

LGHS students need to be more unified as a school

by Jonathan Friedland
Editorial Editor

During the course of the spirit rally, we often forget that we are one school, not four individual classes. Juniors are practically barred from parking in the "senior lot" even though the parking lot is accessible to all students according to school regulations. Juniors are even afraid of parking their cars in the junior-specific lots, fearing their cars will be defaced after the rally. Rather than valiantly displaying aggression, seniors should offer valuable advice to their underclassmen who could be petrified by their little experience in high school. Overall, spirit week should be a time for school unity rather than a blatant display of animosity towards other classes.

Car vandalism after spirit rallies, and throughout the year, exists and happens regularly at LGHS. Although not all of it comes from the seniors, they perpetuate the great majority of it. This self-proclaimed right to vandalize cars comes from the gross sense of entitlement and arrogance that some members of the senior class display on a regular basis. For instance, three current seniors from the class of 2015 get to school early every single day just to secure a spot in the lower junior lot. These seniors blatantly disrespect the junior class by parking in the so-called "junior lot" as they fear no repercussions for their actions. However, on the other side of the parking lot, juniors who infrequently park in the senior lot because of a lack of space in their lots receive threatening messages, obscene pictures drawn with window paint, and even permanent key scratches on their doors. This behavior occurs throughout the year but is augmented during spirit week because of the sense of competition that comes with the activity-filled five days. Whilst competing against other classes, students should remember that we all live in the same town, use the same textbooks, and share the same campus. Seniors should be mindful and benevolent towards the other classes rather than asserting and exhibiting class dominance and arrogance by defacing cars.



courtesy A. Dimpflmaier

Senior **Lauren Finkle** and junior **Ari Sweedler** hug each other, exhibiting school unity.

Underclassmen already have a level of respect for seniors that they don't hold for any other class. As Junior **Mikaela Hand** said, "I like having seniors help me on work. I like the different personalities, a year more mature." Freshmen, sophomores, and even juniors revere their fellow seniors simply for experiencing more of high school than they have. However, when seniors deface sophomore and junior cars, they degrade their own seniority because underclassmen and juniors no longer respect them for their maturity.

If you still think drawing two poorly-shaped circles and a tube-shaped object on someone's windshield is funny, chances are you probably get drunk at school and buy your instagram followers. However, during your last few months at LGHS, remember that we are all one community and one school that holds a sincere mutual respect for another. This communal reverence should be no different but should be increased during spirit week as seniors should encourage underclassmen

to dress up and enjoy themselves during the excitement-filled week.

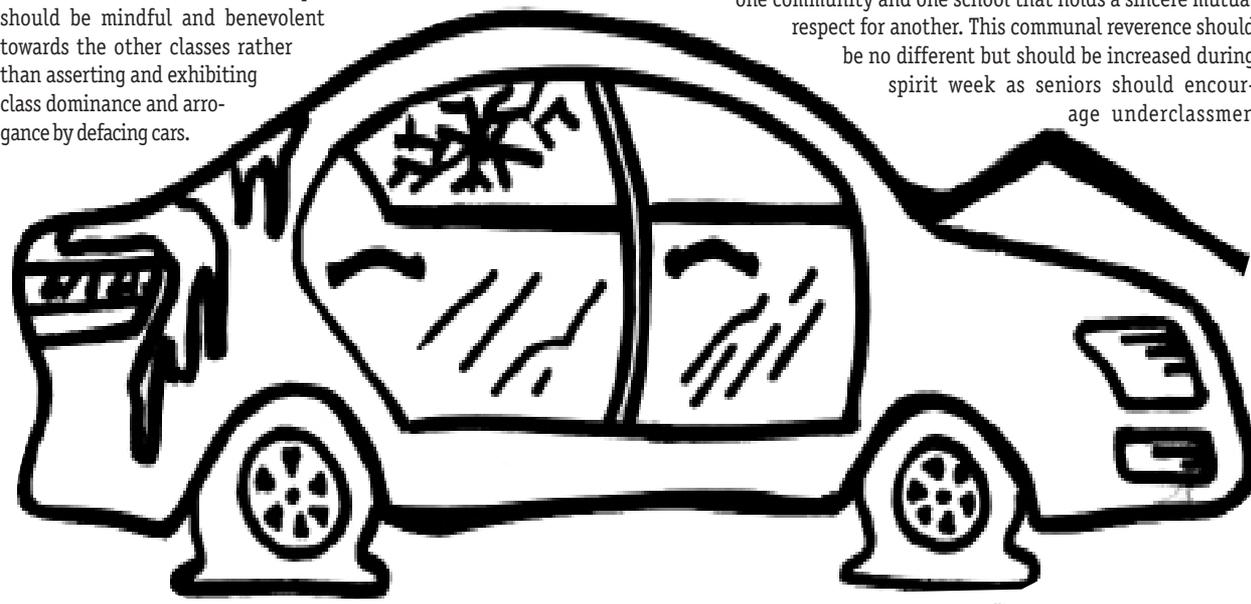
Aside from spirit-related knowledge, seniors also hold a plethora of academic wisdom that they should share with underclassmen during spirit week regarding school projects, SAT and AP exams, and effectively balancing sports and school. In our current system, most seniors know very few, if any, freshmen. For instance, I polled numerous seniors, including myself, on how many freshmen they know to the point of greeting each other in the halls.

Esau Kang and **Matt Uffenheimer** know zero freshmen. **Jacob Meech** and myself know two freshmen each. **Jonathan Searle** knows three while **Yasho Enz** knows ten. Thus, seniors have little chance of sharing school information with a significant number of freshmen.

Seniors should not be afraid to initiate a conversation with a freshman and offer their advice on time management or how to prepare for that one teacher's challenging tests. Not only would this directly and immediately benefit the individual freshman, but it would also create a sense of unity that our school so desperately needs.

All students, not just seniors, should attempt to make more connections and friends outside of their class. Students need to realize that their class holds a mere 25 percent of the people at LGHS. By not associating with many people outside of their grade, students limit the number of friends they make and the amount of satisfaction they could provide to others and themselves by assisting a struggling student from another class.

In short, spirit week is an excellent opportunity to exhibit and practice school unity rather than the current divisiveness some students currently display.



S. Sullivan



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NOVEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	Winter Sports Start Date	3	4	5	6	7
		CAHSEE ELA Testing	CAHSEE Math Testing	Blood Drive	End of 2 nd Grading Period	8
9			School Site Council Meeting			
		10	11	12	13	14
		Veterans Day (No School)		CASA Meeting	Fall Play Harvey	Fall Play Harvey (Matinee and Evening)
16			18	19	20	21
		Board Meeting		Home and School Meeting		22
23		24	25	26	27	28
			Thanksgiving Holiday Break	Thanksgiving Day	Thanksgiving Holiday Break	29
30				Thanksgiving Holiday Break		

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