

The Scuttlebutt

Garfield's Student Newspaper

March Issue



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The Oscars

By: Diana Calderon

For years, we have celebrated and awarded the best films of the year through one of the most prestigious awards, the Oscars. On this one day, some of the best screenwriters, actors and actresses, and film directors attend this highly-televised award ceremony and receive the highly-coveted Academy Award.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) was first established in 1927 by Louis B. Mayer. The purpose of the Academy Awards has always

been to recognize excellence in cinematic productions and filmmaking. The AMPAS now annually hold these award ceremonies, awarding those chosen by the AMPAS. The AMPAS is a voting committee made up of more than seven thousand members and is divided into about 17 branches.

The first Academy Awards ceremony was held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel on May 16, 1929 and broadcasted on the radio. It wasn't until 1953 that the awards were televised for the first time. Today, the awards show is seen live in over 200 countries. (time-lines.latimes.com) Since then, movies like *Titanic*, *West Side Story* and one of the most recent, *Moonlight*, have been awarded for best motion picture.

The Oscars have become a significant part of pop culture and history, but are they still relevant? A publisher, by the name of Jeffrey Fleishman, from the LA Times had a lot to say about this. Fleishman argues that the Oscars are losing relevance and states, "They have lost their mojo amid rising oceans, sexual abuse scandals and slain schoolchildren". (latimes.com) Indeed, allegations of sexual abuse and harassment have incessantly bombarded the film industry and spoiled the Oscars. It goes without saying, sexual abuse has become some-

thing widely spread and talked about since mid-October of 2017. Harvey Weinstein's case inspired hundreds of women, mainly in the film industry, to speak up about their experiences with sexual harassment. This started movements like #MeToo and Times Up.

Additionally, a recent mass shooting took place in Parkland, Florida that resulted in the unfortunate deaths of seventeen students. With his statement, Fleishman might be implying that the public has no time to worry about something as trivial as the Oscars and instead should center their attention on what's really important. This year, the Oscars were aired on March 4th and the views were not great. The audience dropped to about 26.5 million, an all-time low.

Yet, looking back at the history of the Academy Awards, it becomes quite obvious that we, the public, should continue supporting them. They have been around for so long and are a representation of what the Hollywood community values. The Oscars have been around too long to be forgotten about. Thus, they should be viewed and supported.

Walk Outs Anniversary

Garfield Walk Outs

By: Ivan Hernandez

It's been a whopping 50 years since the famous East LA Walkouts took place in 1968, and our generation refuses to let go of those feelings that our predecessors held before us. Countless heroes risked their lives to grant us the equal treatment and education that we have today. It is because of this that our school recently held a commemorative assembly on March 1st to celebrate the event that took place five decades ago. With this assembly came a menagerie of culture, reminding us of our Aztec roots with commemorative dances, and inspiring stories, speeches, and performances of dozens of young Chicanos who spent hours rehearsing to make this event possible. Three speakers, John Ortiz, Robert Verdugo, and Yoli Rios, were also there to briefly speak about their experiences and feelings as they walked out 50 years ago. Yes, they are the living proof of those events, and continue to inspire countless young Mexicans even now, showing that their feelings and dedication did not simply end after the "Blowouts". Of course, I think it's time for me to give my honest opinions about the assembly and what I believe could have helped it become an even greater success than it already was.

The 1968 "Blowouts" are an inspiration to everybody in our community. There is no doubt about that. If they hadn't taken place, there's no telling what would be of us today. Because of this, there's no surprise in the fact that some teachers (namely Mr. Garcia, A.P. United States History teacher at Garfield High School) want to inform the community and students at Garfield about these events. It's a part of history that isn't in the textbooks and isn't really known outside of our community. It's a bit unfortunate that it's not, but that's something that may change in the years to come with future alumni of schools like Garfield, Roosevelt, Lincoln, or any other that took place in the Blowouts. However, the first step to doing that is to bring awareness to the Blowouts. Knowing this, Mr. Garcia organized one of the largest assemblies that Garfield has ever had, filling our school auditorium to the brim! The crowd cheered and clapped at every possible moment, and it was clear that everybody was engaged. My own English teacher even said, "That was probably the best assembly I've seen at

Garfield in my 14 years teaching here." Although there is no denying that the assembly was great, I did have a few issues with it that personally bothered me, along with what I would have loved to see more of.

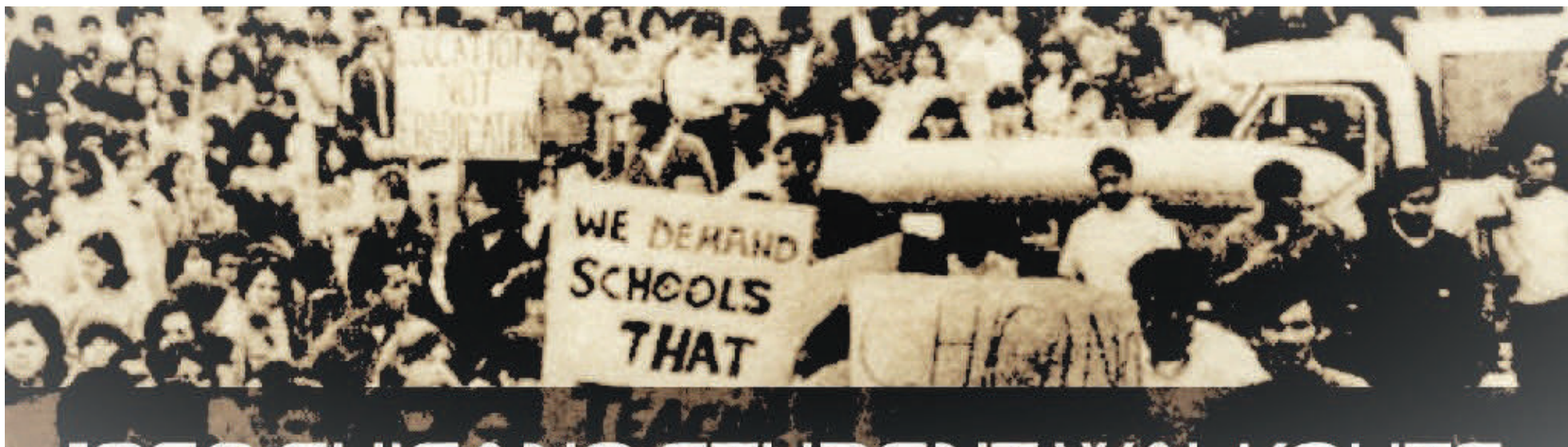
The assembly seemed a bit disorganized. Perhaps it was not intentional and was originally well organized in the planning, but something seemed to have gone amiss halfway through. It started off well, with mariachi playing in the opening and an Aztec dance show following suit after. We were then introduced to some important people from LAUSD and heard a few words from our principal and other administrators. It wasn't until I heard that there were going to be eleven student performances before we were to be introduced to the guest speakers that I felt that something was a bit off. Eleven just seemed like a bit much for me, but I figured that they may simply be quick and would be done in no time, so I didn't think much about it. However, it soon began to feel like it was going on for a bit too long. I remember checking the time on my phone (yes, I am a bit guilty of looking at my phone from time to time in assemblies like this) awhile into the assembly and noticing that we were already about halfway done with the period while we still had a good amount of student performances left before the real meat and potatoes of the assembly were going to occur, that being the three guest speakers John Ortiz, Robert Verdugo, and Yoli Rios.

Both before and after the performances, there were a few signs that we may be pressed for time and running off schedule. Students were asked to save their applause for the end until all performances were done, but the crowd was too riled up to follow those guidelines. This may have been a factor in one of my complaints, but I personally believe that the real issue lay in the large sum of student performances. Eleven was simply too much to cram into an hour and a half if we wished to do everything on the schedule. There were a few that I also think could have been cut out (with no offense directed toward any of the students) so that we could focus on what I believed to be the highlight of the assembly, and this is without me bringing up a certain performance that I had a bit of personal beef with. We earn our grades through blood, sweat, and tears! Though I mean no personal offense to you, it's just a bit of a problem I had with some points made during the speech.

By the time the actual guest speakers were able to talk,

there was only about ten minutes left in the period before everyone would be let out for lunch. Robert and Yoli were able to at least give a brief sense of their feelings, but John seemed to be a little disappointed in the little time he had. It's clear that they wanted to speak more. I mean, they had over 1,300 young minds to speak to right then and there, almost all of Mexican background and bearing the fruit of the passion from the Blowouts. What was done in that auditorium that day was only possible because of people like them. From the little that we heard from their mouths, it's clear that they had a lot to share with us. I was also quite interested in hearing more about what happened in those days, not through a Hollywood reenactment, but rather from a genuine perspective of people who actually lived through it. Ten minutes was simply too unfair a time to give them, especially when they went out of their way to come and see and talk to us. If we had cut down a bit on the performances, this would have been possible. Earlier I mentioned that they were only able to "briefly speak about their experiences and feelings", but even that may be an overstatement. They only managed to introduce themselves and say a word or two about the Blowouts.

This is without even considering the fact that an entire section of the assembly, the Q&A portion, was cut out. With a whopping 1,300 students attentively paying attention, there's no doubt that having a Q&A portion would have had a great impact on the students. In my eyes, it was simply unfair to both the audience and speakers that they were unable to give a full view from their perspective. However, the assembly was still one of the best and most audience-based that I have seen since I began attending Garfield High School. I don't mean to bash on the people who organized and performed throughout the assembly, and I know that weeks of hard work was put into it. But I still do believe that some things simply could have been done better. I don't want to leave this on a sour note, so I'll at least say that I did have fun at the assembly. It was a breath of fresh air and clearly had passion written all over it. Overall, it was a great experience, and I'm glad I was able to witness it and want to thank all the teachers who let their students experience it with me. Hopefully this doesn't end up being a one-off thing and instead starts a string of movements both within and outside of our school, as there is still a lot that must be done.



Garfield Walk Outs

By: Elisa Fonseca

In March of 1968, five high schools led a series of walkouts to bring attention to the hardships East Los Angeles students were facing. Garfield along with Lincoln, Belmont, Wilson, and Roosevelt High School participated and started the Chicano Power Movement to fight against the poor quality of education they were receiving. These walkouts paved the way for many more Chicano students to dream big and pursue a higher education.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Chicano blowouts, Garfield's very own Mr. Garcia and the History department organized an inspirational assembly where students had the opportunity to speak out and reflect on their experiences as Latinos. Student performances were given by a majority of those taking AP U.S. History with Mr. Garcia, ranging from dancing to singing to even rapping. Most students expressed their gratitude for the fight of those before us because it provided current East LA students with better educational opportunities and a future full of possibilities.

In particular, one student utilized the assembly as an opportunity to shine a light on the current issues of Garfield. This student, Valeria Gamboa, expressed concern for Garfield's seemingly not so random searches claiming they target certain students and disrupt the learning environment by imposing fear in the school environment. Valeria's speech was very controversial amongst students and staff, which led to many students expressing their own opinions on social media.

Additionally, Yoli Rios, Bobby Verdugo, and John Ortiz, all former students who actually contributed in making

the walkouts a reality back in 1968, spoke during the Garfield assembly. After the assembly had ended, Verdugo stated, "I'm so overwhelmed and emotional right now, I can't describe it. The energy in this room reminds me of the energy that we had back in '68. It's that young, pure energy and it's honest and it's gonna take us into the future. Thank you for allowing us to be here to share some of our old stories and to let us hear your new stories and to see the work that we did fifty years ago, the legacy continues. You are our legacy." Indeed, this assembly inspired many and gave a new-found voice to students who fear speaking out. Everywhere you look, Garfield students are more empowered than ever and ready to incite important change.

A New Classroom Addition: Guns

By: Bryan Canales

On Wednesday, February 14, a school shooting in the state of Florida took place, which unfortunately resulted in the death of multiple students and faculty members. Due to this incident and many others that have occurred in the preceding months, President Trump believes that teachers should be given the right to carry firearms in school. Needless to say, this plan sounds downright foolish and ridiculous. But, is there a small chance that something so absurd like this might work? As risky as it sounds, no one really knows if this strategy will or won't solve the problem of school shootings in America.

Yet, we can be certain that particular teachers will have great fun with their newly-given teaching tool. In fact, I

know of a certain teacher whose name will not be given, who believes they'll be able to cosplay Han Solo with their new instructional weapon. It's undeniable that a small percentage of teachers will enjoy being entrusted with a firearm, yet additional problems could arise by having a gun present in a classroom. Indeed, what if a student obtained possession of the gun? What, then, would be the best way to stop another shooting if the student were to grab the teacher's gun? The solution is so simple that no one would ever think about it. We would need more guns.

Not only will more guns help prevent more shootings, they will also help teachers keep students engaged. With firearms present in the educational environment, children will actually start paying attention and doing their homework lest they want to face some serious life-and-death ramifications. It goes without saying, teachers will no longer need to verbally discipline their students. Instead, a teacher can slowly pull out their "strap" and students will immediately begin to behave. Additionally, firearms are really warm when fired so if a teacher ever faces an extremely cold day, the teacher can fire off a couple of shots to keep their hands toasty warm.

Now, what if a teacher decides to not carry a gun because they are scared of it misfiring and possibly hurting a student? Fear not teachers. In addition to a firearm, President Donald Trump stated that there would be a salary bonus for those teachers who opt to carry a gun. Sure, this might sound like bribe, but once teachers become accustomed to their guns, we'll have safer classrooms and richer teachers. After all, what teacher wouldn't get the pleasure of keeping their students safe and disciplined all for an extra paycheck. Indeed, if anyone ever tries to terrorize another school again, you best believe that our teachers will be locked and loaded. Let's hope they don't miss their shots.



Op-Ed



Dogs

By: Angel Olivas

Tens of thousands of years before modern society, man had began its long symbiotic relationship with the grey wolf. Soon after their bodies shrank to fit into purses, they became playful enough to tease, and they also became enamored with us. They became what we now know today as dogs. As much as we love our dogs, they unfortunately don't speak any human languages so it's difficult to know what dogs are thinking. This begs multiple questions of our dogs like can you dream? Why do you howl at 3 A.M. at absolutely nothing? Do you know how much I love you? As ridiculous as it may be, some scientists went from asking these questions to their dogs in their dog voices (the voice you use when addressing a particularly cute dog) to actually performing experiments to find out for themselves.

In order to answer the question "can dogs dream?", we need to understand what exactly dreams are in humans. Strictly speaking, dreams are images, thoughts, and experiences we have while sleeping. This happens most often during the rapid eye movement or R.E.M. stage of sleep. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Services, R.E.M is the deepest stage of sleeping during this state our heart rate and breathing become inconsistent, our eyes are moving rapidly (as the name suggests), and our skeletal muscles are paralyzed. At this point you may be thinking to yourself, "well this is

all well and good, but I was baited by pictures of cute dogs and we've spent the past paragraph discussing humans and their dreams." The reason that we need to understand R.E.M. in humans is because there is evidence that dogs also experience R.E.M. According to veterinarian Dr. Ernie Ward, dogs do experience different stages of sleep, and although we have five and they only have two or three, both species share R.E.M. It is also observed that dogs go through some of the same physiological changes that humans do. Therefore it is highly likely that dogs do dream. The real question then is what are they dreaming about?

Unfortunately, even though dogs do dream sometimes they don't sleep at the same time as we do, and they get bored in the middle of the night. So they begin to howl and wake us and other dogs up in the middle of our R.E.M. stage, then suddenly all the dogs in the neighborhood begin howling. The reason this happens is because dogs howl as a form of communication. This isn't to say this is the only reason dogs howl or bark. According to veterinary behavioural specialist Dr. John Ciribassi, there are many different reasons that dogs bark or howl. For instance, howling is a way for dogs to mark their territories, express anxiety, vocalize pain, or sing. If any of those reasons stuck out to you it would probably be singing, and for good reason, as we don't often think our dogs would try to sing. But according to Dr. Ciribassi, they do! In fact when asked on the subject during an interview he said, "[howling] is a fun activity for some dogs-kind of like singing in the shower." So whenever your dog barks while you sing it's possible

that they just want to perform a duet with their owner!

While these other two facts were very wholesome and innocent, I would like to break the fourth wall for a moment and advise the reader of something. This next fact is so sweet that you may develop diabetes. Be cautious when reading this next statement: Dogs can and do reciprocate feelings of love even stronger than humans do. In fact according to associate professor of evolutionary anthropology at Duke University, Dr. Brian Hare, "...dogs and humans have a very special relationship. This is because dogs have actually hijacked the human oxytocin bonding pathway that is normally reserved for our babies. When you stare at your dog, both your oxytocin levels go up, the same as when you pet them and play with them. It makes you both feel good and reinforces your bonding. Does your dog ever stare at you for no reason? They are just "hugging you" with their eyes." If dogs and humans experience the same biological processes when seeing each other it is entirely possible that we might not understand how much our dogs love us.

In the end, even if we cannot understand our dogs using human language, and even if they cannot communicate to us in dog language, one thing is certain. Somehow, despite all odds, we know our dogs love us, and our dogs know that we love them.

Not Your Basic Yoga

By: Dayana Primero

"There are many reasons people practice yoga. Yoga can benefit people on many levels, such as body, mind, and spirit. Practicing yoga postures and breath can help people cultivate a healthy lifestyle, for example, keeping fitness, eating healthy food not junk food, relieving the pressure, and following the regulations of nature." (quora.com)

Ordinary yoga is pretty simple since you only focus on breathing and on possessing an "intention". However, practicing yoga solo is boring. Instead, we can all practice yoga with a loved one or even a goat. As crazy as it may sound, goats have been really popular when practicing yoga since having another being present allows for interaction. But let's be realistic, if your parents don't allow you to bring over your girlfriend/boyfriend, what makes you think they are going to let you bring a goat home? So, I've come up with a solution. Use your own pet! Put your dog, cat, pig, or whatever animal you may have on top of you and strive for that Locust pose. Did I mention that you'll save about \$50? If you're a person who practices yoga, you could be saving a total of \$17,500 per year! You could sure use that money on important things like college.

Furthermore, doing yoga with your pet after a long day full of annoying classmates sure sounds relaxing. This could help you concentrate on your studies and keep you healthy. Just make sure your pets go to the restroom before the workout because you wouldn't want to buy a new mat or clothes.

Reviews

Ultra Instinct

By: Leonardo Gonzalez

This week I just finished an interesting book, *Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell. This book deals with the topic of unconscious thinking. According to Gladwell, we all make decisions in a matter of seconds. The decisions we make instinctively are sometimes more important and impactful than the ones we take 15 to 20 minutes to ponder over, also known as conscious thinking. For instance, take the Millennium Challenge, a war simulation the United States conducted many years ago. On one side there was the United States, or the blue team, who possessed resources that allowed it to see the other team's movements and actions in combat, economy, and government. The other team which was lead by Paul Van Riper, had almost nothing compared to the United States. Van Riper was simulating a nation in the middle East acting as its leader. Needless to say, the blue team (U.S.) acted with total confidence believing they knew everything that Riper would do. They outnumbered Riper's team and used all kinds of mechanisms to predict Riper's movements. However, he fooled them all and used quick decision making to attack back. In a matter of days, Van Riper killed 20,000 Americans before they even landed in Riper's simulated country.

Paul Van Riper had been in multiple wars. He read a vast amount of books on military strategy that further developed his instinctive military skills. In situations like wars it is absolutely essential to make quick decisions. We have all found ourselves in certain situations where we have to make decisions in a matter of seconds. Many of us refer to these instances as a "gut feeling." In order to successfully "thin-slice", as the author calls it, we must train our decision making. For example, let's look at Vic Braden, tennis player, who knew instinctively when an opposing player would double-fault. His predictions were almost always correct. The reason he was so adept at predicting this was because he had over 50 years of playing and coaching tennis under his belt. During all those years, he had unconsciously developed a mindset for tennis that enabled him to think with great insight and knowledge in anything tennis-related.

For yet another example of how unconscious thinking develops, it's important to turn to Bruce Lee. Bruce Lee was one of the greatest martial arts fighters of all time. He once said, "I do not, it hits all by itself." With this quote, Bruce Lee is referring to his body and how it acts during fights. Because of years of practice, he had trained his body to act by itself without wasting time consciously thinking through a fight and thus waiting time.

Unconscious thinking is a powerful tool that is hard to understand. It is something we can all acquire but it does take time to develop. Unconscious thinking can help us make important decisions, decisions that are right and decisions that will steer us to the correct path in life.

Black Panther

By: Luis Alonso

Currently, there is a movie that stands above all others at the box office, *Black Panther*. *Black Panther* has grossed more than \$500 million dollars domestically, shattered expectations, and made box office records. This superhero film is a movie about T'Challa, a king from the fictional country of Wakanda. To the world, Wakanda is seen as a third world country, but in reality it is a highly-advanced nation. However, the people from Wakanda believe that being excluded from the rest of the world is a better option, because what they have is too valuable to share with everyone else. Vibranium, the so-called strongest metal in the world, is what enabled Wakanda to become so incredibly advanced. Though they are the most technologically advanced country in the world, they still see the importance and impact of tradition on their country. T'Challa inherited the throne from his father T'Chaka, but a ceremonial fight is done to see if he is worthy of actually being king. He shows he is worthy and retains the respect of his followers. Then Erik Killmonger, T'Challa's lost cousin, comes into play, and he wants to take the throne from T'Challa. Killmonger wins there ceremonial fight, and

gains the title of king. Killmonger shares his ideals saying that what Wakanda has is a gift and that being separated from the world will lead to their demise. He says, "You are either the conquerors, or the conquered." The two philosophies of T'Challa and Killmonger are completely opposite from one another. T'Challa wants to be a good king and he believes by keeping their society a secret he is actually helping them. Killmonger, on the other hand, wants to show the world what Wakanda is and thus become the conquerors, not the conquered. His ideas come from his childhood where he witnessed, first-hand, all the injustices faced by people of African descent. In contrast, T'Challa witnessed his father, a good man and beloved king, rule a lively and advanced land. Thus, T'Challa wanted to possess the same ideals his father had. Yet, after he realized his father killed Killmonger's father, T'Challa was at a cross-road. These two different philosophies converge and, in the end, T'Challa reclaims the throne. But, he realizes that the true way to help people is by sharing the gift Wakanda was granted. Indeed, *Black Panther* embraces diversity, and given how heavily the Wakandan culture itself plays a role, the film adeptly addresses current issues of race and economic disparity. *Black Panther* culminates with the idea of black pride, and shows us the quality aspects of their culture.



Once-a-Year Presents

By: Argelia Perez

Christmas and birthdays are usually the two occasions that most people, especially children, look forward to every year. This is mainly because of the presents they will receive from the people close to them. To most children, there is nothing like waking up to a table filled with presents to celebrate their birthday. To the children, these two occasions make them feel special and appreciated. Unfortunately, some people don't experience these amazing occasions twice because they were either born close to Christmas Day. These people only expect presents one time a year.

Children usually have a hard time understanding why they only get presents one time a year especially when they begin to realize that other children receive presents two times a year. The phrase they hear the most is "here you go, for both your birthday and Christmas." However, as they begin to grow up, most realize that the amount of presents doesn't matter and, for a lack of a better phrase, they realize it's the thought that counts. However, they still may feel "cursed" because they only have one time a year to look forward to.

Being born on Christmas Day also has more negative effects. These children don't have the opportunity to

have all their relatives present on their birthday celebration because some relatives might celebrate Christmas with others. Some children may also not fully feel special because they have to share the day with everyone else. They might not think it's fair that they have to buy two presents a year for people while they only receive one present from each person once a year. Regardless of all the negative things, most of these people learn to appreciate the presents they do receive. After all, the main purpose of presents is to show someone that you thought of them and that you appreciate them. These children are also taught to appreciate the presents they receive because some people don't receive any presents at all. Although it's understandable that these children will have high expectations since they wait all year to receive presents, they should ultimately focus on the positive aspects of celebrating their birthday on Christmas Day such as having a more memorable day.

McDonald's Szechuan Sauce: Snack or Trash?

By: Sebastian Carbajal

Recently, McDonald's began to distribute a new sauce with chicken nuggets called Szechuan sauce. This particular sauce seems to have taken the internet by storm. But to understand this popular sauce, we first have to

look at its origins. Well, at first, this sauce with origins from the culinary and martial arts country of China was given as an option for sauce with chicken nuggets when Disney's animated movie *Mulan* was released back in 1998. It wasn't really a big deal and for the most part it was utterly forgotten until recently.

An animated adult cartoon by the name of "Rick and Morty" popularized the sauce describing how delicious it was and how it was worth going back in time just to try it again. Because of the effect pop and internet culture has on our society, the series fanbase took the internet by storm petitioning that McDonald's should bring it back. Now that the sauce has returned and we can try it without the hassle of going back in time, what is its rating on the "Snack or Trash" scale?

I was lucky enough to get past a mob of "Rick and Morty" fans at my local McDonald's and got my grimy hands on some Chicken McNuggets and the oh-so holy sauce. When I first took a bite out of my nugget dipped in Szechuan, my tastebuds were met with a taste reminiscent of what I could describe as a mix of teriyaki sauce, soy sauce, and sesame sauce. Overall the sauce was okay and was not as amazing as the show described it to be. I rate McDonald's Szechuan sauce a 6/10 on the "Snack or Trash" scale. If you're a fan of the show or would just like to try something new on your nuggets, go ahead but I will be sticking to Mickey D's barbecue sauce on my nuggets. Because it is a Snack or Trash!



Net Neutrality

Streaming Music and Artists

By: Jai Tlatenchi

In this new magnificent world of technology and innovation consumers are spoiled with all sorts of luxuries. Movie lovers no longer have to go out and walk or drive to a local Blockbuster to rent a film. The convenience of services such as Netflix and Hulu drove companies like Blockbuster completely out of business. Music lovers don't need to go out and buy their favorite music song by song or album by album; all they have to do is buy a subscription to Spotify or Apple and listen to music all they want. Compared to the cost of buying songs by the album, music streaming services are significantly cheaper. And although this is great for the buyer, many of us rarely consider the creators of the music we so fondly consume.

Four years ago, the popular artist Taylor Swift pulled the vast majority of her songs off of Spotify. Swift states that she did so because of how little the payout was for all the work that was put into her music and encouraged other artists to follow her example. Yet, the last thing that's on any of our minds when we listen to music is how much money the artists are making on these services. Some artists spend years making an album, putting in unimaginable work, just for us to listen to it all we want for virtually next to nothing. To have music downloaded onto our devices we can download one of the many services such as Apple Music or Spotify and pay a measly ten-dollars a month or we could pay absolutely nothing to search songs up on YouTube and enjoy them. With streaming being the more popular way of obtaining music, it makes you wonder just how much money artists are now making.

A chart released by Digital Music News shows the amounts different services pay their artists per stream. It shows that the service with the most users (YouTube) pays the least amount of money, giving their artists \$0.0006 per stream. For an artist looking to make money on YouTube, it would take 2.4 million views just to make minimum wage. The chart continues to list off the statistics of many other services: Pandora pays \$0.0011, Spotify \$0.0038, and Apple \$0.0064 per stream.

The amount artists get paid through these services is near nothing. It's no wonder why Taylor Swift would secede from Spotify: the pay simply does not compensate all the effort and work put in. If a star as big as Taylor Swift believes they're being underpaid, then the music artists who are just beginning to make their way into the scene are really in trouble. These artists aren't even earning a hundred percent of the money they earn. Their contracts probably entitle them to about fifteen percent of what they have earned. So if you feel proud that you listened to your favorite artist's songs a hundred times on Apple, you've only given them about a dime.

Sadly, these services are just too good to give up. Not many of us have the money, but if you really want to

support your artist, buy an album, or better, go out and treat yourself to a concert. It's a way for you to enjoy yourself while still allowing your artist to do what we love them for.

Why Net Neutrality Should Stay

By: Mayra Reyes



Since its foundation, our country has continuously stood firm on the principles of liberty and freedom. These significant values have helped us constantly progress and it is crucial for us, as a country, to further practice these values. With this in mind, net neutrality has granted countless individuals an extended and constant exposure to different topics and perspectives via the internet. Hence, we must see the repeal of net neutrality as a national issue because in maintaining net neutrality, we're guaranteed the freedom to choose the content we access.

The right to choose is a major component of having freedom and by removing net neutrality, hundreds of millions of individuals are being stripped of their right to choose what they can or cannot view. Removing net neutrality goes against one of this country's principles while also jeopardizing how the country moves forward into the technological era. It's critical for the country's future to be constantly progressing and developing in

the technological world. According to Internet Association, the implementation of net neutrality has created a rapid and constant 58.4% increase in innovation from 2010-2012, proving to individuals that net neutrality spurs, not hinders, innovation. This positive increase demonstrates the beneficial effect net neutrality has on technology.

Sadly, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to repeal net neutrality on December 14, 2017. This means that we'll possibly have to pay for Twitter,

Sparknotes, and other helpful websites a year from now. This will in turn greatly affect us because we are constantly relying on information for either educational and personal purposes and having to pay for online services will prevent us from accessing critical information. It's as if our freedom is being taken away. Dramatic as it sounds, it is important that we continue to have the freedom to do as we wish whenever we wish. Because net neutrality guarantees the same online access to everyone, with its removal, big companies like AT&T and Comcast are allowed the power to limit the information accessed online. Either way it should be our liberty to choose what websites and applications we should use. With an extended exposure to websites and applications we are able to gain knowledge. Knowledge is power and power is knowledge. By taking action in order to protect net neutrality we, as a country, guarantee our freedom to choose when we are online and because of this it is imperative that we fight for our present and future.

Who says being a screenager is bad?

By: Derek Ramos

For starters, what is a screenager? A screenager is a person, in their teens or early twenties, that has an aptitude for technology and spends an abundant amount of time on the internet. The term "screenager" definitely has a negative connotation associated with it because we, as screenagers, have an addiction and are disconnected from the real world. More often than not, these wide-held opinions discourage those born in this millennium. In reality, screenagers very might well be part of the greatest generation in the history of the human race. In a world where technology is taking leaps into the future, screenagers will have the upper hand and it's time we realize it. Screenagers will have the best shot at obtaining a job than those that came before us and we will become the leaders of the next generation.

Being a screenager in modern times will almost certainly get you a job almost anywhere because of one simple fact: technology is ubiquitous. Nowadays, people are so dependent on technology that it has become a part of who we are and a fundamental aspect of everyday life. Technology not only serves to make the lives of the affluent easier but those of workers as well. Indeed, many companies, such as Google and Bing, have begun to utilize even more sophisticated technology which welcomes more job opportunity and employment. In the article "Spotify, IBM and Google Using AI to Make Human Musicians Extinct? AI is learning to write pop music. Hide your ears" by Kevin Maney, it states, "He's careful not to sound like some kind of musical Dr. Frankenstein. Instead, Pachet talks about building AI that can be a songwriting partner, 'like the Lennon that needs a McCartney,' he said in one interview. 'We are building companions and collaborators who are smart enough to give good ideas to humans, but they are not sufficient to create it all on their own.'" To recap, an AI (Artificial Intelligence) is being used to help create hot new singles that doesn't go through the process of having to hire so many artist and singers to make some. This is where being a screenager comes quite in handy. Being part of the generation that has become the most integrated with technology, understanding sophisticated machinery is highly beneficial. If you notices the article talked about an AI that helps create music, not all on its own, meaning there is still some human to help the AI, whether it be with music or its own operating system. People may see this as yet another job machines are taking from people, but for us, the screenagers, it opens up doors of opportunity for work. Most computers use the same type of software that our phones use and future jobs will likely require a person to be well-acquainted with this kind of software. It's almost guaranteed that in the coming years every job known to man will involve technology in any capacity.

Screenagers also have the responsibility of leading the next generation on the correct path. The generations that come after the screenagers will have the same involvement, if not more, with technology. It's their job to make sure those generations surpass what the screenagers have done. Screenagers will showcase what technology is capable in the hands of those who know how to use it. Since we are the first of our kind, it is up to us to ensure that we share our experiences. Above all, it is our job to secure the future and to make sure the next generations do not make the same mistakes

screenagers did. The belief of being addicted to technology and developing less social skills is just that - a belief. Ultimately, an increase in involvement in technology has more upsides than downsides and screenagers will greatly benefit from all of them.

How Net Neutrality Will Affect the Anime Community

By: Carlos De Los Santos

With the end of net neutrality, we can't help but wonder how this repeal will affect the internet and the community. While the retraction of net neutrality will have wide-reaching effects on the internet as a whole, this egregious repeal will also have a harmful effect on the anime community. The retraction of net neutrality could lead to higher prices for legal anime streaming, a decrease in the western industry's sales, and a larger division between Western and Eastern fans.

One of the more negative aspects of the repeal of net neutrality laws is that it allows internet service providers to block or slow down websites. The provider could then either charge the company running the site or the consumer to have these websites unblocked. With mainstream streaming sites like Crunchyroll being one of the easier and cheaper methods for watching anime legally, an internet service provider could block the site and create a paywall for access. The exact opposite could occur as well. AT&T owns Crunchyroll, and that means they could possibly block off other anime streaming services in order to move customers towards Crunchyroll. The lack of choice could make people watch less anime in general or even turn towards piracy instead of paying.

The changes can also damage industry sales in the West

as a whole. The anime market has always been scarce in western countries, but in the past decade, there has been a surge of popularity in anime, mainly due to the internet. Before the internet, a person would need to buy DVDs to watch anime or watch the scarce amount available on television channels like Toonami. The anime market was not very big in the West, and the Japanese industry considered it an afterthought despite a few exceptions. Through the advent of the internet, the community has grown greatly. An abundance of anime became available online and easy communication through social media has brought lots of new ones in. Most of the anime community can be found online, and it is the main source of anime consumption. If the end of net neutrality leads to price hikes, the whole western industry could suffer major losses.

This might also lead to a divide between the English and Japanese anime communities. The western market has only been considered important to creators in recent years since it's becoming a larger source of profit. If the western part of the industry begins to suffer profit losses, the animation studios could lose faith in the western market which could, in turn, cause a large divide. We could see less merchandise and physical copies of shows make their way to the west. The industry would regress to a state before the internet became such an integral part of the community. It would be difficult living in the U.S. as an anime fan.

It's now more important than ever to make sure we keep our internet service providers accountable for their actions and try to create change and activism within our communities in order to ensure we can keep watching and enjoying the media we love. Though the changes may not be immediate, we cannot grow complacent with the state of the internet and allow ourselves to pay more and get less. I implore everyone to contact their representatives in Congress and express that this is an important issue. We have the power to create change, and it is important we do so to protect the things we love.

