

The Bruin Street Journal

By the Students, For the Students



Volume 1 Issue 7

February, 2010

SUPER SAINTS INSPIRE STUDENTS

Saints quarterback Drew Brees, holding the Lombardi Trophy above his head, was a sight to be admired and even celebrated. Brees beat five future Hall-of-Fame quarterbacks — Favre, Warner, Brady, and the Manning brothers. Not bad for a guy who had an injured shoulder and was considered to be too short to be a great quarterback. After being told that he only had a 25% chance of playing football again after his shoulder surgery, he was released from the San Diego Chargers. Most NFL teams counted him out except for New Orleans. We picked him up when Miami turned him down. Minnesota had no use for Darren Sharper because they didn't think he had anything left to offer their team. Jonathan Vilma was rejected for not performing up to standards. Jeremy Shockey was rejected for an injury. Strangely, Colston was a 252nd draft pick. Pierre Thomas and Mike Bell weren't drafted at all. Brees says that he and many of the others were "castaways" with lots of teams who didn't want them. Brees and the Saints, undoubtedly showed that no matter where you are or what the world thinks of you, you're only a loser if you believe you are. No matter what obstacles stand in your way, you can overcome them and succeed. Think what the Saints' record would be had they given up every time they were down in a game. Would they have won a Super Bowl with that attitude? Now think of yourself. Are you giving up when you're down? Stop pinching yourself. It's true. We are THE 2010 Super Bowl Champions! It may be worthwhile for all of us to live by their motto: WORK HARD AND FINISH STRONG!

~ John Albers

February 2010 Toppers

Top 10 Songs

- 1) Tik Tok (Ke\$ha)
- 2) We are the World: 25 for Haiti (Various Artists)
- 3) Imma Be (Black Eyed Peas)
- 4) Bed Rock (Young Money)
- 5) Bad Romance (Lady Gaga)
- 6) Need You Now (Lady Antebellum)
- 7) Hey, Soul Sister (Train)
- 8) How Low (Ludacris)
- 9) In My Head (Jason Derulo)
- 10) Sexy Chick (David Guetta ft. Akon)

Top 5 Most Anticipated Video Games

- 1) Mass Effect 2
- 2) Forza Motorsport 3
- 3) God of War 3
- 4) Super Mario Galaxy 2
- 5) Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2

Info from *Billboard Magazine*, February Issue

JOKES

What's white, blue, and red all over? The Colts after the Saints beat them.

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Thought for the Day: Change is inevitable...except from a vending machine.

### TRIVIA

The Indianapolis Colts were greeted by 11 die-hard fans at the airport after the Super Bowl. They weren't allowed to get anywhere near the players and were kept hundreds of yards away.

Approximately 40,000 people greeted the New Orleans Saints, Super Bowl World Champions, at the airport as they returned from Miami. Many fans, including some Bonnabel students, were able to get close enough to touch the players.

Between 800,000 and 1 million people were at the Saints' Parade on Tuesday, Feb. 9. This was the biggest parade EVER in the history of the WORLD.

Even before the Super Bowl, Saints' merchandise far outsold Colts' merchandise.

### SIMPLE CRABMEAT DIP RECIPE

6 oz. Crabmeat  
8 oz. Cream cheese  
1/2 stick of butter  
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce,  
Sprinkle in onion flakes, Tabasco sauce, and pepper to taste

Mix all ingredients and bake at 350 degrees for 1/2 hour.  
Serve hot with your choice of crackers.

### Upcoming Events

Interim Reports issued Friday, February 26.  
March 12 is the last day of the third nine weeks.  
March 19 report cards will be issued.

**SUBMISSION/SUGGETION BOX LOCATION ON PAGE 3!!!!**

## Interviews

### The Bonnabel Bruins & New Orleans Saints Connection

Have you ever wondered about our school colors and where they originated? In a recent interview with Mr. Kulakowski, *The Bruin Street Journal* sportswriters, John Albers and Tyran Cummings, found the answer. Our school colors — black, gold and white — came from the Saints football team. Around 1974, we were short on athletic uniforms so the Saints kindly donated socks, pants, and plain jerseys. Because we were using their equipment, we adopted their colors as well.

The Bonnabel bowling team is still undefeated in our division. Only Shaw High School, the defending state champions, have beaten Bonnabel. Bonnabel will hopefully face them again in the State Championship .

## Creative Voices

**You provide the creativity. Bruin Street Journal will provide you the audience.**

### SAINTS

The crowd roars with such power like a jet at an airport or a space shuttle taking off.

The players stand in their huddle  
Discussing play-by-play action.

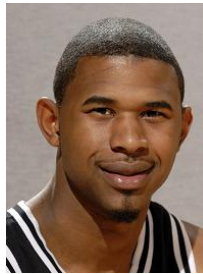
Then they line up only to start the beginning...  
The beginning of fast, fluid flight.

Drew Brees shouts, "HUT" and...  
Boom, clank, crack, bam, ahhhhhhhh.  
Muscles, wills, and armor argue on the field.

There's a hit, juke, spin, hurdle.  
Athletes as powerful and strong as raging bulls,  
Yet as swift and agile as cheetahs.

All of this in a matter of seconds.  
Unbelievable what the human body can do.

~ Tyran Cummings



## Alumni Spotlight

**This issue's Alumni Spotlight is an interview with a very successful and famous former Bruin, Shan Foster.**

BSJ: What year did you graduate from Bonnabel?

Shan Foster: 2004

BSJ: What are you doing now?

SF: I am a guard for the Dallas Mavericks, and I am also playing in the Turkish Basketball league for more experience and a love of the game.

BSJ: How difficult was it getting into the NBA? How is it like?

SF: There is a one in one million chance of getting into the NBA. Although it is very exciting being apart of the NBA, it's not as glamorous as people think. It's a job. I have to work out twice a day and practice often. I'm often away from my family and friends even during holidays. Basketball is 80% mental (sometimes there are 100,000 people watching) and 20% physical, and once the hard work is done, it gets fun.

BSJ: We know you have a charity. Tell us about it.

SF: It is called the Shan Foster Foundation. It provides assistance, opportunities, and resources to single-parent households and children in need. <[www.shanfosterfoundation.com](http://www.shanfosterfoundation.com)>

BSJ: Who were your favorite teachers at Bonnabel?

SF: Ms. Foley (a former English teacher) because she taught me the power of education.

BSJ: Where did you go to college and what were your majors?

SF: I went to Vanderbilt University and majored in Human and Organizational Development and minored in Religious Studies.

BSJ: Any advice for the Bonnabel students?

SF: When you present yourself to people in a certain way, people want to help you. Create good habits now to carry into college and beyond. Whatever you do, do it 100%.

## The Movie Ticket

Let me tell you how terrible and dissatisfying *Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* was. As a person who just finished the book, I was surprised how different the movie was from the book. I know that most movies are different from the books, but almost everything was different. Okay, well in the movie they leave out the great fight scenes and emotional speeches that are in the book, like my favorite scene where Percy fights a lady, who is called Enchidna, on top of the golden arch. I was not the only one that was shocked by it, so were a couple of my friends. If you look on the internet almost everyone who comments on the movie didn't like it. I wouldn't recommend this movie to anyone. But I would like people to read the book and send us their comments. ~ Sammie Jackson

**~If you would like to be interviewed for The Movie Ticket come to room 7-209 the day after you see a movie. First come first serve.~**

## Advice Column

Got a problem? Get a solution from Ben the Bruin. Drop your questions off at a suggestion box or email them to [bruinstreetjournal@yahoo.com](mailto:bruinstreetjournal@yahoo.com).

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Dear Ben the Bruin,

I have a problem with procrastinating. Every time I have a project, I always wait until the night before to start on it. This is deeply affecting my grades. There is an upcoming social studies fair and I already know I won't get it done in time. What should I do?

~ The Procrastinator

Dear Procrastinating Bruin,

It is common for students to procrastinate, but with these tips you can break the habit. Get yourself in the right mind frame. Break up the project into small steps and set deadlines for when each should be completed. Keep a calendar of these dates in a place that you see every day. Reward yourself when you finish each step. Following these steps will relieve the stress of big projects. When Martin Luther King Jr. said, "You don't have to see the full staircase. Just take the first step," he was right. Sometimes it's just getting started that makes the difference.

~ Ben the Bruin

Letters to the Editor

About Standardized Testing

I disagree when people say standardized testing is necessary. All they do is force teachers into a rigid curriculum. They don't allow the teachers to focus on what the students need.

~Ayesha Umrigar

I don't think standardized testing is necessary. Some students aren't good test takers but they are smart and, after all, every student is more than a test score.

~Mohammad Afaq

About Dropping Out

I think it is much better to graduate from high school. A high school diploma can make the search for a suitable job much easier.

~Ayesha Umrigar

If the students stay in school, they should try hard and pay attention. They can become as successful as the man in the alumni spotlight, Cesar Burgos.

~Carla Serrano

About the Bruin Street Journal

Would it be such a bad thing to interview perhaps a "normal" person for the Alumni Spotlight.

~Enrique Mendoza

For the pro/con section, there should be a poll to see what the students think.

~Alicia Walker

If you are going to continue the 2010 toppers, take a vote of the BHS students not the same random unknown internet site.

~Nicole Ferguson

I love editorial cartoon and jokes. I think the Sudoku puzzle was great addition.

~Alison D.

I like the Sudoku Puzzle.

~Briona Raymond

I really like the trivia questions because they are informative and entertaining. Creative voices- I thought that this part was thoughtful. I liked reading it.

~Taydriane Washington

Editorial Cartoon

Hell Freezes Over



Poll Question

This question was posed to 200 Bonabel students in all four grade levels.

This Issue's Question: Which of the following serves your favorite chicken?

40% Popeye's

33% Cane's

12% Chick-Fil-A

10% KFC

5% Church's

Next Issue's Question: Which of the following serves your favorite pizza?

Cici's

Domino's

Pizza Hut

Reginelli's

Papa John's

"Never be afraid to try something new. Remember that a lone amateur built the Ark. A large group of professionals built the Titanic."

~ Dave Barry

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*"Winning is not everything, but wanting to win is."*

~ Vince Lombardi

### Submission/Suggestion Boxes Locations

The boxes are in Ms. Leonhard's room (7-209) and the Library by the sign-in sheet.

We want your article suggestions, letters to the editor, advice-column questions, poetry. Express yourself!

## Bruin Battle of Brains

**ISSUE:** Should the drinking age be lowered?

**Contributors:** NaShawn Johnson and Allison Ricker

**Pro:** Lowering the drinking age may not be as bad as most people think. If the drinking age were lower, it would take away the thrill that underage people experience from doing something "forbidden" and would make the consumption of alcohol a more normalized activity. If adolescents are taught to drink in moderation, it would be less likely for them to binge drink when they are legally old enough to drink. In Italy, France, and Spain, it is normal to have a glass of wine at the dinner table from a young age; this encourages a responsible approach towards alcohol and makes it less of a taboo. Turning 18 entitles you to the responsibilities and rights of adulthood. If we can be trusted to vote, get married, sign binding contracts, purchase firearms, serve on juries, be prosecuted as adults, and join the military to put our lives on the line for our country, why can't we be trusted to make decisions about our own alcohol consumption?

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Con: The drinking age should not be lowered. Alcohol is still the leading cause of death among teenagers in road collisions. When the drinking age was previously lowered to 18, the states that did lower it experienced an increase in alcohol-related highway crashes among the 18 to 20 year old age group. Studies done by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration confirmed that the drinking age limit set at 21 cut traffic fatalities down by approximately 13 percent within that same age group. Because teenagers' brains are still in their developing stage, their physical reaction to alcohol is much different than a fully grown adult, making them more vulnerable to risky behavior such as unprotected sex, drug use, and self-destructive activities when under the influence. In addition, the earlier a person begins drinking alcohol, the more at risk that person is of becoming an alcoholic. Lowering the drinking age will only put alcohol into the hands of teens who may not understand the consequences of their actions when under the influence.

**Submit comments to the suggestion box or email address.
You can remain anonymous or give your name.**

SAINTS ON THE BRUIN BRAIN



Leading up to the Super Bowl, Ms. Leonhard came up with a great idea to get her 4th period English II class interested in writing poetry. After teaching poetic devices and showing Saints vs. Vikings highlights, she had them write poetry about the Saints.

The students then made a banner featuring photos of some of the exciting moments of the Saints season. The students loved the idea and had a blast working on it. Come check it out in the hall near room 7-209. WHO DAT!?!

Poster and Poetry Created By: John Albers, Ryan Brown, Tyran Cummings, Corey Hardy, Sammie Jackson, Gabriel Rodriguez, and James Martino.

SHAKESPEARE FIELD TRIP

Forty of Mrs. Kisee's and Ms. Carlsen's English II students went to see *A Comedy of Errors* at Tulane University on January 21. "I was not expecting a Shakespeare play to be so much fun!" said tenth-grader Ruby Maldonado. The talk-back session after the play gave students an opportunity to ask questions and to visit with the actors.

			8			4
	8	4		1	6	
			5			1
1		3	8			9
6		8				4
		2			9	5
		7			2	
			7	8		2
2			3			

Spanish: Not So Foreign After All

So you say you don't know Spanish? That seems a little odd, considering how many words you probably already know! English and Spanish are very much alike because of common ancestry. Take the following for example:

Artista Cliente Romántico Problema

Can you tell what these words mean? I'll give you a hint— try removing the last letter!

These next few are a little different, but you can get them if you just try.

Edición Religioso Distancia Calendario

If you can't quite get it, try saying the words aloud.

A large portion of words in English **and** Spanish come from Latin and Greek. As of 2008, this country has the second highest number of Spanish-speaking residents in the world, right after Mexico, and Spanish is the second most used language here. Nearly 43 **million** people here speak it as a first language, and 7 million as a second. The Spaniards were the first to discover the Americas, after all, and over 1500 cities, rivers and mountains in North America have names rooted in Spanish.

It is definitely worth your while to consider learning a little Spanish!

~Chloé Gauthier

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