

DRUM LINE: CAN WE HAVE A DRUM ROLL PLEASE?

By: Sarah Rafiqi
Editor

Drumline is one of the many competitive groups at Valencia High School. They have practices, divisions and competitions just like many of the other activities at our school.

Drumline consists of two sections. The moving drummers, divided into the snares, tenors, cymbals and bases sections, make up the Battery section. Meanwhile, their friends who play immobile at the front of the line are called the Pit. Both sections com-

latter includes every Drumline of every high school in Southern California. Within the two circuits, there are also three divisions. "A Class" is the division for smaller, less accomplished groups. Valencia participates in the "Open Class," a division of very competitive, competent Drumlines. Finally, there is "World Class." Warner Campos (12), an enthusiastic performer in Valencia's Drumline said that the "World Class" is full of "amazing, amazing groups. It's where everyone wants to be."

Campos admits that the hardest part of Drumline is trying to perfect everything.

"It's always easy to suck," he said, "but it's hard to be good."

In order to be the best, line practices three to four week under the leadership tains Patrick Simpelo (12) and Alanzo Mejia (12). On Mondays, or sectional days, The Pit practices inside the band room and the Battery practices right outside. Wednesdays, however, are full ensemble days in the gym. During all practices, Drumline works on basic

warm-ups, their music and achieving perfection.

According to Campos, all the hard work pays off in the end. "The best thing about Drumline is going to a competition and knowing you put out your best performance—that you're laying it all out on the floor," Campos said.

In order to be able to do so, Campos realizes that it is very important for his fellow group members to be motivated and optimistic. He uses this famous quote to motivate his group to do their best: "You don't want to play to suck, you don't want to play to be last. You want to play to be the best, you want to play to win."

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: TIM HOANG, BLAINE ROBERTS, WARNER CAMPOS PHOTO BY: STEVEN OEI.



UPCOMING

Julieta Venegas
House of Blues
Anaheim
2/2/11
\$52



COURTESY: VICTORYPRESSCENTER.COM



PHOTO COURTESY: LAST.FM

Aquabats
The Music Box
Hollywood
2/11/11
\$29



PHOTO COURTESY: MELOPHOBE.COM

The Decemberists
The Wilern
Los Angeles
2/12/11
\$41



PHOTO COURTESY: SLIMSTICKETS.COM

Chromeo
The Fox Theater
Pomona
2/19/11
\$32.65

CONCERTS

THE HUNGER GAMES SERIES: BOOK REVIEW

By: Reetu Inamdar
Editor

The *Hunger Games* series by Suzanne Collins has become a popular hit all around the country. The first book in the trilogy is *Hunger Games* followed by *Catching Fire* and finally, *Mockingjay*.

The trilogy has made its way into the lives of many and it continues to grow in popularity among libraries. This series is attractive to males and females alike. It is not only an original story but it also is a thriller with a hint of romance. In the series, North America is divided into 12 sections. Each District must select one boy and one girl to compete in an annual game, in which there is only one survivor, with Darwin's "survival of the fittest" theory as the key to survive.

When Katniss' sister, Prim, is selected to compete in the competition, Katniss knows her sister is not meant to go. In place of her

sister, Katniss decides to go in the competition since she is the most capable. Katniss and Peeta are chosen to go and they soon find that the game is not at all fun. They must fight to the death. The two teens are swept into the media's arms as the games are podcasted on live television. Will they be prepared to go to the games, knowing that they might die?

Be prepared to be sucked into the book, as the



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author will draw you into Katniss' world. Katniss is a lovable character that appeals to all; she is not the typical character that is full of perfection. Her decisions and flaws let readers know that she certainly isn't the moral character. Peeta,

on the other hand, is the masculine character that all the girls will fall for. The story is full of action, romance, drama, kindness and betrayal. This book is a "finish in one sitting" and a must read. Don't miss out on a great series – the trilogy is a definite hit and is recommended to all readers.

TRON: LEGACY PROVING THAT STORYLINE STILL MATTERS

By: Richard Ma
Reporter

It has been almost 30 years since the original *Tron* movie swept the nation. Does the long-awaited sequel, *Tron: Legacy*, live up to its predecessor's reputation? The answer lies within the opinion of the viewer.

Tron: Legacy picks up years after the first story left off. Kevin Flynn, played by Jeff Bridges (who played the same character in the original film), mysteriously disappears without a trace. The viewers are then introduced to Kevin's son, Sam Flynn (Garrett Hedlund). Sam takes almost no interest in continuing his father's legacy and pays little attention to his father's disappearance. While foraging through an abandoned arcade, Sam is fortuitously digitized to The Grid. This is where Sam finds his father and is when the movie really kicks off.

Sam goes on a fantastical trek through the *Tron*

world in order to find his father and to ultimately search for a way back to the "real world." Along the way, Sam encounters a number of characters. The two major characters are Clu (also Jeff Bridges) and Quorra (Olivia Wilde). Clu, a digital copy of Sam's father who rules The Grid, is the antagonist of the movie. Quorra helps Sam in ridding The Grid of Clu's diplomatic ways.

The setting of *Tron: Legacy* is unlike anything seen in other movies. While the majority of the movie takes place in a dark setting, the film manages to captivate the audience using fantastical light patterns and majestic landscapes. The film uses computer-generated imagery (CGI) effects to its utmost potential. For example, all the landscapes and scenery in The Grid are amazingly shot in front of a green screen; however, the audience barely notices this effect. The audience will be

too enthralled by the movie and will be taken to an extraordinary world of computers and bright lights.

Tron: Legacy is also proficiently complimented by the score of electronic duo Daft Punk. While it might be difficult to imagine Daft Punk comprising a score for any movie, their electronic harmonies fit perfectly with the 8-bit vibe of *Tron: Legacy*.



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Tron: Legacy is an entertaining, wild ride. While the beginning of the movie started out slow, once Sam entered the "Tron world," the audience is captivated by the storyline and character developments.

"Although the visual effects were amazing, the story was okay," said Mr. Jason

Parker, in the words of a true *Tron* aficionado.

Although the movie did not live up to the hype of the original *Tron* movie, it is definitely a great family friendly movie to see this winter.