



Columbia Eagles' Watch

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Annual 3-on-3 Basketball Tournaments: Teachers Remain Undefeated

By Marcos Naccarati

Three 8th-grade students played against the undefeatable teachers in a three-on-three basketball tournament that occurred in the afternoon at Columbia School on Friday, December 15.

The students who had won the right to play the teachers by winning another tournament were Anthony Rosales, Richard Rangel, and Bryan Penske, who were relieved because of their previous lopsided victory against other students.

The undefeated teachers were Mr. Sham, Mr. Skull, and Mr. Raygoza.

During their break time, many students were questioning who would win, who was better, and what the final score would be. Most of the answers supported the teacher's side, speculating that teachers would win.

One student said,

"Teachers, 11, Richard's team, 3."

Then lunch arrived at 1:15 p.m., and the three students were more nervous than ever. After they ate, they went straight to the basketball court to practice. They were shooting and passing from every angle and every style, inventing different plays to pass through the teacher's outstanding defense.

Then 2:00 p.m. finally arrived, with the teachers getting dressed for the game and the students taking their final rest.

The crowd grew larger and larger by the second. Some of the teachers even joined the crowd. Two minutes later, Penske took out the ball and the game began.

Some girls started to scream, "Go Mr. Sham!"

That must have really motivated him to score



The Players — B-ball participants pose for a friendly picture.

because he hardly missed a shot. Mr. Sham made three or four in a row, changing the score to Teachers 8, Students 5. Before the game was over, some students were already claiming teachers as this year's champion.

Those students were right because after Mr. Sham scored another two more points, they only had to score one more point to

once again win the championship.

And the teachers did score.

In an amazing play, Raygoza took out the ball to Mr. Scull, who faked taking the three-pointer, and then passed it back to Mr. Raygoza, who made the lay-up.

Final score: Undefeated Teachers 11, Students 5. ■



Our Stylish Ms. Jung

Teacher in the Spotlight

6th-Grade Teacher Brings Style to Columbia Campus

By Evie Phung

Christine Jung, a 6th-grade Language Arts teacher at Columbia School, enjoys teaching. Helping students learn to read and write is something that she does well, and her students will tell you so.

"She's always willing to help," said one, "even when she's real busy."

But Jung also likes to do many other things. During her free time she likes to ski, snowboard, shop, and swim.

She usually goes shopping twice a week, and shoes are one of her favorite purchases.

"I have too many to count, but I can go through three years without repeating my shoes," Jung reported. Students often wonder how Jung chooses her shoes and clothes: they are stylish, attractive, and quite varied.

However she chooses, it's clear she enjoys creating her fashion statement, and that her good taste is appreciated by others. ■

The Back Page

Carnival Day Success

By Alex Tran

On Friday, December 15, 2006, Columbia Middle School held a school carnival. This carnival was hosted by the student council members in order to build school spirit and to let the students take a break from the hard work the students have been putting into getting good grades.

The carnival held multiple fun activities, like free throw, which is trying to shoot a basketball in the hoop from the free throw line, and football throw, in which you try to throw a football through a tire. Other games included cup toss, hula hooping contests, Frisbee throw, Connect Four, and arts and crafts.

But according to several students, the most popular activities were karaoke, ski race, can knock-out, chess, and face painting.

In fact, even the guys seemed to get into face painting. Did anyone see all those young men with hearts painted in their faces? ■

Remember



Spirit days are great days at Columbia. Be sure to participate in all of them. Live a little! Have some fun! Who knows, maybe your picture will end up here.



Chavez Wows Audience as Scrooge in 'A Christmas Carol'

By Samantha Ruiz

Aaron Chavez, also known as Mr. Scrooge, did a fantastic job on Thursday, December 14, playing the stone-hearted character in Columbia's own version of the Charles Dickens



A Face to Remember — One of many depictions of Dickens' Ebenezer Scrooge.

classic, "A Christmas Carol."

Joining Chavez was an equally talented cast, including Wendolyn Celestino, Nadia Rendon, Ruth Medina, and Abel Tovar as Jacob Marley and the three spirits, Adrian Rios as Bob Cratchit, and Rochelle Diaz as Tiny Tim.

Chavez made everyone feel the emotions of the play with his portrayal of Scrooge, a grumpy old man who hated Christmas and made others feel miserable because of his mood.

Scrooge experiences a series of visits from four ghosts who warn him that

he needs to think of others, not just about himself — especially on Christmas.

Scrooge is first visited by an old but dead friend and business partner, Jacob Marley, who tells him about the three spirits who will visit Scrooge. These three spirits, the first from Christmas Past, the second from Christmas Present, and the third from Christmas Future, take him on journeys to the past, present, and future, showing him that there are many who have suffered because of his wrong-doings.

As a result Scrooge feels guilt and remorse. His heart is changed, and



Charles Dickens wrote his ghostly story in 1843 in order to pay a debt. It became so popular that his contemporaries credited it with revitalizing Christmas traditions.

once again he becomes the kind man he had once been in his youth, giving much to the needy. ■