

MIAMI HIGH TIMES

Miami High

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A LOOK INSIDE:



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I ♥



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The Magic of \$49 Million



The new three story building located behind the main building



A spacious new health science classroom

By Zaida Barillas

Many things have changed in our school. During the last two years, some students didn't know what was about to happen, especially freshmen.

All of a sudden, we saw our beautiful palm trees from the front of the school being torn down. But then, soon in their place rose five new buildings around the school.

A.P. Ms. Mendez, who is in charge of the construction project, answered some questions about the new buildings.

Q-How did the construction start?

A- We started with placing new roofs on the main building. Last year, all we heard was construction workers hammering and drilling the roof. Everyone was thinking the main building was going to be rebuilt or remodeled.

But as we have seen, our main building is going to stay like it is for now.

Q-Which new buildings have been added to MHS?

A- Two buildings in the front, a new auto mechanics room, the new 3 story building in the back, and a new parking garage across from the gym.

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The Famous Whippy

By Annette Delgado

You see him swimming through the gym during pep rallies, energizing the fun-filled crowd one bleacher at a time. This exotic sea creature is widely represented throughout MHS in murals, banners, even on trash cans. In his free time, he hangs around in the activities office waiting for his next appearance. His name is Whippy, and he has been our official MHS mascot since 1960.

According to an article titled "Stingray-Dasyatidae" on the National Geographic website (<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/fish/stingray/>), stingrays, with the help of their flattened bodies, can roam underneath the sand in the the ocean. Here at MHS, we call this species "Whippy".

According to the book The Stingaree Century, written by MHS alumnus Howard Klernberg, Whippy's name derives from the sort of tail



Former Whippy senior Ramon Rodriguez and new Whippy junior Handiel Valdes

movement a stingray makes when moving forward, which is something that is expected from each student at MHS.

Whippy's current costume was designed in 2006 by Carlos Gonzalez, a 4th year fashion student who was a senior at the time. The life-size mascot's first appearance was on August 25th, 2006, at a pep rally. From that day on, Whippy's costume has been worn with dignity by students in good standing.

Senior Ramon Rodriguez was one of those students who was lucky enough to wear Whippy at the start of his junior year in 2009. "I simply asked Ms. Q if I could be Whippy for the upcoming pep rally," he said. "She liked the idea, and said yes. After wearing the costume for the first time, I was sure that I wanted to become known as the official Whippy so I advertised

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Join the MADNESS, the CRAZIES!



Shouting their heads off, banging the benches 'til their feet blister, and making fun of the opposing team, they make our basketball players play hard and the fans go wild. They're the reason why our gym is called the ASYLUM! They are the Carreño Crazies!

If you've ever been to an MHS basketball game, there's no need for an explanation. But if you haven't, Mr. Carreño, basketball coach and personal fitness teacher, says that the Carreño Crazies are a group of students that come support the basketball team at the games. This year, about 85 people signed up, with seniors Uriel Perez and Kenneth Jimenez as the leaders of the group.

"They get together and sing little songs and clap and go crazy when a player does something good. They have chants, and they always try to distract the other team," says Carreño. If you want to be a Carreño Crazy, joining is easy! "The only requirements," says Coach Carreño, "are to be a student at Miami High, have spirit, and of course, to be crazy!" Go speak to Mr. Carreño in the gym and sign up on his roster by providing your full name, ID number, and t-shirt size.

There are other advantages to becoming a Carreño Crazy. "Besides getting to have a lot of fun at the games, the members get a fifty percent discount on their ticket and get to buy a t-shirt," says Carreño. "I would say it's about 70% do it because they care for the team and the other 30% for the shirt and discount."

Junior and Carreño Crazy Hellery Colon says, "I don't go crazy at all. I don't even sit with them. I love the team, but I just sit and watch. I mostly joined for the discount."

On the other hand, junior Johana Oliva says, "I do it for the team. Those are my boys, and I love them!"

Are they actually crazy? "Most of them are," says Carreño. "They do cheers and they do a great job at making the game more intense and bringing lots of energy. The ones that stick out the most are Kenneth Jimenez and Uriel Perez, and the Honoria club, who are basically the backbone of the Crazies."

Regular fan and junior Ivette Diaz says, "I don't really care about going 'crazy' for the team, but you can tell the Carreño Crazies do it for the love

of the team. They really do support the team as much as they can."

Any down side to being a Carreño Crazy? Junior Jorge Hernandez says, "The only disadvantage is feeling the loss just as much as the team. If they lose, you feel it too." Johana Oliva points out that they don't get to go to away games with the team.

Do the basketball players really appreciate what the Carreño Crazies do for them? Junior shooting guard Adriel Jimenez says, "Yes! Those are our faithful fans and they really get us going. They really pump up the games."

Junior forward-center Eddy Rijos says, "They give us that extra motivational spark to do better in our games." Junior small forward and captain of the team Wille Walker says, "They're the reason why we play hard!"

By Yesenia Garcia
Copy Editor
"Are you winning? Are you winning?
No you're not! No you're not!
Look up at the score board!
Look up at the score board!
HA HA HA! HA HA HA!"

Carreño Crazies

C W S H C D B C D K G H C S X
N A X R K R J Y T X N A H M R
P R R L E D A G H B I T E C R
G E I R A H N Z A Q T G E P X
A B G U E I C S Y G U A R U H
M K U E P Ñ K A N P O R L K J
H Z S P F E O Y E V H Z E G P
Q H A G T Y A C D L S X A L A
Q L Y B A Q H Y R Q B J D U T
C L A G G E B D O A O A E F A
A L R E F E R E E E Z M R A U
L W O R H T E E R F F I S N I
L G D X U E R K Y X F X E S O
Z K I P D L D P J M B B P S D
F J G L N U G C D Q C R H V O

Can you find these words from the article?

BASKETBALL
FANS
FREETHROW
REFEREE
CARREÑOCRAZIES

CRAZY
SHOUTING
BLEACHERS
CLAPPING
CHEERLEADERS

Saturday School, Does it really help?

By Carlos Aguirre
Layout Editor

Wake up at 12, stay in bed for a while, and THEN you get up and do as you please---this is the typical Saturday for a high school student. Not, however, for the students that go to Saturday tutoring.

They wake up early every Saturday and go to school at 8 a.m. "I go almost every Saturday," said sophomore Emanuel Dinguí.

Some students think it helps. "If you go to study, then yes it is beneficial," said junior Cristina Navarro. Sophomore Wilfredo Caballero said, "I go, and I get help on what I need. It has helped me a lot academically."

Other students don't seem to benefit as much as others. "I go and go and I still don't understand the material," said freshman Orlando Camacho.

"I go to talk and have fun, so I don't really pay attention to the academic help," said junior Douglas Vasquez.

According to principal Mr. Valdes, Saturday tutoring started back in November. It goes from 8:30 to 11:30 am, and an average of 150-300 students come each Saturday. Tutoring is offered in reading, science, math, and FCAT preparation as well.

There are rewards for the hard working students that go to Saturday school. Mr. Valdes said, "We have a drawing and give away anything from iPods, G-shocks, movie tickets, and restaurant gift

Saturday School Fast Facts

- Saturday started in November and ends in April.
- Saturday School goes from 8:30 to 11:30.
- You can get rewards for attending Saturday School.
- On average, from 150 to 300 students attend Saturday School.
- Most teachers give extra credit for attending Saturday School.

cards. We also started giving lunch so it's either pizza, McDonalds, or BK."

Some teachers reward students for attendance. Mr. Gonzalez, a reading

teacher, said, "I give out extra credit to my students." Mr. Hueck, a science teacher, said, "Of course, I give them extra credit for attending."

Ms. Puentes, English department chairperson, said, "I don't have any students that go to tutoring, but teachers should give extra credit to the students that go."

On the contrary Mr. Sabando, a math teacher, said, "No, I don't give them extra credit. They go for their benefit."

So do students recommend tutoring? "I go for the fun, so yeah, people should go too," said Emanuel Dinguí. "I don't recommend going much for the tutoring, but for the experience one will have."

Senior Stephanie Rodriguez said, "I go and it helps me, so I say everybody should go. It really does help those in need of extra tutoring."

Does it really make a difference if students go or not? Mr. Valdes said that it absolutely does because it focuses on core subjects as well as the FCAT.



Whippy

Continued from page 1

myself as Whippy by putting 'Whippy' on the back of my class jersey and on my class ring. Basically, I wanted to be part of the tradition."

Surely, he kept the tradition alive, but it was passed on to junior Handiel Valdes during a pep rally on January 20th, 2011. "I feel a lot of pride and honor in being chosen to wear Whippy's costume," says Handiel. "When Whippy was passed on to me at the pep rally, I was extremely excited."

Whippy's costume is fully closed, with the fins attached to the head and flowing down the sides to the tail. His colors are shades of blue and gold, the same colors that represent MHS. It might be a privilege to wear Whippy's costume, but it also isn't the most pleasant job to do. Former Whippy Ramon Rodriguez says, "Not everyone can handle the heat inside the costume, especially when you're sprinting all over the Asylum." In spite of the sweat accumulating, he claims that being Whippy is an amazing experience.

Whippy's costume hasn't changed since its first appearance in 2006, but some students feel that it's time for a new costume design. "I can't picture us having any other mascot other than Whippy, but I'm tired of seeing him in the same costume," says junior Marjury Torres. "It really needs to be updated to a more modern version."

A small percentage of MHS students just plain out want a new mascot to represent the school. Senior Kenia Ortiz says, "At first Whippy was an OK mascot, but after seeing him so much, I now realize that we need a mascot that will intimidate opposing schools, something fierce like a jaguar or lion."

Security guard Mr. Bell sees it a bit differently. He says, "I like our mascot, but the name 'Whippy' doesn't fit well with a stingray. It needs a name with some masculinity behind it, so that it gives our mascot strength and power."

While some people have their criticisms of Whippy, there's a larger portion of them who like Whippy just the way he is. Bryan Gonzalez, a senior, said, "I think a stingray represents boldness, and it's definitely a unique mascot. Whippy has been our mascot for years now, and his costume has never disappointed me, so yeah I like our mascot."

Miami High alumnus and science teacher Ms. Janing Vela said that when she was a student, Whippy's costume still hadn't been designed. "I never had the chance to experience Whippy in his costume as a student," she said, "but now I see him everywhere, and I love the fact that our mascot is a stingray named Whippy."

SGA president Amber Couzo said, "I can't find a more celebrated mascot in my mind. 100+ years of spirit makes him a legend, although he is one of the most underrated mascots. No one understands his significance, not even people in our school, and it's important to know that Whippy is a trademark and a huge part of being in Miami High."

College MADNESS!!

By Cindy Bobadilla
Editor-in-chief

You hear all the fuss around school about everyone applying to college. All your friends are talking about where they've applied and all the deadlines they have yet to meet. But wait, you haven't even started!



College applications can be overwhelming. According to the College Board website (<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/apply/the-application/8435.html>), you should start your applications in the summer before your senior year. You have more free time then and can focus on getting the application requirements and reviewing them.

Most students do the majority of their application work in the fall of their senior year. Before you dive in, make sure you know exactly what you need to do for each application.



College Board also states that you should organize college paperwork into file folders — a separate one for each college you're interested in — and keep track of each college's specific requirements since each college has a different deadline and different requirements.

Senior Rebecca Miranda said, "I applied to FIU, UF, and Miami-Dade Honors, and they were all pretty easy. The only difficult part is the essay, which was required for UF and Miami Dade Honors."

"The hardest part of applying," said senior Diego Vila, "is staying focused because it's so long and tedious."

Senior Cindy Perez states, "The applications are pretty much the same. They ask for the

What to Include in Applications

- Application Form
- Application Fee
- High School Transcript
- Admission Test Scores
- Letters of Recommendation
- Essay
- Interview
- Auditions and Portfolios

Source: <http://www.collegeboard.com/parents/apply/college-applications/21353.html>



amount. For example, public universities like FIU, UF, FAU, and FSU have an application fee of \$30, and Miami Dade has an application fee of \$20. UM's application fee is \$65.

If you are lucky, you might be able to dodge this bullet. According to Mr. Bain, people who have been approved for free or reduced lunch, meaning you have filled out a lunch application, and who have taken the ACT/SAT might be eligible for an application fee waiver. However, you should again check the College Board website where you will find a list of colleges and universities who might accept waivers, because not all schools do.

You may ask yourselves, *Do I really need to take the SAT or ACT for college?* "The SAT/ACT provides college and universities with information about the reading and math skills students have," said Mr. Bain. "They use the scores, along with GPAs, to determine if the student will be admitted."

Maybe you are planning on going to a community college and think taking the SAT/ACT is pointless, but if you fail one part of the community college's Placement Test (CPT), Mr. Bain said that the SAT or ACT score might be used to cover that part you failed, depending on your scores and the school's requirements.

The moment of truth comes with a letter of acceptance or rejection. According to Mr. Bain, acceptance letters are now being sent both via email and U.S mail. Each school has different deadlines and different notification dates, so you should be on the look out.



same information. The essay can easily be done, but the hard part is finishing it and meeting the deadlines, especially for procrastinators."



According to CAP counselor Mr. Bain, applications usually ask for transcripts, which are a history of your grades; SAT/ACT test scores; an essay; letters of recommendation; residency status; activities during high school; and sometimes even a personal interview.

Now, just because you have submitted the application, does not mean you are fully done. Mr. Bain says that many colleges ask for mid-year transcripts or any information that was not submitted with the initial application packet. It is always important to constantly check your email or online status to see if the college is asking for any other information.

The majority of the college applications require you to pay an application fee, which according to the College Board website, can



Honoraria, the neatest and the best!

By Jesver Leonor

"WHO ARE WE?!"

"HONORIA!"

"OUR COLORS ARE?!"

"BLUE AND WHITE!"

"WHAT DO WE DO?"

"WE RUN THIS SCHOOL, WE RUN THIS SCHOOL, WE RUN THIS SCHOOL!"

That spirit club that everyone knows and hears about. The only one that scream their lungs out at events. You hear the fun chants and rioting screams of the members. It's the only club that stands out wherever they go. The famous baby blue, the Smurfs, those from Toy Story, this can only be Honoraria.

Honoraria is a spirit club at MHS that has been here since 1948. When this club first started it was an all girls club. It wasn't until the late 90s that it became a boys and girls club. Now it is one of the biggest and well known clubs at MHS with over one hundred members.

Once you join Honoraria you are part of a new family. President of Honoraria Uriel Perez said, "I always wanted to be in Honoraria since the moment I walked in Miami High. I joined and fell in love with it. Now I'm president and so happy."

Junior Kathy Hernandez, member and corresponding secretary, said, "I joined Honoraria

because it's like a big loving family and that's the type of energy I want to be around."

Annette Flores, a sophomore and recording secretary, said, "I joined because it seemed like a very spirited club that's involved with the school events and that lets you show your blue and gold."

Honoraria currently has a new adviser since previous adviser Ms. Morales is out on maternity leave. The new adviser is Mr. Chaine, who also sponsors Pax. He stated, "Being the adviser is great. It's obvious that Honoraria is the most spirited club here."

To be in a spirit club, you have to be fun, crazy, and LOUD! Junior member Wendy Arauz said, "At first I didn't think I had what it takes, but then Honoraria hypnotized me into a state of craziness."

What's the best thing about being in Honoraria? Is it the spirit? The people? The color? Junior member Carolaine Acuña said, "I like the spirit of Honoraria the most." Elthon Gaitan, junior member, said, "I like the family atmosphere shared toward fellow members that embodies the club."

Senior member Ellen Villafuerte said that she like how Honoraria is the loudest out of any other club here.

Senior treasurer Jonathan Del Rio said, "We are a baby blue family. We do many things



Honoraria in float building during the week of homecoming

together, and the president is a true friend as well a president." New member and sophomore Thalia Cedeño said, "I just joined and I already feel comfortable. It's a fun club, and I love it."

Being among the top clubs in Miami High, Honoraria is always in competition to be the number one and beat its rivals. Honoraria used to be a service club and they used to compete to do the most service and win. Club President Uriel Perez reports that they got 2nd place in 2005 – 2006,

but did not place in 2006 – 2007. After that Honoraria became an interest club. They didn't stop competing though. They participated in intramurals and placed 4th place 2 years ago and moved up last year to 2nd place.

Club member, Ricardo Murrieta said, "We ARE the best club at MHS! We're the loudest club and have the most spirit."

Even outsiders notice them. Non member and senior Diana Jarquin, said, "I'm not in it, but I would have to say that Honoraria is the best club since they actually has spirit and they're loud."

Last year, during the Homecoming parade on October 29, Honoraria placed 2nd place over all, right behind Beta who won 1st place over all. Honoraria hasn't won 1st place since 2008.

Will Honoraria have a comeback next year? Non member and junior Laura Yera said, "I was hoping that Honoraria won 1st place this year, but I know next year they will come up with something amazing."

Locked for Life

By Michael Santana

In Miami High there's a lot going around in the halls, so people may not notice the weird, dark-blue objects lining the walls. We know those "dark" objects as lockers, which are in fact LOCKED from students' use. These lockers have been locked for a long time, and there's no chance they're coming back for a second act.

According to assistant principal Ms. Mendez, "The lockers will be removed when the school is remodeled."

But many students feel shocked that lockers are available but are not being used.

Senior Jonathan Del Rio stated, "Who wouldn't want to have the lockers back? Our backpacks weigh 40 pounds mostly because of the heavy books teachers give us."

Senior Norwing Guzman said "The lockers should be put back into use for those people that carry all those textbooks, and even though people will try to hide stuff, I'd still want them here in school."

On the other hand, sophomore Brandon Figueroa said, "I wouldn't want the lockers to be back because people might hide weapons and drugs, and I would be concerned for my own safety and the safety of others. Plus people will use the lockers to make excuses to be late to class."

But another question comes to mind: Are any lockers being used regardless of current school policy? If they are being used, said Ms. Mendez, they'll be cut off by the school maintenance.

Some high schools in the county, including Miami Southridge, Miami Sunset, American, and Coral Reef, still allow students to use lockers, but with some conditions. For example, according to the Miami Southridge Senior High School's online student handbook, "Hall Lockers may be purchased from the Activities Office. Locks found other than the school's official lock will be removed by administration. Please note that all lockers are school property and, therefore, subject to periodic, routine inspection or searches when warranted by reasonable suspicion. Students should also not share lockers (<http://www.miamisouthridge.com/adobe/StudentHandbook0708.pdf>)."

Why can't Miami High students use lockers? Ms. Mendez said, "Even though I wasn't here at the time, I'm almost certain they were removed because of students mistreating them by using the lockers as garbage cans, putting illegal items inside, and making excuses such as being excessively late to class due to the lockers."



Though Miami Southridge, Miami Sunset, American, and Coral Reef still allow students to use lockers, Miami High has no plans to do so.



DO STINGS STILL PEP-RESENT?!



Some students show spirit by wearing their Miami High school clothing with pride.

By Joanne Bethencourt

"Go, Miami High!" The crowd cheers from the bleachers. Everyone is hoping that we can make the last touchdown to win the game.

At that moment, if you could freeze time and look around, you would see many people with their faces painted, jumping up and down with their mouths open. They all love Miami High and are there to support their team and represent their

school. This is an example of real Sting Pride. But the real question is, "Has this changed over time?"

Sophomore Yesenia Garcia says, "There is still school spirit because of how many students attend the games and how the Carreno Craziess always pep up the games."

Senior Jonathan Martinez states, "People still go crazy during Homecoming week and join clubs."

Sophomore Jessica Dieguez notices how certain clubs get people involved with enthusiasm toward our school.

But we also have those who think that Miami High is lacking some school spirit. Junior Kimberly Castillo states, "There is barely any school spirit. It seems to decrease in spirit as you move down from upper classmen to lower classmen."

Junior Alejandra Acuna agrees. "I don't see students involved as much," she said. "During spirit week barely anyone dressed up. Hopefully next year we can thrive in spirit."

Junior Christell Cayasso says, "It's in between because some people actually show a lot of school spirit and go over the top while others don't even try."

Over time school spirit can change, but it all depends on the student body. Principal Mr. Valdes states, "Every year is a different year with new students, so it has a lot to do with the participation in events. I've seen students

continuing to participate in events that we have at MHS."

Activities Director Ms. Quintero states, "The school spirit hasn't gotten weaker. It gets stronger and stronger each year."

It's up to the students to represent Miami High. Whether it be through participating in games or in clubs, there are many ways to show school spirit. The students who are in all the action can tell whether there still is school spirit here at Miami High. Freshman Erick Viales shows school spirit by screaming at pep-rallies, and during the Homecoming parade, going crazy with excitement.

Junior Kimberly Castillo said, "I go to games and I cheer a lot. Also I participate in school activities and organizations."

Senior Jonathan Martinez states, "I'm in the football team and I wear my school uniform everyday."

Showing school spirit in school is something that students do everyday, but is it possible for students to show their school spirit after school? Sophomore Julio Tejada says, "You can represent Miami High by wearing your jerseys out of school and also when you are at a rival school for a game."

Junior Christell Cayasso says, "It's possible because there are alumni that still show school

Simple Ways to Show School Spirit:

- Dress up for Homecoming Week.
- Go to all the school games.
- Wear your school shirts out of school.
- Cheer at the Homecoming Parades.

spirit by wearing anything that has Miami High on it."

Senior Christian Lainez adds, "You can show school spirit by saying good things about your school when people ask you what school you go to."

Though school spirit gets students excited, does it have a positive effect on the school as a whole? Mr. Valdes says it can have a positive affect on attendance and tests. "When kids want to come to school it encourages them to do well in class," he said.

Activities Director Ms. Quintero agrees. "Attendance increases because kids want to be here," she said. "Participation in clubs and sports increases; and students get better grades because they want to get more involved and graduate."

Television production teacher Dr. Underwood said, "When spirit spreads throughout the whole school, it makes people feel good about themselves, and they'll have more pride."

Miami High's Last Pep Rally: The Cynic's View

By Ismael Santos

It was the day of the pep rally, and expectations were at an incredible high. Some even said that it could be the last pep rally to be held in the gym. The students' faces of glee could hardly be contained. There was, however, a slight suspicion among the higher-ups that the students were mainly happy because they could skip class and not be in trouble. But, those were just rumors.

OPINION

As soon as every student was in place, cramped up on the bleachers, the pep rally began. The cheerleaders took to the sky while the Majorettes stuck to the ground. The Million Dollar Band blared out music, forcibly waking up the ones who were very adamant about their nap times.

The exits were all, accordingly, blocked off by administrators and security guards. Then, the moment of truth came. Horns blared, and the leaders of the rally came gallivanting in. Introductions were given and then promptly ignored by the crowd.

Promptly, the new "Whippy the Stingray"

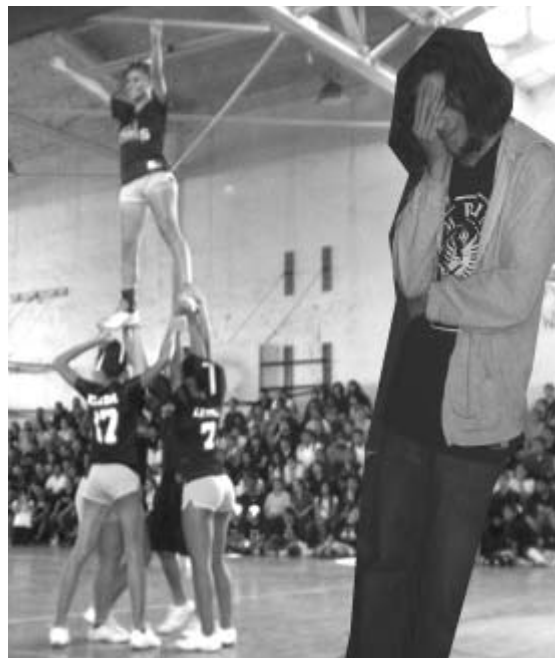


Photo illustration by Valerie Torres

"Whipping their hair back and forth, the cheerleaders were seemingly oblivious to the groans echoing all over the Asylum."

rushed into the gym. And the crowd responded in loud, boisterous tones. The ones in the back cheered and yelled about different things, ranging from "You Suck" to various parts of the human anatomy, especially the male one. Some were so excited to see Whippy that they jumped onto other students, their excitement making them commit violence on each other and on themselves.

The cheerleaders danced and did their little routines to the sounds of "Whip My Hair Back and Forth". This produced the desired effect. Whipping their hair back and forth, the cheerleaders were seemingly oblivious to the groans echoing all over the Asylum. Must have been groans of not being able to stay even longer. Of course.

Soon, the pep rally leaders were barking out orders at the crowd, and, doglike, the crowd obeyed. When told to wave, they waved. When told to shout, they shouted. And when told to wave once more, they did so without complaint. The wave strangely resembled a giant sea of middle fingers. Just a coincidence, I suppose.

The customary games also made an appearance. Barefoot, teams of students raced up and down the gym floor to win the prize of self-congratulations. Woohoo for school-mandated randomness!

Another game included administrators shooting basketballs, and then there was a game of Simon Says. The crowd responded automatically: cheering on the teachers and administrators whom they wanted to win, even if those were the same ones that they professed to hate in class. School spirit, in all its strange forms, was in full effect there.

Finally, the fun came to an abrupt, shrewd end with the playing of the school alma mater. The students were so engrossed that they retreated to the exits, while a handful of administrators and pep rally organizers shouted at them to stay in the bleachers. Too much school spirit and it could back up the exits, don't you know?



Pages and Books and Reading...Oh MY!! :O

By Yamila Gutierrez

RRIINNGG!!!! As that second bell rings, you walk into class and the first thing you hear is your teacher saying, "Hello everyone, please take out your reading books and begin reading." This reading time has been known as Reading Rocks here at Miami High.

According to assistant principal Ms. Baez, all classes at Miami High are supposed to be doing Reading Rocks.

Some students like this reading time. Freshman Alina Maldonado said, "I love reading because the books I read are very interesting." Sophomore Lexy Prieto said, "Reading entertains me and helps me pass the time."

Sophomore Priscilla Nelson said, "I love it because reading takes me to a different place." 10th grader Nayesha Gainous likes how during Reading Rocks students can read the books they like instead of the ones the teachers make them read.

On the other hand, senior Oscar Nunez said he doesn't like reading because it's boring.

Many teachers believe that Reading Rocks benefits students. Ms. Ubiera, World History teacher, said, "Reading Rocks helps students

appreciate literature and to help them become better readers."

Health Academy teacher Mr. Calderon said, "It's important for students to practice their reading."

When students don't like to read, however, they find ways to fake their way through Reading Rocks. Oscar Nunez said, "Sometimes I read comic books, but when I don't read, I just text behind the book."

Junior Elizabeth Fuentes says she looks at the book, but doesn't read.

Maria Moreno said, "I normally do my homework during that time so I won't have to do it at home."

But not everyone fakes it. Freshman Yeni Garcia said, "I usually read fantasies, mysteries, and novels." Lady Labrador, a sophomore, said, "I usually read novels. Right now I'm reading Flawless by Sara Shepard, but the best novel I've read is The Collector."

Junior Cynthia Nieves said she takes advantage of this time because it's good for her, and she enjoys it.

According to Mr. Calderon students should take advantage of this time because reading is an ability you will always need in life. Ms. Ubiera recommends, "It's the time for them to relax



Source: http://www.gigglepoetry.com/poem_illustrations/108.gif

Alina Maldonado, however, said, "It does interfere because when the teacher says the 10 minutes are over, some students might still be reading and not pay attention in class." Yeni Garcia said, "It take up time from class when we could be using that time to learn and study other things."

Daniel Morell said, "It depends on the teacher because some teachers just ignore the clock and let us read until there's like 30 minutes left of class."

Whether or not it interferes, the debate still continues on whether or not the time should be extended.

According to Ms. Ubiera the time shouldn't be extended because the students need to learn about other subjects.

with a good book they enjoy."

Does Reading Rocks interfere with the class? Junior Freddy Robles doesn't think so because it's good to read something before getting stressed with class. Lexy Prieto and Maria Moreno said it's not a lot of time and they barely do anything else in class, so it's not a waste of time.

Mr. Calderon agreed. "It'll take too much time from class; plus most students don't read during that time so they're just sitting there doing nothing," he said.

Sting-A-Reads??

By Nathalie Vega

Boy: Hey, I just finished this really good book!

Girl: Oh really? Which book?

Boy: It's actually on this flyer. Check it out!

Girl: What is the Sting-A-Reads?

Boy: It's this really great new book club here at MHS! Come check it out with me after school on Monday.

to read and become involved in discussion on books," said Ms. Rivera. "I put it together for my students, but anyone wanting to read is more than welcome. There's no application process needed for this club."

At this time they have 20 members and are open to more people coming to meetings and reading. Their meetings are held every two months, on Monday, in room C002.

The club started in September. Ms. Rivera, teaching magnet lead teacher and Key Club advisor, is the sponsor for the Sting-A-Reads.

According to Ms. Rivera, the club was initially started for her Teaching Magnet students. They would get together, decide on a book to read, and two months later have a meeting to discuss the book.

The Sting-A-Reads do not meet weekly like a regular club, and this allows students to have more than enough time to read the book. "We meet like every two months," said senior member Robert Martinez. "However, in our teaching magnet class, we discuss the book at times."

So far this year, Sting-A-Reads have read *Before I Die* by Jenny Downham. "I really enjoyed the book, and during our meetings we discussed our personal approaches on living life to the fullest," said Robert Martinez.

Although Sting-A-Reads was started for the teaching magnet students, anyone is welcome to join. "I want students to join because they want

Fast Facts
What is Sting-A-Reads? Book Club
Who is the advisor? Ms. Rivera
When do they meet? Mondays after school
Where do they meet? C002
What book are they currently reading? <u>Before I Die</u>

What would YOU do if you only had a few months to live?

STING-A-READS

NEXT Meeting:
Monday
December 13, 2010
2:30 p.m.
Room: C002

Discussion up to Chapter 10
EVERYONE is Welcome!

December's flyer



The Magic of \$49 Million



Cosmetology classroom located in the new front building

- New MHS buildings**
- The five new buildings will be ready for use in the 2011-2012 school year.
 - The new front buildings will have 24 classrooms.
 - The 3 story building out back will have 42.
 - Auto mechanics will move to a new building.
 - Parking garage with 222 parking spaces for teachers and staff is across from the gym.



New Childcare classroom located in the new front building

Continued from page 1

Q-How many classrooms will be in the new front buildings?

A-There will be 24 new classrooms with a lot of space for the maximum of 25-30 students in each classroom. The classes that are going to be taught in the two new buildings are the ones that were taught in the old vocational building including business computer classes, health, JROTC, photography, early childcare, nursing, and cosmetology with a larger space.

Q-What is something exciting about the front buildings?

A-For early childcare classes, there will be a playground for the little kids to play and have a fun time.

Q-How will classrooms in the two new front buildings be different?

A-Every classroom will have an LCD projector,

a Smart Board, a minimum of 5 student computers, and a sound system to accommodate bigger classrooms since the classrooms are going to be bigger and have more space.

Q-How many classrooms will there be in the new building out back and what will those classrooms be like?

A-The 3 story building will have 42 classrooms which will have a lot of space so the students are not crowded. Those classrooms are going to have the same thing as the front buildings: the LCD projector, Smart Board, a minimum of five student computers, and a sound system.

Q-What subjects are going to be taught in the 3 story building?

A- The new three story building is going to be used for subjects such as math, English, history, science, TV production, and home economics. The kitchen for the cafeteria will also be located there.

Q-What is an exciting part about the new back building?

A-I think that the cafeteria kitchen, which will be connected to a new dining room where the current cafeteria is located, is the most exciting part. It has a very nice layout, and I am sure most of our students are going to like it. TV production is also an exciting part because it is very different from the one that we have now. It will be in a larger space and all the TV equipment will be new.

Q-How is the new auto mechanics room going to look?

A-It is going to have almost the same space as the one we have, but of course it is going to look nicer because it's new and with enough space for students to work with their cars.

Q-Who can park in the new parking garage?

A-There are going to be 222 parking spaces and it is going to be used only by teachers and staff. It will be more secure for their cars. Students

will temporarily park in the back on the P.E. field while the workers fix the two parking lots in the front of the school between the two new buildings. Once those two lots in the front are finished, students and visitors will use them.

Q-Why didn't MHS stay how it was?

A-The School Board noticed that we needed more space. The new buildings are not happening to increase the number of students in this school. They are to accommodate the students already here so that they won't be crowded.

Q-How much did all this new construction cost?

A-MHS was awarded \$49 million to remodel our school and make it beautiful with more space.

Q-When are the new buildings going to be used?

A- All the new buildings will be ready to use for the next school year, 2011-2012.



New cafeteria located in the three story building



New photography classroom located in the front building



New auto mechanics shop located behind the gym



MIAHI

Yearbook advisor Ms. Baumgarten says yearbooks, which will be arriving the first week of April, will remain on sale for \$80. If you have bought a yearbook already, stop by room 302 and give your birth date. She will take your birth date, picture, and put it in the monthly calendars as a shout out. Ms. Baumgarten said, "It's a way of making sure they show up more often in the yearbook." (By Khiyandra McCallam)

Interact

Interact sponsor Mr. E. Perez reports that Interact members cleaned the trophies on the 2nd floor and the ones by the theater on January 21st. Interact members were also course spotters for the Tropical 5K on January 29th and the ING Miami Marathon on January 30th. At the ING Marathon, members also manned one of the water stations. (By Ingrid Sanchez)

TRUST Counseling

TRUST counselor Ms. Avila reports that TRUST group is continuing as planned. Recently, on February 8, Ms. Avila took TRUST group on a field trip to the Fruit and Spice park for a science lesson on plants and fruits. If anyone needs to speak to Ms. Avila or is interested in joining TRUST group, please see her in Rm 005A during first or second lunch. (By Yesenia Garcia)

9th Grade Counselor

9th Grade Counselor Ms. Missick, wants to remind freshmen to keep their grades up. Those students with an F in any class should expect to be called down to her office. (By Yulayky Guillen)

11th Grade Counselor

11th Grade Counselor Mr. Lorenzo would like to inform juniors that he is changing schedules for those who passed their FCAT retake. "If you are in Intensive Reading or Math and passed your FCAT, please come see me so I can change your schedule," he said. Mr. Lorenzo is also checking credit history to see if any students need to make up classes in night school. He is also getting ready for subject selection after the March FCAT. (By Joseph Garcia)

Mr. Edwards

The administration would like for all students to attend tutoring after school and on Saturdays. Assistant principal Mr. Edwards said, "We want all students to pass the FCAT for the first time so our school can become an A school," he said. (By Jeime Zequeira)

Legal Magnet

Legal magnet lead Ms. Quintero Miami High's reports that the Legal Magnet had visitors come from the American Association for Justice Minority Caucus on Monday, February 7th from noon until 2 PM in the Theater. They were a panel of lawyers that discussed what it is like in the legal field. When asked about the future. (By Maria Almeida)

THESPIANS

According to Drama Club president Gabriel Diaz de Salas, the Drama Club will have a major fundraiser in late February. The Stings Spring Show auditions will be in late March and the show will be in early April. (By Joanne Bethencourt)

Spanish Honors

Club sponsor Ms. Llabre reports that the Spanish Honor Society is looking for new members. You need a 3.0 GPA to be in the club. If anyone is interested, they can pass by portable R5 to get an application. (By Claudia Martinez)

Lockdowns

There have been plenty of lockouts and lockdowns after 7:20 at MHS. Assistant principal Ms. Baez reports, "The intention is to get students in class in a timely matter to receive their education. The bell rings at 7:20. If the student is walking in after that time, that means education is getting disrupted. Also the school provides early breakfast to provoke students to get here on time and be able to report to class earlier. Punishments for being late: 1st offense – warning; 2nd offense – Referral; 3rd offense - CSI. (By Joseph Garcia)

ESOL

La Señora Echeverria, consejera para los estudiantes de ESOL, anima a los estudiantes de ESOL, especialmente a los del 12 grado, que completen sus horas comunitarias o no podrán participar en las actividades del 12 grado. (por Karla Rivas)

Ms. Echeverria, who is the guidance counselor for ESOL students, encourages all ESOL students, especially seniors, to get their community service hours done or they won't be able to participate in senior activities. (by Karla Rivas)

GSA

According to GSA sponsor Ms. Diaz de Villegas, on April 15th the GSA members are going to participate in the National Day of Silence, in which hundreds of thousands of students nationwide take a vow of silence to bring attention to anti-LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual) name-calling, bullying and harassment in their schools. (By Carson Arias)

12th Grade Counselor

According to Ms. Echeverria, one of the senior counselors, class of 2011 is the best. "They are graduating with a plan, which is going to take them far in life," she says. She also states that all seniors should have their community service and all their credits. (By Yessenia Arevalo)

Principal Mr. Valdes

Principal Mr. Valdes says every department should be ready for the FCAT. The FCAT Writes for 10th graders takes place March 1-4, and the FCAT reading, math, and science for grades 9-11 takes place April 11-22. "Also, remember to come to tutoring in the afternoon and on Saturday morning," said Mr. Valdes. (by Moises Largaespada)

Science Honors

Science Honors Society sponsor Dr. Yoham encourages students to broaden their horizons and join the club. "The meetings are fun and entertaining," he said, "and it feels like one big family." In Science Honors, you'll have fun while learning with Dr. Yoham. The only requirement to join is to have an honors or AP science class. If you have any questions, you can find Dr. Yoham in room C020. (By Nelson Velasco)

Teaching Magnet

Ms. Rivera, head of the teaching magnet, reports that magnet students have started their internships at Coral Way K-8 and will continue to go every 4th and 6th period. Students assist teachers with planning, grading, tutoring, and classroom management. (by Kenneth Jimenez)

CHESS

Chess club advisor Mr. Aguilar reports that the team tied for 1st place in the state championship which was held in Orlando, February 4-6. The chess team competed in two different high school categories: K- 12 Open, which is the hardest category; and K-12 U1000, which is for players who just started.

In the K-12 U1000, Leonardo Guibert won 2nd place, Kevin Bustamante won 4th place, and William Cuesta won 14th place. Overall, they placed 5th. In the K-12 Open category, Orestes Ordenez placed 14th, Daniel Kane placed 19th, and Raul Rodriguez placed 26th. In addition, Raul and Daniel competed in the Blitz competition which is like speed chess. The players are given 5 minutes to check mate their opponent. Raul won 3rd place and Daniel won 10th.

They will be going to Nationals April 29th in Tennessee. They will also be participating in the 7th Annual Miami Dade High School Chess Tournament during the second week of March. (By Khiyandra McCallam)

Health and physical education department

Health and physical education department chairperson Mr. Suarez stated that the department will soon receive final results of the Fitness Gram, which is an assessment of aerobic capacity, body composition, muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility of the students. (By Claudia Martinez)

SECME

SECME welcomed three new members: Ingrid Carballos (11th grade), Daniel Duque (12th grade), and Omar Aguilar (11th grade). "We're excited that they've joined," said SECME advisor Ms. Gutierrez-Carrasco.

SECME is now preparing for the Olympiad, their annual competition which will take place in April at the Miami-Dade North Campus. New members are welcome. You have to fill out an application and turn it in to either the activities office or the club's advisor. To join SECME you need a 2.0 GPA. (By Ashley Rodgers)

Business Education

According to Business Education department chairperson Ms. Benavides, classes right now are working on writing business letters. They are also conducting research for the universities they have interest in. (By Courtney McGee)

Activities Director

"Senior Parent Night was very successful," said activities director Ms. Quintero. "577 parents were there." The administration is considering doing a make-up session in the auditorium, but a date in the near future is still to be determined. A field trip for the tenth graders is also in the works after their Florida Comprehensive Assessment Writing Test. (By Maria Almeida)

5000 Role Models

Club advisor Mr. Latson congratulates the following senior scholarship recipients from the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project: David Alvarez, Rudolph Auguste, Nayib Cabrera, Zie Henry, Gregory Joyner, Martel Raymond, and Bryan Valle. To qualify, they had to be in the 5000 Role Models program for 3 years, write 3 essays, and participate in activities. The amount they receive depends on the person; it may reach up to \$4,000. They will receive the scholarship money after they graduate around August 2011. (By Amy Li)

BIBLE CLUB

Bible club leader Joel Vila reports that the Bible Club will be deciding soon as to whether or not to move meetings to Thursdays instead of Fridays. The club will still meet in room 315A. Also, he reports that the club is planning a religious event to take place on March 10 in the school patio. Joel says that anyone can attend and details will be released in the coming weeks. (By Ismael Santos)

Litter At Lunch

Every day you go through the lunch line, type in your lunch number, pick up your tray, and eat your lunch. Do you ever stop to wonder how that lunch can end up on the ground after students eat it? Assistant principal Ms. Baez knows how.

"The students do not clean after themselves," she said. "Littering is selfish. It's frustrating and bewildering how some will foul their own nest unaware of the consequences to themselves and society."

What can you do to help? "Don't be part of the problem," she said. "Don't leave trash around... Be part of the solution. Set a good example. If you are not a clean person yourself, can you expect other areas of your life to be messy? Be proactive! If you effortlessly tell your friends to pick up, you may get the same type of effortless reaction."

(By Joseph Garcia)

School Cafeteria

The school cafeteria has been trying its best to serve more healthy foods--100% fruit juices, whole wheat, and things with less calories and saturated fat are being served in our cafeteria everyday. Cafeteria manager Ms. Cipriani encourages everyone to come and eat a healthy breakfast and lunch.. "Our newest additions to the lunch menu are the sandwich wraps and the arepas which are sold outside," she said. In addition, if there are any kids who pay for lunch and feel that they shouldn't, they must go to the attendance office and fill out another lunch application to get their free lunch. (By Maria Ledesma)

AP Coordinator

AP coordinator Dr. Hueck reports that the Advanced Placement Curriculum Review is on March 26, 2011 at Miami Lakes Educational Center. Two students from each SAP class offered at Miami High will attend and are informed of what they need to know and expect on the AP exam. They also receive study tips, and then they go back to Miami High and share the information with their classmates. (by Annette Dominguez)

Sophomore guidance counselor

Sophomore guidance counselor Ms. Milton is collecting travel size toiletries for Camillus House. This will count for community service, so if you are interested in helping out, pick up a pink slip in the student services office, Room 128. ALL items due February 25, 2011. Ms. Milton says that she is always doing community service projects so keep an eye open for any upcoming opportunities. (By Kathy Murillo)

CAP Counselor

CAP counselor Mr. Bain reports that seniors can apply for State of Florida scholarships by going to www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org. "If you qualify for Bright Futures but don't apply," he said, "you are throwing away the money you have earned. Don't get stuck on stupid!" (By Amy Li)



KEEPING IT REAL WITH MR. CARVAJAL

By Yamila Gutierrez

"Yo, what's up?!" is how he'll always greet you. He's known for his big black beard and his bicycle.

"Try not to be lazy. Don't watch T.V. or play on Facebook for hours. Clean your rooms and eat your vegetables. Lastly, respect your mama," are some things you will always hear when you walk into Mr. Carvajal's algebra class!

He likes his students to keep it real. "All my students are real cool and good people. They keep it real. I teach them algebra and they teach me about Waka Flocka Flame and Megadeath," he said.

For many students math is boring, but he lessens the pain by including some humor.

According to Mr. Carvajal, nothing really inspired him to become a math teacher. "I think I was chosen by some unknown force. Something like Luke Skywalker being chosen to be a Jedi," he said.

He started working at Miami High about 10 years ago. "Before I started teaching, I was helping tribes in the mountains of Indonesia," he said. "We were capturing and releasing human-attacking panthers and jaguars."

"If I weren't a teacher," he said, "I'd be a soldier defending our country because they protect us, or maybe a car salesman because my dad was a car salesman."

His mother is from Mangito, Matanza, Cuba,

and his father is from Barranquilla, Colombia.

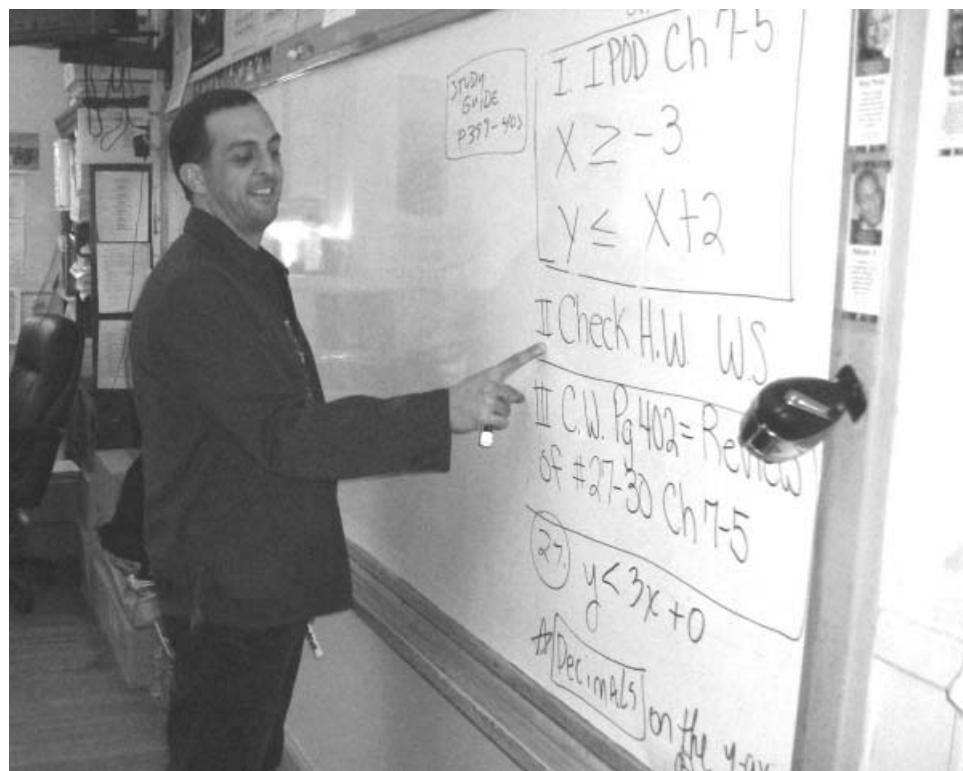
"I was born and grew up in Miami and graduated from Columbus Senior High," he said. "My favorite high school activity was going home after school finished. I was never too excited about high school because I was put in an all-boys private school. My best high school memory was hanging out with Catholic school girls."

While growing up he wanted to be a dentist to make lots of money to buy a Lamborghini. "I was volunteering at a dentist's office and I saw a tooth extraction procedure. I got totally grossed-out and decided not to become a dentist," he said.

After high school he attended The University of Florida and F.I.U. His career focus shifted while he was in college. "I graduated in psychology but didn't choose it as a career because I changed to art, but then I couldn't finish that because I needed a real job because I was having a kid."

Still living in Miami, he's been married for 13 years and has three daughters: Dollie, who's 14; Julie, who's 9; and Louie, who's 7. His wife works at Contenti Cupcakes.

His favorite movies are The Big Lebowski, Bottle Rocket, and Rushmore. But when it comes to music....."I like everything except Drake!" he said. For fun he draws pictures of animals and old wrestlers.



"If I weren't a teacher," said math teacher Mr. Carvajal, "I'd be a soldier defending our community because they protect us, or maybe a car salesman because my dad was a car salesman."

I START TEXTING, I KEEP TEXTING... IT'S MY OBSESSION

By Alberto Aybar

Nowadays, you can walk pretty much anywhere, and you will see fingers pressing cell phone keys at a rapid speed. Texting seems to have taken control of our lives.

Does your texting distract you from doing your homework or paying attention in school? While you text, do you completely zone out from the face of this earth? In order to text, do you isolate yourself from others?

In the article "When Texting Becomes an Addiction" posted on the website for CBS News (<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/09/01/earlyshow/living/parenting/main6825771.shtml>) Dr. Dale Archer, a clinical psychologist, reports, "Anything that you can become obsessed with and that you do so much that you don't do the things you need to do with family, friends, school, job -- that can be an addiction. And texting absolutely can qualify."

"I definitely consider myself a text addict," said junior Rocio Mejia. "I'm sometimes in the car with my mom not paying attention to anything that she is telling me because I'm too busy texting," she said.

Sophomore Stephanie Moreno said, "It depends

who I'm texting. Sometimes when I text one of my close friends, I don't even see time passing. A few minutes become two hours," she said.

Though not an addiction for everyone, texting does seem to make people's lives more interesting. "I need to text," said freshman Atzu Aragon. "It's not that I'm addicted. It's just that I'm a social person."

Junior Fatza Ampie said, "I would be so bored if I can't text and socialize with my friends."

"Texting to me is a life saver," said junior Roberto Alvarez. "There have been times that I'm a bit late for work and my boss doesn't answer the phone, so I just send him a text so I don't get in trouble for it."

Sophomore Annette Flores said, "Sometimes when someone is calling me and I can't answer, I could just text them so I know what they want."

Freshmen Atzu Aragon said, "I do rely on it a lot, sometimes just to talk, to ask questions about homework, or if I miss school, to ask what I missed in class."

Many people can't be without their phones. "My phone is like my clothes; I can't leave my house without it," said sophomore Bryan Cash.

"It goes wherever I go," said sophomore Leonard Lavadie. "It saves me lots of boredom

in the car when I'm with my mom. In case of an emergency, I can be contacted through my phone at any time."

"The only time I leave my phone is when I go to church," said freshmen Randell Flores. "I know if I have it on me, I might be tempted to use it during church so I rather not take it."

Can people go one day without their phone? Fatza Ampie said, "I could try it for an hour or two, but I don't know about the entire day," she said.

"I think I can," said sophomore Bryan Cash. "I'd just do other things that would take up time so I wouldn't be able to use the phone."

Freshmen Randell Flores said, "Texting is one of the things that I do the most, so I think I would freak out if I didn't know who was calling me or texting me."

In-boxes fill up fast for many students. "My inbox gets full almost everyday," said Atzu Aragon. "I would say 300 messages a day."

Junior Alex Diaz claims 300 to 400 messages a day.

Annette Flores sends 400 to 550 messages per day.

"It depends on what I have to do that day," said Fatza Ampie. "If it's a really busy day for me, I

send like 200 messages, but if not, I send about 400 to 500 messages a day."

Now we all know that texting is free, right? WRONG! Texting also comes with a price depending on the carrier and plan that you have for your phone. For limited texting, carriers charge .10 to .20 cents per text message. For unlimited text messaging, carriers could charge from 5 up to 50 dollars.

The money for texting must come out of someone's pocket, right? "My mom pays for everything," said freshmen Atzu Aragon.

"I pay my bill," said sophomore Anette Flores. "I work on weekends so I have money to pay it."

"I just handle the texting; my mom handles the bill later," said sophomore Bryan Cash.

If you're not aware, MHS does not allow cell phones to be used in school. "If a student is caught with a cell phone, it gets taken away until the parent comes to school," said principal Mr. Valdes. "They don't get the phone right away though. Students have to wait until the end of the following day to get their phones back."

Better save the texting for after school. We wouldn't want any text addicts going crazy for there confiscated phones.



FINDING LOVE ON FACEBOOK <3

By Adriana Marrero

Imagine life without Facebook? You spend half of you're your time on it--before school, during school, and after school. It's where you complain how depressing your life is and look up that cute boy you met last week. If you're dating someone, it's not serious till it's "Facebook official", and technically, it's not over until you change your status from "in a relationship" to "single". But is it possible to actually start a romance through Facebook?

The thought of ever meeting someone through a social network might seem a bit scary. You don't know who they are. You don't know if they're looking for the same thing as you. You don't even know if they are real or not. The only thing between you guys is a monitor screen.

Clicking the "Add as friend" button

"I received a friend request from a strange man," said a female sophomore who prefers to remain anonymous. "I accepted only because we had 25 mutual friends in common. Later, he kept sending me messages that I was really pretty and we should hang out. He really creeped me out, so I just blocked him."

The "Pokes", "Likes" and "Wall Post"

Forget the old fashioned secret love notes. Facebook has taken over. Showing interest in someone isn't what is used to be. Freshman Natalie Tejera said, "I start to like their pictures, and I write inside jokes on their wall."

Junior Carolina Sanchez said, "I tag them on

pictures and on my status. They start doing the same, and it's easier once we're in school or in person to talk about something."

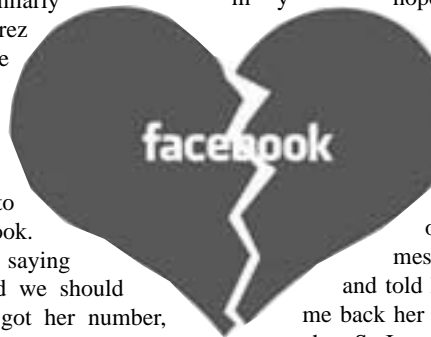
Junior Joseph Garcia doesn't like any of this. "If they poke me, I'll poke back, but I don't sweat it," he said. Similarly freshman Jose Gutierrez said, "I believe I should be more romantic, and it's just whack"

Real Life Stories

Junior Karina Vento found love on Facebook. "She sent me a message saying not to be a stranger and we should chill," Karina said. "I got her number, and we started texting. We texted for a whole month. Later she asked me to meet her at her house for the first time. I was more nervous than anything else, and my best friend, who is a guy, came along. It was really awkward at first because we had never really talked at all. But after a couple of hours she seemed absolutely perfect." Karina and her girlfriend have been together for over a month.

Senior Sasha Fajardo had a different experience. "Some guy added me on Facebook, and I only accepted because he was cute. As soon as I confirmed our friendship, he sent me an instant message, 'Hey, you're cute. If you want to chill, here is my number ...' Of course,

I texted him, and that week we met up. I have to admit I was kind of scared so I went with my girlfriends. We planned to meet him at Sunset Place in a restaurant, but he never showed up. So I was kind of bummed. After that I never bothered to get my hopes up when meeting anyone through Facebook."



Source: <http://www.cysy.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/facebook-heart-break.jpg>

Senior Luis Trujillo had better luck. "I noticed some girl from a different school who would always like my status after 2 minutes of posting it," he said. "I messaged my phone number to her and told her to text me. She messaged me back her number and told me I should text her. So I guess she wanted me to make the move; after all, she did do a lot to get my attention. I called her, and we talked for 3 hours on the phone.

The next day I met up with her at her school with a dozen roses. We've been together for over a year, and I never regret sending that message."

Clicking your way towards love

Some people believe true love be found in a social network. "Love can be found anywhere and everywhere because you never know when you can find your one and only," said Sasha Fajardo.

For some people romancing might be easier on Facebook. Junior Hellery Colon said "I tend to use Facebook messages to tell anything because it's

Facebook Talk

Click the "Like" button: When you find a status or picture amusing, funny, or something you can relate to.

Update your status: When you write whatever you're doing or thinking to let everyone on Facebook know.

"I tagged you": When you update your status or put up pictures, you identify the person and give a link straight to their profile.

"She posted something on my wall": Where people can see your recent activities.

Poke Wars: A certain way to grab others' attention without using words. Most likely a way to flirt.

easier to express my feelings and not be embarrassed."

For other people however, romance is better face to face. Junior Douglas Vasquez said, "I'm totally against Facebook, so I think you should get to know the person face to face. That way you'll know if you truly 'clicked' or not."

Junior Karolina Sanchez said, "Facebook is just a way of meeting someone, and to connect with your friends, but when it comes to talking about my problems, I let them out face to face."

Shoes with holes in them?

By Jeime Zequeira

Walking around the halls of Miami High, it's impossible not to notice the shoes with the holes in them that come in all sorts of different colors. At first, you might wonder, "What's that?" Then, with time, EVERYONE learns what Crocs are.

According to Marvin Rivas, a sophomore, "Everybody has Crocs."

Many students in Miami High wear them. Yudisleidy Aguero, a sophomore, said, "Crocs are comfortable and affordable. When you don't feel like getting all dressed up for school, they're there for you."

Nicole Pena, a junior, said, "Crocs are easy to put on and you don't have to worry about tying your shoes and tripping on them. I have every color of the rainbow and back."

Junior Karolina Sanchez said, "Crocs are very

comfortable and pretty. I own two pairs, one pink and one yellow. I go everywhere, not just school, with them."

Raul Rodriguez, a junior, who doesn't own Crocs, does wear his dad's all the time because they are comfortable.

Of course, not all students like to wear Crocs. Ellijah Rodriguez, a sophomore, said, "I rather wear Jordan slippers even



Crocs."

though I own a pair of

Sophomore Helen Chirinos admits that Crocs are comfortable, but says they're



Source: <http://www.hotproductreviewer.com/images/Crocs-Classic-Sandal-Review.jpg>

not that cute because they're bulky. "The colors are cute," she said, "but the design is ugly."

Crocs are very affordable. On the official online Croc store [<http://www.crocs.com>], Crocs start at only \$17. Prices vary depending on what style you get. Nestor Villalobos, a sophomore, said, "I got

my Crocs for around \$40 in Sawgrass Mall."

John Solis, a junior, got his Crocs at the Croc Store in Dolphin Mall for \$30.

While sandals aren't allowed to be worn in Miami High, Crocs are. According to principal Mr. Valdes, "Crocs are only allowed with the strap in the back." But why can't sandals be worn if Crocs can? "Because Crocs aren't open and they aren't dangerous."

Some students think that's not fair. Angela Triana, a sophomore, said, "It's not fair because a lot of people don't even wear their Crocs with the strap in the back." Kevin Andino, a sophomore, added, "Crocs and sandals are basically the same thing with different names." MJ Marquz, a sophomore, stated, "Crocs should be used more at homes and sandals are going out shoes that are prettier."

On the other hand, Dania Cortez, a senior, said, "It's fair because I wouldn't wear sandals to school either way."



TRUE LIFE:

By Yesenia Meneses
Graphic Editor

I'm a KEY Member.



Source:
<http://foothill.kernhigh.org/images/Key-Club.jpg>

"OMG! She's in Key!"
"No way! I thought she was a good girl!"
"I guess not, because everyone in Key just parties and drinks."

Unfortunately, this conversation is quite common at Miami High, and many students believe that being in Key means you're either a "pothead", "drunkie", or love to party. They're wrong. Key members do love to have fun, but we are very dedicated to our service and community.

Last year, during the last 9 weeks, I had trouble deciding what club to join because no club seemed appealing enough to waste my time on.

When I walked in to my first Key meeting, it was pretty ordinary, I thought, "Is this a mistake?" Most of the Key members were juniors and seniors, and they looked pretty mean.

My view towards Key completely changed this year when I actually got to know all the members when we went through hell and back together during homecoming. I learned that no matter what fights we get into, no matter how stressed we may get, no matter how hard things seem to get, we can always reach the impossible together.

You may be wondering what makes being in Key so incredible? First would be having the pride and glory of wearing a royal blue and gold Key jersey. Second is being part of such a magnificent and compassionate family that cares for each and every member. Third, we do great service to our community, and we significantly honor our school. Last, we have a lot of fun and enjoy the time we put forth for service.

Key Advisor Ms. Rivera, President King Kenneth 'Flea' Jimenez, Vice Presidents Nathalie Vega and Michelle Calderon, Treasurer Lisbeth Montalvo, Corresponding Secretary Stephanie Rodriguez, Recording Secretary Cindy Perez, Sergeant at Arms Robert Martinez and Historians Cindy 'Quesadilla' Bobadilla and Cristina Carrillo are very enthusiastic and devoted to their club. They make Key club as amazing as it is, with all their hard work and dedication to their members.

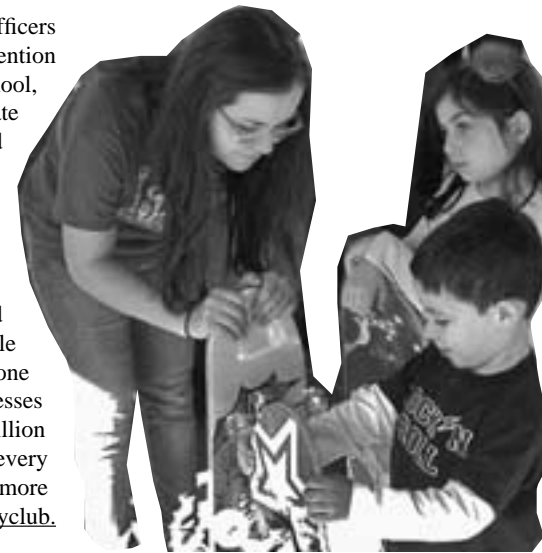
Ms. Rivera always reminds us to do our service, and when we succeed, she never fails to exclaim her wonderful, "I love it!" Kenneth makes being in Key welcoming because whenever you see him in the halls he is sure to say hi and ask how you are doing. Nathalie teaches everyone our wonderful Key clap, no matter how many times it takes and puts together our services.

Michelle makes the socials as entertaining and enjoyable as they are. Stephanie always reminds everyone of meetings times and dates. Lisbeth makes sure we all pay our dues in time, but not in a pushy way at all. Cindy P. makes sure we remember to sign in and reports all our activities to Key Club international. Robert the responsible one and the whose house we always use for after-school key club activities. Cindy B. and Cristina make every member feel special by remembering their birthdays. All of them are always there to answer any questions

Date	Service
Oct. 2, 2010	Key Club Kick-off Convention (KCKC)
Nov. 25, 2010	Thanksgiving feeding at the Smathers Senior Center
Dec. 8, 2010	Camillus' House peanut butter and jelly sandwich making
Dec. 6-11, 2010	Christmas Gift Wrapping/giving with Little Havana Kiwanis
Dec. 18, 2010	Face-painting for cancer patients
Jan. 29, 2011	Spring Zone Rally

On October 2, 2010, Key members and officers attended the Key Club Kick-Off Convention (KCKC) at Barbara Goleman High School, where they learned about "The Eliminate Project" where Kiwanis International and UNICEF joined together to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. Neonatal tetanus kills one baby every nine minutes, nearly 60,000 newborn children every year. A significant number of women also die due to maternal tetanus. Kiwanis and UNICEF have also joined forces to tackle iodine deficiency disorders, achieving one of the most significant public health successes of the 20th century. It will take \$110 million and the dedicated work of UNICEF and every member of the Kiwanis family. For more information you can go to <http://www.keyclub.org/home.aspx>.

In the Thanksgiving feeding service on November 25, 2010 at the Smathers Senior Center nursing home, Key members and officers helped feed about 60 senior citizens, and we were featured on Spanish-language news on



Key member Kimberly Alcantara with two children passing out gifts at Jose Marti Park.

volunteers helped make a total of 675 sandwiches for the homeless at Camillus House.

On December 6, 7, 8 and 11 Key Club did a Christmas gift wrapping service for unfortunate children. Key members and officers gift-wrapped a total of 1,150 gifts that were purchased by the Little Havana Kiwanis.

On December 18, 2010 Key Club members and officers went to the Miami Beach Convention Center with Kiwanis to do service through face painting for cancer patients.

Finally, at the Zone Rally service on January 29, 2011, all future office holders and current officers attended a meeting at Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School and learned what jobs, tasks, and responsibilities are to be done for the upcoming year for Key Club.

They are about 90 Key members. Key meets in room C002 on Wednesdays at 2:30. To join Key, just grab an application from one of the officers or from club sponsor Ms. Rivera. To join Key, you must have at least a 2.0 GPA.

And remember this: next time you're pondering what club to join, the Key family can reach the impossible, and we will always be untouchable, so why not join the best club in MHS?



Key Officers (L to R) Stephanie Rodriguez, Lisbeth Montalvo, Cindy Bobadilla, King Kenneth Jimenez, Cristina Carrillo, Michelle Calderon, Cindy Perez, and Kimberly Alcantara at the Homecoming Game.

we have without hesitation and without any discourtesy. As you can see, being in Key is like having a school family, a Key family.

Key has also done a lot of service this year.

Telemundo channel 13 for doing this service.

The service for Camillus' House was collecting peanut butter, jelly, and bread from November 29, 2010 to December 8, 2010, when fifty student-



Vegetables > MEAT!

By Celeste Tejada

"Man is the only creature that consumes without producing. He does not give milk, he does not lay eggs, he is too weak to pull the plough, he cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits. Yet he is lord of all the animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself."

- George Orwell, Animal Farm, Ch. 1

Imagine if we lived in George Orwell's world where animals could speak the human language. Where they could interact with us and share stories of their wild lives, pains, struggles, fears, passions, joys, etc. Would we still treat them the same?

Most people regard animals as nothing more than a food source. They see them as inferior beings that don't think or feel anything, as if they were robots with flesh. Animals may not experience some of the emotions humans do, but pain is something that every being with a nervous system can experience.



Source: (<http://boomerblog.sdsu.edu/2010/03/baby-boomer-vegetarians-part-ii/>)

Humans are carnivores?

I understand that certain animals have to eat other animals to survive. It's the circle of life. But technically, it's not really necessary for us humans to eat other animals.

Did you know that humans have more characteristics similar to herbivores than to carnivores? According to the website for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) (<http://www.peta.org/living/vegetarian-living/The-Natural-Human-Diet.aspx>), biologists and anthropologists who have studied human anatomy and evolutionary history have shown "Humans lack both the physical characteristics of carnivores and the instinct that drives them to kill animals."

Physically carnivores have claws, or longer nails, which herbivores and humans don't possess. Carnivores, unlike humans and herbivores, also have a shorter intestinal tract and extremely acidic stomach juices so that meat can decompose and pass through quickly. Humans, unlike carnivores, also possess well-developed salivary glands which are necessary to pre-digest grains and fruits.

Finally, if we humans are supposed to eat meat, why don't we get excited at the scent of blood and eat our meat raw like carnivores? Honestly, if you really think about it, meat doesn't even taste good. The only reason we "like" the taste is because of the condiments added to it.

Where your meat comes from

Forget the taste for a moment. Would you still eat meat if you knew where it really came from? Many people like to think their meat comes from these family-friendly farms full of fields of green grass where animals get to roam freely, but it is actually the complete opposite. The meat, eggs, and dairy

products that you eat likely come from factory farms where the animals live in cramped, horrible conditions without much space to move. They suffer from the day they are born till the moment they reach slaughter.

Did you know that chickens are kept in filthy, crowded sheds where they have no space to even stretch a wing? They are given a large amount of hormonal drugs in order for them to grow fast which causes them to become too heavy to carry their own weight.

Pigs, which happen to be sensitive and affectionate animals that are actually smarter than dogs, spend their entire lives on concrete floors in these factory farms.

And cows? Did you know that, like female humans, cows have to have a baby in order to give milk? As a result, cows are continuously artificially inseminated to keep them pregnant. After they give birth, they give milk for about 10 months, and after that, they are inseminated again. I don't think that's anywhere near to being natural for a mammal.

As horrible as it may all sound, these "words" don't

Not all Vegetarians are the same

Vegetarians only eat plant-based foods and exclude eggs and dairy products.

Fruitarians only eat fruits.

Lacto-Vegetarians include dairy products, but exclude eggs.

Ovo-Vegetarians include eggs, but exclude dairy products.

Lacto-Ovo Vegetarians include eggs and dairy products.

Pescatarians include fish and/or seafood.

Flexitarians only eat meat occasionally.

Source: Veg-World (<http://www.veg-world.com/articles/types-of-vegetarian.htm>)

compare to actually seeing the gruesome atrocities that these animals are put through. It's one thing to read about what happens to animals, but when you actually see it for yourself, if you have a heart, you will probably never want to eat an animal again in your life.

I'm not one to get disgusted easily, but after looking at videos such as "Meet Your Meat" or "Chew on This" at the website Meat.org, I found it pretty difficult to eat an animal. That's why I believe being a vegetarian is the way to go. Not just to help save an animal, but to help save yourself.

I've only been a vegetarian since August of 2010, but I plan to continue abstaining from meat for the rest of my life. At first, it was for religious reasons, but after learning more about the meat industry and animal cruelty, I realized how truly disgusting eating flesh is, and I didn't want to take part in any type of animal suffering.

I have to admit though, at first, it's pretty difficult to not eat meat when you've spent your whole life eating it. Also, you don't see many options without meat, but

once you get used to it, you realize there is a variety of foods out there, and that meat isn't the only "good" tasting thing.

Types of Vegetarians:

The article "Understanding different types of vegetarianism" by Paula Carnogoy, posted on the Veg World website (<http://www.veg-world.com/articles/types-of-vegetarian.htm>), lists five different types of "vegetarians". Lacto-Ovo-Vegetarians don't eat any type of animal flesh but do eat dairy products and/or eggs. Pescatarians don't eat any animal except fish and certain seafood. Fruitarians only eat fruits. Flexitarians only eat meat on certain occasions. Vegans don't eat any animal flesh or dairy products or any type of product that was made of or from an animal.

I guess I would be considered a Lacto-Ovo-Vegetarian because even though I don't drink milk or eat eggs, there are still some dairy products that I do consume including cheese and butter.

You don't need meat to be "healthy"

Many people think that vegetarians are unhealthy, weak people who lack the necessary vitamins and proteins in their diets. However, according to the article "Health Benefits of Vegetarian Diets" by Winston Craig, posted on the Vegetarian Nutrition website (http://www.vegetariannutrition.info/updates/vegetarian_diets_health_benefits.php), with the proper diet plan, not consuming meat can reduce your risks of getting heart disease, cancer, high blood pressure, and obesity.

Yes, your body may need things like iron, calcium, Vitamin D, and other proteins, but you can easily get those without consuming animals or animal products from things like nuts, beans, soy foods, and many fruits and vegetables.

My Vegetarian Diet

Seven months without eating animals may not seem like a long time compared to others, but so far I'm still pretty healthy. If anything, I've probably gained more energy due to not consuming meats, which are high in fat and cholesterol. Avoiding meat has shown me the different varieties of foods that I can actually eat. I realized that vegetables aren't that bad.

There's also a variety of "meat" alternatives made from vegetable and soy protein that almost taste just like the burger you'll eat at Burger King or the chicken nuggets you'll eat at McDonalds. That just basically proves that the "delicious" meat people enjoy is only "great tasting" because of what's added to it. If I can have a healthier alternative that tastes just like the "real" thing, then why not go for it?

I usually just eat fruits and vegetables. One thing I still enjoy is my favorite food, pasta, but without any meat products. As far as eating in school, it's either bring my own lunch, salad from the salad bar, or whatever they may be serving that doesn't contain flesh.



And Now a word from a Baby Sting:

My First Day at Stingtown

By Ingrid Sanchez

I may be just a freshman, but I have a story to tell. A lot of the people here at Miami High will tell you that we're a great school and that you should be proud to be a Sting. But the truth is that before and after my first day as a freshman, I wasn't proud to be a Sting at all. I wasn't even planning to come to Miami High.

When I was an 8th grader at Coral Way K-8 Center, we had just held the annual Magnet Fair, which is a two-day event where representatives from different high schools and magnet schools from across Dade County come talk to 8th graders about their schools and why we should go there.

Miami High was actually the very first out of all the other schools that came to talk to us about their Law and Teaching Magnets. But I wasn't even considering MHS. I actually wanted to break my family's tradition and go to Coral Gables Senior High or to the International Studies Charter High School (ISCHS). Unfortunately, living too far away from Gables, having a horrible math grade, and other contributing factors stood in my way of getting accepted to my preferred schools.

I was crushed. I spent the entire summer, all upset, wondering what to do next. I asked my friends where they were going or where I should go to high school. Meanwhile, my mom kept saying, "There are no other options, Ingrid. Just go to Miami High."

"Miami High?! Did she just say Miami High?! There was no way that I am going that school!"

I'd say, "Mom, the only people who go to MHS are underachievers, deadbeats and punks! There is no way I'm going to that school just because you and Aunt Cosette went there and my cousins go there!" Every time I brought up the subject about high school, all my mom would say was, "Ingrid, there is nothing wrong with Miami High. And you're going to be fine." My aunt would say the exact same thing. But I still wasn't convinced.

Nevertheless, the first day of school dawned on August 23rd, and unfortunately, I had to be there. As I walked in the school, hundreds of thoughts started racing through my mind like: "I wish I were still at Coral Way," "How am I going to find my friends in this Titanic of a school?" "What if I get picked on?" or "What if I get jumped?!" I felt like I was going to throw up. But my parents and my siblings assured me that everything was going to be fine.

So I walked into Miami High and had the worst day of school. And it was only the first day! It really was the worst. I got lost. I couldn't find my friends; I got classes I didn't even want. I was confused by all the different schedules and sat alone at lunch. By the time the bell rang at 2:20 that day, I was relieved that the horrible day had finally come to a conclusion.

I ended up crying on the car ride home from school, and I didn't want to talk to anybody. All I wanted to do was go home and forget about everything that had happened. The next day in homeroom I was thinking about what my mom had said to me

before. "Maybe Mom is right," I thought. "Maybe things will get better." But then all my thoughts came to a halt as I looked inside my backpack and realized that I had forgotten my lunch.

"Just great! Another worst day is heading my way," I thought. Eventually I moved to second period where I asked my new English teacher Ms. McClyde if I could call my mom and she gave me a pass to go to the attendance office, but just one problem... where's the

"I started thinking that things would never go right for me and that MHS just wasn't the school for me, but either way I was going to be stuck here for four miserable years."

attendance office??

And being the lost and confused freshman that I was, I started walking the wrong way. Ms. McClyde had to come out of class to direct me towards the office. Boy, was my face red. After walking through the maze of hallways, I finally got to the office, called my mom, and told her that I had left my lunch. After the phone call, instead of going right back to Ms. Clyde's class, I went into the bathroom and had another good cry.

During that crying episode, I started thinking that things would never go right for me and that MHS just wasn't the school for me, but either way I was going to be stuck here for four miserable years. After that, I wiped my tears and washed my face so that nobody could tell that I had been crying. Eventually my mom arrived and brought me my lunch.

As we walked out of the office together, I started to cry again. My mom took me aside and gave me a hug. "Oh, Ingrid it's OK," she said. Then all of sudden a voice came up behind us and said, "It's OK," and then asked, "Is it her first day?" My mom replied, "No it's her second day. She was here yesterday, but she didn't really enjoy it." I turned around to see where the voice was coming from, and to my surprise --- it was Principal Valdes, and he offered to walk me back to class.

I then said 'Bye' to mom and started walking back to class. As we walked, I told Mr. Valdes that I was coming to Miami High from Coral Way K-8 Center and how I had wanted to go Coral Gables because I thought it was better than MHS and because practically all of my friends go there.

Then he said, "Oh, trust me, we're better than Gables. I have tons of kids who transfer from there to here everyday because they don't like it for whatever reason." We finally reached Ms. McClyde's room, and I sat down at my seat.

After having the talk with Mr. Valdes, I started to feel a little better. Not good, but a little better. And I felt my confidence starting to come back. Eventually things started getting good. I found a lot of my friends from Coral Way, I started to make many new friends, I got my schedule fixed, and I got the classes I really wanted.

One thing I like about Miami High is that I get less homework



Photo illustration by Yesenia Meneses

"I'm really not quite sure about what I really want to do. All I know is that whatever I want to do, I'm going to make it big here."

than at Coral Way, where I used to get so much that it was hard to keep up with and I barely ever had time to just chill and relax. I recently talked with a friend of mine who goes to Coral Gables where she said that she always gets homework everyday.

MHS also has tons of cool clubs that are worth joining. Another thing I love is all the fun activities. The basketball games, football games, Spirit Week, etc. With all this school spirit, it's hard to NOT get swept up in all the madness.

In time, I realized that Miami High isn't bad like I imagined. Months ago, I wasn't happy to be here. But now I'm proud to be a Sting. And one more thing: there is no way I'll ever set foot in Cav City. Even if they paid me \$1,000, I still wouldn't go because I love MHS way too much.

Maybe I'll join Beta or Interact when I'm a sophomore. Or maybe I'll learn to play saxophone and play in the Million Dollar Band. I'm really not quite sure about what I really want to do. All I know is that whatever I want to do, I'm going to make it big here.



Where el DINERO hits

By Claudia Martinez
Copy Editor

From clothes to materials for school projects, many high school students have a lot of things they need, and they all cost money. Maybe their parents don't want to give it to them. Then, they wonder, *What can I do?* Finally, the thought of a job kicks in.

Many students feel that having a job is a good idea. Sophomore Jose Machado said, "I had a job and it was good because I got to help my mom and had extra money to buy whatever I want. I think more kids should get jobs to help their parents."

Senior Johnny Domenech said, "I want a lot of things, and I'm sure other students do too. Sometimes the parents can't give it to them and getting a job can help them with the money."

Even some adults believe teens should work. Math teacher Ms. Herrera said, "I agree with students working. Some could become more responsible from the work experience. Of course, it all depends on how mature they are."

Career research teacher Ms. Branch says, "I think it's a great avenue to help them get organized. I think it helps them become better citizens."

Leonardo Salazar, whose daughter attends Miami High, said, "I'm fine with it. They should learn the value of a dollar instead of just asking

and asking. They ask for useless things they won't need a year from now."

Others, however, disagree. Marlen Martinez, whose daughter attends Miami High, said, "I don't really support the idea of teenagers working. They completely forget about school when they start to feel any type of power with money. They should just let the parents deal with the money so they can stay focused with what's most important--SCHOOL."

Sophomore Kevin Yoc said, "A lot of the students at MHS can't really balance a lot on their plate. They start to get distracted with friends and other things that seem to be important."

Students at MHS work at a variety of places. Senior Kayla Rodriguez works 20 hours per week at Publix. She got the job with a hook up because her mom and sister work there too. Senior Erwin Sanchez works at the AMC movie theaters for 6-13 hours per week. He got the job because his cousin used to work there. Sophomore Ana Perez, works at a store named 'World of Shoes' for about 30 hours per week. Who found the job while shopping at the store. Jose Machado started volunteering at place called CODI, a legal and political office, and was later offered a job there. He works 28 hours per week.

Many of the students at MHS do different things with their pay checks. Sophomore Ana Perez said, "I pay half the rent and buy anything else I need." Kayla Rodriguez said, "I try to save



Source: http://depts.washington.edu/envhlth/images/topic/Teen-Worker_StockCooler.jpg

up for college as much as I can and help around the house."

Junior Jonathan Cubillos, who works at Publix, said, "My pay goes straight to the bank. Half goes into my savings and the other half goes into my checking, which I can use whenever I need money." Kevin Yoc, who works for a landscaping company, said, "When I get paid at the end of the week, I just go out and buy whatever it is that I

"My pay goes straight to the bank. Half goes into my savings account and the other half goes into my checking, which I can use when ever I need money."

-Junior Jonathan Cubillos

want."

Even though these students have jobs and deal with school, they still feel they have enough time for themselves. Jose Machado said, "School is only on weekdays, and I work after school, so I have the weekends."

Jonathan Cubillos said, "It's harder to manage, but I do have time left over for myself." Johnny Domenech says, "I have days off on the weekend so I just chill those two days."

Some Miami High students get their jobs here through OJT. Mr. Perez, the OJT teacher, said, "Right now there are about 200 students in the program and three teachers that run it. In order to have OJT, students usually have to give up 3 to 4 classes from their 8 period schedule. In some cases, having OJT increases their GPA. Students do like the program because they get experience in the work force and the employers like to see responsible young people."

FREEDOM, the legal life of being EIGHTEEN

By Barbara Espinosa

Becoming 18 is a huge turning point in your life. As an 18-year-old, you will have many more rights and more responsibilities. Before you start jumping for joy because you are now 18 years old, you should know what you can and cannot do.

If you are over 18 in Florida, you are an adult in some ways, but in others, you are not. According to the article "Laws for 18 year olds", posted on the EHow website, (http://www.ehow.com/about_5552273_laws-year-olds.html), in the State of Florida being 18 makes you an adult, which means you can work without special rules or your parents' permission. You can vote. You can legally smoke tobacco (although it is an unhealthy habit). But you cannot legally drink alcohol because the drinking age still remains 21.

You can have consensual sex with another person over 18, but it is illegal for you to have sex with a person who is under 18 unless he or she is your husband or wife. You can get married now without your parents' permission.

You can sue someone. You are free to gamble



Source: <http://Flyhighmoggyver.blogspot.com/>

away your money, incur credit card debt, and make foolish investments.

You cannot rent a car, but you can buy one and can drive at any hour and drive alone or carry friends in the middle of the night.

Being 18, however, is not all fun and games. "The moment you turn 18, teenage pranks, juvenile offenses that once might have only infuriated your parents or tested the patience of police can now lead to serious civil and criminal charges and land you in jail," said the article

"Laws for 18 year olds".

In MHS, turning 18 is a big deal for some students. Senior Luis Pargo said, "I just turned 18 last month, and it has made a very big difference in my life. I basically do anything I want." Senior Jennifer De La Torres said, "I am going to go crazy on my birthday! No one can say anything because I am an adult!" A senior who wished to remain anonymous said, "The moment I turn 18, I am going to move out and live my own life."

On the other hand, junior Andy Perez said, "I don't see a big difference just another year added to my life." Joel Espinosa, a 25 year old, said, "There isn't such a big deal about turning 18; 21 is the real party!"

The moment you are 18 years old in school, you are viewed differently. According to the article "Laws for 18 year olds", your parents no longer have legal control over or access to your academic records. You control your school problems.

Actually by age 16, the school starts looking at you differently. Assistant principal Ms. Baez said, "Any student who attains the age of 16 and above during the school year is not subject to compulsory school attendance beyond the date

The legal life of 18

H Q L G R P U J J E
V L P H Z F O R Z T
O I N G B E T O V L
R A M A R R I E D U
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C E S N E C I L X A
O F C O N T R A C T
R Q A S M O K E P R
D E Y M R A E U S Y
S H L T R T B R N M

Find these words:

Adultt	Arm	Contract
Credit cards	Jail	License
Responsible	Smoke	Sue
Vote	Married	Records

she or he attains that age, but this does not apply to the SPED department. We also do not accept any 18 year old freshman, but do accept any SPED children until the age of 22."



DON'T BLOW MY HIGH!



Source: <http://www.drugfreehomes.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/10/potsmoking.jpg>

By Jaime Lira

You have a best friend that you completely confide in. Then one day you see him at the movies, and he's not acting like himself, calling you names and disrespecting you. You call him the next day and ask what was up. 'I was completely high! I had no idea what I was doing!' he says. You cut him out of your life. Due to a stupid drug, you've lost the best friend you've ever had. Being high helps some people relax, but it also causes a break in what was once a close friendship.

Despite the constant nagging of their friends begging them to stop, many marijuana users keep on with their smoking habits. Sophomore Elietis Diaz said, "I get mad at them because they're my friends and as much as I tell them to stop, they just

keep on doing it."

Senior Jessy Hernandez said, "If they smoke too much and it gets out of hand, then yes it does affect our friendship, especially if it affects their school work or anything important like that."

"When someone smokes I see them in a different way, and we start to lose touch because they start selling me and everyone else out for weed," said junior Joseph Alonzo.

"When my friend smokes, she gets aggressive so it gets on my nerves and we always end up fighting," said senior Genesis Guardado.

For the marijuana users, losing friends comes with the territory. Senior Faviana Fernandez said,

"Some people don't like that I smoke because they think I might pressure them into it."

"If you don't want to be my friend because I smoke, then that's you because I'm not going to stop smoking for anybody," said an anonymous tenth grader.

To some non-smokers, smoking marijuana changes the smoker. Elietis Diaz said, "When they smoke, I see them dirty and low class because I see smoking as something cheap."

Jessy Hernandez said, "When one of my friends smokes, I can tell because that they act differently. They tend to act slower and sometimes lost, especially the ones who smoke more than others."

Others are more accepting. "I do see them differently, but I don't really care because in the long run, it's them that are doing harm to their bodies and not me," said Joseph Alonzo. Genesis

Guardado said, "I don't see them differently because it's not that serious and everybody does it nowadays so I don't really care."

"I wish my grades would smoke weed so they could get higher," is a common joke floating around on Facebook. But on a serious note, can smoking weed really affect someone's grades? Elietis Diaz said, "I have a friend whose grades started changing as soon as she started abusing marijuana, and her grades have gotten worse now that she smokes marijuana more often." Jessy Hernandez said, "If you abuse it by doing something stupid like smoking weed before coming to school, then, yes, it will affect your grades."

Others might disagree. "I have a friend who smokes weed before a test and nails it," said Genesis Guardado.

"Unless you're a burnout and start losing brain cells, then I don't really think your grades will get worse," said Joseph Alonzo.

One smoker sees it a bit differently. "I don't think smoking marijuana affects my grades because my grades have always been bad," said Faviana Fernandez.

Does the old silent treatment work on somebody who doesn't want to quit smoking? "It's something that I've tried over and over again, and it just doesn't work. It's like they don't care, and it makes me sad because it even feels like weed is more important to them than our friendship. Even when they do say they're going to stop, they smoke behind my back and go to far lengths just to hide it from me," said Elietis Diaz.

"Sorry, but ignoring me is not going to do anything

Street Terms for Marijuana	
420	Homegrown
Acapulco gold	Hydro
BC bud	Indo
Buddha	KGB (killer green bud)
Cheeba	Kindbud
Chronic	Mary Jane
Dope	Shake
Ganja	Sinsemilla
Green goddess	Skunk
Herb	Wacky tabacky

Source: National Drug Intelligence Center <http://www.justice.gov/ndic/pubs3/3593/3593p.pdf>

because smoking marijuana has already become a part of my lifestyle," said Faviana Fernandez.

What drives people to become marijuana users in the first place? Jessy Hernandez said, "I think there are two kinds of smokers: people that have problems at home and think smoking weed is the way to solve them and then there's people who do it to fit in and look cool."

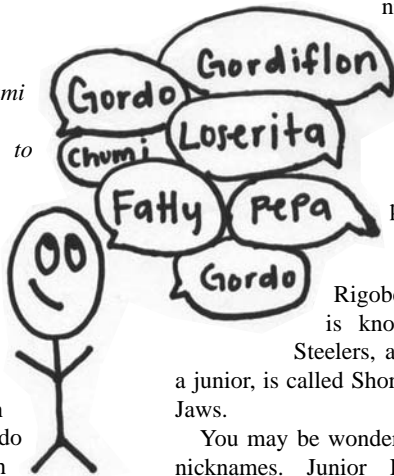
"I think people just start smoking after they give in to the peer pressure around them, and after that they just start making it a habit," said senior Cathy Flores.

The marijuana users don't find anything wrong with smoking. Senior Faviana Fernandez said, "I don't recall how long I've been smoking, but I do it because it makes me feel better, it lets me sleep at night, and it takes away depression."

Also Known As...

By Janessy Sierra

"Hey, Fatty!"
"Hey, Gordita, how are you?"
"Good! Have you talked to Chumi Bear?"
"No, not really but I talked to Piggy."



called 'Rookie'. Junior Jessica Ortiz's's nickname is 'Pepa', and junior Claudia Martinez is known as 'Fatty'. In some cases people have more than one nickname.

Rigoberto Matamorales, a junior, is known as Rigo, Polamalu, Steelers, and more. Joseph Alonzo, a junior, is called Shorty, Gordiflon, Lumps, and Jaws.

You may be wondering how people get their nicknames. Junior Karolina Sanchez, also known as 'Tuscumbia', said, "One day in my TV production class in 10th grade, I asked a dumb question which was, 'Is Helen Keller

Name	Nickname	Story behind it
Sophomore Wilfredo Caballero	Live ahh freda	All of my friends say I'm 'LIVE' so they just put it together with my name."
Junior Alex Diaz	Short Boy	"A friend who always made fun of my height started calling me that."
Junior Handiel Valdes	Whippy	"I'm the school's mascot, so obviously they have to call me that."
Junior Christian Baez	Fuego	"I got my nickname from an artist named 'Fuego', I really like his music and his personality."

from Tuscumbia, Alabama?" and my teacher Dr. Underwood started laughing because he had never heard of that place. So he made me do a report on Helen Keller and has called me 'Tuscumbia' ever since."

Jessica 'Pepa' Ortiz, said, "Sophomore year I played softball. As each player went up to the plate to bat, a song would be played. Since I am Dominican, they would play the song 'Pepe', so my teammates would cheer, 'Pepa, Pepa,' since

I'm a female."

Others get their nicknames by choice. Junior Handiel Valdes, is also known as 'Whippy' because he dresses up as the school's mascot.

Many students like their nicknames. "My nickname is 'Speedos'. I played water polo so everyone started calling me that. I thought it was funny, and anyways, who doesn't like a guy in



Teenage Relationships : Roller Coaster or Fantasy?

By Marjorie Rodriguez

In the hallways of Miami High, you see couples in every corner. Some people just cannot stand to be away from their significant other. They are like magnets--in between class, after lunch, in the halls, even walking to classes together or just spending time with each other before a class. Many students in MHS from all grade levels are in relationships.

Junior Yenny Gamero said, "I enjoy being in a relationship because I have someone to go to when I got problems. I can count on them."

Junior Alexandra Albaladejo, who has been with her boyfriend Michael for two years and seven months, said, "The best thing about being in a relationship is when we are not arguing and he's acting cute and romantic."

Senior Kristy Rodriguez said, "I like having someone there to listen to me about anything with no judgment. Also there is a bond of friendship that gives security and comfort."

Senior Carlos Santiago said, "The best part of my relationship with my girlfriend is spending time together."

Being in a relationship, however, has its downsides. A senior female who wished to be anonymous said, "The worst is when you can't see them whenever you

want to, when they aren't paying much attention to you, or when your parents don't approve. My



Source: [http:// astrodramashcal.com/?P=67](http://astrodramashcal.com/?P=67)

mom hates the guy I'm with. She thinks he's a bad influence. I don't like the fact I have to go behind her back just to see him."

Sophomore Stefanny Moreno doesn't like arguing.

Getting approval from your parents can make your relationship much smoother. Alexandra Albaladejo said, "My parents approve the guy I am with since they know him."

On the other hand, there might many reasons why your guardians might not approve of your significant others. "My mom doesn't approve me being with my boyfriend. She has heard many bad things about him, and since he does not have a job or goes to school, I guess she thinks he's going to rub that on me," said the senior female who wished to be anonymous.

Many couples claim that they are in love, but how do they know it's really love? Alexandra Albaladejo said, "I know it's love because we are lasting a very long time."

A different anonymous female senior said, "I love the guy I'm dating! I know it's love because he rescued me from my last heartbreak, and he has showed me love. When I really needed someone and when I thought my world was falling, he was there for me and told me it was going to get better as if he knew it would. He makes me feel like I am the only girl in the world. I'm very

"I love the guy I'm dating! I know it's love because he rescued me from my last heartbreak, and he has showed me love. When I really needed someone and when I thought my world was falling, he was there for me and told me it was going to get better as if he knew it would. He makes me feel like I am the only girl in the world. I'm very happy to be with my boyfriend. He's an amazing guy!"

-Anonymous senior

happy to be with my boyfriend. He's an amazing guy!"

Are all relationships healthy? Carlos Santiago says, "My relationship is healthy. We barely argue. We hang out enough, talk a lot about stuff, and explain what bothers each other."

"You know your relationship is healthy when you could trust that person with anything!" said an anonymous senior female. "And not only having that love connection but also that bond of friendship. My boyfriend is my best friend!"

Love and Lust, is there really a difference?

By Ca'Maya Pierre

"I love you with everything that beats in me."
"Let's just be sex buddies."

Many people agree that the greatest feeling in the world is being in love, when you know that someone out there loves you just for who you are. But many people don't even know what love means. People confuse love with lust and don't know the difference between the two.

What does love mean to you?

People have their own definitions of love. "Love means when two people really feel each other and will go through thick and thin unconditionally," said junior Jeffery Thomas. Senior Janelly Gonzalez said, "Love is something natural. It's passion."

"Love is when you and that person are one," said sophomore Kayla Guerrero. Sophomore Tacoria Smith said, "Love is when you really care about that person and you got a lot of strong feelings for them."

On the other hand, senior Jonathan Del Rio

said that he doesn't know what love means. "I don't know what it means because I've never been in love," he said.

What does lust mean?

Lust is a strong sexual attraction for another person. People confuse lust with love because we are only human. "Lust is when you just want some cutty," said sophomore Josue Rodriguez.

An anonymous female said, "With lust, they just want you for your body and that's all. They'll use you and throw you away."

Ingrid Canales, a sophomore, just kept it simple and said, "Lust is a temptation." Handiel Valdes describes lust as, "When you see somebody and your mind goes crazy thinking about what you can do to that person."

Mr. Baumgarten, a pool sub, said, "Lust is just a spur of the moment thing."

Elizabeth Olivares, sophomore, adds, "Lust is when you look at a person in a sexual way and you want to have an intimate relationship with them."

How can you tell the difference between love

and lust?

Some people have trouble distinguishing love from lust. Sophomore Kayla Guerrero said that she can't tell the difference between love and lust. "It's all the same," she said.

On the other hand, drama teacher Ms. Brooks says, "The difference is that lust is selfish and love is selfless. You disregard your family for lust."

Have you ever been in love? How can you tell?

People claim that they have been in love, but have trouble explaining the feeling. "I never felt that way for somebody," said freshman Ariel Pareja-Diaz.

"When I'm with her, everything feels perfect and right," said Handiel Valdes.

Kayla Guerrero said "I was in love once, and all I wanted to do was be with that person."

Have you ever lusted for someone? Describe it.

And while some people still may have not experienced love, they have felt lust. Handiel

Valdes said "On occasions. The attraction is instant."

Jeffery Thomas admits that he has lusted for someone before. "Yeah, we're at that age where we start to experience new things and hormones," he said. "At certain moments, it's the thing you want."

Is lusting good or bad? Why?

Being sexually attracted to someone might be natural, but is it wrong? "Lusting is bad because you just want to have sex with that person," said Tacoria Smith. Ariel Pareja-Diaz said, "It isn't right because you end up getting hurt."

Ms. Brooks said, "It's bad because it destroys. Anytime you're selfish, you destroy. You'll do anything for yourself despite anybody else. It's a dangerous thing."

Others, however, disagree. "Lusting is a good thing because it's a part of life. Everyone experiences lust," said Jeffery Thomas.

Ingrid Canales said, "It's always good to just like somebody and that's all. Love sometimes can be too much."



TEDDY BEARS, FLOWERS, CHOCOLATES... UGH!



By Richard Domenech

Valentine's season is here, and hearts are flying through the air and into gifts. People at MHS get excited about Valentines Day.

Valentines Day is a day to give someone love and to exchange Valentines and other tokens of affection. What people give and what others like to get, however, are not always in agreement. Sophomore Cristal Montenegro said, "Besides spending time together, I like getting teddy bears, flowers, and the little things that they like." Sophomore Anthony Garcia, however, said that he doesn't mind getting the usual teddy bear or balloons but that he prefers getting jewelry way more.

Junior Kimberley Castillo said that she likes to give Teddy bears, chocolates, and of course her love. Freshmen Ashley Lopez, however, said, "I hate getting flowers for Valentines Day or even getting chocolate. I like when gifts are original."

So if you could receive any gift for Valentine's Day, what would it be? To many people, the answer is easy. Tenth grader Daniel Gonzalez said, "I would love to get a big case full of money for Valentines Day. Then I would know that they really love me!"

Others prefer something more sincere. 9th grader Jennifer Rodriguez said, "All I would like is something from the heart." Junior Kimberley Castillo said that she doesn't want anything. As long as she has their love, she said, "That would be perfect."

During this season many people do all sorts of things to go out of their way and impress their Valentines. So what if you could break some rules to impress your Valentine, what would you do?

"I would find a way to get to the school announcement speakers and tell my Valentine that I love him," says Cristal Montenegro.

Senior Christian Martinez said, "I would jump on the roof and scream to the world that I love my girlfriend, and I would parachute to the floor with her gift."

Administration, however, recommends thinking twice before breaking rules to impress your lover. Activities director Ms Quintero says that no one could get past the person that sits next to the loud speaker microphone for the school announcements. And she adds that the person that gets on the roof would get suspended or maybe even expelled.

By Nelson Velasco

"Hey bro, look at that girl, she's so cute!"

"Yeah, I'm sure she has a boyfriend though."

"We should go ask her friend."

"Hey, what's up? Hey, umm... do you know if your friend is talking to somebody?"

"No, she's single"

The guys smile and say, "Good to know."

Remember back when it seemed like almost every cute girl was taken? How you used to ask them out and they replied, "Sorry, I have a boyfriend." Well, high school is another story. Now, if you just wander around the hallways, you even the cutest of all single. But why?

Every different reason for being single. Sophomore Ana Iraheta says, "Guys nowadays are extremely stupid and immature." Junior who has been single for 11 "I just haven't found the worth my time." Junior Gonzalez, who has been over a year and a half, "I don't feel ready to relationship." Sophomore Montenegro says, "I want concentrate on my studies, to have fun right now."

"It's really hard to find a who isn't just interested in up," said senior Valeria Gonzales. Sophomore Jacqueline Rosales

What some girls have to say about having a boyfriend

- "Guys nowadays are extremely stupid and immature," said junior Sahily Ortega.
- Sophomore Jacqueline Rosales added, "My life is too busy, and I don't have time for all the drama."
- Sophomore Yeylin Lu says, "I ended my last relationship because he was looking for something that I wasn't."

Interestingly, both Valeria and Grisela said their last relationships with a guy were not the brightest.

Indeed, many of these girls are single because their last relationships went bad. Sophomore Yeylin Lu says, "I ended my last relationship because he was looking for something that I wasn't."

Ana Iraheta said, was psychotic didn't know an equal

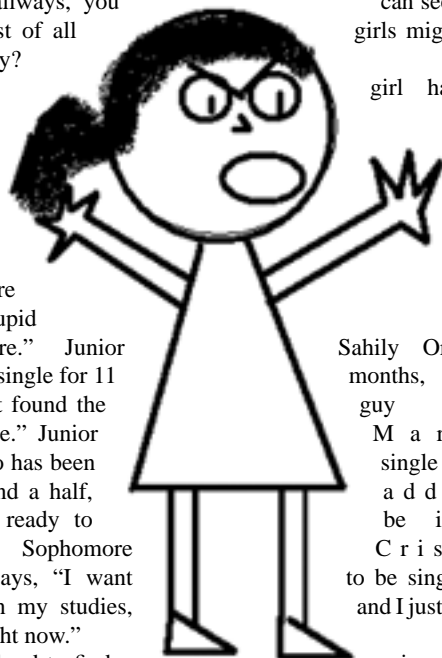
Andrea been single already, up because weren't able to

Alvarado said, up with him because I was tired and annoyed of him."

their last best one, haven't given up Grisela Avila waiting for that it."

Abdo added, "You cant judge all guys just because of how stupid one was."

CAN YOU LIKE GO AWAY!?



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Sahily Ortega, months, says, guy that's Maria added, be in a Cristal to be single to and I just want

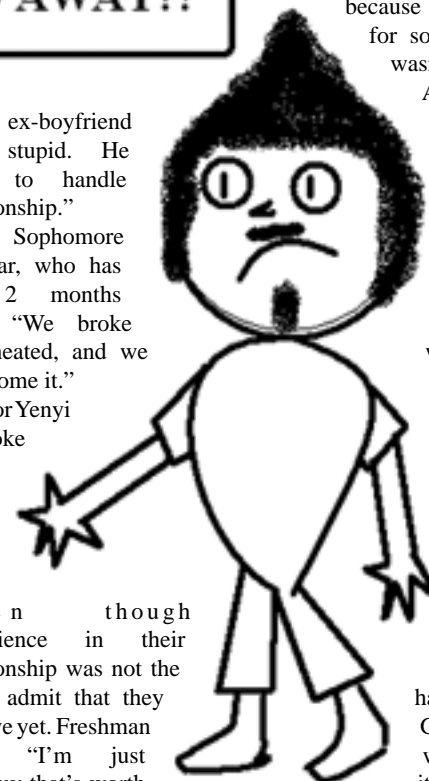
nice guy hooking

"My ex-boyfriend and stupid. He how to handle relationship."

Sophomore Alpizar, who has for 2 months said, "We broke he cheated, and we overcome it."

Junior Yenyi "I broke

Even though experience in their relationship was not the some admit that they on love yet. Freshman said, "I'm just one guy that's worth Sophomore Linda "You cant judge all guys just because of how stupid one was."





A Double Life... A FRIEND OR NOT A FRIEND? WHICH ARE YOU?

By Francine SaintCyr

"Hey, did you hear about who's been spreading rumors about you?"

"No. Who?"

"It's your best friend!"

"Are you serious? I thought that I could trust her!"

"Well, I guess now you know who your true friends are."

In your face, your best friend seems so trusting and fun, but in reality, she's the same one that has been spreading those dirty rumors around, and when you confront her, she denies it all.

When students step into school in the morning, you believe that's who they really are. But really, the person they appear to be in school might not really be them.

Do students put on an act in school? "Of course," says sophomore Geovanny Trejo, "because they try to act cool and want to make

friends."

Kanhiya James, a sophomore, thinks it's something entirely different. "They don't want anybody to know their true self and they don't want to be judged," she states.

Is it OK to act differently in school? Assistant principal Ms. Mendez says, "No, it's not. I think if the students act proper at home, then they should do the same at school and vice versa."

Some students believe that kids who don't act the same all the time are followers. Yet, some may think that they act that way due to stress or problems at home. "I don't think they keep their lives separate because if you have personal problems at home, then most likely



Source: <http://nicolefernandes.files.wordpress.com/2010/09/two-faced.jpg>

you're going to bring them to school," says sophomore Maylin Reyes.

How would you react if you found out that the person in your face all the time just happens to have a whole different personality once they step away from you? "I'd be freaked out, because all along I thought it was someone that I could trust, but it turns out I don't even know them," says 9th grader Maryanne Montero.

Brian Largaespada, a senior, states, "I'd be really pissed because I have problems with fake people!" 12th grader Bryan Valle believes that someone who isn't the same way all the time is someone who is two-faced, deceitful, or hypocritical.

Would true friends accept them for who they are? An anonymous student who has been through this situation states, "When I found out that my best friend was talking about me behind my back, I could never forgive her. First, I cussed her out, and then I never ever spoke to her ever again!"

However, Maylin Reyes believes that everyone deserves a second chance. She states, "I would give her a second chance because there's a reason she was your best friend in the first place."

How would parents react if they learned their child acts like a different person in school? Cristal Montenegro, a 10th grader, believes that it depends on how their life is at home. She replies, "Their parents could be disappointed or happy with the child's choice. For example, if the child is a child of child abuse, the parents probably wouldn't like that their child goes around portraying themselves as a victim. In that case, they would like the child to go around happy even though that's not how they truly feel."

"I heard . . ."

Gossip at MHS

By Leyanis Diaz
Copy Editor

A girl passes by, and Nathan turns to his friend Tyler and asks, "Did you hear about that girl?"

"No. What have they been saying about her?" says Tyler.

"The word is she was at David's party on Saturday making out with everyone," says Nathan. "She's like a public bus; everyone gets a ride."

Tyler laughs. "Wow! Are you serious? I never knew she was like that," he says.

"Well," Nathan says, "looks can be deceiving."

And so can gossip, which can ruin a person's reputation without even being true.

Some Miami High students have been hurt by rumors. "After a rumor was spread about me cheating, it was a lot of drama and my girlfriend thought I was doing things behind her back," said senior Bryan Valle.

"It has messed up my relationships. Girls always believe what they hear about you," said senior Christian Lainez.

Sophomore Angie Triana said, "My friend heard I was talking to her boyfriend and we stopped talking."

Students do spread rumors about others. Senior Victor Guerra said, "I once spread a rumor about a girl saying she was very promiscuous because I didn't like her." An anonymous senior said he

spread a rumor he had already heard because it was interesting, being that it was about a girl having sexual relations with another guy.

"I heard some girl was trying to talk to my boyfriend," said an anonymous freshman, "so I started saying she was trashy and had an STD."

Not everyone, however, will spread a rumor. "I choose not to because I wouldn't want someone spreading something about me," said Angie Triana.

Jennifer Orozco, a junior, said that spreading a rumor is like karma. "If you say something, someone might say something about you too," she said.

When a rumor crosses your path, how would you react? Victor Guerra, who loves gossip, said, "I make sure to hear all the facts and all the versions of the story so I can then spread it in my own version."

"It depends on who the rumor is about," said senior Diana Fertelian. "If it is about a friend, I get offended and back them up. If it's about someone I don't know, I ignore it. If it is about someone I don't like, I just laugh."

Senior Laura Peña said she always gets a laugh when she hears about people getting drunk or doing stupid things on the weekend.

Sophomore Marcel Theodore said, "I don't do anything. It is what it is. It's a part of high school. People will always talk!"

Indeed, some people love hearing the gossip. Junior Adriel Jimenez said, "I like to know who is fake because it really bothers me when I think

someone is my friend, but they actually aren't." An anonymous senior said, "I can't get enough of rumors dealing with sex and girls."

Nowadays, gossip is spread in many ways. "Rumors are always sent to me by text and sometimes I even get pictures of girls from this school and other schools getting caught in the 'act,'" said an anonymous senior.

"Facebook is very informative," said Jennifer Orozco. "It snitches everyone out."

Some people gossip the old-fashioned way. Victor Guerra said every now and then a group of guys get together and inform each other.

No matter the means of communication, gossip topics tend to remain the same. "It was always he said she said," said English teacher Ms. Sierra. "Rumors were about who 'did' who, who's cheating, and who was dating." Mr. Sandoval, a P.E. teacher, said, "We talked about the same subjects, but we didn't have the luxury of technology."

Gossip can also disrupt the school environment. Assistant principal Ms. Mendez said that gossip can lead to fights and arguments. When that happens, the school has to get involved and get each party's story, which takes a long time. "Most of the time it's just silly things that could've been easily resolved," she said.

"I deal with the seniors," said assistant principal Ms. Sanchez, "and after we warn them, since they have much more at stake than the other students, they usually stop. We try to deal with the problem before matters worsen."

Do you love gossip too much?

1. You overhear a rumor, do you continue listening? (yes no)
2. Have you ever spread a rumor not knowing for sure if it was true? (yes no)
3. Have you ever made a story sound better than it really was by exaggerating or adding details? (yes no)
4. When you hear gossip do you spread it right away? (yes no)
5. Have you ever let gossip make a decision about another person's character for you? (yes no)

If you answered yes to 3 or more of these questions, you love gossip too much.

Source: "Quiz: Are you a gossip hound?" on the About.com website filed under Teen Advice (<http://teenadvice.about.com/library/teenquiz/50/blgossipquiz.htm>)



The facebook

By Daniel Molina

Teachers and students alike at MHS use the popular social network 'Facebook' for many reasons. The film "The Social Network" about the popular site's creation caused buzz when it was released in theaters, and now that it's been released on DVD, students and teachers might want to take a look. After all, Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg was named TIME Magazine's "Person of the Year" soon after the movie's release. The movie's tag line, "You don't get to 500 million friends without making a few enemies," should be enough to interest you.

The movie begins when Erica Albright, Mark Zuckerberg's then girlfriend, says to Mark, "You're going to go on in life thinking that women don't want to date you because you're a nerd." The timid looking Zuckerberg, played by Jesse Eisenberg, proves to be the complete opposite of his appearance. Eisenberg gives an amazing performance, earning an Oscar nomination for best actor, as the anti-social, sarcastic, founder of Facebook who wears flip-flops when meeting with lawyers. The film focuses on the creation of Facebook and many important events that led to its creation.

Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss, twin brothers, both played by Armie Hammer, are members of Harvard's rowing team who, along with Divya Neranda, played by Max Minghella, are looking for a programmer to help them with their website 'ConnectU', which is a precursor to Facebook but with Harvard students being the only ones who can join. Later, the twins and Neranda sue Zuckerberg after they learn that Zuckerberg's site is similar to their ConnectU.

The film follows Zuckerberg as he goes from being an alienated sophomore at Harvard to becoming the youngest billionaire in the world. He's recruited by the twins and Neranda to work on their site but then comes up with his own conclusion that "people wanna go on the internet and check out their friends, so why not build a website that offers that?"



Zuckerber played by Jesse Eisenberg and Chris Hughes played by Patrick Mapel

While the twins and Neranda sue, Eduardo Saverin, Zuckerberg's then 'best friend,' played by Andrew Garfield, is also suing Zuckerberg after being told that his share of the company would be dropped to less than 1%. Saverin had given Zuckerberg around \$19,000 for anything that he needed, and they had both come

to the agreement that they would split it 70%-30%, and that Eduardo would handle everything on the business end. To Eduardo's surprise, his spot was slowly taken by Sean Parker, played by Justin Timberlake, who is the co-founder of Napster and a mentor to the young Zuckerberg, suggesting that the 'the' from Facebook be dropped.

Many scenes in the film show Zuckerberg's eccentric relationship with people, mainly Eduardo. Director David Fincher (Fight Club, Panic Room) does a great job at presenting him as the person you'd least want to be friends with. In one scene, Eduardo receives a note saying that he's made the second cut of joining a social club, with Zuckerberg stating, "That's good. You should be proud of that right there; don't worry if you don't make it any further."

The film moves at the right pace. It's filled with sarcasm, betrayal, the longing to be rich, and it even has a climactic scene that involves Saverin, Zuckerberg, and Sean Parker in the facebook HQ. After Eduardo finds out that his share has been reduced to 0.03%, he storms up to Zuckerberg, who's "wired in" and smashes the computer that he's working on, uttering the words, "You better lawyer up cause I'm not coming back for 30%. I'm coming back for everything."

In the end, the film closes with the Beatles tune "Baby You're a Rich Man," which lets us know that Zuckerberg may be rich, but he's really nothing more than that. The movie ends with Zuckerberg sending a friend request to ex-girlfriend Erica's Facebook page and continuously refreshing the page with hopes of her adding him and possibly renewing the friendship that they once had.

Call of Duty: Black Ops

aim for the kill!

By Ashley Reece

Call of Duty!!!!!! As a teenager, it is your duty to play Black Ops, the newest edition to Call of Duty. Turn on your Xbox and get the call of duty disk spinning. If you don't have Xbox, you better get one quick, and don't you dare hide behind the wretched excuse that you're suffering through a recession.

In the virtual world of war, you are no longer a loser at the bus stop or an overweight freak. You are a soldier running around on your chosen avatar, with the weapons of your choice: AK47's, assault rifles, grenades, and more. The objective of the game is to rank up and attain new weapons. The more you kill, the more you are able to purchase more weapons, and then kill some more.

Call of Duty has three different modes for playing. In the campaign mode, your character assumes many roles with changing perspectives. In the multi-player mode, you may play with many people online. Zombies mode, which you may play with others as well, isn't complex, gaining weapons and accumulating points doesn't matter in this mode. Killing zombies is your only objective.

While Call of Duty is fun to play, with you ranting and raving around with your virtual guns causing virtual bloodshed and boosting your virtual ego, the question arises: Does the killing mania interfere with school? "Knowing that I have homework, I will probably play for three hours and then end up doing my homework late at night, and then be tired the next day," says junior Chelsy Michele.

Get your grenades and rifles ready to have serious fun, but be aware that playing Call of Duty may cause procrastination. "I can play for about two hours a day. When there's nothing to do, it's good because you get to play with friends but it's also bad because it makes you procrastinate," says junior Desiree Bogart.

Why is Call of Duty Black Ops so hyped



up? "Cause I get to mess around with my friends," says sophomore Kristopher Kruz. "I get to dominate them because I'm so good at it."

An anonymous male junior said, "It's a game you can play with friends, and it's the newest game that's out." Junior Carlos Gonzalez says the game is hyped up because of all the great graphics, all the good effects, and the nonstop action."

OK, it is safe to conclude that the game is delightfully wonderful since you get to show off your skills with virtual guns to your friends and enjoy great graphics.

However, is it safe for the young ones? Although the guns are virtual, what they represent is very much real, and although the blood on the screen is just hues of crimson, does it influence the shedding of real blood?

The rating on the game is 'M' for mature, meaning only persons 17 years of age or older can play, but many students in MHS who play Black Ops are younger than 17. Does it have a bad influence on them? "No," says junior Hector Alvelo, "because there are worse games out there like Grand Theft Auto and saying that it influences violence is like saying action movies influence it."

Is there a negative influence on children much younger than 17? "Kids know what guns are, but at seven they shouldn't know how many and what types of guns there are," says Desiree Bogart. "There are guns that kids shouldn't know about."

The librarians at Miami High have their own Black Ops war to fight, and that is students doing the prohibited: playing the game inside of the library. "It's not allowed because that's not what the library is for and the game is considered dangerous," says Miami High librarian Ms. Smith. "We've tried to block it, but the kids are bringing it in through thumb drives."

Well, the students may argue that it is their duty to play Call of Duty Black Ops, so let the war begin as the students load the game onto the computers from their USB's.

What others are saying about The Social Network

"Best film of 2010"

"David Fincher's film has the rare quality of being not only as smart as its brilliant hero, but in the same way, it is cocksure, impatient, cold, exciting, and instinctively perceptive." – Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times



Party, Party, Party

PARTYING CAUSES AND EFFECTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drinking and doing drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not knowing what you are doing like crashing a car and killing someone Getting addicted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staying up all night on a school night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tired and not focusing in school Late to school
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting too "wild" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rumors and drama Getting hurt or hurting someone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Party every weekend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slacking off at school or work Having problems with relationships

By Carymir Casalvilla

*"Party, party, party,
Let's all get wasted.
Shake it for me, baby girl,
Do it butt naked."*

So sings Gucci Mane in his song titled "Wasted", but is it an example of how students at MHS party?

According to many students, partying nowadays isn't like back in the past where all you used to do was eat, dance, and hear music. A lot could happen in today's "partying".

Junior Orlando Gonzales said, "Partying to us is not a regular party any more. It's just chilling, having fun, and maybe getting a

"Show me your friends, and I'll tell you who you are."

little wild like getting wasted and having a one night stand."

Senior Mayte Rodriguez said, "I consider partying going crazy, doing stuff you shouldn't be doing, and staying up all night. Too bad my boyfriend doesn't let me."

Partying is not always fun to everyone. One person's worst party could be the best for someone else. Sophomore Andrea Landa said, "The best party I have been to was very crowded, it had free drinks, and good loud music." An anonymous senior said, "My friends and I rented a hotel, which was the best night ever for me. It was all the way live with girls, drinks, and music."

Senior Genesis Bustos said, "The worst party I attended was a 15's party. The girls were shy to dance and people were boring, but I stayed because it was my cousin's birthday."

Sophomore Jasmine Benitez said, "The worst party I have been to was full of people and everyone was there, but it got raided because the neighbors called the cops." Junior Jose Martinez's worst party is a little kid's party because, "There are no drinks or hot girls, and a bunch of little kids running around."

Not all teenagers have the freedom to party and do whatever they want. Many kids have curfews and many cannot go out. Freshman Jessica Reyes said, "My parents don't like it. They hit me because sometimes I come home late." Junior Jose Garcia said, "My grandma gets too worried so I try to come home early."

On the other hand, senior Araceli Urquidi said, "My parents give me all the freedom I want." Similarly, sophomore Michael Pereira said, "They tell me to be careful, but they don't stop me

from doing my thing."

Who do you like to party with? Sophomore Katherine Boquin said, "I party with people who aren't afraid to dance in front of a large group. We get into dance battles in the middle of the dance floor." Junior Sharon Galeas said, "I party with people that love to have fun." Sophomore Ellye Molina said, "I party with my boyfriend, a lot of my after school friends, my brother's friends, and some of my street friends."

"Show me your friends, and I'll tell you who you are." Most of us have heard that quote a few times in our lives. Knowing who you party with and get involved with could be very important. Senior Orlando Gonzalez said, "The people I party with are a bad influence, they smoke, drink and get too crazy when partying, but I'm not a follower."

Students at Miami High obviously love partying and some party more than others. Senior Stephanie Ortiz said, "I party a lot, especially in long weekends, it's an addiction for me." An anonymous senior says that he parties, even on school nights, like there's no tomorrow. Sophomore Kristal Don said, "I party almost every weekend. I have to go out at least Friday or Saturday."

Some just don't party at all. Junior Genesis Gonzalez said, "I don't party much, and when I do, it's a normal party." Sophomore Hilda Elias said, "Now that I have a boyfriend, I party less but I

"The people I party with are a bad influence, they smoke, drink and get too crazy when partying, but I'm not a follower," said senior Orlando Gonzalez

used to party every weekend."

Staying up all night, not sleeping till the sun rises and partying like there's no tomorrow sounds fun, but could that have any negative effects? Sophomore Victor Paez said, "One effect of partying too much is that you can find drama, like inappropriate pictures being taken, and fights, but I don't think it's wrong to have too much fun."

Sophomore Hilda Elias said, "Waking up too tired the next day is a major effect from all the partying. It's not wrong to have too much fun unless it's a school night."

Does your Past Make you?

- Jakeisha Lewis said, "You make the future so be who you are and don't let a thing like the past control you."
- Denisha Williams said, "your past can affect the person you become and set limitations for it."
- Ms. Dopico said, "You should live today reflecting on the past and preparing for the future."
- Lucson Dervil said, "If you were doing badly, such as fighting, drinking, smoking etc, then in your future you will become mature."



image source page: <http://www.garmaonhealth.com/2010/07/addicted->

By Courtney McGee

"We all have our time machines. Some take us back; they're called memories of the past. Some take us forward. They're called dreams of the future." **Jeremy Irons**

Many people have memories of their past, and those are good ones. Senior Sandia Accius said, "My past has always been positive. I stayed in school, I never hung around the wrong crowd, and I maintained good grades." Librarian Ms. Lottie Smith said, "My past has always been the same. I was sneaky when I was younger, but who wasn't sneaky when they were younger?"

Some people, however, have bad memories. Senior Jessica Herrera said, "My past was negative because I didn't know my mother, and I lived in Ecuador with my auntie and uncle. But that has changed because I know my mom now and we are close like

Continued on page 24



Bye bye to senior athletes!

By *Khiyandra McCallam*

To a lot of seniors, 12th grade is the biggest year of their life, especially for senior athletes. It's their last chance to prove what they can do. After they play their final high school game, it all has to be left behind on the court, field, or pool.

How Do You Feel About Your Last Season?

Some seniors feel good about their last season. Christian Ceballos, a football player, says, "It was an exciting season. I had a great group of guys. I couldn't have asked for more out of them."

"I'm very excited and confident about my last season because we have a great team all around and I believe if we play together we will be successful," said Gus Bonneval, a baseball player.

Football player Andre O'Neil says, "I feel great about it because I've accomplished a lot in one year of varsity high school football."

Others have mixed feelings. Amber Couzo, a water polo player and swimmer, said, "I feel sad that it's my last year, but it's also my motivation because I want to do really well and make my coach proud."

Are You Proud Of How Far You Made It?

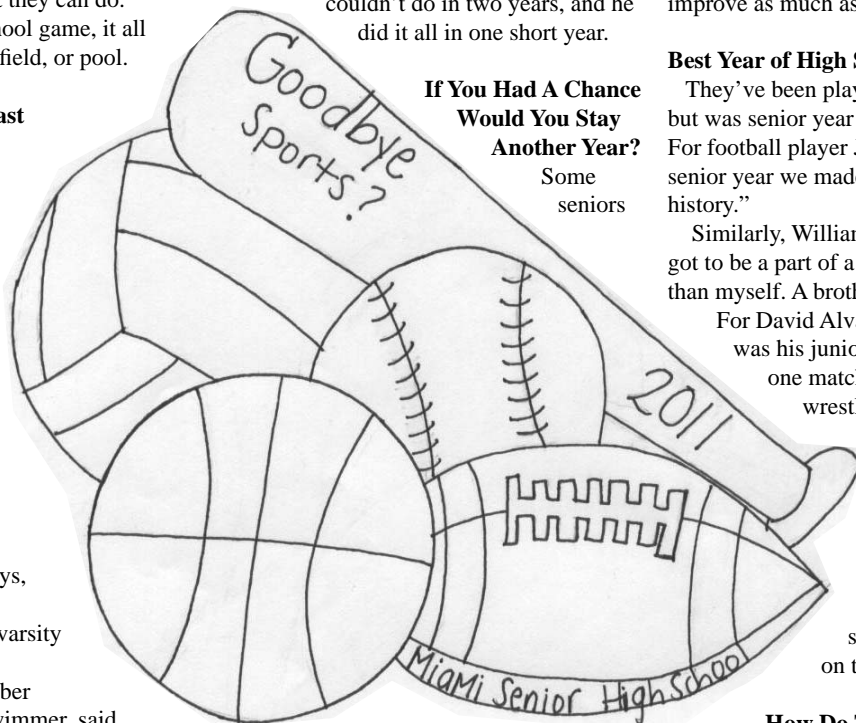
Some seniors aren't happy with how far they made it. They think it could have gone better. Football player Bruno Jean said, "I'm proud but I would have liked us to make it further into districts." Wrestler David Alvarez said, "At this point, I'm not because I haven't made it to state and I'm going to try my hardest this year to make it."

Girls basketball player Claudia Martin said, "I'm NEVER satisfied! There's always more to do."

Other seniors feel very proud of how far they've made it. Girls basketball player Naomie Petion stated, "I'm proud because I started off not knowing ANYTHING about basketball and what it was until my sophomore year, and I've come a long way in that short period of time."

"I would have never thought that I'd play varsity football for 4 years and become captain," Christian Ceballos said with a smile.

Andre O'Neil, he rushed for over one thousand yards this year and was named to the Miami Herald's All-County first team, said that he is very proud of how far he has made it because he's done something a person probably couldn't do in two years, and he did it all in one short year.



If You Had A Chance Would You Stay Another Year?
Some seniors

wouldn't mind sticking around just one more year. Football player William Jackson said, "Yes, I'd stay another year just to live and do this all over again." Trainer Janae Silva said she'd stay another year because Miami High is the best school ever. Trainer Jakeisha Lewis said she'd stay another year because she loves training and she'll miss it a lot.

said Amber Couzo. Bruno Jean said, "I wouldn't stay because I'm ready to graduate and go to college." Gus Bonneval said, "I wouldn't because I feel like I need to test myself at a higher level of baseball so I can compete and improve as much as I can."

Best Year of High School Sports?

They've been playing here for a long time, but was senior year their best athletic year? For football player Jensen Israel, it was. "My senior year we made it to playoffs, and we made history."

Similarly, William Jackson said, "This year I got to be a part of a family; something greater than myself. A brotherhood."

For David Alvarez, however, his best year was his junior year because he was just one match from going to the state wrestling championship.

Brittany Starling's best year was as a sophomore when the girls basketball team made it to semi-regionals. For Claudia Martin, it was junior year "because I came out of my shell and was more confident on the court when I played."

How Do The Coaches Feel?

Some coaches would be devastated to lose their seniors after a great season. But not girls basketball coach Sam "Boozer" Baumgarten, who is losing 3 seniors. He said with a smile and a laugh, "Thank God they're leaving! But truly they are great girls, and I wouldn't trade them for anything."

Coach Vela, who is losing 6 seniors, stated, "It makes me sad that they have to leave. I just wish

Wrestling season comes to a finish at regional tournament, team places 11th

Coach Luis Gonzalez reports that the wrestling team just finished their regular season with a record of 22-8, which is the most wins they've had in one season. They went to the district tournament at Braddock Senior High on February 4th and took 3rd as a team. Nine guys out of 10 qualified for the regional tournament, which was held at Ronald Reagan High on February 11-12. Unfortunately, no one placed or qualified for the state tournament which will be held in Lakeland.

First in the district was Victor Guerra at 160 pounds. Placing second were Erik Gutierrez at 189 pounds, Whilker Miranda at 145 pounds and David Alvarez at 135 pounds. Placing third was Joseph Garcia at 103 pounds, and placing fourth were John Fong at 171 pounds, Randy Webb at 140 pounds, Emilio Chacon at 112 pounds and Jose Diaz at 285 pounds.

Coach Gonzalez invites anyone interested in joining the team to a meeting in portable 22 some time in March. (By Anthony Cortes)

Lady ballers dominated district but a close game ends their season at regionals

The girls' basketball team ended their season with a perfect district record of 12-0. The Lady Stings beat Miami Northwestern 47-33 for the district championship on February 4th. As they advanced in the playoffs, they beat North Miami on February 10th by the score of 45-34.

According to Coach Sam Baumgarten, Jr., the top performers in the playoffs were senior Brittany Starling, shooting guard, with 17 points in the North Miami game; freshman Amanda Mendoza, point guard, with 11 points in the Northwestern game; and junior Lizandra Borrell, shooting guard, with 11 points as well in the game against Northwestern.

Unfortunately, they lost to Krop on February 15th in the 2nd round of the regional playoffs by the score of 62-59. The Lady Stings, season is now over. (By Ca'Maya Pierre)

Boys volleyball season begins in early March

Ms. Vela, boys volleyball coach, reported that the team is almost brand new, with only a few returning players. The first game of the regular season is going to be on March 8 against Terra Environment Research Institute. (by Zaida Barillas)

NAME	SPORT	COLLEGE	WILL THEY PLAY IN COLLEGE?	DID THEY GET AN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP?
Christian Ceballos	Football	Middle Tennessee	Yes	No
Naomie Petion	Basketball	UF	Undecided	No
David Alvarez	Wrestling	UF	Yes	No
William Jackson	Football	USF	Yes	No
Amber Couzo	Water Polo/ Swimming	UM	Yes	No
Laura Pena	Volleyball	Barry University	Yes	No
Xochilt Ceballos	Volleyball	University of San Francisco	Yes	No

Many, however, are ready to move on. "I wouldn't stay because everyone has their time to shine and grow, and it's just my time to go,"

them the best when they leave out of here and they do the best they can out in the world."



A MEAN & LEAN *wrestling* MACHINE

By Anthony Cortes

Imagine yourself running around in circles, jumping around like a boxer would to warm up. Busting your behind for the last takedown to win the match and have your hand raised in the air while your fans chant your name. How about running a few miles in the night and morning to stay in top-notch shape, eating nothing but fruits, salads, and just water for about 4 months? Would you do it or punk out? One person who does all this and more is David Alvarez, a senior wrestler for MHS at 135-pounds.

He's nothing but a natural athlete who just wants to become someone in wrestling. David has been wrestling for almost 4 years now and enjoys every bit of it. "My big brother Nataniel Alvarez, who placed 4th in the state tournament at 152-pounds, was a big influence on me to join the team. In my freshman year I was a little scrawny kid and joining the team would change my life around and turn me into a young man," he said.

David has been pretty successful in wrestling. He placed 2nd in the Western Wildcat tournament his sophomore and junior years. He also placed 2nd in the Archbishop McCarthy tournament, became a district runner-up, placed 2nd in the GMAC tournament this year, became a district runner-up this year and is a 3 time regional qualifier. His individual record this season is 28 wins with 5 losses, and his career record is 75-25.

Not only a wrestler; he's played other sports such as football and track and field. He stated that in all these sports, he's learned a lot and experienced great things such as winning and losing. Especially important is knowing how to handle a loss and build on it to improve for the next game or match.

Although his main priority is to finish strong in wrestling, his all time favorite sport has to be football. "I love it with all my heart because it is the only sport where you can actually hurt people. If a person gets hurt, then he's hurt. No one is getting blamed for anything; it's a great contact sport," he said.

Fun Facts on David Alvarez

- Enjoys working out at 24 Hour Fitness Gym.
- Plans to visit China during the summer.
- Loves traveling with his godfather.
- Wants to become a paramedic.
- Participates in 5000 Role Models and Key Club.

turns out as one of the best days ever."

He's visited many exotic places around the world including New York, Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, Haiti, Mexico, Jamaica, Tennessee, Washington, D.C., and Virginia. "My experiences were phenomenal," he said. "All these places are very different from the '305' and are new ways to get accustomed to the culture."

This summer he plans on going to China with his godfather. They decided to visit there because it's very different and David wants to get used to other people's lifestyle and share his experience with his family and friends.

One pet peeve involves 2 classes he is taking



David Alvarez (135 lbs.) controls his opponent comprehend t h e

vocabulary and reading, I tend to freeze on some words. I hate the fact that it is so hard to pronounce some words."

Despite having his weaknesses in some classes, David stays on point and is preparing to begin his new life once he graduates. He has great goals he would like to achieve. "Once I graduate Miami High," he said, "I would like to attend Miami Dade College for 2 years and finish my degree at FIU. My goal after that is to join a firefighter academy and become a paramedic."

That right there is one heck of a kid with a great heart who believes he can succeed. If he were to fall behind, he knows exactly how to get back up and continue to follow the road to glory. He is David Alvarez, reaching for the gold on and off of the mat.

Boy's Basketball

The boys basketball team finished their regular season on Jan. 29 with a record of 14-9 and finished 2nd place in their district on Jan. 30, decided by a coin toss with Coral Gables. They beat Miami Norland on Jan. 31 in the 1st round of the playoffs by a score of 57-56, but then lost to arch rival Coral Gables 59-52 on Feb. 11 for the district championship.

According to Coach Carreno, the top players have been senior Arturo Martinez, who plays point guard, and junior Adriel Jimenez, who is the team's shooting guard. "They are the top players because they have been playing very good defense and scoring," he said. The team made it to regionals and advanced when Krop High School had to forfeit for having an ineligible player on the team. Miami High faced Hialeah Miami Lakes on Feb. 22 in the regional semi-final playoffs. (By Tad Cato)

Football

According to head football coach Mr. Welsh, several Miami High footballers played in the Dade-Broward All Star game and the North and South Dade All Star game. Senior Kent Howard had an interception for a touchdown in the North and South Dade All Star game, and senior Andre O'Neil had a touchdown in both the North and South Dade All Star game and the Dade-Broward All Star game. Christian Lainez and Marc St. Louis also played in the North and South Dade All Star game. Andre O'Neil was named to the Miami Herald's 1st team All Dade, and Kent Howard and Tad Cato were both 3rd team All Dade. Anyone who's interested in spring football needs to see Coach Welsh in his office. (By Aylene Coronel)

Baseball

Coach Suarez reports that the baseball team has started their regular season with victories over Champagnat Catholic on Monday February 14th and Felix Varela on Tuesday 15th. This year the team has 3 new seniors; Gustavo Bonneval, Yordan Caridad, and Pedro Medina. "We look a little better and with a little more experience than last year," said Coach Suarez. Upcoming games: Friday February 24 vs. Coral Gables, Monday 28 vs. M. Krop, Tuesday March 1st vs. Miami Beach, Tuesday 8th vs. Miami Spring, Thursday 10th vs. Northwestern, and Friday 11 vs. South Dade. (By Aylene Coronel)

Water Polo

Water polo coach Mr. Timothy Tornillo says that the team has been practicing for their upcoming season which begins on February 24 in the Early Bird tournament at Hadley Pool against Hialeah Gardens, Coral Gables, Hialeah, Sunset, and Southwest. (By Ashley Reece)



Mr. KEY, Homecoming King, Kenneth Jimenez

By Aylene Coronel
Sports Editor

He is this year's Homecoming King, Key Club president, writer for TIMES, and former football player for the Stings. Kenneth 'Flea' Jimenez is a true Stingaree.

When Kenneth joined Key Club his junior year, he learned the history of the club and loved everything about it. "It was the perfect club for me," said Kenneth. "I never expected to be president of Key Club. It's something that just happened."

Kenneth and his fellow Key officers call themselves 'the dream team' because they think they are the perfect combination of officers. "We feel that there is no other club that shares the same amount of love," he said. "We are always together and we know that there is nothing above us. We have a triple threat of charisma, popularity, and dedication."

Becoming Homecoming King has been Kenneth's proudest high school moment. "It was an honor," Kenneth says.

"My best memory in high school would have to be this year's homecoming week. There was a huge rivalry with BETA," said Kenneth. "Between our two big clubs there has always been tension, but this year it all came to light during Homecoming week."

Kenneth started high school at MHS but at the end of his freshmen year, he decided to transfer to Coral Gables to play football there. He then came back to his beloved Miami High sophomore year.

"It was a good experience, I had a good time, and I met a lot of cool people," he said. "I developed my skills in football but I felt as if I had to come back because here is where I belong. I have too much spirit for MHS."

Everyone that knows Kenneth knows he's a party king. On the weekends, he is always out. You can usually find him "chilling in the cut with the boys," as he likes to say. He also likes long boarding, playing basketball, playing Madden, and hanging out with the Key officers.

Kenneth also has a passion for music from the 60's, 70's and 80's. "My dad taught me to love Earth, Wind & Fire and the Bee Gees," he said. "I think I belong in the 70's."

One artist that Kenneth admires is Bob Marley. "Because of the way he expressed himself and he sang about love and peace and not many artists do that," he said.

With all the partying and the busy school activities, Kenneth still manages to have time for school. "I've always had good grades," said Kenneth. "I might've had some trouble in math, but other than that, I have been able to maintain a B average."

He has always loved science, and this year his favorite class is marine science with Mr. Upperco. Kenneth also likes contemporary literature. "It's a fascinating class with my favorite teacher Mr. Cardona," Kenneth says. "You really do learn a lot about yourself and why you are the way that you are."

Not only is he a good student and a popular kid, but he is also a good friend. He considers himself very trustworthy to his close friends. Kenneth is the usually the one they come to for help with anything. "I am very caring," he said.

Kenneth has an older brother and sister and is really close to his family, who are of Nicaraguan descent. Kenneth said, "I'm really close with both my parents, and they trust me."

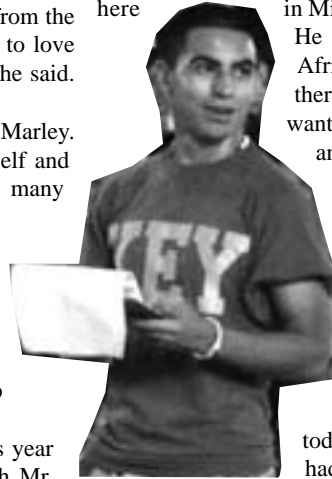
"I want to be the first to graduate in my family and get a degree. I want to make my parents proud," said Kenneth.

He wants to stay in Florida, go to FAU and study Marine Biology. "I love animals and I love the wildlife here in South Florida," he said.

In about 15 years, he sees himself married and going to different places around the world. Born in Miami on February 19, 1993, Kenneth has visited Nicaragua 3 times before. "It was a great experience because the landscape is beautiful," said Kenneth. "At the same time it helps you appreciate what you have here in the United States, like your family."

Although he has only traveled to Nicaragua, he would like to go to many other places in the future. "I would like to visit Hawaii," said Kenneth. "Some people say I look like I'm Hawaiian, and I like the tropical climate, just like

here



in Miami."

He would also like to visit Africa and see the wildlife there as well as Australia. "I want to travel to see different animals worldwide," he said.

Kenneth's fashion style has changed over the years. In middle school, he went from the blowout, the Jordans, Dickies, and the tall T's, to the everyday beach look today. "I have definitely had a physical change," he said. You can now see him

with his cargos, beach necklace and t-shirts, all preferably from American Eagle.

He goes by a very simple motto, *you only live once*. "Because it's a perfect motto for me and my life style," he says. "I never forget that I'm only going to be young once in my life."

My Love for KEY Club

By Kenneth Jimenez

She keeps me up on Homecoming nights;
She becomes impatient with Betas in her sight;
Power and Pride are within her members;
She laughs in the face of those that surrender.

Service, her priority;
Partying, her specialty.
She is absolute royalty.

Everything about her attracts me;
My heart belongs with the Empire of KEY.
It's been two years that I have been obsessed.
When I graduate, there will be a hole in my chest.

She taught me things in life that I never knew;
My love will forever be true to the Royal Blue.

Also Known As.. Continued From Page 15

Speedos," said junior Christian Gonzalez with a laugh.

Johana Oliva likes being called 'Jojo' because it's short and cute.

On the other hand, some don't like their nicknames. Junior Alex Diaz, whose nickname is 'Short boy', doesn't like how it makes fun of his size. Marcelo Medina, a junior, said, "I don't really like my nickname 'Marsh mellow' because it makes it seem like I'm soft."

There are some teachers who call their students by their nicknames. Ms. Cosculluela, an English teacher, does call students by their nicknames. "There's a student in one of my English classes, and he wears grills all the time, so that's his nickname - 'Grillz'," she said.

Math teacher Ms. Dopico said, "If my students insist on me calling them by a nickname and if it's not inappropriate, sure I will, but it also depends on the student's personality and the situation."

Does your past make you?

Continued From Page 20

mother and daughter should be." Senior Irving Anariva said, "My past is negative because I had my own family issues that I couldn't control".

Some people have a mixture of both good and bad memories. Reading teacher Ms. Rosa Sierra said, "When I was in high school, I used to skip school and I was a really bad student." Things turned positive for her when stopped skipping, went to college, and became a teacher

Senior Iyanna James said, "When I was younger, we had financial issues when I first moved to Miami, but my mother began to work hard for me and my two sisters to enjoy the life we have now. But I could say that the good outweighed the bad."

Five years or even ten years from now, will your past still matter? Senior Lucson Dervil said, "No, because in the past if you were doing badly, such as fighting, drinking, smoking etc, then in your future you will become mature." Senior Sandia Accius said, "The past is the past; we should always live our lives through the present." Senior Jakeisha Lewis said, "You make the future, so be who you are and don't let a thing like the past control you."

Others see it both ways. Math teacher Ms. Dopico said, "You should live today reflecting on the past to prepare for the future." Senior Denisha Williams said, "Yes, it can affect the person you become and set limitations on your future. Although it's your past, you shouldn't let it stop you from becoming who you want to be."