



Columbia Eagles' Watch

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Halloween Carnival Hosts Ghouls, Karaoke

Because of their good behavior, Columbia Middle School students were able to take some time out and enjoy a Halloween Carnival during the last period of the day on Oct. 31.

There were many different kinds of activities, including chess, water bal-

loons, hula hoops, basketball, karaoke, face painting, a costume contest, and the photo booth. Students participated in as many activities as they could to win tickets for a raffle. The raffle winners received free dress passes and Starbucks gift cards. Other prizes were also awarded, including candy.

Karaoke was one of the most popular booths. Students enjoyed singing with friends and to their favorite songs, a fact that was made clear by the number of students who grabbed the mike to perform. Equally enthusiastic were the listeners, who constantly shouted words of encouragement and cheered every performance. Mr. Galindo, a student council advisor, thought "the karaoke was a smash hit."

There were even a few teachers who wanted to perform. As one teacher put it, "It was great fun to watch. I only wish I had taken a shot at performing. We all would have had a good laugh."

Another big hit was the water balloon activity, especially because the weather was warm. Jose Arcila summed it up for many students when he said, "It's fun getting soaked."

The highlight of the carnival was the costume contest. A wide variety of characters were represented, including ghosts, monsters, flying creatures, cooks, witches, pirates, and some very strange people. Justin Munoz and Brian Troung were the winners of the costume contest. "It was fun competing with my friends," said Troung, "and the prizes were great."

Students had worn costumes throughout the school day. One teacher reported thinking a student was absent until he realized the bear sitting in front of him was the missing student. Angel Murrillo, student body president, had pushed for wearing costumes for the entire school day. He said he thought it had been very successful, and added, "I'm proud of my role in helping to bring costumes back to the upper grades."

Although overall impressions about the carnival were positive, there was some room for improvement, according



to some students and student body officials.

Joey Trinh, student council vice president, thinks the carnival should have included more activities, such as Pin the Tail on the Donkey, Tug-O-War, and Apple Bobbing. The amount of time for the carnival should also be extended, according the Trinh. Misa Trieu would have added rides, and Manuel Magana would have liked "better music."

Galindo would have added another snack bar. Because the money raised from the snack bar goes back into student council, another snack bar might have also raised additional money for the student body.

Ms. Contreras, student council advisor, said, "I think the amount of people

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Remembering Those Who Serve and Protect



United States Marines raising the flag on Iwo Jima's Mt. Suribachi during World War II after one of the costliest battles of the war.

On Monday, Nov. 11, we celebrated Veterans' Day — a day we take to remember the lives of those who serve or have served in the United States military.

It is celebrated in all states of the U.S. and even other countries. This holiday was created in 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson, but was then known as Armistice Day because it originally honored those who served in World War II.

On June 1, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill changing Armistice Day to Veterans' Day. Now it is a tribute to all soldiers who fought or fight to protect us in all of our wars.

In 1971 this holiday was moved to the fourth Monday of October because of an act known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. This did not just move Veterans' Day, but also George Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, and Columbus Day. Because of public demand, however, Veterans' Day was moved back to Nov. 11 in 1978.



During this Thanksgiving season, we should take time to remember and be grateful for those who risk their lives to keep us safe and free. ■

Thanksgiving Day Facts

- After harvesting food the pilgrims had Thanksgiving for 3 days.
- James Madison decided to have Thanksgiving twice in one year in 1815.
- 90 Wampanoag Indians attended the first Thanksgiving hosted by 50 Plymouth Pilgrims.
- Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey as the national bird instead of the eagle.
- Canada's Thanksgiving is held on the second Monday of October.
- Wild turkeys can fly over 55 miles per hour; however, household turkeys cannot fly.
- Forty-five million turkeys are eaten each Thanksgiving.
- Twenty-two million turkeys are eaten each Christmas.
- Male turkeys gobble. Hens do not. They make a clicking noise.
- Turkeys can see in color; turkeys do not see well at night.
- Wild turkeys spend the night in trees. They especially like oak trees. ■

Yearbook Cover Contest Update

Our yearbook needs a cover, and the cover will be designed by a Columbia student, so be sure to enter the contest. Four movie tickets to the theater of his or her choice will be awarded to the winner.

The rules are simple: use original art and pictures, have a theme, do not use copyrighted material, and turn in your entry by Jan. 15.

Because our yearbook will be a standard-sized book, your cover should be done on white, 8 1/2 x 11-inch paper. After you have sketched your plans, see Mr. Mason for the heavy cardstock on which you will draw your final entry.

If you have drawings or photographs that need to be scanned, see Mr. Mason in the computer lab.

The yearbook will cost \$18. Pre-sales will begin in December. ■

Halloween (from pg. 1)

involved in the activities, or just hanging out with friends, was great. You could tell they were enjoying themselves. And the snack bar went extremely well." But she also concluded, "If students had had better information about the carnival, they would have been able to participate in more activities. Due to the heat, some of the activities had to be moved further away



together and really helped out," she said. "Overall,

"Everyone pulled together."

from the crowd." Another improvement, according to the Contreras, would have been better decorations and the addition of a haunted house.

Given the time between elections and the carnival itself, however, Contreras said the carnival went well. "Everyone pulled to-

gether and really helped out," she said. "Overall,

