

## The Buzz

### Fiesta contests open to students

By Reporter Staff

As part of The Reporter's Newspapers in Education program, student journalists from third-grade through high school are invited to a press briefing May 9 to set the stage for a new competition, sponsored by The Reporter's Campus Star project.

"Fiesta at 50" is the theme for a writing and photography competition, timed to coincide with Vacaville's weeklong festival.

Students will be able to pick any event during Fiesta Days, photograph it or write about it in a news feature, and submit it to The Reporter by the June 8 deadline.

Students can attend one of two press briefings — one at 3:30 p.m. and one at 6 p.m. — both on May 9 at the Town Square Library. A team of journalists will be on hand to go over the rules of the contest, hand out student press passes and distribute Fiesta schedules to the students.

Fiesta Days kicks off May 21 and runs through May 28, with a number of events, including the Fiesta Days Parade, a diaper derby, an onion-eating contest, and more.

Winners of the writing and photography contests will be published in an upcoming edition of The Reporter and online. Winners will receive prizes for their efforts.

The contest is open to third-grade through high school students from Vacaville, Dixon, Fairfield, Suisun City and Winters.

For more information, call 453-8149 or 453-8177.

## Models send wrong message

By Emily Denton  
2nd Place, Opinion writing  
Division: Middle School

Are models setting unachievable standards for young women?

Pictures of skinny models are all over magazines these days making young women feel that they need to look like that also. Some women are even going to the extremes to look like these models.

So should models be allowed to be that skinny? Many don't think so and after the death of Brazilian fashion model, Ana Carolina Reston, who died at a scant 88 pounds, even the fashion industry is taking action. This has become a hot topic ever since her death and people are now looking closer at the unhealthy body image that models are sending to young women.

Everyone knows the saying "the camera adds 10 pounds" but what about the ultra-thin cover models? "Are they really that skinny" and "If they can be that skinny so can I" are the things left in teens mind after reading magazines.

The promotion of the thin, beautiful ideal in our culture has created a problem in which young women dislike their bodies. The girls think that if they just skip a meal here and don't eat then they can control their unhealthy behavior but many lose control and either stop eating completely or throw up their meal afterward.

The media really affects kids, especially girls, so when they see the ultra-thin models, they become self-conscious and become dissatisfied with their bodies and want to become more like the models who are considered to have the "per-

fect" body. I think that models should have to have a certain BMI (body mass index) and that they should have to be a certain weight.

They are held to a different standard and when girls see how "perfect" they are, they try to be just like them.

Models set an unachievable standard for girls when they make the girls feel bad when they are not as skinny or pretty as models.

Even though anorexia is a problem, America must first work on its obesity problems before working on anorexia, which is a much smaller problem. I hope that things will change and that people can become more comfortable with themselves.

The author is an eighth-grader in Mary Iannarelli's classroom at Notre Dame School in Vacaville.

## Just hanging out



Two Browns Valley Elementary School students are shown here hanging out at the school's playground, enjoying the monkey bars in this award-winning photograph taken by Maya Flores. It earned the fifth-grader a third-place award in The Reporter's Campus Star photo-journalism competition in the fifth- and sixth-grade division. Maya is a student in Ed Finkas' classroom.

## 'Church of Cal' calls her

By Katie Dowd  
Honorable Mention, Opinion writing  
Division: High School

My father once said that God doesn't care about football. He's not fooling anyone.

Nothing other than a religious phenomenon can describe what happens around my house during football season. The Dowds, a generally mild-mannered and unassuming family, turn into fanatical parishioners of the Church of Cal.

UC Berkeley Coach Jeff Tedford is our Billy Graham; Memorial Stadium is our house of worship. The path to enlightenment is found in Section XX: Cal football and frozen lemonade treats. Nearer my God to thee, indeed.

Saturdays at Memorial force me to neglect my scholarly duties until Sunday, but they bring me closer to my family and friends. The Church of Cal teaches the virtues of love. I make friends with total strangers every week. But they aren't strangers at all. They're my fellow congregation. We cheer together when we score; we cry together when we're blown out.

At one game, there was a man frantically waving his crutch in the air during a defensive stand. My father shouted over the ruckus, "Cal football: restorative football! Miracles happen here!" Yes, I too will preach it on the sidewalks of Telegraph Avenue. Come witness the healing properties of a game that is as complex as Tedford's offense, as simple as a fall day in Strawberry Canyon.

Maybe I'm overly analytical. Blame it on my theory of knowledge class. Ever since I started that class, I've been searching for truth. I haven't found it yet, and I don't think I ever will. There's too much noise; Saturdays in Berkeley are like the London Symphony Orchestra compared to the cacophony I endure the rest of the week.

Yes, life is so very good, because I know that come Saturday, I'll be tanning five shades closer to burnt sienna in the Gold Zone. I will empty my pockets into the Cal collection plate and receive salvation and hot dogs in return. I will walk away, win or lose, a little closer to God.

Come witness the healing.

The author is a senior in Lynn Herring's class at Armijo High School in Fairfield.

## Beckham bending rules of fair salaries

By Blake Aweau  
1st Place, Opinion writing  
Division: Middle School

David Beckham is a great soccer player, but is this athletic icon getting paid too much?

Based on a 40-hour work week, David Beckham is making about \$25,000 an hour. That's \$1 million a week and \$52 million a year!

That's not including sponsors, commercials, photo shoots, etc.

It's ridiculous that one individual out of 3 billion people in the world is making that much money; when children upon children



Blake Aweau

are plagued with harrowing poverty and diseases. People are dying each second around the world because they're deprived from a paper substance called money. Is this really justice?

Does it sicken you to know that you can save millions of children with that amount of money, but only one person is entitled to it? There are also soldiers around the world going into war with insufficient equipment and clothing due to the lack of

funds, which has resulted in people losing their lives.

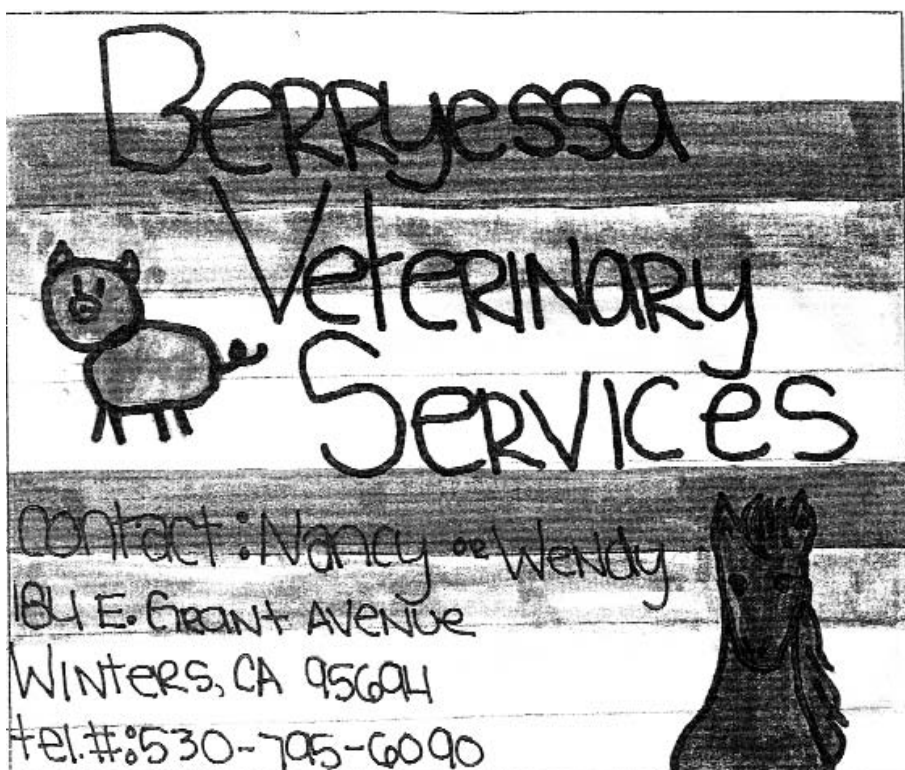
David Beckham is getting paid a lot of money because of his image. America wants to pay him a lot of money because if America can be hooked on soccer too, then it would be an insanely lucrative business for owners.

David Beckham is getting paid way too much and a lot of that money could be used for more necessary cures.

In conclusion, share the wealth.

The author is a seventh-grader in Karen Dietrich's class in Holy Spirit School in Fairfield.

## Design-an-Ad

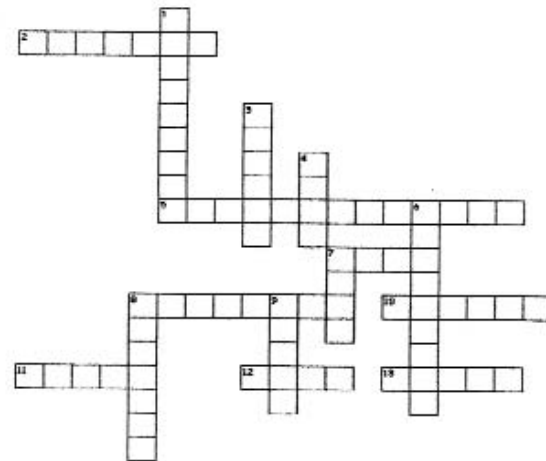


Jordan Cardwell earned second-place honors in the middle school grade division in the Campus Star Design-an-Ad competition for this advertisement she designed for Berryessa Veterinary Services. She is a seventh-grader in Mrs. Kealy's classroom at Notre Dame School in Vacaville.

## Puzzles, Games and Comics

### Baseball Facts

- Across
- The leader in saves.
  - The highest number of home runs in a single season.
  - The leader for strikeouts.
  - The leader in on-base percentage.
  - Babe Ruth's real first name.
  - The pitcher with the most wins and complete games.
  - The leader for batting average.
  - The leader for home runs in a season and walks.



- Down
- The team that won the world series last year.
  - The leader in consecutive games played.
  - The leader in slugging percentage.
  - The leader for stolen bases.
  - The leader for hits, singles and outs.
  - The oldest park in the major leagues.
  - Leader in Runs batted in and career home runs.

This puzzle which focuses on baseball facts through the years was designed by seventh-grader Nathan Komegay and earned him a second-place award in the Campus Star

Puzzles, Games and Comics contest in the middle school division. Nathan is a student in Mrs. Williams' classroom at Vacaville Christian School.