



Gene Smith Jr.  
Executive Director  
Columnist

What is art? Some only see art as music, paintings, and sculptures, but that is not true. Art is so much more than just those three things.

Dictionary.com defines Art as "The quality, production, expression, or realm, according to aesthetic principles, of what is beautiful, appealing, or of more than ordinary significance."

Art, in my opinion, is so much more than the definition Dictionary.com provides. Everywhere we go, everywhere we look, everything we see, is a form of art. Art can be anything from an artist painting a por-

## Genes Thoughts on.....

*"Art is always and everywhere, the secret confession, and at the same time the immortal movement of its time." - Karl Marx*

trait to just looking outside your window to see a beautiful day.

Music, beauty, and sports are also forms of art. For example, a football player running down the field twisting, turning, and dodging his "attackers" has the elegance of a cheetah finding and attacking their goal, sprinting viciously escaping threats as they thrust towards their prey. Everyday things can be seen as art when you look at them in multiple perspectives and not just as for what they are.

Another example of art is beauty. When the average person thinks of beauty they think of models with a whole bunch of make-up and fancy clothes, but when I think of beauty, I think of art. Anywhere from a beautiful sunrise or sunset, to a baby being born. In my opinion that kind of beauty is art. Beauty is different to everyone because everyone looks at beauty in a different point of view.

Music is my favorite type of art because without, music my life would just be a colossal blank, a gigantic white piece of paper that would never get colored. Music adds color, style, soul, and rhythm to everything, at least in my opinion, and without music, the world would be sterile and everyone would be like emotionless robots. I would consider music art because art is what people use to express how they feel and that is exactly what music does, helps individuals express how they feel through rhythm and melody. The best part about this form of art is that practically everyone can do it. You actually do not need any talent what-so-ever to express through this form of art.

Art is much more than just painting and sculptures. It is more than just beauty, music, and sports. Art is a way of living your life.

## The Mouse Hole:



Mickey Biggs  
Managing Editor  
Columnist

Strength. This word is associated with boxers, body-builders, professional athletes, construction workers, and those in the military. These people strive to be muscular, as required by their occupations. They spend time in the gym or working out because it is necessary for them to succeed. However physically strong these people may be, this is not the strength I will be discussing in this article.

True strength is embodied in people who never give up, never let life get to them, and are always continuing their journey though the path they may be on seems nearly impossible. Whether the person is a single mother who is juggling a job, college, and her two children, the young father who was laid off from a well-paying job, and now works two jobs and continues to be the father and husband his father was not, or the teen preparing for college while accomplishing a balancing act between home, school, social life, and extra-curricular activities; these are the people

*"The bell will toll on when lights glow, yet it darkens as day fades to night"*

whose strength surpasses any circus strong-man's.

These people are those who do everything they can for other people, and rarely ask anything in return. These people tend to be courteous of others, respectful, and polite. These people will go out of their way to help their fellow man.

Strong people care about their fellow man, and do not complain about doing so. People acting kindly without complaint or criticism, that is the mark of true strength.

Each person knows someone who will come to mind when they read this article. For some it may cause them to think of their mother, father, or other family member, others may think of a close friend, and still others would think of an elder who possess these traits.

Hard working people like those mentioned above, can be found scattered throughout the world. Think of individuals who act similarly as that which was described earlier and thank them. Let them know you appreciate what they do for you, and all the other people they affect. Then, strive to be like them, so that you may positively influence others as you have been.

## California Prop 19



Damian  
Chanthapaseuth  
Columnist

As we know California is fighting for the legalization and non-legalization of marijuana. However, the question is, will the legalization of marijuana have a positive or negative effect on the state? Some people, and I mean the people of the state, say that it could be a positive effect but how? If legalization is passed and confirmed what would the citizens of the state really use

this drug for?

Around Glenn County, there are several kids that abuse this drug for their own use. The people that use this drug say that it helps them focus. If that is true then why haven't the grades skyrocketed? Honestly, it doesn't make sense.

There are many uses of marijuana such as to stimulate appetite, controlling nausea and vomiting, and neurological or movement disorders like Parkinson's disease or multiple sclerosis. Those are just the medical uses, but what does youth really use it for? The youth of society use this drug to have a good time or just to boost up self-reputation. However this drug can have negative effects to the human body.

These negative effects include hostility towards others, increased heart rate, or even leading up to cardiac arrhythmias. These factors are very

lethal and they continue to be worse. Of course there are positive and negative effects of using marijuana.

Marijuana is usually smoked wrapped in paper (joint) or in a pipe. It is also smoked in blunts, which are cigars that have been emptied of tobacco and refilled with a mixture of marijuana and tobacco. This mode of delivery combines marijuana's active ingredients with nicotine and other harmful chemicals. Marijuana can also be mixed in food or brewed as a tea. As a more concentrated, resinous form, it is called hashish; and as a sticky black liquid, hash oil. Marijuana smoke has a pungent and distinctive, usually sweet-and-sour odor.

If it is legalized here in California there should be some type of bylaw that should be with it such as heavily taxing the purchased and the possession of marijuana.

## The Healing Process



Makayla Chacon  
Columnist

When we fall down and hurt ourselves, we only experience pain for about half an hour. We get up off the ground, clean ourselves off, and we go on with our average day. In about a week or two, the scuff is healed, and we discover a scar. Of course, scars have no physical pain to them; they are only mere memories of the day you decided to accidentally hurt yourself.

When we lose a relative, a friend, a significant other, or any other important existence in our lives, we hurt for more than a half an hour. We can hurt for days, months, or even years at a time. The difference between physical pain and mental pain is the fact that when we get physically hurt we can look at the scars on our bodies and instantly remember what caused the pain that was brought upon us and when we become mentally hurt our mind is scarred for life. It's hard to forget what has brought you that type of mental pain. We try so hard to put the bad memories far back in our mind, but in all reality we will never forget

*We look forward to the time when the power of love will replace the love of power. Then our world know love, peace, and happiness" - William Ellery Channing*

the past. Our past is more than a mere memory in our heads. The past is always going to be a piece of us.

In life, we go through events that we cannot explain. We ask ourselves the most common question, "Why?" "I'm a good person, why me?" "Why do I have to go through this?" "Why and what did I do to deserve this?"

Bad things, unfortunately, always happen to good, innocent people. It's really just a part of life. Why are innocent children born into abusive homes? Why do people get raped? Why do people get murdered? Why are people discriminated? These aren't even half of the questions that will always go unanswered. In order to "live" we have to go through "evil". Live is evil spelt backwards, have you ever noticed that? The evil events we go through in life are tests; tests to see how strong we are, tests to see how wise we are, and tests to see how we will handle things.

We choose how hard we fall; either we can get back up and dust ourselves off and continue life or we just lay there and contemplate as to how we even fell.

## The Reversing Mirror



Rebekah Allen  
Columnist

It seems today you can never tell a friend from an enemy, a comrade from a foe, and when you find out, if they are your friend or not, it is too late to save yourself from getting hurt. Friends that do this make me wonder whatever happened to the friendships that lasted for years on end. I miss those kinds of friendships, where you could actually talk to your friends without worrying about them judging you or revealing your secrets. It seems that no one understand what it is like to

*"They say keep your friends close and your enemies closer. The problem today is, you can never tell them apart" - Unknown*

be a true friend or what it means to be frustrated.

I remember how I could tell a secret to one of my best friends and not have to worry about him or her running to the nearest person to tell that secrets. I have seen too many alliances slip because one of them decided to be treacherous and pass on their friends' secrets or start rumors about them. It is very painful and heart wrenching, because now the friend who was once trusted, broke that trust. This person will probably go through the rest of their life hiding their true secrets from the people who actually care about them.

I believe that a friendship is something between two people who can trust and be there for each other, but most friendships are lacking that which causes them to fall apart. Trust is the

foundation of a friendship, and without trust what do you have. You have an unstable friendship full of secrets and lies. I just find it hard to believe that some friendships no longer are about being friends and it is quite sad. Yet it still happens, people get used and feelings get hurt. I guess it is just another lesson in life that we have to learn.

It would be nice if we could all go back to that time were we all actually trusted our friends. That way we would not have to worry about telling our friends anything. If your one of the lucky people out there that can trust your friends without worrying about secret telling or backstabbing, then you are incredible lucky. I advise you to keep this friend close to you because in this day and age you can barley find friends you can trust.

## Alive And Well



McKenzie Butler  
Columnist

Mistakes students make in today's society can have a disastrous affect on their lives through

other student's text messaging, gossiping, and/or through online social websites. Situations that cause humiliation, degradation, and embarrassment to teens can cause the same effects than those in the celebrity world experience.

The halls at WHS can be similar to the celebrity world. High school students make the same mistakes celebrities make only celebrity mistakes are published to the outside world. High school students receive the negative attention through other student's

actions.

A celebrity is someone who has many idols and fans, and known to not make mistakes; therefore, many people look up to them. The media and the paparazzi swarm celebrities to get every little mistake celebrities have made and embellish the whole story. Very similar to teens, students hear a rumor and will continue to spread the false side of the story. Celebrities, like Justin Bieber and Kim Kardashian, are always in the news for what they do or

where they spend their time. Popular celebrities such as these two will never have any privacy. The paparazzi will always follow them to receive the latest news to sell to the highest media buyer.

Unlike high school students, they have to walk the halls knowing that there are people who see them at that party or at a different event and will post their activity on Facebook or will text their friends.

It is the pressure that teenagers cannot handle that causes

them to act out in a vicious manner. Recently in the news a teenage girl committed suicide. What a horrible manner to end a teen's life. Our teens are not being paid like movie stars and those popular through the media.

Celebrities and teens need their own privacy, they should be able to do what they want without anyone's input or concern. Pressure from the outside elements can change a teens out look in their life just as celebrities react to their own pressures.