knowledge of art, science, history, math, music, economics, speech, language and literature. The scholars later compete against various schools. See advisor Mr. Retana if you are interested.

**Animal Advocates:** helps educate our school and community about animal related issues, such as abandoned animals, as well volunteer with animal shelters and fundraise. For further information sees Ms. Lamar. Meet: Tuesdays @ lunch in A-204.

**Annual Staff:** made up of 20 students who study journalism and computer skills to produce the yearbook. See Mr. Crone for further information. Meet: every day in 5th period in class B-101

**California Scholarship Federation (CSF):** promotes scholarships to teens who have met the honor roll requirement and will graduate with a gold cord. Club meetings consist of information about college and scholarships. See club president Diego Guerrero for further information. Every other Thursday during lunch, in room G-2

**Choraleers:** travel and compete all around Southern California, and sing a variety of music genres. Not only do they sing, but they study music theory. See advisor Jacqueline Cisneros (room: C-2) for further information meetings. Meet: every day (class)

**Choralettes:** an intermediate women's choir group who participate in festivals for their local community. They sing a variety of songs as well. See advisor Jacqueline Cisneros for further information.

**College Bound Athletes (CBA)** helps promotes student athletes in continuing their athletic career in college. The club explains ways to be active (mentally and physically), and also helps improve test-taking skills. For further information, see Mr. Llanes in H-2 on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

**Color Guard:** the visual performing group of the marching band. They perform with the band and have indoor performances second semester. You can see more of them at Friday Night football games. For further information, speak to Mr. Cordero. Meet every day (class) in 6th period.

**Culinary Arts Club:** feeds the homeless throughout the year and on every Thanksgiving. The club also demonstrates healthy eating habits and nutritional training for athletes. Speak to Chef Luna in room Q-4.

**Dons 4 Christ:** believe in building a positive perspective of the world and their local community. They are all believers and followers of Jesus Christ.

Anyone is welcome to join in room B-104 every Tuesday and Thursday @ lunch.

**The Gadabouts Club:** fundraises to travel around the world, each year to go to various places to learn more about their culture, history and language. This year, they will be traveling to France, Italy, Spain, Monaco and Switzerland. Want to participate in the 2017 trip? See Mrs. Zeko, room B-105 OR Mr. Zeko, room X-1.

**Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA)** :strengthen the ties between the LGBTQ+ and straight communities as well as creating an environment free of homophobic, sexual, physical, mental and verbal harassment. Members are free to have a one-on-one or group talk and discuss whichever problems they are facing. See club president Rosa Melendez for further information.

**Key Club:** service organization that helps the community and participates in events such as beach clean-ups and Relay for Life. For Further information, speak to Mr. Sorenson in room Q-2 or club president Amy Rodriguez. Meetings are every Monday.

**Latino Club:** group of Dons who represents various Latino cultures. They meet to learn about Latin foods and culture, the celebration of Latino holidays, and much more. For more information speak to club president Michelle Galvan.

**LEO's Club (Leadership Experience Opportunity):** focuses on providing students with the experience to help better their community through volunteering and community service. For further

information, see Mrs. Metaxas in A-101.

**Marching Band:** competes in field shows and parades during the first semester and focuses on concert performances in the second. The marching band has a variety of instruments as well as a drumline that includes front ensemble and battery. For further information, see Mr. Cordero in room C-4.

**Math Club:** members are students with an interest in math who come together to solve difficult math problems. Math Club members participate in competitions as well. See Mr. Francis for further information in I-8.

**Pepsters:** a group of active individuals full of school spirit and blue pride. Pepsters attend sports events and school pep rallies. They also encourage the crowd to support the school's athletes. See advisor Elia Trujillo for further information.

**Thespians:** a society that letter in drama who represent the highest level of discipline and strength. Members are selected after a week of initiation, and have proven their worth through the school year. These hard working individuals show the true meaning of a thespian (an actor or actress). To join the drama club, or to become a thespian, speak to Mr. Wlasick, in room K-101.

**Teen Court:** an alternative early intervention court where El Rancho students participate, as various roles, in the trial of a juvenile offender. More information about Teen Court, see advisor Mr. Elias in room H-4.

*Classes at the New  
Rio Hondo Education Center  
at Pico Rivera*



**FREE Classes!**

*Providing Educational Opportunities to the Community!*

**COMPUTERS UNLIMITED**

This course is intended as an introduction for students wanting to learn the latest version of the integrated program suite of Microsoft Office Professional. The student will be provided with the basics of each of the programs in the suite—Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and Outlook as well as their Internet integration. In addition, an introduction to fundamental computer concepts will be presented including hardware and software basics, file management, computer networks and communications.



## From El Rancho Teen Court to the White House

By RAFAEL GONZALEZ  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On July 19th, two El Rancho High School and Teen Court Alumni had the opportunity to attend the Beating the Odds Summit at the White House. They were 2 of only 130 White House guests from all over the country and Puerto Rico. They were there representing not only Generation First Degree, El Rancho High School, and Teen Court but Pico Rivera. They were fortunate enough to hear Michelle Obama, Tyler Oakley and Jidennalisten to their college experience and hear their advice. Karen Lopez and Biane Arias served as Teen Court President and Vice President in the previous school year. Arias and Lopez are two aspiring Lawyers and consider Judge Wesley, Mr. Elias, and Mr. Alexis Hernandez their role models. Last year they were constantly working hard to help Teen Court keep the title of, "Model Teen Court in California".

Ms. Lopez's career path was heavily influenced by Teen Court. In a student testimonial Ms. Lopez said the following "I am currently a freshman at The George Washington University, planning to major in international affairs and political sci-

ence. Teen Court is the main drive behind my desire of making a significant difference in my community. El Rancho Teen Court puts value on teens' judgement and intuition; allowing them to experience the valuable involvement first hand, it allows for teens to see the crucial difference they are making within their community. The El Rancho Teen Court developed me into a leader, a leader within my own community and built my dreams and goals to eventually attain a law degree."

In addition to Ms. Arias also gave her testimony; "Teen Court helped me realize that I want to pursue a career as district attorney and be involved in politics. I really enjoyed the networking opportunities' that teen court provided for such as the Women's Conference at Stanley Mosk Courthouse. At this conference I was inspired by the testimonies of all female attorney, judges and commissioners. In addition, the past two summers I had the opportunity to attend the Teen Court Summit and I was able to attend very interesting workshops which helped with my development in the courtroom. Teen Court also, helped me develop networking skills. In many teen court events and conferences, I met amazing individuals who I am constantly emailing about advice."

**LIBRARY CORNER**

The author Roald Dahl was born 100 years ago. Bring the correct matching answers to the Library and receive a sweet prize.

- Who eats an entire chocolate cake in front of the whole school in Matilda?
- In James and the Giant Peach what outdoor chore is James doing while Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker drink lemonade?
- Which Roald Dahl story does Danny's father tell him at the beginning of Danny, the Champion of the World?
- In Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, what berry does Violet Beauregarde turn into before she is taken to the juicing room?
- Who does George make his medicine for in George's Marvellous Medicine?
  - Choppinwood
  - The BFG
  - Bruce Bogtrotter
  - His grandma
  - A blueberry

## A Blast to the Past!



BY ETHAN SEPULVEDA  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

Netflix hit a sweet spot when making the show *Stranger Things*, which was released this past summer. The show is very obviously a love-letter to movies of the 80's such as *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *The Goonies* with its familiar story about an outcast group of kids uncovering a mystery in their quiet town, but manages to fuse it with modern cinematography and fantastic child acting; breaking it away from living in the shadows of those classic movies.

The story at a surface level seemed tired and played out, but writers, Matt and Ross Duffer were able to rework the tropes that the show centers on in such a way that the viewer never really knows if their expectations are safe from being flipped.

The cinematography of the show

is also very strong with shots of kids riding their bikes down the street striking similar tones as *The Goonies*. Much like the script, the cinematography is given a modern spin, delivering scenes with vast wilderness and scenes with the kids in the basement their atmosphere.

One of the only downsides may be what makes *Stranger Things* so good: Nostalgia. Scenes from the show do pay homage to movies of the 80's, but at some points, it does feel like a beat for beat remake of those movies, which can get stale for someone who grew up watching those films. Whether or not the show can stand without such reliance on nostalgia, depends on the follow-up season which has been confirmed for a 2017 release.

If you are a fan of Steven Spielberg, John Carpenter, or just a fan of good TV shows, you should check this show out.

## Trendsetters

Check out the latest styles of the month...

BY BERNICE VEGA  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

### IGNACIO SALCIDO

- JACKET- VANS STORE \$50
- SHIRT- VANS STORE \$35
- PANTS- LEVIS \$70
- SHOES- VANS STORE \$70
- WATCH- NIXON \$150
- GLASSES- RAYBAN \$430



### ISAHIA PEREZ

- JACKET- FOREVER 21 \$40
- SHIRT- FOREVER 21 \$18
- JEANS- FOREVER 21 \$38
- SHOES- JOURNEYS \$68
- BRACELET- RASTACLET \$15



### Meme Gone Too Far?



BY MICHAEL MARTINEZ  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

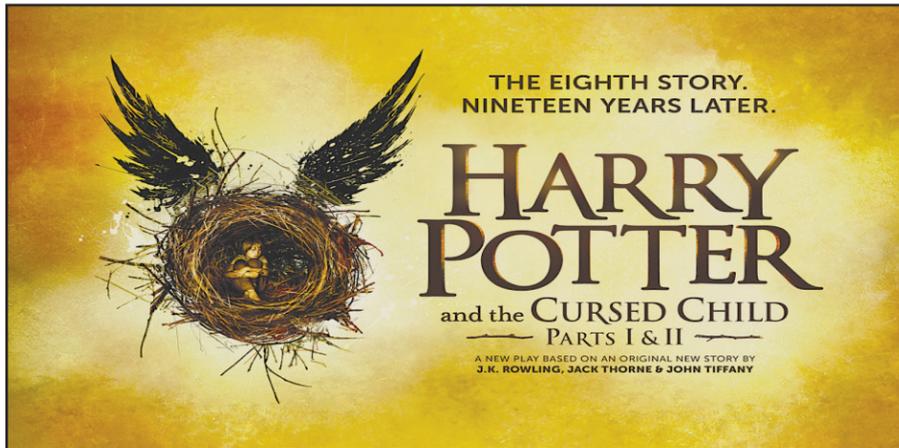
Harambe, once a victim of a tragic incident that occurred within the Cincinnati Zoo, has now become an internet meme. For those unaware, Harambe was shot and killed when a child entered the gorilla exhibit endangering himself and the gorilla at the Cincinnati Zoo on May 28, 2016.

The news spread worldwide, with various reactions. Some believed that the action to kill the ape was the right thing to do, while others thought that it was unnecessary, with media outlets reporting on days of protest and candlelight vigils. Eventually, the outrage headed more towards being a joke, with memes arising on Twitter. This branched out to politics, sports, music, and even school yearbooks, with many Harambe supporters creating forums and tweeting #Harambe, #JusticeforHarambe, or #RIPHarambe.

Harambe has been declared the "meme of the summer," most of the memes were sent towards the Cincinnati Zoo's Twitter account, which was eventually taken down. When Cincinnati Zoo Director, Thane Maynard, was asked about the incident, he said, "We are not amused by the memes, petitions, and signs about Harambe." Maynard added that their "Zoo family is healing," and the constant reminders of Harambe are making it difficult for them.

Harambe memes, although not as strong as before, are still a thriving joke, with supporters sticking by his side and creating more. Clearly, we are not ready to stop talking about Harambe.

## The Return to Hogarts is Here!



BY KAYLA PEREZ  
EL RODEO STAFF WRITER

This past July, the Harry Potter Book Series got a new extension with the chilling story of *The Cursed Child*. The extension is the book version of the script for the British play that was released this past summer;

The two authors, J.K. Rowling, the woman who created the series, and Jack Thorne, a British playwright, were successful in feeding the hungry conscious and curiosity of "Potterheads" around the globe.

The book takes place 19 years after the Battle of Hogwarts, where Harry's youngest son, Albus Severus

Potter, is beginning his first couple of years at Hogwarts, school of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Throughout his duration at Hogwarts he struggle to live up to his father's legacy, in which, Harry and Albus' relationships strains.

The story continues through Albus' time at Hogwarts and his rebellious behavior against his father. Albus soon becomes best friends with Scorpius Malfoy, the son of his father's arch nemesis, Draco Malfoy and soon everything turns into a whirlpool of the past and present, involving some of the series most beloved characters.

Overall, the book was very dynamic and had multiple climatic points throughout the novel and was satisfyingly chaotic. The plot twist at the end was shocking, yet, the choice of event seemed unnecessary and over-the-top. Even though I was very intrigued and fascinated with the script, part of me felt like I was reading Wattpad fanfiction or that the book was published as a first draft.

## Word on the Street

### What is your favorite show to watch on Netflix?



"Grey's Anatomy because one day I want to be a doctor so it helps get prepared with the terms they mention!"  
- Alyssa Vela, 12



"My favorite show is *Stranger Things* because I love how it connects to different aspects of the government and what it hides."  
- Juliana Valdivia, 10



"*Stranger Things* because it brings out and exposes my inner geek"  
- Pedro Gonzales, 12