

PANTHER PROWLER

Friday, February 27, 2015
Special Edition Magazine
Newbury Park High School
456 N. Reino Road
Newbury Park, CA 91320
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let's talk about

SEX

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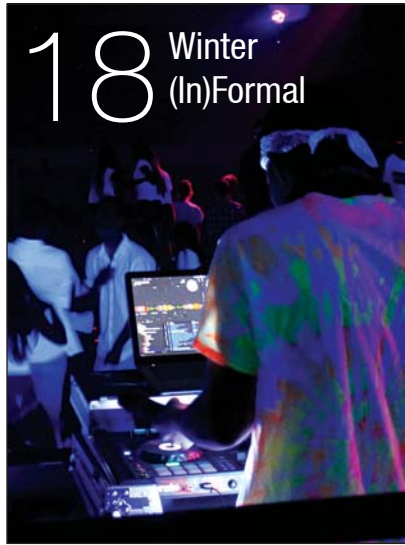
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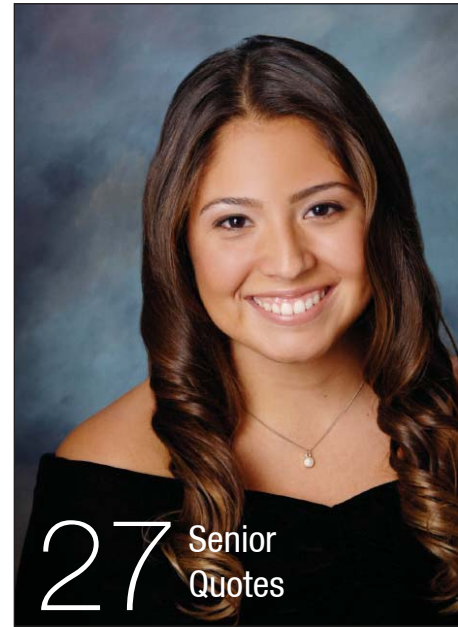


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EDITORS

When we decided to change things up last year with our first special edition magazine, we didn't know exactly what we were getting ourselves into. Even though it required an incredible amount of work to produce a 32-page magazine, the reception we received validated all of our efforts: the late nights we spent in the newsroom scrambling to finish pages before our print deadline, the sheer amount of coffee (or, as we call it, creative juice) we consumed in the process, and the countless lunches we gave up to edit articles, conduct interviews, and design pages. It's because of your feedback and enthusiasm that we have decided to publish another magazine this year and establish it as an annual *Prowler* tradition.

In this issue, we address topics just as (if not more) controversial and relevant as the ones we covered in our first edition magazine. Our cover story tackles the taboo topic of teenage sex. We look at both the physical and emotional consequences, as well as the effectiveness of the current sex education curriculum.

The editorial on pages 6-7 explores the current debate surrounding police accountability. We argue that police officers are not held sufficiently responsible for their actions, which contributes to widespread, unreported, and often unpunished acts of police brutality. However, we recognize that this is not representative of law enforcement as a whole, and appreciate that police officers risk their lives every day to protect our safety and freedom. We highlight this aspect on pages 24-25 with a feature on students with parents or relatives in law enforcement.

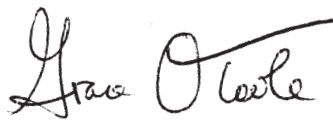
Turning to pages 30-31, you'll find Humans of Newbury Park (HONP): our take on the popular Humans of New York blog. HONP debuted in last year's magazine and was such a huge hit that we dedicated two full pages for it in this year's edition and now post "humans" on our Instagram.

The *Panther Prowler* has come a long way since our last magazine. We launched a completely new website at www.pantherprowler.org, and regularly post web-exclusive content. We started completely new Twitter and Instagram accounts @NPProwler and now have more than 500 followers on both platforms. For the first time, we live-tweeted football games as well as basketball games. We are proud of the progress that the *Prowler* has made and excited about the feedback we have received so far.

We hope you enjoy the second edition of our annual magazine!



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Editor-in-Chief



Grace O'Toole
Editor-in-Chief

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Victoria Juan & Haley Berardinelli



The App Club

launched a new app, "NPHS", that allows clubs to send push notifications to their members.

— Jan. 27 —



Download the app on the App Store.

“Every little detail counts. It took five months of really deep thinking to get it right.”

- Harsh Karia, junior and president of App Club

Penny Wars

raises money for the American Heart Association. “I hope everyone joins in for friendly competition for a good cause,” said Margaux Jones, senior.

— Feb. 23-27 —

During the annual **Caroling for Cans** event, members of the Interact Club collected more than

200 pounds of food

which will be donated to the **Manna Food Drive**.

— Dec. 12 —



Anastasia Pyrinis/With permission

Girls' State

Anastasia Pyrinis, junior, was chosen to attend Girls' State. She will take part in a mock representation of the California state government. “I’m extremely happy and honored to have been chosen,” Pyrinis said.

— June 28 - July 3 —

The Academic Decathlon “A Team”

scored 36,338.2 points and won 3rd place in Mathematics over a two-day competition.

— Jan. 10 & Feb. 7 —

Mock Trial

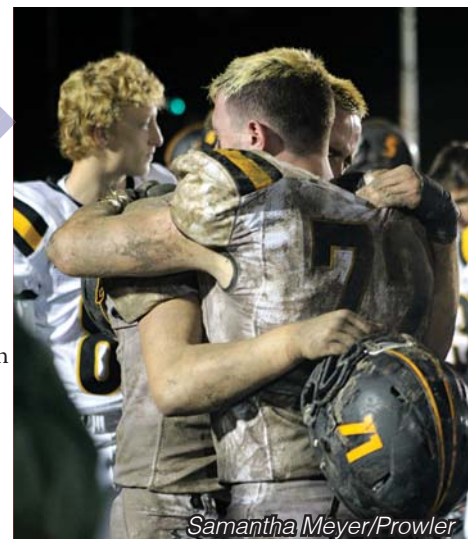
scrimmaged at the **Carmel festival** against top teams in California.

— Jan. 17-18 —

“We are family and always will be,”

senior Mason Williamson said after Varsity football played in their first CIF championship game since 1995 with a final score of 13-10 Paso Robles. Here, Williamson hugs teammate Curtis Pollara, senior, after the game.

— Dec. 7 —



Samantha Meyer/Prowler

I can't breathe...

A flawed justice system perpetuates police violence.

"I can't breathe. I can't breathe. I can't breathe." Eric Garner, a 43-year-old African American, repeated this phrase while NYPD police officer Daniel Pantaleo held him in an illegal chokehold in Staten Island, New York. The conflict, which was caught on camera, arose after Pantaleo confronted Garner in the street for allegedly selling loose cigarettes. It ended with the police officer choking Garner to death.

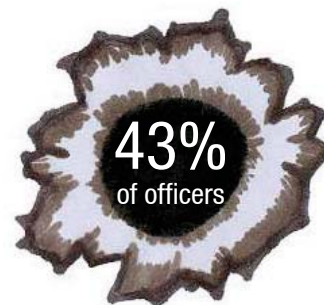
This tragedy is just one example of white police officers perpetrating violence against black civilians. However, while recent events regarding police violence point to a tendency of racial profiling and excessive use of force, they also lead us to an equally, if not more pervasive problem: regardless of the nature of the crime, police in the United States are not held duly accountable for misconduct.

A possible explanation for this lack of accountability could be that the United States has no requirement for reporting police misconduct. In the state of California, the Police Officer's Bill of Rights (POBR) allows police departments to keep official filings of misconduct as well as details of internal investigations from the public. In fact, all but five states (Georgia, Ohio, Minnesota, Nevada, and South Carolina) have restrictions in place with regard to public viewing of police records, and 21 states mandate that police records are completely closed to

the public. This means that in at least 21 states, a police officer who commits a crime can remain completely anonymous if protected by the department for which he or she works.

The small amount of data about police misconduct that actually is available is shrouded in uncertainty -- an unsettling prospect considering the recent fatal police shootings that have been at the forefront of public scrutiny. While California has some of the strictest restrictions on police misconduct of any state in the nation, this obscurity of data is evident throughout the country, even in large cities such as New York City where conflict between police forces and criminals is relatively high. According to an analysis done by the New York Daily News in December of 2014, a minimum of 179 people have been fatally shot by on-duty police in New York City since 1999. The number of fatalities was released with a disclaimer that not all incidents were reported; the study was pieced together from projects such as the Prison Reform Organizing Project and the Stolen Lives Project, the NYPD's annual firearms discharge reports, press reports, and court documents. NYPD declined to comment on the study and, in fact, has not submitted information on officer-involved deaths to the FBI since 2006.

The fact that such basic information is not readily available to the



agree that "always following the rules is not compatible with getting the job done."

A PATTERN OF INJUSTICE

July 17, 2014

Eric Garner held in illegal chokehold until he died. On Dec. 3, a grand jury decided not to indict Daniel Pantaleo, the officer responsible for Garner's death.



August 5, 2014

John Crawford III was shot in a Walmart while carrying a toy gun he picked up in an aisle. On Sep. 24, a grand jury failed to indict the officer who shot him, Sean Williams.



August 9, 2014

Mike Brown was shot by Officer Darren Wilson. On Nov. 24, a grand jury in Ferguson, Missouri decided not to indict Darren Wilson, causing protests throughout the city.



public, or even credibly accounted for, hints at a significant flaw in the system that our society depends on for security. If police shootings aren't recorded, then it is impossible to gather sufficient evidence to implement fair trials of police officers.

Generally, legal experts agree that it is fairly easy to indict a defendant in a trial. According to University of Illinois law professor Andrew D. Leipold, "If the prosecutor wants an indictment and doesn't get one, something has gone horribly wrong. It just doesn't happen." However, the statistics regarding officers of the law tell a different story -- almost no police officers are indicted. In Dallas, Texas from 2008 to 2012, only one officer was indicted out of 81 police shootings heard in front of a grand jury. Furthermore, out of the 179 recorded New York shootings, three officers were indicted and zero jail time was served.

From a legal standpoint, the special treatment of police officers is apparent. An act that would be classified as murder if performed by an ordinary civilian can be considered acceptable for the police. Of course, officers are supposed to protect themselves and citizens, even if deadly force is necessary. But they are supposed to protect the suspects, as well. The selling of "loosies" (as was the crime of Eric Garner) does not warrant an illegal chokehold. Police need to conduct themselves in a thoughtful, respectful manner, and not rely on superfluous and illegal force.

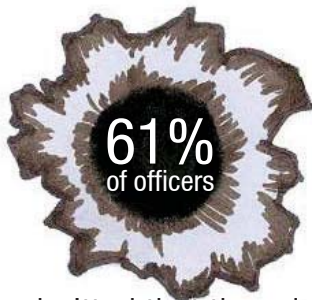
Recent events such as Garner's case and the Ferguson tragedy have brought this issue into the national spotlight. President Obama is taking steps to equip all police officers with body cameras (in addition to the already required dashboard cameras on police vehicles), and recently, more and more statistics are being released to the public. This might encourage police to act professionally, as they know they will be recorded. Yet, the entire Garner incident was recorded on camera, and prevented nothing. These methods will not prevent police brutality but only capture an image of what has already happened.

Cases like that of Garner and the infamous 1991 killing of Rodney King by LAPD officers, both of which were captured on camera and led to no indictment for the officers involved, show that even though cameras provide evidence of violence, they do not ensure indictment or punishment for such actions.

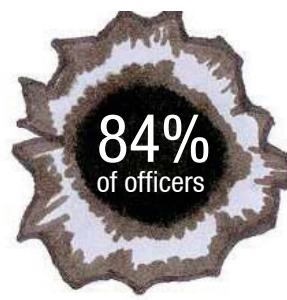
Therefore, the solution should be in the courtrooms, not solely at the scene of the crime. Cameras do not show the pattern of misconduct needed for a police officer to be put to trial. Obviously, cameras are not enough -- the law itself needs to change. One unnecessarily violent act should be enough to prove someone unsuitable for duty. Furthermore, records need to be released to the public. This will discourage violent acts and encourage the police department to ensure its members are fit for duty.

Power is given to police with very little or no restraint. We are brought up as children to trust police, to call 911 if there is an emergency. We are taught to trust the men and women in blue. For the most part, we still can. The actions of the few do not reflect the goals of the many, but the standing of police in society means that even a small number of deadly incidents involving police are blown out of proportion by the media. We cannot forget the officers who give their lives for good, as they far outnumber their counterparts that abuse the badge and gun.

Above all, the understanding should be that if a person kills someone, ending a human life in a preventable situation, that individual should be punished. This is true for everyone: civilians, government officials, and especially police officers. Law enforcement officers have a responsibility to protect the public, criminals, and themselves simultaneously. Their accountability should reflect this extensive responsibility. Power given to police is used more often than not for extreme good -- but the small percentage that isn't must be checked. We need to stop the few who cast a shadow on the police force as a whole. We need to hold police officers legally accountable for their actions.



"... admitted that they do not always report serious criminal violations that involve the abuse of authority by fellow officers."



"... have witnessed other officers use more force than necessary to make an arrest."

www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/181312.pdf

November 18, 2014

Akai Gurley was shot to death in an alleyway in Brooklyn.

A grand jury is currently deciding whether or not to indict Peter Liang, the officer who shot Gurley.



November 22, 2014

Holding a toy gun, 12-year-old Tamir Rice was shot to death by a Cleveland Police Officer. The event was ruled a homicide and is currently under investigation.

IN FACT,

out of 179 fatal police shootings in the last 15 years in New York City, there were

3

indictments

&

1

conviction

according to the New York Daily News.



S E

UNDRESSING

Shreya Chattopadhyay, Tazaieen Saye



E X

THE ISSUE

da, Kellie Levine, & Raevyn Walker



VIRGINIA

Plain*, junior, had sex when she was 13 years old.

“If I had a chance, I’d change things,” Plain said. “I (now) have a bigger view of the consequences and the impact of having sex.” Although Plain admits that the age at which she first had sex was “too young”, she maintains that she does not regret the act altogether. In Plain’s view, having sex when she did was justified because she was in love.

It is common for teenagers to have sex when emotion is a factor, sometimes even earlier than they themselves believe is appropriate. This was the case for Rose Jones*, junior, who had sex with her longterm boyfriend during her freshman year of high school. “I think I was too young,” Jones said. “I could’ve waited a little bit, but it was with a good person and there was that emotional attachment.”

However, while people with Plain’s mindset believe that sex should not occur without love, Jones believes that there can be physical intimacy without an emotional component. “I think it can be an expression of love. I saw it like that for a bit, but now that I’m older, I wouldn’t mind doing it without the emotional aspect. There wouldn’t need to be a boyfriend.”

Although this generation is commonly characterized as the “hookup” generation, in which individuals are more inclined to align with Jones’ thinking, there remain a large range of opinions.

Danny Philips*, senior, illustrates two of the main schools of thought on the subject, saying, “there are two different types of sex. There is love, and then there (are) hookups at

a party.” While having sex in a committed relationship is more socially acceptable, the idea of hooking up at a party has developed a negative connotation, becoming synonymous with slurs like “slut” and “easy.” Philips conceded that “in general, people do look at it negatively” but he believes that this negative stigma does not have to exist. Rather, the choice of whether or not to casually hookup “is just a part of how you live your life,” said Philips.

A common concern surrounding hooking up is the desensitizing that may occur. Seniors Oliver Johnson* and Violet Samuels*, who have been in a relationship for the last five months, have similar opinions on the prospect of hooking up without emotions involved. “It would be kind of numbing, almost,” said Samuels, continuing to explain that although many who adhere to the hookup culture have “sex for sex”, it is impossible to shut out all emotion. “There’s still some kind of connection with the other person,” he added.

Johnson mimicked these concerns, saying that having sex outside of a relationship would be “just going through the motions and not actually feeling anything.”

On the other hand, Philips understands why people choose to have sex outside the context of a relationship. “People like affection. Those who do not get as much love at home might want the opportunity to feel warm and happy on the inside,” Philips explains. “(As a result) they use sex to fill an emotional void.”

*names changed upon request

Of the high school students
polled by the 2013 CDC Youth
Risk Behavior Surveillance:

5.6% have had sex
before age 13

In contrast, Plain and Jones both had sex with committed boyfriends, and they do not have any regrets about their actions. However, this is not the case for everyone. Lily Aleman*, junior, had sex during her freshman year of high school with someone she admits she did not particularly care about.

“When I first (had sex) I felt gross because I knew I made a mistake. I knew I didn’t care about him. I wanted to be young and do everything I could and enjoy life, but I was going about it in a wrong way,” Aleman said.

After this negative experience, Aleman “never wanted to have sex again” because she feared that every subsequent experience would mirror her first. But now, after having sex with her longterm boyfriend, Aleman feels that the experience of having sex with someone she cares about is much different than her previous experience - so different, in fact, that she said “sometimes I forget that I’ve been with anybody other than my current boyfriend. I feel like I lost my virginity again.”

There remains a large faction of teenagers and adults who believe that underage sex is, regardless of the reasoning behind it, a bad idea. “I don’t plan on having it anytime soon,” said Mark Mull*, junior. “I’m only 17.”

On law and judgement

The conversation surrounding teenagers having sex is one that often takes place in the dark. Laws intended to protect teenagers from being taken advantage of don’t stop teen sexual activity, as they are intended to do. Rather, they lead to teenagers sneaking around. As a result of this secrecy, information for teenagers looking to ensure safety and inform themselves can be scarce. “You have to go about it secretly

because it’s not approved of by most,” said Plain. “If I ever had questions, I was always uncomfortable talking to adults, so I went on the internet like most people.”

This is the case for many teenagers - many operate under the fear of being persecuted or judged, and with good reason; having sex as a teenager comes with a plethora of potential peer judgments.

“When I did it with my boyfriend and everybody found out, they were like ‘oh, you’re a bad person ... you’re a slut,’” said Jones. “Everyone is going to have their own opinion, but some of the things you don’t need to state because it’s not helping you. It’s just hurting other people.”

Philips believes that much of the scrutiny comes from equating having sex to losing oneself. “I think it has to do with a security thing. It is negatively looked upon because of how people give themselves away to someone, because we are all in our own bodies.”

Aleman is well aware of the potential to be judged, and worries that she would be looked down on if her sexual activity became public knowledge. “I want (my name changed) because I think that teenagers are cruel. I think that teachers would judge me for it, and I think that I would get judged by everyone on campus, including administration. They’re supposed to report you if you’re having underage sex. It’s not a supportive community, at least not right now.”

Aleman’s worries are not misplaced - there are serious consequences for engaging in underage sex. The laws surrounding underage sexual activity are clear, and attempts are rarely made to ease these fears and facilitate open communication. Instead of being able to rely on adults for information and support with their concerns, teenagers must



Victoria Juan/Prowler

15.0% have had sex with four or more people

34.0% are sexually active

REASONS WHY

teens have sex

THE EFFECTS OF

having sex

emotional connections



Samantha Meyer/Prowler

pressuring expectations

social stigma



health risks

instead keep their illegal activity under wraps for fear of being reported. This isn't to say that the laws are unnecessary or should be done away with, but that they encourage teens to not have the conversations with adults that they need to have.

There is no provision in laws that allows for the possibility of consensual sex between minors. Because of this, in a case where two teenagers consensually engage in sexual activity and an official is notified, there can be legal ramifications that are detrimental to teenagers. As a result, while these laws are designed to protect teens, they end up limiting the already minimal conversation between teens and potentially supportive adults.

While support is minimal, Aleman says that it is available. "I know that some of the counselors are good to talk to, and maybe they should advertise that more, but I think most people are afraid that if they tell any adult figure that they're having sex, then they are going to get in trouble for it."

The birds and the bees

"The talk" has been exploited in countless afterschool specials as well as sitcom after sitcom. However, if one were to talk to a small sample of real-life teenagers, it would quickly become apparent that "the talk" is much more common in media than in reality.

The way that parents approach talking to their children about sex varies from outright ignoring its existence to fostering an environment in which their children feel that they can come to their parents with any questions.

Johnson, who recently had sex for the first time, felt like he had constructive conversations with his parents about sex before making the decision to have it. "I really liked how my parents did it," he said. "They said, 'here are all of these options, don't get anyone pregnant, you're probably going to do this sometime in your life, so just know here is plan A, here is plan B, here is plan C.'"

Now, Johnson is almost positive his dad knows of his decision. "My parents just kind of accepted that I'm in high school and going to college soon. It's going to happen, so they just wanted me to go about it

safely," he said. "I think that was the right approach to take."

Jones and Aleman also have good relationships with their parents. However, they don't yet feel ready to tell their parents that they had sex. "I have a really good relationship with my mom," said Aleman. "I'm just personally not ready yet."

"My mom is really open," Jones agreed. "She's good about talking about this stuff and we have a solid relationship. It would be good to tell her if it happened again and kept happening because she's really good with understanding."

Samuels had a very different experience with her parents. "My parents are very anti-teen relationship, overprotective, overbearing. (Their approach) was just 'don't have sex. You'll get pregnant and go to hell,'" Samuels said. "Nobody ever talked about it (to me), and I think it's bullsh** that we are supposed to depend on some ambiguous idea of a talk." However, while Samuels disagrees with her parents' approach, she is able to understand their concern. "I get where they're coming from, but it's too much," she said.

Philips had a similar experience. "My parents were very uninvolved," he said. "They would never touch upon the subject of sex - they just told me 'Danny, just leave it in your pants until you're married.'"

It is clear that even teens who have had sex have encountered varying approaches to 'the talk.' Because of this, the only uniform approach to the conversation about sex comes in the form of sex education in schools.

Factors to consider

Although the decision to have sex ultimately belongs to the teenagers themselves, there are a plethora of external influences they must consider.

One frequently considered factor is religion. While sex is often addressed and even encouraged in religious texts, the official stance of many modern-day religious institutions on teen sex is a resounding "no." Islam and Christianity are no exceptions. Imam Junaid Hussain, a muslim leader at Jamat-e Masljudul Islam, said that the main reason Islam is against teen sex is that "Islam does not consider women or men

objects of sexual pleasure.” Rather, Hussain believes sex should be an “extension and expression of love” between people who are legally in a relationship.

Similarly, Christianity also promotes premarital abstinence. Ken LaMont, lead pastor at Newbury Park First Christian Church, explained the Christian belief that God created sex for “a husband and wife to experience what the Bible calls oneness, so they experience real intimacy at every level - emotional, spiritual, but also physical intimacy.”

Hannah LaMont, senior and member of Newbury Park First Christian Church, believes that many teenagers are too casual about sex. She said, “you have to set boundaries ... there is this whole thing (in Christianity) about becoming ‘one’ (when you get married).”

Ken believes that waiting until marriage is the best choice. He said, “if you don’t (wait), you’re going to experience issues - guilt, shame, sin ... because God says that (sex) is reserved for a husband and wife. (Having sex) before (marriage) means that you’re trying to have that physical intimacy without the other parts.”

However, even though their respective religions decry premarital sex, Ken and Hussain are not against constructive sex education in high schools. “In the Qur’an, Allah talks about reproduction, family life, and creation and mentions menstruation,” Hussain said. “According to Islamic teaching, sex education is good if it teaches students to adapt to new ideas, new conditions, and different kinds of morality and values.”

“There are certain things that you can teach in a classroom that are healthy,” Ken agreed. “As long as those classes (are) teaching young people to have a standard that they live by, teaching them not to follow peer pressure, teaching them to be responsible, teaching them that sex has a lot of consequences, good and bad.”

Religion, while an important factor for some, does not apply to the entire student population. All students are required to take health classes, which teach an abstinence-based sex education curriculum.

“We have to teach the truth about abstinence, which is that abstinence is the only 100 percent way to prevent all the risks and consequences of sexual activity,” said Lorena Caulfield, health teacher. “And we are not just talking about pregnancies and STDs, we are also talking about social health aspects and people’s reputations.”

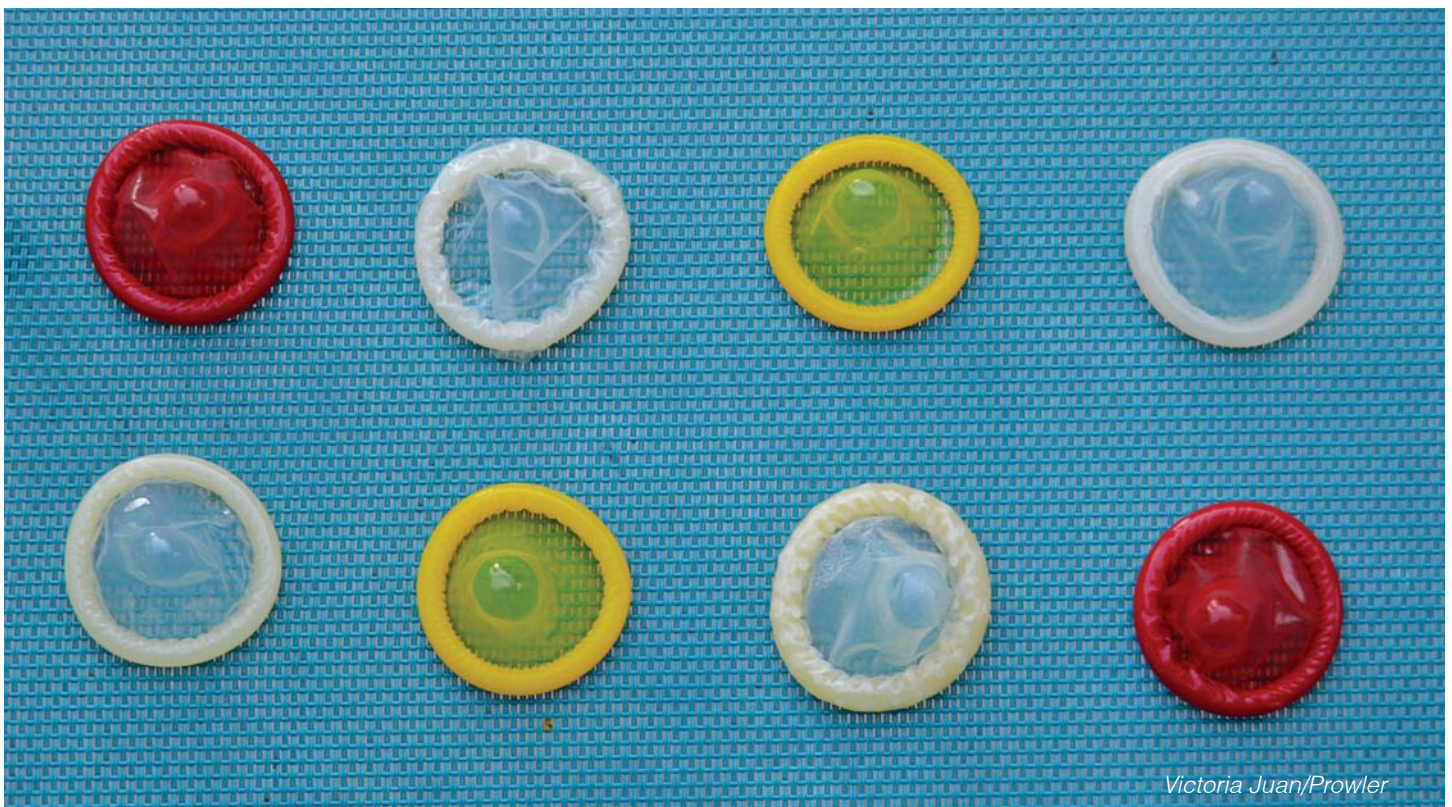
According to Amy Jiao, a junior who took health online before her freshman year, “sex education was basically teaching you what the menstrual cycle was and what is going to happen to our bodies.”

However, many students believe that this is not enough. “They basically tell you that if you have sex you’re going to get pregnant, and that just makes me uncomfortable more than anything” said Kylie Kelleher, junior.

Josh Bence, junior, said, “Sex education? You mean that crap that they teach you in health class that nobody listens to and just laughs about? It’s not effective at all.”

“Our sex education is terrible,” agreed Jiao. “It doesn’t talk anything about sex itself. It doesn’t talk about gender, sexuality, and the entire range that comes with it.”

Many students believe that the curriculum should not only be more comprehensive, but also taught earlier. “There is really a limited amount of knowledge that you have until you hit a certain age when you begin to be exposed to these things (in a social setting),” said Jiao. “At that point it is a little late to be exposed (to constructive sex education) because you already (have) ingrained ideas. So, I think it is better when you are first exposed, if you could get everything all out at once. If we



Victoria Juan/Prowler

had better sex education since we were middle schoolers, it would probably help a lot.”

Violet Samuels, senior, believes that health classes should go as in-depth as biology classes on the topic of sex. “I took a biology class with Mrs. Lockwood which gave information in detail. It is an eye-opening class, but it is a second year IB class. That’s what they should teach in health class, in that (amount of) detail.”

Jennifer Lockwood, who teaches reproduction to students in Anatomy & Physiology as well as IB Biology classes, teaches the scientific process of technologies such as birth control. She emphasized the value of sex education in providing students with useful and credible information. “I don’t want students to leave here with information spread from student to student,” she said. “I want them to have scientific and accurate information.”

Lockwood believes that there needs to be a balance between providing enough information to answer questions while being accurate without exposing students to content they aren’t ready for. She said, “I think no matter what the level, you can tailor how much information (you give) so that you are giving accurate information.”

Even Caulfield sees problems with the current health curriculum. However, she believes that sex education should be revisited again at a later age rather than earlier. “I think ... as adolescents get older, your opportunities and your experiences change,” she said. “Maybe as a fourteen-year-old freshman there is no way that you are going to engage in sexual activity until you’re older. Well, now you’re sixteen, and maybe you consider yourself ‘older’, and that you can handle these risks and consequences ... I think it is a good idea to have a refresher health course, like a booster shot.”



Samantha Meyer/Prowler

“You can’t put a condom on your heart.”

LORENA CAULFIELD
health teacher

A learning opportunity

There are many consequences to engaging in teen sex. Among them is regret - either with a bad sexual experience, potential health consequences, or with having sex in the first place.

Having had sex at parties with guys that he admitted that he was not close with, Philips would take back some of the choices that he made. “I totally regret a lot of the stuff that I have done in my life,” said Philips. “I regret a lot of sexual decisions, and there are things in the world that can scare you from making (any more) sexual decisions.”

For Philips, the regret he experienced extended further than merely his emotions. “Especially in the gay community, there is (the fear of) AIDs and HIV,” he said. “I’m going to be honest, I’ve had a lot of scares ... I had a real bad scare just a couple months ago when I was almost positive that I had HIV. I just felt it in my gut. I was freaking out, but I had never been tested before. I didn’t know what to do.”

Philips had himself tested for HIV. The results were negative. After this scare, Philips realized that it was time to learn from his experiences.

“I know what I need for myself a lot more,” said Philips. “I’ve had my share of bad relationships and emotional rollercoasters that have not went well, but they have taught me a lot. I learned ... that I need to surround myself with people that are going to make me feel more whole and better inside.”

However, while Philips does regret some of his decisions, he thinks that his bad experiences will help him in the future.

“I am grateful for what has happened,” Philips said. “I think I’m going to be a really mature freshman going into college next year. I am going to know what guys are good for me.”

Aleman held similar beliefs after she had sex with the wrong person, and thinks that all sexual decisions should be made with a great level of caution.

“Don’t get into situations with people you know you don’t feel safe with,” said Aleman. “(Be with) someone who you know is going to be there for you in a year. You have to do a lot of thinking and sometimes things happen. You are going to make mistakes and you just have to get over it and find somebody who you actually care about.”

“Think about it,” said Chris Reusch, junior. “Think about all the implications that it’ll bring, all the perceptions of other people upon you, especially your parents, how they’ll react if they find out, because they most likely will find out.”



YOUTH COMMISSION

The Youth Commission is a group of 13 high school students that advises City Council on youth issues as well as plans community events and programs.

C.I.T.Y. Internship Program

C.I.T.Y. is a 6 week (6/15 - 7/24) summer internship program for high school juniors. Interns work 15-20 hours each week while attending a career skills course at CLU.

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and more!

Student application at toaks.org/city
Deadline: March 6

For more information: visit toaks.org/youth or contact us at (805) 381-7362 / youthcommission@toaks.org



Thousand Oaks Youth Commission



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@thousandoaksyc

Youth Recognition Awards

Each year, the Youth Commission hosts the Youth Recognition Awards to honor teens, thank them for their contributions, and bring attention to their volunteerism.

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Nomination forms at toaks.org/youth
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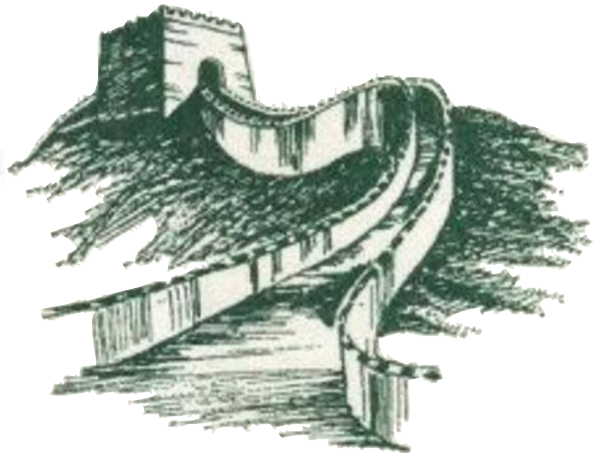
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Living in Suburbia

Adrianna Robakowski Graphics by Michael Hellard

I've lived in a few different places during my short 17 years on Earth. From the middle of LA, to the nature reserves of Sydney, Australia, to Newbury Park. Because of this, I see the good and the bad about living pretty much anywhere. As much as I love our little slice of suburban heaven here in Newbury Park, I would argue that there are some downsides to living the suburban life. So here are both my dilemmas and favorite things about our little NP:

THE PROS

1. Hello Mother Nature

Something that I definitely appreciate out here in Newbury Park is the fact that we are so close to nature. We've all seen enough Instagram pictures of people on the top of Mt. Boney and sunsets to last us a lifetime. Whether you are posting these photos or on Twitter complaining that, "If I see another sunset picture I'm going to die," you can't deny that the place we live in is beautiful.



2. Safety first!

We also get the perk of living in the 4th safest city in the United States. New families who want to raise their kids in a safe environment flock to our quiet suburb. Our school doesn't have electric fences and we don't have to walk through metal detectors like students have to in some inner-city schools. Personally, I like that we don't have to be strip-searched for wearing a belt or a necklace that may set a metal detector off.

3. The Sound of Silence

If you are one of those people who needs sound to fall asleep, you'd better download an app because you won't be hearing any city noises. The sounds of suburbia don't have their own place on your iPhone's noises app because there really aren't any. We enjoy less traffic during the day and almost complete silence at night. You rarely hear sirens, helicopters, or car horns, but you may hear the occasional coyote or kids playing in the street. Silence is golden folks.



4. Friendly faces

In suburbia, everyone knows everyone, which is both a pro and con in my opinion. You go to elementary, middle, and high school with the same kids. I know for a fact that some people would rather see new faces on the first day of school, but this can be a good thing because you don't have the stress of making new friends when moving up to middle or high school. This isn't to say that it's impossible to make new friends or meet new people, but it's much less likely here. Fresh starts are few and far between in suburbia though feeling the comfort of knowing your friends will be there on the first day of school is something you can count on.

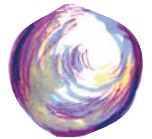
THE CONS

1. What to do, what to do ...

I know that we've all experienced the Friday and Saturday night problem of sitting around with our friends trying to decide what to do. However, the problem is usually not deciding between multiple options, but actually thinking of something in the first place. Being a high school student in suburbia is great during the day when we're at school or sports practices, because we have great facilities compared to many inner-city schools. The issue is that as soon as we're out of school and have time to do what we please, we have significantly fewer options than we would have if we were closer to a city.

2. Living in a bubble

I'm not saying that there is absolutely no diversity out here in suburbia, but we really don't have an abundance of it around here. Diversity gives people perspective by allowing them to meet unfamiliar individuals. We're all pretty similar here in Newbury Park, so many of us aren't exposed to diversity until we leave the house.



3. In a land far, far away....

In my personal opinion, the biggest con that results from living in suburbia is that we are pretty far from the city and all it has to offer. Concerts, sports, and other major events are usually located in Los Angeles. For us suburbanites, that means anywhere from 45 minutes to three hours stuck in traffic. Although we are more fortunate than other suburban dwellers in terms of our distance from exciting events, it can be a real struggle to get into LA.

4. Poverty, crime, and graffiti. What's that?

We also aren't exposed to a lot of global problems. We may see the occasional homeless man outside our local CVS, but we don't see the poverty that is so prevalent in places as close to us as downtown LA. I'm not advocating that we all move downtown, but I do think that suburbia breeds sheltered kids. Those of us who leave will experience culture shock when we see how many people in the world are less fortunate than us.



Who Did It



Samantha Meyer/Prowler

Rachna Deshpande

On Feb. 7, 2015 Newbury Park High School hosted their annual Winter Formal ... actually make that Winter Dance (nobody calls it that but let's keep ASG happy). 900 students, primarily from NPHS along with a handful from other schools, attended the New York themed dance (yes, it had a theme), and it knocked their heels off ... literally. From having their tic tacs and headphones confiscated

to avoiding awkward eye contact with supervising teachers, students overall had mixed emotions. While students almost unanimously gave the formal attire a thumbs up of approval, the music didn't sit well with most and prompted some students, like sophomore Kelson Steele, to say "I will shoot the next DJ that plays The Cupid Shuffle."

ATTENDANCE

WF: Although not as packed and sweaty as Homecoming, Winter Formal (or Winter Dance ... whatever floats your boat) came in pretty close with 900 attendants.

WIF: Honestly, half the dance floor was empty. But hey, that's what you get with 250 attendants.

WINTER FORMAL WINS

SECURITY

WF: The security upon entrance was fairly relaxed, without thoroughly checking students' possessions.

WIF: The security was uptight and irrational, confiscating perfume, lipgloss, headphones, chapstick, lanyards, tic tacs, and more.

WINTER INFORMAL WINS

ATTIRE

WF: The ladies were in "formal" dresses with their hair and makeup done. The gentlemen suited up with slacks, button up shirts, bow ties and ties, and occasionally a nice vest.

WIF: The girls wore short white daisy dukes or spandex along with a tank top while boys threw on anything white in their wardrobe.

WINTER FORMAL AND INFORMAL TIE

LOCATION

WF: As always, Winter Formal was hosted in the NPHS Gym, complete with its usual dance floor and decor.

WIF: Winter Informal was hosted at the Thousand Oaks Teen Center.

WINTER FORMAL WINS

MUSIC

WF: The music was terrible for the first hour, alternating between dated and not-danceable songs like "We Can't Stop" by Miley Cyrus and "Rude" by MAGIC.

WIF: All of the music was mainstream and sounded the same, but some people seemed to enjoy it.

WINTER FORMAL AND INFORMAL TIE

TICKET SALES

WF: Ticket profits go directly to ASG for the benefit of the entire student body.

WIF: Senior Josh Eady, the brains behind the dance, gave over \$400 to the NPHS senior class.

WINTER FORMAL WINS

BREAKS

WF: If someone was in need of a break, there were couches available right by the dance floor, but there were only a few chairs outdoors.

WIF: If the attendants wanted to take a break from dancing, there was a room available specifically for games such as pool, ping pong, and other video games.

WINTER INFORMAL WINS

GETTING IN

WF: Guest students were required to have a pass provided by an NPHS student to attend the dance.

WIF: The dance was open to any high school student.

WINTER FORMAL WINS

Best? Winter...

Informal

Haley Berardinelli

Haley Berardinelli/Prowler

On Dec. 19, the first night of winter break, the Thousand Oaks Teen Center hosted Winter Informal. Josh Eady, senior threw the dance and was the leading DJ. About an hour before the dance, teen girls slipped on their white daisy dukes while boys put on everything white in their wardrobe, preparing for a night under the black light. The dance sold 250 tickets, and made about \$2,300. After all of the expenses

SUPERVISION

WF: Teachers prowled the back of the room watching for illicit behavior. However, students managed to pull off crude dancing despite supervision.

WIF: The only difference between middle school Teen Center dances and Winter Informal was that they didn't shine a flashlight in your face when you were grinding with someone. In short, students danced crudely without

WINTER INFORMAL WINS

DANCING

WF: Teens were dancing all around the gym, but there was an incredibly tight cluster in the center of the dance floor.

WIF: Teens were dancing behind the DJ station, in clusters on the dance floor, and on the tables.

WINTER FORMAL WINS

were paid to the Teen Center, there was \$750 profit. Eady donated \$450 of that profit to the senior class of Newbury Park. While the dance was similar to a normal high school dance, featuring mainstream music, and there was no dress code. "It's not a traditional high school dance," Dylan McNey, senior, said.

FOOD AND DRINKS

WF: The snacks laid out for the students were cookies, brownies, and goldfish. For refreshments, a straight-faced group of parents handed out dixie cups of ice water.

WIF: The snacks available included licorice, pizza and a various selection of chips. Also, there was water on a table for anyone who got thirsty from all the dancing.

WINTER INFORMAL WINS

THEME

WF: The theme was New York . . . which very few people knew. The only decoration was a backdrop of New York skyline.

WIF: The theme was white out. Everyone there seemed to be aware and had fun dressing up for it. A few people even wore white masks.

WINTER INFORMAL WINS

OVERALL EXPERIENCE

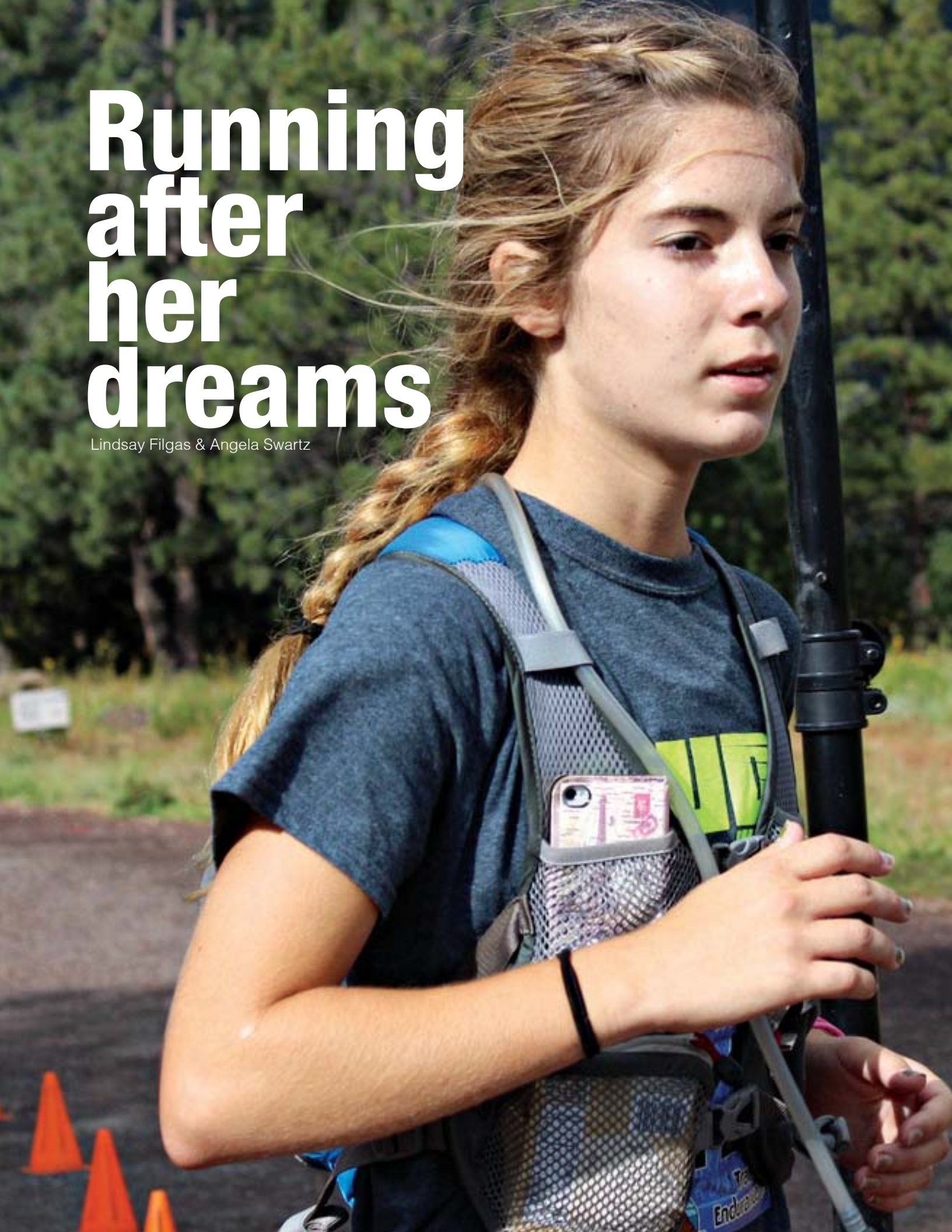
WF: With more attendants and excitement leading up to the event, students appeared to be having more fun overall. Consistent advertisement created enough hype to last months in advance, as well as planning dates and matching outfits. Winter Formal was more personal, yet still had a wide variety of people.

WIF: The music was rather monotonous, but the theme had a great reaction, with most attendants sporting white outfits. In response to the dance, it was a hit or miss... mainly a miss. On the bright side, it was something new for the kids of Ventura County to enjoy.

WINTER FORMAL WINS

Running after her dreams

Lindsay Filgas & Angela Swartz



As if running the first eight wasn't enough, senior Elizabeth Ging ran her ninth 50 kilometer race "ultramarathon" on Feb. 7, the latest stride in her long running career.

Elizabeth grew up watching her father, Roger Ging, run ultramarathons (races that are over 26.2 miles). When she was 12 years old, they started training together. "My dad is actually the person who got me into this," Elizabeth said.

"Initially, she went on some shorter runs with me, like five miles, and then we started going out in the mountains and doing longer stuff," Roger said. These long runs with her dad led to Elizabeth joining the school's cross country team as a freshman.

"When she started doing cross country, she (also) started doing longer distances," Jenny Kenyon, cross country coach, said. "Our (cross country season) training is too short for her so we (consider) it her 'speed' training for the shorter, faster distance. Then when cross country season ends, she adds a whole bunch more miles and a lot more training. Cross country is like her off season."

Elizabeth spent the cross country off season training for ultramarathons. When she was 15, Elizabeth ran her first ultramarathon. "That's the soonest I would let her, and she was ready for it," Roger said. Elizabeth continued on to run several 50 kilometer ultramarathon races and eventually ran a 50 mile race.

"She's the only one (that runs ultramarathons)," Kenyon said. "Most of my students think the three mile races are just fine."

Elizabeth had originally planned to attend the Shaun O'Brien 100 kilometer race on Feb. 7 in Malibu. "I just wanted to run the farthest distance I've ever run because it really gives you insights into who you are, how much you can push yourself," Elizabeth said.

Unfortunately, toward the end of the cross country season, Elizabeth developed a stress fracture - small cracks in a bone in her foot caused by overuse. "I'm the one that made her go see the doctor," Roger said. "She had to wear a boot for five weeks - basically stay off of the toe that was injured."

"All the times I've been running, all the miles ... (my foot) just sort of gave in after a while," Elizabeth said. To be safe, she decided not to run the 100k but instead substituted it with the Shaun O'Brien 50k. For the Shaun O'Brien 100k, her goal was to place in the top four females, which would advance her to the Western State 100k, one of the top ultramarathon races. "I really wanted to get into that, which is a crazy dream, but that was my vision," she added.

After her injury, however, her goal changed. "Of course my goal was pretty high before, but after the stress fracture I think I really just wanted to finish it," Elizabeth said.

The Shaun O'Brien course is one of the more challenging ultramarathons, with an abundance of elevation change. Even injured, Ging continued

training on the elliptical to be as prepared as possible for her upcoming race, but avoided exercises that would put pressure on her foot, including running.

"It was extremely hard to not run. I missed everything about it. It made it a little bit easier that I was still working out because ... at least I was not completely crashing, but it's still difficult," Elizabeth said.

Training for an ultramarathon even without an injury is considerably harder and more strenuous than the typical cross country training of up to eight mile runs.

"I would have been doing eight to twelve mile runs on weekdays and probably a 18-26 mile run on the weekends. Sometimes back-to-back from Saturday to Sunday," Elizabeth said. Her typical training averages 10 hours during the week and from four to six hours on Saturday.

Although the boot was a setback, it didn't stop Elizabeth, even though according to Kenyon it was still dangerous for her to run in the race. She got an all clear from the doctor and was able to take off her boot on Jan. 9. The next weekend, she ran the Calico 50 kilometer again, where she placed 4th overall. She finished close to her previous best time of five and a half hours. "I (had) to take it easier otherwise there (was) a chance that my foot could completely break which would put me out for way longer," Elizabeth said.

Although she felt unprepared after being unable to run for so long, Elizabeth finished the Shaun O'Brien 50k in just seven and a half hours, placing 18th out of the 81 female runners. "I was (feeling) surprisingly okay. I was pretty upbeat the whole time and I had a lot of fun," Elizabeth said. "I did a lot better than I thought I would and I did a lot better than previous years."

When Elizabeth isn't running, she is working with Cross Countries, a club she founded to bring cross country programs to third world countries. So far the club has about 10 members. "It's not a lot but it's a start," Elizabeth said. "It's an extremely new idea and I'm really excited about it." Part of her plan for Cross Countries is to get major running brands such as Nike and New Balance to sponsor starting up running clinics in the area. Her first step is to create a running clinic for local kids. She wants to build a strong base in Thousand Oaks before spreading it to other countries.

"I want to pass it on to the underclassmen since I am a senior and I want to start (a branch) at the college I am going to ... I don't want it to be just a Newbury Park thing," Elizabeth said.

Without missing a beat, Elizabeth is getting ready for an upcoming 50 mile race - one that is on the same day as prom. She hopes to run a 100 mile race this November and a 100 kilometer race next spring. "I want to be either a coach or a personal trainer (in the future); hopefully I can start to competitively run ultramarathons and get into some of the bigger races like Western States 100 and Hardrock 100," Elizabeth said.



The Arts

Samantha Meyer

A quest for chivalry - "The show challenged me physically and emotionally ... I'm truly grateful for the experience," said Kurt Kemper, senior, on his lead role of Miguel de Cervantes in the fall musical *Man of La Mancha*, which follows the story of Cervantes after he is thrown in prison by the Inquisition.



From practice to performance - For Madison Fischer, senior, being on dance team is like having a second family that is together through practices and performances. "It's amazing to be able to show what you love to do for an audience," she said.

A starting point - Gina Keagy, senior, believes the winter concert is a point from which both bands (Concert and Wind Ensemble) can grow. Keagy can "remember watching Concert Band and all the hard work I did to get into Wind Ensemble."





Christmas Lullaby - Kaitlin Maxwell, junior, loved performing the song Christmas Lullaby during chorus's Winter Concert. "The audience was very responsive," she said. "It was amazing to see my performance emotionally move so many people."

Subtleties of music - "Through chamber orchestra class we learn more about the subtleties of the music ... as well as achieve a better understanding of the emotional depth," said Alex Monroe, senior, who performed at orchestra's winter concert.



The elements - Ryan Hsu, senior, prepares a photo for an AP Photography studio assignment inspired by the four elements. Here, Hsu prepares his refraction water shot with beads of water suspended on a sheet of glass.

Prepare, plate and present - Lillie Scott, senior, serves food in the Panther Cafe as part of the ROP culinary arts program. The program prepares students for culinary careers and offers opportunities for internships at local restaurants. *Michelle Kang/Pawprint*



Blocking backstage - Elise Youngblood and Kathryn Schroeder, sophomores, are in control of a behind-the-scenes headset and stage management for the fall musical *Man of La Mancha*.





Smile for the camera- Chris Borkovec poses with his children Kayla and Aaron Borkovec in front of his patrol car. *Kayla Borkovec/With Permission*

FAMILIES OF THE LAW

Students deal with the daily stresses that come with having a family member in law enforcement

Sam Ellison & Alyssa Boedigheimer

“He promises me he’ll be okay, and he never goes back on a promise,” Emma Burzinski, freshman said. With an uncle who works as a customs and border control officer, Burzinski is one of many students on campus that deals with the constant uncertainty and stress that comes from having a family member in law enforcement.

In 2013, there were 51,625 assaults on officers and of those, 14,857 police officers were injured (as reported by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund). Furthermore, 76 law enforcement officers were killed in line-of-duty incidents nationwide according to a survey by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); the FBI also determined that there were 263 violent crimes in Ventura County in 2010.

Both on and off-duty, police officers are faced with angst and tension resulting from

their workload. The officers are in continuous danger which can cause their families to fear and stress for them.

Despite this stress, Chloe Diestel, a junior whose father is a juvenile detective in the Agoura and Calabasas area, said, “I don’t see it as that big of a deal because he doesn’t make it that big of a deal. He gets called in at night, but other people have jobs like that too.”

A family’s entire lifestyle can be affected by having a family member in law enforcement. Because law enforcement have unpredictable and long hours, there is no good way to determine when the family member will be working. Diestel pointed out that being a law enforcement officer requires being ready to go on the job at all times. “If there is a fire or something they have to be there, so he’s not home as much,” Diestel said. “When he is home he’s really tired, so you (really) only

have half of him there.”

Diestel and her family have adapted to this lifestyle and relate her father’s profession to that of “parents who work a job with not-so-flexible hours, because they can be called in at any time of day. A lot of the time we spend together is based around my dad’s schedule,” Diestel said. “On Christmas every year ... you know when you’re young you wake up really early? We still wake up really early and everything, but we can’t do anything until 10 or 11 or whenever he gets home.”

Many families of police officers deal with similar situations. “There are times when he will get called out ... and I have to quickly help him get all of his (equipment) so that he can get to work quickly,” said Avery Brunk, junior, whose dad is a sergeant at the Ventura County Police Department.

In order to deal with the instability of

having a family member in law enforcement, freshman Austin Brunk, Avery's younger brother, said that on some occasions his dad will stop on his motorcycle to call and talk to his family.

"It's cool to have them in law enforcement but it's also scary at the same time, because they get in some life or death situations," Austin said.

The Brunk siblings are speaking from personal experience. This past August, the Brunk family's worst nightmare almost came to fruition. Their father, Sergeant Darrick Brunk, was working at the Ventura County Fair on traffic control with several other officers. A man in a red truck who was ignoring the other officers put his car in reverse, hit the car behind him, and then accelerated towards the Sergeant. Sergeant Brunk rolled up over the hood of the car and broke the windshield with his elbow before landing on his feet. Luckily, he was not injured by the accident; he was

admitted to the hospital as a precaution but was released soon after. Although moments like these can be very worrying, for the most part the siblings both find it very "cool" that their dad is a cop.

“ —————
**He promises me
he'll be okay, and he
never goes back on
a promise.”**

EMMA BURZINSKI

————— ”
When police officers are elevated to the national stage, as they were with the case of

Michael Brown in Ferguson and Eric Garner, the families of law enforcement officers can come to disagreements, which can lead to more stress.

Even though her father is in law enforcement, junior Kayla Borkovec does not agree with all of his opinions. "Especially recently with stuff like Ferguson and Michael Brown there's been a lot of disagreements because my dad and I have very different opinions," said Borkovec. When Borkovec first told her father about Ferguson, he couldn't believe it, saying that the officer was "probably completely in the right."

Even in an area as safe as Newbury Park, police officers are still in constant danger. Nevertheless, they put themselves on the line everyday to keep the community safe. Their families put themselves on the line just as much as the officers, living from day to day with the constant worry that one night, their loved one may not make it back home.



Safest place on earth - Sergeant Darrick Brunk and his family pose for a picture at Disneyland as they enjoy some family bonding. *Avery Brunk/With Permission*



Excelling as a father - The Brunk family celebrates their father's promotion to Sergeant. *Avery Brunk/With Permission*



Show and tell - Chris Borkovec visited Kayla Borkovec's preschool to give a demonstration about his job. *Kayla Borkovec/With Permission*

THE RISKS

**In the last decade in the U.S.,
there were:**

58,261
assaults on law
enforcement.

&

1,501
officer fatalities.

SOURCE: <http://www.nleomf.org/facts/enforcement/>



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Senior Quotes

From deep introspective mantras that have gotten you through high school to funny phrases that become internet famous, senior quotes have always been another thing for students to look forward to at the end of their legally required educational journey. This year, senior quotes will not be included in the yearbook, but the *Prowler* wanted to find out what seniors' quotes would have been.



Hillary Flores

"Take every chance, drop every fear."



Dani Gabel

"I'm actually not funny. I'm just mean and people think I'm joking."



Benjamin Glasner

"Adventure is out there!"
- Charles Muntz, UP



Preston Hill

"Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit, wisdom is knowing not to put it in a fruit salad."



Michael Marinelli

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure."
- Marianne Williamson



Camryn Marshall

"Dream big ... and that's it."



Zach Okun

"Knit fast. Die warm."



Nathaniel Smith

"You can't win what you don't put in the middle."



Sam Whipple

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."
- 1 Corinthians 16:13

Skylar DeVault

A FIGHTER ON AND OFF THE SOCCER FIELD

Mariam Syed & Rachna Deshpande





Practice Makes Perfect - DeVault laughs with a teammate during practice. “If I’m ever in a bad mood, I can go play soccer and it’ll put me in a good mood,” DeVault said. *Samantha Meyer/Prowler*

Most people know how to tie their own shoelaces by grade school and hardly think about it after that. Then again, most people don’t have to tie them with just one hand. For Skylar DeVault, sophomore, one-handed tying is the norm - in fact, it was learning how to tie her shoes with both hands that posed a challenge.

DeVault was born with Amniotic Band Syndrome (ABS), which occurs when the fetus becomes entangled in fibrous, string-like amniotic bands in the womb, restricting blood flow and causing complications with the baby’s development. In DeVault’s case, her ABS affected the growth of her right hand. “When I was in my mom’s stomach, her umbilical cord was wrapped around my wrist, causing my hand growth to be stunted ... so I have five little fingers,” DeVault explained in one of her YouTube videos. “I don’t really feel anything (in my fingers); they’re completely bendable. I can move my wrist, but that’s about it.”

DeVault spent most of her life living with the use of only one fully functioning hand. Recently, however, she was fitted with an e-NABLE 3D prosthetic robotic hand. She is able to open and close the fingers of her prosthetic by bending her wrist. DeVault received the arm from e-NABLE, a group of 2,000 volunteers who work to ship 3D parts and hands to people who live with ABS at no cost.

DeVault, who received her prosthetic hand this past September, started a YouTube channel in the hopes of raising awareness for e-NABLE and those with ABS. She hopes that the channel will gather more attention for the organization and will allow viewers to go on her journey with her “step by step.”

DeVault’s purple prosthetic hand is still relatively new and she is still learning how to use it. Within a couple of weeks, she taught herself how to tie her shoes with the prosthetic, although she already knew how to tie them with just one hand. “It’s just going to take practice,” DeVault says in her shoe-tying video. “I don’t know how to tie shoes with two hands (properly), but I’ll get better.”

Although the appearance of her hand used to bother her, she has learned to accept it. “In elementary school, I wore a jacket to school every day,” DeVault said. She added that she finally found the courage

in fifth grade to take off the jacket after a close friend told her that “no one cared (about how her hand looked).”

Now, DeVault feels she has mostly outgrown the insecurities she has experienced her whole life. “I used to hide my arm around cute guys,” DeVault said, “and I still do it sometimes, but not as much as before.”

DeVault’s ABS hasn’t stopped her from performing on the soccer field. She currently plays as a defender for the school’s frosh-soph team and is one of their top goal scorers. She is also team captain, a position which all her teammates agree she deserves. “Skylar’s a leader,” said Sydney Bumbarger, sophomore, who has been playing soccer with DeVault for three years. “She has that motherly instinct and is always looking out for the team. She’s extremely hardworking and has a good work ethic.”

DeVault began playing soccer at age four, following in the footsteps of her older sisters, who started playing at ages seven and ten. After she started playing for a club team three years later, DeVault felt she “really began (to love the sport).”

“Soccer has always been a passion in my life. It’s always been a way to relieve stress. If I’m ever in a bad mood, I can go play soccer and it’ll put me in a good mood,” DeVault said.

Although Skylar is often in the spotlight on the field, her stunted hand is practically invisible to her, her teammates, and her coach. “Her hand doesn’t affect how she plays soccer because she doesn’t see it as a disability. Really, it’s just a part of her. Despite everything, she always tries her best and doesn’t let her hand get in the way of playing,” Bumbarger said.

Last year, DeVault scored four goals as a defender and was coach’s choice Most Valuable Player (MVP). Although Laura Brain, DeVault’s current soccer coach, has only known DeVault for a few months, DeVault’s hard work and attitude has already caught her attention. “She leads by example and really pushes the team to do their best and give 150%,” said Brain. “Skylar is one of those people that doesn’t let obstacles slow her down.”

From learning to tie her shoes to practicing how to do throw-ins on the soccer field, DeVault has never let her hand get her down. “She doesn’t think of it as a disability because it doesn’t phase her,” Bumbarger said. “She’s strong.”



Game Day - DeVault dodges her opponent during a match, her passion making her a valuable team member. “It’s players like her that drive our (soccer) program to be successful,” said her coach Laura Brain. *Skylar DeVault/With Permission*

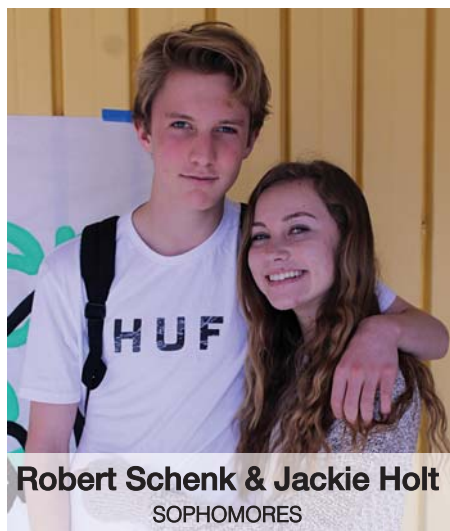
HUMANS OF NEWBURY PARK

Samantha Meyer, Daulton Beck, & Haley Berardinelli

Based on the global sensation “Humans of New York”, a popular blog that has taken over social media sites and expresses a different and more personal side to everyday people and their lives, Humans of Newbury Park (HONP) brings the unique perspective of the individual student but also gives a universal sense of what it means to be a high schooler. Starting as a single page in the 2014 *Panther Prowler* Magazine, HONP has now transformed into a staple of the *Prowler’s* Instagram. Follow us @NPProwler for more exclusive content.



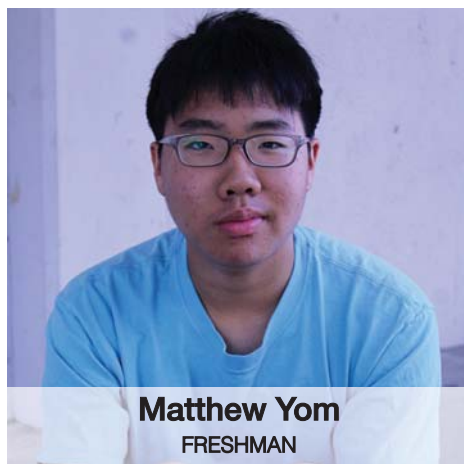
“I want to own my own company. I’m torn between going into fashion or becoming a doctor. I’m really passionate about helping people, health, and fashion.”



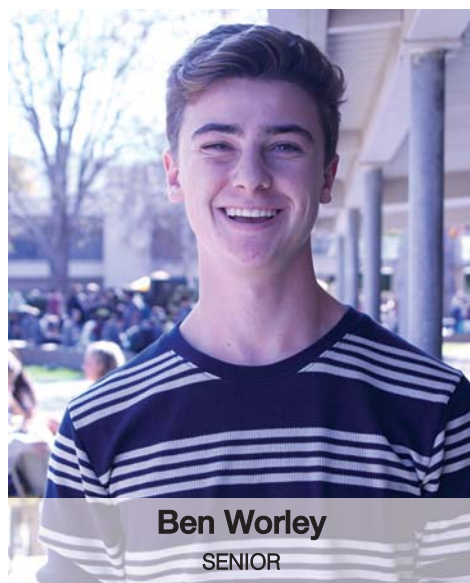
“What’s your favorite thing about each other?”

“Her eyes.”

“Nothing. Just kidding. That was a joke, I swear.”



“My life is just a broken record. It plays the same day over and over again. I prefer it this way.”

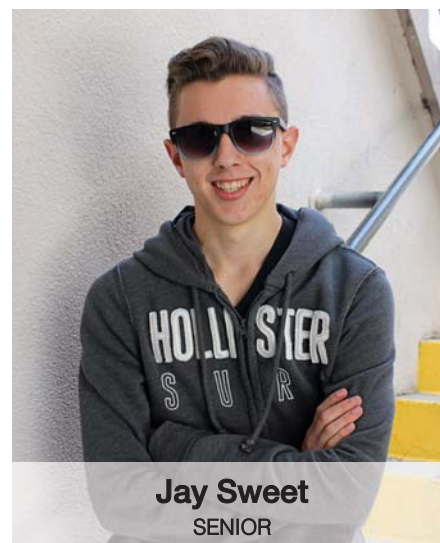


“I applied to be a fire cadet. It’s like an internship with the fire department, and it starts soon and I’m really excited. It’s a great opportunity and I think it will be good for me.”



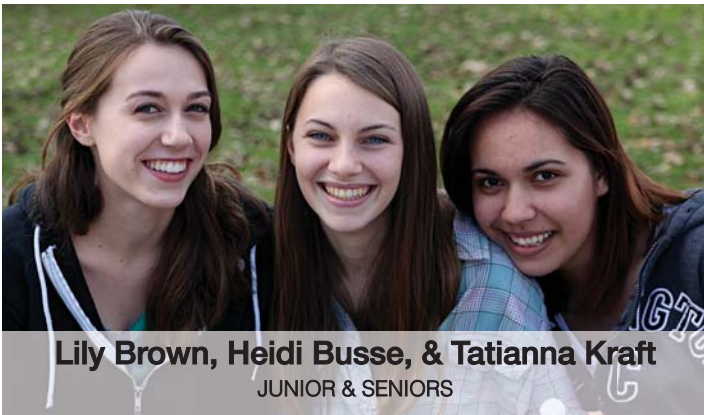
“What is your biggest regret?”

“Getting caught on New Years.”



“What was one of your favorite memories from the past?”

“I loved working for a humanitarian in South America, it took away my tunnel and expanded my horizon, which got me to love traveling.”



Lily Brown, Heidi Busse, & Tatianna Kraft
JUNIOR & SENIORS

“What has been your best memory together?”
“We had a pretty intense game of Apples to Apples at our junior year prom.”



Daniel Foldes & Cole Peterson
FRESHMEN

“This year is even better than I thought it would be, because I just love it here at Newbury Park High School, everything from the people to the environment.”



Maria Luciani & Patrick Tagari
SOPHOMORE & SENIOR

“We met on Twitter. He tweeted a quote from Avatar and I replied because that’s my favorite show.”
“Are you friends now?”
“Kind of.”



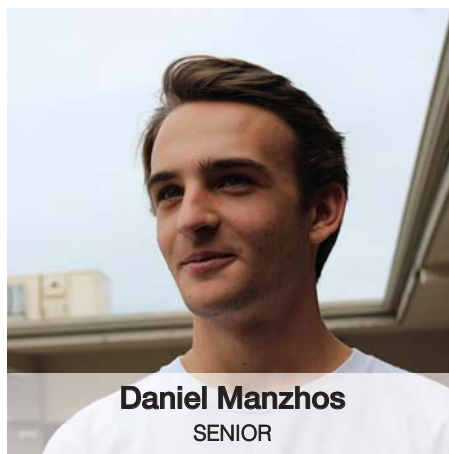
Jessie Dees & Demi Boxley
SENIORS

“We are an old married couple without being married and without having any actual attraction toward each other.”



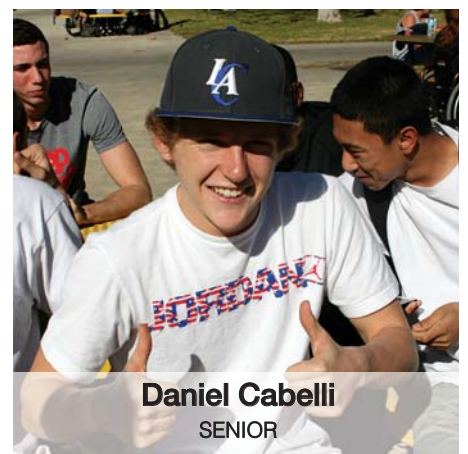
Jordan Tapola
JUNIOR

“What was one of your favorite moments in high school?”
“Selling samosas after school for Indian Club. They make great leftovers.”



Daniel Manzhos
SENIOR

“What do you find unique about yourself?”
“Well ... I am the only Ukrainian in this school.”



Daniel Cabelli
SENIOR

“What is your biggest regret?”
“Not trying harder in school. But I would have probably ended up going to Moorpark either way.”



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