

# the accolade

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**STOP ASIAN HATE**

ERIN LEE | theaccolade

*With Asian hate crimes skyrocketing by 149% since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, The Accolade investigates the effects on Sunny Hills students and the community and what can be done to prevent future violence. See pages 3-5.*



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# Summer Session

June 14 – August 7, 2021

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KAREN LEE | theaccolade

**CRASH:** An artist's fictional drawing of community members reacting to vandalism of a bakery shop. In the real scenario, a Sunny Hills student's Vietnamese-American friend's family bakery shelves were dislodged by a hooded intruder.

# SH students react to hate crimes

NEVYA PATEL

Mini Editor

Sophomore Jeffrey Tran spent his Sunday afternoon on March 28 helping out his friend's parents tidy up their Westminster bakery after an act of vandalism.

Tran said that the incident took place during the afternoon while the shop was open, and the perpetrator wore a hoodie and mask, which prevented them from identifying him. He also cursed at the owners while shoving glass and food products from the shelves onto the floor.

"His family has always been private about things like this, and in general, they don't like talking publicly about what happens to them," Tran said. "I'm not completely sure if his parents considered it to be a hate crime or not, but both my friend [who doesn't come to Sunny Hills] and I just assumed [it was] a hate crime because of what's going on in the world nowadays."

But what happened in a city 12 miles away from Fullerton, the sophomore never thought it would also happen in the town where he grew up. Upon finding out

from The Accolade that a man threw rocks March 31 at a Korean mother's Tesla near the Sunny Hills campus, Tran responded with shock and fear.

"For me, I just find it surprising how often [Asian hate crimes] can happen," he said. "I don't live too far from the school, so learning that this is happening nearby makes me worry that the same thing could happen to me or my family at any time. I always try to utilize what I have on my person, whether it is pepper spray, a taser or even a key, to keep me safe in the event I do get attacked."

Other Asian students attending Sunny Hills High School have expressed similar concerns and have also taken measures to protect themselves and their parents or other older family members.

"It's sad seeing how another community is being targeted with this much intensity," junior Donghyun Kim said in response to learning about the March 31 hate crime. "It sucks because the Fullerton area is Asian-dominant, and such ignorance in our community is pretty disgusting."

Although Kim said he was not aware of the Fullerton incident or the one in Tu-

stin where a 40-year-old man allegedly punched an 18-year-old Korean woman at a public park on April 11, he said he considered purchasing pepper spray for him and his mom.

"I never really considered it until recently but I feel like my mother, as a woman, should carry some sort of weapon for protection," he said. "Reading any articles I come across would keep me up-to-date with all these events, but I have less free time with my school work piling up."

Freshman Athena Wong was more aware of the recent local Asian hate crimes, including April 18 in which a 25-year-old man allegedly knocked a man of 79 years and a woman of 80 years unconscious. Now more than ever before, Wong fears for her own grandparents' safety.

"They are getting older and declining in mobility," she said. "I do think that the San Francisco cases have put me into more of a fearful state, especially seeing a video of an attack that occurred on a 76-year-old woman. Understanding the woman's words and emotions she expressed produced an uneasy feeling, knowing that could have easily been one of my grandparents."

# We must acknowledge that Asian Hate is real

Eight people — six of whom were Asian-American women — were shot and killed in Atlanta on March 16.



tylerPak  
Editor-in-Chief

As I scoured social media, I noticed a pattern; people were angered, saddened but not surprised. After all, based on a report from ABC News on March 27 of last year, this incident followed the trend that the FBI had predicted as early as March 2020: as the number of people who die of COVID-19 increases, so will the rate of hate crimes against Asian Americans.

However, like most shootings in this country, people stopped, paid their respects for a day and then continued on with their lives. Some even questioned whether this was a hate crime. They

moved on, habitually uttering the phrase, "Something like this will never happen in our community."

But recent events have begun to prove otherwise as hate crimes are beginning to strike closer to home — or should I say, minutes away from our school.

On March 31, near Hughes Drive and Bastanchury Road, a homeless man hurled rocks at an unidentified 38-year-old Korean mother and her son. The *Orange County Register* reported that the man "told police Koreans were trying to control him."

In another incident in Tustin on April 11, an 18-year-old Korean American woman was assaulted and suffered a concussion. The assailant allegedly shouted racial slurs before attacking her.

On that same day, just a 30-minute drive away, white supremacists gathered in Huntington Beach for a "White Lives

Matter" demonstration. Protesters rallied against them, including one man who stood in support of Asian Americans suffering from hate crimes. The face shield he wore serves as the basis for our cover. The sheet of plastic had three words printed at the bottom — a phrase that has united the Asian American Pacific Islander community and its supporters during these troubling times — "Stop Asian Hate."

Through this issue, we hope to prevent any further incidents from occurring in our area and educate our student body of what the "Stop Asian Hate" movement looks like in our community. We hope that our readers acknowledge that this is a real, growing problem that will not go away if we remain passive.

Acknowledge the problem, remain vigilant and if you see a problem, intervene. Only then will we be able to Stop Asian Hate.

*How do you feel about the Stop Asian Hate movement?*



"It is a wonderful movement, but it isn't enough to stop racism against Asians."

— Candice Chow, 9



"I'm glad people are talking about what has been happening."

— Amanda Bouphe, 10



"I hope that the movement will bring more awareness to the hate crimes."

— Edward Cho, 11



"I'm glad that the Asian community is speaking up and spreading awareness."

— Yasmine Eneria, 12



"The movement is important because we all need to watch for prejudice in ourselves."

— Robert Bradburn, social science teacher

AAPI  
HATE CRIMES  
2021

3.24

Shooter in Atlanta kills eight people, six of whom are Asian women

3.29

65-year-old Asian American woman knocked to ground and kicked by man in New York City

3.30

Vietnamese couple held hostage by robbers in Oakland

4.04

Asian couple assaulted by two men over social distancing at Ontario Mills mall

4.05

Homeless man throws rocks at Asian woman's car in Fullerton, damaging the bumper and windshield

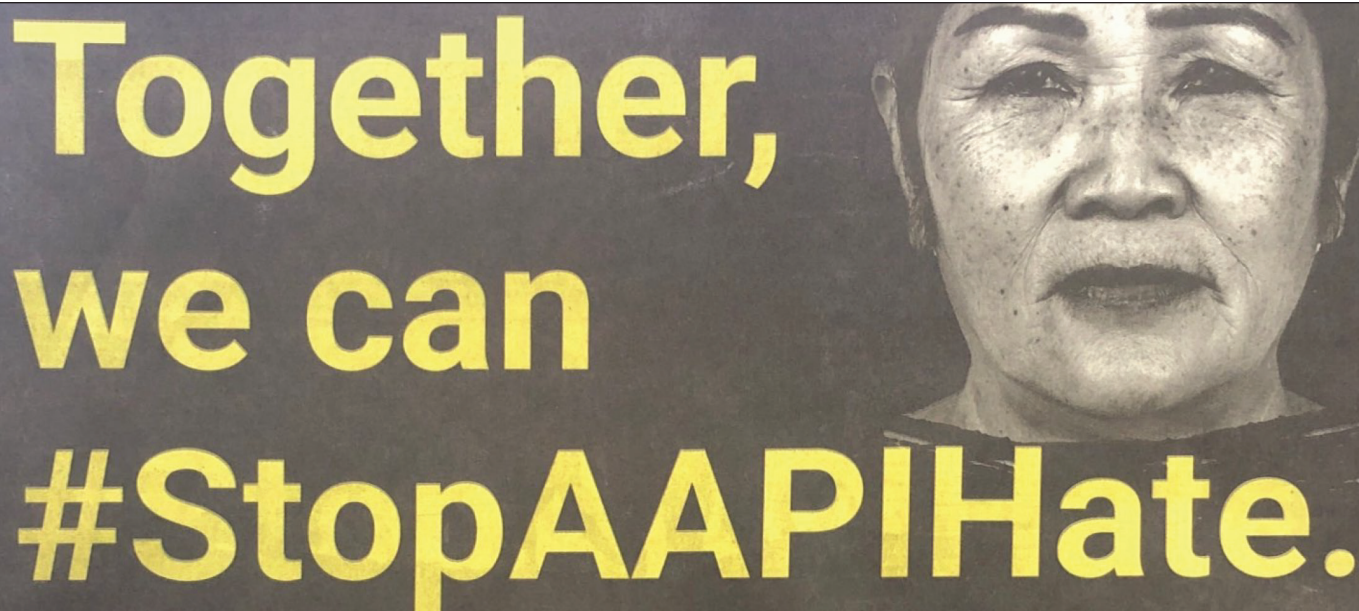
4.11

Korean American woman suffers concussion after being attacked at a Tustin Park

4.19

Elderly Korean couple attacked at Orange County Park

Compiled by Michelle Sheen



Together,  
we can  
#StopAAPIHate.

Image printed with permission from Yamuna Hopwood

**YELLOW ALERT:** Based in San Francisco, the national Stop AAPI Hate group has started a campaign to increase awareness of violence against Asian American Pacific Islanders. This is the top of a March 31 full-page ad that ran in the Los Angeles Times.

## YELLOW WAVE

*First-year social equity group, Stop Asian American and Pacific Islander Hate, among historic level of responses to March 16 Atlanta killings of six women of Asian descent*

MICHELLE SHEEN

Copy Editor

It was a full-page ad that appeared on the March 21 issue of the *Los Angeles Times*.

Typed in a white font that contrasts against the black backdrop, the notice called readers to report any kind of anti-Asian hate incident to [stopaapihate.org](http://stopaapihate.org) (Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders).

Including the hashtag “#StopAAPIHate” in bold, yellow lettering atop the page, the notice was shrouded with black-and-white headshots of two Asian women — one at the uppermost right corner and the other at the bottom right — and one Asian man in the center below the fold.

Directly beneath the hashtag appeared the context: “We mourn and honor the eight lives lost to violence in the Atlanta-area. ... They are us and we are them.”

While an ad that size can cost in the hundreds — if not thousands, it was the *Times* itself that actually offered to foot the bill for this as part of a public service announcement to its readers.

“We have seen a lot of media organizations [and] sometimes brands step up and say, ‘Hey, we have this billboard that you can use,’ or ‘Hey we have this ad space you can use,’ because they understand how important it is to get the message out, and I believe that was the case here [with the *Times* ad],” said Yamuna Hopwood, communications manager at Chinese for Affirmative Action [CAA].

CAA is among two other groups — the Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Control [A3P-CON] and the Asian American

## GROUP'S ORIGIN STORY

- Started in March 2020 when three Northern California Asian organizations joined forces to form Stop AAPI Hate.
- According to the website, the center received 3,795 incidents from March 19, 2020-Feb. 28, 2021.
- From the group's website: “[We aim to] track and respond to incidents of hate, violence, harassment, discrimination, shunning and child bullying against [AAPI hate] in the United States.”

— Compiled by Michelle Sheen

Studies [AAS] Department of San Francisco State University — that teamed up to form Stop AAPI Hate last March at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic.

It aims to address racism by tracking and responding to AAPI-directed discrimination, according to [stopaapihate.org](http://stopaapihate.org).

Though the Stop AAPI Hate organization has targeted the ad toward all age groups reading the news who don't frequent the news sites by finding them through social media. Hopwood said the organization, along with its Facebook, Twitter and Instagram handles, also has a youth campaign, which can be found on Instagram @stopaapihateyc, composed of college and high school students who advocate for putting ethnic studies curriculum into schools and work to educate youth on AAPI-related issues.

“We really count on them to share with us the voices and the perspectives of AAPI children and teenagers,” Hopwood said.

Besides advertising and youth campaigns, the Stop AAPI Hate movement has taken on steam as never before seen in recent history. After the March 24 shooting

in Atlanta, President Joe Biden has weighed in on ensuring more legal protection for Asian Americans in the United States and more demonstrations have been held nationwide akin to the BLM protests last summer to remind Americans that Asians living in America are not to be blamed for the coronavirus pandemic.

At the moment, the movement has been strongest in Northern California, where the Stop AAPI Hate group is located. Just a few weeks ago April 19, San Francisco's Chinatown hosted a rally where protestors gathered at Chinatown and marched to Union Square to fight against Asian hate.

Sunny Hills Chinese Club secretary freshman Sophia Qin said she found out about the organization after clicking through Instagram stories of people she follows and browsing through the recommended posts on her Instagram. Despite her willingness to participate in demonstrations, Qin has yet to take her actions to the next level of joining any outdoor Stop Asian Hate marches.

“Sometimes I will repost the news about severe, tragic violence toward AAPI on Instagram.

... I will certainly participate in marches or demonstrations after the pandemic to alert society and fight to maintain my rights or security,” Qin said.

Others like Vietnamese American sophomore Dylan Tran remain oblivious to this cause.

“I've been concerned with other things in my life, [and] I also don't plan on participating in marches or demonstrations for the same reason,” Tran said. “But don't get the wrong idea; as an Asian American, I 100% support this movement and the people involved.”

## HOW CAN I HELP?

Although violence against Asians is a cause for worry, students and community members can fight this discrimination by joining in on the movement through organizations like Stop AAPI Hate.

“I think the best thing that you can do is you can get active in your local community; you can go to Asian-owned businesses, you can attend rallies, you can start organizing with a lot of racial justice organizations in your community; you can band together with others and start to advocate for legislation that supports AAPI communities and communities of color,” CAA's Hopwood said.

The Stop AAPI Hate organization, among other ways, helps the movement by educating people and big corporations.

## DISTRICT RESPONSE?

The Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHS]



Image printed with permission from Michael Fernandez

**PROTEST FOR THE BOLD:** An Asian Man wears a face shield with the phrase, "Stop Asian Hate," at a White Lives Matter rally as a way to counter rally at the Huntington Beach Pier on April 11. This image was the basis of this issue's cover.

According to American Journal of Public Health, #bateatingchinese, #yellowmanfever and #makethecommiechinseepay are all trending racial slurs on Twitter from March 3-23, 2020. Around the same month, the percentage of Asian hate crimes across America's major cities skyrocketed to 149%.

# COVID-19 is not the 'Chinese Virus'

ANDREW PARK

Mini Editor

On March 16, 2020, former President Donald Trump tweeted alternative terms to describe the coronavirus.

- “The Chinese Virus.”
- “Kung Flu.”
- “Wuhan Virus.”

And within the same month, the percentage increase of Asian hate crimes across America's major cities such as Los Angeles and San Diego increased to 149%, according to a March 2020 analysis released by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino.

Mere coincidence?

Not according to other collected data about the impact such phrases referencing China have had on most Americans.

In collecting data from Twitter's Application Programming Interface from March 3-23, 2020, "#chinesevirus" had significantly more anti-Asian hashtags associated with it compared to "#covid19," according to the peer-reviewed study published by the American Journal of Public Health.

The study concluded that only one-fifth (19.7%) of the 495,289 hashtags with "#covid19" showed



Image printed with permission from Myron Caringal

**HERITAGE PRIDE:** Logan Ueno, the Fullerton College Associated Students Vice President of Records, raises a sign supporting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

anti-Asian sentiment, while half (50.4%) of the 777,852 hashtags with "#chinesevirus" had xenophobic content associated with it. Comparing the two weeks (before and after Trump first tweeted out "Chinese Virus"), anti-Asian hashtags associated with "#chinesevirus" skyrocketed.

Trump used the excuse of upholding the tradition of referring to viruses in geographical terms, but anti-Asian expressions on Twitter increased after his March 16, 2020, tweet.

From the same study by the American Journal of Public Health, the hashtags considered

"anti-Asian" all fall under this criteria: hostile language toward the Asian community, demonstration of hatred for the Asian ethnic groups and support for the restrictions on Asian immigration.

Some examples of the "racist" hashtags included "#yellowmanfever," "#disgustingchinese" or "#chopstickchins."

Trump may not have used offensive language like the ones listed above, but he did provoke this massive expression of anti-Asian sentiments on Twitter.

Influential figures and the media hold the power and responsibility to create a safe environment

for the Asian community at times like this. However, the constant emphasis on the derogatory terminology only creates an environment of hatred and perpetuates anti-Asian sentiment.

Even if the coronavirus originated from Wuhan, China, continuing to use the term "Chinese Virus" becomes a malicious attack on the Asian community. This blaming game of designating Asians as the cause of the coronavirus does indeed jeopardize the safety of the ethnic group.

In regard to this problem, the World Health Organization [WHO] issued new guidelines May 2015 when naming new human diseases, according to WHO Best Practices for the Naming of New Human Infectious Diseases. The new practices "aim to minimize unnecessary negative impact of disease names on trade, travel, tourism or animal welfare" and "avoid causing offense to any cultural, social, national, regional, professional or ethnic groups."

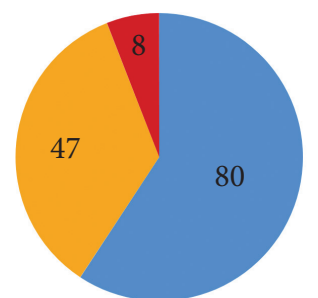
Therefore, the excuse of "long tradition of naming viruses" or "just stating the facts" does not work in this situation.

So for those still using the derogatory term for the coronavirus pandemic — stop. The official name is COVID-19, according to WHO.

The Accolade online polled students about the following:

Have you noticed or experienced an increase in Asian hate in Fullerton or on social media since the coronavirus outbreak?

- Yes (59.26%)
- No (34.81%)
- I don't care (5.93%)



\*From 135 responses  
Compiled by Daniel Kong

# Graduation set for seniors and families

JIWOO HAN & ESTHER OH

Cub Reporter & Mini Editor

After the coronavirus pandemic forced the cancellation of last year's graduation ceremony, the Class of 2021 will not share the same fate as COVID-19 positive cases have dramatically dropped this semester.

"I am very excited that our Class of 2021 will get to experience this milestone of graduation together," assistant principal Melissa Stinson said. "[Although] they have missed out on so many of the traditional events that a typical senior class would get to experience, it feels good to know that they won't have to miss out on their graduation ceremony."

As of now, commencement will be held May 27 at 3 p.m. at Fullerton Union High School's stadium.

School officials said the Fullerton Joint Union High School District will follow the "Guidance for the Prevention of COVID-19 Transmission for Commencement/Graduation Ceremonies" released on March 26 by the California Department of Public Health.

As in past years, the ceremony will feature speeches and choir, band and orchestra performances before the seniors get to switch their tassels on their caps from one side to the other, symbolizing their completion of their high school tenure.

The number of guests allowed will depend upon the guidelines set around the county risk level at the time of graduation and as of April 21, graduating seniors are allowed to invite only two guests.

In past years, the number of guests allowed ranged from as few as six to as many as 10 depending on the size of the graduating class, school officials said.

"I am very fortunate that our faculty prepared for this in-person ceremony," senior Ruth Hong said. "It still is upsetting that I can only invite two people to the event, but I am sure my other family members will celebrate with us from home."

Senior Acira Mehta has already figured out who she'll be inviting.

"My two guests will definitely be my parents," Mehta said. "If by then the guest number is more than two, other guests I would [bring] would be my two sisters and my grandparents."

For those who are unable to attend because of limits on stadium capacity or underlying health conditions, administrators will make a link available for those at home to watch the ceremony on YouTube, Stinson said. That link will be released at a later time.

Most seniors are not worried that the ceremony would spark a COVID-19 super spread event.

"I know many people have already gotten [vaccinated], and the protocols for graduation will definitely follow [COVID-19] guidelines," Mehta said.



**SHADES OF NORMALCY:** Students fill up the quad at break on April 20.

## THEY'RE BACK! (SORT OF)

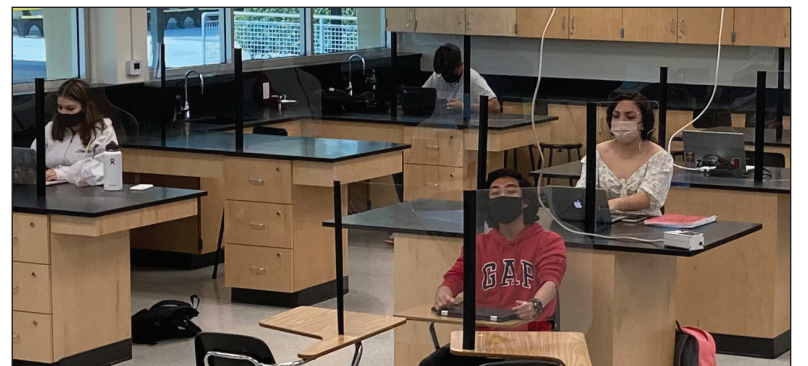
*Last week was the first time during the 2020-2021 school year that students were allowed to come to campus for instruction for four days a week. As of April 21, school officials say approximately 25% of students have returned.*

**ALL IN THIS TOGETHER:** Usually empty during the school year, hallways are once again filling up during break on April 19, the first day Cohort A and B students returned to campus for four days a week.



ALL PHOTOS TAKEN BY HOPE LI | theaccolade

**HANGING OUT AGAIN:** Students gather in front of the 180s building to socialize during break on April 20.



**ON TASK:** More students show up to classes in person like science teacher David Kim's Period 4 Human Anatomy on April 20.

## 'Stayin' Alive' '70s hit revived to help seniors practice CPR, pass graduation requirement

ASHLEY HAN

Cub Reporter

Because of COVID-19 health and safety protocols, Sunny Hills seniors did not get to go to the gym as one large class to receive their traditional CPR training — a graduation requirement.

Instead, school officials asked their social science teachers to assign them to watch a 40-minute video and then submit their own recording of themselves demonstrating CPR compressions on either a pillow, stuffed animal or a doll.

The Google Classroom assignments were given in early March, and seniors had a month to complete the CPR training.

School officials could not be reached for comment as to whether any administrator would be reviewing all of the video submissions to ensure that the 12th-graders fulfilled this particular graduation requirement.

For those who don't have social science



Image printed with permission from Jessica Garcia

**STAND-IN FOR A DUMMY:** Senior Jessica Garcia records a video of her practicing CPR with a stuffed animal to fulfill her graduation requirement.

this semester, assistant principal Hilda Arredondo sent them an email at the end of March that included the video and a Google Form link for them to submit their CPR video recording by April 9.

Senior Melina Rodriguez said her Government teacher, Greg Del Crognale, also

shared the 1970s Bee Gees disco song, "Stayin' Alive," from the "Saturday Night Fever" movie soundtrack to help with the assignment.

"The song helped me with remembering at what rhythm I needed to make compressions," Rodriguez said.

# ASB earns \$500 from 'Got Talent' fundraiser

HENRY LEE

Mini Editor

A video performance from Sunny Hills High School's Dance Production [DP] was named one of the winning entries in the April 23 "Got Talent" district fundraiser, organizers said.

DP's video recording, "Forever Changed," was given the Judges Choice award, which subsequently gives Sunny Hills' Associated Student Body [ASB] \$500.

"I'm excited that we won the talent show, and I honestly wasn't sure what to expect because this is the first time we've done this," DP co-captain junior Jessica Choi said.

The highest cash prize — \$750 — will go to the ASBs from La Habra and Fullerton Union high schools.

La Habra's Aurora Cisneros won the People's Choice Award, while Fullerton Union's senior Brittany Fisheli won the Judges Choice for professional record-



Image printed with permission from Leiana Volen and Jennifer Maletto

**WINNER:** Evaluators from the April 23 "Got Talent" district show award Dance Production's video performance, "Forever Changed," the Judges Choice, giving Sunny Hills' ASB \$500.

ing.

The 7-8:30 p.m. YouTube live program was organized by Fullerton Joint Union High School District officials and the Rotary Club of Fullerton in hopes of raising money for cash-strapped ASBs districtwide.

Rotary Club district gover-

nor nominee Dan Ouweleen said those who wanted to watch the pre-recorded event had to pay \$10. They made payment with a credit card through the Rotary Club's website.

Each \$10 entry came with the viewer's ability to cast up to five votes to any of the performers.

No information was available as to how many tuned in to watch.

Meanwhile, ASB co-adviser Mike Paris said all of the prize money will go to DP.

"We believed they had a good chance of winning because we've all seen how good they are," Paris said. "I'm sure we will participate

in whatever [the Rotary Club of Fullerton] decides to do in the future."

Dance director Leiana Volen said she will use the funds toward an educational experience — guest/master teacher and field trip — or equipment such as lighting, curtains and camera for the dance studio to continue adding to the program's repertoire for filming and editing dance films.

Volen said she felt good to be recognized for the hard work and dedication she and her dancers put in for their video.

"From the choreography and musical accompaniment expressing the changes and adaptations we have been forced to make to the filming outside of a parking lot, the dance is an embodiment of resiliency, and showcasing that dance and art can be done any place, any time, through any challenge," she said. "I think the dance is a snapshot of everything we've experienced and all the ways in which we've grown this year."

## Engineering students take skills to state contest; 1 wins gold medal

GRACE MIN

Cub Reporter

A sophomore in Sunny Hills' Engineering Pathways to Innovation and Change [EPIC] took the top award at a SkillsUSA virtual state contest.

Jacob Merioles won gold in Architectural Design at the regional level in February as well as the state one two months later.

Meanwhile, seniors Siddh Desai and Qasim Hussain had competed in the Additive Manufacturing category, placing second in the regional conference.

They did not know of their results until Thursday. The two did not place, and they could not be reached for comment at press time.

EPIC teacher and EPIC chairman Daniel Zanone said his program usually encourages students to enter in any of the categories for the SkillsUSA events.

"I was totally surprised [by the regional results]," Zanone said. "I thought our students would do well, but I did not think they would win first and second place [in regionals]."

"I was so excited that I emailed all three students right away to tell them that they won."

The SkillsUSA competition is a catalogue of different contests



Siddh Desai



Qasim Hussain



Jacob Merioles

ranging from animation to architecture. Competitors are able to choose what category they want to compete in, Merioles said.

"The State Conference was really relaxed and laid-back, which is good because I had the opportunity to participate in a competition without a lot of pressure on me," he said. "But I would say the state competition was harder than the regional because I am not really familiar with [floor-plan] revisions, which is what we did at the state competition."

Merioles said he turned in his house plans digitally and attended a live, four-hour Zoom meeting in which he finalized his project for the regional and state competitions.

"SkillsUSA did a really good job planning out the different events by providing descriptions about each competition," he said. "It was really straightforward, so it served as a guide throughout the contest so I was able to suc-

ceed."

Since the EPIC program does not offer an architectural design class, Merioles said he taught himself most of the skills required to complete his project and consulted Zanone whenever he needed help.

At the state conference, Merioles said he received a new prompt based on his house floor plan from the regional competition: append a garage and gazebo on the property.

Hussain and Desai, who entered the regional and state competition as a team, entered a model automatic toothpaste dispenser to the regional competition. Later, they created an outdoor wall outlet cover designed to block outlets from outside hazards for the state conference.

"I pay more attention to the details of our project and try to understand our product better," Hussain said. "Kobe Bryant is a huge inspiration for me."

### HOME SWEET HOME



815

Based on a student survey, school officials found a majority are choosing to take their Advanced Placement exams off campus.



233

Source: Kathleen De La Rosa, Advanced Placement coordinator  
Compiled by Nevyta Patel

## Majority opt for home setting for Advanced Placement test

YEIHN LEE

Mini Editor

Upon finding out that the College Board will offer students online and on-campus testing for the 2021 Advanced Placement [AP] exams, normally only in May, students leaned toward taking them from home.

AP coordinator Kathleen De La Rosa sent an email to parents and students on March 9 in which families filled out a survey choosing between testing in-person on the school campus or digitally at home at different times.

The College Board's website, for example, mentions that the AP English Language and Composition exam will be offered on paper in early May but digitally in late May and early June.

Additionally, some teachers such as AP Biology teacher Kelly Kim is in favor of the College

Board's options given what is happening with the coronavirus pandemic.

"Things are very different right now in many ways, so if students feel safer taking it at home, I think it's great that they are giving that option," Kim said.

According to a Dec. 18 College Board email, the "2021 AP Exams will cover the full scope of course content and skills," and students will be tested on everything they learned.

Sophomore Robyn Shin plans to take AP Psychology at home.

"This year's test format is relatively fair," Shin said. "Last year, no one expected a pandemic to occur, so it wouldn't have been fair, but we've known it for a while, so I think it is justified."



For the full story, go to <https://shhsaccolade.com/category/news/>

## Accolade places in Best of Show national contest

Two of *The Accolade's* 2021 issues placed in the Top 10 earlier this month at the virtual Spring National High School Journalism Convention's Best of Show contest.

For Tabloid, 16 pages or fewer, the Feb. 19 PDF issue, "Broken Boundaries," placed third, while for the Special Edition category, the March 13 PDF issue, "One Year Later," about the coronavirus pandemic came in eighth.

Only three California schools earned Top 10 for the Tabloid category with Redondo Union High School's *High Tide* in first place, and one other magazine, Palo Alto High School's *Anthro!*, placed sixth for Special Edition in which Blue Valley Northwest High School's *The Express* taking the top spot during April 10's virtual awards presentation.

"Compared to the state writeoffs, we competed against more schools in Best of Show at the national convention, so it is a very big achievement for *The Accolade*," editor-in-chief senior Tyler Pak said. "Rather than just schools in California, we compete against student papers all across the country."

The "Broken Boundaries" issue was the most challenging this school year because it addressed a controversial topic.

"Not every paper is willing to address such sensitive topics, but the extra effort we put into cooperating with the administration was well worth it," special sections editor senior Hannah Kim said.

— by Susie Kim, cub reporter



For *The Accolade's* state writeoff awards, go to <https://shhsacolade.com/category/news/>



Image used with permission from Nikki Le

**ROLLING OUT RED CARPET:** *Lancer Awards Night* will be held in the quad May 20 instead of in the Fullerton Auditorium next to Fullerton Union High School. School officials sent an email notifying award-winners of the event.

## Lancer Awards to be held on campus

SYDNEY LEE

Cub Reporter

Traditionally held in the Fullerton Auditorium, Lancer Awards night will occur next month on campus after school, administrators said.

"I am excited to be able to acknowledge our amazing students in person," said assistant principal Sarah Murrietta, who has been working with the Associated Student Body [ASB] for months to plan the May 20 event from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the quad.

To abide by coronavirus health and safety protocols, school officials could not hold Lancer Awards night with students,

staff and parents and other guests inside an enclosed building like in the past. They also had to make sure to limit crowds to 33% capacity during the event in keeping with the state's Department of Health guidelines, Murrietta said.

That would mean award nominees would only be allowed to invite up to two guests — either household or family members — compared to the past when that number was not capped.

Although the time slots have not been finalized, Murrietta said she envisions students will line up to walk across the stage in the quad and receive their medals while parents stand in front of the stage to watch or take pictures.

Upon arrival, recipients and their guests will have their temperatures taken when they check into the Performing Arts Center before making their way to the quad.

Because the coronavirus pandemic had forced the cancellation of Lancer Awards night last year, school officials chose to create a video commending those who earned recognition.

"The video was well-edited, and teachers took time out of their day to ... video [record comments for their student award-winners]," said junior Roy Datuin, who won a Lancer Award as a freshman for math and as a sophomore for physical education. "I liked how they gave appreciation to the students."

## ASB Executive Board elections take place over social media

ALEX LEE

Cub Reporter

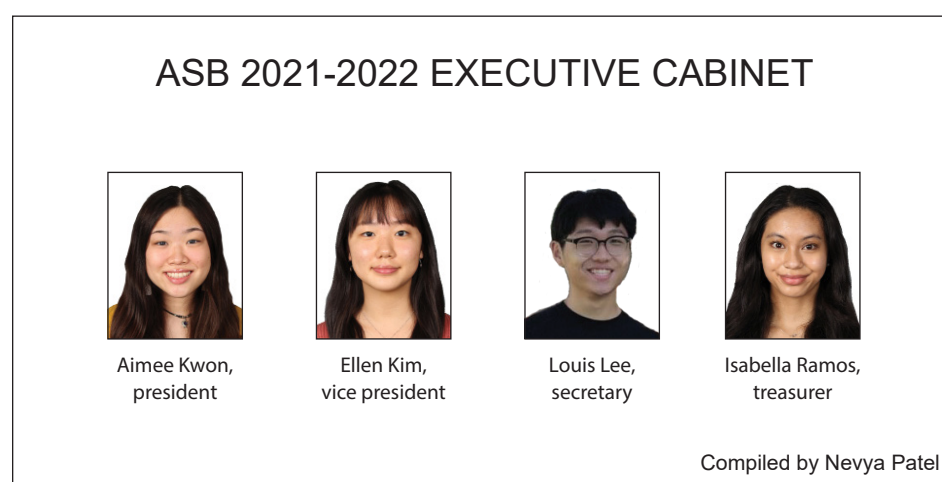
Despite some students having returned to campus for live classroom instruction since February, the Associated Student Body officials opted to cancel the cabinet elections assembly, calling on candidates to campaign virtually with online voting on April 16.

Junior Ellen Kim ran unopposed for ASB vice president and will be joined in the 2021-2022 school year by juniors Aimee Kwon, Louis Lee and Isabella Ramos, who earned the most votes as the president, secretary and treasurer, respectively.

"I didn't campaign this year since I was unopposed, but my friends campaigned [on my behalf] Instagrams," Kim said. "I expected a lot of people to run for ASB executive cabinet, but I was really surprised that no one was running against me."

In contrast to Kim, the presence of other competing candidates motivated Kwon to achieve the position as ASB president.

"My expectation going into the elec-



tions was that it was definitely going to be difficult [since] it was the first election that was all virtual," Kwon said. "The online elections [were] much more challenging to communicate with others."

Ramos also ran unopposed for treasurer and did not feel the need to campaign as well.

However, Lee felt overwhelmed by competition for this position as secretary

since another opponent, junior Alexis Boyer, ran against him.

Instead of creating digital posters, he said he made three videos and a qualification presentation that were reposted on his supporters' social media.

"Honestly, I was pretty nervous about running against someone who was much more popular than me," Lee said. "But, I made sure to not let that faze me and al-

ways made myself overestimate her as my opposing candidate. I never ended up underestimating her."

After the campaigning period ended on April 15, the ASB released a link to the Five Star app in which students filled out their last name, short ID and voted for the desired candidate while the ASB co-adviser Mike Paris monitored the election.

The ASB then announced the results on its Instagram account the next day.

This is not the first time that the ASB organized a virtual election.

Last year when schools closed down because of the coronavirus pandemic, the ASB had similar online campaigns, and students voted on the 5 Star app from home.

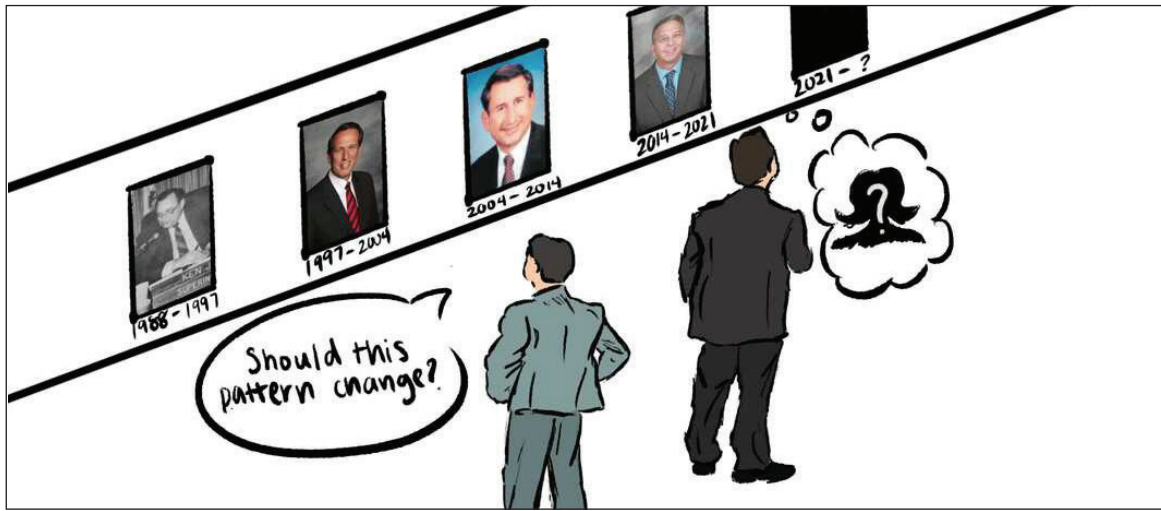
Last semester, it also ran the freshman class elections virtually.

With the executive cabinet secured, the ASB transitioned into class officer elections with voting occurring Thursday and ending today.

The results will be posted on the ASB Instagram account after voting has ended.



STAFF EDITORIAL



ANDREW (JUNGHYUN) LEE | theaccolade

# Time to hire diverse district leader

**The *Accolade* editorial board vote count: 8 consider diversity an important factor to consider when choosing the next Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHSD] superintendent; 1 does not.**

The tide is changing when it comes to the hiring process for leaders of private and public enterprises.

Following the wave of President Joe Biden's diverse cabinet picks, including the first openly gay Secretary of Transportation, first Hispanic of the Department of Homeland Security and first Native American cabinet secretary, United Airlines in an April 6 [tweet](#) promised that 50% of pilots trained in the next decade would be females or people of color.

So as the FJUHSD board is about to make its choice for the district's 17th superintendent to replace Scott Scambray, who plans to retire June 30, they should go against the trend of past hires — all white males starting with the first one in 1922, Louis E. Plummer.

We expect that these trustees recognize the importance of hiring a woman or someone of color to lead a district that, according to 2020-2021 data from the [California Department of](#)

[Education](#), is 58.4% Hispanic, 13.5% white, 18.5% Asian and 1.8% African American. Already, our five-member school board comprises four women and one man — Dr. Chester Jeng being the only Asian and first-year trustee Vicki Calhoun being the only Black female.

While the district's leader consistently updates school policies and technology to reflect the changing times, these past hires simply do not reflect our district's demographics.

Board members have responsibly reached out to the community, initiating an inclusive process and releasing a survey March 29-April 9 available in three languages: English, Spanish and Korean. The form asked community members for feedback through questions like, "What do you see as strengths of our district?" as well as "What is important for our next superintendent to know about our community?"

The district understands that translations are imperative to open communication within our diverse community; our superintendent needs to reflect the values of various ethnic minorities.

Finally, our trustees should consider offering this position to a woman. Last summer,

several high schoolers in the district came forward with sexual harassment and assault claims inciting some alumni from FJUHSD to create a [change.org petition](#). Though Scambray [emailed](#) students and staff a statement about how each school will follow up on claims, perhaps a woman in Scambray's place would have used her personal experience to better empathize with victims.

FJUHSD students and parents deserve a candidate who represents their values and understands their community but, most importantly, is qualified to run a high-achieving school district. Companies and institutions are taking a step to become more inclusive, diverse and open — it is time for FJUHSD trustees to take this leap as well.

*Because this is The Accolade's spring cub issue featuring articles from the Journalism 1 class, those on the editorial board decided to give this issue's mini-editors a chance to take their place with the guidance of adviser Tommy Li. If you have a question about the board's decision or an issue for the board to discuss and write about, please send an email to [theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com](mailto:theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com).*

# Seniors need to set example, come to school

SUSIE KIM

Cub Reporter

"Maybe it is just my busy schedule ... that it has not really sunk in that I have been missing all these activities," homecoming court member senior Kathryn Aurelio said.

Aurelio's not alone in this line of thinking. Following the previous class' loss of such events as Grad Nite at Disneyland, Paper Toss on the last day of the spring semester and graduation at Fullerton Union High School, the Class of 2021 doubted that the coronavirus pandemic would ease up.

So it made sense for 12th-graders to keep busy and assume they would face the same fate.

But the opposite has happened. Positive COVID-19 cases have decreased significantly, and many more are eligible to get vaccinated.



DIVYA BHARADWAJ | theaccolade

**ROYAL GATHERING:** *Though many seniors have chosen to stay home instead of coming to campus four days a week, many traditional events like homecoming are returning for them.*

Earlier this month, the district's board of trustees approved a proposal to allow students to attend classes four days a week.

According to data provided by school officials, as of Wednesday, of the 547 seniors enrolled here, only 141, or 26%, have opted for this opportunity. Juniors lag behind all other classes with only

137 of 620 on campus.

That should not be the case. The remaining 406 in the senior class should set the example.

Though some feel reluctant to come to school, potentially disrupting their current online learning routine, that's not how they want to make their "senior memories."

Perhaps the biggest concern is the fear of contracting the coronavirus and infecting others in the household, specifically the elderly. Nevertheless, at this point, around 80% of elders above the age of 75 have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

Once more seniors return, they can look forward to the exciting events school officials have planned for them. In fact, principal Allen Whitten told one of *The Accolade's* reporters that "we are still looking into this option" of a Paper Toss.

With Grad Nite sales still lagging, seniors need to accept the fact that a miniature golf park can still make memories for them — it's not the venue but the company that will make all the difference.

So the next time any of us hear Whitten say, "Go Lancers!" we should interpret it as "Go Lancers ... back to school."

the **accolade**

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## Gov. Newsom deserves to stay in office

DANIEL KONG

Mini Editor

Since 1921, three sitting governors have faced recall elections — only one retained his seat.

“Though efforts to recall a governor have increased in recent years, it is not common for [a] sitting governor to be voted out of office through a recall election,” according to [ballotpedia.org](http://ballotpedia.org).

In California’s 170-year history, the state’s top leader has faced as many as 53 recall efforts, and only one time was it ever successful — in 2003.

The number of verified signatures collected to bring the recall on the ballot has varied from 897,158 in 2003 to nearly 1.5 million this year.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has already faced five failed attempts from Californians to get a recall on the ballot — and he still has two years left to finish out his term before deciding whether to run for re-election.

Those behind the most recent one — his sixth — claim they have collected 2.1 million signatures, though their verification won’t be concluded until the end of this month.

Although the state has counted enough verified voter signatures to force a special recall election as of April 26, Newsom deserves to finish out his term.

According to [Ballotpedia](http://Ballotpedia), recall supporters believe that “Newsom mishandled the state’s response to the coronavirus pandemic, did not do enough to address the state’s homelessness rate and supported sanctuary city policies and water rationing.”

Though it is true that businesses — especially dining establishments — have suffered financially during the COVID-19 crisis, our current leader did the right thing to lock us down for a year.



## HEAD TO HEAD SENIOR MOMENTS

First-year transfer 12th-graders share reasons for attending school in-person or not

ERIN LEE | theaccolade

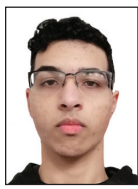
### Zoom at home for me

In April 2018, my family decided to move from Saudi Arabia to America.

I’d been attending school in Saudi Arabia for ninth grade, then moved to Houston in 2018 and spent the first semester at Virtual High School, an online school based in Ontario, Canada. I didn’t like the format, so I moved to James E. Taylor High School in Texas. I expected the American school structure to be similar to high school movies such as “The DUFF.”

After I finished 11th grade, my family considered moving to California mainly to try a different special education system for my second youngest brother. My mom wanted to stay, but my youngest brother and I wanted to move because Texas’s irritating hot weather made breathing a struggle.

Then, we moved to Fullerton, one of the safest cities, on June 9, 2020, and I came to Sunny Hills as a senior because of the school’s high rating. Before Newsom announced July 17 we’d attend class fully online, I correctly predicted we wouldn’t get to physically in-



omarMettwely  
Cub Reporter

teract with classmates and teachers.

Since we started the school year in full distance learning, it was easier for me to stay in Cohort C. But when I visited campus to get my textbooks,

the first difference I noticed was the open hallways here compared to the enclosed hallways at my high school in Texas. It was appealing, but not worthy enough to change my mind.

I don’t regret staying at Cohort C because my grades improved. I doubt if I returned I would have the same result. The online experience in Sunny Hills definitely succeeded in delivering a convenient system for me to pass my classes.

Also, because it’s not a big deal to me, I don’t plan on attending the in-person graduation on May 27.

Although I couldn’t make friends this year, I am satisfied with the outcome. I know that I might change states in the future, and having few friends is the consequence of switching locations.



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com/category/opinion/](http://shhsaccolade.com/category/opinion/)

### In-person way to end

Stepping onto the Sunny Hills campus for the first time in over three years, I still felt like a freshman.

Just like my first day of ninth grade in August 2017, I printed out a map of the campus and highlighted which classrooms I had classes in. I had known how the building numbering system worked when I was here the first time around, but that knowledge had faded.

The only difference: I was a senior, not a freshman.

I hadn’t been to Sunny Hills in so long because I made the decision to switch to homeschooling in ninth grade to accommodate my pre-professional ballet training schedule.

I enjoyed being a student at Sunny Hills, but at the time, I lacked flexibility when it came to reconciling my dance and school schedule.

Although it doesn’t work for everyone, homeschooling was a great fit because it allowed me to do schoolwork at any time and even take ballet lessons in the mornings.

I loved ballet, but after my junior year, I realized I didn’t want to pursue it at such an



chamonixBas  
Cub Reporter

all-consuming level. As a result, I thought about coming back to public school to finish high school.

When I first told my parents I wanted to return to Sunny Hills, they were a

little hesitant because they were worried it’d be difficult to make friends and because transferring back to public school comes with a lot of administrative paperwork.

While finishing up my senior year homeschooled might have been easier, I chose to take the risk and come back to Sunny Hills with my family’s support. Because my main social outlet previously came from the dance studio, attending public school would help me avoid the social isolation that comes with studying alone all day.

Though I have not spent the entirety of my four-year high school journey at Sunny Hills, I am grateful for the opportunity to have experienced it for a short period of time. Come May 27, I will be proud to graduate as a Lancer.



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com/category/opinion/](http://shhsaccolade.com/category/opinion/)

## Letters to the editor

Alice Shin’s news article, “PTSA finds another Anaheim venue for Grad Nite,” really caught my eye as people are really putting their best effort to make a strong finish for Sunny Hills High School seniors.

I agree with the fact that the PTSA should plan a new way to substitute going to Disneyland as COVID-19 is still ongoing.

Although holding a school event is pretty hard during these times, I appreciate the fact that the school is letting seniors get a

proper night to themselves.

— Hannah Jung, freshman

Esther Oh’s news article, “Teachers, students obtain COVID-19 vaccines,” successfully updates students on both COVID-19 vaccines and SHHS teachers’ vaccination.

As a student who was worried about going to school due to COVID-19, I feel more safe and secure now by hearing teachers getting vaccines even though I did not get it.

I am surprised by how the world has made these vaccines.

— Yeavit Kim, freshman

Henry Lee’s sports article, “Athletes join movement that brought back school sports,” was compelling.

Everyone knew that starting off the school year with the coronavirus was going to be different, but I believe that school sports have been significantly affected.

However, the movement of LetThemPlayCA really made an

impact for school sports teams in California by giving them a chance to finally play.

Even though no one from Sunny Hills attended the protests, it still affected our athletes and the future of their games.

— Amber Lee, freshman

The Accolade welcomes signed letters to the editor with full name and grade level emailed to [theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com](mailto:theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com).

The staff reserves the right to edit.

### For the record

The Accolade regrets the following error from the sports section of the March 13 PDF issue:

In the page 14 article, “Athletes join movement that brought back school sports,” the caption underneath the picture should have identified the location of the protest as Lancer Way in Fullerton instead of Los Alamitos.

How will you remember your experience on this year's court?



"My experience on court was a blast as I got to showcase my activities and achievement in video form."  
— Kathryn Aurelio



"Better than I ever could have expected with the situation we were in this year; it was such a blessing."  
— Jenna Beining



"I am so glad I got to experience being on court with such a great group of empowering girls!"  
— Vivian Tran



"Untraditional, yet memorable! It was really fun, and I'll remember it forever!"  
— Gianne Veluz

# Homecoming queen crowned during pandemic

**STACY KIM**

*Cub Reporter*

With the COVID-19 pandemic causing many 12th-grade traditional events to be canceled this school year, senior Meagan Kimbrell decided to take advantage of the one opportunity made available for girls – running for homecoming queen, despite it being out of her comfort zone.

"I never really was the type to put myself in a position to publicly lose because I was scared of embarrassment," said Kimbrell, the elections commissioner for the Associated Student Body [ASB]. "That's why I never ran for any class cabinet position before, even when I wanted to."

With Kimbrell's unexpected decision of running for homecoming queen, she never imagined the outcome.

"I honestly was just so excited to even be on court that I was content with that being it," she said. "I never imagined winning, and I'm so thankful for everyone who supported me and voted."

Kimbrell also was aware that she was up against two other ASB members, Kathryn Aurelio – activities commissioner and senior treasurer – and Jenna Beining – secretary, and Kim-

brell believed she didn't stand out as much compared to them.

"Especially in quarantine, I haven't been the most social so I didn't expect people to remember who I was or what I've done," Kimbrell said. "Plus, the other court members were so worthy of winning that I really wasn't expecting much."

Even though three of the five candidates are part of the ASB, the title was still up for grabs by all the court members, ASB co-adviser Mike Paris said.

"I was very happy for [Kimbrell when she won]," Paris said. "All of the candidates were fantastic, each of the five court members would be excellent choices to be homecoming queen."

Kimbrell and her family weren't the only people to grit their teeth while waiting for the queen to be announced — her friends, who were also there at the game, shared the same anxiety awaiting the results and found themselves overwhelmed with delight after hearing of her victory.

"When I found out she won, I was jumping up and down on the bleachers and screaming my head off," said senior Kristen Kim, one of Kimbrell's best friends. "I was in disbelief that she won, but



ALL PHOTOS TAKEN BY AUDREY SEO | theaccolade

**ROYAL HIGNESSES:** Seniors on the court share a moment together after the coronation April 9.

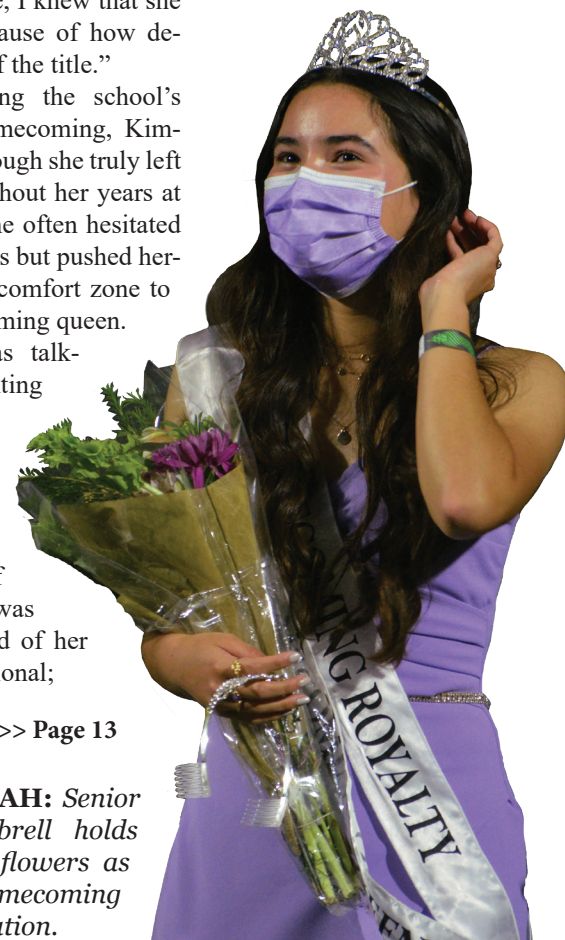
in another sense, I knew that she would win because of how deserving she is of the title."

After winning the school's first virtual homecoming, Kimbrell feels as though she truly left a legacy throughout her years at Sunny Hills. She often hesitated to try new things but pushed herself out of her comfort zone to run for homecoming queen.

"Meagan has talked about wanting to do it, and she finally got the courage," said Amanda Ochoa, another best friend of Kimbrell. "I was extremely proud of her and super emotional;

**HOCO Queen >> Page 13**

**LAST HURRAH:** Senior Meagan Kimbrell holds a bouquet of flowers as part of the homecoming queen's coronation.



## Students not splurging on \$1,400 check from the IRS

**JAIMIE CHUN**

*Cub Reporter*

The latest iPhone 12 starts at \$799.

A Razor Blade Gaming Laptop 2020 is sold at \$1,099.

A pair of girls Nike gymnastics shoes are listed on Amazon for nearly \$1,400.

Though these are some of the items that Sunny Hills students could have asked their parents to splurge on for their use when they received their \$1,400 federal government stimulus checks last month, many said they didn't.

"I think we'll be using it to pay off the bills and put it into savings," freshman Amber Lee

### CHECKS IN THE MAIL

**March 2020\***

● \$500 for each child under the age of 17

**December 2020**

● \$600 for each child under the age of 17

**March 2021**

● \$1,400 per adult parent and child

\*The amounts are based on a set income that a taxpayer needs to meet to qualify for the stimulus payments.

Source: [Peter G. Peterson Foundation](#)  
Compiled by Kate Yang

said. "I guess the bills would include rent, electricity and water and other types of bills we have to pay for our living conditions."

Amber Lee also said that she was thinking of buying a new MacBook because the computer she has right now is outdated.

Though tech gadgets always sound tempting, senior Julian Kim said his parents plan to

**Stimulus Checks >> Page 13**

## Personality icebreakers becoming trend in Zoom breakout rooms, text messages

**ALICE LEE**

*Mini Editor*

It's a four-letter word. But not that one.

MBTI, known as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, will reach its 60th year of inception in 2022 as one way psychologists determine their patients' personality type.

But it has also become a popular ice breaker that some Sunny Hills students are asking while in Zoom breakout rooms or over text conversations among friends.

A common conversation starter would start like this:

"What's your MBTI?"

"I'm an Extrovert Sensing Feeling Perceiving [ESFP]. What about you?"

"Oh my god, me too!"

ESFP is among the 16 person-

ality types that the MBTI looks for. It asks 60 introspective questions agreeing or disagreeing statements ranging from "You regularly make new friends" to "You usually stay calm, even under a lot of pressure."

The questions are divided into four categories: introversion (I) or extraversion (E), sensing (S) or intuition (N), thinking (T) or feeling (F) and judging (J) or perceiving (P), each represented by a letter.

One test-taker, for example, could learn that she's an INTP, which means that she is quiet, analytical, according to 16personalities.com.

Two years back, senior Abby Haan took the personality test when she received a text from her friend to take the test with a link so the two could compare.

My friend and I got totally op-

posite results," Haan said. "We thought it was funny that we were such close friends with such different personalities."

Like Haan, junior Luke Weinreich first took the personality test to discover more about himself.

"I took the tests to learn about who I am and about what I should focus on becoming when I grow up," Weinreich said. "These tests help when I have to decide on majors since they tell me which circumstances I excel in."

Even without complete certainty in his major, but he wants to pursue the education field in hopes of becoming a teacher.

"I'll excel in the education major because I really like teaching others," Weinreich said. "I'll be more motivated to study when I have a definite career set, such as education."

## Website gives students 'room' for calmness

OMAR METTWELY

Cub Reporter

It was St. Patrick's Day when junior Jasmine Kim first found out about the Fullerton Joint Union High School District's Virtual Calming Room.

Faced with overdue assignments in her fifth period yearbook class and an upcoming exam in Honors Precalculus, Kim said *Helios* adviser Lindsay Safe made the suggestion to check it out in a Google Classroom post, which included a link to access it:

"Take a Zoom break. Visit the Virtual Calming Room. Tell me what you did and how it supported you."

Upon reaching the website, Kim said she opted for a three-minute "Mindful Breathing" video that showed the ocean waves while a voice gave instructions.

"It just helped me right after," she said. "Like while doing my homework for other classes, it just helped me concentrate more."

Kim is among a few other Sunny Hills students and staff who have benefited from this mental wellness feature, which was first made available to those in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHS] Sept. 22.

Designed by the FJUHS's mental health coordinator, Carlos Alcántara, the Virtual Calming Room consists of 11 different sections, each containing a diverse range of options for the user to choose from.

Activities to complete when "inside" a room range from meditation to journaling.

"Every single video, every single link was intentional," Alcántara said. "The motive was for students who are navigating to distance learning to have a virtual space where they can use skills for calming, de-escalation and for finding a sense of peace."

English teacher Kady Fibrow gave it a try recently.

"I did the one-minute meditation during break the other day and really enjoyed it," Fibrow said.

The Virtual Calming Room might also come in handy for Advanced Placement exams.

"Since we're in the middle of a pandemic, it might be hard to go to a yoga class, so doing it virtually is more convenient," Kim said. "It does help."



### RELAX VIRTUALLY

The district's Virtual Calming Room features these ways to destress:

- Guided Meditations
- Coloring
- Puzzles & Word Search

Compiled by Minjeong Kim

## SHOE SIZE DONATIONS

With his profits from Bobakickss shoe resale business, junior Colin Lee has donated up to \$2,500 to charities such as these:



OC FOOD BANK - \$2,000



Stop AAPI Hate - \$500



COVID-19 Direct Relief - \$100



All images printed with permission from Colin Lee

Compiled by Divya Bharadwaj, Kate Yang

## KICKSTARTER

Junior donates thousands of dollars to charities from shoe re-selling business

DOMINIQUE CHANG

Staff Reporter

Since last November, junior Colin Lee has made \$8,000 off re-selling shoes through his Instagram shoe-selling business, Bobakickss.

Lee could have invested all of it into stocks like Tesla, which is selling at more than \$700 per share, to see how much it could help him pay for his future college tuition.

Or, he could have used it as a down-payment to lease a new Tesla Model 3.

But instead, in January he donated all of his profits primarily to organizations that feed the homeless and support social justice.

"I decided that [it] was enough profit for me since I didn't even expect to make that much," Lee said.

So far, he has donated around \$2,500 in total to the Orange County [OC] Food Bank in Garden Grove, the Stop AAPI Hate organization and Direct Relief, a



The growth on my page has smashed my expectations already.

— junior Colin Lee



Santa Barbara-based organization that aids COVID-19 relief.

"Currently, my plan is to donate around \$1,000 consistently to the OC Food Bank and the other half to current world issues like anti-Asian hate crime programs," the shoe salesman said.

Lee attributes his goodwill to his parents, who inspired him to donate money as

they always participated in charity work and taught him to help others.

"Ever since Colin was young, we've participated in compassion projects where monthly we send money to kids in need and provide for them," Lee's dad Jung Lee said. "He's told us that the compassion project was one of the main reasons he donated to charity and we're glad we could lead him to do good."

With the remainder of his profits, Lee said he saves money for future college expenses and envisions his business donating \$10,000 to charities, gaining 5,000 followers, reaching 250 references and doing business with a verified celebrity.

"I'm setting pretty high goals for myself, but that's what I like to do," Lee said. "If I am able to achieve them, that would be amazing, but even if I don't, I'll still be happy since the growth on my page has smashed my expectations already."



For the full story, go to <https://shsaccolade.com/category/feature/>

## Next quest for gamers comes with a Twitch

MINJEONG KIM

Mini Editor

Junior Ezra Vlad still remembers the day he first got the idea of creating his own streaming channel after clicking on a video from his favorite Twitch streamer, Javeen, playing League of Legends.

"I was inspired by Javeen the summer after my freshman year to start streaming because of the way he always read the chat," Vlad said.

"It made me feel welcome, and I wanted to bring more of that warmth to the platform."

Although he was hesitant to turn his

idea into reality because of the academic rigor at Sunny Hills, his parents were supportive of their son's interest.

"If it brings out his passion for showing creativity, I want to encourage him to do something that will be a positive influence," said his father, Andrei Vlad.

So two summers later in August 2020, Ezra Vlad has created his streaming channel titled "Applez," which has accumulated 112 followers.

From being a Twitch affiliate, Ezra Vlad has made \$31.50 as he earns a 5% revenue share of the purchases that originate from the channel. Including the donations he receives during his streams, he said he has made over \$300.

Vlad is not alone in this venture; in fact, he's among 90 other Sunny Hills students who have created a Twitch account.

Junior Patrick Jimenez is another SH

student who developed his passion for games into starting a streaming channel last summer.

Watching his favorite streamer, Huahwi (180K followers), motivated Jimenez to start his channel "twosauceh," which currently has 52 followers. He often hosts tournaments for charity and promotes them through social media.

"Valorant players who participate in the tournament can voluntarily make donations," Jimenez said. "I raised \$150 from the spring Valorant tournament."

The twosauceh streamer understands the importance of his role when he goes behind the mic.

"I hope to make other people laugh when they watch my stream," Jimenez said. "My current goal now is to hit 100 followers and be more consistent with streaming during the summer."



Ezra Vlad

FROM PAGE 11

## STIMULUS CHECKS

invest his \$1,400 as well as his parents' on an upcoming vacation when COVID-19 dies down worldwide.

"Traveling would probably be in the [near] future, as I will be vaccinated along with my other family members," Kim said.

The \$1,400 stimulus checks represent the third and highest amount of financial support from the U.S. government in reaction to the lost jobs caused by the coronavirus pandemic. As of this month, the unemployment rate dropped to 6%, a big improvement from 14.8% in April 2020 during the start of the pandemic.

In March 27, 2020, Congress passed the CARES Act that former President Donald Trump signed, giving \$1,200 for every adult making \$150,000 and an extra \$500 per dependent.

Nine months later, Trump pushed for

a second installment of stimulus checks, which only reached \$600 instead of the \$1,000 Trump and other Democratic leaders were hoping for. The final amount ended up being \$600 for every individual making over the \$1,500 threshold and another \$600 for dependents.

In preparation for the first set of stimulus checks, the freshman said her parents had created a separate savings account in the bank just for sports costs.

"We just used the stimulus money to just add on it," she said. "It was automatic [that we were going to spend it on golf]."

The stimulus package attempted to aid those in need during these difficult times. As the economy revives from its recession, households can only hope to avoid needing financial help again.

"The past stimulus checks are simply not enough for families cut off from work because of this pandemic," Lee said. "I feel extremely privileged that I don't have to rely on these stimulus checks for food or other life needs."



AUDREY SEO | theaccolade

**ROYAL RUNWAY:** Senior Meagan Kimbrell walks with her mother, Maria Balmas, after becoming homecoming queen at the football game on April 9th.

FROM PAGE 11

## HOCO QUEEN

we are both growing up to be adults, and it's so amazing to see everything she is accomplishing."

Kimbrell also consulted her mother, Maria Balmas, about her concerns of going for queen and eventually, with the help of her friends and family, applied — making it one of the greatest decisions she made this year.

"Yes, she talked to me about it, but she made her own decision to apply because she's an independent thinker and likes challenging herself," Balmas said.

Being Kimbrell's No. 1 supporter, her mother had the privilege of escorting Kimbrell on her first assembly.

"I'd want the person who influenced me the most to walk with me, and that's my mom," Kimbrell said.

Though the school lost the annual homecoming dance and the assembly, Kimbrell and her fellow court members learned to make the most of the situation.

"I think a regular homecoming would have, of course, felt more special and more nerve-wracking with the stands being filled with students and the ability to celebrate with your friends, but I'm just happy that we even got to do something for us seniors," Kimbrell said.

Through high school, Kimbrell took part in many extracurricular activities such as being a varsity athlete on the school's volleyball team and captain of the basketball team, co-founder of Girl's Empowerment Club and participating in other volunteer work outside of school.

However, she finds the irreplaceable bonds she made with her fellow students to be the most important.

"Her altruistic nature is illustrated through her extracurriculars, her volunteer work and throughout all of her relationships with others," Kim said. "She has a true gift for making others feel heard and understood."

Teachers also praised Kimbrell, especially after seeing her grow into the kind of person she is today.

"What I admired about Meagan was that she could adapt to all of the tumult the last couple of years," said social science teacher Greg Abbott, who Kimbrell had for AP Psychology in her sophomore year.

Kimbrell also left an impression from being able to handle adversity effectively, especially during this pandemic.

"Meagan pounds through adversity — she just keeps working to achieve her goal," English teacher Teresa McCarty.

In the past, ASB created the homecoming court's campaign videos, but this year, they granted court members the opportunity to create their own personalized videos.

"For the video, we took inspiration from the past videos, and I included things to help people get to know me better, since they didn't get the chance to know me in real life," Kimbrell said.

With her positive personality and ability to connect easily with the people in school, Kimbrell won the hearts of her voters.

"Her kindness is widespread, everyone at school knows this to be true of her," said Kim.

FROM PAGE 3

## WAVE

has also started making efforts to combat this issue.

In a March 25 letter emailed to FJUHSD students, staff and parents — nine days after the deadly Atlanta shooting — superintendent Scott Scambray addressed the rise in anti-AAPI hate, saying that these events serve as "an important reminder of the continued work needed to make sure our community is safe and inclusive for all people."

FJUHSD Board member Lauren Klatzker had made the suggestion that Scambray address the AAPI-targeted hate crimes that have been going on to share his and the board's sentiment on the

rise in hate.

"There's a big problem within a lot of minority communities about fear of reporting incidents, ... so I think that any organization that works to keep track of that data is all really good work that needs to happen because we can't address problems that we don't know about," Klatzker said.

Several Asian SH students like junior Ashley Hoang felt that the district has taken the right steps in response to the Stop Asian Hate movement.

"I don't think it's shocking; it's appreciated because I do think it's worth the school making a public stance on this, [and] silence is only helping the oppressor," said Hoang, who is part Chinese and part Vietnamese American.

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# Taylor Swift shows no fear in re-recording 2008 album

STACY KIM

Cub Reporter

Singer, songwriter and producer Taylor Swift has been on a tear lately.

After adding to her top hits with her July 2020 release of *Folklore* followed by her December 2020 release of *Evermore*, Swift decided to work on re-recording several of her older albums because she had lost ownership of those songs – a project that she had originally announced in August 2019.

The first one centers on her 2008 album, *Fearless*. Besides re-recording the 13 songs from that release, the newly titled, *Fearless (Taylor's Version)* – released April 9 – features six new tracks that the album calls, “From the Vault.”

Most of these are worth listening to and once again proves why Swift has endured as a musician for nearly two decades.

The best of the lot of newbies is “Mr. Perfectly Fine.”

At four minutes and 38 seconds long, this is a song that a scorned Swift croons from the pain and heartache of breakups she has experienced in the past. At the same time, some of the words feature a sarcastic edge to it — the kind of classic Swiftian cheeky breakup song.

This track admittedly gets a few bonus points for the drama behind it. According to media reports, it was inspired by Swift’s relationship with Joe Jonas, her ex-boyfriend at the time.

Swift sings with much compassion, trying to convince others that she is over the “Mr.” in question, but it feels as if she is holding back tears while singing this.

It features stellar lyrics and captures nostalgia to the multiple Swift eras such as “King of My Heart” and “All Too Well.”

Reminiscent of “Fearless” track “White Horse,” “We Were Happy” is a slow country song about a relationship’s fallout.

The setting of the four minutes and four seconds song implies a farm and

*Fearless* >> Page 15



Images printed with permission from Disneyland Resort



**REOPENING:** Disneyland will debut the Avengers Campus (above). Mickey Mouse (left) welcomes visitors to the resort’s Sleeping Beauty Castle.

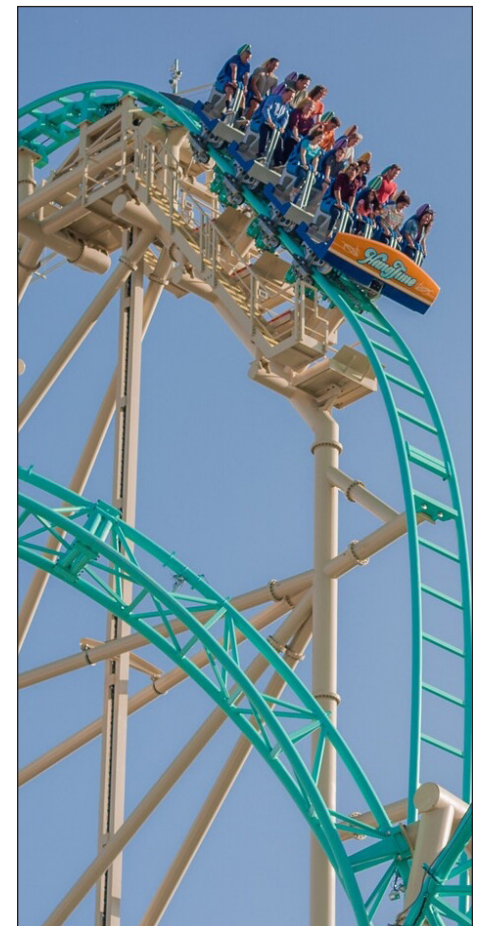


Image printed with permission from Knott’s Berry Farm

**SCREAM:** The HangTime Rollercoaster at Knott’s Berry Farm (right) takes a group of riders for a drop and is among other lively attractions.

# SH students not too ‘amused’ with reopening of theme parks

SHAYLA CAROLINA

Cub Reporter

While Anaheim’s Disneyland and California Adventure are set to reopen today and join the other major Southland attractions that are already accepting visitors, most Sunny Hills students are still reluctant to go back to these amusement parks so soon because of coronavirus concerns.

“I don’t think it’s safe enough for me to go back yet because even if people have already taken coronavirus tests, they have to constantly clean rides, and I just don’t think it’s legitimately sanitary,” freshman Prysilla Ahn said. “What mainly pushes me to avoid theme parks is that people don’t keep regulations, and there are several people who don’t wear their masks properly.”

Ahn aligns with the nearly 40% of those who do not believe attractions like Knott’s Berry Farm or Six Flags Magic Mountain are safe enough to visit yet, according to *The Accolade’s* online poll of 107 respondents as of Wednesday. Trailing behind by only 4% of the votes are those who are

### THEME PARKS ALREADY OPEN

- Six Flags Magic Mountain (Valencia) — April 1
- Universal Studios Hollywood (Universal City) — April 16

### OPENING DATES FOR ORANGE COUNTY ATTRACTIONS

- Disneyland & California Adventure Park (Anaheim) — today
- Knott’s Berry Farm (Buena Park) — May 21

Compiled by Andrew Park

willing to take the risk and go.

Six Flags was the first Southern California park to reopen on April 1 followed by Universal Studios Hollywood on April 16.

The two Disney parks in Anaheim will open today at 9 a.m. with limited reservations and parking.

The last major attraction in Orange County set to reopen will be Knott’s, scheduled for May 21.

Although junior Sophia Winters misses going to amusement parks, which she visited one to three times a week during the

summer before the pandemic, she is in no hurry to return any time soon.

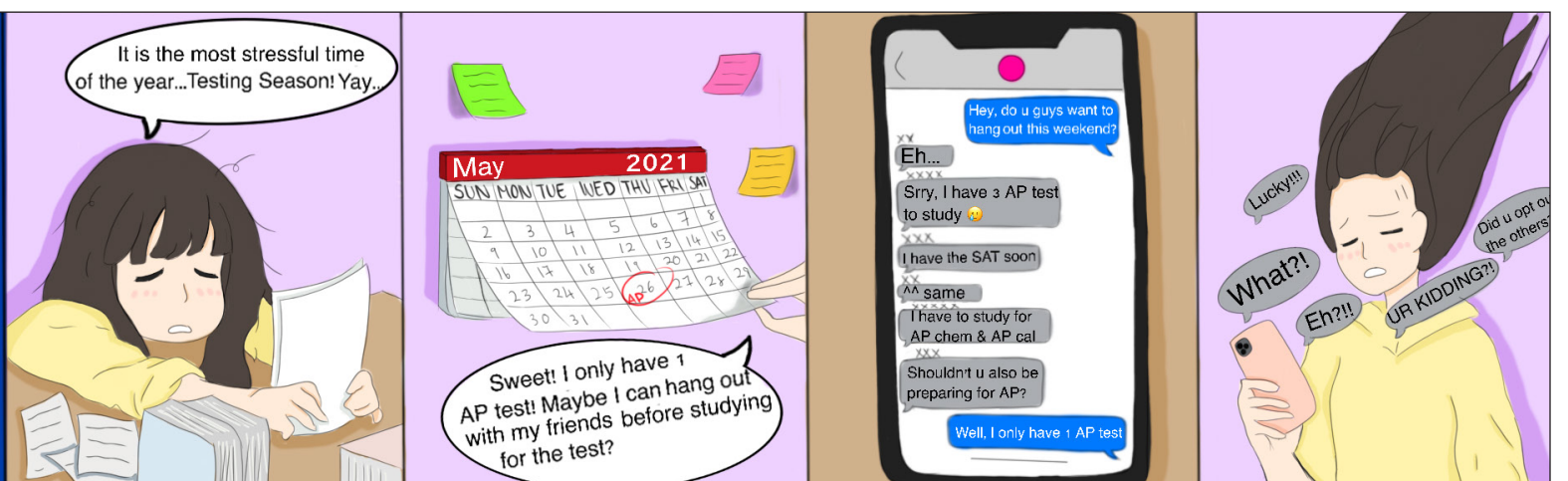
“Once the community has reached herd immunity, and I’m fully vaccinated, [then] my parents would allow me to go back,” Winters said. “However, even if I’m vaccinated and cases go down, I don’t think it’s safe for me to return so soon as there are several people who haven’t been vaccinated yet.”

*The Accolade’s* online poll also found 20% of those responding voted for this option: “I would prefer to go when more people are allowed inside.”

“I think it would be a waste of time and money,” freshman Irmina Roh said. “I feel like I wouldn’t get to have a full experience of going to an amusement park as everything is limited.”

In contrast, freshman Benjamin Ayala said his mother will let him go to the Happiest Place on Earth as soon as he can.

“I’m definitely planning on going to Disneyland first with my friends,” said Ayala, who used to go to theme parks every other week.



**CLASSIC '70s vs. MODERN SHOW**



Kwai Chang Caine played by David Carradine

**Kung Fu (1972)**

- Male lead
- White Actor
- Orphan
- Avenges mentor at the beginning of the story
- Searches for half-brother
- Mentor killed with a gun



Nicky Shen played by Olivia Liang

**Kung Fu (2021)**

- Female lead
- Asian Actress
- Parents still alive
- Searches for assassin throughout the story
- Mentor killed with a magical sword
- Lead's parents are still alive



Image printed with permission from The CW Network

**READY FOR ACTION:** The CW channel promotes its new show, "Kung Fu," and its heroine, Nicky Shen, played by actress Olivia Liang.

**New TV series mixes drama with fighting**

**SYDNEY LEE**

*Cub Reporter*

The CW (Channel 5 or KTLA for those who don't watch TV in Southern California) has taken up some recent reboots of TV series from the past.

"Dynasty," which was released in 2017 and returns for its fourth season next month, was a show from 1981-1989 about wealthy, feuding families.

"Charmed," which premiered in 2018 and airs at 9 p.m. on Sundays, was a show from 1998-2006 about three young witches.

"Nancy Drew," which debuted a year later and now appears at 9 p.m. on Wednesdays, was a show from 1977-1979 about a teenage female detective.

And now, The CW has successfully dug into the 1970s to bring back the concept of "Kung Fu."

The original, produced in 1972 and ran for three seasons, featured a male protagonist (actor David Carradine playing a half-Asian, half-white man) who grows up in China's Shaolin temple and leaves for California in search of his half-brother. Throughout the series, he flashes back to the lessons he learns from his masters who call him "Grasshopper" while he faces various conflicts dealing with race, justice and gender equity — issues society ironically still deals with today.

The first four episodes have aired with the fifth one being available for viewing next week.

The first two episodes set up an interesting plot that makes viewers want to tune in for more, and the writers' use of cliffhangers and plot twists make it worth watching the rest of the series.

The 42-minute long "Pilot" episode of this modernized version, which first aired April 7 at 8 p.m., introduces a plethora of female characters instead, not to mention a male gay character who reveals the struggles of coming out to his conservative Chinese parents.

**Kung Fu >> Page 16**

**'Kung Fu' reboot kicks off on CW**

**RECAP OF FIRST THREE EPISODES**

**Episode 1:** Nicky's mentor in China gets murdered, and she faces new issues revolving around her family in San Francisco.

**Episode 2:** Nicky uses her martial arts to help a young lady while working toward catching her mentor's assassin to retrieve a magical sword.

**Episode 3:** Nicky befriends one of her brother's patients and fights to save others from a dangerous fashion designer.

FROM PAGE 14

**Fearless**

porch lights, enrapturing listeners to the iconic small-town romance feel of Swift's 2008 era. The song conveys a very mature and intricate feeling.

Compared to the other songs in the album, this is not about someone whom Swift broke up with because of conflicts or who just left her. Instead, it's about a relationship in which the two were happy, but the singer doesn't love her partner anymore.

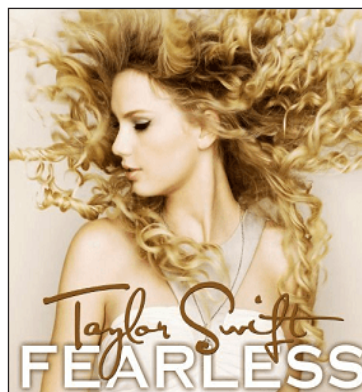
Nevertheless, she mourns for their past and the future they'll never have: "And you were gonna

marry me."

It might work for those who like her country days, but "We Were Happy" just doesn't have enough hype.

The first "From the Vault" song features a collaboration with one of Swift's idols, Maren Morris. The nearly four-minute song, "You All Over Me," has Morris harmonizing with Swift, singing about the hardships of moving on from a heartbreak — specifically reminding listeners of her song, "Clean," in her 1989 album because of similar verses.

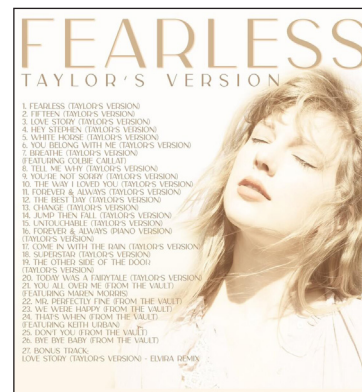
This song, like "We Were Happy," gives off a small-town feel. But unlike "We Were," this one has relatable storytelling with the soft country background instru-



mentals in the background.

Everything in this song adds up to perfection.

The problem with "Don't You" is that it lacks in instrumentals, leaving out that impactful heavier country striking of the *Fearless* era. It would have fit better in



her older albums such as "Red," which was released in 2012.

It's quite a wonder how Swift could withhold these incredible songs for over a decade. Although some of the "From the Vault" songs would have fit better in her drafts, most send many into

**"FROM THE VAULT" NEW SONGS**

- "You All Over Me"
- "Mr. Perfectly Fine"
- "We Were Happy"
- "Don't You"
- "That's When"
- "Bye Bye Baby"

a nostalgic trip of embarrassingly dancing around in their rooms while using a hairbrush as a microphone.

With that, it is definitely worth listening to many of her new "From the Vault" tracks as well as the original tracks.

# I CHOOSE 25!

*Pokemon franchise celebrates quarter century mark with special edition cards, new video games and themed McDonald's Happy Meal merch*

HANNAH LEE

Cub Reporter

*To catch them is my real test,  
To train them is my cause!  
Pokémon!  
Gotta catch 'em all!*

Perhaps it was this addicting television series theme song that “caught” everyone’s attention and propelled the Pokémon franchise to fame after its launch in 1996.

Although The Pokémon Co. celebrated its endurance of 25 years with three new video games, a music collaboration with singer Katy Perry, Pokémon-themed McDonald’s Happy Meals and more this year, several Sunny Hills students and staff still remember their first quests to “catch ‘em all.”

“Pokémon was my childhood,” said freshman Jacob Kim, who has spent about \$500 on Pokémon-related items and learned about the 25th anniversary while watching Nintendo Direct, a presentation on the latest updates about its company. “I was interested from the early 2010s.”

Similar to Kim, sophomore Maxwell Cabales said he owns an impressive card collection — one that he accumulated over the span of 10 years.



JACQUELING CHANG | theaccolade

**GOTTA CATCH ‘EM ALL:** An artist’s rendering of Charmander (left), Pikachu and Squirtle, celebrating the silver anniversary of the Pokémon franchise.

After confirming on Trading Card Game Collector, an online Pokémon card database, Cabales said he discovered the monetary value of his cards.

“My entire collection is worth \$4,000,” said Cabales, who was unaware of Pokémon’s anniversary. “Literally, one of my cards sells for \$700.”

Cabales said he stores his decks in tin cans in his closet and doesn’t plan on selling them until he needs the money.

The franchise is also famous for its 2016 record-breaking “Pokémon GO” app, the augmented reality and GPS technology-based game allowing players to “catch” Pokémon in the real world.

Despite some losing interest and deleting “Pokémon GO,” freshman Jina Han still has the app on her phone. After downloading it, she realized that she enjoyed playing it.

“I liked how competitive the game was since we would brag about our collections,” said Han, who caught 2,498 Pokémon but was also unaware of Pokémon’s silver anniversary.

Students aren’t the only ones interested in Pokémon.

Math and Advancement Via Individual Determination teacher Cristian Bueno recalls buying cards with her lunch money when she was 8 years old before eventually catching the Pokémon GO craze as an adult.

“I really enjoyed Pokémon GO,” Bueno said. “When it first came out, I remember my husband and I went outside to hunt for Pokémon even at 11 p.m.”

## CANDID

### Which Pokemon do you choose?



“I like Charmander because he can breathe fire.”

**Nevin McCann, 9**



“My favorite is Pikachu because he has the best ability.”

**Zion Park, 10**



“Bulbasaur because he is special and green, and I think he is relatable.”

**Emilee Hodge, 11**



“I like Machop because he is my best Pokemon in Pokemon Go.”

**Christopher Gharebo,  
Science teacher**

Compiled by Thomas Dew, Yeihn Lee

FROM PAGE 15

## Kung Fu

We also get a quick glimpse of a real grasshopper (perhaps director Hanelle Culpepper’s nod to the original series) after we meet Nicky Shen (Olivia Liang, “Legacies”), a Harvard student on vacation in China who suddenly runs away to train in a Shaolin temple just for women instead of having to get set up with a young man from her parents’ mother country — at least that’s what she concludes.

Upon first meeting Pei-Ling (Vanessa Kai, “Gabriel’s Inferno: Part One”), the female lead and replacement for the 1970s Carradine character gets some unsolicited advice from the woman who would become her she-fu (Mandarin for “master”): “You make the path that you live.”

That becomes the first of many scenes in which viewers will hear Chinese-like proverbs from the master. Yes, the advice sounds cheesy, even worse than the “Use the Force, Luke” mantra of Obi Wan Kenobi or “Do or do not; there’s no try” words

of Yoda.

Viewers also can’t help but figure that those words from Pei-Ling will become Nicky’s battle cry as the series progresses.

Three years later, the temple is attacked by an unknown band of raiders, and a female assassin (Yvonne Chapman, “Heretic”) steals the master’s magical sword and murders Pei-Ling, whose dying request is for Nicky to “get [the sword] back” and stop the assassin.

Here, viewers are treated to lots of exciting martial arts fighting action, and we see more of Nicky’s kung fu moves at later moments of the episode. Culpepper (“Big Sky”) does a good job balancing these fight scenes and the dramatic storyline.

With nothing left of the temple and a new mission for Nicky, she decides to return to her home in San Francisco, where she reunites with pretty much the rest of the show’s Asian cast: Nicky’s sister Althea (Shannon Dang, “Film Fest”), brother Ryan (Jon Prasida, “Reckoning”), father Jin (Tzi Ma, “A Shot Through the Wall”) and mother Mei-Li (Kheng Hua Tan, “The Garden of the Evening Mist”).

While trying to retrieve that magical

sword, Nicky has to restore the broken ties she’s had with her siblings and parents from being away the past three years while using her martial arts prowess to fend off the bad guys who appear midway through this episode.

The second episode uses far more flashbacks, which give viewers more background information about Nicky’s time in China and her close relationship with her mentor. She constantly flashes back to the night the monastery was attacked and slowly remembers more information about her master’s assailant.

Throughout the episode, Pei-Ling appears as a ghost who guides Nicky through her struggles by giving advice such as, “Fear is the death of mindfulness.” This guidance motivates her to continue her search for the assassin and the mysterious sword.

Nicky collaborates with those around her to help others and investigate her mentor’s murderer. Her hacker sister, medical student brother, and district attorney ex-boyfriend all assist her in new issues she faces while her potential love interest, Henry, helps her investigate old Chinese

tales to find the assassin who murdered Pei-Ling.

The involvement of other characters helps build the story as we see not just Nicky’s side of the issue, but also the viewpoints of those helping her. Through this, the characters show more involvement in the story, making the series more interesting and letting the viewers learn more about the characters.

Though the CW catalogue of series is rife with female leads (think the two reboot series mentioned earlier and other staples like “Supergirl” and “Batwoman”), this is the network’s first attempt at producing a show with a predominantly Asian cast.

This rebooted “Kung Fu” also follows such Asian-themed hits as “Crazy Rich Asians,” “To All the Boys ...,” “Mulan” and “Fresh off the Boat.” So is the CW coming too late to an already crowded field of Asian representation in the media? Definitely not.

This series shows how the Hollywood industry has changed, embracing more diversity in network TV programming and trying to make inroads into the entertainment habits of Gen Z teens.



# Girls basketball loses to Sonora

KRISTIMA ARYAL

Sports Editor

In a hard-fought game against the Raiders, the Sunny Hills girls basketball team lost to Sonora 53-36 Wednesday when the Raiders pulled away late in the second half.

“Sonora was just bigger, stronger and more physical than we were, and we weren’t ready for that,” head girls basketball coach Jae Byun said.

Sonora (8-3, 3-0) got off an early lead, scoring the first two points off a layup from guard senior Haylie Dermer within 30 seconds of the game. The Lady Lancers (4-7, 1-2) added two more points by the end of the first quarter on free-throw shots coming from guard junior Jessica Kim. However, the Sonora offense picked up with multiple fast breaks and three-pointers, ending the first quarter up 13-4.

“We weren’t being too smart with our passing, so it would get picked off,” Kim said. “Offensively, we got good looks, but we could’ve made some more shots.”

In the second quarter, however, the Lady Lancers began to cut into the lead, first on a three-point shot coming from guard freshman Taylor Parra within 20 seconds of the quarter starting. On the other side of the floor, the Sunny Hills defense kept the Raiders’ offense at bay for much of the second quarter all the way until a 16-all tie with just over three minutes left in the half. Sonora finished the half on a 10-4 run and would head into halftime with a 26-20 lead.

While Sunny Hills fought through the third and fourth quarters adding 10 points



ALIYAH AHMAD | theaccolade

**DRIVING IT HOME:** Guard freshman Taylor Parra drives toward the basket during Wednesday’s home game against Sonora. Parra scored six points total.

to its score, the Lady Lancer defense could no longer hold off the Raiders in the second half as Sonora racked up 27 more points. In the fourth quarter, center junior Elizabeth Rosenkranz and point guard freshman Erin Choi contributed to the final four points for Sunny Hills.

Coming out of halftime, the Raider attack overwhelmed the Lady Lancers, outscoring Sunny Hills 27-10; by the time

the clock showed double zeroes, Sonora walked away with a 53-36 victory.

“The biggest hurdle was them pressing us full court,” said Choi, who was the top scorer for the Lancers with 13 points. “They scored a lot of threes because they were able to make it further out, which threw us off.”

The Lady Lancers will take on Fullerton (0-3, 0-2) in an away game tonight at 7.

## SPRING SPORT FREEWAY LEAGUE RECORDS

-  Baseball 3-1-1
-  Softball 2-1
-  boysVolleyball 6-0
-  girlsVolleyball 1-3
-  boysSoccer 3-5
-  girlsSoccer 8-0
-  boysSwim 2-1
-  girlsSwim 3-0
-  boysTennis 9-1
-  girlsTennis 6-3-1

Compiled by Kristima Aryal

# UCLA softball graduate mentors next generation of SH athletes

CHAMONIX BAS

Cub Reporter

While new Sunny Hills head softball coach and former UCLA softball player Elise Laws loves the game, she did not always love playing it.

Following her successful career as a three-sport athlete at Los Alamitos High School, Laws joined the UCLA softball team as a walk-on, and after her first year, she chose to become a team manager so she could contribute to the team in a different capacity.

Possessing a self-described analytical mind, she said she enjoyed watching softball, analyzing mistakes and observing which strategies the head coaches took in certain situations.

It wasn’t until her freshman year of college that she finally realized these interests translated into her true passion: coaching.

“My brain just always works in an analytical sense, so I think what led me to coaching is my ability to analyze and imple-

ment,” Laws said.

Laws’ role as team manager ultimately led her to become interested in pursuing a career in teaching after working with children at UCLA softball camps.

To accomplish her goal, she earned a multiple subject teaching credential from Concordia University while serving as a graduate assistant for their softball team.

She decided to take the job of head coach at Sunny Hills after learning about the SH athletic director’s impressive background.

“I had heard really good things about the new athletic director, Paul Jones,” Laws said. “We both mutually knew someone, and I had heard about his previous experience at Orange Lutheran.”

Jones said he wanted to have Laws hired because her background was a great fit for the Sunny Hills athletic program.

“Knowing what it takes to compete at a high level is important because you have the ability to get more out of the student-ath-

letes and help them commit to higher standards and expectations,” he said. “They want to get to where you played and achieve the same level of success.”

Aside from coaching, Laws said she also started her current job as an educator in November 2020 in the Newport Mesa Unified School District.

Although she has only been coaching the SH team since March, Laws has made a positive impression on several of the softball players so far.

“She gets straight to the point, and it’s easy to follow because she’s played the sport before so she really understands the game and the technicality of everything,” infielder senior Kristen Valido said.

Just like her previous coaches, Laws aims to help her athletes succeed in and outside of the softball diamond.

“Our UCLA coaches instilled in us that we are more than softball players, and softball can only take you so far; after four years of



BRIANA ZAFRA | theaccolade

**BATTER UP:** Softball head coach Elise Laws instructs various players during a March 31 practice on the SH field. Laws replaced former coach Kenny Knighton.

playing, you have to get a real job and learn how to work with people in a business setting,” the new coach said. “I hope to make sure the players are given the skills they need to be able to succeed, whether they go to a junior college, four-year [university], or if they choose a trade.”

On the field, Laws’ ultimate ambition is to coach the team toward becoming Freeway League

champions and to build its confidence.

“Winning the Freeway League is always a goal, but it’s definitely a process, and not all of those things can be accomplished in one year,” she said. “Sometimes it’s going to take a year or two for those things to be accomplished, but we have to build the habits, the mindset in order to eventually get to that goal.”

*Freshman aspires to move up levels in different style of gymnastics*

**IRENE SHEEN**

*Cub Reporter*

One minute and 30 seconds. That's how much time freshman Hannah Jung has to impress a group of judges whenever she takes the platform.

Rhythmic gymnastics is different from the more popular artistic gymnastics in that Jung gets to show more dance-like movements and use different types of objects ranging from a hoop to a ribbon to a ball — usually all matching in color to her outfit with a selected soundtrack playing in the background.

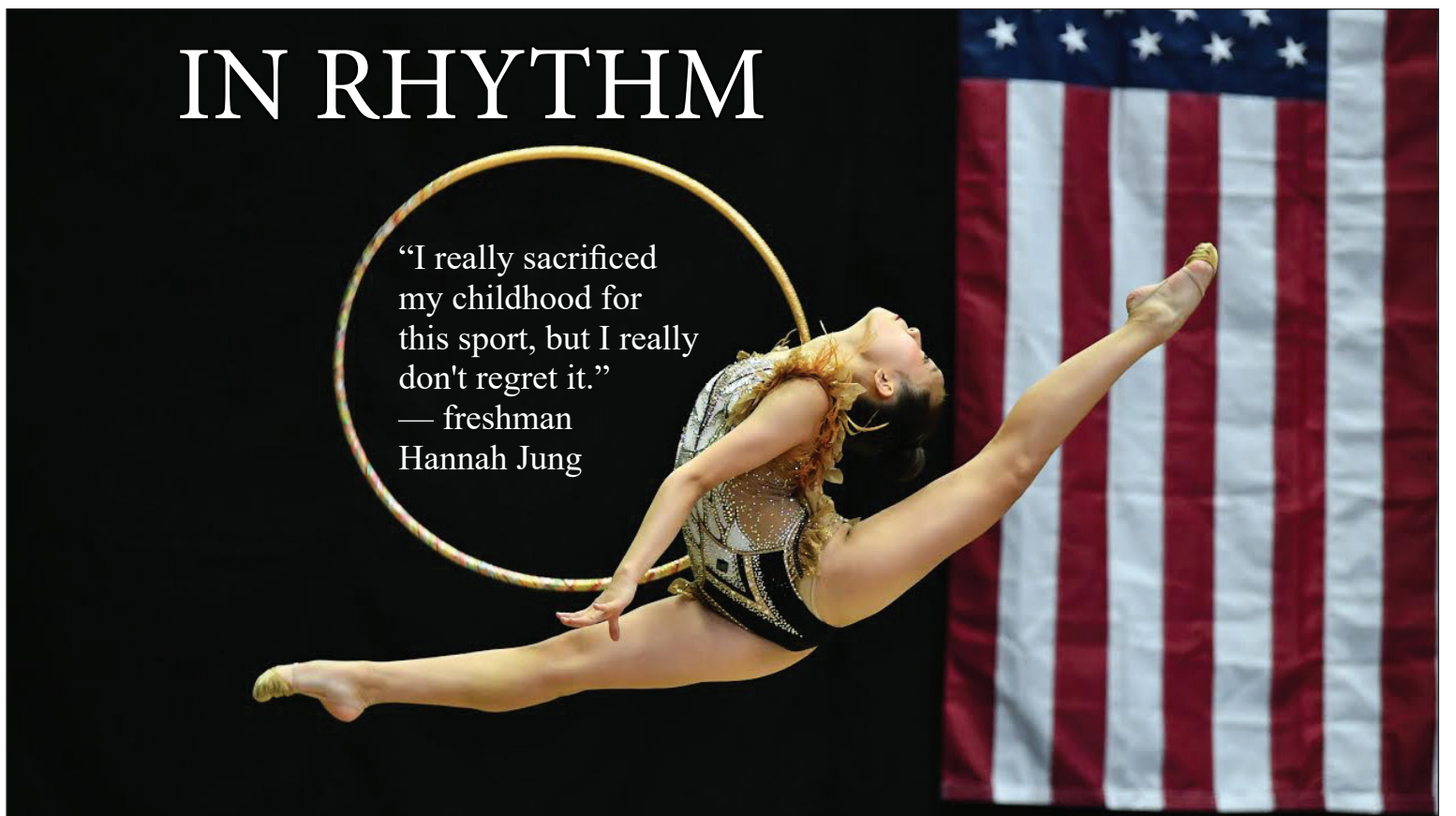


Hannah Jung

With one level left to reach a spot on the national U.S. team and then possibly a shot at a future summer Olympics, Jung said her most memorable performance was four years ago in 2017.

At 11 years of age, the freshman won the gold medal in the ribbon event among her age group at the 2017 Dugym Cup in Dubai, United Arab Emirates — her first competition overseas.

Her routine was performed with the jazz song, "In the Mood"



**IN RHYTHM**

"I really sacrificed my childhood for this sport, but I really don't regret it."  
— freshman Hannah Jung

Image printed with permission from Susan Jung

**GOING ALL OUT:** Freshman Hannah Jung performs a split leap with deep arch during her hoop routine on April 17 at her 2021 USA Gymnastics Junior Level 9 Classic and Regional Team Championships in Grand Rapids, Mich.

by Glenn Miller, playing in the background.

"It was very memorable [because] not only did I go to just compete, but I was able to work one on one with an Olympian," Jung said. "It was one of the biggest competitions I've been to."

A select few athletes such as Jung were also given the honor to be awarded with a medal from two-time Olympic gold medalist, Evgenia Kanaeva.

The freshman said she started her athletic career with artistic

gymnastics — the more well-known sport — in first grade. At age 7, she transitioned into rhythmic gymnastics, which better suited her abilities, and she officially competed at age 9.

"[In 2015] my mom showed me a picture of a USA national team member that went to the gym that I'm currently at, and it really caught my interest," Jung said. "I told myself that I would be just like her."

Blagovesta Ignatova, who has been Jung's coach since 2016, has

nothing but compliments for her pupil.

"Hannah is very talented when it comes to the physical side of her performance," said Ignatova, a former national coach of USA Gymnastics. "[She] is a great role model and an inspiration for the rest of the gymnasts."

By practicing 20 hours a week, the athlete would often decline chances to socialize with friends.

"I really sacrificed my childhood for this sport, but I really don't regret it," the teen said.

Jung's journey has gone to impress her mom as well.

"She is still in her path, deciding and prioritizing what is most important to her, but as of now, she is a beautiful rhythmic gymnast," Susan Jung said.

The freshman has plans to improve.

"My goal is to become a level 10 or [get] to the national team," said Hannah Jung, who hurt her right foot before her most recent competition on April 17. "So I'm not trying to reach too far."

**Game Ball**

**Senior soccer player slowly catches up to father's 33-goal record**

Years on varsity: 3 .....

Assists: 10 ..... **30**

Goals: 16 .....

Image printed with permission from Donovan Fichtelberg  
**SCORE:** Striker then-junior Donovan Fichtelberg dribbles toward Sonora's goal — his first one that season.



**HENRY LEE**

*Mini Editor*

His boys soccer teammate throws the ball all the way to the penalty box.

It bounces toward third-year starter and senior senior Donovan Fichtelberg, giving him a clear view of Buena Park's goal on April 22.

Fichtelberg swings his foot, and the soccer ball slips through the opponent's goalkeeper in the bottom corner, making this his 10th goal of the year and 13th of his career, nine short of his father's record when his dad was a student here.



He may be nine goals away, but Fichtelberg with two

regular season games and play-offs still ahead — has his eyes on the Lancers' boys soccer career goals record that's stood for 35 years and held by none other than his own father, Steve Fichtelberg (Class of 1987).

"I still want to help the team, but I do want to catch up to that record," Donovan Fichtelberg said. "So being a little bit more of a selfish player, but keep playing for the team because the goals will come if the team is playing well. I won't have to be unselfish."

This season, Fichtelberg, who also has three assists, leads his team as the predominant goal scorer.

"Donovan does a great job of running in behind the opponent's defensive line, putting himself in good positions to score," boys soccer head coach Mike Schade said. "Donovan goes to [the] goal well and has done a very good job

of finishing his scoring chances."

From 1983-1987 when Steve Fichtelberg played for the Lancers, Schade was an assistant coach.

"I wasn't aware that it was a record until Donovan's freshman year when Jordan Brinkley, the then-JV coach, told me," Steve Fichtelberg said. "If someone is going to break it, I'd be happy if it was my son."

The current record holder was a part of the 1987 California Interscholastic Federation championship team, which featured some of the greatest players in school history.

"Donovan's matured a lot as a player these past four years," Steve Fichtelberg said. "He's gone from being a scrawny little kid to a player the other team has to try to manage."

Donovan Fichtelberg started playing at the age of 3 with the major influence from his fam-

ily, but in his sophomore year, he started to lose passion for the sport he had been playing for so long.

"I wasn't as good as I used to be. I was not thinking of stopping, but I could just tell that it wasn't as important as it used to be," Donovan Fichtelberg said. "But I had a friend [Kevin Meza] who encouraged me and pushed me to keep training and playing, and that made the sport so much more fun again."

Donovan Fichtelberg believes former teammate Meza's encouragement helped him to keep pursuing the sport and an eventual spot in the Cal South Olympic Development Program [ODP] camp his junior year.

"[Donovan] could say it was because of me, but at the end of the day, it was him making his own decisions," Meza said. "I just guided him because I wanted my teammates to win alongside me."