



Mountain Lion *TALK*

Mira Loma Middle School
Part of the Jurupa Unified School District

Mountain Lion Talk,

October 14, 2008

Meet The Staff

By: Jocie Bernal and Jennifer Ortiz

This is the third year of the Mountain Lion Talk student newspaper at MLMS. We've got new students on staff and new stories to share. A few students who were on journalism last year are returning to the paper this year. The returning students are Janelle Gama who said, "My favorite color is neon orange and I like to go on myspace and hangout with my friends." Jocie Bernal likes to go out a lot. She loves to be loud and her favorite color is blue.

New staff members include Natalie Cruz who says she likes to play football, basketball and go swimming. She also likes snakes and dogs. Another new staff member who likes football and basketball is Joe Villegas. Jose Duran likes to play video games in his spare time and listen to Linkin Park. Daniel Andrade plays baseball. He is on a traveling ball team named The Diamond Dawgs.

Abby Camarena loves talking to her friends and her favorite color



From Left to Right: Jose Duran, Joe Villegas, Eddie Ward, Daniel Andrade, Garrett Coley, Jennifer Ortiz, Jocie Bernal, Janelle Gama, Natalie Cruz, and Abigail Camarena

is pink. She said, "I am excited to be on the newspaper staff." Garrett Coley likes to play football and go to the beach. Eddie Ward says his hobbies are going to school and playing sports. Jennifer Ortiz likes to hang out with her friends. They go to the movies and the mall. She also likes to text, dance, and listen to music.

We are excited to bring you some really cool stories this

year. If you have an idea for a story you want to read about, just let us know. We are YOUR Mountain Lion Talk staff!

Note: In September, schedule changes resulted in our Journalism class gaining additional students. Look for information about our newest staff in the next Issue!

Mr. Schumacher

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October Events...

- 6th: QSP Chocolate Sale gets under way!
- 8th: Minimum Day
- 15th: Minimum Day
- 20th to 24th: Red Ribbon Week
- 23rd: QSP Chocolate Sale Ends
- 29th: Minimum Day AND the **AVID Haunted House** Be there and Be SCARED!
- 31st: Mountain Lion Day Science Club

Halloween Dance!

Interesting Summer Stories

Jose Duran and Janelle Gama

Welcome students. I'm sure that you are all happy to be back. During summer, some staff and students had very interesting things happen to them. In fact, some students actually had very dangerous things happen to them.

An MLMS student, Bernabe Villalobos, was riding his bike down hill. He didn't see a car coming until it was nearly too late. Out of fear, he stepped on the brakes and ended up spinning in circles.

Alexis Espinoza was in a very life threatening situation. Her shirt got caught in a boat propeller. She yelled for help and her dad saved her. Although some were in dan-

gerous situations, Ruben Agullera and his cousin were actually causing trouble. They were walking around with bb guns and slingshots. They foolishly shot at a bee hive and at a family of rabbits.

Even our own Mrs. Fisher, a seventh grade science teacher, was in danger! She went camping in Yosemite with her mom, and while on the trail they saw big piles of poop. They knew there had to be bears around. After a campfire they had gone to their tent for the night. Suddenly they heard crunching noises. A bear was in their camp! Mrs. Fisher and her mom

were well prepared though. They had tied their food in a bag and raised it up in a tree so that bears wouldn't be able to get it. When the bear realized this, it left. Mrs. Fisher and her mom continued their trip safely. Some were in danger, and some were causing trouble, but Mrs. Pisarik went down to Iowa to help flood victims. She said that the water destroyed the homes of many people. Thankfully, everyone seems to have survived the summer and even learned a little from their experiences. Now we need to do the same at school. Welcome Back Everyone!



As our new Assistant Principal, Mr. Bernier takes the lead role in dealing with student discipline.

"I like Mira Loma Middle because it is well organized."

—Giovanni Bernier

Spotlight on Mr. Bernier

As you may know we have a new assistant principal named Mr. Bernier. Although there has been a lot of confusion about his name, it is pronounced: Bear— knee — A.



His full name is Giovanni Bernier. He is happily married and has one child. Mr. Bernier said his hobbies are, "Nothing really, just eating and sleeping." He went to The University of Redlands for six years. If you want to become an assistant principal one day, you should know that school doesn't end at grade twelve! You will have to get a Masters Degree in School Administration. That is two full years of school beyond

a four-year Bachelors Degree. Mr. Bernier has worked in the Jurupa Unified School District for 10 years. During that time, he worked as a teacher at two different schools: Sunnyslope Elementary and Peralta Elementary. Mira Loma Middle School is his very first assignment as an assistant principal, beginning his duties here on August 11th. Mr. Bernier said, "I like Mira Loma Middle because it is well organized." Mrs. Freeman's first impression of Mr. Bernier was that he was a very humble man and a good listener.



Garrett Coley and Janelle Gama

Mrs. Barba is the discipline secretary for MLMS. She said that Mr. Bernier seemed to be a very quiet man. Now that Mrs. Barba knows him better, she finds him easy to talk to and very honest. Although we miss Mrs. Schanz, we are very confident that Mr. Bernier will do a great job here at MLMS! Be sure to say hello to him and welcome him to MLMS.

S.O.S Crew

Jennifer Ortiz, Daniel Andrade and Joe Villegas



SOS stands for support our seventh graders. SOS is a great group of students who help the seventh graders feel comfortable going to a

new a new school. The crew helps them find their classes and shows them where everything is. The SOS crew also helps out at taking "Taking Care of Business" day. On the first day of school, the SOS crew, gave tours around our campus to seventh graders and even answered any questions the seventh graders had. To be on the SOS crew you

have to be in avid. Also kids had volunteered to go to school two days earlier to get the school ready for a new year and new students. Mrs. Davis is the teacher that runs the SOS crew. Mrs. Davis has been doing the SOS crew for two years now. The advise the SOS crew gave the seventh graders was to not step on Mrs. Davis' grass, don't chew gum, do not vandalize the school property, don't be late to class, and also do not make any physical contact with anyone at this school. The SOS crew said that it is very rewarding to be on the crew because it makes them feel good. They all remember what it was like to be a sev-

enth grader coming to a new school and not knowing how things work or where everything is. The SOS crew doesn't want any seventh grader to have a negative first day at Mira Loma Middle School. Mr. Schumacher commented on the SOS crew: "I was really impressed with how well the SOS crew worked to make the first day of school go great for our seventh graders."



School Clothes: Dress to Impress?

Jennifer Ortiz and Jocie Bernal

Why do people dress the way they do? Is it simply because that's the way they dress or is it because they want to impress somebody? Our students and staff had a lot to say about this. Of course, there were a lot of differences between the opinions of students and those of staff members.

Many students said they like to dress to impress each other, but no matter what, people like to wear what they like.

It seems like adults have a hard time understanding what looks good to a teenager.

Teens also don't try to understand why adults dress the way they do. Apparently, different generations have different styles.

Here's what some MLMS students had to say:

"I dress to impress girls and because I like it."

Dylan Boughton

"I dress the way I do because I feel comfortable in it."

Betty Baily

"I dress to impress Jocie."

Carlos Nunez

"I dress to be different and I like to make a scene."

Imari Mims

"I dress like this because it's my style."

Arthur Carr

"I had money to buy clothes so I bought some."

Stuart Rubio

"I dress to impress everyone."

Joel Guzman

Here are some MLMS staff comments:

"Absolutely, kids dress to impress each other. But, too many times what they wear doesn't impress anyone. The girls wear their clothes too low cut and the boys wear the baggy pants with shirts that go to their knees. Modes of dressing are either fashion or fad, but too many go for fad instead of fashion."

Sunshine Harris

"Adults dress to impress too, they dress to fit in with those around them. I totally support people who are free spirited and dress differently to show who they are."

Mrs. Griffin



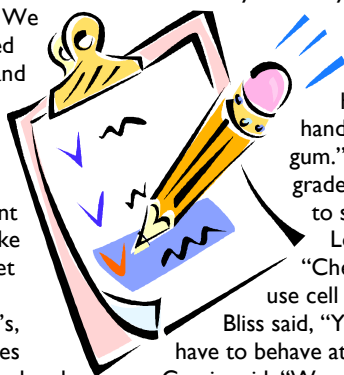
Do you Dress to Impress?



If I could make the rules...

Natalie Cruz and Abigail Camarena

As you all know there are many rules such as, 'NO GUM, NO SKATEBOARDING, and many more NO'S. We are all sick and tired of some of them, and several staff and students shared their opinions. Steven Avila, an eighth grade student said, "If I could make the rules I would let people chew gum, listen to their iPod's, use their cell phones during passing period and lunch." Steven also says he would "...let kids wear what they want," He wants shorter class and longer lunches. Peter Saavedra and Nathaniel Gonzalez said, "We would be able to skateboard to school, chew gum, cheaper food, use cell phones, and be able to dye or cut hair..." Melissa Pantoja and Jasmine Sizemore said we



should be able to, "Wear what you want, have shorter school hours, dye hair any color, use cell phones, be able to hug and hold hands, and chew gum." Seventh graders had this to say: Kelly Lopez says, "Chew gum, and use cell phones." Elis Bliss said, "You don't have to behave at all." Sara Garcia said, "Wear sandals, and chew gum."

The staff had a different opinion about rules. Ms. Weeks, a seventh grade teacher on the Leopards team said, "If I could make the rules I would bring back school uniforms, so people would already know what they're wearing, have better lunches, and shorten school hours, come earlier to school

to get out earlier than 3:30 with longer weekends."

Mr. Berghorn, P.E. teacher, said, "Always respect everyone, dress-out everyday, and bring him presents for Thank you's." Mrs. Hill said, "Never bully anyone, always respect everyone, always have a positive attitude, and always have a smile on your face." Mr. Franklin said, "Play good in the sand box", meaning be good to one another.

Mrs. Lopez added, "If I could make the rules I would bring back school uniforms, be able to chew gum, and have stronger consequences for cursing!" Should the administration of our school think about changing some of the rules? You decide! Voice your opinion in the Lions Den section of the Homework forum at www.mlmsrocks.com, then click on the homework link.

"...If I could make the rules I would let people chew gum, listen to their iPod's, and use their cell phones during passing period and lunch."

Steven Avila

"If I could make the rules I would bring back school uniforms, so people would already know what they're wearing..."

Ms. Weeks

Let's Start the Year with some Pictures...



Visit us on our Rockin' web site! <http://mlmsrocks.com>

Favorite NFL Teams



Do you have a favorite NFL team? We interviewed a class taught by Mrs. Gutierrez to find out what they think. Some responses were great and some were hilarious. Here's what they had to say. Kristin Cain said, "San Diego Chargers are great because my parents were born in San Diego, and they are the best team ever." Too bad the Chargers are off to a terrible start this season. Berlin Gonzales said she "...likes the Raiders because that team is special..." and

every one in her family are Raider fans. The Raider fans should be very disappointed because their team has not been doing so well this season. Poor raider fans. Christopher Corona said "I like the Dallas Cowboys because they are cool players". The Cowboys are doing pretty good this season so far. (Edward Ward is also a Cowboys fan.) Jessinia Mondragon said, "I like the 49ers because my family likes the 49ers." Last year the 49ers were doing badly. From that one class, we tallied up the votes to see what the favorite football team is. Within that class, there were more Raider fans than any other team.

Daniel Andrade and Eddie Ward

The Cowboys and the Chargers also have fans in that class. Those were the only NFL teams that people in that class said they liked. There were also two Trojan fans, but that team is unprofessional. There were also two responses about teams that had absolutely nothing to do with football. One of those students said "I like the Dodgers because they hit a lot of homeruns." This student obviously doesn't know her sports very well. How funny is that? This was only one class. So what is your favorite NFL team? Stop in to the Lions Den on the Homework Forum at mlmsrocks.com and let us know.