

# THE HORIZON

WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

| 12400 MELLOW MEADOW DRIVE

| AUSTIN TEXAS

| OCTOBER 2013

97%  
COLLEGE  
BOUND

100%  
GRADUATION RATE

TOP OPEN ENROLLMENT

HIGH SCHOOL IN TEXAS

4.6  
HIGHEST  
AVERAGE  
AP SCORE  
IN THE U.S.

photos courtesy  
of heritage staff.  
collage by justin lai

## Westwood Scores High Ranking from Newsweek

MICHELLE ZHANG  
GUEST WRITER

Exciting news kicked off the 2013-2014 school year: Westwood was ranked #57 in *Newsweek's* Best High Schools of 2013 list. The rankings were determined by graduation rate, college acceptance rate, AP/IB tests taken and scores, average SAT/ACT scores, and percent of students enrolled in AP/IB courses.

Newsweek's partner news website *The Daily Beast* described Westwood as "a diverse student population for the challenges of an ever-changing world," assigning a rating of 3.69 out of 5. The average testing scores stacked up well, bearing numbers of 1777 for SAT, 26.8 for ACT, and 4.6 for APs. Impressive 100% graduation and 97% college bound rates contributed to

the high rating. Although a position of 57 out of 2000 evaluated schools was already an achievement, Westwood was in fact the highest ranked open enrollment school in Texas and fifth in this category in the nation.

"All the 56 schools above us were academies, or private schools, or special math and science academies. More fairly

we should only be ranked against open enrollment schools," English teacher Mike Kristan said. "But, personally, I like to be ranked against all schools and show them what real public education is all about. It shows what we really do here."

School staff and faculty embraced the news with enthusiasm, wearing custom-designed orange t-shirts

with "#1 in the State, #5 in the Nation" boldly written across the back. Every Friday the colorful apparel could be seen displayed by nearly every teacher, an indication of the overwhelming school spirit this year.

Other schools in the district also made the list, with Westlake High School at #97 and Liberal Arts and Science Academy High School at #33.



Looking Ahead

- October 24-26:**  
Theatre Fall Show in the New Black Box Theatre - 7 p.m.
- October 31:**  
Late Start
- November 1:**  
Bohemia West Talent Show in the Cafeteria - 6 p.m.
- November 2:**  
Project Graduation Garage Sale in the WHS Parking Lot - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- November 5:**  
NHS Induction in the Cafeteria - 7 p.m.
- College Visits**
- October 23:**  
Duke University - 8:15 p.m.  
Discover Duke - 7 p.m.
- October 24:**  
Texas Christian University - 1:30 p.m.
- October 26:**  
George Washington University - 3:00 p.m.
- October 28:**  
Bates College - 11:30 p.m.  
Carnegie Mellon - 1:45 p.m.
- October 30:**  
Notre Dame - 8:15 a.m.  
McDaniel College - 10:30 a.m.
- November 4:**  
University of North Texas - 9:45 a.m.
- November 5:**  
UTSA - 11:30 a.m.
- November 6:**  
Purdue Universtiy - 11:30 a.m.
- November 7:**  
New York University - 11:30 a.m.  
Oberlin College - 11:30 a.m.

# On Their Own Merit



## National Merit semifinalists break record once again

**STEPHEN CHAO**  
*EDITOR IN CHIEF*

Westwood broke another district record by qualifying 50 senior semifinalists in the national Merit Scholarship Competition (NMSC), an increase from the 43 Westwood students who qualified last year. Through an additional application process, the semifinalists will compete for some 8,000 Merit Scholarship awards, worth about \$35 million.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation, the nonprofit organization that runs the competition, determines semifinalists on a state-by-state basis. The National Merit semifinalists were determined through the annual Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). The cutoff score for the class of 2014 in Texas was 219, compared to a score of 216 for the class of 2013. Round Rock ISD qualified 66 semifinalists in total.





About 94 percent of semifinalists will advance to the finalist standing by meeting high academic performance and completing an application through the NMSC’s Online Scholarship Application. Additionally, semifinalists need to report an SAT score to confirm their 2012 PSAT/NMSQT performance.

Students can receive three kinds of Merit Scholarship awards: National Merit \$2500 scholarships, corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards, and college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards. Finalists will be announced in February.

**SCHOLARS:** This year, 50 seniors qualified for National Merit semifinalists. In alphabetical order: Anika Agarwal, Greg Allison, Naveen Arunachalam, Ellen Brown, Minji Chae, Steven Chao, Alvin Chen, Steven Chen, Steven Z. Chen, Vinciane Chen, Vicki Chiu, Hans Choi, Garrett Dean, Salil Deshpande, Chris Duvarney, Brian Ellis, Madan Gopal, Chris Han, Camilla Hao, Joshua Imperial, Alexandra Jovanovic, Justin Kim, Justin Lai, Steven Lai, Sujaan Lal, Jasmine Lin, Ray Lu, Emily Ma, Pratyusha Malireddy, Jennifer Min, Carolyn Nuelle, Robert Phillips, Deepa Rajan, Caleb Richey, Deepak Subramanian, Naveen Subramanian, Joyce Tong, Steven Tran, Tiffany Tsai, Leslie Tu, Andy Wang, Chenyang Wang, Bingzhe Wei, Grace Yang, Allen Zhang, Linda Zhang, Michelle Zhang, Eric Zhou, and Mingxi Brian Zhu. Additionally, senior Steven Banks qualified for National Achievement semifinalist. *photo courtesy of westwood counselors*

### Tracking the record

Number of NMSC semi-finalists continues to increase

2010	2011	2012	2013
29 seniors	35 seniors	43 seniors	50 seniors
			

## Google Changes School, District Processes

**LINDA YOO**  
*STAFFWRITER*

Soon enough the paper-tossing battles will slowly diminish at Westwood High School, one pathetic throw at a time.

From the plastic bag to new recycling bins, Austin has taken the steps toward preserving the environment and keeping the community clean. Westwood is following the eco-friendly trend by reducing the number of paper

copies for both the students and teachers.

Teachers are moving to Google Drive, where online documents can be accessed through invitation or open to the public, allowing students to view assignments at home, school, or even on their cellphones. Ultimately, the gradual transition to Google Drive will help Westwood stay technologically advanced and save trees.

“I am glad the teachers now

use Google. I feel like it is a whole new way of keeping in touch with students while being resourceful and innovative,” said senior Francisco Yang.

Many students believe that their success in school is founded upon the paper notes and handouts given by teachers; of course, that system is not completely gone. Students can print out any handouts in the library or request printed copies from the teacher. But the new

change to Google Drive allows students with preferences for typing instead of writing to use technology for homework and notes.

“I think Google Drive is an essential tool that really allows people to communicate and share ideas. It has revolutionized the way we work together and gives us a great platform to continually work whenever and wherever,” said sophomore Rasik Jankay.

## How Do You Use Google Drive?



**Freshman Jonathan Qi:** “We use Google Drive for all our World Area Studies homework. It took some time to get used to it, but I think it is efficient.”



**Junior Taylor Robertson:** “I use it for presentations and to check my GPA.”



**Sophomore Amisha Jhanji:** “I use Google Drive to access my assignments.”



**Freshman Ashley D’Souza:** “I use Google Drive to organize my assignments from different classes.”  
*compiled by asha rao*



# A Soggy Homecoming:

*Rain, rain, go away, come again some other day ... when we don't have so many things planned!*

In spite of an extremely wet weekend, the Warriors played on.

MARWA GUJARATHI  
STAFFWRITER

With two seconds left on the clock, and the crowd holding their breath, Westwood made its first touchdown in the second quarter. However, after playing a tough match against Cedar Park, Westwood lost with a final score of 14-44.

Even with the bad weather, the Westwood team managed to hang on and give it their best shot while fighting against the wind and rain.

With the end of the first quarter, Westwood band played enthusiastically, cheering on the team in a moment of need. The cheerleaders also urged the crowd for some school spirit and

enthusiasm, trying to boost the players' self-esteem and encourage their efforts.

"We're not doing too well, but even if we don't win it's okay, because it was a fun time with friends," said senior Courtney Winter.

Westwood made its first touchdown with two seconds left in the third quarter and the crowd went crazy. Everyone started screaming and jumping at the excitement of the touchdown. The team later scored another touchdown in the fourth quarter.

"We had a great turnout, and I'm very happy to see all the students who showed up, despite the weather conditions, who were excited for homecoming," said principal Laurelyn Arterbury.

**HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES:** 1. The team plays against longtime rivals Cedar Park. 2. The Warriors pump up the crowd right before the start of the Homecoming game. 3. Students cheer for the Warriors. 4. Seniors Jean-Remy Escobar, Alvin Chen, Ruthvik Allala, Jugal Kapadia, and Haesoo Lee throw candy during the Homecoming parade. The Senior class won the parade competition with its pirate-themed float. 5. Homecoming Queen and King, seniors Elizabeth Marshall and Mason Bartek, smile after being crowned. *photos by kaity burris, tara froehler, and justin lai*



## Orchestra Plans Trip to Chicago

SHRUTI PATIL  
JOURNALISM 1

After winning the Northwest Orchestra Competition, the Westwood Symphony Orchestra is heading to Chicago to perform.

Tony Shay and other members of the Philharmonic orchestra are also hitching a ride, that is, if they could commit to after-school rehearsals every Tuesday until 5:45 pm and pay the travel fee.

"With our Philharmonic rehearsals every Wednesday, and now with rehearsals on Tuesdays too, orchestra is becoming quite a big part of my day. I hope it pays off," Shay said.

The trip is in mid-December, just in time for students to make up their mid-terms before they leave.

"Sure it's a bit of a hassle, but we're going to be in Chicago while everyone back home is taking exams!" Shay said.

In order to inspire new and upcoming conductors, the Symphony is playing some easier pieces as part of a wide variety of music.

"Some of the easier pieces are pretty helpful so I get a chance to work on my tone, whereas in the harder pieces, I don't really have time to focus on one particular aspect of my playing," Shay said.

A special feature of the performance is first chair violinist Grace Song playing a lengthy solo in the Tango "Por Una Cabeza". Wearing bright red, she gets to be the center of attention for the whole 10 minutes of the piece.

"Our part is pretty boring, but listening to Grace is always fun," Shay said.

Even with such a well-prepared orchestra, more preparation is necessary to achieve perfection.

"We can play all the pieces pretty well, but with a concert that last for about 90 minutes, we have to make sure that we have the stamina to play for that long," Shay said.

## Festival of Bands

MACKENZIE FARKUS  
STAFFWRITER

On October 28 at 6:30 p.m., the marching band will perform at the 14th annual Festival of Bands at the Reeves Athletic Center showcasing Round Rock ISD middle school and high school bands. This year, Westwood's marching band will perform their halftime show titled *All Along the Watchtower*. All proceeds received will be given to K-12 Fine Arts teachers in Round Rock ISD.

*All Along the Watchtower* was inspired by a Bob Dylan song of the same name.

The finale will feature all high school bands for a musical tribute

with up to 1300 musicians on the field.

Basic tickets are \$6 for adults and \$5 for students. Pre-school children can get in for free. A special \$7 ticket will also be sold, with the extra dollar benefitting part of a scholarship for private music lessons for a child with financial need.



*photo courtesy of heritage staff*



**SHARING FAITHS:** Members of Interfaith discuss religious tolerance during a meeting. During meetings, club members discuss current events regarding religions around the world. *photo courtesy of interfaith*

## Interfaith Club President Nausheen Lalani shares information about religious discussion group

MACKENZIE FARKUS  
STAFFWRITER

**Q:**What is a typical meeting at Interfaith like?  
**A:**At almost every meeting, we sit in a circle, introduce events, and discuss current events that impact religion and our views on that event. Sometimes, we'll even have food. If we have new members, we'll have them introduce themselves, too.

**Q:**What are some events you do?  
**A:**Currently, we do Red Bench. It's a greater Austin discussion group on the topic of religions and coexistence. We also hold World Religions Night each year, which is a lot of fun. Usually, we'd have a panel of people of different religions talk about their own religion and have student questions at the end, but last year, we did

it a little differently. We opted to have a set of in-depth questions be discussed at stations managed by speakers of different religions.

**Q:**What are your plans for the upcoming year?  
**A:**We'll be doing World Religions Night again, of course. Besides that, we really, really want to get involved in more community service and build a more diverse membership! We're also thinking about being ambassadors for different schools and meeting up with other high school organizations like our own.

**Q:**Where can people find Interfaith?  
**A:**You can find us in Ms. Serino's room, room E1213, at 4:15 on Wednesdays, but on the third week of the month, we meet on Thursday. We also have a page on Facebook under Westwood InterFaith!



***What's Your Favorite Band?***

**Seniors**

Arctic Monkeys  
--Jasmine Lin

Kapustin  
--Simon Zeng

**Juniors**

Green Day  
--Allen Ngo

Meca  
--James Snow

Maroon 5  
--Grace Song

**Sophomores**

The Beatles  
--Camden Lemand

Sergei Rachmaninov  
--Sameer Bibikar

Sawano Hiroyuki  
--Ken Aoki

Fall Out Boy  
--Amanda Lewis

Panic! at the Disco  
--Erin Morris

**Freshmen**

Pink Floyd  
--Alex Ervin

Gorillaz  
--Dylan Seymour

One Direction  
--Leah Wu

“It was my first ACL experience and I had a great time! It’s incredible how you can see so many bands and varieties of music all in one place. The Vampire Weekend show was my favorite. Ezra Koenig’s voice was perfect.”

**Greg Allison,**  
**Senior**



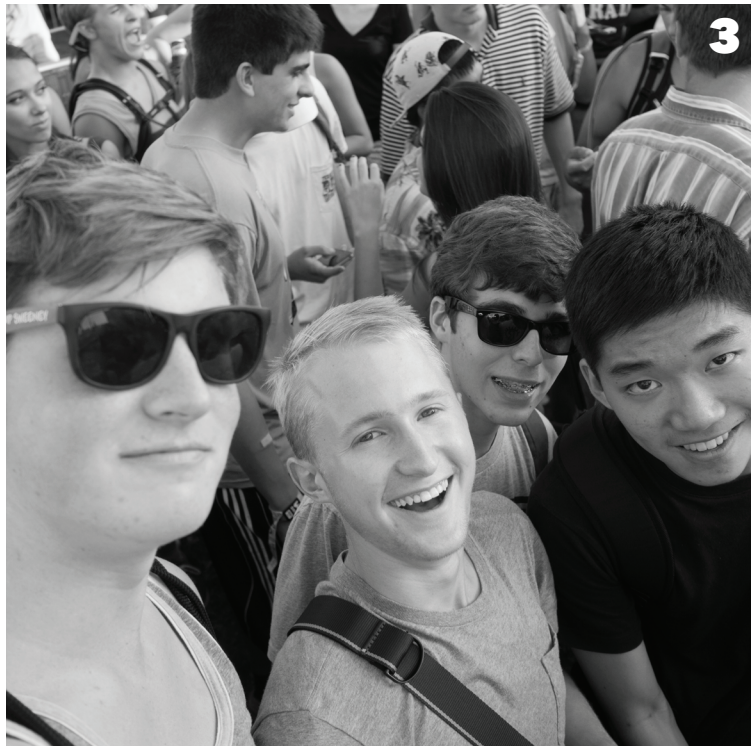


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# Students Revel in Live Music

Austin City Limits Music Festival (ACL) began in 2002. The annual event takes place in Zilker Park, with more than 130 bands from all over the world coming to perform all kinds of music from rock, to indie, to electronic. About 75,000 spectators attend ACL each day. The festival also hosts local food vendors and other activities for all ages. In 2012 the Austin City Council voted to make ACL two weekends instead of one. This year's festival took place on Oct. 4-6 and 11-13. The 2013 lineup included Muse, Kings of Leon, Kendrick Lamar, and Fun. Disappointing many fans, the last day was cancelled because of a flash flood warning in Austin. The event is immensely popular and tickets are already on sale for ACL 2014.



**1.** Purity Ring performs at the Austin Ventures stage on the first Friday of Austin City Limits Music Festival. "The lanterns that were synced to the drums really made the show," senior Michael Vetter said. **2.** Walk the Moon gets ready to perform on October 12. "I got barricade during the show!" sophomore Amanda Lewis said. "When I met Walk the Moon in the meet and greet, the lead singer recognized me." *photo by mackenzie farkus* **3.** Seniors Michael Vetter, Greg Allison, Jean-Remy Escobar and Justin Lai enjoy the crowds and excitement of ACL. "The crowds were crazy big, especially at Kendrick Lamar. But it gave the concert a great atmosphere and made it worth three hours of waiting," Escobar said. **4.** Flags fly over the vast crowds on the lawn in front of the Samsung Galaxy stage. "People use flags so that their groups can meet up, but there's so many that it becomes useless," said senior Zach Coles. Many countries' flags were represented, including Bhutan, Canada, and Greece.

*photos by greg allison*





SOUND OFF

WHS Employees  
Give Opinions on  
Government Shutdown

Sarah Day,  
Librarian

“It irritates me... [the government is] constantly doing this. Both sides... are affecting us down here. [Both parties] are at fault.”

Kylie Cooper,  
Teacher Assistant

“I would’ve tried to be more cooperative.”

Phyllis Schaack,  
Sr. Admin. Associate

“I think it’s sad the Democrats and Republicans can’t work together on the Government Shutdown. Its embarrassing.”

Glenda  
Hovencamp,  
CTE Teacher

“I’m waiting for our elected officials to roll up their sleeves and get to work on this.”

compiled by Simone Heim

Government Shuts Down, Reboots

MICHAEL CRAVEY  
STAFFWRITER

During the government shutdown, both parties, and their most important players: The President, Senate, and Congress put politics before the general well being of the American people once again by allowing the budget measure to fund the government, pay government employees, provide

JAROD JANNER  
JOURNALISM 1

The government has rebooted, and we’re all safe to return to our regularly scheduled programming of not caring about politics for another three years so we can watch “Keeping Up with the Kardashians” or funny cat videos on YouTube.

The congressional Republicans have backed down and worked with the Democrats for the first time in 13 years. Not only that, but they approved a new bipartisan plan for the budget, with everyone praying that cooperation will continue.

Time to assign blame. So this whole government shutdown crisis? It’s all the House Republicans’ faults. Yes, I know some of them are for bipartisanship, and to those people I have to give thanks for fighting an uphill battle. Ultimately though, the republican party has caused far more damage than it needed to, overturning anything the other parties have attempted to pass in order to solve the multiple crises that have arisen in the past five years,

basic federal services, and guarantee the stability of the economy to be bogged down in the battle over Obamacare. They sacrificed the approval of the American people in a struggle over how to balance the budget. Republicans offered up many budgets, all shot down by the President because they cut funding from Obamacare, and Republicans simply would not back down. President Obama has

often causing more problems than they started with in the process.

I’ve heard it argued that Congress is not a human system. After all, the perpetrators of this rumor will tell you, if they were human they would understand the trials of living under these conditions. However, I don’t feel that way at all. If they truly did not care about the public, they wouldn’t bother solving the issues they create. I much prefer the term “holding the American people hostage”, because it’s true in many senses.

In essence, the Republicans planned on keeping the government shut down until Obamacare was removed from consideration. We probably would still be muddling through life in a shut down government if the debt ceiling hadn’t come up. After all, if you’ve got no money to give to the Republicans, they’ll be in just as much trouble as everyone else.

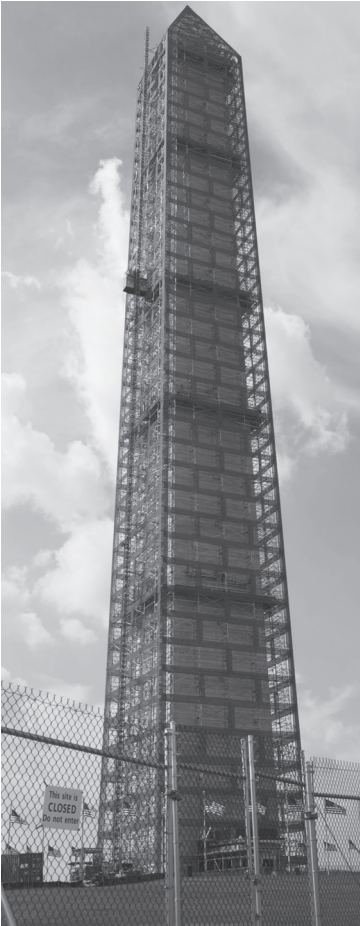
Now, you can say that the Democrats could have solved this a lot sooner. They could have dropped Obamacare and been

defeated the Republican dominated Congress by receiving less damage from the government shutdown crisis in terms of approval ratings through defending Obamacare, which remains unscathed by the opposition, and also, largely as a result of the disunity pervading the Republican party currently. However, The President’s party suffered, especially the Democratic Senate, which plummeted in

done with it in a heartbeat. You wouldn’t be wrong, but why would they ever do that? It was already ruled constitutional, and it is a legitimate improvement over what we currently have. Most people argue against it simply because they don’t like Barack Obama, and will say they support the Affordable Care Act despite the two being the same thing.

Really, I’m just glad it’s all over. I don’t want to be trapped in America, which would inevitably happen if we didn’t solve this. Our passports would all expire, our government would stop functioning properly because it lacked funds, and everyone would be forced to watch our government kick itself in the face over and over. I’m glad we don’t have to do that. It’s not like we do it already or anything.

The Washington Monument was closed to the public during the government shutdown, along with many other national monuments, parks, and public areas. photo courtesy of <http://www.flickr.com/photos/reivax/10111699415>



YOU SAID IT  
What do you think  
of iOS7?



Alex Crum,  
Freshman

I think the idea of it is good, however, they didn’t really do that well with transferring the idea into the phone. It still has way too many bugs, and you cannot downgrade back to iOS 6.



Maddie Goodin,  
Sophomore

The iOS 7 update is the coolest thing ever! Whoever doesn’t have this update yet should get it.

compiled by Michael Cravey,  
Tristan Seifert



Tyrek Fears, Sophomore  
photo by Marwa Gujarathi

New Hall Pass Policy Has Flaws

HANNAH CANTER  
STAFFWRITER

Last year, it was up to the teachers. This year, the school has given each class hallway passes for the students to use so they do not wander the halls.

Color-coded by the schools wings, the new passes are administration’s latest effort to stop wandering students.

Last year, some students, would tell the teacher they were going to the bathroom, but went to an entirely different place.

With the new hall pass, students are only allowed to be in certain hallways while carrying the pass around with them. If they have to go to a place outside of the hallway, the student will put where they are going on the hallway pass.

If a student is caught wandering the school when either they are in the wrong hall or don’t have a pass

they will get a warning and sent back to class.

On the pass, a student must write down their name and the date. They also must write when they leave the classroom and when they return back. This saves time for the teacher to continue teaching while the student writes the pass instead of the instructor.

While it might stop students from wandering around the school to escape class, there are also problems with this system. The passes are large and awkward to carry, particularly when you are going to the bathroom!

Then there’s the hygiene issue. Every student uses the same pass in their classroom. There are a lot of germs on the passes, and those bacteria get distributed the next user.

The goal is to keep students in class and learning. As with most school policies, it will work for most people, but it’s not going to please everyone all the time.

Halloween Musings: Costumes & Candy For All



Kira Sharar, Freshman

“Quarantine is the scariest movie I’ve ever seen. I’ve seen it five times and I can’t finish it.”



Allen Ruan, Sophomore

“My favorite candy is Twix because of the caramel. I love caramel.”



Walter Nunez, Senior

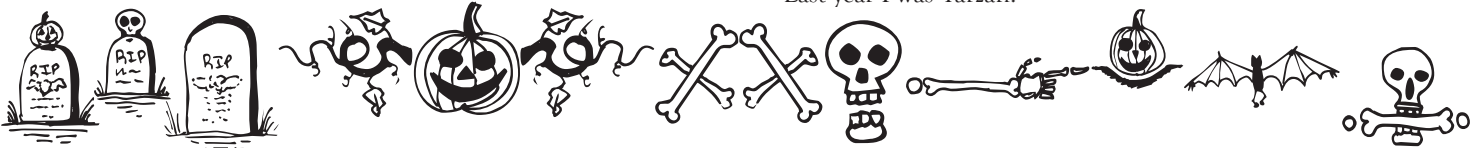
“There shouldn’t be an age limit to go trick-or-treating. I think I’m going to be Robin Hood for Halloween this year. Last year I was Tarzan.”



Sunay Nanavati, Junior

“I am going to be Wonder Woman for Halloween.”

compiled by Mackenzie Farkus,  
Shreya Dasari, Marwa Gujarathi





# Student/Athlete



“An old English proverb states: **‘A smooth sea never made a skilled mariner.’** Sport provides the rough sea with tangible opportunities to grow while pursuing victory with honor.”

*Coach Bart Bratcher  
WHS Baseball*



**Kristen Russell**, senior: “I love **cheerleading** because it’s fun working as a team.” **Jordan Adams**, junior: “I love **diving** because it is a unique sport.” **Rishi Kejriwal**, freshman: “**Golfing** is my passion and I have been playing it since I was three.” **Michael Martin**, sophomore: **Cross Country** was a great experience for me. I made a whole bunch of friends and got to improve my mile time.” **Marissa Vargas**, sophomore: I enjoy **volleyball** because it is an intense sport and I get to be with my friends.” **Sam Rhodes**, sophomore: “I like **football** because it is a contact sport.” *photos courtesy of heritage staff / compiled by asha rao, haerin kim*

## WARRIORS IN PINK VB Digs for the Cure

EMILY CHANG  
JOURNALISM 1

A crowd of pink roared approval as the ball touched the ground on the opposing team’s side. The team of burnt orange congregated in the middle of their side of the court, high-fiving and celebrating their point. In honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness month, Westwood High School’s volleyball teams held a special “Dig for the Cure” game on October 1 to raise money for breast cancer research.

“It was really fun to see everyone come support us and help the cause,” said freshman Leah Wu, an outside hitter on the Freshman Orange team.

Exact figures were unavailable at press time, but a great number of spectators attended the game, and the Warriors accumulated a large sum of money from the fundraiser.

“It was awesome to see how many people showed up and how much money we raised,” freshman Cara Dolbear, a middle blocker of the Junior Varsity team, said.

At the game, the Warriors also sold extra merchandise and yummy goodies; all of the proceeds went directly towards the cause.

“We held a raffle and we sold t-shirts, cupcakes and cups of tea,” Dolbear said.

The “Dig for the Cure” fundraiser is still in action as the Westwood volleyball booster club continues to sell t-shirts and cups of tea.

“The fundraiser lasts throughout the month,” Wu said.

The Westwood Warriors played against the Stony Point Tigers. Varsity won 75-48, Junior Varsity won 50-30, Freshman A team won 50-21 and Freshman B won 50-25.

“We won; it was one of the easiest game we’ve played,” Wu said.

Since pink is the signature color of breast cancer awareness, the Warrior volleyball players had tons of fun incorporating pink into their uniforms.

“We wore pink shoelaces and headbands and socks and some of the Varsity spray painted their hair pink,” Dolbear said.

Throughout October, the Westwood volleyball team will continue to wear pink to show their support to those affected by breast cancer.

## After Sweeping District Finals, Tennis Falls Short at Area

SHEFALI ARIMILI  
JOURNALISM 1

Sweeping District finals 10-0 against McNeil, the Westwood varsity tennis team moved on to Area.

“We had an easy path through District, but we are now gearing up for the next tough chapter,” Varsity captain Milan Arimilli said after winning District.

“We have our sights set on Regionals, and from there we will work on our team goal of reaching State.”

The players’s dedication to these goals was clearly visible, as they tenaciously practiced through 4th block and into the evening nearly everyday.

“Practice doesn’t make perfect...perfect practice makes perfect,” Coach Travis Dalrymple said.

Dalrymple also often quotes Michael Jordan to inspire the team, saying, “Some want it to happen, some wish it to happen, winners make it happen.”

The coach has seen much improvement thus far into the season, and he is ready for it to get even

better from here on out.

“Even though our team isn’t as strong this year as it was last year, the players are willing to work harder and are more dedicated,” Dalrymple said.

Despite the strong resolve of the group, Area posed a large hurdle to overcome. The team was to be up against Westlake or Lake Travis, both schools that currently have teams ranked in the top 10 tennis teams in all of Texas.

The match against Westlake had been the team’s only loss of the season before Area.

“We’ll have to step it up in Area to reach our goals; it’ll be close,” Arimilli said prophetically.

Up against Westlake again in the tournament, Varsity was to face their biggest challenge of the year in an incredibly close tournament. Once again, victory barely escaped the team, as the day came to a close with a scoreboard that read 10-9.



Junior Lauren Chen hits a forehand during practice. *photo courtesy of westwood tennis*

## Get to Know Lauren Chen

“The first time I picked up a racket was around second grade. I played my first match in seventh grade.

I play tennis because it’s self paced and fun.

To accomplish my goal of super champing up and playing top six lineup I will practice hard

when there is practice, play more matches, and stay confident.

I am looking forward to playing Lake Travis.They are one of the tougher schools and if we can beat both schools we can prove that we deserve our #8 rank in the state.

My favorite tennis player would be [Rafa] Nadal.”



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Letter from the Editor

# Your Horizon Goes Online

## Follow our WordPress Site for Up-To-Date News

The beginning of the school year is always filled with new experiences, and we here at *The Horizon* have certainly experienced our share of changes.

Keeping in mind the increasing digitization of media, we at *The Horizon* have made some changes to the format of the paper this year. We have decreased the number of printed issues (but don't worry, you can still pick up your Thundercloud Subs coupons!) and are shifting our focus to our online paper. Through this medium, we will be able to provide more timely news as events occur around the campus and community. Additionally, we will be able to post photos and videos, which we have never done before. Though we are still in the early stages of the online paper, there are already quite a few articles online. We hope that this online paper will become a useful tool for keeping you updated on the events around school.

I would also like to give thanks to all of the people who helped make this first print issue possible: our hardworking staffwriters, some of whom have never even written news stories before, the returning editors, and the guest writers from the Journalism I class. I especially want to thank Justin Lai, who designed the frontpage graphic, Michelle Zhang who wrote the front page story, Greg Allison, who created the ACL spread, and Asha Rao and the other yearbook staff members who helped write the sidebars and photo captions.

I hope you continue to read and provide feedback on our paper.

-Stephen Chao, Editor-in-Chief

### THE HORIZON ONLINE

WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT NEWS

NEWS FEATURES FORUM ARTS SPORTS ABOUT US

Category: Features

OCTOBER 2, 2013

#### Sun Dancers Display Diversity, Experience

Long before most students arrive at school, the Sun Dancers gather in the studio to practice. They do so in order to get ready for their next performance, these students work hard to choreograph moves.

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hannahcanter  
lindayoo1234test

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