



LEARN THE ROPES
Dressed in '50s attire, 4-year-old Maximilian Meza waves at the crowd while senior Jasmine Flores and sophomore Samantha Melendez follow behind. "My friend invited me to pull a wagon with her," Melendez said. "We took turns pulling him because even though he's tiny, he got heavy after a while." Melendez plans on joining CDL when she is a junior.

POWERED UP ON PRIDE
Joined by his classmates, junior Joel Torres shows off his '80s Pacman costume. "I wanted a 'Back to the Future,'" Torres said. "Isabella Gonzales introduced Pacman and everyone liked it." Judges awarded the class of '17 second place.



jasmine tabler



jonathan castro

no invitation required

by eliono joime

Reddish brown hair from his wig fell onto his shoulders. Initially uneasy about the situation, he looked in the mirror one last time to make sure his eyeliner, lipstick and blush were in place. Hoping to get a few laughs, senior Christian Rodriguez adjusted his multi-colored dress, once worn by his great grandmother, and made his way to the parking lot filled with bustling chaos.

"Our float was based on 'Hairspray,'" Rodriguez said. "In the newer version, a man plays the mother of the main character. We thought it'd be funny to do the same for our float. My friends nominated me because I'm not shy. I think I turned quite a few heads."

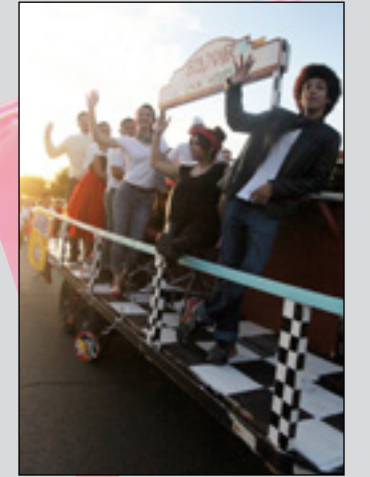
Organizers and spectators noticed there were more floats than in the past. Members of the Corvette club drove their pride and joy on four

wheels down the three mile route, as the feeder pattern school kids showed pride in their schools. Not everyone, however, got to dress up for the celebration.

"I've been in the parade with JROTC every year since I was a freshman," senior Mayra Villalobos said. "As battalion commander, I had to make sure everyone was doing what they were supposed to. It was a little difficult to get everyone to sing the cadences, but once Sgt. [Jose Hernandez] and I told them something, everyone participated."

Participating every year, CDL wagons carrying pint-size Mustangs stole the show, winning the top prize for best organizations float.

"Every wagon is decorated by the child's parents," junior Celeste Saucedo said. "Since some of the parents are former CDL high school students, they went all out. As we walked down the street, I could hear peoples' 'oos and ahhs,' and it made me smile."



jonathan castro

JAMMIN' OUT

Jukeboxes and vinyl records bring the feel of "Grease" to life for senior Avian Chandler. "Throughout most of the parade, we played classic '50s music," he said. "On the last stretch of the parade, we started to play more modern music which got us all hyped."

OFF COURSE

Surrounded by her cross country teammates, senior Luisa Herrera acknowledges the crowd lined up along Edgemere. "It was hectic for me," she said. "Right after the parade, I had to race to the cheer room to prepare for my Burning of the 'B' speech." The team used photos from previous yearbooks to decorate the sides of their float.



jasmine tabler



GROOVY, MAN

Complete with a 1970 Volkswagen bus, softball team members, dressed as hippies, share peace and love with onlookers. "This was my first parade, so I had no idea what to expect," junior Natalie Soriano said. "Once we started walking out of the parking lot, I got hit in the back of the head with a piece of candy. I wasn't even aware the participants threw candy to the crowd. I realized how much of a community thing this is." (photo taken by jonathan castro)

PRE-GAME FUN

Spirits high, sophomore Andie Menichelli and her JV and freshman volleyball teammates end the parade by singing the fight song. "We had a game that week," she said. "Instead of having a decade float, we decided to put volleyball stuff on it to get us pumped up for the game."



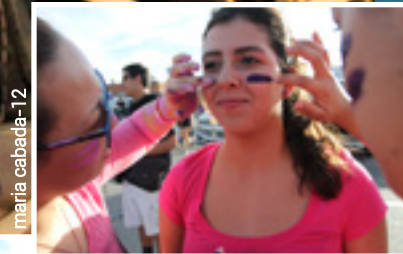
jonathan castro

FOREVER YOUNG

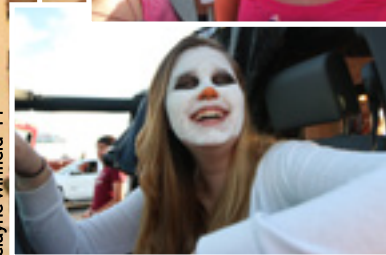
Toys and a giant green dinosaur add to the feel of Nickelodeon's "The Rugrats" as sophomore Raelynn George tosses candy to the crowd. "I really liked the fact that our float was '90s themed. It was something a little more relatable since it wasn't that long ago."



genesis barraza



maria cabada-12



elayne winfield-11



members of the class of '56