



Kendall Michelle
Columnist

Above the entrance to Kendall Hall (what a coincidence) reads, "Today Decides Tomorrow" and I for

Bendy Kendy Universe

A New Perception: "If You Can't Beat 'em, Join 'em"

one cannot help but be excited about all the tomorrows ahead of me as I indulge in the college atmosphere at CSU Chico.

No longer am I stuck with limited curriculum and unsophisticated persons who do not take their education seriously. Now I have a chance to start my General Education at 16 years old! Yet, I still get lectured about "missing out" blah, blah, blah.

I seriously object opinion, because every hour I spend enriching my mind in the college curriculum,

is one hour I reach a deeper understanding of the power of learning about topics that actually matter, by professors who care.

High school is very redundant; hormones, superficial values, and the drama no one will ever remember 10 years from now. Not to be such a downer but high school was not my favorite for personal reasons. I had a few cool moments, like the time I shared an interesting story with my entire geometry class about not taking any (blank). Instead of feeling like an idiot, I got a hug from literally everyone. For the most part, I am glad to kiss most of "the high school experience"

goodbye. I agree that my high school career was not a waste, but some experiences were by definition **disappointing**. I will also admit that I was responsible for some of that aspect, but I will not take all of the credit for all the ridiculous moments of my high school years, because as they say, "It takes two to tango"...or sometimes more.

This may label me as a "nerd" but I am proud to say that my favorite part about college is all the diverse subjects I get to study! All of my classes are exciting and I cannot wait to get to school. Anyone who took Mr. Korling's classes last year will be able to make a

smooth transition, since every class I have is a replica of his course and more.

Despite the rigor involved in my courses, not a single word of what I read is irrelevant or boring. After just one week, I feel so much more educated.

Many classes are much more political than I would have imagined and I notice how freely students' points of views vary and how new and different ideas are widely accepted, and I love it!

Being narrow-minded is not an option in college as one is constantly questioning, debating, and proving. The experience makes one feel empowered!

On a blissful note, college is not as scary as I thought and is the best kind of challenge. Most everyone is in the same boat as you; the people are welcoming, social, and excited about intellectual things that **matter** along with other recreational activities (cough cough).

Occasionally there are the ones who waste mommy and daddy's money only to be caught smoking pot in the dormitory, but everyone else has a general purpose. Fortunately, high school does not last forever, but if one can help make it worthwhile instead of a nuisance, keep in mind that the best is yet to come!

Through the Looking Glass There and Back Again



Matthew Martin
Columnist

My fellow scholars, we find ourselves here together at school for another year. There are new faces, rules, classes, and teachers abundant. We all know the feeling of re-entering school for another year. However, once you go through three years of high school, your outlook changes.

Way back in the day, I hated school. When the first day of school would rear its ugly head, I would roll out of bed, groan, complain, and

with the rest of my life in roughly 180 days, I cherish school. I really get into all of my classes, enjoy learning various aspects of my ROP classes, do all my work with zeal, and actually pull off good grades.

I stress to all students: Enjoy school. Your school life runs a lot smoother if you try to learn, cooperate, and realize that school is a positive experience. If you have ever asked yourself whether or not you will use something later in life, nine times out of ten, you will. Granted, this may not apply to Trigonometry, Statistics, or other advanced

arts. However, the basic academic courses, ROP classes, and shop classes will play a large part in what you do for the rest of your life.

Also, it will be good to consider your options before you reach the point where you are out of your house with nowhere to go. There is a large, open world to visit after high school, and plenty of ways to go about exploring it. Planning in high school usually leads to immense relief later in life. Whether it is going to college, entering the Armed Services, attending a trade school, or something else, having a plan is a good place to start after you get on your own.

So, instead of hating school simply because our government and law system require your attendance, enjoy high school. The experiences that you have here might give you a whole new lease on life.

Pandora's Box and The Stranger in the Mirror



Danielle Schmidt
Editor in Chief

I am five foot seven, have brown hair, hazel eyes, and I know what my reflection looks like. However the person I am changes over time. Everyone goes through this journey. As students, we are no longer the people we used to be. If we were, we would still have the maturity level of a seven year old. Situations and time shape us into new people constantly

to better ourselves for the future obstacles we will encounter in everyday life. During this journey of change we may not recognize who we have become. Every now and then we look in the mirror and see a stranger.

The problem is the atmosphere of high school. Most students think they need to be part of a group to "fit in" even if that means losing their sense of self. Acknowledge the fact that once a person acquires a label, attempting to change said stereotype is difficult. The longing for acceptance is normal in any human but altering yourself to rise to someone else's standards is not okay. Why attempt to be like people who probably do not care about you or your well being? If they did, you would not need to

change. Each person is unique in their own way and has their own special gifts and talents. While a football player knows the ins and outs of the game, a musician can read music. Said people have their own set of skills. Trying to change oneself to better achieve someone else's expectations should not be existing. Whatever happened to having your own thoughts and opinions of who you should be? Why leave something so important as the decision of who you are, up to someone else?

I am not trying to preach on "being true to yourself"; but if you are trying to meet someone else's expectations of who you should be- Stop! Each person is unique and has their thoughts and opinions of what is "cool". It does not matter if the *popular kids* know who you are; the most crucial idea is knowing what type of person you are or strive to become. The only standards you have to live up to are your own.

Beyond the City Limits The Best of the Worst



Tim-O Danely
Executive Director

I am back for the last year at our beloved WHS. I know you have all enjoyed (or regretted) reading my articles for the past two years, and I guarantee you all are in for some special treats this year.

Someone once told me that High School would be some of the toughest years of your life. Someone else told me they were some of the best. Even though I am just beginning my senior year I already love it, and I have realized that both of these people were true.

The past three years,

only two of which I have been enrolled at this school, has been one giant roller coaster. I am not going to talk about my freshman year, since I was home-schooled. Sophomore year was definitely the most difficult emotionally and mentally, and I do not care to ever repeat it. Junior year had more ups than downs fortunately, and it has been picking up since then. I have high expectations this year, and so far, they are being met.

A word to the incoming freshman; this year will be tough, I promise. But if the majority of you fresh-meat stop acting

like twelve year old, you might just survive. We will see how things play out though. Stay tuned for one of my columns about freshmen.

And I end my first column with a word to my class, the Senior Class of 2010, I hope you are enjoying being a senior as much as I am. No upper-classmen breathing down our necks, and we are at the top of the totem pole. It is our last year of high school. It is a beautiful feeling.

Senioritis and the urge to leave this town have already set in on me, but as this is our last hurrah, I am definitely going to enjoy it.



Mikayla Biggs
Columnist

Welcome to *The Mouse Hole*, I will be your guide through the year. I will give you perspectives that maybe you did not think about before. This year I will give you the freshman perspective, a fresh look at this school and what goes on. New eyes can provide ideas that no one had previously pondered. Who would ever think to look through a mouse hole at the rest of the world? Well now, this mouse is telling her story!

Freshmen are constantly over-looked, maybe not intentionally, but

have minds that form ideas that could benefit the whole school, possibly the whole town. True, we have not had as much "book time" as the upper-classmen, but we know of the issues at this school. Freshmen have fully-functional brains, eyes, and ears, we should not be over-looked.

Many times it seems as if our opinions do not matter. When freshmen join clubs, many times we are not able to voice our opinions because everyone talks over us. Freshmen tend to get intimidated. Most of the upper-classmen, who have

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we are. We attend high school just like everyone else. We

been at WHS longer, are more comfortable, so they are naturally louder. We are all part of the Willows High School student body; all opinions should matter no matter how young, shy, or disliked we are.

Some freshmen, and some upper-classmen, are afraid to state their opinion. Those just stated have ideas that are worth a thousand and one words. Let those ideas and plans out. Do not ever be afraid to state and defend your opinion. Everyone else, listen to those with quiet voices, they could be the future CEO of a huge company because of their great advertisement ideas and your ultimate boss, which you did not think of listening to in high school. Even mice have seen one side of the story.