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# VACAVILLE HIGH SCHOOL THE BARK



"To inform and represent. We are the voice of the Bulldogs."

Vacaville High School

December 2012

Issue 3 Volume 49



Mr. Green and Mr. Pullin: back to back brothers in education.

## Mr. Green and Mr. Pullin recognized for excellence

By Sami Burks, Editor

Mr. Green, English teacher and dedicated coach, began his career as a Vacaville High School Bulldog in 1979. Recognized as the voice behind the traditional "Who 'Ya Rootin' For," Mr. Green claims he chose VHS because "in 1979 there were not a lot of teaching jobs available, [but] a great looking job opened [at VHS], so I took it."

Each year, Mr. Green delivers his rendition of Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech. Green describes his experience with the speech each year by saying "it's to do justice for a great American, to honor him, to get the message across to everyone."

On the football field, Mr. Green has experienced enormous success as a coach. Remarking on this year's Black and Blue bowl win, Green said he was "overjoyed. Winning that game is always really special, to keep our superiority in football."

In addition to the Black and Blue bowl, Green has led VHS to numerous award winning seasons on the field, and he's proud of his accomplishments: "Being a coach, I'm proud to be part of two section champion teams."

According to Mr. Green, VHS is great place because of "Family. We really push family, and believe in family. It makes it very special."

Mr. Green claims he is "honored but humbled" to be chosen as this year's Teacher of the year.

Mr. Pullin, Vaca High's technology manager, keeps the school's technology operating, including computers, projectors, printers, and networking equipment.

Joining the staff in 2008, Mr. Pullin has helped move the school into an efficient relationship with technology.

In addition to new management procedures, Mr. Pullin has implemented remote support

on every computer on campus. What does that mean to Vaca High? It means that everything related to technological needs can be handled quickly and efficiently, often with just a phone call.

"I enjoy working here because of the excellent staff and students, combined with the beauty of the campus and surrounding city. When I first arrived, I saw that although the school had begun to modernize with respect to technology, there were many things that could be done much more efficiently and needed improvement, such as the remote management and installation of computers. Over the years I have endeavored to improve the setup of this campus' technology while keeping the user experience at the front of my mind. For the future I would like to see more wireless classrooms and additional modern projectors mounted in all classrooms."

A well deserved congratulations to both Mr. Green and Mr. Pullin.

## End of the world as we know it

By Collin Downer

During the year of 2012, made infamous through media portrayals and conspiracy theories, some have adopted the belief that life on earth will literally end on December 21.

The apocalyptic interpretations of this date arise from the Mesoamerican Long Count Calendar, more widely known as the Mayan Calendar.

A Mesoamerican calendar spans hundreds of years with 2012 landing on the end of the last recorded cycle before the European conquest of the Mesoamerican peoples.

The calendar simply ending is what frightens most people, as rumors have been spread that the Mayans had prophetic visions of the future.

This has led to many drastically changing their lives, with some withdrawing from society or living like there literally will be no tomorrow, while others have begun stocking up on heavy duty survival gear and training

their families to survive in a harsh post-apocalyptic world.

When students at VHS were interviewed, however, they were much more skeptical of our prophesized end.

"I don't believe in that apocalypse mumbo jumbo," Junior, Andrew Lujan said when asked about his perceptions, "I think the world will end when the sun dies out."

Other students reacted in the same manner, with Junior at Vacaville High, Josh Muno stressing that "the notion that life would end on December 21st" is "completely absurd," whilst another Junior here at VHS, Marissa Langer equated it to the Y2K scare, saying that "people are going to make a big deal out of it and nothing's going to happen."

Despite impending doom possibly being only days away, the Bulldogs of Vacaville High School have no worries and will continue on with making the best out of their individual lives.

## STUCO: Making wishes come true



Student Council's donated gifts for the Christmas Wish Program.

By Malik Bryant

This holiday season was a spectacular one for Vaca High, as Student Council organized the Christmas Wish Program for children in the community.

Student Council adviser, Mrs. Moe, explained, "the students in Student Council organize the program; I am just the adviser."

Teachers signed up their classes to participate in the program and were given a paper ornament with a child's name,

age, and top three gifts the child wished to receive this holiday season. Students then donated money to buy gifts for their sponsored child.

Buckets were also provided, collecting loose change or dollars to buy gifts that each child hoped to receive.

"This program is a good cause, and Christmas season is about giving, and that is what we are trying to represent at Vaca High," said Student Council President, Nicholas Williams.

## Vaca High's latest fashion trends for winter season

By Selena Johnson-Brown

Many fashion trends are circulating around Vacaville High School this year. Some of these trends include: infinity scarves, peacoats, tall boots, and baggy sweaters. With all their rainy weather, many girls are pulling out their leather boots, equipped with heels, to keep out of the puddles. Think it's too cold to wear a skirt? Think again - pattern tights are in. Several girls wear shorts and dresses with tights to give them that fall and summer style while still keeping warm. Baggy sweaters are an excellent choice nearly any day; wear them over some black leggings or some blue jeans. When asked, the majority of girls have reported that their favorite fashion accessories and sweaters come from Forever 21. This store has everything you could need to be fashion-forward this season. Going for a casual and comfy look? Try something simple such as a Nor-Cal hoodie, along with a pair of Hollister jeans and some Uggs, to complete the outfit. A recipe for the essential basics of being warm and comfortable. It is clear that there is a difference in fashion and trends between the classes. Many of the older girls in the Senior class go for warmer, darker colors, while the freshmen and sophomores tend to go for pastels and sparkles in order to achieve a young, fresh look. When asking Senior, Heidi Roberts what is



From left to right: Madeline Tuberty, Kelsey Koch, Katherine Feaster, Alexander Accardi, Rebecca Swannson, Michaela Stokes, and Skye Kucala.

different about this year's fashion, she replies, "I really enjoy all of the scarves that girls are wearing this year. It's a great accessory."

Another fashion trend seen at Vacaville High this year is tennis shoes. Sophomore, Alex Accardi, combines his tennis shoes with jeans and a winter sweater. Freshmen, Rayell McMahan and Lydia Edwards wear the All Star and Converse styles. Edwards claims "they're easy to put together with an outfit," while McMahan states "and, they're comfortable."

Vacaville High School Science teacher, Ms. Dierking, can often be seen wearing her boots, both Uggs and recently, her new cowboy boots. She says, "I wear boots because you can take the girl out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the girl."

Here at Vacaville high, we keep it fashion forward.

## Black Friday

By Sabrina Esposito, Yessenia Alanis, and Marie Ramirez

Black Friday, one of the most popular days in America, was a huge success this year.

What makes Black Friday so popular? Well for one, consumers can buy many things for a third of the original price or less. Many businesses, such as Nike, Best Buy, Target, and Coach, depend on black Friday to make money and increase their sales.

Junior, Sarina Soffioto, was able to work at Coach for Black Friday. She said working Black Friday was "very stressful, but really fun. [She] enjoyed it a lot. It was a good experience to learn how to work under pressure and working with others."

We asked Soffioto if she

would take part in this event again and she replied "definitely. People were uplifting and you get good interactive and helpful skills"

Senior Zakiemba Washington got hired recently at Kmart. She also worked Black Friday and said "it's definitely an experience that you need a lot of patience for. It is a memory you will never forget." Washington's advice for working this day of the year was "even though there are a lot of aggressive customers, the very polite customers overrule the negativity from the not so nice customers and enlighten your night."

Vaca High students working Back Friday is just one more way the school is connected to the community.

# Teacher spotlight: Ms. Eeds

By Jered Bell and Marcus Gibber

Ms. Eeds is the Bark's teacher of the month for December, chosen for her love of teaching and her love of her students.

For those of you out there that don't take or haven't taken her class, Ms. Eeds teaches World History and AP Art History in room 73.

When she's not teaching history, Ms. Eeds maintains the school website, demonstrating her tech-savvy abilities.

Ultimately, Ms. Eeds plays a vital role in updating school loop for VHS.

Before Ms. Eeds, school loop was not nearly as popular, but with her help, the majority of teachers at Vacaville High participate with the website.

If you know Ms. Eeds, you're aware of how many teachers are constantly referring to her for help with all kinds of technology.

Ms. Eeds says with enthusiasm, "teaching is never the same thing every day; there are always new students with new ideas."

She has been teaching at Vaca High for seven years, coming here in 2005 after having her



Photo by Jered Bell

Ms. Eeds enjoys the fall season at VHS.

first teaching experience in 2003.

She enjoys designing lesson plans, and reads comprehensive literature.

Ms. Eeds first went into teaching because she loved going to school and learning.

"Teaching was the next best option. Hopefully I can help kids to love learning too." She reports with a cheerful smile.

Before coming to Vaca High, Mrs. Eeds started teaching in a private school before she finished college, starting out as a student teacher leading on the rest of her fantastic career at Vacaville High school.



Photo by Jered Bell

Cerise Jackson shows off her Honda 2012 Civic.

# Jackson's 2012 Honda Civic

By Bailee Chapman and Jazzmin Ballou

This month's car has a unique quality about it.

The gleaming white Honda 2012 Civic owned by Cerise Jackson is not only brand new but also good for the environment too.

This is an energy efficient car which is excellent to have.

It has ultra low emission and is an Econ. Cerise even states proudly "Gas, it has great fuel efficiency" when asked about her favorite quality of the car.

The Civic gets around 40 miles per gallon making it one of

the most fuel efficient cars currently on the market. It's always good to see cars helping the environment in our campus parking lot.

Also the car is a five speed manual (in non car talk it's a stick shift).

Another quality Cerise enjoys is the picture uploading backgrounds for the dashboard.

The Civic model is known for having earned one of the top safety picks for 2010.

It also received the highest rating on its roof, frontal, and side crash tests making it very safe to drive.

The car can even come

with a blue tooth too insure even more safety on the road.

There is also no worry about getting lost if you chose the luxury to have your steering wheel that comes with navigation, audio, and cruise control.

To top it all off Cerise even decided to portray her school spirit by having "I'd rather be playing football" shown on the license plate frame with a stuffed bulldog visible by her back window.

This car of the month is green efficient, safety approved, and honors the Bulldogs.

All we have to ask is "what more could you want?"

# Pisces craves opportunities

By Joy Thorstad and Ellen Takekawa

**Aquarius**

Jan. 20- Feb. 18

This month challenge yourself! Do something productive that you haven't done before!



**Pisces**

Feb. 19-Mar. 20

You're practically craving adventure and fun! Make it happen! Find something to do that can help others, while being fun for you.



**Aries**

Mar. 21-April 19

Lately you have been a little down with finals coming up; don't fret, try your hardest and do your best!

**Taurus**

April 20- May 20

You have a great energetic personality and you are satisfied with the way things are going! Do something nice for a friend.



**Gemini**

May 21-June 20

Don't let the weather get you down! You are ready for the sun to shine, but if it doesn't, do something nice and make your own fun.

**Cancer**

June 21- July 22

This month you will be gentle to everyone you see. Try to find something good in everyone.



**Leo**

July 23-Aug. 22

You feel as if you're on a time crunch and everything is rushing by. Don't worry, take a breather! You have more than enough time to get everything done!

**Virgo**

Aug. 23- Sept 22

You are a beautiful person! Shine on and be happy! Everything's going your way this month.



**Libra**

Sept 23-Oct 22

You will learn this month to look ahead to your future instead of dwelling on your past.

**Scorpio**

Oct. 23-Nov. 21

You've been getting bored with the old and want something new. You can always join of the many clubs we have to offer!



**Sagittarius**

Nov. 22-Dec. 22

Wake up! Don't be sleepy and don't give up! Keep pressing on! Work on your studies! You're doing awesome!

**Capricorn**

Dec. 23-Jan. 19

This month you will surprise yourself with all of the potential you have to offer the world! You can do it!



Please note: These horoscopes are created and provided for entertainment purposes only.

# VHS Drama Club

By Kayla Green

Drama Club is all about having fun and expressing yourself. Every Friday the club meets in room 62 to discuss upcoming events and have fun.

Mr. Orosco is the adviser with Max Duey at his side as president, and Katie Guy as vice president. With such an excellent crew standing behind the club it's got to be good!

The play presented by Drama Club this semester was "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," and it showed on December 7th, 8th, 14th, and 15th.

The cast was excellent with Jacob Swauger as lead Hank Morgan, and President Max Duey as Merlin the Wizard.

Drama Club did great with the play and is always accepting new people to help with their next one which usually shows in the spring.

Max Duey says, "I

believe the club is about teaching acting skills as well as a place for [all] people." Everyone is always welcome to come express themselves in a place that Max also says "has a Carlton of inside jokes."

Drama Club is a place where shy isn't an option, and there are all kinds of things to do like tech work, set building, and acting!

There are tons of games and they always bring laughs within the club. New members are made to feel welcome.

The club welcomes all interested new members and is just a huge family. Don't be afraid to go to their next meeting. Every Friday in room 62 at lunch time!



By Selena Johnson

# From rejuvenating guitar music to optimistic lyrics

By Laura Hickson

The Indie genre has increased throughout the years and it has become a VHS favorite. Although everybody has their own taste, a vast majority of students love the earthy feel that Indie music brings to their ears.

Whether you enjoy pop, folk, alternative, or rock, Indie music always has a way to beautifully compliment every song that has been introduced to it.

Beginning with Fleet Foxes and Bon Iver, Fleet Foxes'

lead singer, Robin Pecknold who makes his listeners become at ease with the gorgeously rendered and lightly psychedelic lyrics and warmth, like the song 'Ragged Wood' or Bon Iver's front man, Justin Vernon's beautifully soothed tones that brings his listeners to a relaxed state of mind in their most downloaded song 'Skinny Love,' Indie Folk

provides its listeners a subtle hint of country and rock.

If you're into upbeat music that also offers that earthy feel to it, then The XX and Two Door Cinema Club are the perfect matches.

The XX's newest album, Coexist, offers a new redefined twist of their subtle guitar riffs and their minimalism that'll leave you putting the album on repeat for days. The album provides hushed tones and eerie lullabies that'll leave you breathless. Two

Door Cinema Club, who has recently released their newest album, Beacon, provides a more upbeat feel to their songs than The XX.

From their rejuvenating guitar music, to their optimistic lyrics, it's relatively easy to see why they have become such a huge success over the years.

Whether you love rock, alternative, or folk music, there is always a band out there that will fit your needs while also providing a very earthy feel to it.



Indie band, Two Door Cinema Club, poses with drums and sticks.

# Breaking Dawn Part II



By Megan Ray and Marissa Hendrix

"Twilight Fever" has come to an end; Breaking Dawn Part 2, the final chapter of the beloved Twilight Saga, has finally been released and has left the crowd in awe.

All fans are sure to laugh, cry, scream, and cheer when watching this film. People who also read the book compare it with the movie's surprise ending.

Seniors, Tiffany Seaver and Holly Peters, agree that this is the best movie of the series.

The final scene ties the rest of the movies together, and leaves the audience wanting to know more. Rumors have been flying that there will be a spin off, but sadly there is little evidence to

prove this will or will not happen.

Part 2 features the song A Thousand Years (Part 2) by Christina Perri that helped put the two parts together. For fans of Green Day, they're back with the song The Forgotten. The music fits the movie well, and the soundtrack is worth getting.

Senior Alex Bryan would rate this movie a 7 out of 10 because of special effects, some parts were boring plus the background at times seemed unreal. Senior Priscilla Wardle would rate it a 6 because "the plot was interesting, and I could not stop talking about the movie."

We would rate it an 8 due to the emotions both of us had, the effects, soundtrack, and humorous moments.

# What do you want most for Christmas?

Photos by Kyle Plowman



Grant Kunimura (9): "The video game, 'Dishonored.'"



Morgan Rush (10): "I would like to get my permit."



Trevor Rider (11): "I want 'Just Dance 4.'"



Gabby Bastida (12): "I would like some leather boots."

# Holly Jolly Holiday Recipes



Delicious Pumpkin Muffins, fresh out of the oven and ready to eat.

By **Charlsie G. Iannone**

What can be more perfect than chestnuts roasting on an open fire and Jack Frost nipping at your nose? Warm delicious pumpkin muffins of course! These delightful goodies are for an after dinner treat or a leftover grab-it-n-go breakfast.

Makes 24 servings.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 20 minutes

INGREDIENTS:

1 package (18 1/4 ounces) white or yellow cake mix

1 package (4-serving size) vanilla instant pudding mix

1 cup canned pumpkin

1/2 cup oil

1/2 cup water

3 eggs

1-1/2 teaspoons Cinnamon, Ground

1 teaspoon Cloves, Ground

1 teaspoon Pure Vanilla Extract

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Beat all ingredients in large bowl with electric mixer on low speed just until moistened, scraping side of bowl frequently. Beat on medium speed 2 minutes or until well blended.

2. Spoon batter into 24 lightly greased or paper-lined muffin cups, filling each cup 2/3 full.

3. Bake 20 minutes or until toothpick inserted into cupcake comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire rack 10 minutes. Remove from pans; cool completely.

4. While hot out of the oven sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Enjoy!

# Ms. Bullrina: advice from the heart for the holidays

Dear Ms. Bullrina:

Please help me with this problem. My friends are having a Christmas party. Great, right? Not so great. For a long time they have been ignoring one of our good friends, and they are not inviting her. This is one of the BIG parties of the year, and I want to go. But I feel like I am not being loyal to my other friend, especially since she is the ONLY one not invited. WHAT should I do? HELP!!!!

~~~A Christmas Mess

Dear Christmas Mess:

I cannot tell you how many similar situations of friends forgetting friends exist. It seems to be the "cool" thing to do lately, which is wrong. This is more of a WWBD response (what would Bullrina do).

What I would do is not attend the party, and plan a day with your other friend. I often find that some of the best times are the one on one times spent with a close friend. This time of year especially we need to display our love and devotions to those near and dear to our hearts.

Good luck, my dear, and have joy in whatever path chosen. Love, Ms. Bullrina

*A holiday message to Ms. Bullrina's readers:*

My Darlings:

The holiday season is near. Gifts of electronics and tangible things are being given all around. The hustle and bustle of shopping and holiday tunes ringing-tingling in your ear. With all these wonderful things, it's easy to forget important things, especially the true meaning of the holiday.

Love! No matter what ethnic group you belong to, no matter what you are celebrating, don't forget to love. It is because of the love of those before us and with us that we have these holidays, and so many things to be thankful for.

There are so many ways to show love for a fellow being, not just now but always. Donate food for the hungry, do Toys for Tots, give food and blankets to the animal shelter.

Even little things like holding a door for someone or wishing someone a happy holiday can make the biggest of differences in a person's life.

Everybody have a safe and happy holiday.

All my love,  
Ms. Bullrina

*Ms. Bullrina is happy to help you with any concerns/questions you may have. Simply leave your question in the BARK box in room 6.*

# New Year's resolution time

By **Ellie Takekawa**

Everyone knows about New Year's resolutions, but does anyone actually know where the idea of this tradition came from? New Year's Resolutions started in pre-Christian times when at the start of a new year the Romans would make promises to do certain things in the year to come. These promises consisted mostly of simple things like being nicer to people.

New Year's Resolutions seem to be more specific now, but there's nothing wrong with making a more simple resolution when the time comes.

A resolution can always be something to help the community or others who would appreciate the help.

However you celebrate, and whether you chose to make a resolution for yourself or not, best wishes a hopeful New Year.

# 2012's Les Misérables: A musical treat in theaters in time for Christmas

By **Charlsie G. Iannone**

On December 25, 2012, movie musical history is going to be made.

Back in 2005 Gerard Butler took the world by storm by hitting the silver screen in The Phantom of the Opera.

This year, another Broadway bombshell takes itself to theatres. The popular Les Misérables (or Les Mis) is going to convert from stage to film.

This is not the first film adaptation of Victor Hugo's story; other adaptations feature the 2000 John Malkovich miniseries and the 1998 Liam Neeson version.

By casting Anne

Hathaway, Russell Crowe, Hugh Jackman and Amanda Seyfried, Director Tom Hooper takes a huge risk when it comes to living up to audience expectations.

Hopefully these Hollywood bombshells who are more known for acting (not singing) can make good with the original score

Fun facts: Glee's Lea Michele and award-winning singer Taylor Swift both tried out for the role of Eponine (the female rebellion in the film).

In the end, however, the role was given to Samantha Barks, who in fact played Eponine in the Les Mis 25th anniversary concert.

Also instead of a pre-



recorded soundtrack and lip syncing, the actors will be singing live.

This is something that is rarely done in the musical film industry, so remember Bulldogs, to dream a dream and go see Les Misérables over break, a real treat just in time for the holidays.

# Bulldogs participate in downtown holiday fun



Photo by Virginia Ray

The Vacaville High School Choir performs at Vacaville's skating rink during the 30th annual Festival of Trees, a traditional event benefitting Opportunity House.

By **Selena Johnson-Brown**

This year, at the 22nd annual Festival of Trees, a number of live music groups performed, among them our own Vacaville High School choir.

People of all ages gathered to raise money for a better cause and immerse themselves in the holiday spirit. Baked goods were sold and trees, decorated by those in the local community, including Vaca High's French Club, were auctioned off. The Women's Choir performed Santa Baby, and All I want for Christmas is You, and the Chamber Choir preformed Once Upon a Christmas Medley and Celtic Carol.

Both choirs, along with Jepson, performed Hari za Christmas, Jingle Bells, We Wish You a Merry Christmas, and Silent Night. Soloist of the night Shantal Roman sang Let it Snow, Aerial Wernecke, Oh Holy Night, Hannah Werneke, What Child, Shanice O Christmas Tree.

By **Camila Hernandez and Alyx Rodriguez**

On Tuesday, November 27, 2012 the citizens of Vacaville were filled with the joy of Christmas spirit during the 30th annual Merriment on Main celebration.

During the event, multiple stations on Main St, manned by volunteers, handed out free hot chocolate, onion soup, and various items.

Hundreds of people gathered together to enjoy the stunning view of the Christmas tree lighting.

Different musicians took over the stage to sing a plethora of Christmas songs while the crowd cheered and sang along to songs that brought Christmas spirit.

Erin Partain sang, Have Yourself a Merry Christmas. Partain said, "I was so nervous...but it was a great experience and I really loved to perform."

Children ran around the streets, laughing and playing around with their families enjoying the wonderful time of Merriment on Main.

During the event, Santa Claus had a station where children could take a picture with him to remember the memory of this spirited event.

Afterward, the tree was glowing with lights, and everyone gathered around to take a sufficient amount of pictures with family and friends to remember their time at the 30th annual Merriment on Main celebration.

Jordan T. Bell, a senior at Vacaville High School said, "I thought it was great to see everyone in such a cheerful mood."

# Gift ideas for holiday season

## 10. The Dark Knight Trilogy

With the newest addition to the Batman series, "the Dark Knight Rises," the Batman Dark Knight Trilogy is a perfect gift for collectors.

## 9. Apple iPhone 5

The most recent phone from Apple and also the lightest - this phone is equipped with an BMP camera.



## 8. Apple MacBook Pro

With 13-inch and 15-inch designs, this MacBook with Retina display is the laptop for you.

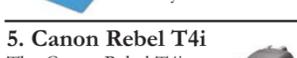
## 7. Apple iPod Nano

Just 5.4 mm thin, the 7th generation iPod Nano is just the size of a credit card. Convenient!



## 6. Microsoft Surface Tablet

This model by Microsoft is both a laptop and a tablet - use one or the other whenever you need to.



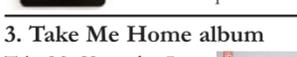
## 5. Canon Rebel T4i

The Canon Rebel T4i is the most recent DSLR camera - and the best, thanks to the EOS 650D.



## 4. Android 4.2 Jelly Bean

Google has invented the next step for Androids, and it has swiping keyboard features which allows for quick texts.



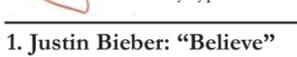
## 3. Take Me Home album

Take Me Home by One Direction has all of the hits from the boys - why not own all of the fun?



## 2. Beats Solo HD

"The Perfect Mix of Sound and Style" by Dr. Dre are the perfect headphones to listen to any type of music.



## 1. Justin Bieber: "Believe"

Justin Bieber does it again with his latest album, "Believe." Who isn't a "Belieber"?



# Holiday humor: Be careful for what you wish for this Christmas!

By Jacob Swauger.



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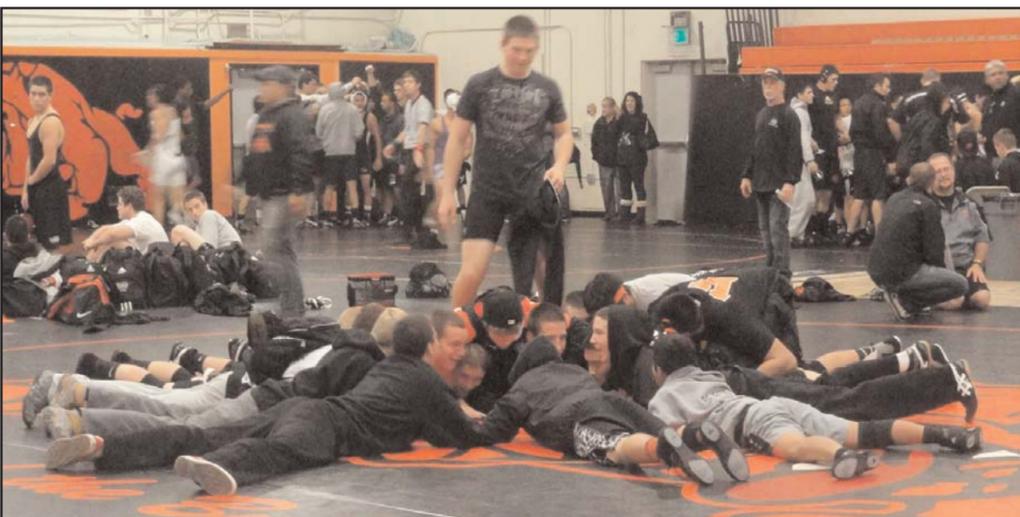
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MISSION STATEMENT: With hard work and dedication, The Bark promises that with every word written and every photo captured, our paper will be informative, accurate, and reflect positively upon the reputation of the school. Our main goal is to inform and represent every voice at Vacaville High School in the best possible way.

# VHS Wrestlers recapture the Nelson Classic title



Above: Jeramy Sweany stands over the wrestlers as they do their "dog call." Bottom left: Jesse Johnson slaps a "power half" on his opponent. Below right: Zach Dawson in the process of pinning his opponent.



Photos by: Megan Haddad

By Bailee Chapman and Craig Hein, with contributions from Zach Sandvik

The forty-ninth anniversary of the Larry Nelson Classic was celebrated in the Vacaville High School gym on Friday, November 30 and Saturday, December 1.

The Nelson Classic started in 1963, when the founder, Larry Nelson, wanted to bring the best teams from Solano County to challenge Vacaville's team. Now, the tournament has expanded past its roots, with teams not only coming from Solano County, but teams have been known to come from other sections of California, and even out of state.

When Freshman wrestler Stephen Pena was asked what he has heard about the Nelson Classic he responded, "it's a good tournament and we win every time," and Stephen is right. Vaca High won the tournament every year since 1999, until last year when the team, missing their football players such as CIF State Champ Johnny Schupp, and state placer Jeramy Sweany, lost their home tournament by 1 point to Turlock High School. When

asked the difference between this year and last year Senior Chris Lai says, "we didn't have our full line up last year, but this year we had everyone. There was no competition."

Chris is right. The Bulldogs stormed over the competition with a record of 9-0 at the end of the tournament. Once again the title is back in Vacaville. Jeramy Sweany says "it's a good beginning to embark on a hopeful CIF State Championship season." In November, The Bulldogs were ranked second in the state by TheCaliforniaWrestler.com, and according to InterMat Wrestling National Feb 50 teams, Vacaville is ranked forty-first in the nation. To put this more in perspective of how monumental these two rankings are, there are close to 700 teams in California alone.

A number of Vacaville's wrestlers won all tournament awards at the end of the tournament, basically doing better than everyone in their weight class. The wrestlers who won this award include: Jordon Aquino, Cameron Bailey, Anthony Hernandez, Bobby Ehman, Chris Lai, and Jeramy Sweany.

## Boys' basketball team starts strong

By Megan Haddad

Basketball season has started! The opening game Vaca High fell to Davis High School with a close game, 69-63. Next, Bulldogs traveled to play the Rio Linda Knights in the second game of the season and ended the game at 58-43, a strong win.

Chance Pippin scored a total of 17 points against the Knights and helped lead Vacaville to a strong win. Raul Magana increased the score by adding 15 points in the game. Dakota Dixon, Jake Pearlstien, and Elliot Donnelly all added six points each to the final score.

During the half the score was 18-12 with Vacaville

leading. At the third quarter Vacaville still held an advantage over the Knights with a score of 22-11. The 'Dogs held on to their lead in the game and finished with a victory.

As to how the rest of the season may play out, Elliot Donnelly, the Bulldogs' center, had this to say about his team, "I believe we will only get better as the year progresses and show the nay sayers what we're made of."

Although Junior, Chance Pippin and Junior, Raul Mangana both had good games as the 'Dogs faced McClatchy on December 4, the final score ended at 54-43, with the win going to McClatchy.



Photo by Camila Hernandez

Above: Breanna Sewell finished three miles in 20:25 at the State meet. Below: Jordan Kurtz, who finished with 16:11.



Photo by Gwen Forrester

## Sewell, Kurtz run their way to state finals in Clovis

By Camila Hernandez

Cross country ended their season with Senior, Jordan Kurtz and Junior, Breanna Sewell in the state meet in Woodward Park in Clovis.

The runners have made their team and school very proud with Breanna

ending in the 60th place out of 182 runners, her time being 20:25, and Jordan finishing in 69th place out of 180 runners and his time being 16:11.

These times have put our school in a very good spot. Jordan and Breanna have always put in great amount

of dedication to get to where they are now, and make a good impression to VHS.

As the season ends, it's very clear that the cross country team, under the leadership of Coach K, was truly successful and next year's team will be better than ever.

## Girls on the court

By Megan Haddad

Girl's basketball season starts rocky with a 43-51 loss to the Davis Blue Devils.

Vacaville fought hard, but could never come back from Davis' 11 point lead in the first quarter.

Vacaville fought hard in the second quarter and scored 10 points, while Davis scored 16. However, in the 3rd quarter Vacaville came back and scored 17 points compared to Davis's 8

points.

The 4th quarter ended with each team scoring 10 points, but due to the Blue Devils' lead in the beginning of the game, Davis stole the win.

Vacaville started off slow in the beginning of the game, so hopefully the team was just suffering from opening game jitters. Next week the girl's basketball team travels to Roseville to play Woodcreek whose record currently holds at 1-1.

## Successful football season

By Megan Haddad

VHS' football team finished out a great year with an unfortunate loss to Folsom. The Folsom Bulldogs, 14-0, gave VHS a large challenge due to their strong offense and left the game 49-13. Despite the loss, Vacaville had a great football season and various high points.

The first couple of games Vacaville had a rocky start with a record of 5-3, but then they went on a winning streak.

The victory over the Napa team, Vintage, was sweet with a final score of 49-7. The game had great plays like Eric Gabbard's 30 yard defensive touchdown, David Mewborn's 67 yard rushing touchdown and Ardave's 49 yard pass to Agbigay for another touchdown.

Vacaville crushed Armijo in the 6th week and ended the game 56-8. Great plays to be remembered consisted of Te'o's 80 yard touchdown, David

Mewborn's 58 yard rushing touchdown, and his twin brother Daniel's 81 yard rushing touchdown.

The games prepared the team for the most exciting game of the year yet, the traditional Black and Blue Bowl.

The Black and Blue Bowl is by far a fan favorite. With an end score of 44-15, the 'Dogs had a huge rushing game with a total of 402 yards while Wood only completed 53 rushing yards.

The victory continued the 16 game winning streak against Wood and completed the Vacaville High School regular season at 7-3.

Vacaville's season was strong, but unfortunately the team could not over come their Folsom opponents.

We look forward to seeing the Friday night lights again in the 2013 season.

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