

# the accolade

VOLUME LIX, ISSUE VI // SUNNY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL  
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*SPECIAL PROM ISSUE: For the first time in Sunny Hills history,  
the last formal dance of the year will be held April 6  
at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Find out more on  
News, page 3; see Opinion, page 5, and Feature, page 8, for more prom coverage.*



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# STATE AWARD

*Sunny Hills one of 25 middle and high school campuses in Orange County honored as a 2019 California Distinguished School*

CHLOE LEE

Staff Reporter

Principal Allen Whitten will be joined by five others at an April 5 ceremony at Anaheim's Disneyland Hotel to officially receive a plaque recognizing Sunny Hills as a California Distinguished School.

"I am so proud that the work of our amazing teachers and students is being celebrated this way," Whitten said. "We know that this is a great school, and we are all thrilled that the California Department of Education has recognized Sunny Hills for this award."

The principal said attending the ceremony with him will be English Department chairman Scott Rosenkranz, a representative from the Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUUSD], one of the school board members and two parents of Sunny Hills students.

School officials were first notified of next month's event in a Feb. 26 letter from California's superintendent of public instruction, Tony Thurmond.

"I commend you on your success and look forward to seeing you at the award ceremony and celebrating your hard work,"



**BANNER YEAR:** Workers install a huge sign Wednesday outside one of the Agriculture Department's portable classrooms facing Bastanchury Road. School officials had ordered it to publicize Sunny Hills High School's achievement of being named a California Distinguished School.

KIMBERLY MORALES | theaccolade

Thurmond wrote.

Sunny Hills was the only campus in the FJUUSD to be tapped a California Distinguished School and one of only 12 high schools in Orange County to receive such an honor, according to the state education department's website.

The state education department first nominated schools for

the award based on their performance and progress in what it has termed, the "California School Dashboard," which covers how well campuses do in curbing absenteeism, improving the graduation rate, lowering the suspension rate and maintaining student academic achievement.

Whitten said the Orange

County Department of Education called each of its county schools that were nominated to make sure they knew about the application process to receive the award.

The challenge was that the county's education department

SEE DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL • PAGE 3

And the winners are ...

The state Education Department recognized 12 Orange County high schools:

- Arnold O. Beckman in Anaheim
- Bolsa Grande in Garden Grove
- Early College in Newport Beach
- Edison in Huntington Beach
- Garden Grove
- Irvine
- Marina in Huntington Beach
- Nova Academy in Santa Ana
- Oxford Academy in Anaheim
- Pacifica in Garden Grove
- Sunny Hills
- Woodbridge in Irvine

California Department of Education

## Gaming and coding among 4 new electives

HANNAH YI

Asst. Feature Editor

Students returning to Sunny Hills High School in the fall had four new electives to choose from during registration with their counselors in the last two months.

The new elective courses include gaming and coding, performing arts and production and two math options — business and finance and probability and statistics, head counselor Beth Thomson said.

"Adding these classes [to the school] will give students more options to help fulfill the students' requests of what they want to do as far as studying toward their career options," Thomson said.

The gaming and coding elective is the brainchild of assistant principal Craig Weinreich, who



**Online:** Take a look at our website to read more. The article can be found on our homepage, [shhsaccolade.com](http://shhsaccolade.com).

looked at career technical education pathways and came up with an elective that would be popular among students.

"We were also looking at trying to expand our computer science and coding classes, so we thought this might make a nice accommodation, especially with esports here," Weinreich said.

Though the elective is pending board approval, he envisions it becoming a two-year pathway.

On the other hand, business and finance class teaches students about interest rates, balancing money and responsible use of a credit card.

"It helps students with real life things, and it incorporates algebra and things that students have already learned," said Mariam Tan, co-chairwoman of the Math Department. "Everyone needs to know how business and finances work."

Also, for next semester's seniors who do not prefer taking calculus, Tan said they can consider signing up for probability and statistics.

"If students know they are not going to do anything in college relating to math, science or engineering, then probability and statistics is a good option," she said.

No information is available as to who will teach these new electives, though the performing arts and production class will be part of English teacher Amanda Gieser's theater program.

## ASB executive cabinet



**President**  
Karen Lee



**Vice President**  
Aimee Park



**Secretary**  
Gabby Sanders



**Treasurer**  
Evan Kim

The ASB announced the winners of the March 8 executive cabinet election during the March 11 morning announcements.

For the class officer elections today, non-seniors can vote using the 5-Star Students app until 6 p.m.

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**Joe Conti Ph.D.**  
[jgconti2003@yahoo.com](mailto:jgconti2003@yahoo.com)

\*English Literature, Writing, PSAT, SAT, and ACT

# Long Beach aquarium to host prom

LAUREN KIM

Staff Reporter

For the first time in Sunny Hills history, the April 6 Atlantis-themed prom will be held at Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific, where students can get a view of various sea creatures while dancing the night away.

Many schools such as Troy, Orange County School of the Arts and Kennedy had their proms there, so last year's juniors in the ASB were interested in having prom at the aquarium, organizers said.

Once the prom committee settled on the site, organizers said the theme for the 7-11 p.m. event came easily.

"Since the dance is at the aquarium, we thought it would be fitting to make the theme about Atlantis," ASB prom co-coordinator junior Aimee Park said.

Park said prom-goers will be able to check out the fish gallery on the aquarium's upper level.

However, at 9 p.m., some exhibits on the second floor will close.

The company Pegleg has been hired to secure the evening's DJ, the ASB co-adviser David Fenstermaker said.

Additionally, the venue offers a flip book photobooth for students, where they can create a small book filled with pictures.

"Students should definitely stop by and take pictures with their friends so that they can keep it for their memories," prom co-coordinator junior Karen Lee said.



Image reprinted with permission from Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific

**AN EVENING WITH SEA CREATURES:** Sunny Hills students going to the Atlantis-themed prom April 9 at Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific will be able to enjoy the evening with other aquatic life in the background as shown in the image that the venue's website provides to promote its prom hosting features.

Fenstermaker noted another entertainment option: the interactive lagoon where visitors can touch sea creatures.

"There are more things for people to do and see, which makes it feel more like an experience," he said.

Since Tuesday's prom theme release in the quad during break, the event has picked up some buzz among upperclassmen.

"I'm excited to go to prom," senior Kyle Gerdetz said. "I think it will be a fun time with my friends."

For today only, students with an ASB gold card will be charged \$85 per ticket, while those without one will have to pay \$90.

Tickets will be sold during spring break at sunnyhills.net and will be charged the same price as tickets today.

During spring break from March 25-29, the cost of a ticket will go up \$5.

After spring break from April 1-3, students with an ASB card will have to pay \$95 per ticket, and those without an ASB card will be charged \$100.

The last two days before the prom, tickets will increase to \$100 with an ASB card and \$105 without.

## RELATED STORIES

**Pro-Con columns:** Is going to prom worth it? *Accolade* staffers — a senior and a junior — share their views.

See **Opinion**, page 5.

**Infographic:** Take a look at prom fashion trends for boys and girls.

See **Feature**, page 8.

FROM PAGE 2

## DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

only gave him 10 days before the application's due date, he said.

"We had a very short period of time to put our application together and to submit it, but we got it all done with the help of our staff and Rosenkranz," Whitten said.

The application required an explanation of what the school was doing to achieve its status on the California School Dashboard. Whitten, Rosenkranz and the staff then agreed that it was the communication and culture of the school.

"We really look to the core values of what we stand for as a school," Whitten said. "We support teaching and learning, we build trusting relations and we

model support and celebrate success."

Rosenkranz said he was pleasantly surprised when he found out that Sunny Hills had received the state's highest honor for public schools.

"Ultimately, I hope that we'll keep being a great school with stellar academics, programs, staff and, especially, students," he said.

To inform students and parents about the California Distinguished School award, FJUHSD officials and Whitten emailed them about it on March 8.

A 14-foot-by-18-foot banner was also installed Wednesday outside the wall of one of the Agriculture Department's portable classrooms facing Bastanchury Road.

Another banner is scheduled to be set up near English teacher Jennifer Kim's classroom in the

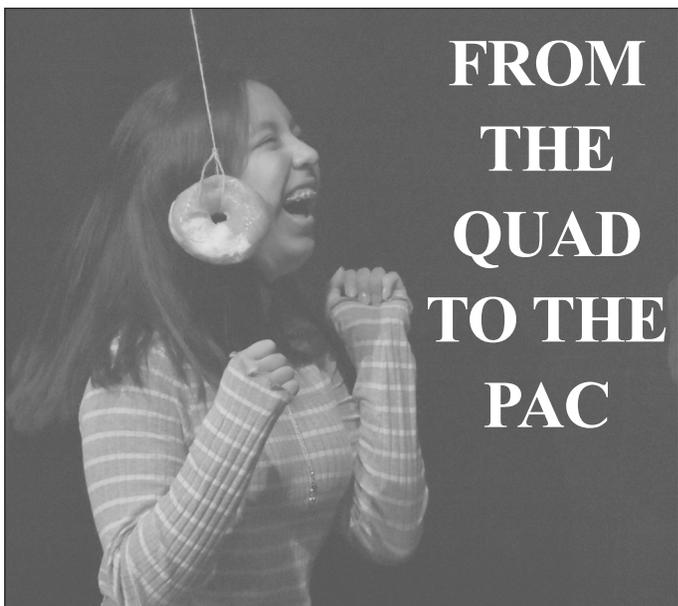
180s building, assistant principal Craig Weinreich said.

With such a recognition from the state, PTSA president Ivonne Wang said she feels proud of being part of the Sunny Hills High School community.

"I hope that the school continues its trajectory toward promoting relevant programs and practices that lead each student to pursue knowledge, create and innovate and build community," Wang said.

Whitten said he is also proud of the work that teachers and students have put in.

"In the last five years, I've seen the culture of our school thrive, and our teachers talk about how we've become this really great community of people," he said. "It's all of our teachers, students, parents, administrators and everybody working together."



KIMBERLY MORALES | theaccolade

**EAT ME!:** Sophomore Mayerly Mejia competes Wednesday in a doughnut-munching contest at the COFA quad show, which moved to the PAC because of rain.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Illicit college admissions cheat more deserving students

It is no surprise that this scandal broke out. Wealthy people with influence have been rigging elections, business deals and more for as long as we can remember.

So in light of these revelations or confirmations of student suspicions, students applying to colleges or taking College Board exams should feel pressure to work even harder to get into their dream schools. Although other students may resort to making an excuse about how they were rejected from certain schools because of the cheaters, that will not change the fact that the students were rejected. Schools such as the University of Southern California [USC] have wrongly advanced students into their programs, shown through the recent scandal; students should not think of that as an outlet to blame their rejections on.

These families of students who applied to USC, University of California, Los Angeles, Georgetown and others are not justified in filing a lawsuit against these universities; however, it is justified that they sue Hollywood celebrities for taking another student's place in the school. Those who have used their fame and fortune to their advantage have taken someone else's place at those col-



KAREN LEE | theaccolade

leges because of the loopholes they have made for themselves. It is not fair for the students who have spent their time and effort to reach their dream colleges.

These parents should not believe that their children would have gotten in if it were not for the cheating families. No one specifically knows the type of student universities want and what system they use to accept applicants, so there should not be

any judgment that one student deserved it more than another.

To add, transparency within the college admissions process would be a great way to guide high school students, but I believe the process should not become more apparent. If public and private colleges explain exactly what they require and look for in the application process, students will only follow those guidelines, causing many students

to become more and more alike — truly making the acceptances a lottery pick.

Although others may have been shocked when they heard about the college admissions scandal, it is no surprise that the wealthy have been figuring out loopholes to be admitted into their desired schools. It is not right, but it will continue to happen if these schools are giving into it.

## IB really isn't as scary as people say



**kihoonKim**  
Opinion Editor

There is a BIG problem at this school. Scratch that, HUGE. A pernicious prob-

lem that plagues one of the most distinguished programs at Sunny Hills High School. The IB program. Yes, the “infamous” IB program, one of the most distinguished programs at Sunny Hills High School.

For years, students left and right have been scared away from this illustrious program as the result of a prejudiced stigma and the overbearing workload, when in reality that's really not the case. The classes are not far more difficult than AP courses but rather similar — just with an extra essay or two.

This small fear is stopping students from joining a wonderful



Reprinted with permission from Brian Wall

**FAMILY:** IB juniors and seniors gather for the 2018 IB Winter Social.

community guided by an overall great guy. Not just any guy. A guy that will guide you to success. A guy that will care for you like his own children. A guy that will be there for you thick and thin. His name? Mr. Brian Wall, Sunny Hills' very own IB dad.

The time I've spent in IB has been anything but terrible. I may not have been the best student, but I enjoyed my time to the best of my ability, from thought-provok-

ing discussions with Mr. Rosenkranz in Theory of Knowledge to a quality-spooning from Mr. Fenstermaker in History of the Americas.

Most importantly of all, IB is about the friendships you make. The people who are with you constantly, battling the same trials and tribulations that you do, will end up becoming some of your closest companions. For the past two years, I've had the exact same

classes as my peers, and as such, I have never once experienced discomfort or awkwardness with those around me. The teachers, due to smaller class sizes, will take more care in conducting students' curriculums, as it is easier to manage.

IB is no normal academic program. Understandably, high school may be one of the largest stressors in any teenager's life, but the program stresses helping the students achieve a state of mental wellness. Mental health issues are unfortunately overlooked by many, but without a healthy mind, a human cannot properly function.

I am thankful for everything I've received through the IB program, and I hope that many students in the future will see the same: The IB program is not just a stepping stone for those who want to be competitive in college admissions, but it is rather for those who wish to participate in a bright, intellectual community.

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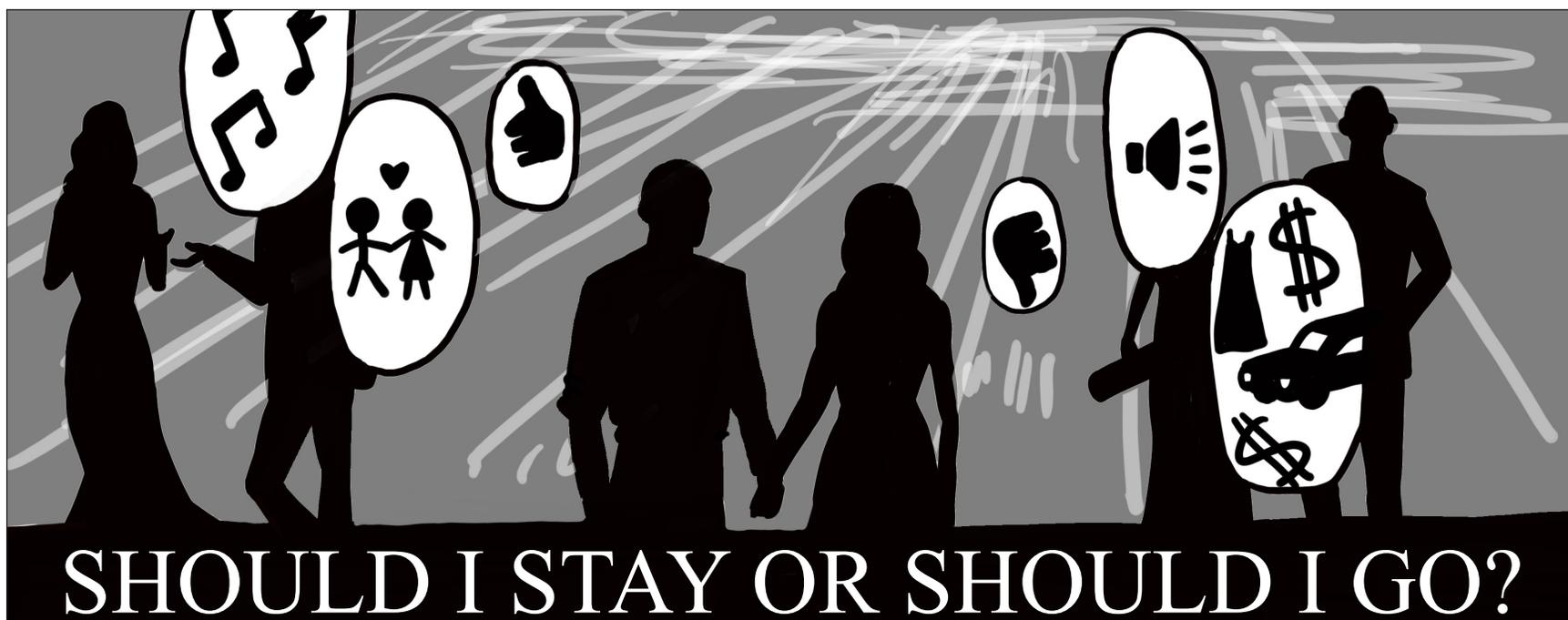
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CECILIA LEE | theaccolade

PRO

*It's worth going because it's a 'prom'inent way to end the year*



chloeLee  
Staff Reporter

It's that time of the year to make *prominent* and bittersweet memories.

With prom season right around the corner, many seniors and

juniors are debating whether to attend prom or not.

Some students have waited their whole lives for this milestone, while others dread the idea of a date; however, I've decided to go with a date, and here's why it's important that I attend this iconic event.

To start off, prom is a tradition for a reason. It's not just a nice excuse to get dressed up with friends, eat and dance — it's a privilege.

When I ask my parents what their high school experiences were like, they usually answer with one-word answers like "fine." Yet once I ask them about prom, they go on endlessly about what they ate, what they wore, where they went and more.

It's also our last chance to make memories with our closest high school friends.

I'm not going to want to relive SAT or ACT study meetings or the stressful moments before the AP Chemistry final. Instead, I'm going to want to remember the last night my friends and I are all together, dressed up and dancing.

And if people thought that having prom was a foolish idea, wouldn't the tradition have ended before it came to our generation to experience it?

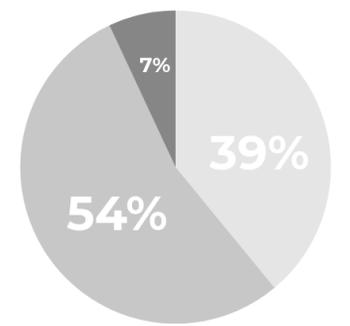
A lot of high schoolers are restricted from going to prom because of the amount of money that they have to spend, yet many don't realize the ways to save money when going to this event.

For one, the dress or tuxedo to prom



Go online and take the prom survey: [shhsaccolade.com](http://shhsaccolade.com)

Would you like to go to this year's prom at the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific?\*



■ Yes (39%) ■ No (54%) ■ I don't know yet (7%)

\*Source: Results based on 57 online responses as of Thursday afternoon.

does not have to cost hundreds of dollars. Many places are available, such as Windsor, that offer similar qualities and designs for a cheaper price. There's also the option of borrowing or buying a previous senior's outfit.

My friends and I might have also planned to stay home or arrange an anti-prom, a social event that is staged to protest against prom while thinking that we won't regret anything.

But I know that I will regret not going.

I'll regret it when my Instagram feed fills up with everyone else's prom photos. I'll regret it when prom drama is the only thing that everyone talks about for the last few weeks of school. I'll regret it when I have no entertaining high school memories to tell my kids in the future.

Everyone deserves this last chance to celebrate the end of his or her high school experience.

So *promise* me that you'll be going.

CON

*Dressing up for annual event does not suit all students*



allisonLouie  
Feature Editor

When I think of prom, the first thing that comes into mind is something from 2009's "Mean Girls" or 1986's "Pretty in Pink": a

magical, spontaneous moment to end the year.

For some, the perfect way to end the year is going to Knott's Berry Farm or watching a movie as a group.

Some seniors or juniors are opting to not to attend prom, which could be a good alternative for celebrating their last year in high school.

Originally, I considered not going since some of my friends were uncertain about attending an expensive school event. Eventually, I decided to go with a group, but I understand why people don't want to go.

I asked my other friends who didn't change their minds about why they still didn't want to go. Here are the reasons that they gave to me:

**#1: THE PREPARATIONS**

The biggest factor that throws people off is the pressure of the preparations for clothing, "promposals" and means of transportation. The price throws off potential participants who don't feel comfortable spending money that could be used for other things. Also, coming up with a clever proposal may cause unwarranted stress. While it does seem fun and entertaining to ask someone to the dance, the intricate details that go into the work may damper the real purpose of going.

Personally, I do think the culture of performing unique promposals at this school is interesting, however, the crowd that fusses over the ordeal makes it a little over-the-top. It may embarrass and pressure the couple, so

people should keep in mind that this is for the fun — it's not like people are destined to marry their partners.

**#2: PRICE RANGES**

The dresses and suits are quite expensive, ranging from \$100-500. There are places that allow you to rent these clothing for a cheaper price from \$40-100, but some people, including myself, want to have the experience of buying that special outfit to match the moment we might not have again. Places like Windsor can give a manageable price for girls, but one would feel that it would not be as fun wearing the same clothes as others. They feel like events like these deserve to be splurged on; however, not everyone has this opportunity.

**#3: BETTER ALTERNATIVES**

I also know people who have decided to do other things in lieu of prom day, such as going on a dream trip with their friends. This way, they could be having fun in their own special event and enjoy doing the things they want to do.

Some may argue that it could be more expensive than going to prom, but parents of seniors may feel that it may be better spent on other things—rather than a school event when we are about to graduate.

Others want to hang out with their friends in a cheaper yet still enjoyable way. While it may seem casual, some of us just want to celebrate in ways they feel comfortable with.

Regardless, I still hope that everyone will have their fun on prom day. These are just some points, but that doesn't mean that you should not go to prom at all. This is a school full of people with different opinions and ideals. People just prefer their own definitions of what makes them happy.

In the end, we're all just celebrating our last moments before graduating — that's all that matters.

# new Galaxy unfolds

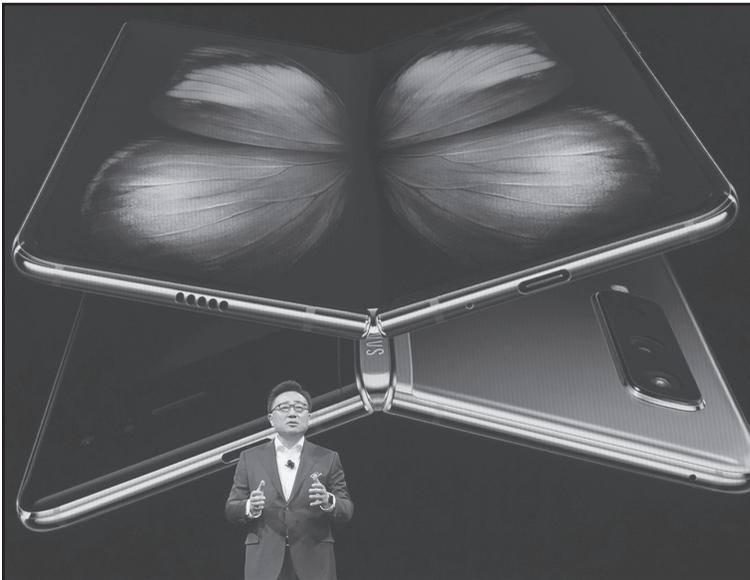


Image used with permission from news.samsung.com  
**THE NEW DEAL:** Samsung president and CEO Dong Jin Koh introduces the Samsung Galaxy Fold which opens up to a 7.3-inch screen.

*To celebrate the 10-year anniversary of its first smartphone, Samsung ups the ante with nearly \$2,000 foldable device that will allow users to do three things on one screen*

**ISAAC CHOI**

*Staff Reporter*

Apple celebrated its 10-year anniversary of the iPhone in 2017 by unveiling its iPhone X.

With facial recognition, advanced camera and buttonless features, the Silicon Valley company priced the X at nearly \$1,000, the most expensive electronic device in the market at that time.

Though many questioned whether it was worth paying that amount for a smartphone, within the first two years it hit the market, more users are swapping out their older devices for the iPhone X.

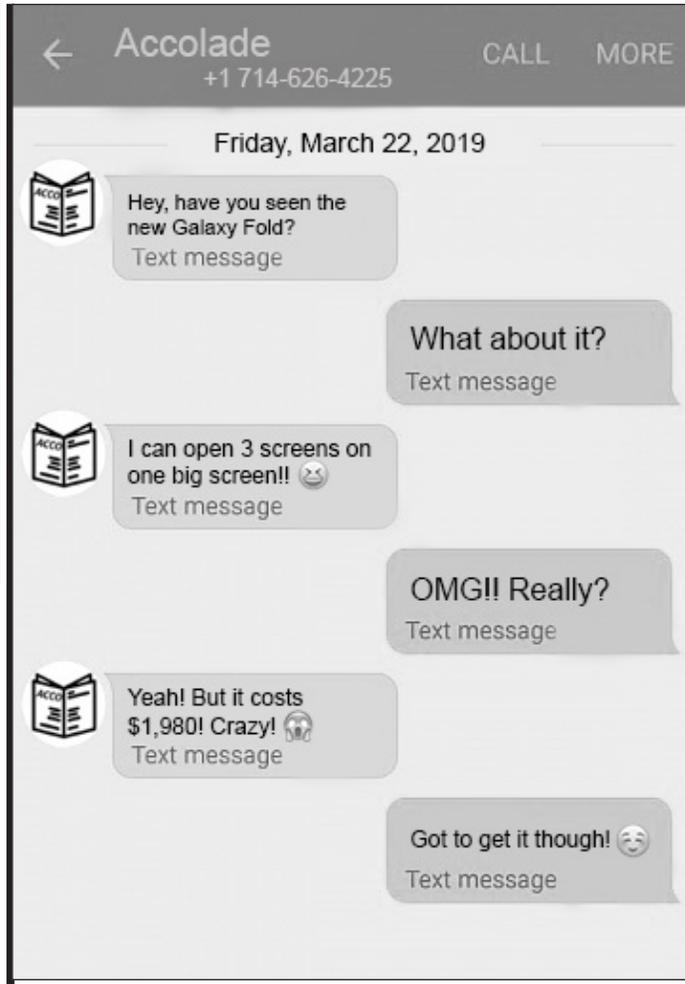
Next month, Samsung plans to raise the stakes for how much consumers are willing to pay

for a smartphone. Recognizing the firm's 10-year anniversary of its first Galaxy device, Samsung officials will introduce to the market on April 26 the Galaxy Fold at a price that's nearly double that of the iPhone X — \$1,980 to be exact.

According to samsung.com, the Fold features six cameras. When closed, it can be used with one screen at a diagonal measurement of 4.6 inches.

When opened up, it features a 7.3-inch screen that will allow users to access three windows at the same time.

Demonstration videos feature a Samsung expert watching a movie and texting a friend while browsing the internet without having to switch from screen to screen.



## the **accolade**

### A Marvel to behold: Disney's 'Captain Marvel's' action, special effects keep audience's focus despite shaky plot

Posted on : March 18, 2019 By Isaac Choi



compiled by Hannah Yi

WOULD YOU SPEND \$1,980 ON A FOLDABLE PHONE?



"I love the idea of it, but the price is a bit expensive."

Patrick Jimenez, 9



"With that price, I'd rather get a new iPhone and AirPods instead."

Annabel Rodriguez, 10



"I don't like the idea of bringing back foldable phones for a high price."

Kourtney Barbour, 11



"I don't think I would get it; it's a cool trend but not really that useful."

Bryant Chung, 12



"No, it's just too much money to pay about \$2,000 for a phone."

Patrick DeBacker, Teacher

# Students weigh in on plans for one-week spring break

AUDREY JO

Entertainment Editor

Rain, sun, sleet or snow — where in the world would you like to go?

Every year, students without plans for family trips or money experience difficulties in deciding how to spend their spring breaks. Though some students are ready to travel far or be extreme in their spendings, this does not necessarily mean that simple yet entertaining alternative activities cannot be found by those staying in town.

“I [plan to] walk [to] the Anaheim Packing District with some friends [to get] Nutella crepes [and] aesthetic things so that I can post about them on my social media,” junior Diego Cano said.

Taking a trip to the beach or the inner city via Metrolink trains or the bus is a cheap and pleasant way to spend a day. Although they are relatively close locations, many interesting sights can be seen, and experiences can be made this way.

“I [plan to] go to the beach



ERIN LEE | theaccolade

with my family because it’s fun,” said sophomore Katherine Aurelio, whose family rides the bus. “Spring break is only a week

long, so no major trips can really be made in that time.”

Metrolink tickets vary depending on the length of the trip but

are 25 percent cheaper than adult tickets for students with ID cards. The trains are kept very clean and also includes one bathroom and

outlets next to the seats so that people can charge their phones during the ride.

Other spring break endeavors that do not require money are binge watching classic movies on Netflix, going to the library to check out interesting books or trying to compete with some friends in a week-long dare. If students are close to their relatives and they happen to live nearby, a visit can also be memorable.

“For spring break, I’m probably going to hang out with friends, rewatch ‘Captain Marvel’ and attempt a [Marvel Cinematic Universe] movie marathon,” said junior Brienne Hannamoto, who also plans to visit the University of California, Irvine, University of California, Los Angeles and possibly visit her grandparents in the San Fernando Valley.

Others such as sophomore Alexis Nhan prefer a more relaxing visit to a nearby park to enjoy nature.

“I plan to bike to Hillcrest Park around three times over break because it’s peaceful and requires no money,” Nhan said. “[We] just hike around and have picnics.”

## Sisters invest knowledge of stocks in forming club

SHINE LEE

Asst. News Editor

They are not the Sunny Hills version of Warren Buffett.

But sisters senior Kimberly and sophomore Emily Pham have as much passion about educating their peers about financial investment as one of the wealthiest men in the world.

“Warren Buffett said, ‘Risk comes from not knowing what you’re doing,’” Lancer Investment Group co-president Kimberly Pham said. “We tie this to how investment isn’t gambling.”

Hearing about investment clubs at other schools, the sisters said they decided to create one at Sunny Hills.

After finding business teacher Richard Bailey to be their adviser, the girls said they submitted their club application last semester to the ASB.

By October, the sisters presented to the ASB information about their club and re-



Emily Pham, club president



Kimberly Pham, club president

ceived approval and eventually came up with the name, Lancer Investment Group.

Since then, it has attracted 20 members who learn about financial economics through presentations that the sisters put together on Google Slides, the girls said.

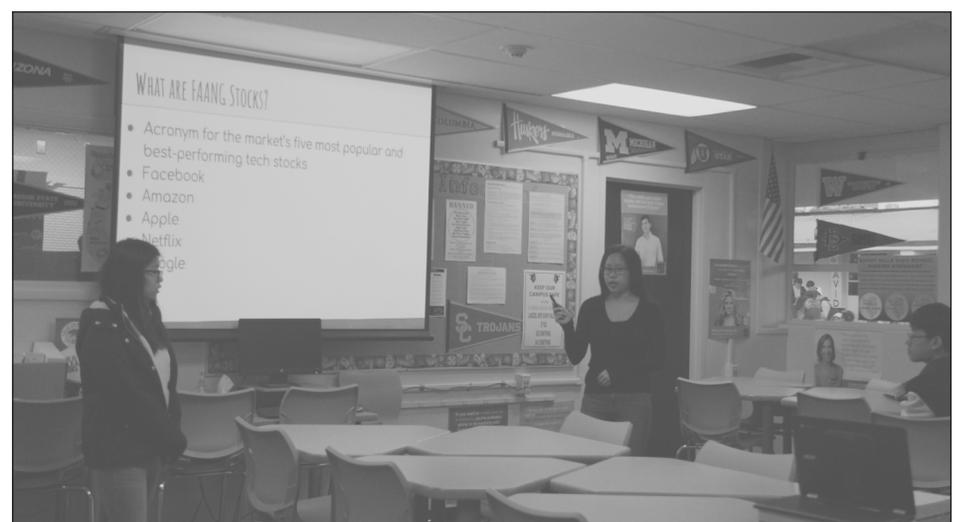
“My sister and I wanted to start this club because we are both passionate about learning and teaching finance,” co-president Emily Pham said. “We grew up in a household where our parents and a lot of our relatives did a lot of investing, so we just grew up doing this; we wanted to share this with the [Lancer] community.”

Because investments could lead to a profit or loss, the Pham siblings believe the club provides students with the opportunity to learn more about business economics and possibly become future Warren Buffetts of the world.

“We basically aim to teach people about how to invest, and maybe those people might be inspired and want to invest,” said Kimberly Pham.

Although both do not own any stocks, Kimberly Pham said she hopes to in the future by starting small with spending \$100 on Apple.

“Stocks change; some more than the others, but I think as of now, popular ones



MEGAN SHIN | theaccolade

**TIME IS MONEY:** Co-presidents sophomore Emily Pham (left) and senior Kimberly Pham teach the club Wednesday in Room 44 about the stock market.

like Google and Amazon can be really expensive since they go up to \$1,000,” she said. “I have to find one that is both pretty good and affordable.”

Bailey said the sisters are taking the group in the right direction.

“I’m here to help if the students need assistance; other than that, I’ve been impressed by Kimberly and Emily who put the day-to-day materials together to present to the members valuable information [about investing],” he said.

Next year, Emily Pham said she hopes to gather around 40 members to help them individually invest.

“I think investing is not something that is taught around a lot, and it’s a very important skill that we need for the future because it relates to jobs and money,” she said. “We don’t really learn specifically about investment [in academic classes], so our club educates people with this important life skill.”

The Lancer Investment Group meets during break every other Wednesday in Room 44.

For more information about the club, contact Richard Bailey at [rbailey@fjuhsd.org](mailto:rbailey@fjuhsd.org).

# WHAT'S TRENDING THIS PROM SEASON?

Before the April 4 Prom Fashion Show in the quad at break, The Accolade takes a look at some of the latest dresses, tuxes and other accessories that's all the rage



Long slit dress showing one side of the leg

Image used with permission from Windsor



Dainty rhinestone choker to add a little pop

Image used with permission from Windsor

Bow tie for formal occasions



Image used with permission from Clint's Tuxedos

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- Atria Couture in Los Angeles  
atriaclothing.com
  - Windsor at Brea Mall  
windsorstore.com
  - Bloomingdales at South Coast Plaza  
bloomingdales.com

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clintsfomalwear.com
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tuxedo.menswearhouse.com
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compiled by Allison Louie and Hannah Yi

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**POOLSIDE PLAYDATE:** Haley Lu Richardson stars as Stella (left), who enjoys a conversation with Will (Cole Sprouse) at the swimming pool. Because both suffer from cystic fibrosis, they place a pool stick between them to ensure they do not accidentally touch one another and contract any germs that could harm them.

*As romantic as it is heartbreaking, the film features another teen love story with tragic circumstances like 'The Fault in Our Stars'*

**HANNA OLTMAN**

*Assist. Feature Editor*

Anyone going in to see the new film “Five Feet Apart” must go in prepared to cry. After all, a tear-jerking romance centered on two chronically ill teenagers isn’t exactly unexpected.

Since Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet, countless, tragic love stories have run their course and have been added to the well-known trope. So a movie revolving around two hospital-bound, cystic fibrosis patients seemed like another subsequent attempt to hop on the “The Fault in Our Stars” bandwagon.

The film, released March 15, tracks the impossible romance between Stella (Haley Lu Richardson, “The Edge of Seventeen”) and Will (Cole Sprouse, “Riverdale”). Diagnosed with cystic fibrosis, the two must remain six feet apart at all times to avoid catching each other’s fatal infections — though they later decide that one foot less won’t hurt anybody, hence the movie’s title.

Initially, Stella — with her obsessive-compulsive disorder tendencies and control issues — clashes with Will and his pessimistic outlook on life. But after Will agrees to stick to his treatment schedule in exchange for a chance to draw Stella’s portrait, the two, of course, fall madly in love.

From there, it’s time for adorable “dates” at the hospital, secret visits at the Newborn Intensive Care Unit and chats alongside the pool — all while hiding from their see-it-all nurse Barb (Kimberly Herbert Gregory, “Kevin Saves the World”).

Despite not being able to stop a few eye-rolls at the cheesiness, Richardson’s exceptional acting skills really shine through and get even the most reluctant viewers cheering for the two lovebirds. In fact, Sprouse and Richardson’s superb talent is what really makes this sob story stand out from all the other plot cliches.

Both deliver a spectacular, heartfelt performance that brings the characters to life. Their ability to shift from a scene depicting playful banter to a drama-filled scenario enables the audience to establish a personal



**IS THIS THE ONE?:** Haley Lu Richardson plays Stella, who holds up an outfit to figure out whether to wear it for a date with her love interest.

connection with the movie’s storyline and characters.

Those acting abilities really come into play when an unexpected loss — sorry, no spoilers — brings about the idea of death. Yes, it was clear from the get-go that not everyone is going to make it through this tragic film alive, but seeing the characters constantly grappling with mortality is what really gets the waterworks going.

Death is and was never a question of if in the movie but when. Every time the cameras linger on the rubber gloves, the stacks of pill containers, the respiratory masks and

nasal tubes — all the little survival rituals they need just to maintain their existence — it shows that every small choice could be the one to bring it all to an end.

That increasing dread goes all the way to the cluttered climax, which has no business being so nerve-racking and leaves more than a few people reaching for their Kleenexes in their seats.

Taking into account the marvelous production techniques and acting skills, “Five Feet Apart” deserves some recognition for dealing with life and death in such a well-developed, emotional movie.

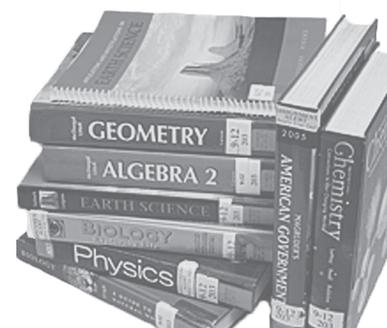


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# COMBINED EFFORT

*Sunny Hills, Buena Park clubs team up to produce Saturday's Korean Cultural Night at Buena Park High School's PAC*

LIRA JEONG

Staff Reporter

K-pop dancing, taekwondo and a traditional fan dance will be among the performances featured in Saturday's Korean Culture Night [KCN] — held for the first time with Buena Park's Korean Culture Club at Buena Park High School's PAC, organizers said.

"I want [my students to] perform well by doing something like showing their Korean skills through music or dance," said Esther Lee, Sunny Hills Korean Culture Club adviser and Korean teacher.

The reason for the cultural night to move from its usual venue in the PAC at Sunny Hills to Buena Park's PAC was because, during the initial planning stages, organizers were informed by school officials that the PAC here would be closed for modernization.

Though that has been pushed back to May now, Lee chose to still hold the 6:30 to 9 p.m. event



Reprinted with permission from Grace Choi

**REHEARSAL:** Freshmen Kayla Praksathong (left) and Autumn Alverson and senior Rebecca Cocis practice fan dancing Thursday at Buena Park's PAC under teacher Esther Lee's guidance.

off-site. Nevertheless, she said the purpose of the evening remains the same.

"The goal is to let people know

their identity," Lee said. "Some students do not know the cultural background of their heritage, so I want them to have pride and be

proud of who they are by using their talent."

SH Korean Culture Club's president and the organization's

parent support group have also helped with the planning and financial contributions.

"Anyone can come out to KCN where people can experience different cultural acts and grow an appreciation for the Korean heritage," said senior Jason Hong, SH Korean Culture Club president. "[It's also] a fun night, [as] Sunny Hills and Buena Park [students] can express their talent."

Saturday's K-pop ensemble will be a group called Black Diamond, featuring Sunny Hills senior Rebecca Cocis, who also performed with SH Korean Culture Club during the International Food Fair assembly in February.

"I am hoping the audience will feel [that] the performance was exciting, and [I] hope they try dancing, too," Cocis said.

Anyone interested in attending Korean Culture Night can go to Room 15 today at lunch or after school and buy a ticket for \$10; tickets will also be sold at the door at Buena Park High School's PAC for \$12.

## My 'new hope' to visit Disney's Star Wars land



Michelle Buckley  
Entertainment  
Editor

Despite being a global pop culture franchise that has millions of fans young and old, "Star Wars" hasn't received a dedicated land at Anaheim's Disneyland Resort, much to my surprise. That is, until now.

Opening May 31, 2019, at Disneyland Resort, the 14-acre Star Wars: Galaxy Edge will bring fans' "far, far away" adventures to life with new attractions, such as riding on the

Millennium Falcon or building personal lightsabers in a workshop. Visitors will finally get to live out their Star Wars fantasies in this dedicated land.

Unfortunately, those who don't make reservations to visit Galaxy's Edge, despite having a valid park admission, will not be able to visit the area until after June 23. I assume that the reason is because of all the hype behind the new Star Wars land. Because this attraction is the new buzz, it's important that Disney keeps it safe and prevents overcapacity, which can inhibit enjoyment of the land. It's also reasonable that something so exciting and extraordinary has a catch to it, with

it being so popular and all.

No matter the circumstances, I'm not complaining. Unfortunately, I can't make reservations to visit during this lot of time. However, I know I'll make the best effort to attend as soon as possible, especially with my family being strong with the force.

After seeing multiple photos of the attraction online, my anticipation of visiting increases as the opening date draws nearer. With my Star Wars obsession growing since I was a little girl, I'll finally be able to interact with more Disney characters and feel like a part of the "Star Wars" universe. I know that this experience will definitely serve as a

reward for the accomplishment of completing my junior year, as I'm sure it will for many others on campus who decide to go.

I can't wait to take a ride on the Millennium Falcon and see what it's like from the characters' perspectives. To finally walk through a dedicated area to Star Wars and feel like I'm entering into a separate world of lightsabers and resistance fighters will definitely be an adventure.

Despite all the hype, the new attraction may be seen by many as just another money grab from Disney.

However, fans should want something like this out of Disney. We, as supporters, should

expect this from Disney. I see no need for criticism when Disneyland is making a full effort to grant fans' wishes in providing them with something that will make their trip even more memorable.

For me, I'm grateful for Disneyland's efforts.

I thank it for not only answering my wishes, but also for answering my dad's as well; he's been a Star Wars fan longer than I have, ever since the first one came out in 1974.

For all I know, it could even be him taking the front seat of the Millennium Falcon while I sit behind and complain, "I wanted to be in front!"



# UNDEFEATED

## Boys golf wins Freeway League opener vs. La Habra

ANDREW HONG

Staff Reporter

After capping off a 5-0 preseason record, the Sunny Hills boys golf team remained undefeated after Tuesday's Freeway League opener against La Habra High School.

Junior Howard Yoon recorded the lowest score with a 3 under, helping his team secure a 193-218 victory against the Highlanders at the Los Coyotes Country Club golf course.

Despite the win, second-year boys golf head coach Scott Enrico said the team still has room for improvement before it heads into its next match against Troy High School on April 2.

"Our goal for every season is to get better as each week and match passes and to ultimately win league," Enrico said. "The boys need to continue to improve their shots, practice and play rounds."

Third-year returner junior Daniel Lee, who recorded a 3-over par, said he and his teammates are on the right course so far this season.

"I feel like our team is at a really good place because we have really good team chemistry," Lee said. "This game made me excited for the league matches because it was [great] to see us be competitive and

strive to be the best in the league."

Some of the players had to overcome challenges during the match.

"I think the turning point of the game for [me] was the sixth hole where I hit a bad tee shot but was able to stay in bounds," said third-year returner junior Patrick Ordonez, who also scored a 3-over par. "I had a tough shot but pulled through and kept the momentum going."

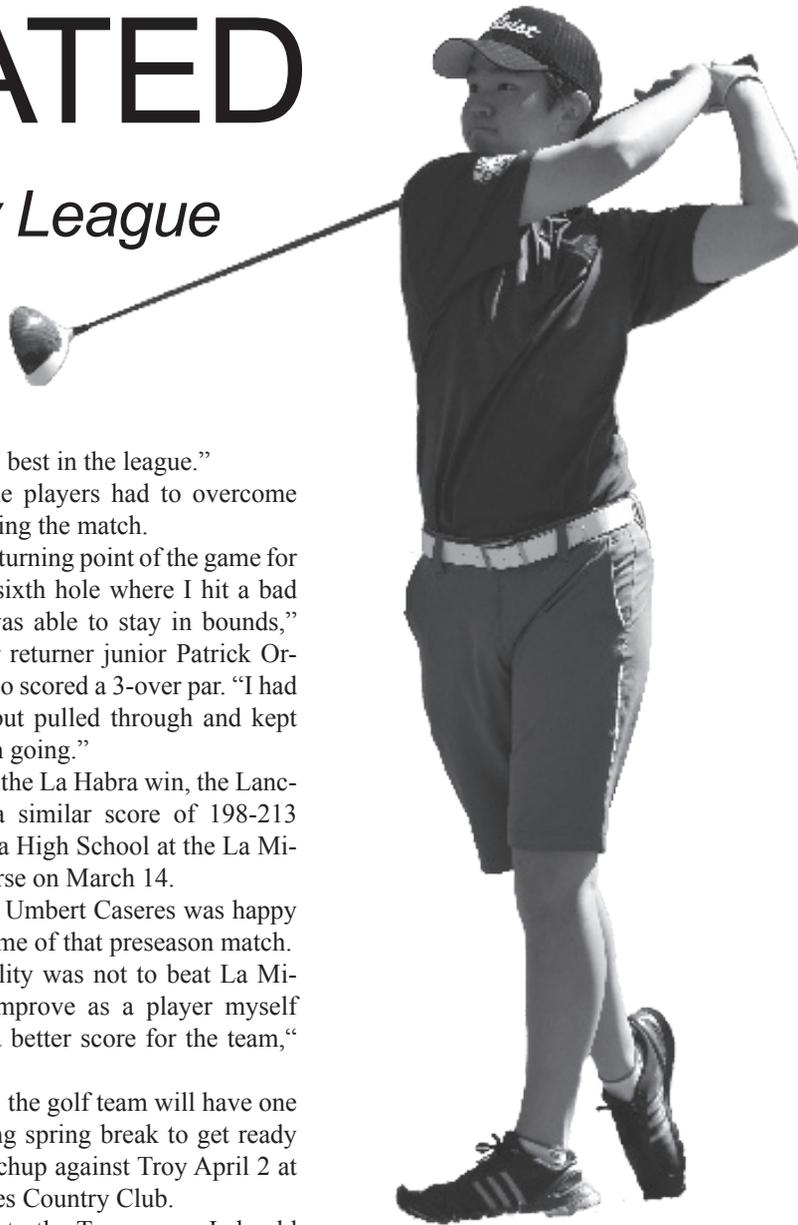
Along with the La Habra win, the Lancers recorded a similar score of 198-213 over La Mirada High School at the La Mirada Golf Course on March 14.

Sophomore Umbert Caseres was happy with the outcome of that preseason match.

"My mentality was not to beat La Mirada, but to improve as a player myself to contribute a better score for the team," Caseres said.

Meanwhile, the golf team will have one week off during spring break to get ready for its big matchup against Troy April 2 at the Los Coyotes Country Club.

"Heading into the Troy game, I should work on my driver and mental game because I was not keeping composure against La Habra, which almost ruined my game," Ordonez said.



KIMBERLY MORALES | theaccolade  
**FOLLOW THROUGH:** Senior Sam Kim looks ahead after his swing March 14 against La Mirada High School.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Pending rainy weather, here's the list of upcoming spring sports events.

### Baseball

When: Today at 3 p.m.  
Against: Oxford Academy  
Where: Sunny Hills

### Boys golf

When: April 2 at 3:15 p.m.  
Against: Troy High School  
Where: Los Coyotes Country Club

### Softball

When: April 2 at 3 p.m.  
Against: Fullerton High School  
Where: Sunny Hills

### Swim and dive

When: April 3 at 3:15 p.m.  
Against: Fullerton High School  
Where: Sunny Hills

### Boys tennis

When: April 2 at 3 p.m.  
Against: Troy High School  
Where: Troy

### Track and field

When: April 4, time TBA  
Against: Fullerton High School  
Where: TBA



ANNIE CHOI | theaccolade

**TOPSPIN:** Doubles player junior Daniel Paik hits a forehand March 14 in a home game March 14 against Buena Park High School.

## Tennis gets new coach

MINJI KIM

Co-Feature Editor

For the past two years, the Sunny Hills boys tennis team has longed for a relatable, male coach — a leader who would

be able to support it, whether in a classroom or on the courts.

Starting this school year, science teacher Christopher Ghareebo stepped up to become the boys tennis head coach alongside assistant coach Madeline Heer.

"I was a coach for the girls frosh/soph basketball team before tennis season started," Ghareebo said. "After that ended, I wanted to coach the boys tennis team this semester since I coached as a student-teacher on campus."

From coaching multiple sports such as basketball and baseball to recreationally playing tennis for three years in the past, he finds coaching the boys tennis team to be rewarding.

"I love coaching [boys tennis] because they are very energetic, competitive and coachable," Ghareebo said. "Since I am an



Christopher Ghareebo  
Boys tennis head coach

SH alumnus, it's really easy for me to bond with the boys because I can relate to them."

Heer feels that having a stable coach on campus changed the dynamics and the teamwork among the players.

"Now that [Ghareebo] is not only a teacher, but also a coach, the boys can always stop by in his classroom if they need anything," she said.

So far, the coaching change has brought about positive outcomes for the 4-4 squad as it has opened Freeway League play with two consecutive victories — a 14-4 dominating performance against Buena Park High School March 14 and an 18-0 shutout against La Habra High School Tuesday.

"Our 2-0 keeps our spirits up," No. 2 doubles player senior Abraham Chung said. "Our wins make us want to keep a perfect slate and win tougher opponents such as Fullerton High School."

With the addition of Ghareebo, the boys sense they will be better prepared to face and defeat Troy on April 2 at an away game.

With a very strong start to the tennis season, the team hopes to strive for perfection throughout its matches.

"Our goal is to maintain a really good season record and try our best to beat Troy because they are the reigning Freeway League champions," No. 1 singles player freshman Daniel Lee said.

# CHEER FOR CHANGE

*April 9 vote could allow for exception to CIF's no Sunday play policy*

**TYLER PAK**

*Asst. Sports Editor*

A Sunny Hills alumna is among a trio of Southern California cheer coaches that has organized a petition asking the California Interscholastic Federation [CIF] to change its policy restricting teams from competing on Sundays.

Section 500 M. of the CIF by-laws states: "In order to provide at least one (1) day of respite from involvement in interscholastic athletics each week, no interscholastic games or practices of any kind are to be held on Sunday."

As an English teacher and head cheer coach at La Serna High School in Whittier, Elena Klock, Class of 1993, teamed up in early September 2018 with Brea Olinda High School's head cheer coach, Kelly Pray-McCluskey, and Los Alamitos High School's head cheer coach, Cheryl Hamoc-Vuong, to create the petition drive to change Section 500 M on the petitions.moveon.org website.

"The California cheer teams would like to petition CIF ... to provide a yearly waiver that allows teams to compete in the Sunday Finals of the National High School Cheerleading Championships [in Florida]," the petition states. "Of the 51 states there are 35 states represented at the [Florida competition]; therefore it gives traditional competitive cheer the closest thing to a ranking system that is similar to Max Preps for other sports."

As of Thursday, the site has

## ON THE MAT

Here is an excerpt of the proposal to be voted on April 9:

In the sport of Traditional Competitive Cheer – only those schools that participate in a national-level cheer competition ... may have a one-time exemption for that event once per year ...

received 2,860 signed responses with moveon.org's listed goal of 3,000.

"I'm really proud that we had so much support for our cause," said Klock, whose name appears on the website as the petition's author. "It's because of the petition that we were able to get the word out and received the publicity from the newspapers and other media."

## UPCOMING VOTE

Meanwhile, the three cheer coaches are awaiting an April 9 vote among league representatives in CIF's Southern Section on a proposal to add an exception clause to the no Sunday play rule.

Klock said Brea Olinda's athletics director Jill Matyuch, a CIF Southern Section executive committee member, drafted a measure that states: "Exception: In the sport of Traditional Competitive Cheer – only those schools that participate in a national-level cheer competition ... may have a



ANNIE CHOI | theaccolade

**SUNDAY PLAY?:** *If approved, the Sunny Hills cheer team as well as all other California squads would be allowed to compete at national championship events on what is normally a day of rest.*

one-time exemption for that event once per year, provided approval from the CIF-SS office is granted."

The measure is approved through a simple majority.

If passed, it will go on to the CIF executive committee for a vote in October; if approved, the proposal then will come to a decision at the CIF state level in January 2020, a month before the Florida national cheer competition.

"It seems a little silly that athletes wouldn't be able to perform on the national stage," said principal Allen Whitten, who plans to cast a yes vote on the exception.

Sunny Hills athletics director Jon Caffrey said he also plans to vote in favor of it, though the proposal would only get a final "yes" vote if a majority of the Freeway League athletics directors and principals agree to it.

If it's a tie, that would mean an "abstain" vote from the Freeway League, Caffrey said.

"I believe the spirit behind adding cheer as a competitive varsity

sport was to give those athletes an opportunity, like all our other athletes, to show their skills," he said. "The unfortunate side of this is that because of the amount of teams and the facilities needed to run large competitions, there is no other option than to allow them to compete on Sundays."

## HOW IT ALL STARTED

Cheer coaches only started facing this no Sunday play issue two years ago when the sport fell under the umbrella of CIF. Though CIF agreed to a waiver of this policy for cheer in the 2017-2018 school year, it was not so amenable this school year.

That left any California cheer team who qualified to compete at the final day of the National High School Cheerleading Championships in Florida last month to have to video record its performance to be judged instead of performing live on Sunday.

Though some might wonder why California cheer coaches don't just find another national tournament to compete in that



Image printed with permission from Christine Kim

**BRING IT ON:** *SH alumna Elena Klock is among three cheer coaches who've organized a petition to push for a change in no Sunday play rule.*

doesn't require Sunday performances, Klock said the Florida one gets aired on TV networks like ESPN.

"This national competition gives us the exposure cheer is usually not able to get," Klock said. "By not letting us compete, they are inadvertently closing the door for these opportunities."

# 3 girls from La Mirada swim club to travel to Indiana

**CHRISTINE CHOI**

*Copy Editor*

Two thousand miles to plunge into foreign waters.

Three Sunny Hills swimmers will travel during spring break to Indianapolis to compete in the Speedo sectionals hosted by Indiana Swimming March 28-31 through their swim club, La Mirada Armada.

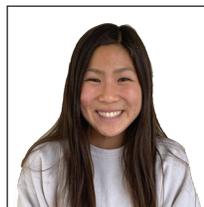
Sophomores Katie Cho and Kaitlyn Yee and junior Nicole Maslog qualified for this competition during the period of Jan. 1, 2018, through the entry deadline in March for the spring meet. They each had to make a certain time standard for each of the

events that they will compete in, Cho said.

"We became a part of this competition because our [club] coach wanted us to race in the best possible conditions at Indiana University Natatorium, the facility in which the meet is being held," said Cho, who will compete in six heats.

Maslog, who will compete in three heats, feels pressured but is optimistic about the outcome.

"I'm more motivated to beat



Katie Cho



Kaitlyn Yee



Nicole Maslog

the person next to me because I've never seen them before," she said. "It's just a lot more exciting because it gives me the opportunity to make new friends."

La Mirada Armada coach Rick Shipherd feels the trio represents some of the best talent in the West.

"They will encounter some of

stars," Shipherd said.

During the course of the competition, the swimmers will also be looking for times that qualify them for the Summer Junior Nationals, he said.

"Katie is an outstanding butterfly, sure to be near the top in the 200 butterfly," he said. "Kaitlyn is equally skilled in the

the best talent in the East and Midwest, but [I] have a lot of faith in the three young

backstroke and will be tough to deny, and Nicole Maslog is a sure finalist in the distance freestyle events."

This long-course championship is their first step toward the Olympic trials next year in Omaha. Shipherd is confident that the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis aquatic center will see some great swimming next week, especially from those who call Sunny Hills High School home.

"There are not three swimmers in the country who are as dedicated as the Sunny Hills girls," Shipherd said. "I am sure they will see the results of that commitment next week."