



The Flip Side

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Merced Scholars Charter School

This is a Student Generated Paper.

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Hurricane Katrina—How Our Students Stepped Up to Help

By Mary Green

When tragedy struck in the Gulf Coast it not only affected those in Mississippi and Louisiana, it also touched many all across the US. Everyone wanted to know what they could do to help. Many individuals helped by sending money to the Red Cross, but at Merced Scholars Charter School our students decided they wanted to really get involved.

The Student Org. started a clothing and teddy bear drive. They plastered flyers all over Atwater and Merced and we received donations of 25 to 30 bags of clothes. Yet, they didn't stop there, four Student Org members even gave up a whole Saturday afternoon to volunteer their time at Central Valley Threads.

Central Valley Threads is an

organization established through the Fresno Chamber of Commerce to provide clothing and other essentials to Hurricane Katrina survivors who have relocated to the valley. They are currently serving about 80 individuals throughout the local valley.

On Saturday, September 24th four students graciously gave up their time to travel all the way out to Fresno to sort through clothing at Central Valley Threads. The students: Sophomore Adriel Montemayor and Freshman Tiffany Bailey, Drew Roberts, Michelle Bullock and Paula Bullock (her mom) were accompanied by their fearless leader Mary Green and the equally fearless Cindy Strange. School Administrator Michele Fagundes also graciously gave of

her time to attend the event as well.

Career Educator, Mary Green wanted to make sure she went on record stating that, "The students did an awesome job and we at the Charter School were so very proud of them and grateful to Paula Bullock for donating her time as well. I hope that everyone involved can see the difference we can all make when we come together and work as a team."



Left to right: Adriel Montemayor, Andrew Roberts, Michelle Bullock and Tiffany Bailey

The Challenge

-Answer this and Win a Candy Bar!

-Submitted by Rochelle Miranda.

Q: What State in the United States is High in the middle and round at the ends?



Merced College Partnership

By Mary Green

Merced Scholars Charter School is pleased to be in partnership with Merced College. As part of this partnership Merced College has not only allowed us to have access to the Accuplacer and Lassi Tests, but has also allowed Counselor Jeff Tassej to work with our stu-

dents on a one-to-one basis.

The Accuplacer, in case you aren't familiar with it, is a test of collegiate academic levels in Math, Arithmetic, Algebra, English, Writing and Reading. The LASSI test assesses' students study and learning strategies for

successful collegiate experiences.

These tests will help the Merced College Guidance Counselors guide students to areas of interest and hopefully help them choose careers that are the best fit for them.

Meet Krista Roberts!

By Michelle Bullock

Here at Merced Scholars, I've made many friends. I'd like to introduce one to you. She's a sophomore who enjoys music, art, sports, movies, video games, dancing, singing, laughing, hanging out with her brothers, and traveling. Her name is Krista Roberts.

Krista has been home schooled all her life and enjoys it a lot. If she could meet anyone, she says she would probably meet someone from the band Casting Crowns. When Krista gets bored she likes to go outside and do something

physical, like playing soccer with her dog. If it's raining, she likes to play cards with her brothers or watch TV. Her favorite TV shows include Monk, CSI, and Fresh Prince of Bel-Air. She enjoys eating rice candy, sushi, and Chinese food.

Talking to Krista has led me to believe that she is a very spiritual person. She says that Jesus is her mentor and idol. In the future, she would like to attend YWAM and become a musician or possibly a missionary. Friends are important

to her and overall she just loves to have a lot of fun.

After finding all these things out about Krista, I've found that she is an awesome person.

So take some time to stop and meet the other crazy but wonderful people at Merced Scholars.



Upcoming Events

By Nathan Moreno

November 1, 2005

The Magic of Electronics CID (10:00-1:00)

11-12 grade CAHSEE-ELA testing

November 2, 2005

11-12 grade CAHSEE- Math testing

9th grade ELA Comp/Cont (2:00-4:00)

Leadership/Journalism (10:00-11:30)

Computer Literacy (12:00-1:30)

November 3, 2005

Leadership/Journalism (10:00-11:30)

Computer Literacy (12:00-1:30)

November 7, 2005

10th grade Career Development (12:30-3:30)

November 8, 2005

Math Lab (3:30-5:00)

November 9, 2005

Biology Lab (2:00-4:00)

Leadership/Journalism (10:00-11:30)

Computer Literacy (12:00-1:30)

November 10, 2005

Leadership/Journalism (10:00-11:30)

Computer Literacy (12:00-1:30)

November 11, 2005

Veteran's Day **[Holiday]**

November 14, 2005

11th grade Career Development (12:30-3:30)

November 15, 2005

Math Lab (3:30-5:00)

Advisory Board Meeting (4:00-5:30)

November 16, 2005

Leadership/Journalism (10:00-11:30)

Computer Literacy (12-1:30)

November 17, 2005

Arts/Communications CID (9am-2pm Fairgrounds)

November 21-25, 2005

Thanksgiving Recess **[Holiday]**

November 28, 2005

11th grade Career Development (12:30-3:30)

November 29, 2005

Math Lab (3:30-5:00)

November 30, 2005

ELA Division/ Classification (2:00-4:00)

Leadership/Journalism (10:00-11:30)

Computer Literacy (12:00-1:30)

Huzzah! Fun at the Renaissance Faire!

By Ben Suarez

A turkey to my left, a gauntlet to my right, and wenches abroad! Huzzah! Is this a time celebration in solstice? A medieval homage to the king's return? Nay! Though some may be a village idiot, I'm actually standing dead center of Casa de Fruita. The occasion? The Renaissance Faire.

Culminated by a union of guilds, talented folk, carnival



funds, the people who love the romantic air of the Enlightenment, knights, and days of fine ale, women, and honor, peek at these days through the many different actors and personas you'll see.

Have you ever dreamed of such nostalgia? Of being the handsome prince, the fair maiden, the brave and conquering hero, the court

jester, the lithe and beautiful fairy?

See it all come alive at the Renaissance Faire at Casa de Fruita! It is held every year in October. Come on, say it with me: HUZAZH!

General admission to the faire is \$20.00 per adult/ \$10.00 per child (5-11 years old).

School Clubs, Baby!

By TJ Roberts

Hey people! This is TJ bringing you the latest and upcoming news from everybody in Student Org.! Ok, now it seems that there are going to be a few clubs in the future. And it so happens that we, the Student Org., have come up with a few ideas for these so-rumored clubs! You ready? There is the idea of... a dance club, a music club, a drama club, an art club, and a community service club! Now how does that sound? Interested? Good!

But before you move to the next article let me tell you what these clubs are about! ABSOLUTELY NOTHING! Just kidding! If I said that, I'd be lying! These clubs have a bunch of stuff for you to do!

The music club; would invite everybody to get together and play some tunes. Some that you learned, or just something that you made up, it doesn't matter what you play! (And yes! You can show people how good you sing too!)

The drama clubs attendees will be able to perform in front of each other, and maybe, once and a while, play some skits in front of the other students in the school!

Ok! What is the subject now? COMMUNITY SERVICE, BABY! This club will get together to see what they could do to assist our community. We at the Student Org. thought the community service club members could go on a little field trip once in while to maybe clean-up a park or something. That's for the Community Service attendees to decide!

Here's the next club! Ready? The art club! Ok artists, this is where you will go if you feel like making art with others like you! When do you get a chance like this?! I'm not so sure what you will do in that club, but there might be a time to show off your art and the art you made with the others in your club!

Ok people, one more club! Can you guess what club it is? It's the Dance club! This club gives all you people who like to dance a chance to meet other people who like the same thing you do! You could even learn some dance moves from them! Is that cool or what?

These are a just the ideas that Student Org. came up with, but if you wanted to share your idea for a club, there is always room! Just see your teacher and ask them to talk to Student Org. about your idea. Oh, and there is a little part that we need your help for! We need some parents who will be willing to keeping an eye on the people in each club! If you're interested, contact Mrs. Green at the Charter School!

If you'd like to help out with the clubs, or recommend a club you'd like to be a part of, see Mrs. Green or your teacher for more info!

I'm the Dancer!

By Tiffany Bailey

I'm a dancer, who loves to dance, The grace and the beauty, of ballet runs through me.

I am a dancer, I create my dreams.

I'm the one who aims the highest. So next time you see a dancer perform, think for a moment... of all the hard work, the grace, the peaceful looks come on her face!

Ballet isn't just a movement it's the way it makes you feel when you perform, as the

crowd goes wild! So look at the dancer and you think wow she's awesome at what she does. No matter how hard it's going to be, I'm the one who stays with it through and through!

People all around me judge me on the way I dance, feel and act. Even though life gets too hard I get to dance my fears away.

All the pain and tears run through me but

that's just the way life is.

So I dance to get away from the world, so I can find happiness and joy in what I do!!!

I'm the dancer, I create my dreams of one day being that girl who is just for one second, perfect, in something so meaningful to her.

If you have a poem or story you would like to submit please see Mrs. Green!

DVD Review: 'Fever Pitch'

By Lexie Pivrotto-Britton

Based on the fact that 'Fever Pitch' was directed by the Farrelly Brothers, you'd expect it to be one of their usual gross-out flicks that relies solely on shock value to attract moviegoers. In actuality, 'Fever Pitch' is a rather charming film with a genuinely realistic portrayal of human relationships.

Ben (Jimmy Fallon) is a math teacher who takes his students on a field trip to Lindsay's (Drew Barrymore) office. Ben is pretty much a bumbling dork and Lindsay is a workaholic, but they hit it off. Ben comes back to Lindsay's office, and is turned down when he asks her for a date. After some reconsideration, she decides to accept his invitation. On the night Ben comes to pick Lindsay up, she's sick and vomiting all over her toilet, so Ben takes care of her. It's the beginning of their

relationship.

It's a few months later, and Ben and Lindsay are going strong... that is, until baseball season starts. See, there's one thing that Lindsay doesn't quite know about Ben: he's completely obsessed with the Boston Red Sox. Ben inherited season tickets from his now-dead uncle and has gone to every game since he was 7. Now that he has Lindsay, it's time for him to decide between the two loves in his life: her and the Red Sox.

I expected this movie to be another one of those stereotypical "sports-crazed guy meets girl, girl turns into nagging girlfriend over guy's love of sports" movies. What I enjoyed was that it wasn't like that at all. Both characters learned that each have a passion in life (Lindsay's is work, Ben's is, of course, the

Red Sox), yet they can both accept that passion and come together over a common one: their love for one each other.

Drew Barrymore and Jimmy Fallon were marvelous in the film. They both brought an instant likeability and sweetness to their characters. Fallon's character was a lot more charming and loveable than I thought he would be, while Drew Barrymore brought a certain unassuming innocence to the role of Lindsay. In addition, the supporting cast was wonderful as well.

'Fever Pitch' is available to buy or rent now.



Lexie Pivrotto-Britton

Our Goals for Our School

Kristyn Lopez: My main goal is to provide a safe, well-rounded environment that is both challenging and empowering to the student all the while imparting a quest for knowledge and productivity into the future.

Debbie Nishihama: My goal for this school is to maintain an educational program with the highest of integrity while allowing students to express their thoughts and ideas in a safe environment conducive to learning. Our goal is to provide personalized learning in such a way that the "whole" student is nurtured; to help them succeed both personally and academically.

Mary Frances Green: I hope to help every student realize their true potential and help them strive to reach their personal best.

Maria Villanueva: My goal is to make each student a life long learner.

Cindy Strange: My goal is to assist teachers in any way I can to help make Merced Scholars Charter School a wonderful experience for all

Merced Scholars Charter School



Meet the Staff at Merced Scholars Charter School

Left to Right: Cynthia Strange, Maria Villanueva, Kristyn Lopez, Mary Frances Green and Debbie Nishihama

Fall Fashion Trends for 2005

By Tiffany Bailey

Are you wondering what the latest fall fashion trends are going to be? Have you been pondering over what colors to wear this fall? Well, read on because we are your fashion connection.

This year's flaming hot fall fashions will include: romantic blacks and whites, crisp apple greens, Moroccan inspired blues and teals, chocolate

browns, dark reds, and gold's. Layering your clothes and jewelry is going to be really hot. Also popular this fall are skinny pants, which make you look taller and thinner. As well as, boxy jackets and Capri's that you can wear with boots

In the shoe department, pumps and boots are the latest in shoe fashion.

Rounded or pointed toe pumps as well as loafers, kitten-heel flats, ballerina flats, stacked heels, and wedges are going to be very popular. They are all styles that are very versatile and can be worn with pants or a dress.

This fall there are lots of colors and styles to choose from, but only you can decide which style fits you best!

School Of Thought-The Flip Side of Comics

by TJ Roberts

