

CORYDON JUNE 2008

Fish Are Friends

By Karen Dewey
Staff Reporter

Religion is a serious thing. It's easy to get angry and throw fits if you smell disrespect.

Christianity has a lot of influence on culture in America. You may have seen cars with the Christian fish symbol on the bumper. This represents Christian ideals, and may have a cross or the word Jesus inside it.

Another breed of guppy has moved into the spotlight as well, swimming in quiet contrast to the Christian Ichthus. This fish has sprouted little legs and sometimes bears the name of scientist Charles Darwin.

It's a cute idea, but some take offense at what they believe is an insult to their intelligence and faith. But the Darwin fish is no inverted crucifix. It's a parody, not a declaration of eternal opposition.

It's hard to see why a land-crawling fish would hurt any feelings. Unless the viewer is already prejudiced against anything with Darwin's name on it, there's no reason his fish should bring anything to mind but a clever connection.

Knuckle Crackers, Don't Worry

By Maria Carbonell
Staff Reporter

You're sitting in class waiting to take your final. You're obviously nervous, so maybe you crack a knuckle or two. Or maybe you're bored at home and you crack your knuckles to make that "crack" noise just to irritate your mom, who is constantly telling you to stop because it'll lead to arthritis.

Knuckle cracking has become a common nervous habit for many people, but it doesn't lead to arthritis.

When you crack your knuckles you're moving the joints out of place. In between the bones is a fluid called synovial fluid. When you pull your bones apart pressure is reduced on the synovial fluid causing bubbles to quickly form and explode making that "crack" noise.

There is no scientific evidence that cracking knuckles will lead to arthritis. It can, however, weaken your grip when you repeatedly crack beyond its normal physical range.

So, unless you're a pitcher planning on signing a multi-million contract with the Dodgers, you don't have to give it up. Crack all you want, whether it is just a bad habit or a way to relieve your nerves before taking your finals. When you crack your knuckles you're moving the joints out of its place.

How Much Does Divorce Affect Teens?

By Capri Myles
Staff Reporter

I believe that divorce affects the majority of teenagers. Sometimes when people get into relationships, especially young women instead of working out conflicts, they feel that they should not just break up with the person.

Sometimes it's a reflection of what their mother or father did. Instead of dealing with the problem and solving it, some feel like divorce is automatically the answer in the relationship.

Divorce also has an effect on teens because the child ends up being with one of their parents all the time. If she's lucky, the child spends half the time with the other parent.

If both parents fight over their issues they need to fix them before trying to include a child into the confusion of their life.

Got Pus?

By Yesenia Espinoza
Staff Reporter

How about some pus in your cereal? Well according to organizations such as PETA you may be in taking this.

Polsilac is a widely known growth hormone, which is widely used by farmers in order to increase the amount of milk produced by cows. This overloads the cow causing an udder infection (mastitis), so when milked pus and bacteria flows right into the milk. An approximate of 1 through 7 drops of pus is found in a normal glass of milk.

Just about every state is currently producing more pus than what the human should consume, which can cause the consumer dangerous effects such as colon, breast, and prostate cancer.

Mrs. Murphy states that people should try to find more information on how this impacts other products as well as what other alternatives are there to help improve this situation taking in an account the outcomes.

A Pregnant Pause on Life

By Jessica Daniels
Assn't Editorial Editor

Just under one third of all girls in the United States get pregnant in their teenage years. Every year about 750,000 teenagers will get pregnant. Of those teen parents about one third of them actually finish high school.

Having a child while still in high school brings many responsibilities. Teen mothers barely have time to care for themselves because they're responsible for another life. It's hard for adults to take care of their children, so of course it's going to be hard for teens.

Teens need to understand how important it is to safeguard from having a child before they're ready for one. It's not easy being a teen parent, and moreover, it costs a lot.

Letters to the Editor

All About This New Trend

I agree that drinking coffee and other caffeine-filled energy drinks has become a trend to teens. I also agree with Mr. Lawler's statement on how it makes teens feel grown up and how they try to keep up with their latest friends. As a coffee drinker myself, I do tend to get hyper or go crazy. I also read that drinking these will make us teens not grow and I doubt it. It doesn't cause me to urinate more and lose my appetite but I do agree that this can cause sleeplessness and I have not experienced shakings or headaches from drinking lots of caffeine, I only experienced being hyper or laughing really hard. I really enjoyed this article and have a few agreements and disagreements with this article. Great job!

Gabriela Velasquez
12th Grade

Racing...a Sport?

I was just writing to you to let you know that I disagree with your opinion in your article "Do People Tire of Racism." You make some good points, but racing is not a real sport. It may be popular and take hard work, but that doesn't make it a sport. A real sport takes your body into play, not a vehicle.

Felipe Mora

Corydon Entertaining

I read the Long Beach clean up article I was there to help and volunteer. Other articles that caught my attention was about cramming for the exam, the keeping up is easier than catching up, and the latest trend. Though I enjoyed reading them, I was able to catch a glimpse of some spelling errors. Other than that, keep up the hard work.

Kristell Yap
12th Grade

Cheating Is an Art

I found this article to be extremely annoying, especially since cheating has become something of an art form for me. I have developed several infallible systems that implement everything from the correct way to look at someone's paper, to programs that do your math homework for you. Cheating is an art and should be treated accordingly. Knowing the right way to cheat, is equally important as knowing the actual subject.

Kei Snyder

Coffee is a NO NO

I agree with The Latest trend article. Parents use the false statement that coffee will stunt your growth all the time. However caffeine is not really as bad as the article says. Caffeine is prescribed for migraine headaches on top of its ability to keep you awake while you cram for that test or do the last minute homework.

Carolyn Scroggins

Dublin's Last Year at Millikan

By Jessica Daniels

Ass't Editorial Editor

Steve Dublin has been a teacher at Millikan for 19 years. He worked for LBUSD for 35 years in all. He has really enjoyed teaching economics, government, and International Negotiations.

"I will miss the interaction with students. Teaching students is the reason you go into teaching in the first place," stated Dublin.

Now that he is retiring he plans to volunteer at his son's school, Fremont Elementary. He also wants to volunteer at the Long Beach Education Foundation to continue as Cubmaster with the Cub Scouts to become Mr. Mom, and to try to edit 15 years of video tapes and pictures.

His advice to other teachers would be to never forget that what you do is very important to our society. Also, teachers are the gatekeepers of the American dream.

"There is nothing very easy about teaching. As skilled as you get, you can always improve. There is always more to learn. Teaching is a road that never ends," he says.

Dublin will greatly miss the students and the staff at Millikan. "It has been an honor and a privilege to work for LBUSD and Millikan High School."

A Star Act Leaves Campus

By Maria Carbonell

Asst. Feature Editor

She's an actress, a singer, and president of the COMPASS Academy. She's starred in school plays such 'Cinderella' and 'Oklahoma'. Who is she? She's none other than Rory Woodbury.

Woodbury has also participated in: 'The King and I', 'Pride and Prejudice', 'Fiddler on the Roof' and 'Witness for the Prosecution'.

She received her first lead role her junior year in 'Cinderella', but prior to that she has been the understudy for the lead in the 'King and I' and 'Oklahoma'.

Woodbury loves theater: "It allows you to take on an entirely different persona. It is so much fun to get into the mind and movement of a different person."

Besides drama, she has also been involved with COMPASS activities as well as service learning opportunities.

Even with play rehearsals and other school activities she has still managed to keep up her GPA.

The key to her success? She is a very good time manager. She knows when to have fun and when it is time to get down to business.

"I plan out times when I know I will have more time to study and do my work, but I also have pulled many late nights or early mornings in order to complete my work," she states.

Woodbury plans to attend Long Beach City College this fall to major in theater and be a part of the honors program there. She also plans on getting involved in local theatre companies, such as the Musical Theater West.

Bruce Brown's Been Around

By Jaden Netwig
Staff Reporter

Bruce Brown, Millikan's 36-year teacher of U.S. and world history, government, and geology, is finally retiring.

During these years, he has challenged his students to write and think with a historical vigor similar to that of Brown himself.

From his early years on, he had an urge to help people. Everything fit into place during his own 11th grade history class, when his instructor Mr. Taylor captivated him with exceptional teaching. Taylor was his inspiration for majoring in and teaching history.

Each June, Brown travels to Texas to meet with AP History teachers and professors from across the country to score AP exams.

The best thing about Millikan, says Brown, are the "students and loyal faculty." He says, though, that the students are what really make Millikan a great place to teach.

Brown describes his career as "exciting". It took a sharp turn, though, when Brown challenged himself to teach advanced placement and honors U.S. history.

This proved more difficult, but it paid off in the impact that his lucid methods of teaching had on students.

One of these students was Kevin Schaffner, a QUEST junior, who said, Mr. Brown has revealed my love for history. He is the driving force behind my desire to major in history."

It was exciting for Brown to find students transformed by the end of the year, gaining an appreciation for history.

Kevin Jafarey, a QUEST junior, applauds Brown for this, saying, "The thing about Mr. Brown is you can tell that he really loves teaching history. He enriches the classroom experience because of it."

After retiring, Brown plans to spend time with his family, travel, and pick up casual work at a golf course or history museum.

Last Monday, he was honored by students, parents, and colleagues at the QUEST senior banquet.

Bruce Brown is an educator, a friend, and above all an inspiration. He is one of the many great teachers that make Millikan a unique place to learn. He will be missed.

"The thing about Mr. Brown is you can tell that he really loves teaching history. He enriches the classroom experience because of it." – Jafary

Barnaby Steps Up Her Game

By Haley Nielsen
Asst. Front Page Editor

There are many outstanding seniors this year at Millikan. Among them is Natalie Barnaby.

Barnaby has been playing softball for 14 years so it was no surprise when the colleges jumped at the opportunity to have her play at their schools.

Playing in college was always something that I would have liked to do but it seemed so out of reach”, Barnaby explained. Starting this year at shortstop, and having a remarkable year, Barnaby proved once again why she deserved to go to Azusa Pacific University.

“I went and practiced with the team in November and Coach Webber said that she was interested in signing me. I went up there several more times to visit and practice, and then I applied. After being accepted I found out I received \$10,000 on a Cal Grant, \$2,000 on a Pell Grant, and \$7,000 from an academic directors scholarship. Then I negotiated with the coach and decided I would get \$5,000 from softball. And finally I signed the official letter of intent”.

When asked what advice she would have to fellow students hoping not only to attain a scholarship but also maintain good grades, she said, “Work your hardest at every game and practice and try to get connections with coaches involved with colleges. And for academic scholarships keep decent grades and remember it isn’t about what program you are in but that you stay focus and work hard.”

If she were to drop her 4.0 in high school she would lose her academic scholarship. Also, if she fails in college she could lose her softball scholarship.

Barnaby added, “Millikan softball and the QUEST program have thoroughly prepared me for college. Former softball coach Lyn Curyllo once told me I had natural talent but it would only take me so far. And for the past 4 years at Millikan I have learned not only how to play the game at a higher level but most importantly I know the mental part as well.”

She also explained how the coaches at Millikan taught her how to be the athlete she is today and helped her receive the opportunity to play at APU.