



ROOSEVELT TIMES

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March 2010

The Wimpy Kid's Zachary Gordon

By Mateo, Entertainment Editor, and Ecker, Sports Editor

In the movie *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, Zachary Gordon plays the main character, Greg Heffley. Zachary Gordon tells the *Roosevelt Times* about the role he played in the movie and what it's like being on the set of a movie. This was one of his biggest roles, and we also find out how he felt about getting the part.

Playing A Wimpy Kid

Zachary Gordon won the Young Artists Award, in the best supporting actor category, for his performance in the movie "Georgia Rule" starring Jennifer Lopez and Jane Fonda. Since then, he's appeared in "National Treasure: Book of Secrets" and "The Brothers Bloom." He also

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Author Jeff Kinney ain't no Wimpy Kid

By Shamyra, Features Editor

Jeff Kinney is the author of the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, and has sold over 28 million books. The *Roosevelt Times* interviewed him about his best-selling book, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. Read on to learn about one of our favorite authors!!!

Roosevelt Times: Are you similar to the characters in your stories in any way or through any experiences?

Jeff Kinney: Yes, I think I have a little Greg in me. Greg is really a flawed person in a way, and he's kind of an exaggeration of my flaws.

Roosevelt Times: Which book from the Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series is your favorite? Who is your favorite character?

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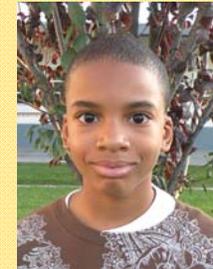
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Undefeated Tigers

By Ecker, Sports Editor

The Roosevelt Tigers were undefeated during the football season, with a winning streak of four wins and no losses. The Tigers faced all the Lawndale elementary schools.

The Tigers played Mark Twain Elementary School and came home with the victory; the final score was 5-1.

Lucille Smith Elementary School was the next to bite the dust. The game took place at Smith turf, and this game was very close, with both sides giving their all, which led to overtime. At the end the score was 3-2.

Next, the Tigers played William Green Elementary School. This game took place in Tiger territory, and just like

in the Twain and Smith games, the Tigers were victorious with a score total of 7-0.

Then came the final game; it was between the undefeated FDR Tigers and Lucille Smith Elementary School. This game was difficult and risky, because neither side was going to go easy on each other. They played two games to decide the fate of the precious trophy. Both sides gave their best and only one was crown champion in the end, and that was the one and only undefeated FDR Tigers.

Congratulations to the FDR Tigers for being undefeated



and bringing home the trophy. Will the FDR Tigers basketball team keep the trophy in FDR Territory, or will it be short lived? ❖



RAP's Coach Ron

By Ecker, Sports Editor

The FDR Tigers basketball team is doing great, thanks to their coach, Mr. Ron. Mr. Ron teaches his students not only how to win at basketball but also in every day life.

Roosevelt Times: What do you think of your team?

Mr. Ron: They're pretty good on and off the court.

Roosevelt Times: What would you say is the difference between your coaching style in basketball, and Mr. Armando's in football?

Mr. Ron: There is no difference. Mr. Armando and I

share the same passion in sports. We teach the kids to be leaders and role models on and off the court.

Roosevelt Times: During a basketball game, what is your strategy?

Mr. Ron: Defense wins championships. The strategy is to work as a team and enjoy every second on the court.

Roosevelt Times: In what way would you say basketball helps your team develop?

Mr. Ron: It is a discipline of the mind. It teaches you how to work as a team, not just in a game but also in real life. It

teaches you that people are always there to support you, and that is a real life lesson.

Roosevelt Times: Why did you want to become the basketball coach?

Mr. Ron: Because that is another way to influence the kids. They become disciplined; they become better listeners, and they learn to work with people around them.

The FDR Tigers are impressive. Thanks to Mr. Ron's guidance and coaching, they will do great on all of the challenges they will face, both on and off the basketball court. ❖





Lt. Jeff Enfield— To Serve and Protect

By the Roosevelt Times editors

Whose got your back? In Lawndale, it's Lieutenant Jeff Enfield, who is in charge of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Lennox station, which includes Lawndale. The *Roosevelt Times* got a chance to talk to Lieutenant Enfield to find out more about his job.

Roosevelt Times: What is the biggest crime you've ever handled?

Lt. Enfield: Homicide would be the biggest crime. Homicide is where someone is murdered. It's considered the most serious of all crimes that we handle.

Roosevelt Times: How do you know a crime is committed?

Lt. Enfield: There are all kinds of sources. When we are driving around in our patrol cars, we might see a crime committed in front of us.

But the biggest way is from citizens calling us and telling us that something is going on in the neighborhood. If you see something going on, have your parents call us. They can remain anonymous. They don't have to tell us their names or where they live, they just have to tell us what is going on in their area.

Roosevelt Times: What do you do besides arrest people?

Lt. Enfield: We try to educate people, like me coming here today.

Roosevelt Times: How many people have you arrested?

Lt. Enfield: It's something I don't keep statistics on. I don't

like having to arrest people, but in my 26 years in law enforcement, I've arrested well over a thousand people. I worked the streets for 18 years, so I did a lot of search warrants and a lot of street patrol, so I've taken a lot of people to jail. I'm not proud of it; it's just something I do. I'd rather people stay out of trouble, and do good and provide for their families.

Roosevelt Times: Did your wife agree with you being a police officer?

Lt. Enfield: I was a police officer before I met my wife, so she knew what she was getting. I work all kinds of crazy shifts. Sometimes I work until 2 or 3 in the morning. Sometimes I work the day shift, other times the p.m. shift, and sometimes I have to work on Christmas, Christmas Eve, New Years, New Years Eve. It's sometimes more fun to be home with the family, but I think my job is a lot of fun.

Roosevelt Times: What is your favorite type of donut?

Lt. Enfield: Let's see. I like a good buttermilk donut.

Roosevelt Times: How did you become a police officer?

Lt. Enfield: I was in college when I decided. My father had

been a police officer, but he left police work and became a teacher—and he was in the teaching profession, an educator, for 40 years. My sister was a secretary at Lennox (Sheriff's) station, and I went on a ride-along with the deputies to patrol the streets. After that, I thought, "This is exciting; this is what I want to do."

Roosevelt Times: How long have you been a sheriff?

Lt. Enfield: Twenty-six years. I probably have another good nine or ten years in me.

Roosevelt Times: What do you like about being a sheriff?

Lt. Enfield: The excitement. I get to meet new and different people every day, and for me, that's what's really fun. Some are funny, some are serious. They're all different. I love that.

Roosevelt Times: Do you catch more bad guys or speeders?

Lt. Enfield: I don't really catch the bad guys anymore. I have the deputies that work for me. Those in crime cars get the bad guys, and the ones that work traffic get the speeders. Overall, there are more traffic violators than bad guys.

Roosevelt Times: Why did you choose to be a sheriff?

Lt. Enfield: Partially because of my dad—because it was something he did—and because it interested me. It's a pretty exciting job. I like helping people and trying to solve crimes.



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Daily Breeze's crime reporter, Larry Altman

By the Roosevelt Times editors

The *Roosevelt Times* editors were excited to meet a real reporter from the *Daily Breeze*, Larry Altman. Mr. Altman is an award-winning crime journalist. Among his many honors is the "Distinguished Journalist" award in 2007 from the Los Angeles chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Roosevelt Times: What is the most dangerous crime you've written about?

Mr. Altman: I cover lots and lots of crimes, but obviously there was a lot of murders, a lot of police officers getting shot, gang things where gangs shoot people, even where people hold up a business and point guns at people; they are pretty serious. But the worse stuff is killing where innocent people get shot. A lot of sad stuff.



Roosevelt Times: Do you think your job is important?

Mr. Altman: Why do you think it's important?

Roosevelt Times: If you didn't write about it, we wouldn't know what was happening.

Mr. Altman: That's true. And there are other reporters who write about other things—they write about the President, the

mayor, what the schools are doing—because people need to know to make decisions, such as whom to vote for or what movie to see.

Roosevelt Times: What kind of degree do you have?

Mr. Altman: I have a journalism degree. I went to Cal State Northridge, and I took all the newspaper classes that teach you how to write a certain way. I worked on the school newspaper, the school magazine, and even wrote copy for the school radio.

Roosevelt Times: How long have you worked at the *Daily Breeze*?

Mr. Altman: Twenty years in June.

Roosevelt Times: What made you want to be a crime reporter?

Mr. Altman: It sort of happened by accident. When I got out of college and wanted to get a job, I applied to newspapers all over California, and the job I got happened to be writing about crime. I was good at it, and I liked it. I like to talk to the police and find out what is happening.

Roosevelt Times: How many articles do you write a week?

Mr. Altman: It depends. Sometimes I might only write a lot of short things that don't include my name, and sometimes I'll write one long story. Sometimes I write three articles in a day. It goes up and down.

Roosevelt Times: What was the biggest crime you've covered?

Mr. Altman: The biggest story of late was a man who got killed while on vacation in the Philippines and he was from Lawndale – a teacher at Lawndale High. I wrote some stories about it and then I found out his wife had a husband before him who also got shot in the same way in the Philippines. I thought that was a little suspicious, so I looked into it and wrote stories about it, and sure enough she had other people do it - kill her husbands. And not too long later, she got killed and I had to cover that. The television show *48-Hours Mystery* did a whole show on this. They interviewed me, and I was on television!

Roosevelt Times: Is your job hard or easy?

Mr. Altman: It depends day to day. Sometimes it's hard because of the subject matter. It could be a really sad story that makes me sad too.

Sometimes it's hard because you have to write three articles in one day and that's hard. You have to work really fast, and you can't stop at a certain point, and say, "I'll get to that tomorrow."

Roosevelt Times: Are there other crimes that you've solved?

Mr. Altman: I once got an award for solving a crime. There were some little boys playing in a fort in their street and a man came along and was bothering and messing with them. The police called me and asked if I could put something in the paper about this



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A Day at the Discovery Science Center

By Kelsey, Roosevelt Times editor

Did you know that every time your heart beats, blood goes through the entire body? Students from Roosevelt went to the Discovery Science Center and learned lots of cool facts.

This museum has an exhibit that lets you feel what it is like to be in a strong earthquake. The museum had an elevator that students would step inside, and it would show how an earthquake feels. It was scary but fun, and it was cool to feel what an earthquake was like.

There also was a display that showed what a thunderstorm and a tornado looked like. You would get in it and it would increase the air and the

thunder, creating an almost real storm.

The museum also had a wall you could put your hands and face on, then, when you walked to the other side, you could see your hand and face prints.

There was also a computer that would measure how tall you were when you stood on it.

Another fun exhibit was a seat you sat on and you would put on gloves and pull yourself up a rope.

You should go to the Discovery Science Center, because it's a really fun place to



spend time with your family. The Discovery Science Center makes learning about science fun!!

The Discovery Science Center is open daily except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. It is located at 2500 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92705. ❖



Six Flags Magic Mountain

By Mateo, Entertainment Editor

Six Flags Magic Mountain is a fun theme park. It's so cool; you can ride on awesome rides like Viper, Riddler's Revenge, Revolution, Cyclone, Ninja, Gold Rusher, Flashback and other roller coaster rides.

There are wonderful things in Six Flags, like the entrance, and if you're hungry. There are a lot of good places to eat, like Johnny Rockets for hamburgers and fries, Papa Johns for pizza, and places for ice cream and other kinds of delicious desserts.

When you get inside, you see people screaming on the

roller coasters. There also are some fun carnival games, like a funhouse.

One of place you must go in is Bugs Bunny's world. In this place, there are tons of games. This is a kids area, and it has its own roller coasters. The Looney Tunes Lodge is really fun, because you can launch foam balls with cannons. Also during the night in Bugs Bunny's World, they have a Looney Tunes parade with all the characters, like Bugs Bunny, Tweety, and Daffy Duck. When its nighttime, vendors sell glow sticks that are fun to wear.



I had lots of fun at Six Flags Magic Mountain, and I know you will as well. There is so much to do that I always wish we could stay longer and can't wait until our next visit. Your whole family would enjoy a trip to Six Flags Magic Mountain. ❖

Jack-in-the Box

By Kelsey, Restaurant Editor

Have you ever heard a restaurant called Jack In The Box? It's one of the more popular fast food restaurants.

The first time I went to Jack in The Box, I ordered a Jumbo Jack with cheese. But there are many other kinds of burgers that you can order. There is

the Bonus Jack, Mini-Sirloin Burger, Sirloin Cheeseburger, Sirloin Swiss Grilled Onion Burger, Sourdough Steak Melt, Ultimate Cheeseburger, and the Bacon Ultimate Cheeseburger.

If you want to taste one of these delicious burgers, give

Jack in the Box a try. Jack in the Box also has good fries and other types of food, like chicken strips, tacos, salads, teriyaki chicken bowl, desserts, and many other items. Also if you have a child, your child can get something called a kids meal with a toy. ❖



McDonald's vs. Jack

By Kelsey, Restaurant Editor

The Roosevelt Times did a survey of Roosevelt students to find out which fast foot restaurant they liked better—McDonalds or Jack In The Box.

We interviewed thirty students—ten third graders, ten fourth graders, and ten fifth

graders. Even though Jack In The Box is my favorite, it

*Twice as many
Roosevelt students
chose McDonald's
over Jack in the Box*

turns out that McDonald's won by a landslide. Sixty six percent of the students chose McDonald's as their favorite, while only 33 percent chose Jack In The Box over McDonalds.

Which restaurant is your favorite? ❖



in the box



Short Story: Cookies and Cream

By Attahlah, Creative Writing Editor

My friend said her favorite ice cream is Cookies and Cream. By the way her name is Kelsey and my other friend's name is Mitzy. We all went to the ice cream shop to get our favorite ice cream.

We walked two blocks to the ice cream store. As we got close to the store, Mitzy said that she wanted us to all eat the same ice cream. Kelsey and I agreed and as soon as we

were about to order, we changed our minds and all chose different flavors. I said that I wanted Cookies and Cream, Mitzy said she liked to order Vanilla, and Kelsey said that she wanted Mint and Chip. So we started arguing, and we got louder and louder.

The cashier told us to stop fighting, but we didn't listen to her. Then our friend Shamyra came in, and she told us

to stop fighting too, but we kept arguing. Finally, Shamyra said if we kept fighting and saying hurtful things, we might not be friends any longer. There was a long pause and everyone knew she was right but we didn't want to admit it. But the fighting stopped. Friends are a lot better than ice cream; they can last a long time, while ice cream melts within minutes. ❖





Rock Band2

By Alexis, Video Game Editor

Rock Band2 is a music video game made by professional musicians. They make it interesting by having songs from well known rock stars like Michael Jackson.

When you play Rock Band2, it feels like you are playing in a real band. There are different levels in the game, so you can start as a

beginner and then become advanced.

In Rock Band2, there are a lot of different modes, like careers mode and practice mode. You can pick from the music of many great bands. You can pick the role you want to play in the band, such as a drummer or guitarist. There are fake or made-up characters

in Rock Band2 that you can choose as your player.

In Rock Band2, the songs are sometimes familiar and some are not, and sometimes the game is hard to play. Once you get good in the game you move up to harder levels, like expert. When you are done with the expert level, the game is finally over. ❖



Apple's New iPad

By Mitzy, Technology Editor

A new iPad is coming soon. It is the iPad Slim, and it will be coming out in April.

The iPad is 9.56 inches x 7 inches. It weighs 1.5 pounds. The price will depend on how many Giga bytes it has. For example, if you want one with 16 GB, it will cost

\$629.00 with 3G. If you want one with 64 GB with 3G it will cost \$829.00.

In my opinion, there really is no difference between the iPad and an iPhone or iPod; the only difference is the size. I think an iPhone or iPod is better, because it fits in your pocket.

I don't think you need an iPad if you have an iPhone or iPod, because you would just waste your money. So, the best thing to do if you have a iPod is to not buy a iPad.

Overall, I think that it would be a better use of money to get an iPod rather than the iPad. ❖



The Ultimate Showdown— PSP or DSi?

By Mitzy, Technology Editor

The *Roosevelt Times* wanted to find out what handheld game system Roosevelt Students liked better—the Nintendo Dsi or the Sony Psp?

After talking to thirty Roosevelt students, the winner is the PSP. Of those surveyed, seventeen liked the PSP and thirteen people liked the DSi.

Personally, I like the DSi better, because it has a camera, internet, you can record sounds, and you can chat with people who have a DSi too. The DSi has a touch screen, and you can draw pictures and change peoples faces.

However, the PSP can download games, music and

pictures, and because the games and systems are bigger than the DSi, they don't get lost as fast. Also, the PSP has better games and the battery lasts longer.

Both game systems are a lot of fun. Whichever one you get, you won't be disappointed. ❖



Glory of Heracles

By Alex, History Editor

Most Greek Art has its own style, that is different modern day art. It has more action. Most of the paintings and drawings tell a story although some are just a picture.



We are still interested in history today, and Nintendo has a DS game called, the Glory of Heracles. Glory of Heracles features the Greek

hero in deep battle system. The game begins when Heracles washes up on a beach and can't remember who he is. Players have to travel to many lands to try to figure out Heracles' story and the stories of the other characters in this game. The game is set in ancient Greece as its backdrop, and players can visit cities like Sparta and Athens on their travels.

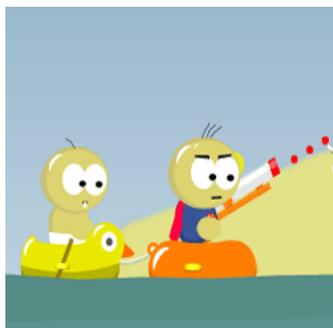
Once a battle is won, players can gather the spoils of war and have to take care of the items. The game is made for both Nintendo DS and DSi and is rated E/10+. ❖



Raft Wars

By Evan, Video Game Editor

Raft Wars is a game where a little boy finds some gold at the beach, this discovery gets in the newspaper. Once word gets around, people start to hunt him down to get his money. **Make sure you check with your parents be-**



fore you play this game. It might be too much for younger kids.

The playable characters are the little boy and his big brother. Once you get enough upgrades, his cousin and his dog join them to protect them and their money. Unfortunately the people chasing them know how to get around on water in an animated, poorly made video game. You should also focus on upgrading your raft first and then focus on buying weapons. Be warned that some of the enemies never miss. Some may never miss and also have explosives. Be

warned that after you fight the neighbors, your opponents will have powers. Watch out though too, because most enemies will return better than before. If you end up in a point were it's a long range 1-on-1 battle, do high and powerful attacks. Also, be warned that the boss battle enemies can kill you in a one hit knock out so be careful.

I think that if you keep the first guy alive for as long as possible through the game you should be able to win easily. Just don't get to the point of the game were you end up with one person left and you'll do fine. ❖



MAKE SURE YOU
CHECK WITH
YOUR PARENTS
BEFORE YOU PLAY
THIS GAME

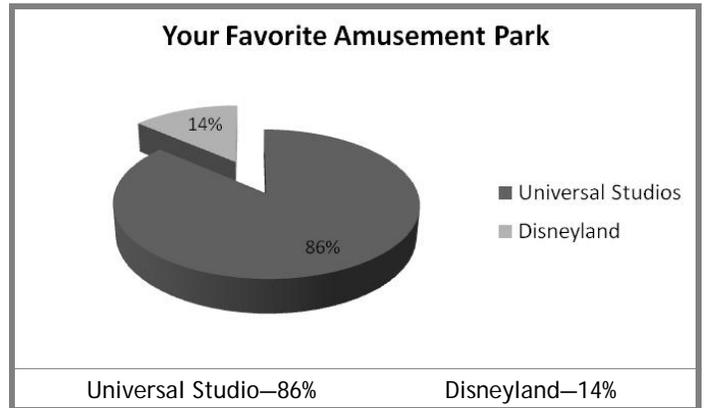


Universal Studios vs. Disneyland

By Alex, Roosevelt Times Editor

A lot of kids will be going to an amusement park during spring break. If you are going to an amusement park, but haven't decided which one to go to, we decided to find out what your classmates recommend.

The *Roosevelt Times* interviewed 22 third, fourth and fifth graders, and the students surveyed overwhelmingly chose Universal Studios over Disneyland. When asked why students liked Universal Studios, a lot of them like the new Simpson's ride, which is a 3-D experience through Springfield, the Simpson's hometown. All of the Simpson's characters are in it, including



Krusty the Clown and Side-show Bob.

Disneyland has a lot of cool roller coaster rides too, like Space Mountain and Big Thunder Mountain, and there

is the Log Ride, that gets you really wet, so bring some dry clothes!

Whatever you do over Spring Break, have a great time! ❖



RAP's Mentor Club

By Shamyra, Features Editor

The RAP program had a Mentor/Mentee Club last trimester that was the wonderful idea created by Mr. Ron. We interviewed Ms. Rebecca, who worked with the Carson kids, and Mr. Ron, who worked with the FDR kids.

Roosevelt Times: What was the purpose of the Mentor Club?

Ms. Rebecca: To help develop each other as leaders, learn from each other's experiences, and to build lasting relationships.

Mr. Ron: The purpose of the Mentor Club was to help younger kids with homework, and becoming better people.

Roosevelt Times: What struggles did you face?

Ms. Rebecca: Getting to know the students' weakness as well their strengths.

Mr. Ron: The whole thing was completely unorganized. Once Ms. Christina left, it fell apart.

Roosevelt Times: Did you enjoy having this club?

Ms. Rebecca: Yes. I love seeing all the students in the club.

Mr. Ron: Yes I did because I learned about the kids and myself.

Roosevelt Times: Ms. Rebecca, why did you decide to take over the Mentoring program at Kit Carson, when Ms. Christina left?

Ms. Rebecca: I heard that the kids at Kit Carson were super awesome and I was excited to help.

Thanks, Ms. Rebecca and Mr. Ron. As a member of the Mentor Club, I think the Mentor Club was great and all the kids had fun! ❖



Teacher Resolutions

By Josie, Reporter, and Shamyra, Features Editor

Do you ever wonder what YOUR teacher's new year's resolution was? Well now you can. Read on to find out!

The *Roosevelt Times* asked our teachers what they did over the December bakecook holidays and what is your new year's resolution?

Mr. Koga: Eat, sleep, and relax and to be more like Mr. Armando.



Mrs. Safah: Clean house, go to gym, cook and to stay organized at school and at home.



Mrs. Kinney: Spend time with daughter; decorate cookies, and trying to exercise

Mr. Mendoza: Spend time with family, to spend even more time with family.

Mrs. Sipala: Celebrate Christmas with three brothers and



two nieces and Nephews, continue eating healthy or spending more time with kids

Ms. Yu: Go to Las Vegas with mom, stay at Bellagio hotel, and to be a better teacher

Mrs. Nancy: Rest at home and be a good mom! ❖



All About Music

By Dakota, Music Editor

Music is something like art, except music includes beats and rhythm. It may be classified, as a performing art, a fine art, and auditory art. A lot of people dance, and mostly sing to this



kind of art.

Did you know that there are different kinds of music? If you didn't, some of the

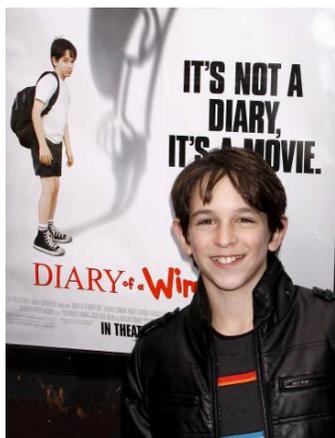


kind of music that they have is Rock, Hip-Hop, Country, Electronic, Blues, Classical, Jazz, R&B Religious, Latino, Disco, Gothic, Funk, Opera, Acoustic, and Soul. Music was an important social life in part of cultural and Ancient Greek.

In the 9th Century, the Arab scholar al-Farabi wrote a book on music "Great Book of Music".

Many types of music, such as traditional blues and folk music were originally preserved in the memory of performers. In general, art music notation from the 17th through the 19th century required performers to have a great deal of knowledge about the subject of the song and about performing styles. ❖





Zachary Gordon

Continued from page 1

does voiceovers on several Nickelodeon's shows, and he'll be the voice of Papi Jr. in "Beverly Hills Chihuahua 2."

Roosevelt Times: What was your favorite scene to act out in the movie?

Zachary Gordon: My favorite scene was one they cut out. There's a scene where I'm walking with kindergarteners, and I see the bad people's car. I look where to hide them, and I see a construction site. Unfortunately, you know how Greg thinks; he shoves them in a hole that is muddy and full of water. When I'm about to put the last kid in the hole, I see a kid stranded and I go in slow motion to get the kid. I was asked if I wanted to use a puppet or something that was light, but I said "nah, I'll carry the kid." And I did. Too bad that they cut out my strong man scene!

Roosevelt Times: Did you go to school or have a tutor while making the movie?

Zachary Gordon: While making the movie, we didn't have time to hang out or play. We had to go school. We didn't have a break, but I think it was a price worth paying. We had to go to school 3 hours a day, every day, even



on our days off and on weekends.

Roosevelt Times: What was the hardest thing to do when you were playing the character Greg?

Zachary Gordon: Probably getting into the character of Greg, because I'm almost the complete opposite of him. I had to read the book several times, and I had to imagine how Greg would deal with the situations in the script.

Roosevelt Times: You said that you were almost the exact opposite of Greg, but are there any similarities?

Zachary Gordon: We both are starting the first year of middle school, but I actually had to miss the first two months of mine filming this movie, so I was completely terrified my first day at middle school. We also share having older brothers. Greg only has

one, but I have two older brothers, so I have twice the pain.

Roosevelt Times: What is it like to play different parts in a lot of different movies?

Zachary Gordon: It's pretty cool. It's cool to be in this business, but it's a pretty weird feeling seeing yourself on the big screen a few times or seeing yourself on a TV show. But it's a weird feeling that I would trade a lot of things for.

Roosevelt Times: What did you do to prepare to play the role of Greg?

Zachary Gordon: I had to read the book a few times, and I had to memorize a lot of lines for the script. It would take me an hour just to memorize the one or two scenes that I would do each day.

Roosevelt Times: What is the hardest part about being an actor at your age?

Zachary Gordon: Probably all the competition you have at each audition. You aren't the only kid going out for a role. They were hundreds or thousands of kids auditioning for the role of Greg. There were kids in high school, kids in middle school, kids who were really young, and I got the role, which I was pretty psyched about. It was an unreal experience that I feel fortunate to have. ❖



Jeff Kinney

Continued from page 1

Jeff Kinney: My favorite book is the first one, because before I had that one published, I hadn't had any success getting my cartoons read. I like Greg but I like Rowley a lot. He's a pure kid, and he's not rushed to grow up, and I wish more kids were like him.

Roosevelt Times: Were you thrilled when you were asked about making your book into a movie?

Jeff Kinney: I felt a little nervous at first, because I wanted to make sure my books and my characters made the jump from the page to the screen really well and so I was involved with the movie making from the beginning to the end to make sure that Greg, Rowley, and all of his friends were like the book characters when they were put on the screen.

Roosevelt Times: When did you first come up with the idea of writing a book about a wimpy kid in middle school?

Jeff Kinney: I first came up with the idea in January of 1998, a month and a half before Zach Gordon was born.



Roosevelt Times: Was writing always your favorite thing to do?

Jeff Kinney: No. Writing was always hard for me. It's still very hard for me. But I like being done with writing. I like feeling like I've accomplished something.

I do like drawing, but not when I'm drawing under a deadline.

Roosevelt Times: What was your favorite book or author, besides your own?

Jeff Kinney: When I was a kid, I really liked Judy Blume. She wrote stories that I could really relate to and that I felt were really funny.

Roosevelt Times: What character in the Wimpy Kid series is your favorite?

Jeff Kinney: I like Greg and Rowley, but I think [Greg's younger brother] Manny is kind of fun, because I do a lot with him even though he can only say a little. He's like an evil genius.

Roosevelt Times: Was it hard writing sequels to Diary of a Wimpy Kid?

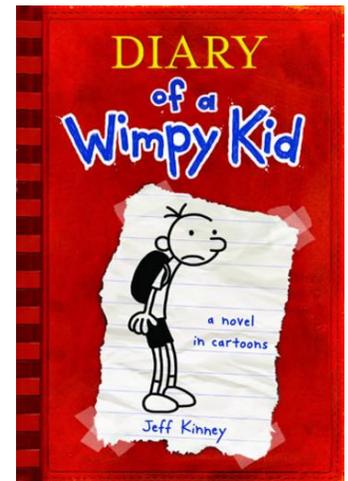
Jeff Kinney: Yes, I always found writing to be hard. I work really hard at it. I spend four hours coming up with each one joke, so it takes me a really long time to write each one of these books.

Roosevelt Times: How did you come up with the title, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*?

Jeff Kinney: I wanted to come up with a character who was imperfect, and I wanted to let you know up front that he was flawed. I think there are plenty of kids' characters that always do the right thing and are sort of heroes and miniature adults, and I wanted to create a kid who was really a kid.

Roosevelt Times: Are you working on any other book projects?

Jeff Kinney: I'm starting to think of some, and I'm asking myself what I'm going to do after *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. I'm not really sure. So, it will be interesting to see what happens next. ❖





Lt. Jeff Enfield

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Roosevelt Times: What types of weapons do you have?

Lt. Enfield: Right now, my gun is a 9-millimeter Baretta. I have pepper spray, and I have a baton. I have handcuffs too. I don't have a taser, but my deputies carry tasers and stun bags—which are shotguns that shoot a big bean bag out so they don't hurt people. We have a lot of less lethal weapons now, because we don't want to kill people; we just want to stop people from what they are doing wrong. Tasers, pepper spray, and stun bags are less lethal weapons that we try to use first.

Roosevelt Times: What is the hardest thing about your job?

Lt. Enfield: That's a good question. I look at it as a challenge and not as being hard. I have to make sure I take care of my people first. I have to look out for them and make sure they're doing the right thing. But that's not really that hard, because they do really good work. My biggest

worry is making sure they don't get injured and that they go home safe every night.

Roosevelt Times: Why do you carry pepper spray?

Lt. Enfield: Because if someone gets violent with me, I can try to pepper spray and handcuff them without hurting them any further. All pepper spray does is sting; it burns but after awhile it goes away and a lot of times after using pepper spray, they give up.

Roosevelt Times: What kind of responsibilities do you have in your job?

Lt. Enfield: As a supervisor, I have about 26 people who work at the Lawndale Center for me. I oversee traffic units, crime cars, special assignment deputies, detectives, and civilian employees at the front counter.

Roosevelt Times: Have you ever used your gun?

Lt. Enfield: I have used my gun when I have been shot at.

Roosevelt Times: Are the windows in the police car bullet-proof?

Lt. Enfield: No, they aren't bullet proof. The military

vehicles have bullet-proof windows, but we don't.

Roosevelt Times: Why do the cops hide behind the doors when they are getting shot at?

Lt. Enfield: It gives you some type of concealment and protection, but bullets still can travel through the car doors and hit us.

Roosevelt Times: Do you ever get scared?

Lt. Enfield: Well, I don't know. I got scared sometimes when I was younger, but it was a controlled scare—kind of hard to explain. Sometimes it's good to be scared, because you know the situation is dangerous and you'll handle it more cautiously. But I don't run around worried about being scared or about getting hurt. I don't even think about that.

Roosevelt Times: Did you want to be a policeman when you were young?

Lt. Enfield: I wanted to be a lot of things. I wanted to be a brain surgeon and a lawyer. But what I do is what I love, and that's why I keep doing it.

Thanks, Lt. Enfield, for helping to keep our city safe! ❖



Lt. Enfield with the Roosevelt Times Editors and PressFriends

Larry Altman

Continued from page 5

guy – so that people would watch out for him.

They sent me a picture of him, and as they were talking about him, I thought I had written about this before. It rang in my brain because he drove a red pickup truck and it was the same kind of crime. I hung up the phone with the police, and I looked it up in our computer, and I had written about a guy like that. I called the police and told them they should look at this guy, and he was arrested a few days later. So, I was really proud of that.

Roosevelt Times: Does anyone ever get mad at you for bringing something up in an interview?

Mr. Altman: Yes. They call me and send me nasty notes. There is one person who comments on the *Daily Breeze* website and calls himself “Fire Larry Altman.”

Roosevelt Times: What is the most common crime that you write about?

Mr. Altman: I mostly write about bigger crimes – like robberies and burglaries. But the most common crime is that people leave their computer in the car, and people break the window and take it. It can be anything left in a car—a computer, iPod, sunglasses—anything.

Roosevelt Times: Is it fun to report on crime?

Mr. Altman: I think it’s really interesting. There’s usually yellow tape that says “police line” and I don’t get to go across it, but I get to go close and talk to the police.



Larry Altman with the Roosevelt Times Editors and PressFriends



Roosevelt Times: Do you ever get stressed?

Mr. Altman: Yes, it’s stressful because we work really fast and there is a lot to do and my subject matter can be very hard to do when it’s a murder that causes people to be very sad.

Roosevelt Times: What was the weirdest story you covered?

Mr. Altman: There was a cemetery that sold more gravesites than they owned. To find out if the bodies were still in this cemetery, the police asked me if I wanted to check the mausoleum with them. We all had to climb up a ladder into a hole in the wall and we were all crawling into this hole and on the sides were coffins. But when we got to the coffin of the person we thought we might be missing, she was there, and she was wearing the pink dress that her daughter told us that she was buried in.

Roosevelt Times: Did you have any other weird cases?

Mr. Altman: Right around here in Lawndale, there was a family whose dog got out of their yard. They came home and their dog was missing and

the gate was open. They put an ad in the *Daily Breeze* to find the dog, and another lady put an ad in at the same time saying she found a dog in the same neighborhood.

The people who lost the dog went over to her house, and the dog freaked out and ran away from them. The women didn’t think it was the family’s dog even though they had a picture. So they called the police, but she refused to give up the dog. The case went to court, and she eventually went to prison instead of giving up the dog.

Roosevelt Times: How did you decide to go into journalism?

Mr. Altman: When I was your age, my dad would come home from work every day and turn the news on. In the morning before we went to school, my mom used to have the radio news station on. I remember that we would have the news on while we were eating, and we always had newspapers. That made me interested in what was going on.

Thanks, Mr. Altman, for giving us an idea what it’s like to be a real reporter! ❖



RAP Roundup

By Maggie Guillen, RAP Program Coordinator

Dear FDR Students,

Here it is our 2nd Issue of our *Roosevelt Times* for our 2009-2010 school year. Our editors have been working so hard to make this issue happen, so enjoy!

Also, do not forget you may write articles and submit it to me at the RAP office.

RAP Club Scene

RAP after school has

been offering many clubs, and I am sure you hear about it through your friends that attend RAP.

It is never too late to enroll but if you think this year is not good for you, then you can always plan for next year, Spring Break and the Summer Program!

Lawndale Youth Parade

RAP is also getting prepared for the Lawn-

dale Youth Parade. Look for all of the RAP Program at the Parade April 24th.

So, I hope to see you soon! Also, do not forget to tally up your healthy foods that you are eating daily and count your points from your pedometer. Thank you for reading our *Roosevelt Times*! Hope to hear from you all soon!

Ms. Maggie



Your Newspaper, the Roosevelt Times

By Luke Southwell, President, PressFriends

PressFriends is a community service group made up of middle and high school kids that come to work with the *Roosevelt Times* a couple of times each month. We are really proud of your current issue, because the student editors put in a lot of work.

We are very grateful for the help of Anjulee Alvares, senior publicist at Fox Pictures, who arranged for your editors to interview the star of the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* movie, Zachary Gordon, and the author of

the best-selling *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, Jeff Kinney.

In addition, for this issue, we also appreciate the help we got from Lt. Jeff Enfield, who is the LA County Deputy Sheriff in charge of the Lawndale station, and Larry Altman, who is the *Daily Breeze's* crime reporter. Both came to Roosevelt to be interviewed by the *Roosevelt Times* editors.

Finally, we really appreciate all the work that both Mr. Abraham and Ms. Maggie put into the paper, and we are

grateful for the support they get from your principal Ms. Appell, the RAP program, and the District.

The *Roosevelt Times* welcomes articles from all Roosevelt students. If you are interested in writing an article, please first give your article idea to the RAP Coordinator, Ms. Maggie. She will give you the guidelines for submitting an article. Generally, it must be appropriate for elementary school kids and run about 150 to 250 words. ❖

PRESSFRIENDS is pleased to sponsor the printing costs of this issue.
All Roosevelt students are welcome to submit articles.
Just run your ideas by the RAP Coordinator first.