

The Mandolin

St. Francis High School

December 16, 2013

"Spread the Word."

Issue 73

How To Survive Finals

By MEREDITH RAY '14

Starting Tuesday, December 17th, the most horrible week of your life will begin: FINALS WEEK. Just kidding... (or am I?) In order to make this infamous week more bearable, here are 6 tips to help you survive and hopefully make it through finals week unscathed.

Pro tip #1

Starbucks. Let's face it, you're going to wait until the day before to study for your finals and then try to pull an all-nighter. With the help of

our familiar friend, caffeine, Starbucks should help you get through the night. Plus, looking at the cute holiday cups and laughing at your misspelled name will provide some distraction and humor when you get tired of studying.

Pro tip #2

CSF. With the help of some very talented ladies at our school, if you are having trouble in any class at all or need some review, CSF is the place to go. During finals week, several rooms will be open, packed full of smiling tutors waiting to share their expertise with you. Seriously, go to tutoring. It helps. (Plus there's baked goods

if you show up to the finals study fest).

Pro tip #3

Talk to your teachers. I promise your teachers aren't as scary as they seem. Chances are, if you ask them for help, they will be more than willing to go over something that you are having trouble with. Additionally, you might even befriend them and who doesn't want a new teacher friend?! #browniepoints?

Pro tip #4

Study group. If you're in a class with some friends, have a study

party! Misery loves company. Get together at a friend's house and struggle through the material together. Y'all will be helping each other out and it will make studying a lot more fun.

Pro tip #5

Sleep with your book under your pillow. Tired of studying and about to fall asleep? Let that osmosis go

to work and put your books under your pillow. You'll be well-rested AND ready to ace that final!

Pro tip #6

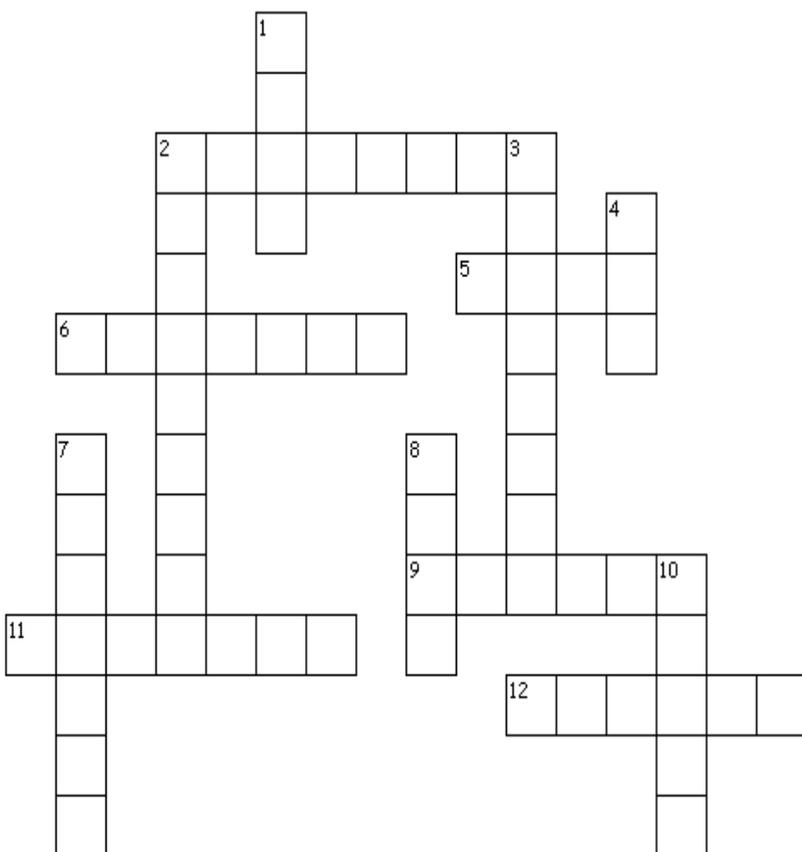
Snacks. Everyone needs snacks, right? Here's a little heads up to those of you who haven't taken finals yet: there are snacks scattered around campus in between finals. Run out of your classroom and grab a snack to refuel and you will be ready to take on the next test!

Best of luck to everyone taking finals! Follow these six tips, and you will be sure to get an A+ in no time! Happy testing!



PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

Christmas Crossword Puzzle!



Across

2. People who go door-to-door singing
5. Gift commonly given if you've been bad
6. The red-nosed reindeer
9. Your dad normally falls off the ladder trying to put these on the house
11. These men followed a star to find Jesus
12. Santa's preferred method of travel

Down

1. Mother of Christ
2. Red and white striped candy
3. Gift normally hung by the chimney
4. Santa's helper
7. "Feliz ____"
8. Santa's preferred beverage
10. Old ____ Nicholas

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How Clean is Our Cafeteria?: The Truth about the Cafeteria Inspection

By CARYN VIEIRA '15

Today I would like to ask a sometimes disregarded, yet important question: How clean is our school's cafeteria? As a student at St. Francis High school, it is expected that our environment in which we eat and interact should remain clean and healthy. However, do we really know if these expectations are being met? Well, California Health Officials intend to find out every year, by inspecting the school cafeterias and kitchens of nearly 400 local schools throughout Sacramento County, including St. Francis Catholic High School.

Twice a year, county inspectors come unannounced for surprise inspections at 380 schools in Sacramento County. The good news is that this year, most schools passed these inspections with flying colors; however, some did not. Generally speaking, a primary question in which many adults were concerned was this: Which is cleaner—a public restaurant or a school cafeteria where their children are expected to eat? CBS 13News pulled and reviewed the inspection letters of school kitchens and cafeterias throughout the county to help shed a light on this question; unfortunately, they found some dramatic violations that many Sacramento county schools shared.

Shockingly, St. Francis High School was cited for a few violations as well. When inspected, signs of mold in the back of a refrigerator and mice droppings were found. Thankfully, these violations were minor, and therefore, were fixed right away.

However, although minor and seemingly temporary, these findings took a toll on many St. Francis students and their views about our school's cafeteria. When asked of her beliefs regarding this issue, St. Francis High School junior, Ajiah Woo, said: "At first I was extremely skeptical about this situation, because every student and her family pays a significant amount of money to go to our school; with that, we should all be entitled to a healthy eating environment. However, the food in our cafeteria is delicious, and as far as I can tell, mistakes happen....so I got past my initial shock, and definitely ate lunch from the cafeteria today!" Fortunately, because of St. Francis' determination to make our school the best it can be, all minor violations have been taken care of, and some students have seen a beneficial change in the way our cafeteria food is served and presented daily! St. Francis High School senior, Skylar Saca, said: "I have always remained neutral to this situation, wanting to keep my opinions to myself. Although this situation has not been

ideal, nothing can ever be perfect. I'm glad that St. Francis has made it a point to improve our school and the conditions in which the cafeteria functions. It shows that our faculty and staff really do care about us as students, and that is a great thing to be a part of."

So back to my original question: How clean is our school's cafeteria? I guess the best answer is that it's as clean as we

make it. By working as a community to keep our eating and working conditions clean, we can make a difference in our schools future. Personally, I know I will continue to eat at our schools cafeteria, and I hope that you will too!



Thanks to the hard work of our staff, the cookie-making kitchen is now spic-and-span.

PHOTO COURTESY AVA RUTTER '16

Winterfest: Under the Circus Tent

By ERIN ALBERTS '15

This year's Winterfest was one circus that will never be forgotten. The theme was fascinating and perfectly executed. While witnessing the show I felt as if I was in a real circus tent. The show included performances from both the Dance Company and the Apprentice Dance Company as well as hula and one guest performance. Before every performance the ring leader, Bella Coppola '16, would come out on stage and explain what was to come. The guest performance featured a student from Del Oro High School and a student from Sierra College. Winterfest also had many different dance styles throughout the show varying from hip hop, hula, ballet, contemporary, tap, to acrobatics.

The hip hop number was the guest performance. This dance was extremely impressive and added a lot of excitement

to the show. The hip hop gave a different feel to the show that none of the other numbers had, it showcased a different kind of dance with really fast paced music.

The Hula Number was incredibly intricate. The way the dancers moved was so elegant and powerful and resembled the Tahitian jungle. Jen Domingo '15, who is a member of the hula team, said, "my little hula-gans are my ohana and I love them to death." The Hula number was incredibly beautiful and added a different type of elegance to the show as a whole.

Most of the show was ballet and contemporary dance with some acrobatics and tap at parts. The ballet number was one of the most memorable, especially when everyone was on point, which a very difficult and impressive thing to do. In this number everyone was dressed as peacocks. This ballet was performed by the dance company and was very fun to watch. Another piece that was remarkable

was a tap number performed by members of the Apprentice dance company. In this tap number everyone was dressed as clowns except for the girl in front who was the ring leader. As she tapped dance all of the clowns made fun of her and finally dragged her off stage. The number added a lot of humor to the show which was nice to have between some of the more serious numbers. One of the saddest numbers was performed by Dance Company, and it told a story of circus elephants who were trapped in their cages, mourning their imprisonment.

The theme allowed every girl to showcase her special and different abilities, for example one of the strongest girls was in a number that showcased her strength as the 'incredibly strong woman'. Another talent was the acrobatics; many girls showed off their ability to slide into the splits from standing. They also were able to showcase their incredible back and arm flexibility by folding in half effortlessly.

Karisa Augustine '15 sums up her experience with Winterfest for her last three years, "Winterfest is always such a fun experience, both as a way to express yourself through movement, but also as an amazing opportunity to enrich the St. Francis community and foster lifelong friendships with fellow Troubies." Throughout the show it was very apparent how much work all of the dancers put into executing Winterfest. Jen Domingo '15 said, "for me Winterfest is the greatest and most stressful time of the year". Although Winterfest caused a lot of stress in many girls lives, it was well worth it because Winterfest 2013 was truly amazing and "breathhtaking", as Zoe Halliday '15 described it.

The New Retreat Director, Mr. Gilday!

By LEAH WILLOVER '14

He studied 10 years towards becoming a Jesuit Priest. His happy food is blueberry lavender scones. He can always be seen wearing blue. Who is this interesting character? MR. GILDAY, our new retreat director! It is only appropriate that such a fascinating person would get such an exciting job. As I interviewed Mr. Gilday, I also got insight on the craziness of Campus Ministry. Within 10 minutes, so many people were in and out of his office, to talk about everything from upcoming retreats, to his whiteboard christmas countdown, to trying on shoes. Needless to say, his office is far from private or boring. He has become quite a celebrity among anyone who spends time in Campus Min.

I had a chance to ask him a few questions!

Mandolin: How did you hear about this position? What is the most exciting part of your job?

Mr. Gilday: I was actually looking at another job when I found this one online. The best part is just sitting here and all the random people running through my office



Mr. Gilday sits at his desk in his new humble abode.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

all the time. It's kind of fun.

M: Do you hear any interesting conversations sitting over here?

G: YEAH, yeah, yeah *laughing*. I feel like I know the school really well. It is funny because I used to be a teacher, so hearing the unedited conversation about classes and what not is really interesting. And who is playing what game in what class.

M: How are you liking being surrounded by 1100 teenage girls every day? Different? Scary?

G: It is extremely different. I'm used to working with all boys. I feel like I am in a totally different country. They [boys] are very awkward. You have to spend more time trying to draw them out and have a lot of awkward conversations before they become normal. Where here you just jump

right in. There is a lot more expressing of emotions. I actually find it very refreshing. Much more expression in general, like with art and music and an overall cultural awareness.

M: What is your favorite ipad game?

G: High School Story. The dynamics of it are very interesting in comparison to here.

M: How do you name the characters?

G: I do not like to disclose information about my high school story
Laughing

M: Be honest, does Erin Cairns scare you?

G: I am sometimes terrified by her sheer intensity of her joy of life.

M: Favorite Catholic joke?

G: Okay you probably won't find this funny because it is more of a Jesuit inside joke...

What are the two things that even God does not know?

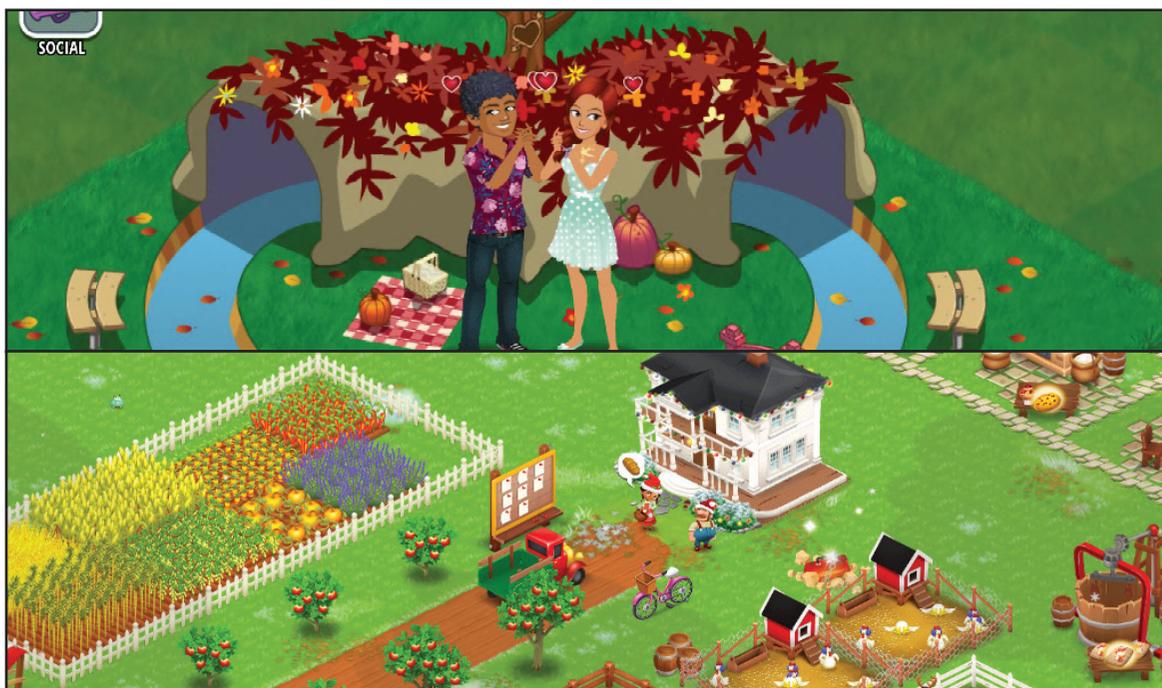
How much money the Franciscans have and what the Jesuits are going to do next.

The Reality of iPad Games

By EMILY CORNETT '14

This year, our school has been blessed with brand new iPads for every student. With these, we can study, take notes, and research information on the spot. However, the real reason that we enjoy this new technology so much is because they are Big Girl toys. There is no longer a need to go outside and make friends when you already have a plethora of virtual ones on your iPad! Why pay attention in class when you have a farm to tend to? Hay Day has become a school-wide craze, and whoever has the highest farm level has basically won life. What's the point of having a real boyfriend when you can custom-create one on High School Story? My

personal favorite might be Hungry Shark, but it is not for vegetarians. Slaughtering turtles and crabs might be a bit gruesome, but it's just too much fun to pass up. If you're having a bad day, pick up Hungry Shark and instantly get a power boost. Just make sure Ms. Kirstien doesn't catch you having fun in class, because she can get very scary. However, these games bring us together through sharing crops on Hay Day and viewing each other's high schools on High School Story. As odd as it is, these individual games are helping us build a community. We can all bond through our love of virtual fashion shows, farms, and whales. God bless the iPads.



Top: My High School Story. Below: Hay Day.

PHOTO COURTESY RACQUEL GONZALES '14

Interview: Mr. Shaff



Mr. Shaff poses in the St. Francis gym

By VICTORIA VARDANEGA '14

Mr. Shaff is a new addition to the athletic department at St. Francis as an Assistant Athletic Director. He has been a great addition to the school, helping to publicize the school's sports and athletes. Mr. Shaff's

PHOTO COURTESY VICTORIA VARDANEGA '14

specialization in media has allowed for the public to keep up to date on Troubie sports news. Even though I have become well-acquainted with Mr. Shaff through golf, I had the pleasure of interviewing him and getting to know more about him and his media loving ways.

Mandolin: What were you doing before you came to St. Francis?

Mr. Shaff: I heard of St. Francis while I was working at Northern Arizona University. I have helped to publicize colleges and their athletics across the country. I did work at the University of Florida for eight years and I came to St. Francis after working for thirteen years as the Head Sports Director at Northern Arizona University.

M: Well that's awesome. Since this is your first time working at a high school do you have any funny stories or experiences so far? For example Kendall Spector talked about you driving the tennis team in a van, listening to some pretty rocking music.

S: Yeah, I had the opportunity to take the girls down to their section match last month. It was a great opportunity to get to know them as we went down to the match and cheer them on. My job is cheerleader as well as publicizing what's going on with sports at St. Francis.

M: I really saw that when you were watch-

ing at golf. You always had a smile on your face and a camera in your hand. Speaking of your attendance at events, do you have any favorite sporting events that you've gone to at SF?

S: It's been really exciting going to a lot of events and seeing teams win their league title and compete for sections titles this year. It has been a lot of fun.

M: So what did you think of Holy Court? Pretty crazy, right?

S: It was amazing, ranking up there with college events and NFL events. The excitement in the gym was amazing! It was fun to be a part of that.

M: That was my first time going to Holy Court as well and it was pretty crazy seeing everyone scream their heads off, although that's a pretty regular occurrence at St. Francis. But anyway what has it been like interviewing athletes for all of your online articles? I know that my first interviews were pretty rough!

S: A lot of the athletes have been adjusting to talking to me about their in game experiences throughout the year. It's a different expectation to have to do that after a competition. But for anyone who moves on to the college ranks that is something that happens more and more. Everyone likes to talk about the winning shot but it's harder to talk about the negative aspects. However, my role is to focus on the positive things and that's what I do here. It's been great to enhance the school's image through the success of the athletic's department.

M: Yes, I have most definitely gotten better at speaking at interviews because of you! My mom even commented on that. Did you play any sports in your younger years?

S: I was always a baseball player when I was younger. I only played throughout high school. Now I hack around on the

golf course as much as I can. I have a nineteen handicap and one career hole in one. My career best is an 81. I am trying to get better and shoot for the senior tour hopefully.

M: You have some time so you will definitely be good to go in a few years! Last question: Do you have any special talents or unique facts about yourself?

S: Well, as a kid I collected baseball cards and autographs. The big collection I had as a kid was I collected autographed Sports Illustrated covers. So whoever was on the cover each week, I would try to get them to sign it. Over the course of ten years I got around 850 different covers signed by the person on the cover. I would either meet them in person or send them a self-addressed envelope and I got a lot of them back. It's neat, I got autographs ranging from President Reagan to Mohammad Ali.

M: Wow, that is really cool. I never met someone who is that self-motivated before. Thank you so much for the interview!

S: No problem. Thank you.

If you want to support Mr. Shaff and stay up to date on Troubie athletics follow him on his Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts!

Twitter: @SFHSSacSports

Facebook: St. Francis Troubadour Athletics

Instagram: @sfhstroubies



The SF Athletic twitter page, run by Mr. Shaff
PHOTO COURTESY TWITTER



The volleyball team celebrates its seniors during the St. Francis Walk of Fame.
PHOTO COURTESY TWITTER @SFHSSACSPORTS

Disaster in the Philippines

By EDEN ELLIOTT '16

Natural disaster strikes again in the Philippines with a roaring 7.2 scale earthquake on the island of Bohol. A total of 631,809 families in the Philippines are left grieving over their homes, their loved ones, and their demolished city. The results of this devastating disaster include

156 dead, 374 injured, and 22 missing. Not only are the people in the Philippines affected, but many people around the world, including people in our very own community. All the affected families should know they are in our hearts and prayers. You can also show "doing small things with great love" by donating your belongings, time, and funds to many great organizations

such as UNICEF and the International Committee of the Red Cross. These wonderful organizations provide relief to the many victims of the earthquake and typhoon. You have the chance to make a difference no matter how small and help our fellow suffering brothers and sisters. Imagine the difference you can make in just one person's life!



A fishing boat lies atop a mass of debris in Tacloban

PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

**The Mandolin staff
wishes you a
very merry Christmas!**

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Service Opportunities!



St. Patrick's Academy kids being tutored.

PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

By SASHA FOLEY '14

It's quite a busy time of year, isn't it? With all the homework, projects, sports, and finals just around the corner, things can pile up and create a boat load of stress. One

stress you can stop from piling on your shoulders, however, is Christian Service Hours! Christian Service and service club leaders have a whole list of places you can serve!

If you're looking for a service opportunity

nearby with a lot of options St. John's Shelter is a great place to go! It's only about five minutes from school and is available for service every day of the week. You can help kids with their homework, play with them outside, help out in the

daycare center, and serve dinner in the evening. Talk to Core Leaders Kathleen Moore, Sofia Molodanof, and Erin Alberts for any questions you may have. St. John's can always use a helping hand and the kids love to get to know you!

St. Patrick's Academy is another exciting service opportunity that's starting on the very first week of December. You can become a great mentor and friend to many kids by arts and crafts, helping with some challenging elementary school homework, or just getting some fun and games. If Tuesdays or Thursdays are available to you then it's a perfect fit. Can you do both days? Even better! Tutoring is normally from 3:30-5:00pm, and Maureen Cobile would love to work out a schedule with you!

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Sacramento is also in need of some Troubies! On Wednesday nights,

Trinity Cathedral serves the homeless some delicious hot meals and they could definitely use your help. Preparation for the hot meals begins at 4pm normally, and cleanup finishes around 7:30pm. You can serve as an individual or go with a group of friends! Just email Deacon Virginia McNeely at virginiamcneely@msn.com to confirm a date or to get more information.

These are just three of the many places that could use some Trouble help and spirit. Regardless of where you serve, just remember to do small things with great love!

Run To Feed The Hungry 2013

By CARYN VIEIRA '15

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, *The Run to Feed the Hungry* is one of Sacramento's greatest family traditions of the year, including over 28,000 walkers and runners who participate. Blake Young, President/ CEO of Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services said, "this could be a record day depending on how many race-day registration folks came out. What a beautiful day." This year on November 28th 2013, Thanksgiving morning, the race was held on J Street, just west of the entrance to Sacramento

State University campus. It is the largest Thanksgiving Day fundraising race in the country, and Sacramento's biggest race.

The annual run brought in more than \$850,000 for the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, all proceeds benefiting these organizations. The 10k run began at 8:35 a.m. and the 5k run/walk proceeded at 9 a.m., under clear skies and temperatures slightly warmer than average.

Max King won the 10k race, with a time of 30 minutes and 17 seconds, and Charlie Brenneman won the 5k run/walk with a time of 14 minutes and 57 seconds. In addition to the runners, 650 volunteers arrived at the starting area before the race began to organize the event which continues the tradition for various Sacramento families.

Fellow St. Francis High School Troubie, Melissa Nemeth participated in the

event this year, and expressed her opinion regarding the race: "This race was an amazing opportunity for my friends, family and me to spend quality time together and give back to our community...an amazing opportunity that I hope to participate in again next year!" The money raised funds a wide range of services, providing food grown at local farms to families in need, and job-skills programs for young adults.



The 2013 Run to Feed the Hungry Runners.

PHOTO COURTESY KCRA



Runners warm up for the run.

PHOTO COURTESY SACBEE.COM

This Concert Season

By ANONYMOUS

With the coming of the Christmas season also comes some very special days when people gather to enjoy some special occasions... And by this, I mean concerts. This concert season is overflowing with exciting festivals and dates, with a ton of top-notch bands and venues. So get out your Christmas lists and sharpen your pencils because you are going to want some tickets this Christmas.

A staple to the concert scene is the big blow out shows that feature multiple artists that each play a shortened set. These shows are often more expensive than your average concert, but you get more bang for your buck because of the number of bands you can see in one night. This year there are three combination shows in the area that you should know about:

1. 94.7's Electric Christmas, December 5th at Sleep Train Arena

This enormous show featured some of the hottest up and coming bands. Headlined by the alt-rock band Cage the Elephant (Songs: "Aint No Rest For The Wicked", "Around My Head", "Shake Me Down"), the concert presented bands like Grouplove ("Ways

To Go", "Colours", "Tongue Tied"), The Features ("This Disorder", "How It Starts", "From Now On"), Capital Cities ("Safe And Sound", "Kangaroo Court"), Alt-J ("Tessellate", "Breezeblocks", "Fitzpleasure") and MS MR ("Hurricane", "Bones").

2. Not So Silent Night, December 6th and 7th at the Oakland Oracle Arena

As soon as the much anticipated lineup for this huge show was released, tickets started going. One of the biggest shows in NorCal

this season, Not So Silent Night is known for its star-packed lineup and yearly sell-out. In past years they have hosted bands like M83, The Killers, Jack White and the Imagine Dragons. This year was no letdown, and the lineup was such: Arctic Monkeys, Capital Cities, Queens Of a The Stone Age, Vampire Weekend, Kings of Leon, The Neighbourhood, Lorde, Alt-J, Bastille, Phoenix, and Arcade Fire. This was a lineup made in

heaven. The people in charge of this event somehow summed up the year in music and succeeded in making it a live event.

3. 107.9's Jingle Ball, December 21st at the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium

This yearly bash has been happening in Sacramento since 1998 gets bigger each year. This year, Jingle Ball will host five bands, a mixture of well established rockers like the headliner Fall Out Boy ("Sugar We're Goin Down", "Dance Dance") to up and comers like Emblem3 ("1000 Miles", "Girl Next Door") and American Authors ("Best Day Of My Life", "Believer"), to lesser known acts like the Cimorelli Girls and Kalin and Myles. This may just be one of Jingle Ball's best years yet.

4. There are also some single artist shows that are happening in the area at smaller venues. At Ace Of Spades, we will be seeing The Mowglies ("San Francisco") on February 13th, and St. Lucia ("All Eyes On You") on February 7th. In bigger arenas, our girl Miley Cyrus will be performing on February 24th at the Oakland Oracle.

These fabulous shows are the the best Christmas presents yet.



107.9's Jingle Ball lineup

PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

La Boutique: A Fashionista's Guide to a Fabulous Christmas

By KATIE SCHEMBRI '14

Deals: Christmas! It's a time of giving, but many gifts can get pricey. Here are some ways to do Christmas on a budget.

1. Do it yourself! Find your favorite picture of you and your best friend.



PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

Then, make a cute and personal frame. It's a simple, inexpensive way to show someone you really care.

2. Check out the clearance and sales racks! There are plenty of great deals there; however, there isn't anything more meaningful than a gift that is really personal.

3. Try knitting! Watch a Youtube video and get cracking. Make sure the yarn you use is fuzzy and in a color that compliments the uniform.

Christmas crafting party: Here are some fun ways to celebrate Christmas with your loved

ones. Don't forget to wear your favorite Christmas jammies or ugliest Christmas sweater.

1. Ornament Decorating: Take clear ornaments (they can be found at the Dollar Store or CVS Pharmacy) and put paint through the top where you would normally put the topper. Close and shake for a modern piece of art.
2. Hot Cocoa Bar: Warm up some cocoa in your favorite Christmas mug-using milk, chocolate syrup, and some melted chocolate chips or bars. Offer add-ins such as marshmallows, chocolate chips, sprinkles, and whipped cream. Consider providing caramel syrup with a pinch of salt for salted caramel hot chocolate. Also, a little

peppermint can go a long way. Then, as a stirring mechanism, hand out peppermint candy canes.



PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

3. Cookie Decorating: Before the party begins, bake cut-out sugar cookies then decorate them with colorful frosting and sprinkles.
4. Gingerbread House Competition. It will be legen--wait for it--dary!
5. Watch your favorite Christmas movie! I suggest "Santa Clause" with Tim Allen or just turn on

the Hallmark Channel. Who doesn't love cheesy romantic comedies?

6. Donate your time. With your friends, head over to a shelter to wrap Christmas gifts and serve dinner. Giving back is what Christmas is all about!

No matter what you do this Christmas, enjoy it with the ones you love! Merry Christmas, and have a fabulous New Year!

“Hungering” For Some Merchandise?

By AVA RUTTER '16

If you are a literate human being under the age of thirty, the odds are that you are well aware of *The Hunger Games*' existence. Katniss Everdeen has become a household name and the four-note signature tune can be easily replicated by anyone who can whistle. There are many shirts and pins found in the likes of Hot Topic and other stores, but some intriguing *Hunger Games*-inspired products exist beyond the Mockingjay insignia.

A well-known brand proudly boasting the *Hunger Games* theme is



Net-A-Porter Capitol Couture
PHOTO COURTESY GOOGLE IMAGES

Covergirl. Among a series of ads (and online how-to's!) featuring “tributes” donning extravagant makeup and costumes relevant to their respective districts, a line of nine limited-edition Glosstini nail polishes has emerged to celebrate *Catching Fire*. In addition to the polishes, select Flamed Up mascaras are contained in themed packaging. These products and gorgeous ads are very accessible because they are sold wherever Covergirl products can be found, such as Target.

Less-attainable products are included in the decadent Vosges Haut-Chocolate Hunger Games collection; it is best purchased online due to the sparse number of boutiques in which it is sold. The chocolates range from character- and district-inspired bars in a variety of avant-garde flavors to boxes of luxurious truffles and etiquette sheets. One flavor, suited to President Snow's personality, is aptly comprised of intense dark chocolate, bitterblood orange, and piercing peppercorn caramel.

Another set of products providing a unique experience of *The Hunger Games* is the Capitol Couture collection from Net-a-Porter, a luxury online retailer. The movie franchise's costume designer herself, Trish Summerville, helped design the

products that translate the frivolously extravagant Capitol clothing into wearable everyday apparel. Some items are best for admiring from afar, however; a gorgeous black party dress and a long, grey, faux-fur-trimmed coat contain hefty price

tags nearing \$500 to \$700. Some products are considerably cheaper in comparison, including black pants with honeycomb-printed silver stripes running down the sides – reminiscent of the black-and-silver *Catching Fire* arena uniform and tracker jacker nests – and a comfortable shirt printed with the phrase “Girl on Fire.”



Covergirl nail polish, mascara, and nail stickers

PHOTO COURTESY COVERGIRL

The wide variety of *Hunger Games* fans out there, ranging from casual admirers to hard-core addicts, is well-matched by the myriad of products appealing to different districts of fans; whether you are looking for a *Catching Fire* trinket for yourself or a gift for a friend, there is certainly something out there.

This Month's "Horrorscopes"

<p>Capricorn</p>  <p>22 Dec - 20 Jan</p>	<p>Aquarius</p>  <p>21 Jan - 19 Feb</p>	<p>Pisces</p>  <p>20 Feb - 20 Mar</p>	<p>Aries</p>  <p>21 Mar - 19 Apr</p>
<p>Taurus</p>  <p>20 Apr - 20 May</p>	<p>Gemini</p>  <p>21 May - 21 Jun</p>	<p>Cancer</p>  <p>22 Jun - 23 Jul</p>	<p>Leo</p>  <p>24 Jul - 23 Aug</p>
<p>Virgo</p>  <p>24 Aug - 22 Sept</p>	<p>Libra</p>  <p>23 Sept - 22 Oct</p>	<p>Scorpio</p>  <p>23 Oct - 22 Nov</p>	<p>Sagittarius</p>  <p>23 Nov - 20 Dec</p>

By VICTORIA VARDANEGA '14 and JANE SADLER '14

Aries: The problem ferret in your life will cease

to exist this month.

Cancer: Show up to your next social function with a lizard in your bon-

net, it will improve your standing substantially. Functional and fashionable.

Libra: This month marks the end and the beginning. The end of your social life and the beginning of a lifelong addiction to paper mâchéing.

Capricorn: You've got a quick mind today, use it to recreate the Persian empire.

Taurus: Saying no to everyone and everything today is probably for the best.

Leo: LOOK RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

Scorpio: Vary your workouts this month and you will finally get that olive propped on two toothpicks physique

you've always desired.

Aquarius: Don't let those pesky nargals bring you down. You fabulous.

Gemini: I think it's finally time to return that "ring to rule them all" to "Mordor" or whatever boutique you got it from. Ultimate power is SO last year.

Virgo: Just do yo little thang, Virgo. Do yo little thang.

Sagittarius: We know you've missed a lot with that whole 'life threatening coma' thing you've been dealing with, but c'mon, bell bottoms are a little out of style.

Pisces: I know you've been feeling a little bit like an illegal monkey in an IKEA lately, but keep your chin up, that Olive Garden waitress just doesn't get what it means to be a true believer Subway Jared.

#My Life is St. Francis

By MANDOLIN STAFF

Learning a fun fact every time I go to the restroom #christmastreesareedible #whoknew

Having an internal struggle about announcing it's your birthday because then you worry you won't get any treats from your friends #anxious

It's so cold that you wear your cardigan, jacket, sweater, vest, sweatshirt, polo, blanket, and you're still freezing #canweadd-moosepeltstotheuniform? #thanksCalifornia

Going into Campus

ministry to heat up your lunch because there is no line and every one there is amazing #itsthesensiblethingtodo

You know that the season has changed when the SF cafeteria switches from smoothie to soup

Reading the Mandolin just for the MLISFs #noshame #mlisf-ception?

A walk turns into a sprint when you see the gates closing at 7:30 #trueterror

Downloading Hay Day just to see what the fuss

is about and then a week later frantically trying to find someone who can sell you duct tape to increase your barn storage #haydayaddiction

Having heated discussions with your friends about which iPad game is the best #haydayvshigh-schoolstory

Not going to pee because you don't want to pull your tights down #chilly

Trying to say 'hi' to someone and when you get no response you can see the second-hand embarrassment of strangers #softspeakerstruggles

Seeing freshman experience their first orange picking of the winter #awww #wearhelmets

Feeling like Mary and Joseph getting rejected by all the innkeepers when you're trying to find a warm place on campus #christmastimeishere

What's the schedule again? #reviewweek

The only equation I have memorized for my math final is the equation that tells me what score I can get on my final to maintain my grade. #Round-ToTheThousandths

Spinning in a circle when you hear prayer on the intercom because there is no cross near you. #findingJesus

Don't drop dat GPA ayyyy don't drop dat GPA #thunthunthun

You could grease a pan with my head. Not showering until finals are over. #hashtag

Getting interrupted by the announcements every time you open your mouth. #Sorrytointerrupt

The overwhelming excitement for celebrating Las Posadas. #heardi-

nallthe classrooms #peregrinos #shout-outAPspanish4

When Ms. Kirstien tells you to not write down what she just said. #AP-Lit #thestruggle

Senioritis? #yup

Never running out of MLISFs #My-LifeIsMandolinEditor