



# THE GRIZZLY GAZETTE

The Winter Edition

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE GFHS JOURNALISM STAFF

### A Long Awaited Return

Approximately 1.5 million American service members are on active duty and many have left loved ones behind to serve their country while their families hope that their children, siblings, relatives and/or friends come back safe and sound.

"I intend to remove all U.S. troops from Iraq by the end of 2011. We will complete this transition to Iraqis responsibly, and we will bring our troops home with the honor that they have earned," said President Barack Obama.

The announcement of the removal of troops from Iraq has begun to raise excitement in families across the United States.

As families wait for their loved ones, the effect of their long absences will disappear, but the time they spent worrying will not be forgotten. I interviewed a few GFHS students to find out how this has affected them.

"I felt worried and would always think about my brother, Jay," stated senior Brenda Zapien. She had a rough time coping with the deployment of her older

brother. She said that she was excited for the return of her brother but knew she would have to battle for some bonding time with him.

Valarie Rojas, another senior at GFHS, had to cope with the deployment of her brother as well. When interviewed she said, "Christmas was different, it was sad" because her family would be thinking about him most of the time. "At first I was scared he would die and that everything would be like in the movies but now I understand that it's not. These last weeks of waiting seem to last forever," explained Rojas.

Many students who share the same experience prefer not to let it be known. The sadness families have felt will fade by the return of their relatives. And with the holidays approaching this is the best gift anyone could ask for.



ARTICLE BY DANIEL BERNAL

### Are you in the 99%?

#### Occupy Wall Street occupies GFHS students lives

BY VIVIANA ALTAMIRANO

There is unrest among the American public that is making headlines. On September 17th, the Occupy Wall Street movement began. Beginning with an encampment in the financial district of New York City, this leaderless people powered movement for democracy spread across the nation and is now becoming global.

Inspired by the uprisings of the Arab Spring Revolutions, the Occupy Wall Street movement

them. While interviewing Godinez students, the majority of GFHS students did not understand what exactly "Occupy Wall Street" is. In one interview, a senior believed "Occupy Wall Street" had nothing to do with her life. When I explained in depth what Occupy Wall Street is, she saw the relation with both her parents now being laid off.

I was able to find two well informed students that knew and had plenty to say about "Occupy Wall Street." Junior Steven Cortez believes that Occupy Santa Ana was very significant in his following of Occupy Wall Street because "I realized it affects people close to us and all around the world. It makes me feel much closer to the cause."

Senior Cristian Gonzalez has a story that emulates what Occupy Wall Street was made for. He believes that "Everyone is affected. The common phrase about being the 99% signifies the people around the world who are struggling financially and the remaining 1% who

are the richest people that control and take our money. I follow the movement because my family has been stolen by the 1%. Our hardships should be heard and so should everyone else's."

On November 30th, LAPD raided Occupy LA camps and over 200 people were arrested after resisting the eviction. Many protesters argue that LA officials should be more focused on actual problems like regulating banks than enforcing park rules. Even with cities clearing encampments, the 99% have maintained their peaceful Arab spring tactics. The officials can clear out the campers, but the occupiers are determined to keep the movement alive. This movement won't be dying out anytime soon, the 99% have woken up.



Senior Cristian Gonzales (Photo courtesy of Gardena Zamacoa)



(Illustration courtesy of The Orange County Register)

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# STUDENT NEWS

## Neighborhood Christmas Cheer

BY GARDENIA ZAMACONA

When the holidays come around, families don't hesitate to leave town; that's because they don't know that down the street in Santa Ana is a Christmas wonderland.

Several neighborhoods in Santa Ana hold Christmas fairs or charity events during the first week of winter vacation. They are put on by the citizens of the city for families in need within the community.

These fairs have everything from a Santa Claus (School Board Member: Roman Reyna) to caroling. If money is an issue then you don't need to worry; there is no charge unless you count a full stomach. Children under the age of 13 can also receive a free present.

The entertainment is put on by community groups giving up their time to spread cheer to their fellow city dwellers.

A local girls church group performs a regional dance for the crowd and even a DJ stop by.

This year, the neighborhood cheer is happening on December 21, from 6pm to 11pm. It will be held at El Salvador Center on Civic Center Drive and Raitt Street.

Another event across town also December 20th is the Operation Santa Claus program which provides gifts and toys to children in foster care, group homes, needy children, or homeless in Orange County. Grizzlies Giving a Paw will be assisting and distributing toys, making a child's Christmas a little brighter.

Millions of families rush out and pile into cars to get out of the city every year when the holidays come around. Why join the traffic when there are Christmas events right down the street?

## From Sea to Shining Sea Fly-In Programs fly GFHS students to see colleges

BY ANTHONY RAMIREZ

We have all become accustomed to our surroundings and friends we know, but there are opportunities across the country waiting to be explored. Several of our students here at Godinez have been able to take hold of these opportunities and travel to colleges in different parts of the country. These students took part in our school's Fly-In program administered by counselor Mr. Gerry Oxx.

The students are provided with a list of colleges that are applicable for the program, and they alone choose which colleges they decide to visit. Although this program is provided for most students, there are certain specifications that need to be met in order to partake in this program. Students are required to do research on the colleges they decided to visit. In addition, students had to have taken the SAT I and II, absolutely no D's on their transcript and 3.5 Grade Point Average or better. More importantly, you should be a smart, well-rounded student.

this past summer as well as Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. When asked about his thoughts about the campus, Rodriguez said, "Dartmouth has a beautiful campus, it has green everywhere with a river right next to it. RPI has a more hilly, urban campus but it feels like an amazing place."

One of our own journalists, senior Viviana Altamirano, went to Middlebury College and University of Rochester. Another GFHS senior, Carolina Pallares, traveled to Granville, Ohio, to visit Denison University. When describing the area, Pallares said, "It was a very drastic change for me because the weather was very cold and the people are very different but these are the same reasons of why I loved it. All the people were extremely nice and welcomed us with huge excitement. The area where Denison is located is very calm and different from where we live."



ASB President, Viviana Altamirano goes across the country to visit the University of Rochester in New Hampshire (Photo courtesy of Viviana Altamirano)

For you juniors planning on going out of state for college, it would be wise to look into this program for next year, or perhaps for this summer. It will surely be an experience like no other.

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*"It was a very drastic change for me....."*

GFHS senior David Rodriguez took part in this program, and had the opportunity to visit Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire

## EDITORIAL: Santa Ana Gentrification

BY MARILYNN MONTANO

Picture this: walking down, Fourth Street or "Calle Cuatro" where you hear the sidewalk vendors shouting "Frutas (fruits), chicharones (mexican chips), pasale (move along)" or the business owners standing aside the doors greeting their customers. "Viajes, Cortes de pelo, Vesitidos de novia y quincencera, lo tenemos." (Airlines, hair cuts, wedding gowns, sweet fifteen dresses, we got it.)

Santa Ana's downtown has been through several changes and whether you noticed them or not, the changes are there. It did not take much time for many Latino groups to spring into action about the decision.

September 6, 2011, was the night when a group of young Latino protesters walked the streets at one of the "Art Walk" nights, protestors sang to traditional Son Jarocho followed by a skit acting out as the elected city leaders who

they believe are selling out Santa Ana out of its core culture. They broke out in movement to call upon the latest gentrification in Santa Ana with signs that read "Santa Ana is not for sale."

Downtown Santa Ana has had its full share of controversies some which fall under city budget crisis, PBID special tax for vendors, and Occupy Santa Ana. The latest renovation to Fiesta Market Place has been one more way that can affect the way you view and shop.

For example, the carousel once stood in memory of many street Latino families and friends. The festive colors have turned into a dull brown losing their hue. The carousel has been replaced by an empty space in the middle as the center piece, along with a small waterfall and benches.

According to an article by the Voice of OC blog, "Latino groups say Downtown Inc., supported by

the city establishment, has made a concerted effort to push out Latino businesses and replace them with trendy restaurants, and entertainment venues."

Many local businesses located on "Calle Cuatro," are bringing in less income. Currently, it seems that money is lacking in everybody's wallets and some are either slashing their prices or going out of business. On the other hand, others believe that these latest renovations will attract more customers from outside the city and bring in more revenue. However, many argue that it should not be in exchange of culture.

Change is good, but to what extent? Especially, when it means changing tradition and customs of a city? To this day the battle continues and only time and action can tell whether these renovations will be the best for the city.

# EDITORIALS

## EDITORIAL: The Right to Vote

BY DANIELLE FLORES

On October 28th and 29th the Homecoming king and queen were crowned at our annual Homecoming festivities. Although the experience for each candidate was memorable, the experience for their voters was less than ideal.

Every year seniors are hoping to find a way to make their high school experience unforgettable and what better idea than to run for Homecoming king or queen. After being nominated, candidates must start the campaigning, which for most is fun. But as we all know the economy is in a rough spot and for some candidates it is hard to buy the supplies to promote their nomination.

Some candidates are complaining that the cost of running is at least in the \$100 range and that there should be a limit on the amount of money each candidate is allowed to use on campaigning.

Another problem that has come up is how the elections seem "catty." Some candidates posters have been reportedly torn down, and an inside source claims that some candidates tend to be "two faced" when interacting with others who are running.

People have also witnessed harassment during our last homecoming elections. One 11th grade student, who wishes to remain anonymous, was reportedly harassed while voting for homecoming king and queen. The candidates friends pressured the student to vote for a certain person,

followed the student to the voting table, stood over the student while voting, and even had the nerve to follow the student to their classroom.

Even though the student was annoyed and frightened, she kept her cool and the harassment did not make her second guess her votes. The student did mention, "This incident did make me question why people take a crown on their head so seriously. It's an accessory."

Some people were not happy when this incident was mentioned. Other candidates felt extremely bad for the student and even apologized for their peers' wrongdoings.

Although there were complaints about the homecoming elections, the results ended on a positive note. But what we need are some rules for future elections. Some changes that could make the elections a little fairer would be putting a limit on the amount of money each candidate could use for campaigning around school, and as for the harassment, maybe it would be best for there to be an orderly line and more faculty members helping ASB with keeping control of the students. If these changes were to be enforced, I believe future Godinez elections will run more smoothly.

## EDITORIAL: The Myth of the War on Christmas

BY CASEY WIANECKI

The holiday season is approaching and as most Americans prepare to celebrate their respective holidays, some members of the Christian faith prepare for what they call, "The War on Christmas." Despite what its name implies, the most Christians will have to endure from this supposed "war" is being greeted with a friendly "Happy Holidays!" by a clerk at their nearest Macy's department store.

This media craze has gained much attention over the last few years with many conservatives, including a notable Bill O' Reilly. Their chief concern comes from the growing transition from the use of the phrase "Merry Christmas" to a more politically correct, "Happy Holidays," which recognizes all beliefs. There has also been much attention drawn to nativity scenes being removed from public areas. Though most of these seem to be relatively small grievances, the Christian right

has repeatedly used these stories of "attacks" on Christmas to show non-religious citizens in a negative light. The fact that these Christians are victimizing themselves in a country where they hold an enormous majority is laughable.

The fact of the matter is that these minority groups are not asking for any kind of special treatment, but only to be recognized as equals, which is one of the principles this country was founded on.

"War on Christmas" should not be perceived as an attack on Christianity, but as a movement towards tolerance and political correctness. Freedom of Religion is just as much about celebrating Christmas, as it is choosing not to celebrate.

So, in the interest of fairness, I must ask Bill O' Reilly and the rest of his crusaders to make the ultimate sacrifice, and give up their beloved "Merry Christmas," and use something that admits that they are not the center of the Universe.



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### Grizzly Gazette Editorial Policy

The Grizzly Gazette is published six times per academic year by students in journalism class at Godinez Fundamental High School.

Content is determined by the staff and does not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of Godinez Fundamental High School's faculty, administration, adviser or student body.

Students are protected in their exercise of press freedom by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and California Education Code 48907.

Signed editorials and columns reflect the views of the writer.

Letters to the editor and guest commentaries are encouraged and must be signed, although anonymity can be granted on a case-by-case basis.

The editors review letters to the editor, advertising, guest commentaries, reserves the right to edit and refuse material. Reasons can include length, clarity, libel, and obscenity, material disruption of the educational process at Godinez Fundamental High School or violation of copyright laws.

## DEAR GUMMY BEAR

BY JOCELYN ALVARADO & FARA RODRIGUEZ

**Dear Gummy Bear,**  
Why do I get so depressed every single time I think of my mom and her passing? After I think I'm over it?  
Sincerely,  
I Don't Know

**Dear I Don't Know,**  
Every person handles grief differently and it's perfectly normal to experience these emotions. Although at times you feel sad you should remember that your mother probably wouldn't want you to be depressed over her passing. Rather she would want you to go on with your life, experiencing the many things it has to offer you. Keep your head up kid and be happy, she would have wanted that.  
Sincerely,  
Gummy Bear

**Dear Gummy Bear,**  
An old friend from long ago, showed up at a party I went to and we danced most of the night together. We used to like each other when we were younger,

and I think those feelings are coming back for me. We have been texting and flirting but he has a girlfriend and a friend of mine met him and told me she likes him as well.....What should I do???

Sincerely,  
Irritated Girl

**Dear Irritated Girl,**  
First of all, you're being played like a record! I think that you should respect the fact that he is in a relationship. If he is immature and does not take his current relationship seriously then ask yourself this: Do you really want to be with someone that is not going to take you seriously? Tell your friend what I am telling you because guys like that do not deserve any girl like you by their side. It seems like you have or had feelings for him so you should stay away from him because he will most likely hurt you.  
Sincerely,  
Gummy Bear

(More Gummy Bear on page 4)

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Climb X Rock Climbing

BY REBECCA TERRONES

“Okay, since you’re all right handed, just remember that everything goes on the right. Remember to put the rope on the right. Remember to push the rope through on the right. Remember to never get your hand off the right side of the rope,” said Samir Awan, 21, one of the staff members of Climb X Rockclimbing who was working that day.

As I was watching Elizabeth Cirivello, 12, who lives in Santa Ana, climb up the rock wall like a monkey, my hands were barely able to keep the rope taught at the pace that she was climbing. Awan teaches people how to “belay”, which is making sure the person climbing doesn’t fall and is secure on the wall.

Although it may be a little difficult to find, once you get there, it is worth the gas, the drive, and the

\$13 a person. The staff was friendly and everybody there seemed to be having fun.

I’d pay just to play around on the heavily padded floor, but the rock climbing walls are much more interesting. The friendly staff was ready to help us and “tied as many knots for us” as we asked for, Catherine Gensler, 17, of Irvine told the Grizzly Gazette, on her first visit to Climb X. Cirivello said that although this was her first time as well, she’d come back because “there are still some walls [she] can’t do.”

Gensler stated that she’d come back because it was “fun,” and she’d come back “if Becka brings [her] back because she’s just so much fun, and [I’m] boring.” I’m glad to announce that Gensler will be going back to Climb X before the month is up, and will be

climbing, not belaying next time. For more information visit: <http://www.climbxhb.com>

All Day Pass:

\$13.00

10 Day Pass:

\$100.00

Bouldering Pass:

\$10.00



(Photo courtesy of [www.climbxhb.com](http://www.climbxhb.com))

**Hours:**

Monday: 11:00am -8:00pm

Tuesday: 11:00am -10:00pm

Wednesday: 11:00am -10:00pm

Thursday: 11:00am -10:00pm

Friday: 11:00am -8:00pm

Saturday: 11:00am -6:00pm

Sunday: 11:00am -6:00pm

## Winter on Ice

BY MARIO SALAZAR & FERNANDO PANTALEON

The leaves on the trees change color and fall, the weather grows colder each day and children anxiously count the days left until Christmas. This could only mean one thing; winter break is almost here.

“The Rinks Anaheim Ice” is home to the professional NHL team The Mighty Ducks. It is also home to USC and other top ranked hockey schools.

The Anaheim Ice Rink provides public skating, figure skating, youth and adult leagues, and even open arenas for birthday

parties. For those people that want more action, The Anaheim Ice Rinks also offer adult and youth hockey leagues during the fall and winter.

“This place is great; the service is fantastic and the staff is friendly. I would highly recommend

it to teens and families,” said Kathy Paterson from Anaheim.

Taylor Stern from Orange added, “I’ve just moved down here from Seattle Washington, and I have to say that I’m very

satisfied with this ice rink. It feels just like home.”

Overall, most people were pleased by the quality and service of the Anaheim Ice Rink. It has something to offer everyone and it’s close to home.

To make this winter a memorable one, try something new. Nothing says winter like ice skating.

Under 5 w/skates \$5.00

Youth 5-15 \$7.00

Seniors 55+ \$6.00

General 16-54 \$9.00

Skate Rental \$3.00

**“This place is great, the service is fantastic!!!”**

## SKY HIGH SPORTS

BY STEVEN CORTEZ

Just a 15 minute drive from GFHS, one can go to an exciting place full of trampolines and other fun activities. Located in Costa Mesa, near the John Wayne Airport sits Sky High Sports. Having the option of jumping with friends or playing a competitive game of dodge ball is not only fun but also provides a well-balanced work out.

Sky High Sports has activities for both children and adults. Inside is a small court for children and a full sized court for adults. Sky High also includes a dodge ball court where you can have a family competition against your friends and anyone else who wants to join. Across sits a foam pit where one can jump into without worrying about getting hurt.

“Worried about safety? It’s not a problem; Sky High has many safety precautions in place,” says Sky High employee Ben from Costa Mesa. The trampoline courts are padded with cushions that prevent injuries, which makes for a safe and fun filled time.

When asking alumni of GFHS, Jonathan Rivera said, “ Sky High is amazing, and I am always looking for something fun to do, and Sky High is the apex of fun activities with friends that is near Santa Ana.” Rivera is a frequent visitor of Sky High, and he has become addicted to the activity.

Go early because during the weekends the doors are flooded with people seeking adrenaline. The hourly rate is \$10, but on Wednesdays it is \$12 for 2 hours. Sky High Sports has proven to be an exciting to place to have fun with friends and spend time with family.



(Photos courtesy of Steven Cortez)

## DEAR GUMMY BEAR.....

BY JOCELYN ALVARADO & FARA RODRIGUEZ

(Continued from page 3)

**Dear Gummy Bear,**

I’m going to Mexico over Christmas. My boyfriend of 2 years still doesn’t trust me even when I’m going with family! What should I do??

Sincerely,

Not so Merry Christmas

**Dear Not so Merry Christmas,**

I can understand your frustration, but there must be a reason why he doesn’t trust you. Bring it up with him and reassure him that he’s the only guy for you. If that doesn’t help then there are always more fish in the sea.

Sincerely,

Gummy Bear

**Dear Gummy Bear,**

Every year at Christmas time, we get together at my house and every year my uncle Pancho gets drunk as a skunk! Last year he told me I was adopted! Now I don’t know what to believe. I asked my dad but he ignored me. What am I suppose to do? My uncle looked dead serious, plus I don’t even look like my parents.

Sincerely,

Adopted?

**Dear Adopted,**

First I would like to say WOW! This isn’t an easy thing to handle and you need to understand that it is probably not easy for your parents either. However, your parents raised you from when you were little, so it shouldn’t matter if you were adopted. If you aren’t biologically theirs, you are still their child and you and your parents share a bond that no one can break.

Sincerely,

Gummy Bear



# STUDENT NEWS

## New Clubs in School

BY EDUARDO ARAUJO

*Throughout Godinez' history, school clubs continue to flourish, and of course, expand. Here are four new clubs that you may want to check out:*

### Vietnamese Student Association

The Vietnamese Student Association was established through the efforts of Anthony Huerta (Class of 2011) and Ms. Tran, the club advisor. Originally founded as a possibility for his Senior Project, Huerta urged for the vision of the club to "foster and promote activism and leadership in the community amongst high school students, in order to create cultural and political awareness and appreciation," as stated in the VSA handout.

The mission for VSA is to build a high school network in which the members can demonstrate their leadership through community and social events. The current president is Elizabeth Tang and Tien Tran is Vice

President. Tien commented by saying she enjoys being a member of the club because she is interested in "preserving the Vietnamese culture, learning more about who I am, where I come from, and the different and unique interactions with other people." The club promotes diversity, as Tien likes to call it, "(Not everyone is Vietnamese!)."

### Debate Club

The debate club is an unusual yet unique club. The members debate or argue with one another on specific topics. The debate club also holds the opportunity to debate with other clubs from different schools, allowing their members to represent not only their opinion, but their school as well.

President Lindsey Escalante reveals that the Debate Club allows the individual to "persuade other individuals into your opinion; it gives your opponent reasons why they should

or shouldn't believe what they believe." The debate club will promote the student to "develop confidence" and ultimately be fast-thinkers.

Contact Ms. Gharda in room 1-237 or Lindsey Escalante if you're interested.

### Gay Straight Alliance

The purpose of GSA is to ultimately breakdown barriers between homosexuals and heterosexuals in our school. With homophobia still here in 2011, the GSA would like to shift this phobia from feeling uncomfortable to feeling comfortable.

A pledge to overcome this phobia and discuss ways in which it can cease. The GSA also helps with closeted students who have difficulty coming out. The GSA is organized through president Kimberly Villareal and Ms. Bouma is the advisor.

## Unveiled Line

BY SUSANA VALERIO

January, 2011 the Kardashians released a new clothing line at Sears. The line if successful is estimated to gross \$1 billion a year in revenue. Kardashians already have stores in Calabasas, New York, and Miami. With this new Sears venture a Kardashian look will soon be all over America.

Sears carries heels, accessories, and clothes for anyone looking for Kardashian apparel. Prices start at \$12, and can go up to \$99 except for a leopard print coat that was priced at \$178.

A young woman named Karina Contreras of

Santa Ana was shopping for a friend, "I am not sure what pair of Kardashian heels I should buy my friend because all of them are just simply too cute," said Contreras. In the end she bought her friend the Women's Washington DC Black, 4 1/2 peep toe heels.

Even though Kim Kardashian is going through a divorce with Kris Humphries, it does not stop her from expanding her new line. She spent around \$10 million for a wedding that lasted only two months. She might just gain all that money back with her



The Kardashian Kollection (Photo courtesy of Google images and Sears)

## Urban Planner in the Making

BY ANDREA RODRIGUEZ

Work doesn't end at 2:47 for Senior, Escarlet Mar, who has been working as a City Planner Intern for the city of Santa Ana this school year. Godinez Fundamental High School is occupied by talented and skilled students, and Mar is the perfect example.

As the City Planner Intern, Mar has to constantly juggle through work and school. "It is hard to manage at times, however, it is worth all the time and effort," Escarlet Mar told the Grizzly Gazette.

Mar has been working city since the beginning of her junior year. Thanks to her volunteer work she obtained the opportunity of a lifetime on this job. She first heard of this at one of the city meetings and knew that this was for her.

Mar has a number of tasks with the City Planner, she "looks at local

city projects and puts pamphlets together." Her responsibilities as just an intern include that she talks to the city planners and to attend meetings and reviewing city projects, Mar explained. This time has helped her expand her knowledge about Santa Ana, and it continues to do so.

Mar tells us that this experience constantly helps her, both in life and in school. "It has helped me cherish education, the city itself, and what I am capable of doing," Mar said. This experience has shaped her future and encouraged her to get a Bachelor of Arts in urban planning. "I see myself in this industry," Mar told the Gazette, "I want to be involved in my city."

Escarlet Mar enjoys her job and be prepared to see her later on as an official City Planner.

## The Bullies, the Bullied & the Audience

*Appearances. Religious beliefs. Sexual orientation. These are the three typical causes of bullying.*

BY JAMILAH HOSAN

October was 'Bully Prevention Month' and various campaigns and ads promoted its goal of an end to physical and verbal abuse.

Though 'Bully Prevention Month' had little fanfare on campus, some Godinez students are willing to tell their experiences with bullying and how it has sculpted them to who they are now. All students have asked to remain anonymous.

"There was a time where I was scared of just leaving my bed and wanted to stay home because of people teasing me about my weight," said a former bullied student who wishes to remain anonymous, "This is me. You can either accept me as I am or just leave."

The average time line for bullying usually tends to start from middle school to high school. "I still get bullied to this day, but not as much because people got to know me better and look beyond my beliefs," said a sophomore bullied for religious purposes, "I believe my bullying ended in high school because people tend to be more mature whereas in middle school, people are still kids and you can get mocked for the smallest things."

Some might say bullying can even come off as a "joke gone too far". The seed of a bully can be grown or nurtured from things such as cockiness, over confidence, insecurities and even from previous verbal and physical abuse.

"I became a bully because from the beginning I have always been fat

**Some might say bullying can even come off as a "joke gone too far"**

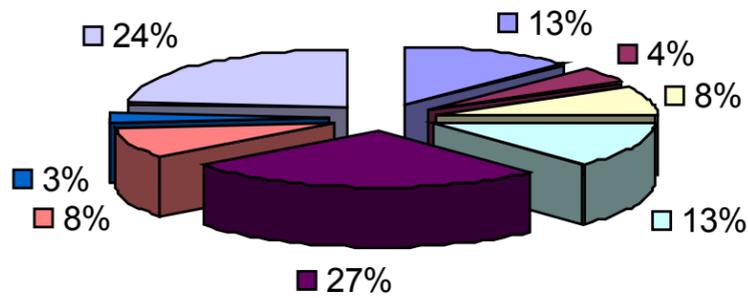
and I felt the only way to make myself feel happy would be to have anyone make fun of me feel the same [pain] way" said a former bully of four years, who is a junior. "I recently stopped bullying last year," she continued, "Did I care if I hurt someone? Yes, I did. Did I ever take it personally or to heart? Yes, I did. Being a bully really ended when people got to know me and stopped judging."

Whether it be entertaining or not, usually every show has an audience. The main concern is how the audience responds to each act of violence. Ignoring or doing something about it; those are about the only options.

"A friend of mine was bullied from middle school to probably their freshman year," said a sophomore, "my first instinct was to tell someone so I went to his older sister for help and immediately to a teacher. Personally from that day forth our friendship has grown and the trust is even better."

"In a way bullying has made me stronger and into the person I am today. I'm no longer scared to ask for help whether it be verbally, physically or even classroom wise and as cheesy as it may sound speaking up does make a huge difference so if there's anyone out there being harassed in any way SPEAK UP. Tell a responsible adult. It's the best thing to do."

## WHAT GRIZZLIES WANT FOR CHRISTMAS



- License/ Car    ■ Laptop    □ iPod/ iPhone
- A Pet        ■ Family time    □ Shoes/Clothes
- Camera       □ Other



### Fifteen Random Fun Christmas Facts

1. If you received all of the gifts in "The Twelve Days of Christmas" song, you would receive 364 presents!
2. One of the most popular Christmas songs, "Jingle Bells" was actually written for Thanksgiving!
3. Holly berries are poisonous!
4. In 1647, the English parliament passed a law that made Christmas illegal!
5. The hit pop song "I saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" was sung by a child named Jimmy Boyd. He was just under 13 years old!
6. The movie *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* features more than 52,000 Christmas lights, 8,200 Christmas ornaments, and nearly 2,000 candy canes!
7. 56% of Americans sing holiday carols to their pets!
8. 1 in 3 men will wait until Christmas Eve to finish their shopping!
9. During the Christmas season in the U.S., Visa Cards alone are used an average of 5,340 times every minute!
10. During the Christmas season, 1.76 billion candy canes will be made!
11. 53% of Americans plan to "re-gift" this year!
12. 4,000,000 tons of trash is generated annually from gift wrap and shopping bags!
13. The number of Barbie dolls sold every minute around the world: 180!
14. The average person will go to one Christmas party, sing five carols and eat 30 pieces of chocolate candy!
15. If the average American spent just \$64 buying American-made products during the Christmas season, it would create 200,000 new U.S. jobs!!



## December 2011/January 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10	12	13 District Writing Assessment Winter Concert @ Godinez (7 pm)	14	15 JV Football Banquet Winter Concert @ Godinez (7 pm)	16 Last Day before Christmas Break Modified	17
Winter Recess (December 19- January 6)						Dec. 29th- Key Club: Rose Floats Volunteers
8	9	10	11	12	13 Tahiti Encore @ GFHS Theater (6:30 and 8:30pm)	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. No school	17	18	19	20 Battle of the Bands @ 7 pm	21
22 Cheerleading Competition @ CSULB	23 ACE Club meeting @ Higher Ed 3-5pm	24	25 1st Semester Finals	26 1st Semester Finals	28 1st Semester Finals	29
30	31 Teacher Work Day No school					



**Top 10 Worst Christmas Gifts:**

1. Socks
2. Underwear
3. Coupons
4. Coal
5. A velcro wallet
6. Fruit Cake
7. Shaving razors
8. A picture frame
9. A keychain
10. A dictionary

**Top 10 Christmas Foods:**

1. Tamales
2. Pozole
3. Cookies
4. Hot Chocolate with Marshmallows
5. Cake
6. Turkey
7. Ham
8. Croissants
9. Gingerbread
10. Eggnog

**Top 10 Christmas Decorations:**

1. Christmas tree
2. Christmas lights
3. Tree ornaments
4. Snowmen
5. Mechanical Deer
6. Wreath
7. Mistletoe
8. Candy Canes
9. Candles
10. Stockings



**Foreign Exchange Students:**

There have been two foreign exchange students attending Godinez from South Korea and China. Kyung Cho, also known as "Danny", from South Korea, and Xidian Liu, also known as "Jack", from China. They have enjoyed their stay here, but they're eager to return back home to their families. Although "Danny's" last day of school was November 10, he spent a week of vacation with his host family and then returned to his hometown on November 28. "Jack", on the other hand, returned back home on December 8.

**Ten things they'll miss from Godinez and the United States:**

- Walmart and Target
- Food - pizza
- The teachers at Godinez
- Spirit Week
- No School Uniform
- Disneyland
- Their host families
- The school environment
- The way students are respectful towards one another
- Open-minded Americans
- The young driving age in South Korea (the legal age to drive is 19 years old)



**Top 10 Christmas Songs:**

1. Frosty the Snowman
2. Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer
3. I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus
4. Jingle Bell Rock
5. The Christmas Song
6. Here Comes Santa Clause
7. Feliz Navidad
8. Deck the Halls
9. Silent Night
10. Last Christmas

**10 Christmas Films:**

- Home Alone
- Elf
- Polar Express
- The Nightmare Before Christmas
- How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- It's a Wonderful Life
- Four Christmases
- A Christmas Carol
- A Christmas Story
- All I Want for Christmas

**Top 10 Most Unusual Christmas Gifts:**

1. A Unicorn
2. A Jet Pack
3. A Speedo
4. A Robot
5. A Mini Horse
6. A Flying Car
7. A Gorilla Juice Head
8. A Santa Clause Toothbrush
9. A Grenade Whistle
10. Coca-Cola Bear

**Books**

**Top 10**

1. The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg
2. The Night Before Christmas by Clement Clarke Moore
3. A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

4. How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss
5. Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus by Francis P. Church
6. The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson

7. The Nutcracker (pop-out) by Noelle Carter
8. One Wintry Night by Ruth Bell Graham
9. The Christmas Tree by Judy Salamon
10. A Small Miracle by Peter Collington



# SPORTS

## Boys' and Girls' Soccer

BY JESUS GONZALEZ

The crisp fall air and dew forming on leaves signals that the focus is back on the field for the boys' and girls' soccer teams. The familiar routine of eat, homework, soccer (maybe sleep, if there's time) is back on and both teams know that this is more than a game, this is serious.

Practice, practice, dedication, more practice, determination, and even more practice. All players on both teams understand this set of guidelines for success and embrace them without complaint. "The perfect player is somebody who is disciplined, hard-working, driven and wants to win," said boys' varsity soccer coach Ruben Fernandez. "The good soccer skill-set comes after that." The team has worked very hard from the moment they stepped on the practice field and they are ready to begin their paths of domination. "This game has it all. Blood, sweat... It is a fusion of everything that makes your blood boil. Soccer is a hard and unforgiving sport, but when you see that ball hit that net it's all worth it," says senior varsity player Marco Cruz.

The boys' and girls' teams, both understand the inevitable ups and downs that loom around the season but they also understand that how they overcome these aspects of their season ultimately defines it. "We know it's going to be hard, the season is always hard, but that doesn't mean our team won't succeed. I feel that we can win and win consistently and have another great season," says Nancy Escareño senior varsity captain on the girls' team.

Even through the speculation and the expectations set up for both teams, both groups seem confident about what they can do to win. After all the possible scenarios and possibilities are cast out for the teams, there is only one thing they can do: go out on the field and play the beautiful game. The boys' first game is November 28th while the girls' was November 29th. The teams are ready, and all of Godinez is ready for another successful season of Grizzly soccer.

## Boys' and Girls' Cross Country

BY MONICA MOLINA

The finish line for the girls' and boys' cross country teams has been crossed, headed by Coach Claudia Valencia for girls' cross country and Coach George Payan for the boys' cross country.

All five divisions of Girls JV, Boys JV, Boys Fresh/Soph, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity won the title for League Champs. That's unheard of for any sport at Godinez so far.

"We woke up at 5 a.m. the whole season and it paid off," said juniors Marisol Love Vapor and Gisela Lopez. They are just two of the 10 varsity runners that made the 2011 Orange Coast All-League Team. Congratulations to: Dana Castro, Selena Pineda, Lupe Maldonado, Marisol Vapor, Gisela Lopez, Hugo Flores Erik Mercado, Crispin Acosta and Guillermo Hernandez

A special commendation to Jose Penalzoa who took 9th place in the state meet. He says it was a great accomplishment and something he will never forget. "Running is my passion and it balances out my life," said Penalzoa.

Coach Valencia says she is proud of all her varsity runners who exhibited a champion lifestyle and matured over the season. She is extremely optimistic for next year and knows they will dominate again.



*Congratulations to Jose Penalzoa who won 9th place in the State Meet!*

### Athletes of the Month October 2011

- Boy' Cross-Country: William Ready
- Girls' Cross-Country: Julieta Quezada
- Football: Andrew Espinoza
- Girls' Tennis: Zuleyma Velra
- Boys' Water Polo: Cirenio Gonzales
- Girls' Volleyball: Evelyn Rodriguez

### Athletes of the Month November 2011

- Boy' Cross-Country: Hugo Flores
- Girls' Cross-Country: Lupe Maldonado
- Football: Eduardo Ceja
- Girls' Tennis: Chelien Kue
- Boys' Water Polo: Brian Florido
- Girls' Volleyball: Danielle Herron



*With Basketball Season starting, here are a few photos. Check them out!  
(Photos courtesy of Gardenia Zamacona)*



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