

The Clarion

April 2008

Here's Why You Should Care About The Economy

By Desiree Ramirez and Kishi Smith
Staff Writers

The faltering U.S. economy might seem as though it doesn't affect students, but many have actually had to modify their daily lives because of it.

Junior Juan Cruz is being affected by this economic downturn because his father is a loan officer. He said, "The real estate agents can't sell houses so then my dad can't give out loans." His father's job is suffering from the economic downturn causing Juan to earn a lower allowance and now his father is urging him to find a job, which in turn takes away from his after-school activities.

Also affected is senior Gio Castaneda who said, "My parent's cannot come to my soccer games because most are far away and with these high gas prices, who would really want to drive?" He also mentioned he couldn't go out as much as before.

So what's going on here? Many experts think the economy is in or about to enter a recession. A recession is de-

defined as a period of economic contraction for six months or longer. During a recession, there are usually more people unemployed, businesses are creating fewer new jobs, people are spending less money and companies are selling fewer products. On top of that, the current economy is also being hammered by falling home values and increasing gas prices. The situation is so serious the government is taking measures created during the Great Depression to avert a deeper crisis.

The unemployment rate in Los Angeles for March was 5.1 percent, up from 4.5 percent in March 2007, according to the L.A. Times. From February 2007 to February 2008, 15,100 jobs were lost according to the U.S. Department of Labor. With unemployment rates beginning to rise, it is harder to pay for simple necessities such as filling up your gas tank to get from place to place.

That once-simple run to the store for bread and milk is now an experience that will leave your wallet a little lighter. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, food prices rose 4.4 percent in March, compared

How It Relates To You

GAS

If you drive a Toyota Corolla (or any car) it is now more expensive to fill up your tank. As a Corolla's gas tank capacity is 13.2 gallons, a year ago it would cost \$43.16 to fill your tank. Now it costs \$49.26. So say you have a job making \$8 an hour, you would have to work more than six hours to have enough money fill up your tank (that's before losing money to the government for taxes). That's almost an extra half hour of work, even after the minimum wage was increased by 75 cents.

HOME

If your parents bought a house in 2007 for the median price of \$589,200 they are sad to now find that their house is worth less. If your parents now wanted to sell their house they would be losing about \$139,200 as the median home price has now dropped to \$450,000 for 2008.

with March 2007. Bread has risen 14.7 percent over the past year and milk has risen 13.3 percent.

The sinking value of a house is another indicator that all is not well. According to DataQuick, a company that analyzes real estate markets, the median price paid for a home in February was \$373,000, down 21.0 percent from \$472,000 for February a year ago. (The median price is the point at which half the homes sold for more and half for less.) In fact, February was the slowest month for home sales since DataQuick

is likely much higher now than it used to be. If they're paying more each month for their house, then they have less money to spend on other expenses (like you).

Well, you might ask, if a person's house payment has gone up so much, can't they just sell the house? "They can't sell their home and get back what they paid for it" because housing prices have dropped, noted Mr. Hayes, who teaches economics.

But not all the news is bad. To encourage people to start spending money, which helps the economy, the president and Congress agreed to give most adults (sorry kids) \$600 each, plus another \$300 for each dependent child. That means that if you live with your parents and have two siblings, your parents should be getting a check from the federal government for \$2,100.

State Senator Addresses La Familia Assembly

By Desiree Ramirez
Staff Writer

Like many high school students, Alex Padilla had no clue where he wanted to go or much less do after he graduated. He knew he was good at math and had thought about going to college, but the boy from Pacoima never dreamed of big universities.

It wasn't until an MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) graduate spoke to Padilla and the rest of San Fernando High School that Padilla realized what he might do after he graduated. The man was the first San Fernando High School student to attend MIT, a school Padilla had never even heard of.

Padilla, now a state senator, recently spoke to over 500 Latino students in the La Familia assembly. "He is a positive role model," said Mrs. Ramey the Title 1 coordinator who organized the assembly. "He overcame a huge number of obstacles." She said, "The students in the gym can relate to his experience."

As Padilla began talking more with the MIT graduate, and since their sisters happened to be friends, Padilla now knew a big university was possible, despite where he grew up. The MIT graduate told Padilla he could attend MIT especially since he excelled in mathematics.

"I made something of myself," said Padilla. His parents didn't know English, they had very little education and his family was rather poor, but he managed to make it on his own. From the San Fernando Valley, he went on to major in me-



Senator Padilla

chanical engineering at MIT, a school he once had never even heard of. He had a well-paying job as an engineer until the company he worked for began to go out of business.

At the same time, some people he knew asked him to help out in a campaign. He never studied politics, but through this campaigning experience he found a new path. He pursued a new career in politics. He helped U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein as well as then-assembly member Tony Cardenas.

At the age of 26 he became a member of the Los Angeles City Council and two-years later he became the council president. In 2006, he was sworn into the California Senate, representing the 20th district, which includes the San Fernando Valley. What Mrs. Ramey seemed to respect the most about Padilla was that "he can afford to drive a nice car like a Mercedes, but he drives a Toyota Corolla because it's fuel efficient" and "he still lives in the same place he grew up."

Earlier this month, 11th grade Humanities students worked in groups to create campaign art as part of the annual Chalk Festival. Other art this year included campaign art for Hilary Clinton, Barack Obama, as well as others some others.



Photo by Huong Nguyen

Driving Drunk May Be A Mistake You Just Simply Cannot Afford To Make

By Huong Nguyen
Editor-In-Chief

You've heard it before: the tragic story of a couple of teenagers heading back from a wild party and crashing their car while under the influence of alcohol. Perhaps it is due to typical teenage recklessness, or maybe it happens because these young adults are very much in the dark about the effects of alcohol and its consequences.

In the past month alone, there have been several reported cases on the news featuring teenagers who crashed and died under the influence. Had they been more educated

on alcohol awareness and known about the shocking statistics, perhaps they would have thought twice before getting into the car.

Driving drunk not only risks the life of the person behind the wheel, it also puts all of their passengers and other surrounding cars in serious danger. According to statistics, someone dies every 39 minutes due to a drunk driver.

Even if you don't end up in an accident, getting ticketed with a DUI may just be the next worse thing. In 2006, 1.46 million drivers were charged with driving under the influence and the fines resulting from the incident usually will cost you about

\$10,000, after considering legal bills, alcohol treatment programs, and licensing fees, according to MSNmoney. For those under 21 years of age, consequences can result from a blood alcohol concentration level of .02, which averages out to be just about a single drink.

In addition to impairing one's driving abilities, being under the influence of alcohol also leads to other hazards. A study done in the 90's by the Advocacy Institute reports that 60 percent of college women diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease were drunk at the time that they received the infection. Also, young people who

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Creative Ways To Be Asked To The Prom

By Kimberly Brandon
Staff Writer

Here is a special delivery for all the guys out there who need a helping hand with asking that girl of your dreams to the prom. We have found the cutest, most unpredictable, and most unpredictable ways to ask someone to be your date for this year's prom. School is still in session so sit down and take notes on what these students thought were creative ways to ask someone to prom.

Patrick O'Connell would like to take his girlfriend to a Dodgers' game and between innings display his message over the scoreboard for everyone in the world to see.

Sarah Buenouestro thinks a guy should blindfold his girlfriend and lead her to the football field where he has his

friends spell out "prom" in the center of the field.

Peter Kato would like to announce his message over the CHS news, but if that doesn't work out, he is going to try to arrange a summons to get her out of class and ask her in person with a dozen roses in hand.

Sanam Bhojani told us a guy should send his girlfriend on a scavenger hunt and leave little clues in each of her classes. In her first period he should leave her a rose with a poem (relating to how much he really enjoys being in her presence each and everyday), in second period a cute balloon with a message on it, in third period a cupcake with "prom" written on it with little sprinkles on top, and so on; you get the idea.

'Prom Night' Not So Memorable

By Huong Nguyen
Editor-In-Chief

Earlier this month, the remake of the 1980's thriller, "Prom Night" was released, creating much disappointment among its viewers.

The movie tells the story of a high school senior named Donna (played by Brittany Snow), who is barely recovering from being attacked by her deranged stalker. The antagonist, Richard Fenton (played by Johnathon Schaech), is an obsessive high school teacher who was put away for his romantically induced violent behavior towards Donna, who used to be one of his students. He manages to escape a high security mental asylum just in



Brittany Snow takes the role of the main character, Donna, who's prom night is ruined by the return of her stalker.

Photo from www.imdb.com

leaving much room for the audience to guess what would happen next. Each of the characters got boringly killed off one by one and within an hour (or so it seemed like), most of them were dead.

"Prom Night" is about as spine tingling as a trip to Mervyn's with your mother. There were no plot twists or special effects to compensate for the dry story line and lack of gore and when it seemed like this movie could not get any more disastrous, it gives us an ending that is the worst I've ever seen.

Walking out of the theatres, I was actually upset that I invested an hour and a half of my life watching the most disappointing flick in the history of movies, period.

time to crash her senior prom, where he spends the entire evening attacking each innocent passerby.

The rest of the movie creates hardly any suspense at all,

There's Not Much There With The New MacBook Air

By Lini Mestar
Staff Writer

The Apple Company just came out with a new computer that is called the MacBook Air.

Apple designed this computer for people who travel or photographers so they could take it with them anywhere they go. That's why one can call it thinness because its height is 0.16-0.76 inches, which is nearly as thin as your index finger, and it weighs just 3.0 lbs, which is half of what most laptops weigh.

The glossy 13.3 inch, wide screen LED backlit display is the same as the screen on regular MacBook. The maximum screen resolution is 1280 x 800 and the keyboard is full-size with crisp keys just like the ones on a regular laptop.



Sleek and slim MacBook Air

A built-in ambient light sensor automatically adjusts the keyboard and displays brightness for optimal visibility. Apple put some good and cool stuff inside, and made a deal with the Intel Company to make new Intel core 2 Duo processors with 4MB on the chip with shared L2 cache running at full processor speed. It has built-in airport extreme Wi-Fi networking, IEEE 802.11 a/b/g compatibility, and Bluetooth 2.1+EDR availability.

The MSRP is \$1,800 or \$3,100 depending on the configuration.

Candidates' Stands On Global Warming

The past several editions of the Clarion have featured the front-running presidential candidates' positions on important issues. This month's issue is global warming. Previous issues covered the war in Iraq and education. They can be found on the school website (www.chatsworthhs.org).

By Huong Nguyen
Editor-In-Chief

The effects of global warming are rapidly taking place and many Americans have made it one of their priorities to help save the earth, including the presidential candidates. Defined by www.edf.com as an "intensification of the green house effect", global warming has caused an increase in temperatures, more people dying in heat waves, and will eventually lead to the extinction of many animals, such as polar bears, if something isn't done to slow this process down.

Hillary Clinton:

Clinton plans to put forth \$50 billion to develop what would be called the Strategic Energy

Fund. This is intended to "establish a green, efficient economy" by bringing on both major changes, such as strict energy efficiency, and smaller changes such as phasing out incandescent light bulbs. Also acknowledging that 70 percent of US oil consumption is caused by automobiles, she plans to increase the fuel efficiency of every car to 55 miles per gallon by 2030. She also intends to double the funds to promote the research needed to reduce the effects of global warming. Clinton wants to get everyone involved in the plan, including automobile companies, by urging them to make more efficient vehicles.

Barack Obama:

According to Obama, climate change is "one of the greatest moral challenges of our generation." Over the course of ten years, he plans to create a fund of \$150 billion to develop "clean energy" by promoting hybrid cars as well as the development of renewable energy. He also wants to reward forest owners, farmers, and all the others who contribute to the

movement of capturing carbon dioxide before it continues to pollute the atmosphere. Just like Clinton, Obama wants to double the research funding in order to achieve all his goals. By 2050, Obama wants to reduce fuel carbon emissions by 80 percent. Additionally, he intends to create the Global Energy Forum in which the most energy consuming nations would unite to target global and environmental issues.

John McCain:

McCain believes that we have "lost our way on the environment", that "climate change is real" and that it is "devastating." He wants to address this problem by urging all Americans to work together to achieve clean air and water as well and conserve space. He wants to continue the tradition of maintaining our National Park System and make the most out of our natural resources. McCain also feels that our major dependence on other countries for oil is both an environmental problem as well as an instability that needs to be changed.

Drunk Driving Teens *Continued from page 1*

drink are 50 times more likely to try cocaine than those who don't drink at all, says the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse.

Another crucial fact that many may not know is that gender plays a huge role in the amount of tolerance one has for alcohol, regardless of body size. A study conducted in 1990 by The New England Journal of Medicine showed that women only have half the amount of gastric alcohol dehydrogenase

(the chemical that breaks down alcohol) that men do. Also, women's bodies have a higher ratio of fat to water, which means that even at the same weight as a man, a single shot of alcohol will bring their blood alcohol concentration level up higher.

There are several ways to prevent drunk driving such as assigning a designated driver who agrees to not drink at all to get everyone home safely or even calling your parents to

come pick you up. The embarrassment and trouble you may get into with them is nothing compared to everything you are risking getting into the car of a drunk driver or driving drunk yourself. The best preventative method, of course, is to not drink at all.

With Prom looming just around the corner, it is important to keep these facts in mind and make the right decision when it comes to the use of alcohol.

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Clarion's Editorial Policy

The goal of The Clarion is to provide relevant and reliable news to students and staff at Chatsworth High School. All stories are produced by students in the journalism and school newspaper classes unless otherwise stated. The paper is subject to review by school administrators before publication. The newspaper is funded by the school and private advertisers.

The opinions expressed in the editorials are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff as a whole.

We hold ourselves accountable for the accuracy and fairness of our work. If factual errors are brought to our attention we will correct them in the next edition.

Not Quite Your Typical Teacher

By Perri Eriksen
Staff Writer

It's hard to imagine teachers actually having lives outside of their little classrooms. It's even harder to imagine them having an exciting life. But as strange as it sounds, some do. Science teacher Ms. Brownlee is one of them.

Brownlee is only in her twenties, but has already done things people aren't able to do in a whole lifetime. Besides bungee jumping and rafting with alligators, Ms. Brownlee also Scuba dives and rides motorcycles.

"I bungee jumped in Africa

on the Zambezi bridge over the Zambezi river. It's the second highest bungee jump in the world. It's about 300 feet," she said.

She also joined the crocodiles and hippos by going white water rafting down the Zambezi River. "We also did a canoe trip, and we saw an elephant that was standing on the same island we were sleeping on."

Ms. Brownlee is a Scuba diving enthusiast, and not only does it for fun. "I'm a Scuba instructor, so I teach people how to Scuba dive," Brownlee explained.

She has been all around the

world with her Scuba diving knowledge. She's been to Belize, Cayman Islands, Honduras, and Mexico but most of all, California. "I got certified right after I got out of high school. I was 18 years old when I personally got certified." She's been teaching Scuba diving for about two years now.

It doesn't end there. Ms. Brownlee also learned how to ride dirt bikes in South Carolina and rides motorcycles as a hobby. She has a cruiser.

Doing all of this fun stuff you probably wonder why Ms. Brownlee ended up as a science teacher in high school instead of some kind of extreme sport

contestant. "I enjoy it, you know, sharing my passion with kids," she said.

"I like it when they learn, watching their expression when somebody understands something and they go 'Oh! I got it.' It's a good feeling," Brownlee said.

How she gets time for all of the traveling is just like any other person. She grabs the opportunity whenever she has time off, such as vacations and weekends. "I think if anyone ever gets an opportunity to go somewhere, take it, especially if they're young," Ms. Brownlee said.

Seniors' Advice To New Freshmen: Don't Slack Off

By Kimberly Brandon
Staff Writer

After four years of experience in high school, seniors know what it takes to survive those 55-minute classes, grumpy teachers, and those tests you will need to take to determine your future. Here is some advice to freshmen from seniors who've been through it all:

"Don't slack off because when your junior year comes around and you want to apply for that college you've been dreaming about going to forever, you won't be able to because of your grades" – Andy Ouano (Boys varsity volleyball Captain)

"If you play a sport make sure you work hard on and off the court especially in class. Always strive to do your best at what ever you do. Never give up and always hold your head up" – Christianne Saiz (Varsity

pitcher for girls softball)

PCC (Peer College Counselor) Terry Huynh gave us her two cents on what important exams we should prepare ourselves for to get into college. "Get ready to study for the SAT/ACT and start hunting for scholarships early. It's never too early to do your research for college so you know what you're looking for before you graduate high school."

Star point guard for girls' varsity basketball Tessonra Williams gave us the 411 on what to do and when to do things. "Take care of everything before your senior year so when your senior year comes you can just relax and have lots and lots of fun. Make good friends and don't be afraid to talk to new people and try new things. Don't ditch because you will get trannies and if you get a lot of those they will come back to haunt you."

Some Unforgettable April Fool's Memories

By Caleb Sperling
Staff Writer

Most of us have at one time been fooled or embarrassed on April Fool's Day. Some of us have even sought revenge on prankster friends who got us good.

Freshman Jon Alvarado remembers a few years back, when his brothers spread a thin coat of super glue all over his math book, he picked up the math book unaware as it became stubbornly attached to his hand for several hours.

Freshman Jordan Rosenberg remembers one morning when she was in elementary school, she woke up and her mother told her that her school had burned down and she would have to switch schools. Later that day Jordan and her mother got in the car to go to the bank when her mom stopped at her school, took her out of the car, and whispered to

her, "Happy April Fool's Day."

"I was so mad because my mom dropped me off at school in my pj's," said Jordan.

Then there's prankster freshman Elizabeth Huerta who, for one April Fool's Day, flipped a plastic rug in her kitchen. When her mom casually walked into the kitchen, she stepped on the rug, slipped and fell hard on the floor. Not knowing what April Fool's day was she yelled at Elizabeth before realizing the motive and having a laugh.

Our own principal Mr. Guy remembers one time in middle school when he received a letter from a very pretty girl telling him how much she liked him and would like to go out with him. Later that day at lunch he approached her and asked her about it. She simply said, "That note I gave you... Happy April Fools."

What Would You Do With \$600?

The government is giving adult tax payers \$600 in an effort to get the economy stimulated. What would you do with 600 extra dollars?



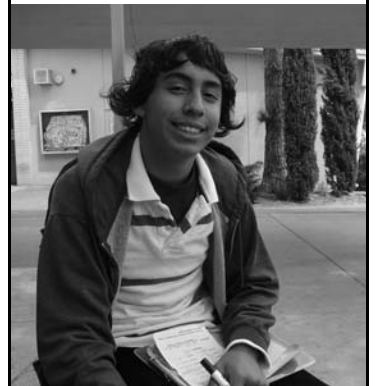
"I would go on a shopping spree and gamble with the rest of it to get more money. Isn't that an investment, kind of?" – Derrick McCall, 11th



"I'd spend it on a concert, give some to my parents, and spend the rest on my prom dress." – Sara Chan, 12th



"I would give some of it to the homeless." – Terry Huynh, 12th



"If the government is giving it to the people to get the economy going, then I'd feel bad spending it on myself. I'd donate it and help out. You've got to do something to give back." – Issac Galvez, 10th

Candy Commerce On Campus Causes Commotion

By Faith Lim
Staff Writer

Candy makes students happy, but the administrators can go crazy. Selling candy is not allowed at Chatsworth High School; however many students sell candy on campus and get in trouble. Many students do not know the rules and consequences of it, however; some people know about it and still sell candy on campus.

The Board of Education prohibits the selling of any sugar and high-fat content, such as candy, soda and chips on school campus. Many students faced consequences of violating this rule for past years.

"If students are selling on campus, then we have to deal

with that. First we are going to contact the parent and stop the fundraiser, if it's necessary," said Ms. Bushner, an assistant principal.

Students who get caught selling candy, soda, or chips can be suspended and will have their money and products taken away and the only way to get them back is by contacting parents according to Bushner.

"There are a lot of hungry kids during 3rd period. People will definitely buy candy for a dollar," said senior Jordan Cui. "I buy them because I am hungry and I am too lazy to go to vending machines."

With the permission of administrators, groups or organizations are permitted to sell items or raise money for fund-

raisers. If the permission is given, 50 percent of the profit must go to the student body, according to the district. However, when clubs or organizations want to sell candy as part of their fundraiser, the candy has to be sold only outside campus.

"The student body gets 50 percent of the profit because this is the different entity that we do not get any funds from the district. The money goes to salaries for officials and school athletic teams, such as drill team, cheerleading, student council, and etc." said a financial manager, Frances Maylad.

However there are students who don't seem happy with the policy. "Why aren't they letting us do it if the student store sells

it? If they are going to sell brownies and cookies, they should let us do it too," said Tommy Wu, a senior.

According to Bushner, the student store has its own nutrition guidelines to follow. They cannot order any potato chips or sodas. There are many things that they cannot sell because the food has to have certain nutrients in it.

Not only are students selling candy, but also there are students who bring homemade foods and sell them on campus, which has also become a problem.

Maylad added, "It's not allowed and it's not appropriate, especially the homemade candies. They are illegal and extremely dangerous."

Athletes Named To All-City, League

By Desiree Ramirez
Staff Writer

Among the many winter sport athletes, nine claimed the title of All City. These athletes are recognized as some of the best in the city from basketball to soccer and wrestling, from

girls to boys. An athlete who has received an All City award has done so by excelling in his or her sport, winning first team All League, and by a vote among the coaches within the city section. There are restrictions and regulations in winning the award for the different winter sports, but

ultimately it is an award which recognizes an athlete's ability. Senior Israel Garcia, captain of the Boys Varsity soccer team said, "It feels good to win All City. All my hard work during the season paid off with that award, even though we didn't make it far in playoffs."

| | First Team All City | First Team All League | Second Team All League |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Girls Basketball | Kimberly Brandon (12) Gennifer Brandon (11) Monica Jackson (10) | Kimberly Brandon (12) Gennifer Brandon (11) Kim Smith (12) Monica Jackson (10) | Tessandra Williams (12) Eryka Menzies (12) |
| Boys Basketball | Did Not Qualify | Did Not Qualify | Ryan Obsorne (12) |
| Girls Soccer | Kishi Smith (11) Dana Moreno (11) Holly Weaver (11) Lauren Weaver (10) | Kishi Smith (11) Dana Moreno (11) Holly Weaver (11) Lauren Weaver (10) | Nicole Voets (12) Olivia Patterson (10) |
| Boys Soccer | Israel Garcia (12) | Israel Garcia (12) | Barry Uko (12) Ozzy Perez (11) |
| Wrestling | Thomas Cotrell (12) | N/A in this Sport | N/A in this Sport |

Swim Team Track Looks To Prelims

By Andrew Park
Staff Writer

The CHS swim team finished their season with a 1-5 record. Although their record didn't shine with flying colors, they have faith in their young frosh-soph team. Increasing from 20 to about 50 swimmers on the team, head Coach Yee said "they would like to bring swim back to Chatsworth." Despite their poor 2008 record, Yee really hopes to take the frosh-soph team into 2010 as a strong varsity team.

"We had tadpoles; we now have swimmers," she said.

Yee mentions the swimmers of the frosh-soph team as future champions. Freshmans Eugene Alviz, Gatsby Paredes, Jasmine Aguilar, and Brina Allard have all decreased their times, as they are the "most improved and committed," says Yee. Also, returning frosh-soph swimmer junior Kristin Coady hopes to take the 50 free-style as a varsity swimmer next year.

By Kimberly Brandon
Staff Writer

It was a tough season this year for boys and girls track. Both teams struggled to win a meet, going 0-5 in league. The coaches really appreciated the hard work and dedication these athletes brought to each meet.

There were some outstanding individuals this season. Sam Galay is one of the best pole vaulters in the city and has a chance to go to the city/state meets.

Leah Flowers won 90 percent of her meets, and is close to breaking her own records. Last year she went to the state meet but came up short; she is expected to return to the state finals this year.

Preliminaries begin soon. The top 24 are reduced to the top three in each event, who then compete for the city title.

Boys' Tennis Reaches Playoffs

By Andrew Park
Staff Writer

This year the boys' tennis team ended the season with an overall 7-6 record and a league record of 4-6.

For league, it was a three-way tie between CHS, Cleveland, and El Camino. They accomplished this with a new coach, Mr. Bautista, also the girls' tennis coach.

"The girls understand my philosophy," he says, "but I think the boys don't quite understand yet." They will hopefully catch on, he says.

Their #1 singles player is Royce Pasilliao and their #1 doubles players are He Yang Li and An Nguyen. Their former #1 singles player was ineligible so Pasilliao stepped up from #2.

The team made it to playoffs as the ninth seed, but lost in their first match to Venice.

Baseball On Top Of League

By Kishi Smith
Staff Writer

Even though the Chatsworth's varsity baseball team does not have last year's star power, they are still competing well with top schools to hold a record of 7-1 in league.

Shortstop Kasey Toven said, "The season is going well.

We have dropped some games but learned from them. We keep getting better as we continue to play."

With four more games left, the boys look like they will be getting the first seed in playoffs and will be on their way to another battle for the championship at Dodger Stadium in May.

Volleyball Is Top Seed

By Kishi Smith
Staff Writer

As expected the varsity boy's volleyball team has earned the top seed in playoffs, finishing their league season 9-1.

With an exceptional season, the boys have high expectations for playoffs. Senior Andrew Trivino said, "It's not going to be easy... but we expect to make it into the championship." The worst part of the season was their loss to Granada, but the team picked it up after that Trivino said.

Senior Andy Ouano re-

ceived the honor of West Valley player of the year and All League went to Andrew Trivino, Charles Ahn, Junior Thompson, and Thomas Franco (all seniors). All City will not be decided until after playoffs.

As the top seed, the Chancellors will have home-court advantage for all four playoff games before the final. Coach Sheriff said, it's "always nice being on the top looking down."

Their first game was on Thursday against San Pedro, but the results were not available before the Clarion was printed.

Softball Ends Season 'On A Roll' Heading Into Playoffs

By Kishi Smith
Staff Writer

Softball is looking to the playoffs after finishing the regular season with a record of 7-3.

The team finished in third place in league. "We ended well. We're on a roll, so we expect to do well in playoffs," said coach Creps.

The season "was rough at first, but once we got into our game plan...it went very well," Creps said.

Heather Leigh, a junior, had the third highest batting average in the league at .429.

Junior Andrea Contreras also stood out both skills wise and as a role model, Creps said. Creps pointed out that she has one of the best attitudes. Contreras played almost every position and Creps said she has tried her best and done well in all the positions.

Contreras started playing second base, moved to shortstop, then first, and now is currently the starting third baseman, not to mention she adds to the team by pitching every so often. Creps adds that Contreras is very coachable, always has a positive attitude, and is a team player.

NEWS

Drama Club Shines At Festival

By Sangeeta Prabhakar
Staff Writer

Chatsworth High School's drama department did well at the Shakespeare Festival on April 26.

They competed against fifty schools and received 19 awards and two special plaques. This is the most awards that Chatsworth has received for this annual festival. The awards included first place in technical theater sets, lights, and graphics; second in last minute C festival "Richard the Third" and

honorable mention in small group romance for "Romeo and Juliet."

The performers were honored with fourth place for overall excellence; all of the acting categories made it to semifinals.

Lindsey Serata, Jennifer Lainez, and Jeremy Zornes all feel that their hard work has paid off and were satisfied with their results.

"We were extremely proud of the outcome of the festival and this Shakespeare event has been a great end of our last of festivals," said Serata, a senior.

Hookah Is Just As Bad As Smoking A Cig

By Belen Espinoza
Staff Writer

A majority of people believes that the Persian water pipe "hookah" is not as harmful as cigarette smoking, but according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, water pipe smoking delivers the additive drug nicotine and is at least as toxic as cigarette smoke if not worse.

"I think hookah smoking is worse because there is a huge amount of smoke," said senior Gus Salas.



A typical hookah smoking session is an hour long and the tobacco comes in a variety of

flavors such as apple mint, and cappuccino. Hookah is inhaled from a mouthpiece attached to a hose. Due to the mode of hookah smoking, smokers may absorb a higher concentration of the toxins found in cigarette smoke. The risks associated with hookah smoking are relatively similar to that of cigarette smoking and others such as the risk of transmitting tuberculosis, or viruses such as herpes and hepatitis.

"I guess hookah would be worse. I didn't see it like that," said Quinn Herrera.