

L O S A N G E L E S

Leadership Academy



The Voice



Volume 8 Edition 6

Newspaper serving the Lincoln Heights community since 2008

March 2016



Career Day

On March 9, 2016, Los Angeles Leadership Academy had Career Day. A diverse set of people came to talk to the students about their professions. The students had a schedule that was made by the school's counselor Steve Ortiz in order to find the people in the many rooms of the school. Every period was a different person the student would have to go and listen to, when the bell rang, the student would then rotate and go to the next person on their schedule. At the end of the day, every student had to provide feedback on their view of how Career Day went.



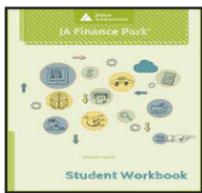
Deloitte Fieldtrip

On March 4, 2016 the seniors arrived back from the Deloitte field trip, and found that the school was in Code Yellow due to the notice that a person in an automobile was in possession of a firearm. A Code Yellow signifies that there a threat around the area, such as Lincoln Heights. A few weeks before this Code Yellow, there was a Code Red drill that took place in Los Angeles Leadership Academy. A Code Red indicates that there is an imminent danger inside the school's grounds.



JA Finance Park

Seniors from the economics class went on a fieldtrip to the offices of JA Finance. There they took on roles of different economic backgrounds and roleplayed to see how there life would be financially. The seniors in the class took lesson plans provided by the institution leading up to the fieldtrip.



Girl's Soccer Team Fundraiser

Los Angeles Leadership Academy's girls soccer team are selling shirts in order to fundraise for new uniforms for the upcoming season. Starting from \$13 from small to adult large, and \$15 for 2XL and 3XL. Event ends March 16th, so contact any of the team members for purchase.



Spring Fling Dance!

Los Angeles Leadership Academy is hosting a Spring Fling Dance today on the 18th of March. The dance will be from 6-10 and seniors will be selling drinks. If you are intending to buy tickets today, they will be \$3 for singles and \$4 for couples.



A Team of Leaders

LALA'S Debate Team Holds Silent Protest



Advisor Al Schleicher giving first time debaters Marieleth Banos, Waldo Garcia and second time debater Leonardo Mero a few tips before rounds.

BY SANDRA SANCHEZ
Editor-In-Chief

The Los Angeles Leadership Academy's Speech and Debate team actively chose to hold a silent protest the past debate tournament in light of cheating.

Students of the LA Leadership Debate team joined together with advisor Al Schleicher to protest the unfair results of the March 11-12th tournament. After a full two days with back-to-back rounds, team TOSA (Anel Torres and Vanessa Sanchez) prepared themselves for the last round of day two. At the end of the round, teammates Anel and Vanessa held a conversation with the opposing team. It was brought to their attention in that conversation that there happened to be cheating during the tournament.

Upon realizing they had lost against one of the cheating teams in question, the team TOSA headed back to the meeting room to tell advisor Al Schleicher about it. Coincidentally, Mr. Schleicher was already being briefed about the incident in the Coaches' room. After a few conversations with seniors Anel and Vanessa and with the other coaches, founder of the league Cameron Ward came in to talk to Vanessa Sanchez.

The specifics of their conversation will be withheld for privacy reasons, but according to Vanessa, they talked over the

incident and apologies were extended on behalf of Mr. Ward to the team.

Deciding to show how unfair they thought it was, the students and Mr. Schleicher collectively decided to stay in their room instead of attending the ceremony to protest.

When asked about why she agreed not to attend the ceremony, Vanessa Sanchez said, "We decided not to attend the ceremony because those who had won awards obtained them by cheating. We were not okay with them having no consequences and we decided that we were not going to take part as a way to protest those who got trophies not because they worked hard and deserved it but because they did so by cheating."

Before the cheating was brought to their attention, the debate team with the addition of a few new faces expressed excitement about the tournament. Rookie and first time debater Marieleth Banos shared that she wanted to try it out, "I wanted to do it so that I can feel more comfortable whenever I speak in front of people." Questioned at the end of tournament about her experience she said, "It was fun, tiring, but fun." Marieleth was originally paired up with senior Alondra Diosdado, but due to some unforeseen circumstances she participated in the

tournament with Junior Leonardo Mero instead-they went 2-2.

The other rookie teams in attendance were Yulissa Jimenez with Jose Robledo, Ulysses Montes with Waldo Garcia, and Valerie Jimenez with Ruth Infante.

Also, all of the established teams moved up a division. The three teams that went Varsity were: RECR (Brenda Reyes and Joseph Cristobal), TOSA (Anel Torres and Vanessa Sanchez), and COES (Angel Colon and Juan Espinoza).

When asked about how he felt about going Varsity, Angel Colon said, "I'm feeling hectic. It's a lot of work. Right now, all I have is to not get lost in theory. It's a tip I have for everyone."

Asked how she felt as a team that has gone to finals before, Brenda Reyes said, "I'm still nervous because even if we have gone to finals in the JV division, the open division has a different structure."

Following the trend of moving up, the previous Novice teams, SUFL (Lucian Suarez and Matthew Flores) and LOBA (Carlos Lopez and Edwin Banos), both moved up to the Junior Varsity Division.

The final tournament of the year is scheduled for early May.

Inside This Issue...

UC Berkeley
Page 3



Zika Virus
Page 4



Deadpool Review
Page 8





The Voice
STAFF

Editor-In-Chief
Sandra Sanchez

Managing Editors
Steven Garcia
Alicia Lopez

Photographer
Diane Rodriguez

Staff Writers
Ahiesser Aguilar
Jessica Barba
Karla Esquivel
Steven Esquivel
Rene Gaeta
Leonardo Mero
Jocelyn Perez
Mercy Quintanilla
Angel Salazar
Seth Vera

Faculty Advisor
Nicholas Steed

Advisor Emeritus
Al Schleicher

Printer
Gardena Valley News

Publication Policies
The Voice is a student newspaper produced by students at L.A. Leadership Academy. This paper is published to inform, educate and entertain the student body, faculty and members of the community of Lincoln Heights.

Students, faculty and community members with strong opinions are highly encouraged to write a guest commentary or a letter to the editor, which may be published.

Send letters to the editor:
thevoice@laleadership.org

L.A. Leadership Academy
High School
Attn: The Voice
234 East Avenue 33
Los Angeles, CA 90031

The Voice is a proud member of the following:

National Scholastic Press Association



Viewpoint

Teacher's Corner: A Word of Advice from Ms. Lindsay

History is not a spectator sport.

There is a common belief in our society that one has to be of a certain age to create political change. You must be 18 to vote, 35 to run for President- so change is only made by people over 50 in Congress, right? Wrong.

Every bit of progress that has been won for working people, people of color, particularly African Americans and Latinos, has come not as some gift from comfortable politicians- but as the result of militant and determined grassroots political struggle. It is the mass movement that brought us worker's rights at the turn of the century, women's voting rights soon after that and civil rights for African Americans and others in the 1960s. If our forebears had waited for the politicians or bosses to offer us those rights out of the goodness of their hearts – this school would have no students, only over-exploited child workers.

We've heard of these movements but what we learn tends to focus on the so-called "Great Men" of history –individual prominent leaders, rather than the masses of people who joined together to make these movements happen. This narrow view of the past obscures a powerful truth – that the vast major-



Photo Credit: Tea Party Cheer

ity of the leaders on the ground in these struggles were NOT career politicians, NOT the highly educated and NOT over 35. These movements have always been led by young people, people in their teens and twenties, who have everything to gain from pushing society forward and less to lose than their more conservative elders.

I helped organize my first protest at 12 years old. At 17 I joined the ANSWER coalition (which stands for Act Now to Stop War and End Racism) and with that organization I've been able to help build rallies of hundreds of thousands of people in opposition to war abroad and racism at home. I was 27 when I ran for President, promoting a platform of social and economic justice. I did all this without waiting until

those in power thought I was "old enough". I did this because I was inspired by all of the great, young leaders of the past.

I strongly believe that young people have an important role to play in the mass movements of today, movements for immigrant's rights, movements against police brutality and more. I believe that these movements will bring our society to a place of greater justice and equality for all. So don't wait for permission to join! Don't wait until society considers you "old enough" to get involved. It is your future that you are fighting for. You have every right to stand up for yourself and your community. Make a video, write a blog, join an organization and build something powerful. History is not a spectator sport and you're never too young to enter the game!

Have an opinion?
Write for The Voice

Submit your opinions to the editors at
thevoice@laleadership.org

Upcoming Events

- 03/18- Spring Fling
- 03/21-25 Spring Break
- 03/28- PD Day
- 03/29- Cafe Con Leche Con La Directora @4
- 03/31- Cesar Chavez Day
- 04/5- Parents in Action Meeting
- 04/7- Parent Conferences

YPI SPRING BREAK SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---|--|
| Saturday, 19th:
Heal the Bay | Thursday, 24:
UC Santa Barbara |
| Monday, 21:
SOKA University | Friday, 25:
Boneli Park (Sports Day) |
| Tuesday, 22:
CA Science Center | *You must attend all of the trips to go to Knott's. |
| Wednesday, 23:
Knott's Berry Farm | |

The Voice Ch-Ch-Ch Challenge

March's Challenge

The first student to answer the question: Was St. Patrick originally from Ireland?
Will receive
A Special Prize
You Must: Be the first to tell Mr. Steed.
The first student to answer the question will receive the prize.



News & Features

President's Day and it's Significance

BY SETH VERA
Staff Writer

Monday February 15 was President's Day. Some probably saw this as a day off or a day to go shopping for that President's Day sale. But, there is more to President's Day; it is a day to recognize all presidents.

George Washington's impact was huge. As the Continental Army's general, he led us to victory. It was thought that his birthday on February 22 should be a holiday to remember him.

When Abraham Lincoln came in and changed the tide of slavery, he also was given his own holiday on his birthday February 12 according to usparks.about.com (2016).

Washington's birthday was a federal holiday meaning it was celebrated throughout the country. And Lincoln's birthday was a public holiday meaning it was celebrated in certain states.

There were not a lot of holidays in February besides Valentine's Day, but even then there was no day off work or school. In response, Congress decided to merge Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays into one holiday in 1968. Congress chose the third Monday of February. The actual law did not take place until 1971 according to usparks.about.com (2016).

Not every American was fond of this law. There were various concerns that this third Monday law was not going to land on

Washington's exact birthday. Washington's birthday holiday began to fade away and citizens began to call it President's Day. Marketers saw this as an opportunity, and began to bargain for more 3 day weekends according to history.com (2016).

Thus Presidents Day was born. It is now an iconic and important holiday in the United States. Even though Presidents Day was a day to glorify George Washington, it is now a holiday where all presidents are remembered including how their actions and achievements benefited and changed the country.

Pennies for Patients

BY ANGEL SALAZAR
Staff Writer



Los Angeles Leadership Academy has been participating in the "Pennies for Patients" program for an indeterminate amount of time. Given the number of years during which the school has taken part in this program, the pertinent question is "How much does the LALA family really know about "Pennies for Patients?"

The "Pennies for Patients" campaign began in 1995 as a service to promote students learning character and philanthropy through offering students a unique experience to make a difference through teamwork - working together to aid thousands of children and adults in the fight against blood cancers like leukemia (kern.org/2015/04/pennies-for-patients).

Leukemia is a cancer of the blood-forming tissues, which hinders the body's ability to fight infection. By collecting pennies, LALA helps raise money to counter the effects of leukemia and to fund research. Since 1995, millions of dollars have been raised in pennies and other spare change by more than 10 million elementary, middle, and high school students throughout the country. The funds, collected during this three-week period once each year, benefit "The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society."

Everyone who participates is a winner! The Pennies for Patients campaign began in the Society's North Carolina Chapter in 1995 according to Pennies.org. Pennies for Patients is impacting the world of leukemia little by little. New York first lady, Silda Wall Spitzer, joined hundreds of public school children on Monday to unveil one million dollars in pennies collected for charity in Rockefeller center. This display, named the penny harvest field, had about 10 million pennies and some nickels, dimes, and quarters. The exhibit was 30 feet by 165 feet long. This display was to teach students the important role they each play and how much they help. Pennies for Patients has proven that pennies can make a difference.

This program has also given LALA the chance to participate in making a change. As of today the LALA high school has made about \$206.04 for the cause. Many groups like, national charities, schools, and local philanthropies, have realized the changes pennies could make. These companies do competitive penny fundraisers, penny drives, and many other charity related projects from getting college scholarships to cancer research and housing for the homeless. "America's charities are the foundation of our nation's social safety net and help to ensure that people in need get the help they deserve. Can there be any doubt that penny drives and other innovative ideas are critical to all charities? (www.pennies.org)." Charities are how many people get a roof over their heads and food to eat. Pennies for Patients is one of many charities that help bring about great results.

Cesar Chavez Day

BY JESSICA BARBA
Staff Writer



Cesario Estrada Chavez was born on March 31, 1927 in Yuma, Arizona. Chavez knew the hardships farm workers faced because when he was younger, he and his family toiled in the fields as migrant farm workers. They moved to California in 1939 and they moved around the state for 10 years working in the fields. According to the article entitled "Cesar Chavez" on History.com, during the time he was working in the fields he knew he would dedicate his life to improving the treatment, pay, and working conditions for farm workers.

In 1952, he met a Catholic priest, Father Donald McDonnell, and he met an organizer with the Community Service Organization, Fred Ross. Both people introduced him to the idea of organizing labor. According to the "Chavez" article on CA.gov, Cesar helped people identify their problems and also find a way to solve them.

He also helped people vote and taught them that community leader respect the voters. Cesar helped a lot of people and eventually left CSO to help the farmworkers. In 1962 he resigned from the group because he had decided to devote himself to organizing a union for farm workers.

According to biography.com, Chavez formed the National Farm Workers Association in 1962, they joined with the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee and in 1972 they merged together and became known as the United Farm

Workers. In September of 1965, the Farm Workers Association voted to join a strike held in Delano's grape fields that had been initiated by Filipino farm workers. Chavez insisted on nonviolence. He relied on volunteers from urban universities and religious organizations. Chavez chose to draw on the imagery of the civil rights movement with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s approach as his guide. Utilizing mass mobilization techniques, he led a famous march on Sacramento in 1966, and thereby brought the grape strike and consumer boycott into the national consciousness.

In answer to the question, "Why is Cesar Chavez important to you?" Los Angeles Leadership Academy senior Jeison Reyes answered, "Cesar Chavez is important to me because I am a latino and he fought for the farmworkers and their horrible working conditions. He didn't just help the farmworkers but he also motivated the latino community to unite and fight for their rights."

University Spotlight

You See Berkeley

BY ALICIA LOPEZ
Managing Editor



University of California, Berkeley, is a public research college in Berkeley, California founded in 1868. Berkeley was rated the number one public university for the seventeenth time by US News in 2014, The and was voted third best global university behind Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology by US News in 2015.

The University of Berkeley is the number one producer of Peace Corps Volunteers, and it has 170 academic departments and programs. Also, UC Berkeley owns 12 million book volumes in their libraries. Berkeley's students and alumni have won 103 gold medals, 47 silver medals, and 35 bronze medals in past Olympic games, this demonstrates the length of UC Berkeley's educational both physical and mental. They have 29 Nobel Prizes held by alumni, according to the UC Berkeley website, this shows that students at Berkeley are surrounded by examples of leadership.

Berkeley has the acceptance rate of 17.3%, which makes it one of the more selective schools in the country. The

average GPA of freshman admitted into the college is 4.19. There are currently 27,126 undergraduate students and 10,455 graduate students. 52% of students are female and the other 48% are male.

UC Berkeley has 1,620 full-time faculty members; thus a seven to one student to faculty ratio. 73% of UC Berkeley's undergraduate classes contain 30 students or less.

This is significant because smaller sized classrooms are more beneficial to students because they can ask more questions and receive a deeper understanding of the material. Berkeley offers 170 academic programs and departments.

The student's budget serves as the foundation for determining their financial need as well as the amount of qualified aid that can be offered to them. Cost-of-attendance figures are established through student surveys and other research and can also be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Tuition is \$13,432, room and board is \$14,388 on campus, and average book and supply cost is \$1,240, according to UC Berkeley's website.

The total cost of attendance for students living on campus is \$32,646, the total cost of those living in an apartment is \$27,306, and the cost of those living with relatives is \$23,060.



News & Features

What's Zika? Should You Be Concerned?

BY **STEVEN GARCIA**
Managing Editor

The Zika virus is an apparently mosquito-borne virus. The virus was first detected in Uganda in 1947-named after the Zika forest where it was found-in rhesus monkeys through monitoring a system of sylvatic (relating to certain diseases when contracted by wild animals) yellow fever. Afterwards, it was found in humans in 1952 in Uganda and in the United Republic of Tanzania. Most of the outbreaks have been in Africa, the Americas, the Pacific Islands, and Asia.

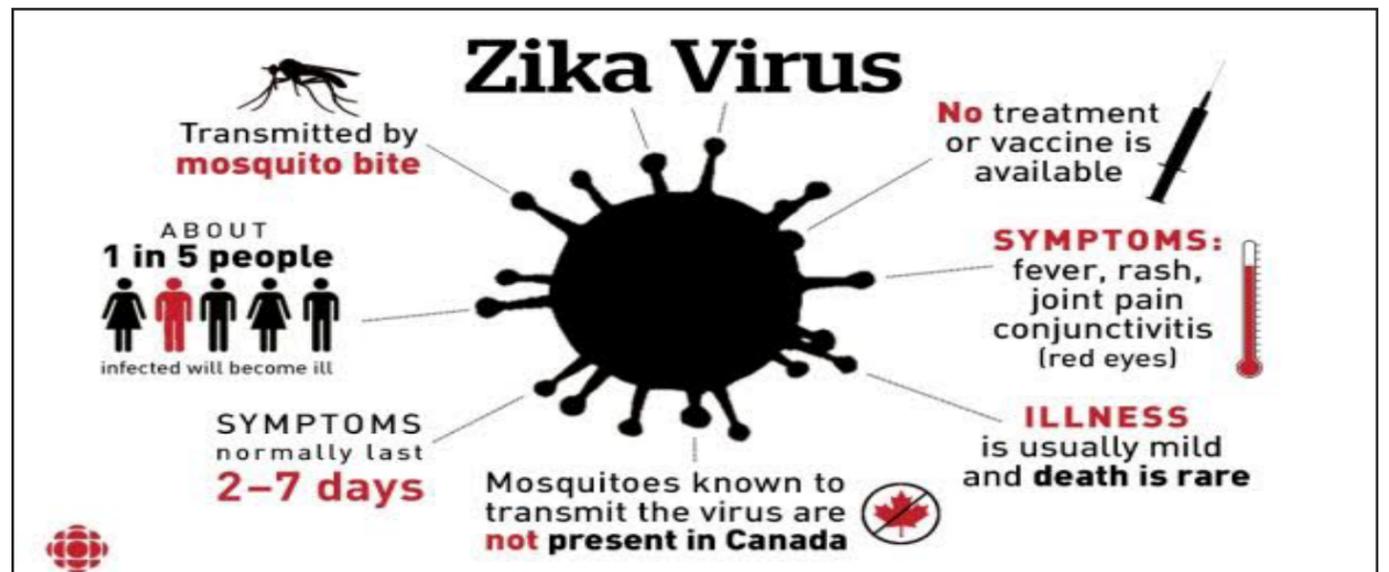
This virus is transmitted by the bite of an infected mosquito from the genus *Aedes*. This mosquito has also been known for carrying dengue fever and yellow fever.

The first outbreak reported outside of Africa was in the Pacific in 2007; it reappeared in the same place in 2013. It was later reported in the Americas in 2015. Thirteen other countries in the Americas have reported the sporadic appearances of the typical behaviors of this virus.

In May 2015, officials reported the first occurrence of the Zika virus in Brazil. Local mosquito-borne exchange of the virus has also been reported in Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, in the Caribbean as well as in American Samoa in the Pacific Ocean.

Reports about Zika in the United States have been plentiful in Florida, New York, and Texas. These refer to people who have reported that there is Zika not necessarily that the people have acquired the virus. In Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, and American Samoa, these cases are confirmed because the people have been afflicted by it.

The incubation period (the time from exposure to the signs of affliction) is ambiguous, but most likely a few days. Some of the symptoms include: fever, skin rashes, muscle and joint pain,



and headache. These symptoms are usually not that serious and last for about 2-7 days. One way to know if a person has the virus is to ascertain the symptoms and then to know the area of the world to which person has recently traveled; of particular importance, is whether the area is known to have contained the virus. Another way to tell if someone has been infected with the Zika virus is to have a test done by a laboratory to confirm whether the virus has been contracted.

One way to prevent the Zika virus from spreading is by reducing the amount of reproducing sites for mosquitoes. Standing water serves as a breeding ground for thousands of mosquitoes. Buckets left out for a week after a rain can be a spawning ground for a lot of mosquito larva that will mature and contract the virus passing it on to the human population.

To avoid being bitten, it is vital to wear insect repellent, light-colored clothing that covers most of the body, and to keep windows and

doors sealed.

Because the Zika virus does not have life threatening symptoms, it does not require specific treatment. Once a person has been infected by the Zika virus, there is a high probability that he or she will be protected from future infections. According to Everyday Health "10 Essential Facts About the Zika Virus," written by Jennifer J. Brown, PhD, "For most people, the Zika virus causes only a brief, mild flu-like illness. But new research points to a possible connection to higher rates of Guillain-Barré syndrome, a condition in which the immune system attacks nerves following an infection, causing muscle weakness and paralysis."

Some helpful ways to aid recovery include: getting a lot of rest, drinking lots of fluids, and using common analgesics for pain. If, however, the symptoms get worse, it is important to consult a doctor. To this date, there is no vaccine for the Zika virus.

For women that are pregnant, extreme caution is recommended when traveling because of the

Zika's harmful effects on the unborn fetus. It is highly recommended that pregnant women returning from Zika infested countries take a test to confirm whether she has contracted the virus. There have been reports of serious cases of birth defects connected with Zika. If a pregnant woman has the infection, it is likely that it will spread to the fetus.

The type of birth defect most often reported is one affecting the fetus' brain called microcephaly. Microcephaly has been known to make the heads of babies smaller than what is normal for both the age and sex. This congenital (present from birth) disease is usually a sign that the brain did not develop normally during pregnancy.

The Olympic Trials As of Now

BY **RENE GAETA**
Staff Writer

Summer Olympics are only 141 days away; in preparation for the Olympics, all of those who wish to participate must compete and win their respective trials in order to determine which athletes will be representing the United States. There are 42 sports that will be contested during the Olympics, which means 42 US Olympic trials will be held at various locations throughout the country.

The trials are all organized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), which is headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The USOC is responsible for the training and funding of U.S. teams for the Olympics. The USOC also approves the trial sites and procedures for the Olympics. Another organization that assists with the trials is the National Governing Bodies, oversees all aspects of their individual sports. The NGB's are responsible for the training, competition, and development for each of their sports, as well as nominating athletes to the U.S. Olympic Team.

The marathon trial was just recently held on February 13, 2016 in Los Angeles, California. The winners of the Olympic Marathon were Galen Rupp as the men's champion who ran the marathon in 2 hours, 11 minutes, and 12 seconds. Amy Cragg was the women's winner who ran the marathon in 2 hours, 28 minutes, and 20 seconds.



The next Olympic Trial that is related to the marathon is the 50K race walk that took place on February 21, 2016 at Santee, CA. John Nunn won first with a time of 4 hours, 3 minutes, and 21 seconds. The last sport in this category will be the track and field events, which will be held on July 1-10, 2016 at Eugene, Oregon. In total, there will be 36 games played for both women and men ranging from sprinting to disk throwing.

The wrestling trials will be held at Iowa City, Iowa on April 8-10. This event will take place at the University of Iowa's Carver-Hawkeye Arena. A relatable fighting sport, Tae Kwon Do, took place on February 2-7, 2016 at Reno, Nevada. The event will take place at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. USA Gymnastics and the United States Olympic Committee have awarded the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for

women's gymnastics to San Jose, California, and for men's gymnastics to St. Louis. Scheduled for June 24 and 26, the men's trials will be held at Saint Louis University's Chaifetz Arena. The women's trials are set for July 8 and 10 at SAP Center at San Jose.

Besides land sports there are also water sports. USA swimming announced the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials will be held on Sunday, June 26, through Sunday, July 3, 2016, in Omaha, Nebraska, at the Centurylink Center Omaha. Other water sports are canoeing/kayaking slalom, which will have two events instead of one. The first event will take place in Charlotte, North Carolina on April 7-9, 2016 and the second event will take place on May 7-8, 2016 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Synchronized and unsynchronized diving off the 3-meter and 10-meter will take place at Indianapolis, Indiana from Saturday, June 18 through Sunday,

June 26.

The US trials on this article are based off the Topend Sports Poll, which is a poll that rated the most popular sports in the London Olympics. Gymnastics, aquatic sports, track and field, wrestling, and tae kwon do all together received a 67% out of the other sports. Other sports include: archery, badminton, basketball, beach and regular volleyball, boxing, cycling, equestrian, fencing, football, golf, handball, hockey, judo, rugby, shooting, table tennis, triathlon, and weightlifting.

NBC will be the main channel to watch the Summer Olympics.





Activities Page

NAME: _____



St. Patrick's Day is a holiday that is celebrated on the 17th of March every year. According to History.com, the mythology behind the day is surrounded around the Saint, St. Patrick. The belief is that the saint was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave, but he later escaped and was accredited with bringing Christianity to Ireland.

Over the years, St. Patrick's Day has gained popularity around the world. It is celebrated heavily in the United States, Canada and Australia. Aside from the states, it is also celebrated in places like Japan and Singapore. According to History.com, today, almost 1 million people celebrate the holiday.



- | | |
|------------|----------|
| CLOVER | LUCK |
| GOLD | MARCH |
| GREEN | POT |
| IRISH | RAINBOW |
| LEPRECHAUN | SHAMROCK |

Happy St. Patrick's Day



St. Patrick's Day: Fun Facts

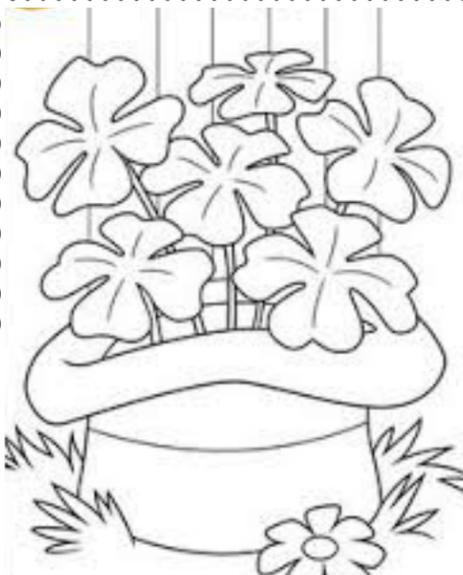
- More than 100 St. Patrick's Day parades are held across the United States; New York City and Boston are home to the largest celebrations.
- Corned beef and cabbage is a traditional St. Patrick's Day dish. In 2009, roughly 26.1 billion pounds of beef and 2.3 billion pounds of cabbage were produced in the United States.
- The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in the United States on March 17, 1762, when Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched through New York City.
- Irish is the nation's second most frequently reported ancestry, ranking behind German.



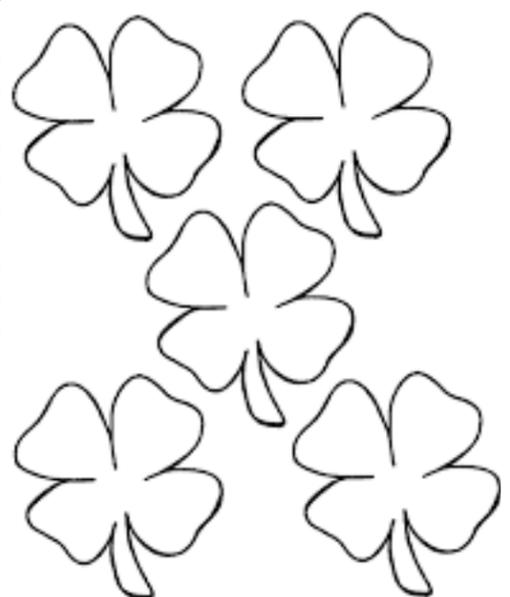
Piglet's Shamrock dailycoloringpages.com



5. The tradition in America is to pinch anyone who isn't wearing green on St. Patrick's day. While legend says that wearing green makes you invisible to leprechauns, who pinch anyone they see.



6. The color blue was originally associated with St. Patrick's day. Green became associated with Ireland because of the Emerald Isles and the wearing of the shamrock on men's clothing.



7. There are no female leprechauns. In traditional Irish folk tales, there are only nicely attired little guys.



8. According to legend, St. Patrick drove all of the snakes, or in some interpretations, the "toads," out of Ireland.



Easter Day

BY **MERCY QUINTANILLA**
Staff Writer



There are many religious groups that take place and there are two specific ones that people are not aware of.

The Greek Orthodox is a Christian faith that follows the teachings of the Lord God and savior Jesus Christ. The Orthodox Church believes with love in their souls and hearts that they are a part of the mystical body of Christ.

The Roman Catholic Church can trace its history to Jesus Christ and the apostles. Over centuries it developed a highly sophisticated theology and elaborate organizational structure headed by the papacy, the oldest absolute monarchy in the world.

On Easter, Catholics celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It is also important to note that Easter Sunday comes at the end of 40 days of prayer.

Through spiritual cleanings and self-denial, they have prepared themselves to die spiritually with Christ on Good Friday; the day of his crucifixion so that they can rise with him in a new life on Easter says Scott P Richert, Catholicism expert.

Easter to many is a day to go to the park, hide eggs, and brunch with loved ones. The true meaning of Easter is what people do not recognize. Easter celebrates Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead; it is Christianity's most important holiday. It has been called moveable feast because it does not fall on a set date every year.

The forty-day leading up to Easter Sunday, is a time of reflection and penance and represents the forty days that Jesus spent alone fasting in the wilderness before starting his ministry; a time during which devils tempted him.

When asked how she spends Easter, senior Eileen Gonzalez said, "A day with my family where we hide eggs filled with candy and find them", She also said "Easter is just a day to get together with her family, there's no true meaning."

Symbols are sometimes combined in Easter celebrations. For example there are various candy models of rabbits with nests full of eggs. Eggs, rabbits, hares and young animals are thought to represent the re-birth and return to fertility of nature in the spring. Every bunny needs a nest, so the practice of preparing nests for the eggs followed the legend, says discovery news. The basket, which also can be a symbol for a tomb, represents the nest, says Jeanne Carrigan, a nun with the sisters of St. Francis.

Possible International Threats

BY **STEVEN ESQUIVEL**
Staff Writer

According to CNN, people across the United States have been scared of the threats that North Korea has made towards our country over the years. The question is how serious are the threats posed by North Korea? Threats made by North Koreans are serious because if the North Korean government is able to create weapons of mass destruction along with the requisite launch vehicles, as they claim, this could destabilize the geo-political landscape.

North Korea has tested their missiles on the Pacific side of the world and every time they test one it gets a little further than the last one according to The Washington Post on April 4, 2013. North Korea announced that they had a missile that could reach Washington DC.

If their missile really can reach that far then it creates a potentially fearful situation for the American people, but according to The Washington Post's diagram included with the previously referenced article their missiles are far under the range for the United States to be concerned. According to various reliable news authorities like the Washington Post, CNN, and the Military Times, the United States is in no threat.

According to CNN, on January 29, 2016, North Korea failed in their test of a hydrogen bomb. According to military intelligence, there have been components of hydrogen bombs on abandoned islands and on the sea found by North Korean officials and seen by U.S State Department, which did not really give exhaustive detail on this subject.

Russia and the United States are signatories to the Open Sky Treaty, which allows unarmed observation flights by each country over the entire territory of all 34 member nations to collect information and to control arms. According to a Fox News report on February 22 2016, the reason why Putin wants to fly over the United States with Russian planes is because he feels a need to see how much we have progressed, how our military has grown, and where our guns are (@state.gov) and (@armscontrol.org).

Senior intelligence and military officials worry that Russia is taking advantage of technological advances to violate the spirit of the treaty. The Marine Corps Times also stated that Putin asked The United States for permission on February 22, 2016 to fly his aircraft equipped with high sensors that can see guns over the United States.

The Supreme Court: What is It?

BY **KARLA MARQUEZ**

The legality or the Constitutionality of all laws and issues is decided by the Supreme Court. They are the highest court in the country. It consists of nine justices and takes judicial precedence over all other courts in the nation. When the President decides whether to approve a law or action, he does not have the final word on the subject, the Supreme Court does. The Supreme Court makes sure the President does not abuse his power. If they believe the President is doing something he should not, they can overrule it.

The President nominates the judges for the open positions on the Supreme Court and the Senate approves or disapproves the judicial candidates. Once approved to the Court, justices serve for life. They can be removed by impeachment, but usually they either retire or die while



serving.

Nine justices, nine people who decide on bills that are being proposed. Some people refer to the Supreme Court as the "court of last resort," because they are "last option," and they hold the most power. When lower courts cannot decide how to interpret a law, the Supreme Court may intervene to avoid confusion. The Supreme

Court keeps order within the government.

Update: On the 16th of March, President Obama officially announced his nominee for the Supreme Court: Chief Judge Merrick Garland. In a facebook post, made on President Obama's facebook page, he said, "Today, I'm proud to nominate Chief Judge Merrick Garland to the Supreme Court. No one is more qualified to serve our country right now in this critical role."

After the announcement, Chief Judge Garland shared his thoughts on the subject. In his speech he summarized what he had done to be the best civil servant he could be and he ended it with the following: "Mr. President, it's a great privilege to be nominated by a fellow Chicagoan. I am grateful beyond words for the honor you have bestowed upon me."

Violence in Anaheim

BY **AHIESSER AGUILAR**
Staff Writer

Anaheim - Violence broke out February 27 when Black-Flag Chicanos, anarchists, and local Anaheim citizens counter protested a Ku Klux Klan rally. The rally was to be held in the Orange County community of Pearson at Pearson Park, according to an article by The Los Angeles Times February 26, a day before the protest, as many as twenty Klan demonstrators were expected to be at the vast park at 10 am.

"I thought the KKK stopped existing," restated Luz (shine) Rodriguez, Anaheim citizen. Through a phone call last Sunday, "Usually, I've seen a couple of Skinheads at this park and Neo-Nazis but not the KKK." The Voice.

Brian Levin, director of CSU San Bernardino of study of hate and extremism, who was a bystander, told the LA Times he stood in between the angry mob and the protesters until police officers finally arrived on the scene. "I don't know how long I could've held them back. Only one other guy tried to stop them. I've seen this before. You don't want a hostile crowd with a stationary target. Once you got a crowd going, it doesn't stop."

Brian Levin was requested for an interview with The Voice, and responded with "Give me your number" but has not called or emailed The Voice.

Three people were stabbed (One Klan Member and two other counter protesters) and thirteen arrested (six Klansmen and seven counter protesters) were the results of the brawl, one counter protester who was shown in the video kicking a klansman while she was on the floor is still on the search. According to the LA times, the brawl commenced as soon as a Klansmen driven SUV pulled up in front of the counter protesters. All but one of the thirteen arrested were released before the 72- hour limit.

Many people demand to know why the Police did not arrive sooner. Officer Wyatt announced publicly Saturday morning prior to the scheduled start time of the rally, "If you don't need to be there, don't go there," he told the Los



Angeles Times prior to the protest. What led to the announcement by the officer?

The Klan members said that the purpose for the rally was to raise awareness and protest against Hispanic and Muslim immigration theming the rally "White lives matter too."

The concern over immigration among American residents has had a dramatic decrease in recent years, but has now begun to rise because Donald J. Trump has dredged up the issue when he announced he would be running for President of the United States.

The candidate has promised to build a wall surrounding the southern border, promising the wall will have full effect on preventing immigrants to cross the U.S. border illegally.

When asked by NBC reporter Katy Tur that if El Paso Texas has had the lowest immigrant criminal rate in years, why is he stating that the issue on illegal immigrants is getting worse and worse in an NBC interview released July 8th, 2016, he hollard at the reporter "These aren't just Mexican people- the people who are forced, Mexico doesn't want people, they're forcing them into our country, and they're putting them in our jails and our country." Donald Trump has done a notable job in promoting immigration awareness

"If it weren't for me, it (illegal immigration) wouldn't even be a big subject," stated by Trump in the first 2016 Republican debate aired on Fox News. Former Ku Klux Klan grand wizard had encouraged followers that "a vote against trump at this point is treason to your heritage."

The kkk was known to have major political power in the south during the 1900's and believed that justice meant Jim Crow. "I do support his candidacy, and i support voting for him in a strategic action" statement by the Grand Duke just 2 days before the rally.

Donald trump responded with "I know nothing about David Duke, I know nothing against white supremacy" in a CNN interview with Jake Tapper February 28th at 6:09 AM, he then was asked if he would disavow the Ku Klux Klan for their white supremacy, Donald Trump responded with "You wouldn't want me to condemn a group I know nothing about- I'd have to look, if you would send me a list of the groups I will do research on them and certainly I would disavow if I thought there was something wrong (with the group)"

Enraged Activists, Individual Anarchists, Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice (SHARP), and individuals set up a march on Saturday March 5th. The gathering was held at Ted Watkins Park in Watts, which would be the starting point for the march. "We were the first to arrive at the park" Sabrina Houde, South Central Drunk Punks Activist told The Voice in an interview on March 12.

The Protesters marched from the park to MacArthur Park, where they would discuss the problem of modern racism. The activists scheduled a protest to happen on April 2nd, in the same park that the Klan held the rally.



News & Features

Beyoncé's Formation Controversy

BY JOCELYN PEREZ
Staff Writer

On February 7, 2016, millions of Americans watched the NFL Super Bowl 50 in which the Panthers played the Broncos. Many fans were excited whether which football league team would win; however, many people also eagerly waited the halftime show.

Beyoncé performed her new single "Formation" alongside the performances of Bruno Mars and Coldplay. Her performance referenced the Black Panthers and the Black Lives Matter Movement. Some people were not happy with the Black Panthers tribute.

Former New York City Mayor, Rudy Giuliani, responded that Beyoncé's performance was an attack on law enforcement due to a fist in the air, which was a "power fist" referencing the Black Panthers along with the costumes of the group of black female backup dancers which was a homage to the early seventies movement as shown by having their hair styled in afros topped with berets.

Many people were happy with Beyoncé's performance message, some tweeted: I love that Beyonce's dancers are giving us Black Panther chic.- Touré (@Toure) February 8, 2016

I love that Beyonce used her platform for a political statement. It's always needed, because it's too often Black voices go unheard -Anyesha V. (@nyshaV) February 8, 2016

Beyoncé is subtle yet loud with her Black Lives Matter movement- Chima Onukwuru (@highchief_chima) February 8, 2016 ("Beyoncé References Black Panther Party at Super Bowl Halftime Show."Fox News. FOX News Network, 08 Feb. 2016. Web. 14 Mar. 2016.)

Other people disagreed and believed the performance's homage of the Black Panthers is now "cool" or "okay" to embrace violence and mayhem.



Some People were so offended that they created an Anti-Beyoncé protest rally in response, which was to be held on February 16 outside of NFL headquarters in Manhattan, New York City. An unnamed organizer planned the rally online calling all people who have been offended by the performance and video.

According to Rolling Stone, only three people showed up Tuesday morning to publicly denounce the performance. Few anti-Beyoncé protestors arrived, but approximately 30 Beyoncé and Black lives Matter supporters waited holding signs saying, "get information!" and "Pro black doesn't mean anti white."

A volunteer for Ted Cruz's presidential campaign, Ariel Kohane said, "I was expecting to meet thousands of people." A Beyoncé/ Black Lives Matter supporter, Cherno Biko responded, "It's easier to be a racist online than it is in real

life."(Jamieson, Amber. "News, Sport and Opinion from the Guardian's US Edition | The Guardian." The Guardian. Guardian News and Media, 16 Feb. 2016. Web. 26 Feb. 2016.)

Melina Matsoukas directed Beyoncé's "Formation" music video released on February 6, 2016. The video depicts issues including the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, racism, police brutality, antebellum, and Louisiana creole culture. It features Beyoncé lying on top of a police car in a flooded street, an appearance by her daughter Blue Ivy Carter representing Beyoncé's appreciation for natural black hair, and a young African American boy dancing in front of a line of police officers behind a graffiti covered wall tagged, "stop shooting us."

Controversy began after the music video was released when two filmmakers tweeted saying that "Formation" used footage from

their 2013 documentary of the Katrina disaster without their approval.

Filmmaker, Abteen Bagheri said he denied their request to use footage. According to Entertainment Weekly, Beyoncé's representative, Yvette Noel-Schure, states the documentary footage was used with permission and licensed from the owner of the footage, which is noted in the credits.

However, both filmmakers Chris Black and Abteen Bagheri claimed that they did not give permission to the artist or director. (Mcafee, Melonyce. "CNN - Breaking News, Latest News and Videos." CNN. Cable News Network, 9 Feb. 2016. Web. 26 Feb. 2016.)

Sports: How Does the NFL Draft Work?

BY LEONARDO MERO
Staff Writer

Many teams and players start a scouting process at the beginning of each season of their particular sports. Questions that come to the table are "How do players get drafted? What does it take for players to be at the top of the selection charts? What are the regulations that take place in a draft? How likely is it for a player to do well in the pros after a draft?"

To begin, a sports draft is a process of allocating players to sports teams. In a draft, teams take turns selecting from a pool of eligible players to find the best new talent to fit into their current structure: players who will contribute to the team's overall potential for success.

When a team selects a player, the team receives exclusive rights to sign that player to a contract, and no other team in the league may sign the player without compensating the original team.

In anticipation of the draft, teams and players will have been preparing for months, if not years, for that special day. Before the final drafts picks are made scouts and signers look for young talents to bring in the league and add to their arsenals.

College players begin to showcase their abilities the very first day of the season. Most college players are already ranked.

To be ranked, players have to go through a rigorous workout called the NFL combine, which takes place a couple months before the draft. Most people will arrive at a training facility during the first week of January.

Athletes typically have up to six weeks



to work with performance and position coaches at these facilities, (Updated: Feb. 20, 2015 at 06:02 p.m. by NFL Ambassador).

Sports scouts will spend most of their time searching for new talent by watching and documenting either young or already established players in their respective fields, and then attempt to sign up players for the organization they represent. While computer software is increasingly helpful in keeping track of a player's statistics, it is still the job of human scouts to assess the skills of players and make judgment calls as to whether or not they are a perfect fit

According to article posted on ncsa-sports.org, the following are five essential questions a player must answer during the scouting process.

1. Do I have a detailed and measurable recruiting action plan?
2. Do I fully understand the recruiting timeline?
3. Do I have a properly edited video to promote my abilities?

4. Do I have a surefire way to know when coaches have seen the video?
5. Do I know which coaches are recruiting my position?

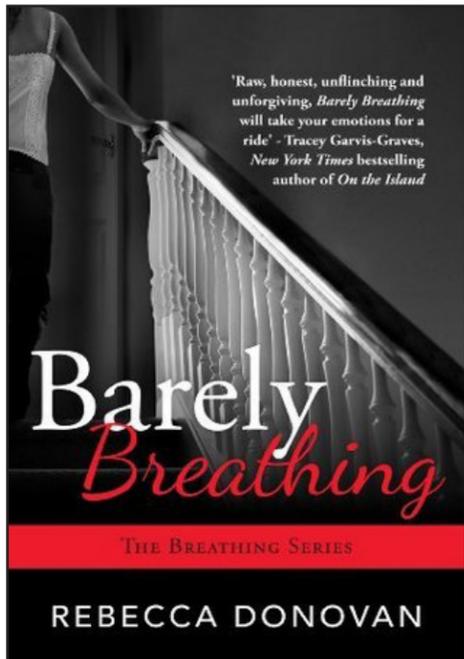
This post By Evan "Tex" Western, where he talks with Damarious Randall will provide a more in depth understanding of the process. "It was an amazing feeling hearing my name getting called. Green Bay and their coaching staff believing in me, it was a very exciting moment for me and my family." The real question is what was his relationship with the team and what type of communications he had with the team: Randall shared this "I spent a lot of time with them at the NFL Combine, and I spent a lot of time one on one with the Secondary coach...I can't even recall his name, to be honest." (Evan "Tex" Western on Apr 30, 2015, 11:01pm).

The 2016 NFL Draft will last for three days, starting Thursday, April 28,

and the first round pick will be given to the Tennessee Titans after their lackluster season. Scouts have already set their eyes on their first picks; however, a prospect's success can still be in question.

NFL Kickoff 2016 will begin on Thursday, Sept. 8. Marcus Mariota the assumptive first round pick had 19 touchdowns, 10 interceptions, 2,818 yards, and a 91.5 rating in his 2015 season. (By Danny Kelly and Stephen White on Oct 25, 2015, 11:00am).

We will have to wait for the NFL teams to begin the action on the field to prove whether the draft picks were at all useful. So, just like anything special in life, the NFL Draft has a mixture of work, skill, and difficult decision-making in order for the teams and talent to have the glory.

*Literature Review***Reason to Breathe**

BY KARLA ESQUIVEL
Staff Writer

Barely Breathing, the second book of the Breathing Series. Rebecca Donovan has done it again. Following the events of the previous book, Emma is still struggling to survive her evil aunt. This time she's not fighting it alone; she has her new boyfriend, Evan and her best friend Sarah.

It's all over now. Her aunt's abuse is over now, but now all of Weslyn knows her secret. What will she do now? What will happen to her two small cousins who she promised to protect from the cruel reality?

"I mean how can you possibly follow an ending like that without coming up short? How the hell do you top that? I don't know how, but she did it!! Oh my God! Rebecca Donovan totally did it!! She answers by writing a kick ass sequel! There wasn't anything I didn't like; my stomach stayed tied up in knots the whole time. The plot contained so many twists and jaw dropping surprises; it was flawless. The romance is so heartwarming, heartbreaking, and INCREDIBLY HOT!!! To say this was an emotional ride would mean to redefine the term understatement." - Says Tough Critics Book Reviews.

"Barely Breathing is pretty much everything I love in a novel, realistic drama, heartfelt vulnerability, and even a bit of fun/comedy. It will take you, as cliché as this sounds, on an emotional roller coaster, send you hurling towards the edge, and then leave you gasping for the next installment!" - Says Novel Days.

Critics are calling this book, "heartwarming, heartbreaking, fun, etc." This book, and the rest of the series, will take you on an emotional rollercoaster. There will be romance, angst, twist and turns that will define Emma's future.

This book is great for anyone who wants a good read on angst, romance, and a bit of comedy. It will have readers wanting to find out what happens to Emma.

Movie Review: DEADPOOL

BY DIANE RODRIGUEZ
Photo Editor

Twentieth Century Fox slaughtered box office records with its new Marvel film, Deadpool, drawing in \$152.2 million worldwide on its first four day weekend. Stunning audiences everywhere with its humorous, blood-bathed fight scenes and smart aleck, yet catchy, remarks. Deadpool was highly praised for faithfully following the protagonist's origins. Ryan Reynolds not only does an incredible job of bringing the character to life, but hits the nail when playing "the merc with the mouth."

First created by artist Rob Liefeld and writer Fabian Nicieza, Deadpool's first appearance was in The New Mutants #98 in February 1991 published by Marvel as a character named Wade Winston Wilson. The concept designs for Deadpool were influenced by Spiderman of the Marvel franchise and Deathstroke, a character from the DC Universe.

The whole image and personality of Deadpool is supposed to be a parody of Deathstroke because both of them have similar names and fighting styles, but have completely opposite personalities.

Deadpool quickly rose to stardom within the comic book community not only for his hilariously unique personality and kick-ass fighting skills, but also for daring to break the "fourth wall" - an imaginary "wall" at the front of the stage in a traditional theatre where the audience sees the action in the world of the play- by actually talking to readers instead of pretending that the viewers don't exist.

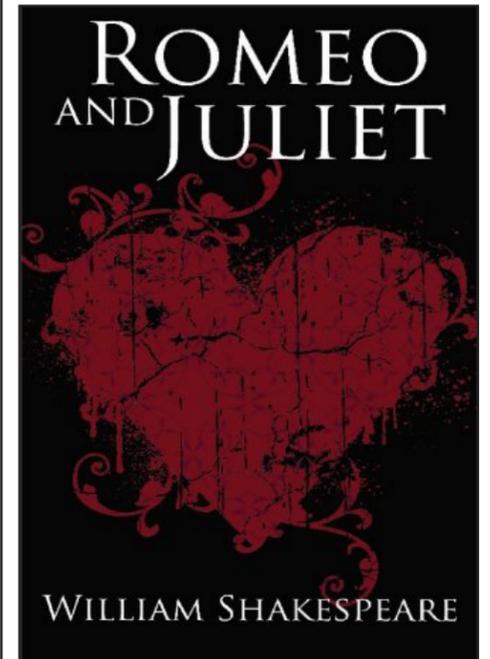
He is also well known for his dark, twisted humor. Even though Deadpool has many nicknames, he's mostly known as the "merc with a mouth" due to the fact that he just won't shut up; but then again, that's what many people like about him.

Not following the X-Men Origins: Wolverine timeline, Deadpool depicts Wade Wilson's background and his transformation into the anti-hero known as Deadpool.

During these events, the film jumps from the present to the past and back to the present allowing the viewer to understand the motives that lead the audience to know who Deadpool is.

Being banned in China and highly edited in India for being rated R and "too violent", Deadpool is a must see. It's gory, hilarious, and just downright intense

And, let's not forget Stan Lee's cameo, which is to die for! Overall, there are no flaws with the scenes or the dialogue between the characters. Everything adds up. As a result, Deadpool gets five out of five lions.

*Literature Review***Romeo and Juliet**

BY KARLA ESQUIVEL
Staff Writer

Romeo and Juliet is a play by William Shakespeare, which is almost universally required reading for American high school freshmen. The drama tells the story of two rival families, in the city of Verona, the Capulets and the Montagues. These two families have been feuding for years. The reader does not meet the main characters - Romeo and Juliet - immediately.

In order to establish the nature of the interfamily conflict, the reader first encounters groups of servants each group working for a different rival family. As the servants are walking through the town square, they see the rival family's servants. They decide to insult in a manner that will keep them "... on the windy side of the law ...," but that will provoke the opposing band into starting a fight. The fight breaks out and becomes both large and desperate with many joining in on each side.

After the prince enters and subsequently calms down each side through a threatening edict, the audience finally meets Romeo, son of Montague, who crosses paths with his cousin Benvolio. They discuss a woman Romeo loves and Benvolio, seeking to comfort the depressed Romeo, tries to help his cousin forget about her.

Meanwhile, Juliet's father, Capulet, is planning to give his daughter in marriage to Paris. Paris is a kinsman of the prince. Lord Capulet hosts a masquerade ball inviting everyone except the Montagues. Benvolio hears about this and suggests Romeo go and forget about the other woman. The two agree to go along with Mercutio, their old friend, as guests and thus they sneak inside.

While dancing, Romeo sees Juliet and instantly falls in love with her. After the party, Romeo goes to Juliet's balcony where the audience witnesses the famous balcony scene. That night, the two "star-crossed lovers" decide to get married with the help of a friar and Juliet's nurse.

This sets up the problem of the two families finding out about this combined with the deeply seated enmity and distrust the two families bear for each other.

This story includes lots of romance, drama, a really rushed marriage, and terrible decisions. This story is all around us; referenced in numerous other movies, books, and much, much more. Shakespeare may be dead, but his work will always remain with us. Teachers will require students to read this and make real life connections to it.

This story teaches anyone who reads it to think before making a decision that may change what will happen next.