

Out with Winter in with Spring!

THE JAMES LOGAN COURIER HIGH SCHOOL

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“Communication is key,” says Montoya

By Sonam Shah, Yasin Shah & Fred Jedder

Editor-in-Chief, News Editor, and Staff writer [respectively]

During the week of March 3, 2003 through March 7, 2003, the general feeling of safety in Colt Court and its surrounding areas was lost when rival groups of Latino and African-American students clashed.

The incidents of the week began on Tuesday during lunch when one student decided to occupy a table routinely occupied by a group of Latino students.

Tensions rose between African-American students and

Latino students on Wednesday when a group of students again decided to sit at the table. Though an exchange of verbal improprieties ensued the situation did not resolve itself, and feelings of animosity spilled over into Colt Court later during lunch. As a response, the administrative team debriefed Wednesday afternoon talking with students about the events that had transpired.

Thursday remained considerably calmer than the previous days until one African-American student decided to confront a Latino student.

“I believe that if on Thursday, if that one student hadn’t stepped up and starting challenging people, there would have been no incident. But unfortunately, a single individual can in fact create a whole lot of turmoil,” said Don Montoya, Principal.

Despite administrative efforts to end the situation, the student refused to desist. Ultimately the administration turned to School Site Resource Officers [SRO] to remove the student from campus.

“So when he was removed, he was aggressively removed by the police, and at that point the level of
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Forensics now funded by Angel network

By Fred Jedder

Staff writer

The \$100,000 grant that Oprah Winfrey’s Angel Network gave Forensics Coach Tommie Lindsey will be used transport Logan’s renowned Forensics team to even greater glories.

The grant, which will be spread over three years, will be used to pay for transporting the team to forensics competition, said Tim Campbell, a Logan Language Arts teacher and assistant to Lindsey. The team’s transportation funding from

the New Haven Unified School District was drastically cut recently.

Lindsey’s appearance on the show, which was taped in Chicago on March 11 and broadcast nationwide on March 13, bolstered the pride of current members of the team and may lead to a better team in the future, said Pierre Clark, a Logan junior who performed on the show.

“I have some friends who want to join now,” Clark said, sitting in the office of room 408, where the Forensics team is based. “The team’s going to be stronger in years to come.”

Sean Blair, a sophomore, said “my mom was going to make me join” the Forensics team before the show, but now that she’s seen it, she’s more determined than ever that he get on the team. He said he sees joining the team as a way to help him fulfill his goal of going to a four-year college after high school.

Andrea Bruss, a junior who is on the Forensics team, said she’s happy that Lindsey “finally got

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EDITORIAL

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THE COURIER

A new generation faces war

Sonam Shah

Editor-in-Chief

Twenty-four American soldiers are dead. As of today, twenty-four American soldiers are dead. Nineteen are wounded. Twenty-four Americans will never return home, another nineteen may face a life forever altered by injuries they now face. This war is unlike any war before. The continual feed from the “front lines” glowing in dark American homes each night is relentless. You just can’t seem to get

away from it...and maybe that is exactly the point. The numeral statistics and death counts we hear are far less heart wrenching than the faces and the words. I personally happened to be watching as they interviewed the wife of an injured soldier at Fort Bliss in Texas as she nursed her two year old child in her lap. Families become personal instantaneously, people you don’t know become part of a communal American family. In the same moment we feel sympathy for our fellow Americans we see images

of Iraqi people fleeing their homes in a desperate attempt to protect their children and their lives. The duality is immense and unforgiving.

I have seen only one American flag flying in front of a home that was not there a week earlier. For all intents and purposes I would have expected this event to once again renew that sense of patriotism that prevailed after September 11, however, it has created a different sense of patriotism; I say this because

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Story ideas, submissions, letters-to-the-editor, and other contributions are welcomed, though *The Courier* staff reserves the right to decide what is included in the newspaper.

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NEWS

Montoya reassures students of safety on campus

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unrest, upset, agitation I guess maybe is the best word, continued to grow and just continued to grow throughout the rest of fifth period lunch and sixth period lunch,” said Montoya.

The number of police officers grew exponentially on Thursday when all available police officers answered the call for assistance by a Logan SRO.

“[Later Thursday] afternoon around 4:15 P.M., the entire administrative team, the interim superintendent, Ms. [Susan] Speakman, Board president Ms. [Gwen] Estes, the

police chief... a police lieutenant and a police sergeant, all met together to talk about what had happened that day, to talk about the police response, to talk about what the next day might be like,” said Montoya.

By Friday, March 7th, the situation had all but calmed down, staff and administrators continued to meet with students to try and reach a resolution.

“I guess the key thing is communication,” said Montoya, “If we keep the communication open, I think that most of the time we can talk through the issue.”

Forensics team nationally recognized

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recognition for all of his good work. It’s well-deserved.” Bruss said that, while Lindsey’s appearance on Oprah made her proud of the team, she was already proud. “We’ve always been proud of the team. We’ve known for a long time that it’s a great team. We were a proud team even before Oprah.”

Campbell, who’s been coaching Logan Forensics for nine



A new sense of patriotism

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I believe protesting (with a sense of civility) is patriotic.

I don’t know what to expect from this war. Despite the prominence of it, it has been reduced to a collection of images in my mind. My brain can simply take no more and continue to remain engrossed in my daily life. It’s amazing what we do to avoid discussing it, or actually recognizing the effects of this war.

The peace our generation,

my generation, my children’s generation, had been counting on is gone. It is absolutely gone. It can not be restored in an instant. It can not be restored in a year. The cost of this war will continue to haunt us for more than one lifetime. Peace died with the first gunshot. We call this Iraqi freedom, maybe it is, for some, and maybe it truly is not. Maybe this freedom we seek to bestow is elusive, unattainable, and the cost has been the peace that we could almost taste.

years and been a Language Arts teacher for seven years, echoed Bruss. “It’s a confirmation of what we already knew, but I still feel proud,” he said, “The work that we do is valuable and important and that it means something to more than just me. It’s a confirmation of what I knew.”

Even students who aren’t on the team got to share the pride. Sassan Pirzadeh, a sophomore, said, “Actually, it did make me proud of Mr. Lindsey and the school. And I’m glad the school finally has a source of income.”

FEATURES

International music provides relief from American artists

By **Marion Johnson**
Features Editor

Britney Spears and the boy bands of America just are not fulfilling the music lover's thirst for beats anymore, and music fanatics have gone searching for something else. Recently Japanese Pop, and Japanese Rap, also known as J-pop and J-rap, along with other types of international music such as French, Hindi, Latino, and Polynesian, have been found in student's CD players. So if you are tired of Britney Spears and her wannabe's, here are some really great alternatives you can pop into that player!

Russian Pop: A*cy, Ice Berg

The smooth voice and soft back round of A*cy's music is a very refreshing change from that of the female pop artist's of America. On her CD, Ice Berg, she mixes her slow pop lyrics with techno beats and natural sounds. Whether or not you understand exactly what she is saying, you can still relate to the emotions in her voice. Her songs seem to be about

the typical pop topics, boys, heartbreak, and her true feelings.

Tongan: Tonga Mouna Kihe Loto, Metali Koula

In the mood for something that will be sure to make you dance, laugh, and feel good all through out? Check Out Tonga Mouna Kihe Loto. Their beats, and lyrics are easy to listen to, and really relax the body and mind thoroughly. Tonga Mouna is not the kind of music that calls for concentration while listening. This could be the soundtrack to a Polynesian themed party, or even be played while studying for your next big History test, but please, do not play this CD while studying for your Spanish final because the words are very catchy!

French: Patricia O'Callaghan, Real Emotional Girl

If you like soundtracks, musicals, or Broadway plays, Patricia O'Callaghan is your girl. O'Callaghan's sultry voice makes you feel as if you are front row, opening night, of a hot new Broadway play. One good thing

about O'Callaghan is that you do not have to worry about not understanding her songs, most of her songs are in English, but still have that "not quite American" tinge to them. Patricia O'Callaghan is far from Britney Spears, Mandy Moore, or any of their other pop clones, but watch out, her songs get quite moody!

Filipino Pop/Rock: Chino Romero

Iniibig Kita Chino Romero's CD is almost entirely in Tagalog, the only English you'll find on this CD are the familiar words, "I love you" in his song, "Hindi Kita Ipagpalit". Romero does not fall perfectly into just one genre. Just when you think he is a few members short of a boy band, he breaks out the Rock and Roll. As soon as you have Romero pegged for something he goes and changes in the middle of his song. His songs go from fun and wild, to soft and tender in a matter of a beat. Romero is definitely a nice substitute for Justin Timberlake.

FEATURES

Top 10 things that make you say, “*HUH!?*”

By Valerie Zerbini
Managing Editor

- 1) How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges?
- 2) What happens if you get scared to death twice?
- 3) If the #2 pencil is so popular, why is it still #2?
- 4) If the entire world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?
- 5) If you write a book about failure, and it doesn't sell, is it a success?
- 6) If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
- 7) If you ate pasta and antipasta, would you still be hungry?
- 8) If Superman is so smart, why does he wear underpants over his trousers?
- 9) If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?
- 10) Why is it that if someone tells you there are 1 billion stars in the universe, you will believe them, but if someone tells you a wall has wet paint you will have to touch it to be sure?

Top 10 Ways to Get Rid of Telemarketers

- 10) Pretend you don't speak English.
- 9) Say “Hold on,” then scream to a nonexistent person: “If you try to take the knife out, it'll just hurt worse!”
- 8) Burst into tears when money is mentioned.
- 7) Ask if the deal is good for all your personalities.
- 6) Tell them you'll accept their offer if they can guess your color of underwear.
- 5) Repeat everything they say in the form of a question.
- 4) As soon as they identify themselves, say, “You guys are still in business? Well, I guess the bomb has another 30 seconds.”
- 3) Tell them the restraining order applies to phone calls as well as physical distance.
- 2) Mutter: “Aww, damn. Not another one. The last one almost got me the death penalty.”
- 1) HANG UP THE DARN PHONE!

For more **Top 10 jokes, or other jokes, go to www.jokes.com**

SPORTS

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THE COURIER

Baseball: new hopes for young, aspiring team

By Joe Silva
Staff writer

Only two words can describe the varsity baseball team: young and inexperienced.

The James Logan High School Colts have a group of talented guys. The team should be ready when league starts. So far the preseason has not been successful. They have started out 1-7. But they have played some great teams like Valley Christian, De La Salle, Monte Vista, and San Ramon. These are great teams that are well coached.

The pitching staff is very inexperienced and has only one pitcher with varsity innings.

Coach John Goulding said, "The players have to get out there and learn what it takes to be a varsity pitcher."

Senior Ryan Lew is the leader of the pitching staff. The pressure has been on Lew.

"Lately I have been putting too much pressure on myself," Lew said, "I'm not the only pitcher and I have to rely on my teammates."

The team also has great position players. Players like Brad Mays, and Mitch Rodriguez, two returning outfielders.

Coach Goulding is relying on these two very much, to play hard and lead the team.

Mays and Rodriguez are two players that are determined to succeed; their work ethic is an example of their determination.

Rodriguez said, "We need to work hard in practice and work on getting the whole team better."

Mays added, "We need to stay focus and don't panic when something bad happens."

David Flores is another player with high expectations this year. His teammates have nicknamed him Franchise.

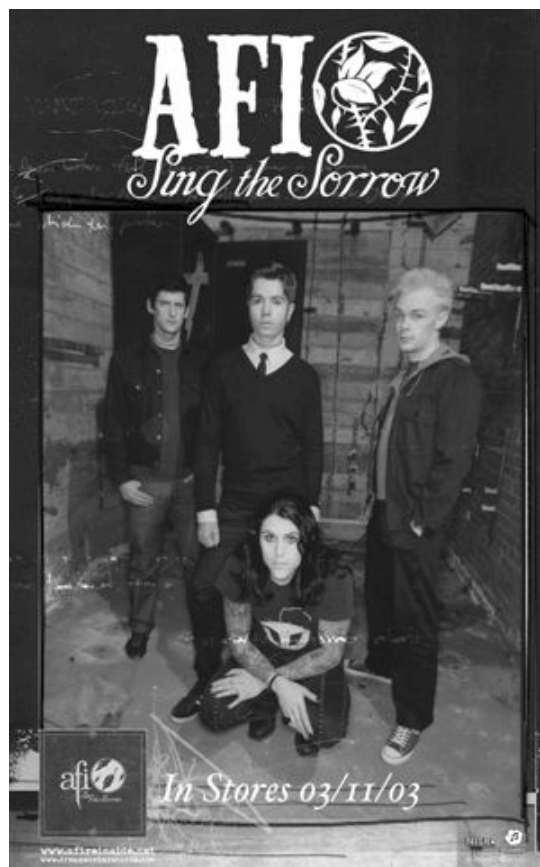
"I think David could have a real big year," said coach Goulding. Flores plays shortstop a particularly difficult position to play in the game. Flores has really tried to work on his mental game this year.

He has the physical abilities to be a superstar.

"Mentally I try and not think

[about] who I'm playing," Flores said, "They're nameless faces and I have to be ready every game."

There are other players that Logan is counting on like Jermaine Collins, John Ugay, Ryan Tolentino, Josh Flores, and Marcus Tan. The Colts hope to turn their season around during league and make a run for the North Coast Section championship.



SPORTS

Girls basketball team undefeated

By Veronica Solarzano
Sports Editor

Sixteen league games equals sixteen straight wins for the James Logan High School varsity girls' basketball team. The Lady Colts were undefeated in Mission Valley Athletic League play. Even though fear of losing often came to mind the Lady Colts never seemed to have trouble finding victory.

"We started our games off really close," said senior Captain Cheri Craddock, "We always came

from behind, we always wanted to win."

It was Craddock's job along with other senior captain Jessica Ciardella to be the coach on the floor.

"Our job is to team the team together," said Craddock, "to be the mediator."

This elite varsity team is filled with nothing but talent. Junior Whitney Harper came on strong in last Tuesday's game against Newark Memorial with 20 points. Bianca Bishop is good at the post while freshman standout

Taylor Lyons always contributes and plays to her best potential.

"Everyone brings something to the team," said Ciardella.

With the talent they possess on the court the teams doesn't worry about players coming off the bench.

"Our bench is deep, strong, and solid," said Craddock "Whether they are playing or cheering, everyone contributes."

Football coach Fromson retires suddenly

By Veronica Solarzano
Sports Editor

When he is not busy organizing the James Logan High School Athletic Department Neal Fromson usually takes time to think through practice plans and game strategies.

He was the chief on the turf every Friday night and the man who has led the varsity football team for the past 20 years. After the 2002 season coach Fromson sat down and thought about his future at Logan. That's when he decided to end his legacy as head football coach of the Mighty Colts.

"It's time to try something different," said Fromson. The

decision was not tough to make but Fromson believes it will get tougher as time goes on.

"Hopefully there will be no regret," said Fromson "There is nothing I can do about it now."

Just because he isn't coaching football does not mean he is leaving completely. Fromson will keep his position as Athletic Director and continue teaching Physical Education.

When the news was first let out the reactions were all about equal. The players didn't believe their ears and some let out, "Are you kidding?"

The coaching staff was equally shocked.

"I was surprised he wanted to stop working in the program after he had done such a good job for a long

time," said Coach Quesenberry, the offensive coach who will be taking over Fromson's job.

Quesenberry was excited and honored that Fromson felt comfortable enough to choose him to keep the tradition alive.

Fromson's absence will be the only drastic change in the football department.

"There will be little changes but nothing major," said Quesenberry, also known as Coach Q.

As Fromson sits in his office reminiscing his coaching career he will recall his most memorable season in 1989 when they reached the North Coast Section Championships.