



# Columbia Eagles' Watch

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## Lock Down! 7th and 8th Volleyball

Recently, during 1st, 2nd, and 3rd periods, almost everyone in school had to stay indoors. In the morning there was a disturbance that effected El Monte High School and a local apartment building. Columbia students at first wondered if it was a real lock down or a practice.

### Students at first wondered if it was real ...

During class students were allowed to have free time or study. During the lockdown some were scared because they thought the individual involved was dangerous — but he was just a car thief. Many students got to watch movies while others were able to study or write essays.

The lockdown lasted about two-and-a-half hours. Many of the students enjoyed staying inside and missing some classes. But the break was short-lived: After it was over students had to go to all of their classes, except 3rd and 7th periods.

The students got to eat their lunch and nutrition, but nutrition was late. Many students were hungry and others had to use the restroom. In the end the lockdown may have been fun for the students — but not for the teachers.



Spiking and serving is what these girls are all about. The eighth-grade girls' volleyball team is trying their best to win as many games as possible. They have won two games and had a couple of ties. Unfortunately, they also lost some games. They're working hard at their practices to try to improve their skill.

The team plays on Saturdays at Lambert Park. They've had some pretty tough competition, but they always try their best. They've won two games. They won a game against Frank Wright and a practice game against Kranz. "I felt really happy and excited when we won!" exclaimed Cindy Martinez. They had ties and losses against Gidley, Madrid, Potrero, Durfee, and other schools.

To develop their skill they practice

twice a week, and it isn't easy. Their practices are pretty tiring and tough. It may leave some girls all tired out. "I feel so tired and exhausted after practice, but I know something has been accomplished," said Itsel Mora.

On November 22, 2008 the girls won their last game! They beat Kranz once again. "It felt really good to win our last game," said Breanna Herrera. The seventh graders also had a game that day and unfortunately they lost, but they have won almost all of their games. Good job seventh graders!

Overall, the all girl's teams have done an outstanding job.



## Whoa! The Great Shake of 2008

On November 13, 2008, at approximately 10:00 we had the Shake-out, an earthquake drill which helps people of California be prepared for an earthquake.

It took place in all schools in California. Students said that this drill will help us be prepared for the next major earthquake that awaits us in the future. "I think the Shake-out is going to be very helpful in the future for the earthquakes that are yet to come," said 7th grader, Dillon Dep.

Another student also said, "This drill was awesome because it took up all the time of my second period class, but it was also helpful because



we don't know when an earthquake or disaster will strike." This drill was very helpful, and will teach us to be prepared for an earthquake.

## Historic Election

### Obama Wins Presidency

On November 4 2008, Barack Obama was elected as the president of the United States, and in his acceptance speech in Chicago's Grant park, he spoke to a crowd of more than 160,000 people. He started out by saying, "If there's anybody out there who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer." Its very sad that Obama's grandmother passed away the day before the election of 2008.

Before political elections, Obama said, he likes to play basketball because he is superstitious. Obama also spoke about how he supported marriage for gay's even though Yes on Prop 8 succeeded. Barack Obama stated that he will do all in his power to help the U.S get back on the economy. He talked eloquently to the American

See *Obama* on pg. 2

## The Back Page

# Columbia's Halloween Carnival Huge Success

On Friday, October 31, 2008, Columbia held its annual Halloween carnival; students from sixth to eighth grade spent the most of the afternoon outside at the carnival.

Students in sixth to eighth grade got to dress up in Halloween costumes. There were many different costumes worn. There was even a student, Deon Tong, who pretended to be a girl for Halloween by wearing female clothes. Even though the floors were wet in the morning it did

not stop students from dressing up for Halloween. If a student didn't wear a costume they also had some other choices: Students could have worn orange, black, or their uniform. Teachers were also in the Halloween spirit and many dressed up in costumes.

During the last hour of school, after seventh period, students got to go outside to enjoy the afternoon at the school's carnival. There were a lot of activities at the carnival. Students could line up and get their face painted by artistic teachers. Some students got in line to buy food and drinks such as nachos, oranges with chili, and water. There were even some students who showed their singing talent by singing at karaoke.

During the carnival a costume contest was held. Participants signed up at the tent to enter for the costume contest. When all the students who wanted to participate signed up it was time to start the contest. The participants stood behind each other to form a circle. They started to walk around so everyone who didn't participate could see their amazing costumes. Awards were handed out after the council had decided the winners. Costume made awards were given to the winners of each category.

For the rest of the time, students

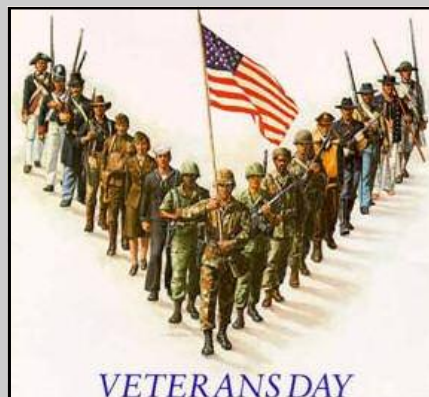
walked around school with their friends and went to do different things on the campus. Some students played basket ball or just shot some hoops. At the end of the day, when school was over, students helped pick up trash in order to help keep our campus clean and to ensure that Columbia could keep having these events.

Afterwards everyone left to go home — possibly to go trick-o-treat later on in the night.



## Veterans Day

On November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, students did not have school because it was Veterans Day. Veterans Day is a special day that honors all the veterans that have served and continue to serve in in any branch of the United States military. Veterans Day, which began as Armistice Day in 1919, is a national holiday.



## Obama

people during the acceptance speech.

John McCain congratulated Barack Obama for his win in the election. John McCain also said that America once had a problem with racism, but that had all changed because a African-American had won the election.

