

THE BRUIN PRESS



Bloomington High School, 10750 Laurel Avenue, Bloomington, CA. 92316
Principal: Sandy Torres
Electronic Version

Volume: 55 Issue: 2
November 27, 2017

Pumpkin plummet

30 of the season's popular fruit are put to the ultimate test

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Three! Two! One!.....Splat! These are the sounds you hear at the annual Pumpkin Drop. Physics students from Mr. Abe Ward's class (and other engineering and math classes) dropped their projects from the roof of the auditorium to the hard, rough black top below. Teachers, students, and staff members were invited to watch the spectacle.

To the average person, the pumpkin drop is a chance to see gravity at work and watch pumpkins fall and explode. But to a physics student, it's a representation of their knowledge and struggles they have gained throughout the quarter.

According to Mr. Ward, "Students have been instructed in speed, acceleration, force, kinetic energy, potential energy, and work. The students will be testing their knowl-

edge of physics and their skills of science with this pumpkin activity." Mr. Ward raised the pumpkins to a height of ~40 feet and dropped the pumpkins one at a time.

The objective is to build an apparatus to protect the pumpkin, while using math and physics to measure the speed of their pumpkins and the force of impact without the pumpkins actually breaking.

"For us (physics students) it's all about making the pumpkin survive the fall, that way we can get the most credit out of the experiment. But even if it doesn't survive you've still got calculations to do," said Ronald Goodbar, a senior student participating in the pumpkin drop.

Students had to gather all their materials and equipment weeks before the experiment. They had to plan out the mechanisms, gather the materials, and eventually build it before the deadline. Some pumpkin drop features included things like parachutes, cut up pool noodles, and even soft cushions for the pumpkin itself.

Daniel Guzman, a 10th grade physics student said, "The point of the pumpkin drop is to test our engineering skills and ensure that the pumpkin lives after the fall. The experiment also shows us, first-hand, how physics really works."

At the end of the day it's a memorable experience to all those who were there to see it. The countless pumpkin pieces laying on the

floor, the loud boom that echoes every time a new pumpkin is dropped, and the addition of a cheering crowd all scream the Halloween spirit.

"There wasn't any candy in the pumpkins, sadly. But there's always next year and you don't see pumpkins falling from the sky everyday," said Levi Heron.

Smashed: Daniel Guzman and George Rincon inspect a pumpkin that didn't quite make it. "I feel like I'm a lot more experienced with the drop. If we ever do it again, next year or the year after I feel like I'll be a lot more prepared. Our 3rd period pumpkin was completely destroyed. I'm kinda sad and disappointed but it's all in good fun. I feel as if I try again next year, I'll do much better," said Daniel.



Ronald Goodbar and
Daniel Guzman



FEATURES

It was a monster (s)mash

Vlad Barrera, Madison Barrera
Staff Writers

It is no man! It is a monster! Forget Homecoming, the King, the Queen, and all that stuff about Halloween grams. The Halloween Maze gave out free candy at the games, whether you won or lost (depending on the game). Although it was after school (students were less willing to come) it meant more candy for the other kids who did show up and wanted to be scared.

"I came because all my friends were going to be there," said Samantha Tovar, freshman, as she looked at the games with a curious eye.

There were games, music, and a Haunted Maze. Freshmen who went got to en-

ter for free. The Maze was sponsored by Link Crew in their continuing goal of making freshmen feel part of the campus. The Oct. 27 date was freshmen only; the Oct. 30 and 31 date everyone could attend but the price was \$2.

Some activities made you play against other students such as: Tic-Tac-Toe (with pumpkins), Giant Jenga, and the donut string game. At the end of most of the games, the Link Crew students would pass out candy for the winners and for the people who didn't win on several of the games.

"I think the Donut Game, the Spaghetti Game, and the Pumpkin Tic-Tac-Toe are my top three games," said Jonathan Chavez.

Although games were available for the students to play, the Haunted Maze was the real crowd pleaser, as people waiting in the line

would tell you. Soon, the lines started to extend through the stairway next to the auditorium. But one thing was sure, people kept coming back for more.

"There was a lot of clowns! For a school maze; it was scary," said Danniela Castrejon.

From where does this fascination of clowns come from? It

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The Beauty of Literature(Club)

New club for the Humanities has big plans

Miyori Bennett
Staff Writers

We started new club this year with the help of others. We made this club to make a home for those people who have a love for literature since it's not often seen as much," said Club President Shelby Rojas said.

The Literacy Club is looking for members who love literature and the fine arts.

The club's focus is to discuss all genres of literature while encouraging club members to join in on poetry slams, Tuesday lunch meetings and their literature-zine which is looking to be released in November.

"We are planning to do a literature-zine which is a small book that contains literature and is a magazine so people can promote their own writings. Artwork is welcome too. The many aspects that literature can be seen

in artwork and music so we're gathering that because there are so many talented people in Bloomington," Rojas said.

The club currently has four founding members, Shelby Rojas as President, Kish Damaso as VP, Eduardo Rojas as secretary and Mohammed Awad as the club's treasurer elected at the first meeting. They have two advisors Mr. Jesse Guiles and Mr. Mike McAdams who have helped the club out tremendously by having each of them cover a lunch when there are meetings on Tuesdays. Mr. Guiles covers first lunches meetings in room 702 and Mr. McAdams covers second lunch meetings in room 810.

"In the club, members share their own pieces and

why they write and we also read poetry and stories by famous authors," Rojas said.

Although the club was recently established they have quite a few activities coming up for anyone interested in joining and taking the time to acknowledge literature and its beauty.

"We are also going to be selling chocolates to go to the Getty Museum by the beginning of next month. Mr. Guiles is working with the club members to get it together and you will be able to get the chocolate from Mr. Guiles. We are hoping to have poetry slams in December," Rojas said.

As the Literacy Club begins to get the wheels turning and set plans in motion they encourage any and all Bruins to attend their weekly meetings during either lunches and come join in on the fun. And look out for their upcoming literature-zine, field trips, club fund raisers and poetry slams.

"We got the idea because if the school has a Math Club why not have a Literature Club," Rojas said.

President of the New Literary club, Shelby Rojas, reads a few lines of *Hamlet* before a club meeting.



FEATURES

Powderpuff is back

After the game was cancelled last year due to lack of participation, Powderpuff makes a comeback

Vlad Barrera, Madison Barrera
Staff writers

It was the time where rivalries would be settled, where differences would be put aside as girls worked together. It was the time where the juniors and the seniors would compete against each other as guy cheerleaders cheered for them. Last year due to a lack of participation, the annual game was canceled. But the girls donned their flags and jerseys (although the boys didn't wear their skirts) and the game was on.

"I feel good-nervous! I feel nervous about the game," laughed Jackie Rodriguez, junior, just minutes before the start.

The game began at 6:03 with a bang as The Juniors gained the first hand in the game. But The Seniors stopped them from scoring.

"I think I'm doing a lot of running," Kaleigh Lambaren, junior,

Maze mash

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started with the great success of the remake horror movie *IT*.

"It wasn't a hard decision to know what we wanted the Haunted Maze to be, it was an unanimous decision for Pennywise, the clown from IT, to be in the spotlight," said Jahaira Martinez, member of the Link Crew.

Hearing the screams coming from the room of the maze was quite a proud feeling for the Link Crew. Students encountered dead ends, jump scares, and a certain clown who was holding red balloons; but some students felt relieved for not encountering their biggest fear.

"The most scariest thing I believe that I could encounter in the maze would be to find my grades," said Eriberto Gonzalez.

"Oh yeah, we had a great turnout. I'm thinking we had about 250 students that came," said Mr. Matt Sutherland advisor of Link Crew. The group made over \$600.



Hannah Martin

said tiredly halfway through.

The Seniors scored the first touchdown of the game. And it stayed 6-0 going into the half.

At halftime, The Junior cheerleaders performed, without skirts. (The Senior guys didn't show). The four guys were Oscar Hernandez, Anthony Canez, Gilbert Cendejas, and Brian Lorenzo. "I wanted to support my fellow juniors. The Seniors were embarrassed to wear the uniforms they didn't even show up. Even though we didn't wear them we were there to support. I am going to do it next year as a senior. Being a flyer was crazy because my team threw me up in the air and I could've died. It would've hurt if they didn't catch me," said Anthony.

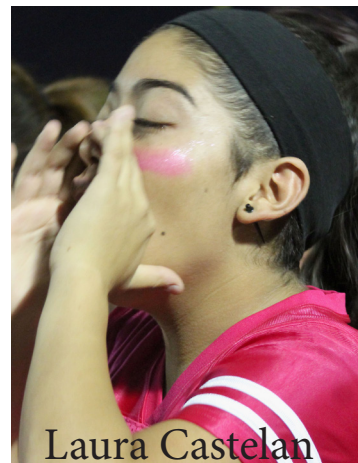
With three minutes left in the game the score was seniors 18, juniors 0. But, the juniors finally scored, leaving the final score 18-6.

"I wasn't going for any of the teams at first, but I started to go for The Seniors, I mean look around there's a lot of support here," said freshman Gabriella Castellanos.

"I was going for The Juniors! I thought they were going to win! I came to support the guy cheerleaders," said Angelica Ortega, sophomore.

"I just want the girls to have fun, but you kinda want The Seniors to win because it's their last year," said Principal Mr. Sandy Torres as he watched the game.

"I thought we were going to win. In the beginning I doubted our team, but overall no," stated Cindy Vera senior.



Laura Castelan

Sheila Gaxiola and Andrea Guerrero



FEATURES

Their crowning moment

Camila Diaz, Janessa Robles
Staff Writers

Standing in front of the crowd with lights shining on their face, blinding them and at the last second, they hear their name announced. Andrew Muniz and Kristi Oliveira the new Homecoming King and Queen. Winning the title has ended both their year's on a positive note.

"This experience and winning Homecoming queen has affected me positively, and I'm glad because it gives me a better chance to be a role model for the younger generation." Kristi looks forward to the future generation's outcome and hopes for the best. She wants to take the power she was given and use it for the greater good.

Kristi's two escorts were her mom and her Spanish teacher. "I chose my mom because she's been with me and has been supportive for the last four years. I also chose my teacher, Mrs. (Leticia) Herrera because she also has helped me and is by far my best teacher," for support, Kristi picked two important people in her life for an important moment.

King Andrew also selected two escorts. "My escorts were my mom and my teacher because they are important to me." Andrew also picked these important people in his life because they have had a positive impact on his past four years.

"I was elected to be homecoming queen, but I don't think I would have made the extra effort to sign up and run for the title." Although she didn't plan on running for homecoming queen, she was grateful to have this experience given to her.

"I keep my crown in my room because it takes me back to a great, but unexpected moment," said Andrew as he wakes up everyday to re-live a moment he'll never forget.



Day of the Dead Heads

Karime Ramos
Staff Writers

Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday celebrated throughout Mexico. This holiday focuses on family and friends gathering to pray for and remember those who have passed away. The library held its own art contest for this holiday. There were 27 entries and only three winners. You were able to enter an original, wooden masks, ceramic skulls, paper masks or sugar skulls.

1st place winner received a \$25 Starbucks gift card

2nd place received a \$15 In-N-Out gift card

3rd place received a \$10 Baker's gift card.

"Honestly I didn't think about win-

ning the contest I just entered because I thought it was fun," said Estrella Hernandez. Estrella's entry won 1st place. It took her 2-3 hours a day for three days to complete her entry. "The inspiration for it just came to me I really wanted it to be colorful so that's what I did," said Estrella.

Second place winner, Maria Robles spent 2-3 weeks on her entry. It was her first time entering a contest like this one so naturally she was nervous.

"There were lots of other entries that were really good I didn't think I would win," said Maria.

Third place winner, Sheila Ponce spent two hours on her entry. She didn't mention to anyone that she was entering the contest so she didn't know if she had a chance at winning.

"I've entered a contest similar to this one but not for school. I wasn't nervous to enter," said Sheila.



Maria Robles

Quinten Leonard

Vanessa Soberano

Sheila Ponce

FEATURES

Alter egos thrive

Marianna Morales, Vanessa Trigueros, Camaria Parson
Staff Writers

Boo! It's that time of year again. ASB hosted a Halloween Costume Contest on Oct. 31. There were four categories that were judged during both lunches: Couples, Creative, Cute, and Scary. Various teachers and counselors who came out during lunch did the judging.

"My friend came up with the idea, so we decided to be Arthur together. I didn't wanna do it. I felt good when I won," said Milagros Rios. Her partner in crime, Leslie Martinez, combined the internet and shopping to create their winning idea and take the couples award.

"The day before Halloween Milagros and I looked up DIY Halloween costumes. We both saw the Arthur one and we thought it would be cute to do it together. So that same day we went to Forever 21 and got the supplies we needed for our costumes. We won a gift card to a taco place. We were shocked when we heard them call our name because we saw the other couple costume and they were really cute as well. But when we heard our names we were like 'OMG' and really proud too," said Leslie.

"I won a Shakey's pizza certificate and a bag full of candy. I decided to do this costume because I had gone to the Halloween store to pick up a costume, but I was late to pick it up, so I got a last minute one and said '...this will do.' I was proud when I won because I really didn't think I was gonna win because my costume was just a quick last minute costume," said Vlad Barrera who dressed up as a nerd. He was the winner of the creativity category.

Mickey Mouse made an appearance...who doesn't love Mickey? "My second period wanted me to join the contest so I said 'Why not.'

I chose the Mickey costume because I wanted it to be something Disney related and interesting. When I won, I was really happy because I made my friends happy. I won a Shakey's certificate which I am planning to use soon," said Sydney Moore who won the cute costume category.

Melanie Rodriguez won the most scariest costume. She did her own makeup coming as a zombie. "I looked it up on YouTube and designed my makeup."

Alter egos: Daniel Michel, Steven Guzman, Gabriel Huerta, Ashley Duran, Daniela Lopez, and George Ruiz gather for the Halloween contest held during both lunches on Oct. 31.



Brief glance of homecoming

Courting the crowd: King and queen Andrew Muniz and Kristi Oliviera; Senior prince and princess Jose Chavez and Vanessa Rios; junior prince and princess Andrew Lopez and Ximena Soto; sophomore prince and princess Emilio Arriaga and Helen Castillejos-Hernandez; freshman prince and princess Christian Yanez and Priscilla Bobadilla.

Paradise: (Right) Rudy Mendoza with his date Joycebelle Nava (Class of 2017).

