

# the accolade

VOLUME LIX, ISSUE V // SUNNY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL  
1801 LANCER WAY, FULLERTON, CA 92833 // FEB. 22, 2019



Junior Taylor DeGuzman



Junior Auburn Burnett



Junior Jocelyn Pineda



Sophomore Jazmin Montalvo

## Ring Chasing

Girls soccer reached the California Interscholastic Federation, Southern Section, Division 2, final. It plays Saturday at 11 a.m. at Warren High School in Downey against Mira Costa High School. See page 14 for more coverage.



KIMBERLY MORALES | theaccolade



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shsaccolade.com

# Lancers flock to animals in quad



KIMBERLY MORALES | theaccolade

**PETTING ZOO:** Senior Kevin Liu joins several students in the quad during break Wednesday to check out the goats and other animals brought from the farm as part of National Future Farmers of America Week.

To commemorate National Future Farmers of America week, the Sunny Hills agriculture department sponsored various quad activities throughout this week, culminating with today's "Kiss the Cow" at break.

For the first time, students used the 5 Star Students app to vote from a list of 10 teachers to determine who would give the bovine a smooch.

The designated teacher's name was not available at press time.

—by Staff Reporter  
Lira Jeong

For more pictures and information about Future Farmers of America Week, go online: [shhsaccolade.com](http://shhsaccolade.com).

## I'm eager to meet visiting team Feb. 25, 27



camrynPak  
News Editor

When ASB co-adviser and World History teacher Mike Paris asked me in late October if I would like to be part of

the accreditation process because I am involved in the IB program, Student Senate, *The Accolade* and student-run clubs, I felt confident that I would be able to represent the student body of Sunny Hills.

After taking him up on his offer, senior Sohae Yang and I met with Paris and math teacher Mariam Tan in Room 53 after school. We discussed a rough draft of our focus group's report, which covered the different ways that Sunny Hills students are assessed. Then, about a week before the mock accreditation visit Jan. 30, I was provided with a newer draft of the report.

During the mock accreditation visit in Tan's room, I was extremely nervous.

SEE WASC COLUMN • PAGE 3

# Sunny Hills undergoes accreditation process

HANNAH JEONG

Staff Reporter

A team of six educators will visit Sunny Hills Feb. 24-27 to validate that the school provides a quality education and environment for the students to thrive in.

"Students should just be the best versions of themselves; nothing special has to happen, but they might be asked questions and to just answer them truthfully and honestly would be the best," said English teacher Suzanne Boxdorfer, lead coordinator of the school's Western Association of Schools and Colleges [WASC] visit.

Every public and private school in California has to go through an accreditation process by WASC to confirm the schools' claims about their academics and various programs, Boxdorfer said.

The WASC team will read an 804-page report that Boxdorfer has been working on since last October.

For Sunny Hills, this team will consist of two principals — one from Lake Balboa College Preparatory Magnet School in Los Angeles County and one from Samuel F.B. Morse High School in San Diego — and four teachers from Southern California high schools, Boxdorfer said.

According to [acswasc.org](http://acswasc.org), the benefits of schools receiving accreditation represent "a statement to the broader community and the stakeholders that it is [a] trustworthy institution for student learning and committed to ongoing improvement. ... The public can be assured that the educational

quality of programs and services offered by the institution are current [and] reflect high standards of quality and are offered with integrity."

It's important that Sunny Hills earns a six-year, clear accreditation recommendation with no contingencies from the WASC

er supervised five focus groups — Organization, Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability, Instruction and Culture — made up of staff, students and parents. They have held meetings primarily during Late Start Wednesdays for about two years, she said.

Some students were also asked to participate in WASC preparations.

"I went to morning meetings with other students, and some teachers went over our team's self-study report to verify that the statements were true," said senior Sohae Yang, who is in the Assessment and Accountability focus group.

Yang was one of history teacher Mike Paris' former students that he recommended to join the committee. She is confident that Sunny Hills will get a good evaluation.

"I'm pretty sure we'll pass because Sunny Hills is a good school in general; the school, administrators and teachers know what they are doing," she said. "Everything in our self-care report checks out and can be backed up with evidence, so when the evaluators come by and ask questions, we'll have good answers."

The school leadership committee also discussed the school's weaknesses and ranked them based on what was the most to least important problems and then came up with four critical needs for the whole school in November of last year, Boxdorfer said.

visiting team because it benefits students when they receive their diplomas after graduation, Boxdorfer said.

"We're not at risk for losing accreditation because we're a very good school, but if we're not accredited, then our diploma means nothing," she said.

To get ready for next week, Boxdorf-

### HIGHLIGHTS OF FEB. 24-27 ACCREDITATION VISIT

● Feb. 24  
3-3:30 p.m. - Visiting committee and ASB students meet; campus tour

● Feb. 25  
12:30-1:30 p.m. - Visiting committee meets with selected students in Lyceum  
3-5 p.m.; committee meets with focus groups A, B and E

● Feb. 26  
12:30-1:30 p.m. - Visiting committee meets with randomly selected students in Lyceum  
3-5 p.m. - Visiting committee meets with focus groups C and D

Source: Suzanne Boxdorfer

SEE WASC VISIT • PAGE 3

# 75-inch touch screen displays enhance classroom environment

MINJI KIM

Feature Editor

Following the heels of the one student to one Chromebook district program initiated in the 2016-2017 school year, some Sunny Hills classrooms now feature even more advanced technology.

Costing \$3,000 each, a ViewSonic 75-inch Interactive 4K Display has been installed as of Feb. 5 in nine classrooms, replacing teachers' white boards, school officials said.

Assistant principal Craig Weinreich sent an email to teachers during the fall semester asking if anyone was interested in getting the display installed.

No information was available as to how many teachers responded, but the criteria administrators used to determine which of the nine classrooms would get the display system was based on what teachers wrote in their email responses as to why they would need one.

"I definitely said I was interested, but I also justified to them how I would use the gadget and my goals," said art teacher Brian Wall, who also heads the IB program and the Conservatory of Fine Arts. "A goal was being able to teach facing the front, since I usually would have to set up at the back of the room."

Another instructor to get her request for the display approved was math teacher Jina Shia, whose classes met in the Lyceum for one day while the system was being installed.

"The touch screen is so convenient because I don't have to copy original [math] problems," Shia said. "Students can see the original problems right there on the board, and the diagrams are already provided, so all I have to do is use the page projected



CAMRYN PAK | theaccolade

**INNOVATIVE CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY:** Seniors Megan Fu (left) and Grace Park watch art pieces on Wednesday as art teacher Brian Wall uses his new \$3,000, 75-inch touch screen display to analyze various drawings.

and write on it."

Another feature that the display system offers is screen recording, which gives teachers creative ideas on how to captivate their students and how to increase efficiency, Wall said.

"There's a camera with the touch screen, so it can not only record my voice, but also the screen," he said. "For example, if I'm

doing oil painting and demonstrating how I can mix different colors to get a result, I can turn the camera and record it for students who are absent on that day."

Wall's students are also impressed with the newly installed technology.

"It makes it much easier for Mr. Wall to show us art pieces for critiquing in class," said senior Grace Park, who is in Wall's

fifth period IB Visual Art HL2. "The resolution is much clearer, and he is able to point out specific parts of the paintings with just the touch of his finger."

Senior Megan Fu, who is also in the same class as Park, believes the system benefits Wall's other classes as well.

"[It's] really beneficial, so the students can clearly see what he is doing," Fu said.

FROM PAGE 2

## WASC COLUMN

Although everything seemed overwhelming at first, the staff members in my focus group made me feel comfortable. My first comment was about Chromebooks and how they changed our classrooms.

"For the past year, Chromebooks have made it easier for me and my classmates to collaborate on group assignments," I said.

After speaking once, it became gradually easier for me to make more comments about my experience here at Sunny Hills. I even helped my focus group when they were stumped — we were asked a question about PE assessments, but no one from that department was present.

Luckily, I had taken PE my freshman year, so I was able to answer the mock committee's question. When our focus group received feedback a week later, Paris

told me that my comment had impressed our visitors.

Because I've sat through a two-hour mock committee once, I feel adequately prepared for next week and even look forward to seeing what our visitors are curious about.

Like many students, I had never heard about the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (or more commonly known as WASC) prior to planning for the visiting committee. However, I personally believe that undergoing the accreditation process every six years is a great way to keep schools accountable for how they are managing their campus. And because Sunny Hills is an excellent school that has provided me with endless opportunities these past four years, I have no doubt that we will have a stellar outcome after next week's official visit.

FROM PAGE 2

## WASC VISIT

The four are supporting at-risk students, improving programs, pathways and options for students, continuing exploration and evaluation of technology and establishing and maintaining sufficient time and resources for collaboration.

During the WASC visit, the team will have read the 804-page report on everything about Sunny Hills, including the school's strengths and weaknesses, and will confirm or disprove the claims listed in the report, Boxdorfer said.

"A good accreditation does not say 'Sunny Hills is perfect,' she said. "It says, 'Sunny Hills has strengths and areas to improve,' and we know what those areas are and how to improve on them."

From Feb. 25-27, the WASC com-

mittee will hold several meetings and visit all classrooms throughout the day. After school on Feb. 25 and 26, it will meet with focus groups and then at 3 p.m. Wednesday, it will share its report to the staff in the PAC, according to a schedule that Boxdorfer put together.

When the WASC representatives come, they may ask students in a meeting in the Lyceum what their favorite classes are or why they chose to come to Sunny Hills, Boxdorfer said.

"There's nothing to prepare for; if you are asked for any information, just be honest about it and show your best self, just like you would do when you are meeting someone new," she said.

Principal Allen Whitten believes his staff and students are prepared for the visit.

"I think it'll be a great opportunity to show all the things that make this school an amazing place," Whitten said.

# Who will you vote for?

*ASB cabinet candidates state their positions before the March 8 election*



**Karen Lee for president**

**Be aMigo and vote for Karen**

"I know what it takes to lead the school through experience and my own passion."



**Ashok Thaker for president**

**Vote for me as fresh presidential ASB**

"I believe students should vote for me because I feel like I have the necessary skills to be president."



**Kenji Williams for president**

**Vote 4 Ken, he is ur frien**

"I feel the sense of responsibility if taking onw an important role for our school."



**Abby Kim for vice president**

**Vote Abbytar**

"Understanding the qualities of a leader, I believe that I make a good candidate for VP."



**Aimee Park for vice president**

**Best of both worlds with Aimee**

"With my natural sense of leadership and experiences I feel that I will be able to guide our school."



**Nathan Suh for vice president**

**Be a mate and vote for NATE**

"I believe students should vote for me because I will make a great vice president."



**Sydney Kim for secretary**

**Syd 4 Sec**

"I hope to recieve votes with my experience in ASB and passion for school."



**Gabby Sanders for secretary**

Slogan and quote not available at press time.



**Evan Kim for treasurer**

**You want it, you got it. Vote Evan**

"I think I would be a good candidate because of my motivation to help make this school a better place."



**Ruben Parker for treasurer**

**N/A**

"I will give all of my effort to make sure that things are approved properly."

Compiled by Lauren Kim

## PAC to stay open until May 20

*Delay helps groups plan spring performances*

**AALIYAH MAGANA**

*Staff Reporter*

With the start of PAC modernization pushed back from February to May, three of four annual spring events will remain in the PAC instead of having to find other venues for their performances.

Campus programs and clubs ranging from theater to dance to cultural groups learned Wednesday that the PAC would be available.

Theater teacher Amanda Gieser got confirmation from district projects director Todd Butcher that PAC renovation wouldn't start until May 20.

As of Thursday, Butcher did not respond to an email request asking for the reason of the delay.

But principal Allen Whitten said the first postponement from February to March had to do with district procedures.

"[The renovation job] still needs to go out for bid, and that needs to be accepted," Whitten said. "But if all goes well, we are looking at April."

But then came the confirmation that the PAC would be available in April after all.

"I'm glad that it's back in our PAC because at least we have a definite answer now, and we can begin planning," said dance teacher Leiana Volen, whose "Ripple Effect" April 11-13 spring concert will re-

**"Even though Buena Park's PAC might be newe.r, this PAC holds so many memories."**

**—Anabella Vidrio | senior**

main in the PAC instead of at Buena Park High School's auditorium. "It is also beneficial to all of the dancers because we are able to rehearse on stage during class time for a week before the show begins, where at the Buena Park stage, we would only have it for

a limited time after school hours."

Senior Dance Production captain Anabella Vidrio also preferred having her final performance in the PAC.

"Even though Buena Park's PAC might be newer, this PAC holds so many memories," Vidrio said.

The Bayanihan Club will also change its venue from having their Pilipino Cultural Night in the gym April 20 back to the PAC.

"We won't have to set up and tear down the mats on the gym floor," club adviser Mike Paris said. "We were also going to rent some curtains for backdrops that we would have had to setup and tear down the day of the show."

Club president senior Jasmine Spuur was also grateful for staying in the PAC.

"I'm super relieved," Spuur said. "The gym would have been too stressful."

One group that's not coming back to the PAC is the Korean Culture Club. Adviser Esther Lee said Korean Culture Night will be at the Buena Park PAC March 23 at 6:30 p.m. with that school's Korean Culture Club members.

### Spring events in the PAC

- Spring dance concert: "Ripple Effect," April 11 and 12, 7 p.m., April 13, 12:30 p.m.
- Pilipino Cultural Night: April 20, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Theater: "Play On," May 15-18, 7 p.m.

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

*English teacher Suzanne Boxdorfer and custodian Fernando Serna earn 2018-2019 Employees of the Year recognition*

**HANNA OLTMAN**

*Asst. Feature Editor*

English teacher Suzanne Boxdorfer and custodian Fernando Serna were announced as the Employees of the Year Feb. 14 during a staff meeting in the lounge at break.



Suzanne Boxdorfer

Each year, staff members nominate their co-workers and then vote on the nominees. No specific criteria for eligibility is given.



Fernando Serna

Upon hearing the results during break, Boxdorfer and Serna said they were shocked and touched.

"It was very humbling because Sunny Hills High School has a lot of incredible teachers on campus who I know deserve this award more than I do," she said. "They are great with students and great in the classroom, so I really look at them as mentors to me."

Serna has always viewed his job here as more than just his custodial duties.

"What I do at Sunny Hills [is] to make sure that the campus is clean and safe on a daily basis," he said. "I feel honored and would like to thank everyone."

This is Boxdorfer's second time being recognized at Sunny Hills for being a certificated employee of the year.

The English teacher received three nominations from staff. No information is available as to who submitted them.

One of them recognized Boxdorfer's efforts as lead coordinator for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ac-



Images reprinted with permission from Allen Whitten

**CELEBRATING AN ACHIEVEMENT:** Principal Allen Whitten (left) congratulates English teacher Suzanne Boxdorfer with a side hug.



**STANDING WITH THE BOSS:** Custodian Fernando Serna (left) holds his bouquet with principal Allen Whitten in celebration of Serna's accomplishments.

**EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR NOMINATION COMMENTS**

"Suzanne [Boxdorfer] is extremely dedicated to her school and her students. She puts in a great amount of work to make sure Sunny Hills High School is the best it can be."

"Fernando [Serna] is one of the most helpful individuals on campus."

creditation process this school year.

"[Boxdorfer] stepped up and organized an amazing WASC visit," according to one of the submissions. "She is extremely dedicated to her school and her students and puts in a great amount of work to make sure Sunny Hills is the best it can be."

Serna received six nominations for classified employee of the year.

"Fernando goes above and beyond his job to make our jobs easier," according to one of the submissions. "He is always positive and greets you with a smile."

"He's here on the weekdays and weekends making our campus a more beautiful place, and his hard work and dedication deserve to be recognized."

Boxdorfer and Serna will also be awarded with a certificate by Whitten at a May board meeting.

Despite the recognition, Boxdorfer said the experience of being recognized for a second time keeps her humble.

"I need to ensure that I'm always doing the best for my students every day and never be lazy or grumpy or take [this title] for granted," she said. "Because when someone tells you you're good, you better be good."

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# ‘Happy Death Day 2U’ not 2 bad

MEGAN SHIN

Photo Editor

“Happy Death Day’s” sequel answers many questions and plot holes from the first black comedy slasher flick, which was aimed at the Halloween audience two years ago.

Christopher B. Landon returns to direct “Happy Death Day 2U,” but this time around, he provides a reasonable scientific explanation behind the main character’s cycle of waking up on the same day after either getting killed or dying.

At an hour and 40 minutes, the movie was released Feb. 13, one day before its original release date of Valentine’s Day.

Because its plot centers on a villain trying to kill someone on campus, Universal Pictures heeded an appeal from the father of one of the shooting victims of last year’s Valentine’s Day shooting at Florida’s Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School to change the release day.

After viewing the movie, it remains unclear why the studio wanted audiences to watch this in February as opposed to October



Image used with permission from Michele K. Short/Universal Pictures

**HOSPITAL CLINIC CREEP:** The killer (left) from the first “Happy Death Day” movie appears again in the sequel released on the day before Valentine’s Day.

when the first film was released.

Tree (Jessica Rothe, “Forever My Girl”) is shown early on being intimately involved still with Carter (Israel Broussard, “To All

the Boys I’ve Loved Before”), but once the plot thickens, Landon focuses more on Tree’s conflict of being stuck in the time loop than her relationship.

Without giving too much of the mystery away, the plot centers on Carter’s roommate being stuck in a time loop first, and he recruits Tree to help him escape

it, only for Tree to end up back in her time loop again.

In the director’s choice to go in this direction, he deserves credit for creating an alternate universe from the original and freeing Tree from the confines of the college campus each day she wakes up.

For example, Tree finds Carter being in a relationship with her sorority’s leader, Danielle, (Rachel Matthews, “Happy Death Day”). She then sees a poster about skydiving, which prompts her to go on a plane and jump off without parachutes, thus ending that day.

Though the suspense works, Landon doesn’t do too well with the comedy parts of the movie. In one scene, Danielle’s efforts to pretend to be French and blind isn’t funny at all because of bad acting.

To tease the possibility of producing a third film, the movie adds a Marvel-like post-credits scene. It seems Universal Pictures feels “Happy Death Day” has become a franchise, so Tree and her pals will most likely return again — perhaps on another holiday like Thanksgiving or actually on a birthday like Martin Luther King Day?

## Parkland Speaks book connects with readers

MICHELLE BUCKLEY

Co-Entertainment Editor

Loss. Pain. Healing.

When individuals undergo a traumatic experience, speaking about what they went through is not easy to do. To cope, most would attend therapy, spend time with family and stay involved in the community.

However, some individuals write.

Despite a year since one of the world’s most heartbreaking tragedies — the Parkland shooting in Florida — these courageous high school students refuse to keep silent. In the book, *Parkland Speaks: Survivors From Marjory Stoneman Douglas Share Their Stories*, survivors speak out and recall the events of the shooting that took 17 lives on Valentine’s Day: Feb. 14, 2018.

The 192-page paperback book features art, photos, poems and accounts that give readers feelings of sorrow, courage and hope. Edited by English and journalism teacher Sarah Lerner, the book reveals eyewitness accounts of the attack and how the students dealt with the trauma.

As readers begin turning the pages, they can come across Lerner’s own poem, “Re-Write,” which talks about how the students

“turned their grief into words” through the book and how writing “helped them begin the healing process.”

Providing explicit stories of the shooting are student writers such as Joseph DeArce in his “Third Floor” story and Nadia Murillo’s “The Day That Changed My Life” passage, in which both individuals describe through first-person point of view of where they were when shots were fired and what they did to save themselves.

The book provides readers with well-structured and encouraging poems, such as “Proud to Be an Eagle” by Sara Lesmes and “First Night” by Brianna Jesionowski, which render feelings of loss, sorrow, and most importantly, hope.

Readers can feel a deep connection with the victims as they come across photographs and drawings dispersed throughout the book that provide insight and a visual impact. An illustration of an eagle by Isabella Pfeiffer and a picture of individuals praying by photographer Rain Valladares create an emotional feeling that puts readers inside the victim’s shoes.

Despite downcast accounts and poems, readers receive relief through light-hearted stories and pictures. In “Puppy Therapy: Misty,” student Samantha Deitsch talks

### Exerpts from *Parkland Speaks*

*Life’s Test*

by Brianna Jesionowski

*Life has a funny way of testing you,  
For most it’s losing a job  
Getting your heart broken,  
Or going bankrupt.  
For us it was much worse.  
It was watching your friends die,  
Listening to the heart-wrenching screams,  
Praying for your life,  
Seeing blood and dead bodies. ...*

*Through My Eyes*

by Aly Peri

*Through my eyes,  
I see the crowded halls,  
I see the painful smiles  
and the lost souls.*

*Through my eyes,  
I can picture the hurt,  
the broken  
and everything after that.*

*Through my eyes,  
I watch all the fearful teens  
cry and sob to their loved ones  
and try to cover it with a faint  
smile. ...*

about how her therapy dog, Misty, helped her cope and how she “brings so much healing by being herself.”

A pertinent message is the subject of gun violence. Excerpts from the speech “We Call BS,” which was televised on Feb. 17, 2018 by student Emma Gonzalez, can be found alongside pictures of protests and hand-made signs.

Although readers feel sorrow at times, they receive inspiration through students who are taking a stand and speaking out for their cause.

The end of the book provides a list of

hotline numbers for those who suffer from grief, anxiety or other signs of depression. By doing this, it can be beneficial toward those who need it if they are suffering from something.

Once readers delve into this inspiring book that can be found on Amazon or at a local bookstore for \$12, it can be hard to continue turning the pages with so many disturbing things described. However, Parkland’s student survivors successfully pushed through by expressing themselves through writing and turned this book of history into a book of recovery.

# Muckenthaler art show features student work

HANNAH JEONG

Staff Reporter

On a recent visit to Fullerton's Muckenthaler Cultural Center nearby the Sunny Hills campus, senior Sophia Jang was overwhelmed by the amount of artwork in one particular gallery.

Titled, "Fullerton Joint Union High School District Student Exhibition," and available for viewing until Feb. 24, Jang spotted her own artwork among many of her peers.

"I did visit the gallery on its opening night," she said. "There were a lot of impressive works gathered there so I was flattered to have my work put alongside them; seeing it framed and put up in a gallery was cool, too."

This is the first time that the district decided to exhibit its students' work there.

"We've always done [the art show] in the district board room, and it's really not a great venue

for showing the art," said art teacher Brian Wall, who also directs the school's Conservatory of the Arts program.

As opposed to the district office, the Muckenthaler is an actual gallery specializing in art exhibitions with a professional gallerist to hang artwork, Wall said.

Additionally, the professional showcase allowed more space for more artwork to be submitted. In the past, every school received nine entries, but this year, all schools had 15 entries.

To determine which of the 15 entries to submit, teachers in the COFA program selected six visual, four photography and five 3D pieces.

A Muckenthaler art judge reviewed entries from each school in the district and released results to Wall in a Feb. 15 email.

Seniors Diana Wang's "Upside" drawing and Elijah Wylie's "Reaching" photograph earned an honorable mention nod and will

be displayed again at an April 16 award ceremony at the district office.

Each will also receive \$25 for their honorable mentions, Wall said.

"I'm very honored," said Wang, a student in Wall's fifth period art class. "I was actually kind of surprised, though."

Wylie, a student in photo teacher Michael Goulding's fifth period class, also had a similar sentiment.

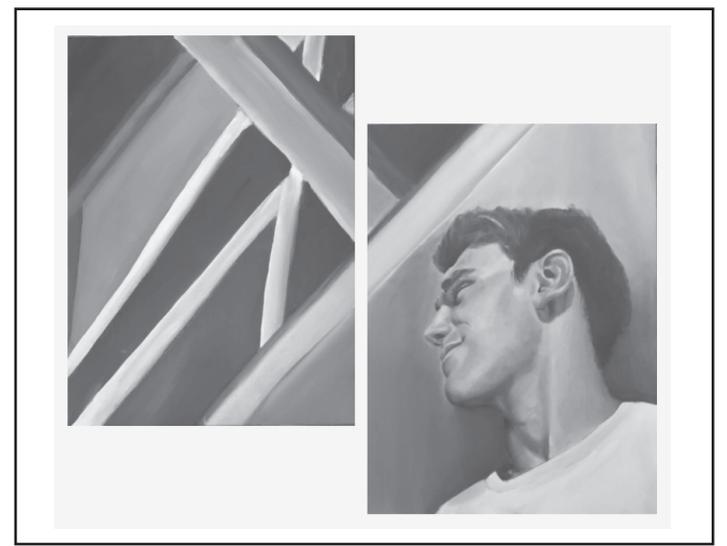
"It's pretty surprising that I got an honorable mention," he said.

Wylie said he wanted to enter his photo because of its composition.

"I like how the shadow's on his hand and how his hand was reaching to the light and the rest of it was in darkness," he said.

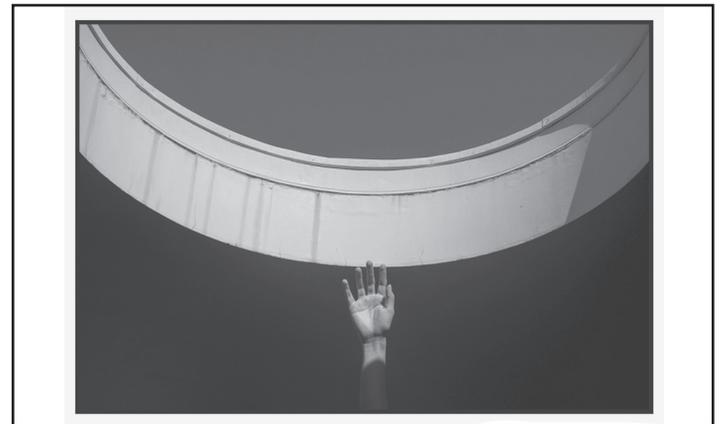
No matter the judge's outcome, Wall said SH entries were strong.

"I think it represents the best of Sunny Hills," he said.



Reprinted with permission from Diana Wang

**TWO VIEWS:** Senior Diana Wang's "Upside" earns an honorable mention nod from Muckenthaler judge.



Reprinted with permission from Michael Goulding

**GIVE ME A HAND:** Senior Elijah Wylie's photograph, "Reaching," also earns an honorable mention.

# 'The Prodigy' ingeniously scares viewers

ANDREW HONG

Staff Reporter

Engrossing viewers in a creepy fiction-based horror film, "The Prodigy" leaves all eyes glued to the screen.

Director Nicolas McCarthy, ("Holidays"), captures the audience's attention immediately, by introducing the spine-chilling backstory of serial killer Edward Scarka (Paul Fauteux, "Frontier").

Coincidentally, a baby boy, Miles (Jackson Robert Scott, "It"), is born around the same time Scarka is killed. Later, the young boy shows signs of aggressive and paranormal activity, leaving his parents to seek answers for his issues.

Unlike many other horror films, such as "Annabelle: Creation" and "Extraterrestrial," McCarthy places few yet no-

table scares to spook the crowd. His quality scares pay off, as the outcome startles the audience, keeping them entertained and focused. "The Prodigy," released Feb. 8, combines the idea of reincarnation with horror elements to bring a scary twist to the plot.

Initially, the scenes seem choppy and irrelevant, leading the audience to wonder how they will fit in with one another. For example, the sudden transition from Scarka's death to the mother, Sarah (Taylor Schilling, "Orange Is the New Black"), giving birth to Miles provides no clear connection in the

plot. However, the scenes begin to piece together as the parents, Sarah and John (Peter Mooney, "Blowback"), begin to notice his ability to recall odd memories of a past life and speak fluent Hungarian in his sleep.

The characters develop smoothly throughout the film. Sarah shifts from coping with Miles' abnormal

actions to facing a parental dilemma. Similarly, Miles transitions from showing mild aggression to his desire to kill.

However, characters like John and Arthur Jacobson, (Colm Feore, "Thor"), who both had potential to develop the plot, seem to have been added for the sole purpose of additional dialogue and short-term longevity.

Mooney's character appears to play the role of a parent, who will later provide nothing to the plot after a car crash puts him in the hospital. The role of Feore, the doctor who discusses with Sarah about the child's odd signs, gives the impression of being a dynamic character. But in reality, he fizzles out midway, as the film

gradually starts to focus on the mother and son. Some characters' lack of development leads to plot holes that are never resolved throughout the film.

However, the cinematography brings depth to the film, exciting the audience while making their hands feel clammy. The film provides a variety of wide-angle shots, such as in the house, and shaky footage to reenact the actions of the characters walking. Through the camera, the audience feels engaged with the characters along their journey.

Overall, the film lacks in character development and leaves certain plotlines unresolved, but the movie's creepy cinematography and twisting storyline makes up for its flaws.

Although the abrupt ending confuses the audience, the closing scenes excite them for a hopeful sequel.

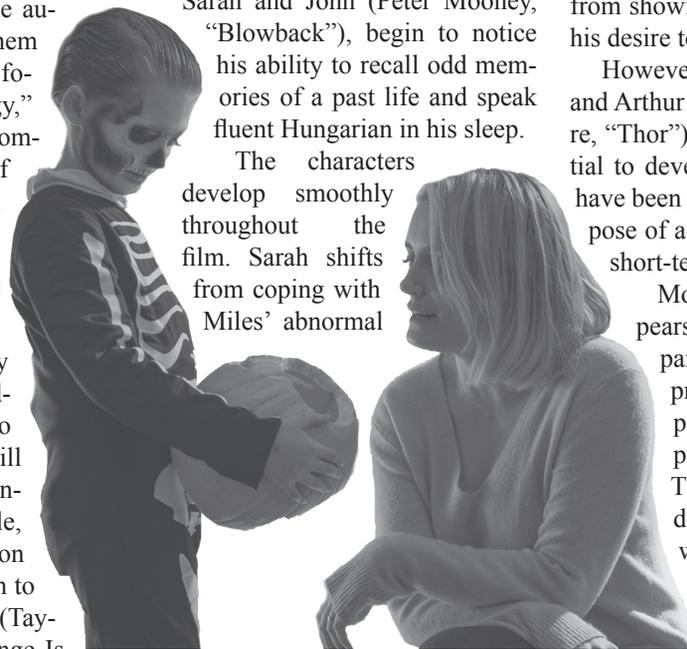
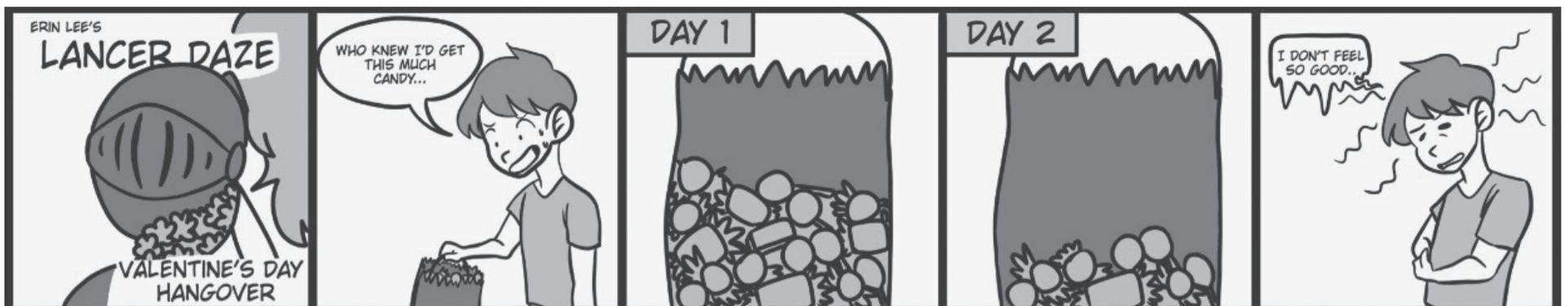


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**GHASTLY GIFT:** Kid prodigy Miles gives carved pumpkin to his mom Sarah, alluding creepy behavior.





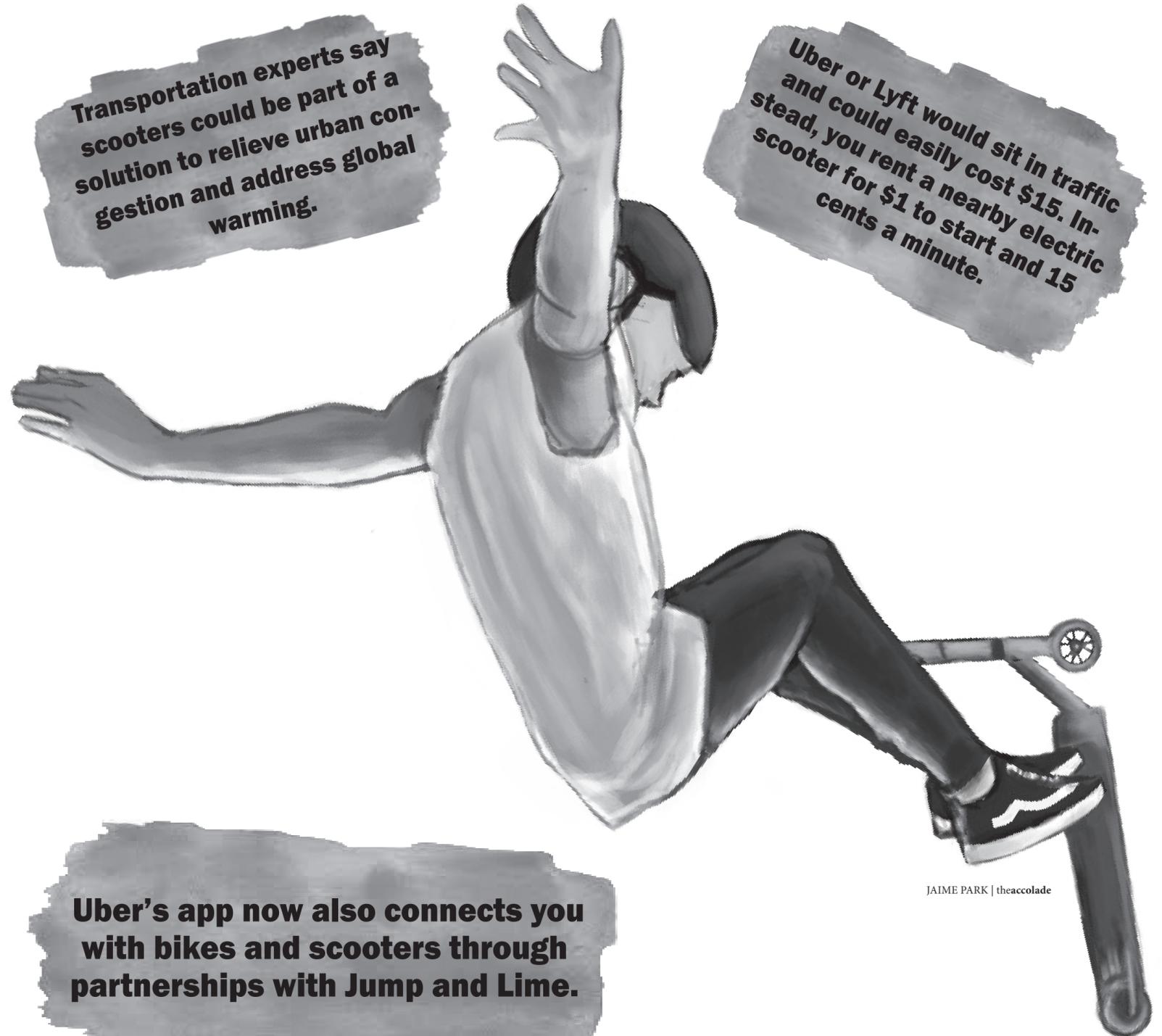
**SWEET VICTORY:** Freshman Evan Koo wins first place in the USA's Winter Series II, the biggest freestyle scooter series in North America. Image reprinted with permission from Evan Koo

# The future of transportation

The Accolade looks into the increasing popularity of electric scooters and their benefits

Transportation experts say scooters could be part of a solution to relieve urban congestion and address global warming.

Uber or Lyft would sit in traffic and could easily cost \$15. Instead, you rent a nearby electric scooter for \$1 to start and 15 cents a minute.



Uber's app now also connects you with bikes and scooters through partnerships with Jump and Lime.

JAIME PARK | theaccolade

## SCOOTER PRODIGIES

Two students showcase passion in their scooting skills in competitions and everyday life

**TYLER PAK**  
Asst. Sports Editor

They feel other people judging through their stares as they walk through the skatepark. Like them, they're there to use the ramps, stairs and quarter pipes, but there's one thing different — they're riding a scooter.



Freshman Evan Koo



Sophomore Tyler Ryan

then got Ryan involved. "I just enjoyed the time with my friends," Ryan said. "We helped each other learn new tricks and motivated each other. Plus, it keeps us healthy and active."

On Oct. 17, nearly a year after they started scooting, they entered their first competition. Since then, Ryan has entered five competitions, and Koo has entered eight.

"I wanted to have a challenge," Koo said. "I enjoyed learning new tricks with my friends, and I wanted to try a competition."

Ryan wanted to make a bigger name for himself in the scooting community.

"I wanted to put myself out there," he said. "I wanted to get some recognition for scooting."

On Feb. 9, they competed in the United Scooter Association's USA Winter Series II championships in Las Vegas, Nev., where Ryan placed eighth and Koo placed first out of 25.

At these competitions, contestants have a minute to free run and display as many tricks as they can. They are judged based on the difficulty and combinations of tricks in the performance.

"I was pretty happy and surprised I got first [place]," Koo said. "I was kind of nervous. I messed up on my first run but did pretty [well] on my second."

Though Ryan has not yet gotten to stand on the podium, he sees this as motivation to improve.

"I'm going to keep practicing until I get first [place]," he said. "I know that I'm getting better, so I see this happening soon."

The scooter buddies practice for hours each weekend, hoping to get good enough to be seen as a professional. However, because of school on weekdays, they enjoy casually scooting around the Fullerton Town Center with their friends.

Despite the growing scooter community, Ryan thinks that this

recreational activity still does not get the respect it deserves.

"When people find out I scooter, they start off by thinking that it's a little strange," he said. "They don't really think it's that cool. I don't really like how they think about it because I feel like they should respect it more."

Koo believes that people's feelings toward the sport will soon change.

"People everywhere are starting to have fun," he said. "There's a lot of little kids who see these YouTubers scooting. They look up to them, get inspired and start riding. It's like skating and BMX combined. There's a different variety of tricks."

Nevertheless, the scooting duo is excited for their own futures in the sport.

"I want to go to the Nitro World Games and compete to help make scooting bigger," Koo said. "I just want to go [as a professional], make money and have fun with all of my friends."

# EDUCATION MATTERS

## Senior Stephen Kim addresses legislators in visit to state capital

SHINE LEE

Asst. News Editor

It is the third day: the last day for the program.

As more than 40 people —



senior Stephen Kim

including students, counselors and adults — enter a large chamber-like hall, they notice California senators and assembly members sitting on the raised platform.

First up to speak is Orange County governmental affairs policy director senior Stephen Kim's group.

"For the first 30 seconds, I was nervous because we were the first to present, and we didn't know that," Kim said. "[The order] is basically randomly assigned, so I was surprised, but first is always the best."

This is just one situation

he faced during the Student Advisory Board on Legislation [SABLE] — one of the meetings the California Association of Student Councils [CASC] holds. As the speaker to a joint committee on education, Kim attended this program in Sacramento Jan. 14-16 as part of his interest in a political science major in college.

According to [casc.net](http://casc.net), the purpose of CASC is to improve the quality of life by developing skilled, ethical and sensitive leaders of diverse backgrounds and cultures.

"I think the meeting is a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Kim said. "Talking directly to senators and assembly members about educational issues and having the opportunity to speak on that to find the solutions to the problems you recognize are just really cool."

Those who are interested in participating in this program need to be in at least middle school and

must submit a brief essay along with answering short questions. In addition, applicants are required to pay \$540 for registration, but members receive a \$20 discount.

Kim's team member applauded the senior's presentation skills at the event.

"[He] was phenomenal," said San Benito High School senior Ian Sills, who was in Kim's three-member group. "He has a mastery over language and charisma in presenting, which is incredible."

Kim and his team presented an issue regarding the student advisory committees on budgets.

"Our issue was about making sure that students have some sort of voice in terms of budget and the district budget getting distributed," he said. "Because students are the ones the budgets are intended for, I thought they should have some sort of voice in terms of where the money goes."

CASC, which is also offered as a club that meets during break every other Thursday in Room



Image reprinted with permission from Stephen Kim

**SUITED UP FOR SUCCESS:** Stephen Kim (left) stands with group council members, Siena Burgart and Ian Sills, at California's state capital on Jan. 16.

36, is a subdivision of the overall state organization.

"The club encourages CASC membership and teaches CASC curriculum," said Kim, who is among 15 others in the club. "It is just a peer-to-peer curriculum where students teach students."

For those who plan to major

in political science like him, he highly recommends them to apply for any conferences CASC holds.

"If you have interests in making something better, then I say this is a program that anyone who is interested in politics, activism and service should really look into," he said.

## Science Olympiad keeps an 'ion' the prize

CHRISTINE CHOI

Copy Editor

Racing against the clock, senior Sky Jung scours through the diagrams of amphibians and reptiles, reading content that seems all too familiar.

Although Jung and his fellow Sunny Hills Science Olympiad team were up against 37 teams at the University of California, Irvine, regional competition Feb. 9, their resolve was not faltered.

Instead, the members used their passion to move forward throughout the 12-hour competition, long after their energy flagged.

The team placed eighth overall, just two ranks below qualification for state.

The first year the team made it to regionals, it placed 22nd, and last year, it placed ninth, said science teacher Christopher Ghareebo, a co-adviser for the Science Olympiad club.

"I'm expecting that next year we make it to state because every year we've been improving," Ghareebo said. "This year we got eighth, so we're turning in the right direction."



Image reprinted with permission from Christopher Ghareebo

**VICTORIOUS GENIUSES:** Science Olympiad advisers Christopher Ghareebo (left) and Santiago Villafana (far right) with their team at University of California, Irvine, on Feb. 9.

In this competition, an increased number of members had placed compared with last year's results. Jung and sophomore Vincent Le placed first in herpetology. Jung also placed fifth in fossils with junior Cecilia Lee.

"Upon hearing that I got first, I felt proud that my several months of working had paid off," Jung said. "I hope the team has more invitationals and better opportunities at state in the future."

Co-founder of Science Olympiad, ju-

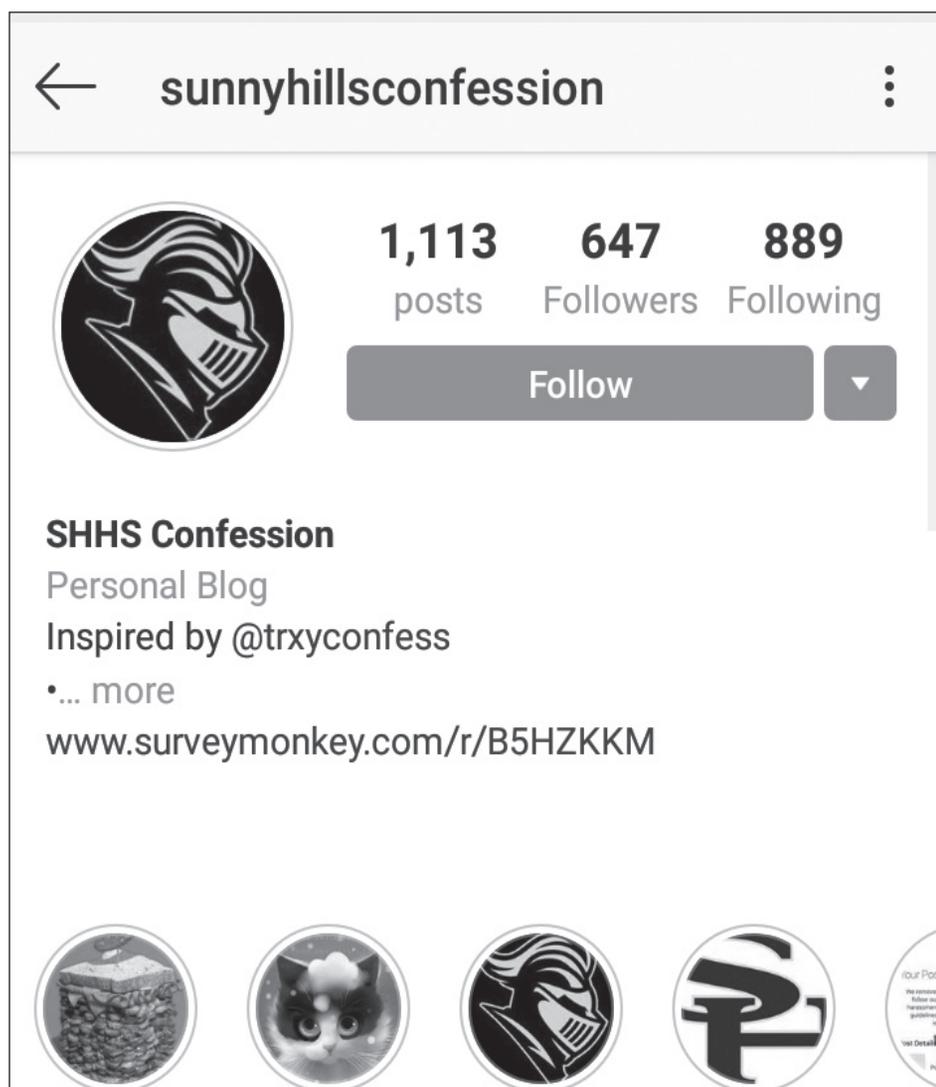
nior Samuel Kho, placed in three categories: first with Le in circuit lab, fourth in astronomy with junior Daniel Lee and fourth in mission possible with junior Kavi Maru.

Co-founder junior Megan Luo and junior Cecilia Lee placed third in forensics, and sophomores Austin Jung and Hannah Kim placed fourth in sounds of music.

"Orange County regionals is one of the most, if not the most, competitive regional competition," Kho said. "[Our team] is growing stronger with some freshmen from Fisler and possibly some students from Kraemer. Combine these two factors, and it looks promising for Sunny's state debut."

He and Luo felt excited since many members placed in this competition and hoped that these results will motivate others to join.

"I really do believe this competition is fun despite all the hard work," Luo said. "I don't think anyone on the team would say that the process isn't rewarding. I hope more people can experience this so they can grow in many ways, not just academically."



**SECRETS UNVEILED:** The @sunnyhillsconfession account on Instagram has 647 followers containing 1,113 posts that is collected anonymously through SurveyMonkey. Then, with the post number at the top, the confession consists of various contents like questions, jokes and personal information.

# I have a confession...

*Proceed with caution when reading SH students' page of tell-all posts*



audreyJo  
Entertainment Editor

Gossip spreads faster than wildfire, and nothing quite nothing sparks small talk like a platform that allows students to post completely anonymous questions, complaints and confessions.

That is what a confessions page is: a site where anyone can post their opinion at any time to a large audience.

Inspired by Troy High School's own Instagram confession page, a Sunny Hills student, who wishes to remain anonymous, has made one of his own on Jan. 22 — @sunnyhillsconfession, which has 647 followers as of Thursday.

"I started the confession page when a friend of mine said, 'Troy has a confession page, so why doesn't Sunny have one?'" the SH confession page creator wrote in direct message interview. "I thought it would be nice to let people express their thoughts, even if some of them are jokes. These days, people's opinions don't seem to really matter."

Of course, a confessions page has many positive and negative aspects. For one, the SH confessions account also accepts questions and advice, most of which are positively received by a majority of SH students who leave encouraging comments, such as "when your mental health isn't in the best state, give yourself a break." However,

others see it as a platform to promote cyberbullying and hate speech while hiding their identities, such as when students scrutinize others for the way they talk or dress.

Since the buzz about this confessions page arose from my close friends, my interests were piqued, and I have since been a follower of the page. At first, I considered it to be just like the SH meme page, as many of the confessions were fake and were about secret crushes that were overall funny. As more posts were added, I began to notice that the format had changed slightly, becoming a page to promote the school to middle schoolers and asking for information about certain students such as "can someone tell me if so and so is dating someone as of now?"

It did strike me in a bad way that some "confessions" were just really negative statements about the freshmen, teachers, clubs and other students to name a few. Since we do not know the legitimacy of each claim, this makes the situation worse because the account could potentially be spreading around damaging rumors.

Although these off-putting posts initially gave me the inclination to call it "cyberbullying" without a doubt, the one thing that kept me from jumping on that bandwagon was the curator himself.

Unbeknownst to some, the curator is the one and only moderator of his account. It is a single person who receives around 60-90 confessions a day, he said. He states clearly that if anything is

considered "cyberbullying" under his judgment, it is either taken down or not posted in the first place.

"Ever since I got negative comments, I set my own guidelines to what I post," he said. "Responses such as someone is annoying or ugly or has a negative connotation won't be posted."

Because of these restrictions, I was more willing to judge the account on a more objective basis. While the content sent in by anonymous users may be biased and harsh toward other students and some teachers, the account curator also includes captions with each post, all of them either positive or in defense of whoever is being called out.

It was refreshing to see an account that does not make fun of the content it receives, which could further insult or hurt the reputation of those targeted.

Though we do not know the true identity or intention of this account and its user, one thing is for certain; no real threat of cyberbullying exists on the page. As the curator has stated before, it is just a place to voice one's thoughts, opinions and innermost emotions.

It is apparent to me that the site is gaining momentary popularity, as drama and gossiping accounts are the most recent fad among young teenagers. However, I also believe that this platform is a perfect space for students to exercise their First Amendment rights, whether or not they have positive things to say.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Help the WASC report card

For the next three school days starting on Feb. 25, Sunny Hills students need to be at their best on campus and in the classroom.

This is because a six-member visiting team from various schools in California will go to classrooms and meet with student committees and staff to confirm a report that SH staff produced under the guidance of Western Association of Schools and Colleges [WASC] lead coordinator and English teacher Suzanne Boxdorfer.

Committee members might also stop students in the hallway or quad during break or lunch to ask them about their experiences at Sunny Hills and their opinions on it.

Our diploma is on the line because this group represents WASC, an organization that accredits schools' claims about their academics and various programs.

They will be observing Sunny Hills to see if everything in its report is true.

It's the WASC committee's job, then, to confirm whether the report is accurate or not and then at the end of the visit to make the following possible recommendations about our campus: Loss of accreditation,

or accreditation for one, two, three or six years with a mid-term one-day visit or six years' accreditation.

Our goal is to make sure that the WASC committee opts for a six-year accreditation recommendation free from contingencies so they will not have to come back in three years.

Some teachers have prepared students for this WASC visit; even administrators came into students' Period 2 classes on Feb. 12 to talk about the visit to provide students a better understanding of this process.

At the beginning of this semester, social science department chairman Greg Abbott also started requiring his students to put their smartphones on pouches that he has set up in the front of his room to help them stay focused in class.

So, it's time to take off those AirPods in the classroom, lean forward, pay more attention to our teachers and actively participate.

It's our school's reputation and our diploma's credibility that are at stake. Let's take this seriously and ace this "exam," like Lancers are usually capable of doing.



KAREN LEE | theaccolade

## Graphic sex education deters students, parents

Passed in 2015, enacted in Jan. 1, 2016, the California Healthy Youth Act requires "school districts



rosieJang

Web Editor-in-Chief

to ensure that all pupils in grades seven to 12, inclusive, receive comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education."

But parents are just now going abuzz with this seemingly new implementation — and they're voicing their opinions through holding numerous campaigns and pulling their children out of schools on Tuesday as part of a "sit-out."

My parents were somewhat oblivious to what was going on. I let them know that I will be taking part in the protest, and, after a few pictures of evidence I received from friends and parents, they obliged: I, on Tuesday, skipped school.

Unexcused absences cost schools money — they do not receive funding even if "the school operates the same," according to ocregister.com.



**STANDING IN PROTEST:** Two parents hold a sign outside the Irvine Unified School District building Tuesday to show their dissatisfaction with California's sex education curriculum.

This was the rationale: parents used absences to voice opinions on the matter, as parents claim they are "not being informed of the true nature of the controversial, graphic, gender-experimentation being taught to kids."

Some of the "educational material" I have seen does, in fact, show pornographic material; from illustrations of highly sexualized women and depictions of a penis to even a "How-To" on how to use "flavored dental

dams" children as young as 4 years old will have to see such age-inappropriate material. Do families, the "first cell of a stable civil society," even have the right to raise their children with their own values?

While this may not be a concern if parents are able to opt their children out of the sexual health education, a memo from the Orange County Department of Education states, "parents who disagree with

the instructional materials... may not excuse their children from this instruction."

But keep in mind that this bill passed nearly three years ago — reality just kicked in for a lot of parents, and this shows the extent of political engagement of many people statewide. Most people don't pay particular attention to what officials are up to, and now, we are facing the consequences of this ignorance.

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JAIME PARK | theaccolade

**ONLINE POLL**

What do you think about the district's decision to bring drug-sniffing dogs to Sunny Hills?

**I like it:**  
**28%**

**I don't like it:**  
**24%**

**I don't care:**  
**48%**

Source: shhsaccolade.com  
(based on 50 responses as of 6 p.m. Thursday)

**PROS**

**These canines keep drugs away**



*noah* Somphone  
Editor-in-Chief

The word spread so fast. Some kind of drug-sniffing dogs coming to Sunny Hills?

The news is terrible for drug users yet trivial for others. But don't fear, it's a very good thing for those of you who don't have anything.

In an email sent by the district Jan. 28 to parents, students and staff, the reasoning behind these "contraband detection dogs" is simple. They "eliminate the possession and use of weapons, illegal drugs and other controlled substances by students on school premises and at school activities."

These dogs are allowed to sniff around student lockers, desks, backpacks and vehicles on district property and district-sponsored events. However, there's a catch — they're not allowed to sniff within

close proximity of people.

To be honest, these dogs most likely won't find much. But this is a *great* thing. These dogs are grade A deterrents from drugs. Either students have something on them or they don't bring it to school. Who's going to bring substances when there's risk of discovery?

Of course, the district can't do anything to these students at home. However, in response to the "unfortunate increase in vapes and marijuana products on school campuses" (as written in the district-wide email), this is an excellent "scare tactic," if you will.

Although this method will come up short physically — for example, finding marijuana in a student's backpack — it's a message to all of those out there who sell or use drugs. The presence of the dogs is *purely symbolic*, and believe me, it's an ingenious move.

The district decided to play chess, and the drug dogs are their pawns. They moved first. It's time to see if drug users will stop bringing their substances on campus.

**CONS**

**Ruff, ruff — not reliable**



*kihoon* Kim  
Opinion Editor

As of Feb. 1, the Fullerton Joint Union School District has opted to use drug-sniff-

ing dogs in an attempt to "weed" out the remaining substance abusers. These dogs will visit every school within the district, and a letter was sent to students and parents notifying them of this situation.

This is purely a scare tactic — and an extremely inefficient one at that. According to aclu-wa.org, the Nine Mile Falls School District in eastern Washington, after conducting a drug search through the use of trained dogs, and whenever these dogs were alerted of something, 85 percent of the time it was incorrect.

The evidence is right there; the canines are anything but necessary. At its best, it was just an efficient

waste of taxpayer money: unnecessary and just counterintuitive to properly raising a large population of teenagers.

Let's not forget what these dogs are really here for — to give the school administration the ability to immediately punish those who have decided to abuse substances. Dogs find the guilty student, administration reprimands a student, the student is packed and shipped to Saturday school, and the cycle continues. These students do not just suddenly fix behaviors with constant negative reinforcements.

Schools should offer students actual alternatives, not this black-and-white world of law and punishments. Instead, the district decides that this is a good idea or more specifically, a \$20,000 idea.

If the district took the same money that was being spent on dogs to provide a professional substance and mental health counselor at the school, I believe that students will benefit from proper education regarding drug usage.

**CANDID DO WE NEED DRUG-SNIFFING DOGS ON OUR CAMPUS?**



"Yes, I think we should do everything in our power to keep drugs out of school."

Jared Wiggs, 9



"It doesn't bother me that the district is sending dogs to come to our school to look for drugs."

Rebecca Worrell, 10



"Dogs don't invade students' privacy because we all signed a contract."

Devin Banks, 11



"It's controversial since students have their privacy, but for those who do not have drugs, they really should not care."

Natisha Njetu, 12

compiled by Hannah Jeong and Alex Park



KIMBERLY MORALES | theaccolade

**CLAP IT UP:** Sophomore forward Jazmin Montalvo (left), juniors attacking midfielder Auburn Burnett, left back Jocelyn Pineda, defensive midfielder Zoe Ip and sophomore center back Acira Mehta clap to thank the audience for coming to the game and supporting them.

## Girls soccer squeezes out CIF semifinals win against Long Beach Poly in penalty shootout



KIMBERLY MORALES | theaccolade

**ON THE MOVE:** Freshman forward Brianna Figueroa dribbles toward the goal with a Long Beach Poly defender in front of her.

### ANDREW HONG

Staff Reporter

It is the fifth and final round of the penalty shootout. The score stands 3-3.

Attacking midfielder junior Trinity Blaho walks up to the placed soccer ball, as the team focuses on their teammate hoping for a goal. Blaho kicks it to the wide left side, while the opposing goalkeeper leaps to block the ball. It passes by the goalkeeper and slams into the net.

Both teams were neck and neck in the fourth round of the penalty shootout. Long Beach Poly High School missed their penalty kick in the third round, while the Lancers missed their shot in the fourth, putting the score at 3-3. However, in the fifth round, the Jackrabbits missed their final shot, giving Blaho the opportunity to win the match with a goal.

Once their 4-3 victory against the Jackrabbits Feb. 16 was sealed, the team sprinted toward Blaho, rejoicing over their win. They were headed to the California Interscholastic Federation [CIF] finals.

"After I scored, I was excited because I got to see the joy on everyone's faces as they were running [toward] me," she said. "I really did it for my team and for the coaches. Our team wants to bring the CIF title back to Sunny Hills."

The Lady Lancers will play Mira Costa High School at Warren High School in

Downey at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

The team will follow the same strategy that they used against Long Beach Poly with some adjustments, head coach Jeff Gordon said.

"We are going to execute our game plan, play great team defense and score goals that lead to victory," he said. "[We will practice] scoring during the run of play, as well as [executing] set plays."

The Lancers also qualified for the State Regional Championships, which will take place on Feb. 26, Feb. 28 and March 2.

With upcoming matches against Mira Costa and in the State Regional Championships, the Lady Lancers must prepare mentally and further work on fine-tuning their skills, said center back Zoe Ip, who is also one of four team captains.

"We just need to stay motivated as a team and want it more," she said. "I think we need to practice our penalty kicks, although we already practice a lot. One of the most nerve-racking things in the game of soccer is to step up and take a [penalty kick]."

The team's strong season record and qualification into the championship round provides motivation to play harder next season, Ip said.

"Our goals have always stayed consistent," she said. "We always want to make our team stronger, win the league, CIF and State Championship."

# Girl wrestler makes Masters

HANNA OLTMAN

Asst. Feature Editor

“You hit like a girl.”

A common, well-known phrase that is thrown around as an insult.

A stereotype used as a derogatory remark to portray women as weak and inferior.

But it's 2019, and the world is re-claiming those words and changing their meaning; there really is no better time than the present to wrestle like a girl.

Wrestling is mostly known for sweat, tight latex and a lot of rolling around on the floor. It consists of demanding conditioning and the constant looming threat of a serious injury.

This is why wrestling used to be and, mainly still is, considered a male-dominated sport, but that's starting to change, as women of all ages are giving it a try.

Sophomore Brianna Tran joined the varsity boy's wrestling team last June and has since been helping pave the path for other girls interested in wrestling.

“When I first joined wrestling, they never made a big deal about the fact that I was a girl,” Tran said. “Even to this day, everyone on the team has been nothing but supportive of all of my endeavors.”

After seeing Emily Nguyen's profile in last year's yearbook, she was hooked. Nguyen was previously the only girl on the wrestling team — though she was not the first. Despite not knowing



Reprinted with permission from Brianna Tran

**GRAPPLING:** Sophomore Brianna Tran (left) wrestles an opponent at Downey High School.

how hard practices would be, she was eager to jump right in and start training with the guys.

“I thought that it would be awkward or weird to wrestle with all of the guys,” she said. “But it wasn't hard to form friendships [on the team], because I was familiar with a few members prior to joining, [and] everyone on the team was outgoing enough that I felt relatively comfortable with them.”

Since 1994, the number of women who wrestle in high school has grown from 804 to

16,562, according to the National Wrestling Coaches Association. The numbers keeps climbing, as more girls like Tran are beginning to take a liking toward wrestling. In fact, the Enterprise-Record states that girls wrestling has steadily increased in participation numbers every year since 2007 when only 1,142 girls wrestled.

With the sudden increase in high school women wrestling, Sunny Hills hopes to start a girls wrestling team next year. Although it is still unknown who the head coach will be, Tran said

there are a couple of incoming eighth graders and a few sophomore girls who are ready for this new team.

Although Tran encourages all girls to give wrestling a try, she wants to give them a heads up and let them know that wrestling won't be an easy sport.

“When I was first adjusting to the sheer level of activity that came with wrestling, there were a couple of times where I doubted my decision [to join],” Tran admitted. “However, I am a big believer in following through when

committing to something, so every time I doubted myself, I tried to push through it and persevere.

Despite the tough workouts, Tran's teammates and friends say that she improves every day and always come to practice with a positive attitude.

“As a person, she is probably one of the nicest people you'll ever meet,” said sophomore Luke Yang, her fellow teammate and friend.

All her efforts pay off, and multiple teammates have noticed how much Tran's technique has overall improved.

“It doesn't even feel like there is a girl on the team. There is no difference in what we do,” sophomore Ethan Kim said.

Like her fellow teammates, Tran sees a revolution in women's wrestling as a chance for a diverse group of females to do something they love while proving themselves and their strengths in an uncommon way.

“Wrestling, to me, bypasses my status of just a sport; it has a pivotal role in the growth of my determination, strength and character,” she said. “I do not think that women should shun wrestling simply because it is perceived as a predominately male sport. I believe that everyone should have an opportunity to experience what I believe to be one the greatest all-around athletic programs that Sunny Hills has to offer.”

## Freshmen basketball boys complete 10-0 sweep through Freeway League

LIRA JEONG

Staff Reporter

Going undefeated in Freeway League play is not an easy task.

Remarkably, the girls water polo team has gone wire to wire for the past two seasons.

And after the winter sports season ended last month, Sunny Hills has another sports team that can make this claim.

The freshman basketball team ended league play Jan. 31 with a 65-44 victory over Sonora, resulting in a 10-0 Freeway League record — the first time in 15 years that such a feat was accomplished.

“It felt great to be a part of that team and have accomplished something that hasn't been done in a long time,” freshman captain Dylan Lawson said.

For another team captain, fresh-

man combo guard Zachary Tan, losing just one league game would have left a bitter taste in his mouth.

“I was so glad that we didn't have to share a league title with Troy,” Tan said.

Many of the 14-member squad attributed their success to their head coach, Elijah Kim.

“To go 10-0 in league this year is something I will not forget, and it still feels a bit surreal, especially the journey we have experienced since May,” Kim said.

The coach also acknowledged his own players for their record this year.

“This year was probably the most unified team I have ever coached,” said Kim, who is in his fifth year guiding the ninth-grade squad and has been in coaching for 10 years. “They all got along and supported each other; it truly was a

brotherhood.”

The coach also acknowledged the talent level of his players compared with past freshman teams.

“Talent, positions, depth, athleticism, height all play a role,” Kim said. “Some years, I did not have guards; some years I did not have forwards/centers; I've had different combinations.”

To end the season without a loss, the Lancers had to defeat rival Troy before their last game against Sonora. And overcoming adversity was another key factor.

“I personally thought there were a handful of moments in three games in league we could've lost, but they pulled through,” Kim said.

To keep the streak going against Sonora, the coach was concerned about his players' approach to the game, especially since they had al-

ready clinched a league title going into it.

“The one thing I was worried about [during the last game] was that the players would take advantage of their league championship, but that did not happen,” he said.

And what does the future have in store for these 14 freshmen?

“I'm not sure, to be honest,” Kim said. “This group will never be the same ever again. Most will go to sophomore or JV, possibly one to three [students] going to varsity or maybe zero [students].”

But the one thing that he is certain about is whether next year's team can take the Freeway League title again.

“To repeat as league champions is very possible, but [it] will require a lot of work and preparation,” Kim said.

### Winter Sports CIF Results:

#### Boys Basketball:

- ♦Went 6-4 in league
- ♦Made the second round of CIF

#### Girls Basketball:

- ♦Went 6-4 in league
- ♦Made the first round of CIF

#### Boys Soccer:

- ♦Went 6-5 in league
- ♦Made the first round of CIF

#### Girls Soccer:

- ♦Went 8-1-1 in league
- ♦Plays CIF Championship Game Saturday

#### Girls Water Polo:

- ♦Went 7-0 in league
- ♦Made the CIF Semi-Finals

#### Wrestling:

- ♦Went 3-2 in league
- ♦One qualified for Masters



**Gisele Acuna, Softball  
Central Michigan University**  
“It has the major that I want to pursue, which is law and economics. It also has a really good softball program, so it felt like home when I visited there.”



**Alana Backstrom, Softball  
Drexel University**  
“I fell in love with the vibe of the school. The coaches and the players on the team are really cool, and [so is] everything about the school.”



**Taylor Barraza, Softball  
Georgian Court University**  
“They have a good criminal justice program, which is what I want to pursue as a career, and they have a really good softball program. I also wanted a small school.”



**Jeremiah Flewellen, Football  
William Penn University**  
“I chose this school because it has a great program along with academics. It was a choice for me to do football and have good academics.”



**Trenton Friesen, Baseball  
Providence Christian College**  
“I really enjoy the baseball program it has. My brother also attends this school, so it already feels like home.”

# National Signing Day

*Lancer athletes reveal which college they have selected*



**Jillian Garcia, Dance  
Hope International University**  
“They have a really good education program, and it helped that their amazing dance team was available to recruit me.”



**Luis Garza, Baseball  
Providence Christian College**  
“I wanted to do this since freshman year when I first saw [National Signing Day] happen. I told myself that I wanted to be up there.”



**Enoch Kim, Baseball  
Pomona College**  
“I felt like Pomona was the best fit, and they let me study pre-med. The people were super nice, and the coaches were really helpful.”



**Kyle Kirkland, Soccer  
California State University, Fullerton**  
“It gave me the best opportunity to perform at the next level, and I was really comfortable with the decision to go there.”



**Maya Lee, Swim  
University of California, Santa Barbara**  
“I knew that training under a Division I school with great resources, coaches and teammates would push me to be my best.”



**Lawrence Mao, Swim  
New York University**  
“I wanted to pick something with great athletics and academics. New York [University] is one of the best business schools and is top five in the country.”



**Railan Peace, Football  
Columbia University**  
“I chose it because I felt like it would give me the best opportunity after graduation.”



**Akaljit Rai, Football  
Ottawa University**  
“It was the best fit for me. It was closest to home, and I did not want to leave too far. It is perfect for my style.”



**Tommy Senne, Baseball  
Concordia University, Ann Arbor**  
“I always wanted to be part of the winning program in college. I love Concordia, so it was pretty easy choosing that school for me.”



**Diego Useda, Soccer  
California State University, Fullerton**  
“I chose CSUF because it was close by and because the soccer program is really good; it is a Division I soccer school.”