

## Mrs. Quigley's Big Move There's a New Sheriff in Town

By Ali Tradonsky

What makes us so confident that Mrs. Quigley will exceed all of our expectations this year? The answer is simple- her experience. While you may have known that Mrs. Quigley has nine years of experience working at the Jewish Academy, is it probably news to you that she has worked in various departments with many different groups of students. When Mrs. Quigley first came to the school she was a seventh grade humanities teacher as well as a sixth grade Judaic studies teacher. As if teaching two subjects doesn't suffice, Mrs. Quigley is also a qualified English teacher. Three years after she began working at the Jewish Academy Mrs. Quigley was named the department chair of Judaic studies. Last year, Mrs. Quigley broadened her responsibilities as department chair and became the director of Judaic studies. Today, Mrs. Quigley is best known for her old position of 'Dean of Judaic Studies,' as well as for teaching the senior seminar class. Her time in the classroom has exposed Mrs. Quigley to students of all ages and maturity levels, and the skills she's gained along the way will undoubtedly help her in the upcoming year.

Although the dean of Judaica is a seemingly similar job to the dean of students, Mrs. Quigley explained that the two jobs "differ in every way possi-

ble. Yet this new job draws on similar skills as teaching." One major difference is that the dean of students deals with students of all ages throughout the year. Although this will be more challenging, Mrs. Quigley is looking forward to "continued interaction with the kids. I'm also looking forward to being able to interact with kids in an environment outside of the classroom."

As with every new job there are pros and cons. Though Mrs. Quigley will be able to build new relationships with students other than seniors, there are also things that Mrs. Quigley isn't looking forward to. When asked what she is least excited for this year, Mrs. Quigley replied: "Things such as enforcing the dress code. This is the general idea: I think it's hard when you care about kids to be able to discipline them in a way that they learn to be a better students and not want to make it better for them."



Jill Quigley, Dean of Student Affairs.

Finding the appropriate way to show 'tough love' is just one of the many things that Mrs. Quigley hopes to accomplish in the year to come.

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Your Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial staff working tirelessly to put out a first issue.

## A Kissell Goodbye Long-Time Dean Moves to Principalship

By Tammy Rubin

As members of our tribe at the SDJA, it has become accepted, if not normal, to know everyone's business regarding both their past and present entanglements. To continue on this personal level, it is best to start this new school year with a latest update on what we all consider to be the most important administrative position in the Maimonides Upper School, that is, the Dean of Student Affairs. While we have come to respect our beloved Mr. Kissell and abide by his standard of expectations, it is now time to bid adieu.

After a solid six years of teaching various math, science, and physical education classes in addition to another four years of cracking the whip as the man whom we all know and love today, Mr. Kissell has left the SDJA in pursuit

of one of his professional goals, which has been to become a principal of his own school. Starting this fall, he will reside at a public elementary school part of a very small district not far from his home, which specifically caters to grades three through six. In regard to his differing role from the SDJA, Kissell comments that he is the only administrator in the school (there are no Deans or Assistant principals), which poses a slight challenge in terms of leadership roles; however he describes his new coworkers as incredibly experienced and talented individuals who will help him along the way. For now, his future plans are "to get to know the teachers and families at my new school and put my experience and skills to work in a new environment."

In closing, Kissell wants everyone to know that "leaving the

SDJA was a very difficult decision for me because it felt like leaving a family. There was no question that I would not accept the position because it makes absolute sense for me to grow professionally, and this school is a great match for my personality and educational philosophy; however, I will always have a place in my heart for the SDJA. I will continue to keep in touch and keep tabs on the school (when my own schedule calms down, of course!), and I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy new school year." As we wave goodbye to one member of our family, we welcome another into her new position. Though Mr. Kissell will no longer sit behind his window of glory, we will see the familiar face of Mrs. Quigley, previously Director of Judaic Studies, and now the keeper of the gigantic shoes she has yet to fill.

## Catch-22

### SDJA Family Welcomes 22 New Students

By Jacob Katz

It's Monday August 23rd and you're excited because it's the first day of school. It is on this day that hundreds of students will groggily and reluctantly open their eyes only to face the relentless urge to fall back asleep. Welcome back to reality; this is your first day of school and as every first day entails, SDJA will be budding with new faces.

If you have ever been new anywhere you know how it feels to be looked at on the receiving end of the peculiar looks. Remember it is our Job as veteran SDJA'ers to make them feel as comfortable and as at home as possible.

Here are some

healthy tips: Introduce yourself first, then strike up an interesting conversation about why they came to SDJA or what their hobbies are. At this juncture in the conversation, ask if you can show them around for the day or invite them to sit with you at lunch. Ryan Marcelli, a new student that is joining us from Cathedral Catholic High School came here for several different reasons, but the two main reasons are the outstanding academics and athletics that are offered to us because of our remarkable staff at SDJA. Ryan commented on how he is excited to get classes underway and take on this new adventure. To all our new students, we hope you have a great year, and we welcome you to our family!

#### Their Names

**Sixth grade:**  
Gabrielle Burkholz,  
Alejandro Cohen, Sofia  
Keller, David Smith

**Seventh grade:**  
Jacob Greenstein, Dylan  
Landow, Matthew Paster-  
nack, Tori Shapiro, Dani-  
elle Sharf

**Ninth Grade:**  
Riva Bagully-Hawley,  
Jessica Dorfan, Ellen  
Horowitz, Thomas Lerner,  
Michelle Maghsoudi, Al-  
exander Rosen

**Tenth Grade:**  
Robert Shapiro, Kasidech  
Tantipanichaphan,

**Eleventh Grade:**  
Ryan Marchetti, Shelly  
Retzer, Rick Saxe, Ning  
Yang, Zhou Xiuxiu

#### Hey! You Gotta' Problem?

Just ask Shiniqua! Submit your problems to us online at sdjallionsden@yahoo.com, and we'll give you advice. You may appear in the next issue!

## C & @ 99Y Summer Homework

By Tiana Pidgeon

Summer vacation is the most anticipated school break of the year and is supposed to be a time of complete stress-free relaxation for our two and half months. But is this state relief from work really possible with all the summer reading we have? I don't think so. The Load puts a heavy burden on those who have other summer plans such as camp, vacations, or summer internships. How are we supposed to thoroughly enjoy this time off when we all know in the back of our minds that we have tons of reading yet to do? It's bad enough when every english class assigns summer reading, but for those who are taking APs this coming year, the work load has more than doubled! It's seen as an unnecessary factor of stress that gets everyone worked up.

Incoming Sophomore, Michelle Guefen, expresses her thoughts about the summer reading she has for her two AP classes: "some teachers went a little overboard with the amount of homework they assigned. Summer is supposed to be a vacation for us, and doing homework practically every day for 8 weeks doesn't qualify as a vacation."

Even though it's tough, summer reading is not all that bad. The justification for summer reading is that it helps us succeed in the upcoming year. It lets us "get our feet wet" and become familiar with what we will be learning about in the year to come. It keeps us on top of our game and in a sense, ensures our brain doesn't turn to mush over the summer.

However, with benefits or not, the frustration still stands. Most students in the end still feel the same way--they all despise the summer work. "While teachers think its a way for student to keep in touch with their intellectual side during summer break, it often forces students to sustain that relationship and forced relationships never work out well..." comments Sofia Gross, now a senior. We all share the same pain, and unfortunately there is no way out of it. I pray for all of you that your assignments didn't pose a huge problem to what otherwise was an amazing summer.



### Quigley Continued...

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One other important item is continuing and strengthening the culture of respect and kindness that already exists on our campus. "It's not about fixing things," Mrs. Quigley reminded, "I think we have a great school and good culture, so it's really about continuing."

If next year is going to be mainly 'continuing,' is there anything that we should expect to see changed? "Not immediately," Mrs. Quigley explained, "It's important to listen and learn from teachers and students, first. When you start something new it's usually a bad idea to change just for the sake of change."

## New Faces & New Jobs

By Ali Tradonsky

At a small school like the Jewish Academy, where everyone knows one another, it is easy to notice changes. After a long and relaxing summer, things might seem as though they are returning to what we have come to know as 'normal,' but changes have been made to replace those who have left us to pursue other opportunities, raise children, or for various other reasons. The year to come holds excitement, stress, and a few new modifications amongst our faculty.

On the field and in the gym, all Lions athletes and supporters will notice that Coach Wund is no longer the leader of our infamous tribe. Wund has stepped

down from the position of Athletics Director in order to pursue his own personal interests, such as education: "I plan on going to graduate school at San Diego State University." Mr. Quigley, former Assistant Athletics Director who has worked closely with Coach Wund for four years will be replacing him. When asked about what changes we should plan on seeing Quigley replied, "Everything will be the same, but Josh and I will be here full time whereas Coach Wund won't. I'm most looking forward to putting more athletes in more sports and creating a greater sense of pride." In addition to being the new Assistant Athletics Director, Coach Wund has joined the football coaching staff.

The last missing

face on campus this year will be Mrs. Cohn, our ASB advisor and social coordinator. Mrs. Cohn gave birth to her son, Frankie, ten weeks early on June 15, 2010. In place of Mrs. Cohn is Ms. Sivin. While many of us might not know her personally just yet, Ms. Sivin worked as Dr. Davis' temporary assistant when Mrs. Hudson gave birth to her son in September of 2009. Ms. Sivin is excited to work in a more hands-on position with the students. "I hope that you guys have a memorable, fun year, and that we're able to bring in incorporate new ideas."

Although we will undoubtedly miss everyone who we will not get to see as often this year, we wish them all the best and know that those filling in for them will do an amazing job.

## Three and Four-Day Weekends to Ease Students into New School Year...NAHT!!! Deceiving School Calendar Can be Formula for Disaster

By SDJA Lions' Den Staff

Beware of the insidious plot. What may look like a wonderful opportunity to take it easy and slowly get used to being back in school is actually a cunning plan to test the planning abilities of the SDJA student body, and weed out the procrastinating practices of unwittingly unprepared "slackers."

This year's school calendar looks like a gift from above. With the holidays of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot all falling on Thursdays and Fridays, the month of September reads like a student's dream of 3 and 4-day school weeks. When one adds in Labor Day, the whole month is devoid of a full school week. While on the surface this appears

to be a wonderful work-avoiding gift, it can actually be very dangerous for students. Teachers can be highly frustrated by the start and stop nature of such a calendar, and the lack of continuity from week to week is likely to force their hands in assigning a significant amount of in-class and out-of-class work to be done in order to keep their students "on schedule."

This is especially true in AP classes, where staying on what can appear to be a rigid academic timeline is vital for success.

For their part, students are likely to fall into a very hazardous trap. Having so many days off can make it appear that there is "always tomorrow" to do homework assignments. This is the procrastinator's dream, is it not? The problem is that less class time means that lessons learned have not yet sunk into the oft-distracted student brain and delays and gaps in learning exacerbate the difficulties that already exist in try-

ing to produce quality assignments. Moreover, the teacher is likely to harbor the expectation that students will make up these "missed early days" with extra work on the outside. Some classes may find it necessary to skip some of the "reminder assignments" that refresh previous years learning, as limited class time early in the year drives home the need to get new lessons in earlier than usual.

So beware of the trap. Focus early. Use your time wisely and beware of this plan by the "powers that be" to rid you of your procrastinating tendencies.

### WHILE YOU WERE OUT

#### THINGS YOU MISSED WHILE YOUR HEAD WAS IN THE SAND

By Brad Tradonsky

It has happened again. SDJA students have returned to school after a summer of fun. It happens every year, students return and tell their stories about what they did this summer. In fact, during summertime most of us are so busy making memories—which will later become our summer stories—that we forget to follow the world's biggest news stories. On that note let us recap some of this summer's biggest stories that you may have missed while—well—enjoying your summer.

#### The Shanghai World Expo:

What is the World Expo? It's an event that happens once every four years, and is "regarded as the Olympic Games of the economy, science and technology." Each country or company gets to set up a pavilion in which they show off their technology. This summer's expo had a record setting 192 national pavilions and 50 corporate ones. Saudi Arabia's pavilion is by far the most popular, on a busy day thousands of people wait

in a two mile long line just to get inside of it. The Expo has already attracted roughly 3 million tourists to Shanghai, and 70 million people—both local and foreign—are expected to visit the Expo before it ends on October 31st.

#### BP Oil Spill Disaster Ends:

Oil stopped leaking into the Gulf of Mexico on July 15th, 85 days after the explosion on the Deepwater Horizon Oil rig that killed 11 people caused the leak. British Petroleum tried a number of different techniques before eventually temporarily sealing the well. The well was later permanently sealed with the completion of two relief wells in mid-August.

#### Pakistan Floods:

The floods were caused by what are being called the worst monsoon rains Pakistan has seen in 80 years. So far the floods have submerged 17 million acres of Pakistani farming land, killed over 2,000 people, destroyed just shy of a million homes, and affected an estimated 20 million people. One of the worst parts of this story

was the world's slow reaction to help Pakistan. Ten days after the disaster only 45 million dollars of aid had been sent, a fraction of what has been sent to help those in need in the recent past; Pakistan experienced a terrible earthquake in 2005 and within ten days over 250 million dollars of aid had been sent.

#### Same-Sex Marriage Ordeal:

On August 4th a federal judge ruled that Proposition 8—the proposition which forbids gay marriage—was unconstitutional and that it "places the force of law behind stigmas against gays and lesbians, including: gays and lesbians do not have intimate relationships similar to heterosexual couples; gays and lesbians are not as good as heterosexuals; and gay and lesbian relationships do not deserve the full recognition of society." Yet before Judge Vaughn Walker's decision could go into effect a federal appeals court put same-sex marriages on hold indefinitely while appeals go on. This story is far from over, so watch out for it in the newspaper and news.

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Now recruiting staffers for the Lions' Den! Submit to sdjalionsden@yahoo.com!

## The Empire Spikes Back

Lady Lions Expect to Challenge New League Rival Tri-City for CIF Crown

By Jacob Katz

If you walk into the gym, you will hear the sounds of girls shouting as they hit the floor. The ball is hit hard as Katie Sherman feeds a perfect set to Gabi Rothman. You can hear Coach Maxwell shouting, "come on ladies, and sacrifice your body!"

Once again, the San Diego Jewish Academy Volleyball team has taken over the gym (even before the first day of school), training as hard as they can. There is nothing on their mind except winning the CIF championship and getting further in State Playoffs, a difficult but obtainable goal for ladies who lost the CIF finals as well the first round of the state playoffs for two years in a row.

Reaching their dream became even more difficult after losing the experienced talent of Aliya Luther and other seasoned veterans. Gabi Rothman comments that "it's hard to lose seniors every year because they are so familiar with the game, but it doesn't mean that we can't reach our goals regardless. We may just have to work a

little harder. We have to let last year roll off our backs; we can't worry about it or let it stop us from being successful this year."

Gabi Rothman will predictably take the captain rank again, but it looks like junior Katie Sherman will be there right at her side to help rear this young team to victory. Gabi Rothman and Katie Sherman are both looking forward to leading the team to victory as well as taking on a leadership role with younger players. SDJA should be excited to see what these younger players can contribute to SDJA Volleyball. It's been reported that Maddie Spiegel has been working hard with Coach Maxwell and Hannah Kurtin has been working on her game, playing tough competition during club volleyball. It will also be exciting to see the return of seniors such as Cailea Eisenberg, Maxi Jaffe, Mackenzie Norman, and Sofia Gross who all started last year. As the Volleyball teams gears up, so do the fans. We need to get our face paint back on, take our shirts off, and get ready to scream, "Bump! Set! Spike!"



## Netters Test the Waters Women's Tennis to Join League for First Time

Mara Friedlaender

The women's tennis team will undergo a new change this fall. A change of a greater magnitude than new tennis dresses. On August 23rd, the lady lions will be part of a league for the first time in years. Come 3:00pm, they will step out on the green courts no longer as anonymous-leaguers, but as members of the Coastal Pacific League. The tennis team hasn't identified with any league, leaving them free to play a great variety of schools. And though playing teams with

a ranging skill level has its advantages, it makes for an inconsistency in competition making games harder to practice for in a sense.

Therefore, we're very excited to be a part of a new league. Adrian Waisfeld, head coach, couldn't agree more. His philosophy is to "keep having fun," but he also saw last year's tennis team as an opportunity to "get the first step into a real competitive game."

All the girls have great chemistry and get along well. We look forward to seeing more achievements from our girls!

## LIONS CLIMB ATHLETIC LADDER CHANGING LEAGUES TO BRING INCREASED COMPETITION

By SDJA Lions' Den Staff

Goodbye Citrus League West, hello Coastal Pacific. Starting with the fall season, all SDJA sports teams save for football will compete in the Coastal Pacific League. Lions Football will complete the move in the 2011 season. For the longtime goal of athletic director (AD) Mike Quigley and his assistant and last years AD, Charlie Wund, the move will move the Lions up the competitive ladder and bring more prestige to a highly deserving SDJA athletic program. As the architect of the Lions athletic development, Wund saw participation in the Citrus league as both hindering development as well as limiting exposure and appropriate recognition. While Citrus league play did provide a great growth opportunity for SDJA athletes, recent suc-

cesses have demonstrated the ability of Jewish Academy athletes to move on to new challenges. Moreover, the athletic directors have frequently been frustrated by the limitations put forth by the limited organization by league administration as well as the poor playoff seedings that have been caused by the perceived lack of competition within the league.

The move to Coastal Pacific will mean a whole new set of league competitors. While league rivals such as Calvary Christian and Christian Life are likely to stay on many teams' schedules, new league stalwarts Tri-City Christian and Calvin Christian will replace some of the easier games of years past. Previous match-ups between these schools and SDJA have shown them to be very even competitors for Lions athletes. In

particular, the Tri-City women's volleyball squad has been a perennially CIF contender, frequently advancing far into state playoffs. With high hopes for the SDJA volleyball squad, this is likely to emerge as a strong new rivalry. Army-Navy and Escondido Charter have put forth strong squads in football and basketball in the past, and on the baseball diamond Calvin and Tri-City are likely to be the strongest foes. Newcomer Pacific Ridge has already shown its mettle on the soccer pitch, giving the Lions tough matches last season. As the Lions seek to prove themselves with this step up in competition fan support will be vital. Come out and root on your fellow student athletes as SDJA Lions make us proud during the 2010-2011 school year.

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