

Free!  
Gratis!  
Gratuito!



# The Dominican Times

CDA News

Your school. Your voice. Your paper.

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

MARCH 12, 2008

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### March 17-24

Enjoy a happy and safe spring break.

### March 25

CLASSES RESUME

### March 29

"Paris Under the Stars"  
Senior Prom hosted by  
Remix '09  
Kicks off @ 9 p.m. in  
the ICDA Art Gallery  
Tickets  
RD\$300 singles  
RD\$500 with a date

### April 12

Annual Field Day  
10:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Location: TBD  
Food, games, music and  
fun for the entire family

### April 18

Parent-Teacher  
Conference  
Early Dismissal  
at 12 noon

### April 18-20

ACCA Drama Festival  
Featuring:  
"Vote for Me" by  
CDA's own

### April 22-25

Science Week  
Who can build the best  
mouse trap?  
Ask your science  
teacher for more info.

### May 05

Labor Day  
No Classes!!!

# You Spoke, We Listened

## Students choose name for newspaper, logo

By: Jessica Nuñez

The **Dominico Times** (DT) has emerged the winner after last semester's election. The preferred name for the student newspaper won with a mere four votes more than Da' News—the second favorite but "too edgy" or "too ghetto" as various students noted on their ballots. Some students commented that the name The Dominico Times represented something more traditional, more classical for the institution.

In addition to choosing our school's newspaper name, a school mascot was also determined. For several days leading up to the big

announcement CDA activities coordinator Evelyn Peña canvassed the school asking students to choose between Lions, Knights, and Cougars. Then in late January, during the morning flag ceremony, Ms. Peña presented *Cougars* as

Vote for one option.

- Knights
- Cougars
- Lions

our new school mascot to an appreciative student body.

We also have a new masthead with the newspaper name, school mascot, and slogan, designed by CDA art teacher Fédorah Pierre-Louis. Ms. Pierre-Louis is also credited with helping DT staff use Microsoft Publisher software to develop the newspaper's new and improved look.

Colegio Dominico-Americano students are clearly enthusiastic about creating an image and publication they can claim as their own. The DT staff hopes that the student body will continue on its current path. As our slogan states The Dominico Times is your paper, your voice.

# Better Late Than Never

## Tropical storms derail newspaper

By: Editorial Staff

If it wasn't one thing, it was another. First, in early November 2007, the news staff was rearing to release its inaugural issue when Tropical Storm Noel dumped tons of water on Hispaniola. The first issue was released on November 21 as a result, and soon after DT staff began

planning its follow up issue. Unfortunately Storm Olga came along within days of Noel only to impede our work further and force the Secretary of Education to cancel classes. Fortunately the events of last semester are behind us and the newspaper committee is back on its feet working,

writing, and hoping for no more storms. The next production (barring any natural disasters) is scheduled to be released on June 2. On behalf of the newspaper staff, we would like to thank everyone of the CDA community for their patience, support, and cooperation.

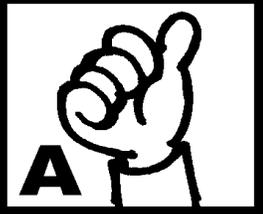


Ideas, questions or comments ???  
please email us: [icdanewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:icdanewspaper@gmail.com)



Burning the midnight oil

Doing things at the last minute only puts you under unnecessary stress, which inevitably leads to making mistakes.



# Stop cramming and start passing exams

## Nine Sure Ways to Get You Going

By: Jessica Cairo

It's 10 p.m. on a Sunday when "Roxie" suddenly remembers that she has a PowerPoint presentation, a model of the presentation, a worksheet, and an essay (all assigned two weeks ago) due in the morning. She works on her tasks from late that evening until early the next morning only to end up halfway through the presentation and the model. In fact, the only assignment Roxie completes is the essay. So Roxie, who hasn't slept a wink since the previous night, goes to school praying that her PowerPoint teacher will be absent or, better, that she'll forget to collect the homework. But as luck would have it the teacher who assigned the essay calls in sick and the teacher who assigned the essay is not so forgetful after all.

How many of us have been in this situation before? I'll admit I have been. And as we all know, it's a painful place to be. To ensure we don't end up like Roxie again, following are a few pointers to help you get yourself together and never miss another due date again.

- **Get Organized!!!** Believe it or not organization skills are important. Start with simple things like organizing your room. Put stuff in a place where you can find them when you need them. Writing down your homework and projects in a small notebook or notepad can also help you keep track of assignments.
- **Set up a schedule and stick to it.** What do you do after school? Do you take drama classes from 2:20 to 3:30 p.m. followed by a Pilates class at the gym? Whatever your case may be create a schedule for yourself and follow it religiously. Do your homework and study at the same time and in the same place *everyday*. Humans are creatures of habit. Creating a routine helps you become more organized at school and will be useful in your future.
- **Include your parents.** After all, they want the best for you. And if reminding you to do homework to pass a class does the trick, don't discourage them. Keeping them in the loop about major projects means you have yet another way to help you remember what you have to do.
- **Prioritize.** If there is one thing we all know for sure it's that you won't be tested on what Grissom said to Catherine on the last episode of CSI, nor on what the cute guy said to you the last time you went jogging in the park. Do your homework first before anything else. If you do what you have to do early, you will have time to do all the other things you want to do and then some.
- **Plan in advance.** You have a homework assignment due on Monday and a music concert on Sunday you want to attend. On Saturday you have no plans. Why not do your homework on Saturday so you won't have to do it when you get home at midnight – after cheering for your favorite band for two hours.
- **Don't procrastinate.** Doing things at the last minute only puts you under unnecessary stress, which inevitably leads to making mistakes. Procrastination can be your worst enemy. If you know that you have a big assignment coming up in a month, break up the work into small parts. Working on it a little every day will be easier and enable you to produce better quality work than if you sit down to do the entire assignment three hours before it's due. Later when you have the time, take it—it's yours.
- **If you need help... well then ask for help.** If you don't understand something, say so. You can't get help if you don't ask for it. Got a big test in physics coming up? Why not get together with some classmates for a group study session. Group work is not your style? Then sign up for a tutor. Either way, asking for help if you need it is always a wise course of action.
- **Cramming is your enemy not your friend.** Studying the night before a test is a sure way to forget everything you memorized. Over the long term you'll forget everything you stuffed into your head only to have to study it all over again at a later time. A better strategy is to study two days before the big test. This way you only have to skim your notes the day before allowing you to relax the night before test day. Panic studying never produces good results.
- **Develop good taking note skills.** Teachers sometimes slip important information into class discussions, so paying attention doesn't always work. Get a separate notebook for each class. When copying notes from the board, use symbols to help you save time. This will also help you study better because the studying is already half done if your notes are up neat and up to date.

# Who's Who ?

## MEET WILSON PEGUERO

By: Omar Pimentel



**Grade:** 11th  
**Birth Date:** March 25, 1990  
**Birth Place:** New Jersey  
**Previous School:** New Horizons  
**Favorite Music:** Electronic  
**Favorite Color:** Black  
**Favorite Food:** I'm crazy about chicken "a la plancha"  
**Favorite Sport:** Mixed martial arts and basketball  
**Hobbies:** Hanging out with my friends, going to the gym and playing sports

*"Comprehension to me is being tolerant of the differences among people."*

— Wilson Peguero

### Vote For Me

#### An interview with Francia Sandoval

**What is "Vote For Me" about?**

"Vote for Me" is a play that highlights issues like the war in Iraq, racism, the immigration problem in America. It also highlights the current presidential election.

**Where did you get the idea for the story?**

The play originally started as a spin-off from a classic movie but through time it turned into something else.

**When did you start writing?**

About a year ago. It was one of those projects that I would leave and then start over again.

**Do you see yourself as a playwright or is this just a hobby?**

I wanted to be a producer, but now I want to become a screenwriter.

**Who is your favorite writer?**

J.D. Salinger. He really grasps the concept of being a teenager. But my favorite screenwriter is Diablo Cody (Juno). She makes a simple phrase as "what's up home skillet" seem like art.

**What is the best book you've read; play or movie you've seen?**

That's a difficult question but I'll have to say The Godfather – all three movies – and Juno. I'm also a big comic book fan, so pretty much any superhero movie.

**What's next for Francia Sandoval?**

I plan on going to New York Film Academy to take classes in digital filming or screenwriting.

Don't miss "Vote For Me"

April 20 in the Auditorium!!

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS " And then there were three "

By: Ben Smith and Carrie Budoff Brown and Jonathan Martin

After [the March 4] primary results, which ended the race for the Republican nomination and prolonged that for the Democratic nod, the three remaining campaigns must re-examine their strategies. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton finally found a formula that worked for her after a month of losses: pressing Obama on the economy and his readiness to lead. Will it be enough to sustain her momentum? Sen. Barack Obama will need a new strategy to defend his narrow delegate margin. He might throw Clinton's attacks on his experience right back at her. And Sen. John McCain is sitting pretty after four more wins and

the surrender of his remaining key competitor, Mike Huckabee. But he won't just sit around until August, and he won't just stay in red\* states either.



\*Republican

source: [www.politico.com](http://www.politico.com) Clinton, Obama, McCain

# Lights, Camera, Action!

By: Francia Sandoval

There are about a thousand things I can say about CDA but I can tell you this much. We know drama! Most students join the drama club to get an easy credit but little do they realize how much work it really is. Drama is about the hard work and the collaboration between students in order to make an incredible show. It's almost like painting a picture, you have your cast and crew combined to make a beautiful picture—a picture that tells a story, which is what drama is about: the portrayal of someone's story.

A true actor doesn't wake up and say "let me PRETEND to be a super hero today." A real actor says "I'm going to be a super hero today." As ridiculous as that sounds, it's true. Pretending doesn't make you shine and it doesn't make you a star. What really makes you a star is how well you can tell a story. Maybe acting isn't your thing, (believe me it isn't mine either) but you can easily join the crew. They are just as important as the actors. They're the ones that make sure our story is clear and looks good.

Now this collaboration between the cast and crew is what makes the drama club and what gives life to our story. So don't hold back. Join the Drama Club and tell us your story.



El coro



A ffinity 08'



# Sports Update

By: George Butler

Ping pong, pong ping. Some months have passed since the last ping was heard. Sounds like those could be heard from great distances though there were some other sounds – pang pang—coming from elsewhere. It was coming from the table to the right; table number nine to be more specific.

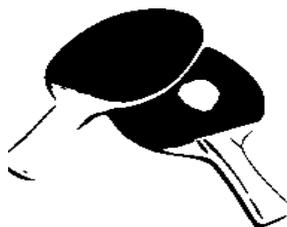
It was Dominic-Americanano.

Alejandro Alvarez's talent and top spin sufficed to cease any opportunity his opponent might have had to win; this reporter's precision and flat hits vexed and consequently flustered his contenders; Odalid Cruz's variety of spins drove his table partner insane. They were the Talented Three among the juveniles.

Defeating high profile school's such

as Mi Colegio, the three advanced to the semi-finals before losing to Babeque in a disputed score of 8-11 in the second and decisive match. First and third were 11-7 and 9-11 respectively.

Despite the loss, however, they stood on the podium at pole



position. After their victory, they were awarded third place in the juvenile table tennis competition among schools. Congratulations to my teammates, you deserved it!

With the disappointment of defeat fresh in our minds, the female category boosted our spirit of unity. Table tennis prodigy Jennifer Ovalle and upcoming star Frances Albuquerque won in both divisions: team and single. Frances and Jennifer forged their winning streaks by showing great consistency in their shots and an unmatched mentality. Jennifer Ovalle also contributed significantly to the first place team award. She defeated her single opponent with relative ease in a swift match with scores of 11-5 and 11-6, winning the single's prize and rising as the best female player of the tournament.

On behalf of the school, congratulations to the girls for carrying on the school name with dignity and honor.



The Giras



In the dressing room



# INDY

*Arturo Cordero rocks the house !!!*

**How long has the band been together?**

Since 2004

**Who's in the band?**

Eduardo—vocals

José Carlos—guitar

José Enrique—drums

Pedro (my brother)—bass

Myself—guitar

**What type of music does the band play?**

Indie, rock, New Wave

**What are the band's future plans?**

We're going to be recording a CD soon. Also, March 15th we'll be performing @ a private party and on the 29th @ Cinemacafé.

**Where does the band usually perform?**

Bars, theaters, Patio de la Moneda in the Zona Colonial and different places in Santiago.

**What are the band's influences?**

Truth, lies, good, evil—everything that goes on in our lives.

[www.myspace.com/indyband](http://www.myspace.com/indyband)

## Life's a Song

**By: Lily Sanchez**

"Okay, so how about it's freezing out here," Marie exclaimed as she stood in line for her favorite band in the whole wide world. "Would you rather be home all warm and toasty? Hmmm?" said Sophie with a tone of sarcasm. "Are you freaking kidding me? It's the Jonas Brothers!" Both girls laughed while Elizabeth scoffed. She wondered how she had gotten stuck taking her little sister and her friend to this homostatic—meaning ridiculous—concert. She was freezing, hungry, tired, and had to pee. She would ten million times rather be stranded on an island. At least she'd be warm. *This is ridiculous.* Elizabeth thought to herself. *Mom owes me big time.* She took out her iPod and cranked up John Mayer.

Elizabeth was one of those indie girls you don't see very often. She was short and a little on the chubby side. Still, most people envied her. She had long, wavy, brown hair and wore black rimmed glasses. You could easily mistake her for an emo-kid. Her sister Marie, the biggest ninth grade JB dork you will ever see, was an exact replica of her but skinnier and even shorter with a preference for Hollister and American Eagle. She brought along her obsessive friend Sophie who looked like she had come straight off the beach to the concert. "Oh my gosh! It's seven twenty-five." Sophie was practically screaming. "They're going to open the doors in five minutes." They had been out in

the cold for almost an hour and all Marie and Sophie had been doing was singing JB songs until they were both out of breath. Elizabeth would a million times rather be at home, in her room, writing a song, or talking on the phone with her friend from London. She missed her so much. "We lucked out getting these tickets. I heard they sold out in two minutes. I mean, how many people can there be in Hartford?" Sophie said as they walked into the venue. "Yeah, even though they aren't front row seats fifteenth row isn't so bad." Marie was so excited to see her favorite band. "And I heard the runway stretches out onto the twentieth row!"

**To be continued...**

# The Dominico Times wants YOU!



In a few short months when current senior managing editor Jessica Nuñez says goodbye to CDA and hello to Cal State University, The Dominico Times will sadly be out of a great leader to keep the newspaper going. While we'll all miss her dearly, the show still must go on. By this we mean the production of coming up with story ideas and getting the words down on paper before scurrying off to the printers in time to meet the deadline. Most days the process is a lot of fun; sometimes it's frustrating (depending on what storm's brewing on the horizon), but one thing is sure – it's always a learning experience. There's also the little matter of how good it looks on your college application to say you were part of the newspaper. That's not the only reason to join, though. Join because you want to hone leadership skills, further develop your writing skills, or just record CDA history. We're aiming to publish four editions during the 2008-2009 school year, but we can't do it without your help. Check out the list below and let us know how you can participate. We look forward to seeing you.....

## Senior Managing Editor

Being the head honcho means you're basically responsible for making sure there's a school newspaper four times per academic year. That translates to one issue each quarter. The newspaper advisor (that would be Ms. Bencosme) will help you all the way, but you'll pretty much brainstorm story ideas with the other writers, make sure everything is completed on time and that the newspaper looks, well, great. Oh yeah, the senior managing editor also writes the front page article of each edition.

## Junior Managing Editor

In addition to working closely with the senior managing editor to ensure the on-time delivery of a great school newspaper, the junior managing editor also writes one article per issue. The best part about this position is that you have first dibs at being next year's head jefe.

## Feature Writers

Omar Pimentel is an example of a features writer. This fifth graders' Who's Who column profiles a student in each issue. His responsibilities go something like this: The senior managing editor assigns Omar a subject, he then goes about the business of doing the interview, writing the article, and submitting it on time. Omar has never missed a deadline. We're looking for more dedicated writers who will take responsibility for a column. And so you know, this position is not limited to fifth graders.

## Sports Writer

The sports writer is certifiably nuts about sports. You name it – basketball, ping pong, volleyball, or bowling -- this person loves every kind of sport there is (or reports on school sports events with the gusto of someone who does). Enormous school spirit is a plus.

## Translators

Because we want our newspaper to reflect the diversity of our school family, we hope to summarize selected articles in Spanish as well as French. Si escribes en español o en français, your skills could earn you some extra credit.

## Photographer

The ideal staff photographer possesses or has access to a digital camera and loves taking candid shots of CDA students when they're performing in a school production, hawking sandwichitos at a bake sale, or just plain 'ole being goofy. You also write clever captions to go along with your Kodak moments.

## Layout Designer

You put the "S" in style. You make the end product look absolutely fabulous. You're creative, artistic, and you really know how to work desktop publishing software such as Microsoft Publisher.

any of those here. You may want