

Student's forum

College Admissions Guide for Panicked Students

By Michelle Lanphere Green

It's September. Those long summer days are already becoming a distant memory, and school is back in session. If you are a high school student, you have a lot of things you should be working on right now, and planning for college often takes a backseat to homework and projects, extracurricular activities and part time jobs, family, and of course, texting your friends and updating Facebook too many times a day to count.

If you are a Junior or Senior in high school, your college to-do list is even longer. Do you know what to do first? Have you signed up for SAT or ACT? Do you know which test is better for you to take? Have you taken a practice or Mock ACT or SAT? Do you know what you are looking for in a college? Have you started creating your college dream list, yet? Have you researched schools on the web or read those pamphlets that have filled your mailbox, from colleges you didn't even know existed? Who should you ask to be a recommendation for your college application? Do you know what a FAFSA is, and why you should apply...and when? Have you talked to your parents about paying for college, and what schools actually cost? Where can you find listings of college scholarships? Does it make sense to begin at a community college and transfer after two years?

These are just some of the questions about the college admissions process that I hope

to help you answer in the coming months.

College admission has become more complicated in the last few years. Record numbers of high school seniors are applying to more colleges and attending in greater numbers than at any time in US history. Budget cutbacks in public colleges and endowment losses in public and private losses have created an even scarier problem in the last year, with the economic downturn. With competition rising, and students trying to figure out how to gain an edge over other applicants, it is more critical than ever or college bound students to create a realistic college list, based on their interests, needs and academic qualifications. There are 3000 colleges and universities in the United States. There isn't one "right" school out there for you. There are several. The key is to figure out what you are looking for in a college, and imagine yourself there. What would happen if you went to a college with one major and then changed your mind after a semester or two? Would that college still be one you would be comfortable in attending? College may be one of the most expensive investments you will ever make in your life, so take the time to answer these questions.

My College Admissions Coach offers personalized help for students and their parents as they navigate the college search and admissions process. Follow my new blog at: <http://collegeoptions.blogspot.com/>

Student to Student

This Week's Question: *What is your favorite sports team and why?*

Last Week's Question: *What is your favorite sports team and why?*

ANSWERS:

I deplore sports, with the exception T-Ball... now THAT I will watch. Any other sport bores me to tears.

JS

My favorite sports "team" would be any and all Olympic Teams, even from other countries.

I get so into watching the Olympics, Summer and Winter, because these athletes are driven by a love of the sport and perfection of skill, not big paychecks.

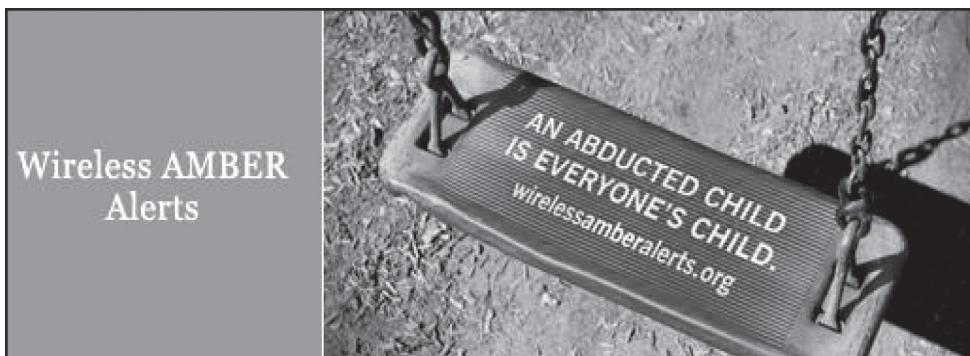
Those competitions cross racial/ethnic/socioeconomic boundaries in a way that really nothing else can.

I also really enjoy watching it because I also learn about sports that I do not get to see any other time.

J.G.

My favorite sports team is the Green Bay Packers because they are owned by their fans, not some big corporation.

Send all submissions to: students@heraldpublications.com



Wireless AMBER Alerts

Join The Wellness Community in celebrating the women in our lives who have been touched by cancer.

7th annual

The Wellness Community - South Bay Cities

girls night out

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Have you had your mammogram?

the wellness community
south bay cities
cancer support, education and hope

Dates: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
October 6th, 7th, & 8th, 2009

Place: The Comedy & Magic Club
1018 Hermosa Ave., Hermosa Beach

Time: 5:30 PM Bar opens, silent auction starts & seating begins*
6:45 PM DINNER
8:00 PM Comedy Show, featuring a world class line-up of top comedians

*Open seating - Please arrive early. Street parking available.

Cost: \$75.00 Per person in advance (includes dinner and show)

Sponsors: South Bay BMW
Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center-Torrance
The Jacqueline Glass Family
American Business Bank
Breastlink
Daily Breeze
End Results
EasyReader
• Beach
• Peninsula People
Herald Publications
• El Segundo Herald
• Manhattan Beach Sun
• Hawthorne Press Tribune
InspiredSilver.com
Maison RIZ
Preferred Bank
Terry Opdahl Insurance Agency, Inc.
The Beach Reporter
The Comedy & Magic Club
Torrance Memorial Medical Center
Torrance Radiology Medical Group
Vantage Oncology
Weintraub Communication Consulting
Winkler Plastic, LLC

RESERVATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2ND!!

Call 310.376.3550 to make reservations TODAY!
www.wellnessandcancer.org/girlsnightout.htm

Freelance Writer Wanted

Part-Time Freelance Writer Wanted to cover Manhattan Beach

Articles will include but are not limited to community events, people, reviews and sports.

E-mail Resume to:
management@heraldpublications.com