

THE TITAN ΣCHO

THE STUDENT PUBLICATION OF GRAND TERRACE HIGH SCHOOL

This year in memories...



Legalize Marijuana? Two Views by the Titan Echo

AGAINST Marijuana Use: A Brain and Legal Buster

By Elisabeth Martin (2016), Campus Writer

Students at Grand Terrace High School seem ignorant to the long term effects of various substances that individuals ingest. Narcotics are, and will always be, a large issue for the student populace. However, no drug can top the influence that marijuana has on the collective student body. Students are simply unaware of the dangers of using and abusing this drug.

The health risks of marijuana greatly outweigh its presumed benefits. Those without medical conditions who smoke it are taking great risks without a silver lining. Marijuana has 50- 70 percent more cancer causing substances than tobacco, according to medical professionals on the website, drugfreeworld.org. A small dose can cause as much lung damage as up to five consecutive cigarettes. It also affects the brain by diminishing mental capacity and memory, the website says.

Marijuana is also a federal crime in most cases. Norml.org states that for those in possession, the first offense for having any amount without a doctor-approved medical note will be issued a misdemeanor, fined up to \$1,000, and could serve up to a year in prison. Punishments only increase with offenses. Those who sell are committing a felony, can serve five years to life and pay up to a million-dollar fine.

Those without legal permission or a legitimate medical condition should greatly rethink their pastimes. The harm this drug could cause to the body and legal record should not be taken lightly. Being caught can ruin one's life in the blink of an eye and the long term effects could kill the body slowly. It is urged that everyone should make their choices wisely and for them to put their efforts into something more productive. **TE**

FOR The History of Weed and Why it Should be Legalized

By Lorena Hernandez (2015), Editor-in-Chief

Marijuana legalization has been the hot talk for years. There are currently 23 states that have legalized medical cannabis and three states that allow it for medical and recreational use. Although marijuana is legal within the states, its still federally illegal.

So how did the federal government come to criminalize marijuana? The cannabis prohibition campaign began in the 1930's. What the prohibitionists did to campaign was remarkable. They exaggerated the effects of marijuana. Movies and advertisements ran in theaters and newspapers all around the world warned of the evils and dangers of its use. Most of the propaganda was filled with racism and fear. Every "fact" that they claimed to be scientifically proven ended up being completely false.

So, why did they take it this far? Many of the prohibitionists felt that cannabis stood in the way of their business and affairs. Hemp is the natural fiber product that is found within the stem of a marijuana plant can be used for many industrial purposes. History has shown that it has been used that way for over a thousand years. Hemp can be used to make clothes, paper, medicine, and even industrial oil.

Basically, the reason for their drive was greed, not for the sake of the people. So, in 1937, the Marijuana Tax Act was enacted making cannabis illegal, with the exception of industrial or medical purposes. When you look back at the legal history of cannabis, it is filled with lies, hatred, and greed, which is why we need to start changing our minds about cannabis. According to an article published on the Huffington Post, "legalizing pot could save the U.S. up to \$14 billion a year." The reason being that there are so many finite uses for cannabis. To add, some medical researchers say it helps treat some illnesses, including cancer, epilepsy, scoliosis, HIV/AIDS and insomnia (not an illness).

Something that may sound surprising is that the medical side of cannabis is finally being acknowledged and gaining support by both chambers of congress. The Compassionate Access, Research Expansion, and Respect States (CARERS) Act was filed just last March by representatives Steve Cohen and Don Young.

Some of the things that the act will accomplish, if passed, will allow states to legalize marijuana for medical use at the federal level, reschedule marijuana to a schedule II drug and eliminate barriers to medical marijuana research.

In an interview conducted by CNN, Dr. Sanjay Gupta asked Barack Obama about his views on the CARERS Act. He made the statement, "I'm on record as saying that not only do I think carefully prescribed medical use of marijuana may in fact be appropriate and we should follow the science as opposed to ideology of this issue but I'm also on record as saying that the more we treat some of these issues related to drug abuse from a public health model and not just from an incarceration model, the better off we're going to be." **TE**

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Every 15 Minutes: A Survivor's Story

By Chase Preciado (2016), Assistant Editor

Grand Terrace High School experienced a new first on April 16 by hosting a "Every 15 Minutes" program. The program, put on by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, aims to teach high school students the dangers and consequences of drinking and driving through firsthand experience.

I was one of sixteen students who were selected to participate in the program. Little did I know, this would be an experience that would change my perspective and help me gain a new appreciation for my life and the people in it.

Standing in the back of my Advisory classroom after being "reaped," I listened to my obituary being read and examined my classmates' reactions, while trying to keep my composure and a solemn expression on my face. It was difficult not to laugh, but I wanted to ensure that the event had the biggest effect possible.

After makeup was applied to my face in the library, I proceeded to the front of the school with the other students and watched the crash being prepared. During the crash scene, the nonchalant attitude I originally had about the incident faded. Although I knew the crash was simulated, watching my classmates being hoisted into ambulances, airlifted in a helicopter, arrested, and placed into body bags

caused the seriousness of the situation set in. This was something that could very easily occur to me or someone I love and it would all be due to one person's carelessness.

Then we were placed on an inmate bus and driven to the county jail, where we met up with the students who had been taken from the crash. We were given a presentation by a correction's officer as we ate lunch, toured the prison, in which we experienced the booking process for new inmates, including being locked in a holding cell. During this process, all I could imagine was how lonely and terrifying it would be to live in a cold place such as that, and that one mistake is all it takes to send you there for years.

Next, was the coroner's office, where freshly dead bodies are stored and examined. A coroner gave us a graphic presentation of cases he had worked on in the past, before taking us into the morgue. The smell of decomposing bodies was overwhelming. The coroner opened a door and revealed dozens of bodies in yellow bags that were neatly laid out on shelves. Looking at the bags was like seeing a ghost, since their identity, their story, was unknown. As I walked out, I flinched as my hand nearly brushed against one of the bodies.

Then was the county courthouse, where a prosecutor presented her closing argument to the case against the drunk driver in the simulated crash. She charged him with two counts of murder, one count of felony DUI, and two counts of causing great bodily harm to another person. She said he would be liable to pay for the damage to property, legal fees and death suits. The judge then proceeded into the courtroom and informed us that had this been a real criminal case, the driver would have likely been sentenced to 25 years to life for

his actions. Then we were taken to a hotel in Highland to spend the night. As we all ate dinner, we discussed the day's events and what we had learned from them.

We were introduced a police officer, who described to us his experience of losing his sister to DUI. As he told his story, he asked us to imagine the most important person in our life. I thought about my parents.

Then, he told us to imagine receiving a call from the police in the early morning hours, informing you that the person died in a DUI collision. Around this point, I began to feel all of the emotions that had built up throughout the day come to the surface, and I began to sob.

We were given letters written to us by our parents, which described what they never had the opportunity to tell us before we died. As I read the letter from my dad, I felt a wave of guilt rush over me. I began to remember all of the mistakes I had made in my life, and I realized that, had I actually died, I would be leaving behind a bad legacy, with those mistakes permanently remaining unresolved. It reminded me how truly short life is and how there is no time to delay expressing how you feel and doing things that are important to you, that life must be lived with a sense of urgency.

The next morning, we awoke early to get to school before our mock funeral later that morning. The intensity of the experience, for me, was almost overwhelming. The emotions I had felt the day before were still fresh in my mind and the funeral caused new ones to surface. Each section of the funeral, from our solemn candlelit entrance, to the crash video, to the letter readings, to Josh Jahn's incredibly moving story, to delivering the roses to our parents, took every ounce of strength I had to make it through. Each event changed my perspective. It caused me to view my classmates in a different light, and I had a renewed sense of appreciation for the opportunity this program had given me to not only speak up, but prevent a tragedy in my life like the one Josh Jahn experienced.

After the funeral, we were finally reunited with our families. I opted to leave school early, but before I did, I took the opportunity to approach Josh Jahn, the speaker who lost his wife and two small children to a drunk driver, and tell him how his story had impacted me. After I got home, it took several days for me to bounce back from the emotions of everything I had witnessed and experienced.

Every 15 minutes someone dies as a result of an alcohol-related collision. Experiencing that tragedy for yourself is a grueling and traumatic experience, but I would do it all over again if I had the chance, because of the lasting lessons it ingrained into my mind and heart. Throughout this experience, I stayed strong, I persevered, I learned, and as a result, I survived. As long as you make smart decisions, use your better judgment, and refuse to drink and drive, so will you. **TE**



Titans Travel to the Real Titan Town, Greece & Italy

By Crystal DeBerry (2015), Campus Editor

The EF tours trip that occurred over spring break was a life-changing event. From the sixteen hours I spent on a plane to the amount of walking and picture-taking that happened during the entire trip, it was totally worth it. We arrived in Rome and spent four days sightseeing. From there, we ferried to Pompeii to see the mummified bodies that were covered in ash from the volcano eruption. Then, it was off to Greece, which was beyond beautiful. We spent a couple days admiring the architecture and lifestyle before heading back home.



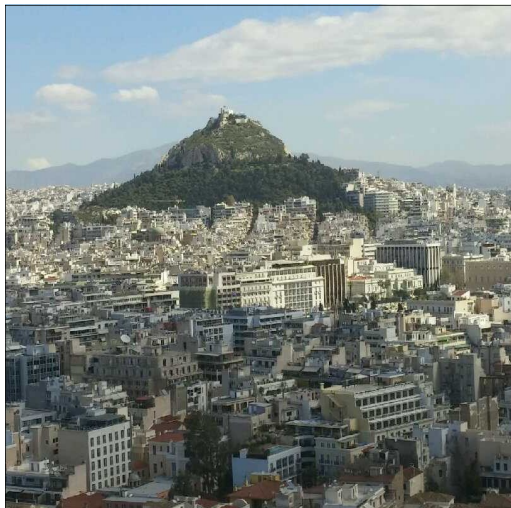
Trevi Fountain



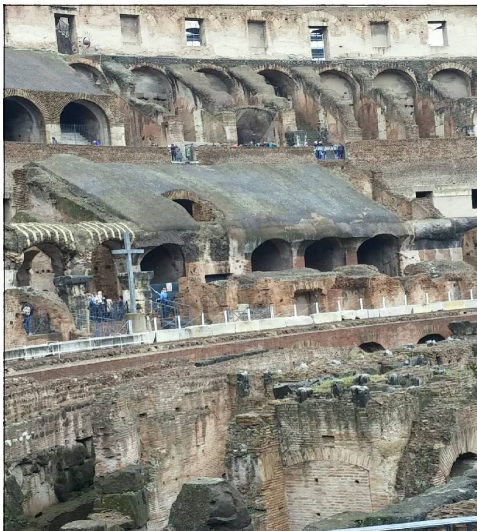
Parthenon in Athens, Greece



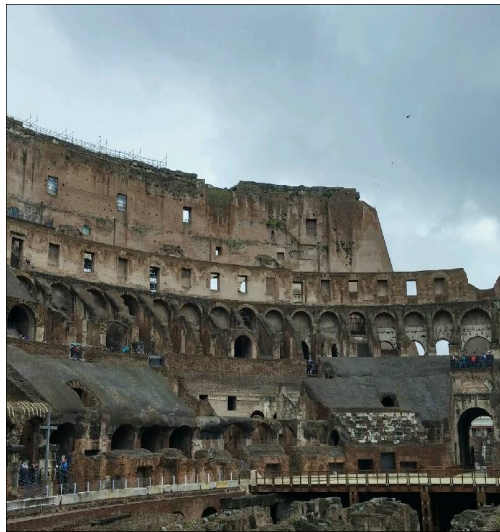
Beit She'an/ Theatre of Limestone



Overview of Athens, Greece



The Coliseum



Photos by Crystal DeBerry

From Snack Shacks to Portable Classrooms, Titans Will See Changes Next Year

By Crystal DeBerry (2015), Campus Editor

TITAN TOWN- As the school year for 2014-2015 is coming to a close, future Titans are going to be seeing changes happening at Grand Terrace High school.

Snack shacks are returning in place of the old snack carts we had last school year. Assistant Principal, Mrs. Debbi Villegas, is waiting for an exact date, but they should be expected to be appearing on campus sometime in April 2016, she said. There will be two locations you will find these shacks. One will be located in the gym area and the other on the east end of campus. The shacks will be selling nutritional snacks.

It has also been mentioned that the discussion of shade is being brought up with the district facilities director. Ideas such as fundraisers have been considered. Shade may be a possibility for the future of GTHS, but it is also a very costly expense and is most likely not to be expected as soon as the snack shacks.

As was done last school year, a nutritional mini-food show occurred on April 9. Titan Voices represented students and chose next year's food.

Lastly, module classrooms are being set up on the north side of the campus in between the baseball field and C and D buildings to accommodate a growing student population. **TE**

Titan Students Visit The Nation's Capitol

Vivian Meza (2015), Staff Writer

WASHINGTON D.C. - Grand Terrace High School teacher Mr. David Crane and six students - including Skyler Lewis (2015), Victor Meza (2015), Pietra Espinosa (2015), Logan Cooper (2015), Jordan Hazelip (2016), and this writer- traveled to Washington D.C. during Spring Break.

The group arrived at Dulles International Airport in Virginia early Sunday, March 22, and were quickly whisked away to their hotel in Alexandria, VA, just outside of the D.C. area. After quickly dropping off their luggage, they took off for their first stop, the National Mall where the Smithsonian Museum is located. Since the trip was conducted through EF Tours, the group shared a bus with students from Alabama, Colorado, and Minnesota.

The rest of the week consisted of tours and stops at the Capitol, House of Representatives, Library of Congress, Arlington National Cemetery, Newseum, Mount Vernon, Kennedy Center, White House, Old Town Alexandria, Georgetown, and the many memorials located in and around the city.

"My favorite part of the trip was the Air and Space Museum, because it was awesome. I also loved Arlington National Cemetery because it just makes you feel patriotic and really proud of your country," said Victor Meza (2015).



Seniors

Where Will They Go?

By Crystal DeBerry (2015), Campus Editor

TITAN TOWN - The senior class of 2015 is close to graduating and preparing for their futures. Some are going straight into the workforce while others are on their way to college. Everyone is planning on going in different directions and preparing to leave high school behind them. Where will they go? Here are some destinations.

Victor Meza is going to be attending UCR to get a degree in business and administration and plans on getting a part time job at Barnes and Noble. He's looking forward to being independent and being able to go out on a weekday without having the worries of a curfew.

Oliva Simorangkir is attending classes at San Francisco State University and is excited to live in dorms and experience the college life. She wants to get a part time job waitressing at various restaurants local to her college.

Kassandra Hernandez leaves for North Carolina this summer for Marine boot camp for three months. She plans on being in the Marines for four years as a military police. Once she gets out of the military she wants to become a law enforcement officer.

Serena Guzman is going to Chaffey Community College and plans to further her education in physical therapy. She plans on attending college for this major for five years. Serena plans on moving out on her own while in college and becoming more independent. **TE**

Class of 2014: Where Are They Now?



TORI HERMAN

Tori Herman has been a busy bee since graduating. During her senior year she was club leader for the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, a fashion club. She received a \$6,000 scholarship for becoming club leader. She attends classes at the campus in Los Angeles and lives in dorm style apartments, the Lorenzo Apartments on Adams Blvd. She is also a leasing agent for her complex. Tori has been enjoying the dorm and college experience, and has become closer with her roommate. School work at FIDM is not easy but very rewarding she said. She has variety of assignments for school such as going to Beverly Hills and looking at fashion trends. Also, she is in the process of creating a folder of trends and colors that are expected for the 2016 year.—Crystal DeBerry

ELYSSA SHAW

Elyssa Shaw was the Titan Echo editor and has been attending San Bernardino Valley College classes in hopes of becoming a nurse in neonatal care. She feels high school did not prepare her for college whatsoever, but it is a challenge she is choosing to take on. She is also serving with several churches to reach out to the youth, and helping out with her family business “Little Giant Taco.” - Crystal DeBerry



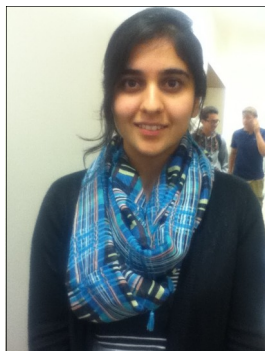
ROBERT LOPEZ

Robert Lopez is attending classes at Cal State San Bernardino in hopes of acquiring a graphic design art degree. He works on campus in the creative media department as a photography assistant. Robert still lives at home, but is planning on moving out soon. He also wishes to encourage students to stand out, be different, and to always see the brighter side of life.—Crystal DeBerry

Class of 2015 Top Academic Seniors

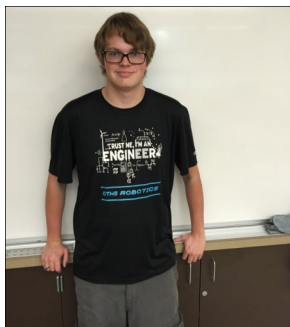
By Vivian Meza, Staff Writer (2015)

TITAN TOWN - Though GTHS has many smart and driven students on its campus, these five students have gone above and beyond in their high school careers and lead the class of 2015 as some of the top five ranking students based on their overall total weighted grade point averages that they reported to the Titan Echo. Though the order in which these students are in is not yet clear since the school year hasn't ended, here is some info on some of the smartest students on the GTHS campus.



Kawsar Nasir Ahmad

Kawsar is involved in drama club, the National Honor Society, robotics club, mock trial, and has performed over 250 hours of community service. She will be attending the University of California Los Angeles in the fall with a major in psychobiology and a minor in political science. Her stated overall GPA is a 5.0.



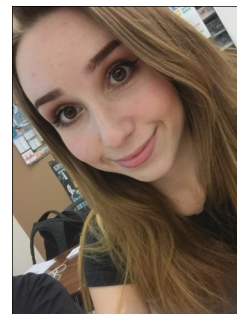
Jacob Swing

Jacob is the founder and president of the Robotics Club and assisted in helping the local middle school in establishing their own robotics club. He is also treasurer for the National Honor Society. He will be attending the University of California Los Angeles with an expected undeclared major in engineering. His overall stated GPA is 4.59.



Jenna Chapman

Jenna is a varsity tennis player, thespian, Glee Club member, Robotics Club member, volunteer, and secretary for the National Honor Society. She plans on attending Brown University in the fall of 2015 as a human biology major. Her overall stated GPA is 4.6.



Jacynda Laferriere

Jacynda is a member of the Robotics Club, Drama Club, and Disney club on campus. She plans on attending the University of California San Diego. Though she was accepted as undeclared, she plans on declaring a bio engineering major. Her overall stated GPA is 4.55



Jason Hibono

Jason is a varsity tennis player, president of the National Honor Society, and member of ASB. He will attend the University of California Los Angeles with a major in psychology and economics on a pre-med track. His stated overall GPA is 4.65.

Hacker Tools Increase Concerns

By Elisabeth Martin (2016), Campus Writer

CYBERSPACE- How aware are you of the security the hotels and temporary residences around the world actually offer? In 2012, the “Onity” lock used in major hotel chains around the world was hacked with a tool released at a hacker conference called “DefCon,” allowing access even through a dead bolted hotel door.

This type of illegal entrance through digital and physical means is becoming common place. The extent of access that hacking tools can achieve is vast and endless.

There are even tools and toys on the market that can allow easy access to any WiFi networks that allow anyone to snoop around. They are easy to come by and easy to use.

Some are more configurable than others, while some work right out of the box. Two such tools that I found were the WiFi Pineapple and the Kali NetHunter.

The WiFi Pineapple is a network auditing tool introduced by Hak5. Network auditing is the collection of data and analysis on the state of a network. The WiFi Pineapple is a user friendly way of seeing the status of every network in the area, It's a “man in the middle” attack device.

“The Pineapple can find a cell phone, computer, or any electronic that is connected to a target network and it can cut the connection with said network and re-route it to the attacker's own network, thus allowing the attacker to gain full control of the victim's traffic,” explained Jeremy Martin, a Senior Cyber Warfare analyst. “This simple rouge attack makes the Internet of things (IOT) far more scary.” **TE**

EDITORIAL: Is Mars One Real or Hoax?

By James Munoz (2015), Editor-at-Large

The Mars One mission has been a hot topic for debate recently with contestants for their program coming out and speaking of the incredibly shady process that Mars One has been using to “Select” their volunteers.

One such individual is Dr. Joseph Roche, an assistant professor at Trinity College's School of Education in Dublin, with a Ph.D. in physics and astrophysics. The former NASA Researcher didn't think much of it; he just wanted to throw his hat in the ring out of curiosity. However Dr. Roche soon found himself in the group's shortlist of top 100 contestants. He soon started having problems after this point.

It was difficult for him to break his silence, but he was spurred to do so by the uncritical news coverage. Many assumptions about the project remain unchallenged. Most egregiously, many media outlets continue to report that Mars One received applications from 200,000 when the number was 2,761. As Roche observed the process

his concerns increased. Chief among them: that some leading contenders for the mission had bought their way into that position, and are being encouraged to “donate” any appearance fees back to Mars One—which seemed to him very strange for an outfit that needs billions of dollars to complete its objective.

So, here are the rumors as we understand them: Mars One has almost no money. Mars One has no contracts with private aerospace suppliers who are building technology for future deep-space missions. Mars One has no TV production partner. Mars One has no publicly known investment partnerships with major brands. Mars One has no plans for a training facility where its candidates would prepare themselves. Mars One's candidates have been vetted by a single person, in a 10-minute Skype interview.

“My nightmare about it is that people continue to support it and give it money and attention, and it then gets to the point where it inevitably falls on its face,” said Roche.

If, as a result, “people lose faith in NASA and possibly even in scientists, then that's the polar opposite of what I'm about. If I was somehow linked to something that could do damage to the public perception of science, that is my nightmare scenario,” Roche said. **TE**

Are Force Fields Here?

By James Munoz (2015), Editor-at-Large

Boeing just laid claim to the patent for a method and system for shock wave attenuation via electromagnetic arc or in layman's, force fields.

Boeing has been granted a patent for a force field-like defense system. Filed in 2012, the USPTO has granted the aerospace giant a patent for a “Method and system for shock wave attenuation via electromagnetic arc.” According to CNN.

On first look, it seems that they're onto something similar to “Star Wars” deflector shields but this is a bit different. The patent describes a system that would detect the shockwave from a nearby explosion and creates an area of ionized air – a plasma field – between the oncoming blast and the vehicle it was protecting.

The best part about all of this is that science proves this works, the patent says, “by heating a selected region of the first fluid medium rapidly to create a second, transient medium that intercepts the shockwave and attenuates its energy density before it reaches a protected asset.”

However, at this stage of development, Boeing's force field would likely be powerless to protect against shrapnel or other debris flung out by an explosion, so the troops of the future would still need to keep their body armor firmly strapped on.

The plasma field would also be temporary—hence the need for sensors to activate it when a blast is detected, so the sort of all encompassing shields we're familiar with from the movies.

Researchers keep reaching into the bag of ideas that is science fiction, with new armor for troops, submarine killer drones, and working tractor beams among recent inventions that wouldn't look out of place in a galaxy far, far away. **TE**

GTHS Hosts 2014-2015 Wrestling CIF Tournament

By Jaelyn Soto, Milana Hernandez, and Vivian Meza

TITAN TOWN - The CIF tournament for boys' wrestling was held at the Titan Gym on Feb. 20 and 21.

Nine Titan wrestlers qualified to compete in the tournament, each one in a different weight class.

The Titans started off strong, but none of them placed in the overall outcome of the competition. Most of them were eliminated on the first day of the tournament. Only Logan Odenbaugh (2015) and Anthony Vargas (2017)

moved on to the second day.

Vargas was eliminated in the first match of the second day. Odenbaugh won his first match, lost the second, and competed for fifth place in his third match but was defeated and did not get to place.

The GTHS wrestling team had an overall great season competing against the other high schools in the league. Many Grand Terrace residents and GTHS students came out to watch the tournament and show their support.

Since only four of the nine wrestlers will be graduating this year, next year's team will have veterans and bolstered by new talent. **TE**



Left: Eric Gonzalez (2016) breaks the grip of a Poly High school wrestler. Right: Senior Logan Odeneauh gets a leg hook on La Puente High opponent during the CIF match. Photos by Milana Hernandez (2016)

Swim team Wins Rivalry and 1st League Meet

By Milana Hernandez(2016)

TITAN TOWN— Titan swimmers won their first league meet and out-swam their cross-town rivalry, the Colton Yellowjackets.

The score for the meet was 123-31 for the girls and 125-31 for the boys. The junior varsity and varsity boys team were undefeated at the time of this report with a 6-0 overall and 2-0 record in the league. Junior Varsity girls were 5-1 overall and 2-0 in league.

Several records were broken and many goals were achieved during the meet.

Kaylee Robles (2017) and Jonathan Thunquest (2017) broke the 200 Free Style event record. Alex Ideishi (2017) made the new record for the 100 Fly. Ismael Gonzalez (2017) broke the record for the 500 Free Style, and Issac Ballesteros (2016) broke the record for the 200 Independent Medley.

Everybody has gotten way faster and realized this sport is hard to do," said Swim Team Captain Victoria Hernandez (2015). " Even though swimmer's effort is executed individually, it is a team sport because each placement is worth points toward the team. **TE**



Left: A Titan swimmer is working hard at practice before the league meet. Right: Varsity boys are neck and neck at the league meet. Photos by Milana Hernandez (2016)

Titan Athletes Scouted and Committed

Derek
and
Danielle



Sweethearts Derek Escobar (2015) and Danielle Rico (2016) achieved their own individual athletic scholarships. Escobar officially signed to Cal Baptist University in April for baseball. "It was the best fit and best offer, he said." Danielle Rico (2016) obtained Eastern Michigan University's attention for a softball scholarship. She stated that she prepares herself by "studying hard, practicing everyday of the week." **Caption by Jaelyn Soto (2016) Photos by Milana Hernandez (2016)**

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Skyley Lewis (2015) obtained a basketball scholarship to the University of California Riverside. Lewis said, "I'm really excited but nervous at the same time." **Caption by Jaelyn Soto (2016) Photos by Milana Hernandez (2016)**

Melanie
and
Destiny



Melanie Olmos (2016) is expected to sign with the University of Oklahoma for a softball scholarship. "I work hard to get stronger every day. I stay focused because I know my college coaches have high expectations for me." When asked why she chose the college she will be attending she said " ...I fell in love with the campus, the people, and the environment so of course I took the offer."

Senior Destiny Peck signed with Seton Hall University in New Jersey. "I'm staying on top of my school work to make sure I have balance when I get there," she said. "I chose Seton Hall because when I stepped onto (the) campus, I instantly fell in love. I also love the East Coast so I wanted to make sure I chose a school from over there." **Caption by Jaelyn Soto (2016) Photo by Milana Hernandez (2016)**

Band Member Goes a New Direction



By Maile Wong (2015),
Arts and Entertainment
Writer

Fans from across the world mourned the departure of band member Zayn Malik of One Direction. Malik, one of the five members of the

band, officially left to live his life in private.

On March 25, the official One Direction Facebook page announced the shocking news.

"We're really sad to see Zayn go, but we totally respect his decision and send him all our love for the future. The past five years have been beyond amazing, we've gone through so much together, so we will always be friends. The four of us will now continue. We're looking forward to recording the new album and seeing all the fans on the next stage of the world tour," the band said in a statement.

Zayn apologized to his fans through social media, stating that he is "leaving because I want to be a normal 22-year-old who is able to relax and have some private time out of the spotlight. I know I have four friends for life; Louis, Liam, Harry and Niall. I know they will continue to be the best band in the world."

We have all survived the 'N Sync breakup and many more. The difference is that this four-piece band will continue working on their upcoming album and world tour. **TE**

Review: BSU Wraps Up Black History Month with Showcase

By Vivian Meza (2015), Staff Writer

TITAN TOWN - The Black Student Union (BSU) held its annual showcase in the GTHS auditorium Feb. 27. Though the crowd was not incredibly large, it was nonetheless an entertaining and informative night filled with compelling performances by students and even a few teachers.

To continue with the true spirit of Black History Month, BSU members gave quick informational speeches in between performances on important African or African American figures such as Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King Jr. The performances themselves all featured music or poems by African American artists as well.

"It was fun to perform with BSU. I thought the whole show was really good," said Samantha Delgado (2015), who performed the song "Halo" by Beyonce in a trio with seniors Drew Williams and Jenna Chapman.

To witness an event dedicated to the African American community was truly inspiring, especially since it featured students of all ethnicities, conveying the ultimate message of unity and racial equality. **TE**

GTHS Thespians Perform *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

By Vivian Meza (2015) & Maile Wong (2015), Staff Writers

TITAN TOWN - On the nights of March 12 through 14, the GTHS Drama club put on a stage production of the classic Lewis Carroll fairy tale *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. The play proved to be a favorite for both cast members and audience members alike and was the most successful production yet at GTHS.

The cast consisted of students of all grades, and was filled with colorful costumes, sets, and lighting that enticed the audience and captured the essence of what Wonderland should be. There were also a lot of talented actors that gave the show a good dose of humor.

Andres Luna (2018), who played the Knave of Hearts, agrees. "Everyone knew their lines, the [stage directions were] good and it was fun to act with amazing actors," he said.

The final night of the show was a bit emotional, according to seniors who were in the play since it was the last play of the year. Students who are graduating this year were given roses on closing night by younger members of the cast as a thank you for their contribution to Drama Club and the show itself.

"I'm really sad that this is my last play ever. I had so much fun hanging out with the rest of the cast and getting to wear professional costumes. I hope the program continues to be this awesome," said Victor Meza (2015), who played the March Hare.

Expectations for next year's productions are highly anticipated by the actors and audience members as well. It is said that next year's spring production will be a musical. **TE**

Kylie Jenner Challenge Could Cause Opposite Effect, Doctors Say

Deveny Garcia (2018), A&E Writer

I'm sure by now most of you have heard about the "Kylie Jenner Challenge." In this challenge kids put their lips in a small glass and suck the air out. This causes the lips to temporarily plump looking like Kylie Jenner (little sister to reality stars Kim, Khloe and Kourtney Kardashian) then posting the results on social media #KylieJennerChallenge.

According to a dermatologic surgeon on Seventeen magazine this can cause bruising, scarring, serious pain and in some cases permanent disfigurement. According to the Washington Post, another danger is the pressure can be too much for the glass to take and shatter causing lacerations and requiring stitches, an ironic turn of events.

Dr. Scot Glasberg, president of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons says "It's like punching yourself in the face or running your face into the wall."

So if you want fuller looking lips you should probably not suck on shot glasses. According to Washington Post, to get fuller looking lips Jenner just overlies her lip liner. You should probably just try that instead of risking permanent damage and stitches. **TE**

"Can't wait for college." -Vivian Meza

"High School Musical is a lie." -Miale Wong

"I make the impossible possible by improbable means." -James Munoz

"High school is only the beginning. Life is just getting started." -Crystal DeBerry



"Have a good life." - Lorena Hernandez

Embrace Fear. Seek Challenge. Take Risk." - Mr. Morales