



# The Hatchet

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Washington High School 38442 Fremont Blvd. Fremont, CA 94536

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## No Pain Over Rain

ANTERPREET KAUR  
News Reporter

The rainstorm, Jan. 20, caused hassles to students and staff, yet other students enjoyed the wet weather. The greatest trouble for students and staff was getting to class on time.

"It took longer to get to school and I was worried that I would not

make it on time because of the long line of cars at the stoplight near the driveway," senior Christopher McIntyre said.

Because few activities could be performed outside in the rain, students stay inside their home for most of the day. Usually, when driving by WHS, one would see students either tennis players on the courts, or students enjoying themselves in front of the flag pole. Well, not on that soaking

day. Senior Cewai Ho, a varsity tennis player, took this weather as an opportunity to relax.

"I like to sleep when it's raining," Ho said.

Due to the heavy amount of rain, puddles were inches deep, especially the ones between the 20s and 90s building wings.

"My friends and I found this to be a good chance to get wet and sloppy, so we took turns jumping in them. Even though many of them

found this to be icky, I personally really enjoyed the sloppiness," sophomore Karanpaul Gill said. The stormy day reminded me of the monsoons in India."

Others chuckled at the ducklings swimming in the massive puddle in the football field.

"My friend and I saw the few ducks sitting in the pond while I was walking back to school after lunch," senior Devanshi Patel said. "I believe that it's nice to have rain

and thunder and lightning every so often, as it allows for a different and fun day!"

## AC Transit asks, 'paper or plastic?'



PAIGE CASTREN  
News Editor

AC Transit is in the process of transitioning all its paper passes to the TransLink Card. Senior marketing representative Cristina Ebojo is preparing outreach events for schools and other public places to get students registered for the TransLink cards. There is one planned at the Fremont Main Library, March 23. The outreach events inform AC Transit riders who do not know about the cards or how to get one.

"There is a little advertisement on the bus, but it doesn't give directions on how to get one," junior Amber Yao said.

The TransLink Card is a plastic card personalized with the student's picture and name. It can be loaded with e-cash or a 31-day youth pass. To qualify for a Youth TransLink the rider must be 5 to 17 years old and show proof of name and age.

Ebojo says that the cards should be more efficient and reliable.

"If you bend [the paper passes] or place it near a magnet then when you go to swipe it, the machine can't register it. The cards will help a lot," sophomore Katie Majumdar said.

TransLink Cards cannot get demagnetized. There are multiple ways of loading them and can be easily replaced.

"In our test runs we have found that tagging a TransLink Card can See Transit Page 3

## Environmental Club raises funds with juice wallets

SARAH DELANDA  
News Reporter

The Environmental Club president Lisa Ramie plans to make wallets out of juice cartons to raise funds.

"I've made all of the wallets so far, but I want to teach the other members how to make them at a meeting in the future," Ramie said.

Over the years, the club has challenged itself with ambitious projects--including not only the school's garden behind the science buildings, but also gardens throughout the community. This recent undertaking will be their second fundraiser thus far, and its profits will be directed toward different projects the club intends to embark on. For example, the Environmental Club intends to



Photo by JUDY WU

Environmental club treasurer Dylan Mahood teaches fellow members how to properly pull weed.

purchase post-consumer recycled paper for the teachers to print out or make copies with. Members

also hope to take a field trip to Yosemite next year and, in perhaps its boldest move yet; the club is

## Mystery culprit cuts computer

BACH PHAN  
News Reporter

Somebody or something cut the fiber optics wires to the network in November. This is what many people expected when students in the Fremont building of the school could not sign into the school network. This was especially damaging because the computer classes are held in there. Computer teacher James Briano and freshman Vanessa

Fernandez found rat droppings that were scattered around the room after Fernandez and Briano went into the network room to assess the damage. They also caught a glimpse of the mouse on the computer equipment. A couple days later, sophomore Nino Becquart and her friends managed to capture the mouse inside a garbage bin and let it outside.

"I was scared... it was gross," Fernandez said.

Math teacher Mark Clevenger, who manages the school computer network that runs throughout the school, further inspected the

damage to officially determine if the fiber optics were down. His take on the situation was very different from Briano and his students. He believes that somebody broke into the computer room and sabotaged the wires because the computer room is locked at all times.

"The cut marks [were] too clean to be rats," Clevenger said.

Four wires were cut very close to the plug and uniformly. If the wires were further along their length, they would have to have been replaced. A wire that runs from the elevator all the way down to the business office, which would have

been very costly to the school. The wires, however, were reconnected with another set of plugs. After Clevenger had informed the school that the wires had been damaged, the school contacted an outside contractor to come down and fix the cut wires. To this day, nobody is one hundred percent sure if the it was a person or a mouse that cut the wire.

Computer students had to change their curriculum while the network was being fixed. Briano's class watched a movie and looked at parts of a computer, of which they would be quizzed on. Students would have been doing Excel work if the servers had not interrupted their session.



Senior Burrito Fundraiser  
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