

the accolade

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A GREENER TOMORROW

As the world celebrates Earth Day today, The Accolade takes a look at how government leaders and local activists are fighting climate change. Also, find out how you can help save the Earth.
See Spotlight, pages 13-16

JACQUELINE CHANG | theaccolade



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THAT'S THE TOP PRIORITY FOR CRAIG WEINREICH, WHO STARTED TEACHING HERE IN 1999 AND RETURNS TO LEAD SUNNY HILLS INTO NEW ERA

Photos by Audrey Seo
Story by Jaimie Chun

For some veteran faculty members at Sunny Hills, Craig Weinreich is remembered as an up-and-coming English and social science teacher back in 1999.

While for boosters of the Lady Lancers basketball team, Weinreich is celebrated as the 2003-2004 L.A. Times Orange County Coach of the Year for leading the girls to their first CIF playoff victory in 2005.

And for current seniors, he is a familiar face from when he was the assistant principal during their freshman year.

After his return in three years from being transferred to Fullerton Union High School as an assistant principal there in 2019 and then an administrator at La Habra High School from 2020-2021, Weinreich was hired to replace Allen Whitten after a three-month search for a new campus leader.

"Just really excited to be back

NOTABLE NUMBERS	
● 1999-2015: taught English, social science	
● 2004-2015: coached girls basketball	
● 2015-2019: promoted to assistant principal	
● 2019-2020: transferred to Fullerton Union High School as assistant principal of student affairs	
● 2020-2021: transferred to La Habra High School as assistant principal of instruction and operation	

Compiled by Nevya Patel

home is where I'm at right now," said Weinreich, whom district officials announced on St. Patrick's Day as Whitten's successor. (Whitten was promoted last December to Student Support Services director for the district).

When Weinreich was notified about the opening for the principal position in January, he said the decision to return was not a difficult one because of his two decades worth of positive memories here.

"[Sunny Hills] has just always been an amazing place with ex-

ceptional academics, fun athletics and fun programs for all of our kids... I've been here, been able to see some low times and see high times, so I want to see us keep pushing forward," he said.

KEEPING GOLD STANDARD

With Weinreich's extensive administrative and teaching experience in a variety of positions on the Sunny Hills staff, including assistant athletics director (2009-2014) and Western Association of Schools and Colleges group focus leader (2004), Weinreich said he

hopes his familiarity as a Lancer will help him develop a memorable environment for students.

"My goals are to find any way to build [well-rounded] students so that when students are here, they have a positive experience, enjoy their time, remember the four years here, and it's hopefully one of the highlights they have," said the principal, whose first official day on the job was April 13.

Senior Samantha Perez, who remembers Weinreich when she was a freshman, said she had the opportunity to talk with him on



HE'S BACK: (Top) New principal Craig Weinreich has a conversation on his first day on the job with seniors Lindsay Bridges and Samantha Perez in the quad on April 13. (Left) Weinreich settles into his new office in Room 4.

April 13 in the quad.

"I'm very happy that he's back because he's always been a vibrant person, so having that energy back at our school is awesome," Perez said.

Athletics director Paul Jones said he expects Weinreich's prior experience as a coach to be invaluable.

"I am excited to work with Mr. Weinreich because he is so familiar with the Sunny Hills culture, coaches and community," Jones said. "As a former on campus coach, Mr. Weinreich understands and supports the importance of hiring good teachers and coaches on campus so that we can continue our rich history of academic and athletic success."

RELATED STORY

Staff Editorial: District made right choice for new principal. See Opinion, page 6.

POWERING UP

STUDENTS USE PORTS FROM \$40,000 NEW SOLAR CANOPIES TO CHARGE DEVICES

JUSTIN PAK

Cub Reporter

Freshman Caden Huang realized by break that his iPhone X was at 10% power.

“I was worried that my phone was going to die,” Huang said. “I wouldn’t be able to contact my mom to pick me up.”

But that’s when Huang noticed a newly installed solar umbrella between the 90s and 110s wings that could solve his problem.

“I placed my phone onto the [mini-table top], and it started charging,” Huang said. “It charged pretty fast, and by the end of [break] I could use my phone without worrying.”

Huang was among many students on campus who encountered a surprise of seeing 10 new solar umbrellas — two installed between each of the 10s and 30s, 40s and 60s, 50s and 70s, 80s and 100s and 90s and 110s wings — upon their return from spring break.

Former principal Allen Whitten first mentioned the solar umbrellas to *The Accolade* on Oct. 12.

At that time, Whitten was still researching different companies and designs, trying to find the best possible product to purchase.

School officials eventually spent \$40,000 to pay Michigan-based Enerfusion Inc. to build and install 10 models of the Aurora Solar Canopy.

The umbrellas store energy used to power a six-by-seven-inch battery box, which can charge phones day or night wirelessly when placed

NOTABLE NUMBERS

- Solar canopy battery box wirelessly charges an average of 1% per minute
- contains 3 USB Type “A” power outlets
- has one USB-C standard 5V charging
- offers wireless charging location on mini-table top

Illustrated by Jacqueline Chang
Source: enerfusioninc.com

on the mini-table top surface.

Additionally, the battery box can charge phones wired using one of three USB Type “A” outlets or a USB-C outlet, which can charge an iPhone 11 to 50% in 30 minutes according to the Enerfusion Inc. website.

Sophomore Alec Munoz saw the value of the umbrellas.

“It’s cool how you can charge your phone when you don’t bring a charger,” Munoz said.

Munoz enjoyed using the umbrellas but wished to see more because the ones available are constantly in use.

“The school should get more umbrellas,” Munoz said. “It’s hard to get an umbrella because there is always a rush to get to them.”

Social science teacher Robert Bradburn was excited about the addition of the umbrellas and the continued trend toward eco-friendly options on campus.



ASAPH LI | theaccolade

POWERED UP: Junior Elissa Herrera sits under a solar umbrella between the 70s and 90s wings and charges her phone using the USB outlet during lunch Tuesday.

“I think [being eco-friendly] is the right thing to do, and I’m glad that the school has installed [solar panels] in the parking lots and now for cell phones,” Bradburn said. “I hope we do more of it.”

Assistant principal Melissa Stinson, who helped coordinate the installation of the canopies, liked seeing students actively using the umbrellas.

“Students seem to really enjoy these umbrellas with all of the charging features,” Stinson said. “I’ve yet to see one not in use during break or lunch.”

Though no plans are set in stone to install more solar-powered amenities, students expressed interest in having more available for charging.

“I think that the school should get more [umbrellas] if they have the funds,” Huang said. “There aren’t enough umbrellas right now for everyone to use.”



ASAPH LI | theaccolade

HARNESSING THE SUN’S POWER: The new canopies feature solar panels that produce 70 watts for charging devices.

Lunch before recess?

STATE-MANDATED 8:30 A.M. SCHOOL START TIME FOR 2022-2023 AND BEYOND LEADS TO NEW BELL SCHEDULE WITH 30-MINUTE BREAK FIRST

SUSIE KIM

Social Media Manager

The administration announced the new bell schedule to accommodate Senate Bill 328 for the 2022-2023 school year Thursday via email after school, drawing mixed reactions among students and faculty.

“All high schools will adjust to start times of 8:30 a.m. in order to meet the new California requirement outlined in Senate Bill 328,” newly appointed principal Craig Weinreich wrote in an email sent to students, parents and staff. “With the guidance of district administration, Sunny Hills administration and staff members have adjusted the bell schedule for the 2022/23 school year that reflects this new

start time.”

With an exception to zero period, class begins with a roughly 30-minute delay from past school years at 8:30 a.m., with lunch falling at 11:36 a.m. and break at 2:12 p.m. while the school day starts at 9:30 a.m. for late starts.

Department leaders and program coordinators led discussions for the proposed schedule changes, and staff members voted in favor of this version over another one in February, assistant principal Melissa Stinson wrote in an email interview.

“The bell schedule that we adopted was preferred by more than 50% of the staff that participated in the vote,” Stinson said.

Lunch break must end before 2 p.m., according to the California

Department of Education, causing the nutrition period to occur later.

Spanish teacher Maria Torres views the law as unnecessary, since it will push back sleep schedules.

“[The students] are still going to be just as sleepy as they were before,” Torres said.

The early lunch will let water polo player sophomore Katelyn Fu finish eating before practice.

“The only concern I have is that people with zero have to wait almost four periods before they have any sort of break,” Fu said. “I think having difficult classes back-to-back without having a break between will be overwhelming.”

Administrators expect minute changes to after school activities like sports even though daylight ends sooner in the fall.

Regular Day Schedule			Late Start Schedule		
Per	Start	End	Per	Start	End
0	7:27 AM	8:25 AM	0	7:27 AM	8:25 AM
1	8:36 AM	9:28 AM	1	9:30 AM	10:18 AM
2	9:33 AM	10:33 AM	2	10:25 AM	11:13 AM
3	10:38 AM	11:38 AM	3	11:18 AM	12:08 PM
Lunch	11:36 AM	12:06 PM	Lunch	12:06 PM	12:36 PM
4	12:11 PM	1:09 PM	4	12:41 PM	1:29 PM
5	1:14 PM	2:12 PM	5	1:34 PM	2:22 PM
Break	2:12 PM	2:37 PM	Break	2:22 PM	2:37 PM
6	2:32 PM	3:30 PM	6	2:42 PM	3:30 PM

SHEILA NERI | theaccolade

HIT SNOOZE: Officials release the 2022-2023 bell schedule via email Thursday with first period starting at 8:30 a.m.



REBEKAH KIM | theaccolade

NOT A 'DEVIOUS LICK' TIKTOK CHALLENGE: Soon after Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the end of the indoor school masking mandate, district officials order removal of paper towel dispensers in all restrooms.

SEOWON HAN

Cub Reporter

Paper towel dispensers in restrooms removed; hand-drying blowers re-activated.

"Masks required inside" signs taped outside classroom doors and hallways replaced with "All Lancers Welcome."

Email reminders for students and staff to take the Monday-Friday Qualtrics surveys withdrew.

Those are among the major changes that have occurred campuswide since California Gov. Gavin Newsom lifted the statewide mandate for requiring students and staff to wear masks on March 11.

"The paper towel [dispensers] were added to the restrooms due to the COVID protocols that were in place at the time," assistant principal Melissa Stinson wrote in an email interview. "They were added as a safety measure so that students were not using the hand dryers."

Upon their removal, Stinson acknowledged that it had an impact on a few students.

"I have heard from a handful of students that they preferred using the paper towels and were wondering why they were removed," she said.

Even though teachers and students were no longer required to be masked in their classrooms, many still prefer to keep their mouths and nose covered.

"My concerns are spreading [COVID-19] to those who are unvaccinated," said freshman Savannah Pruitt, who got her Pfizer booster shot in May 2021 but chose to mask while at school unless she's eating or drinking. "I also think a lot of people aren't



SUMMER SUEKI | theaccolade

OPEN TO OPTIONS: Junior Dana Castro Araujo chooses to unmask during Algebra Center Thursday after school.

used to seeing people without a mask."

Likewise, Dance Department director Leiana Volen said she feels safer staying masked to subdue the concerns she holds for her 11-month-old son, who does not yet have a mature immune system; however, Volen has found herself unmasking more often.

"With dance, I am very hands-on and in close proximity with my students frequently, which has made me want to keep my mask on to be safe," said Volen, who received the booster shot in November 2021. "I will say, it took me a few days to feel OK without a mask on because I have become so used to it, [but] it does feel nice and like a bit of normalcy to not stress over having my mask on."

Social science teacher Robert Bradburn, who will receive his second booster shot this month, taught without any coverings the first school day that the mandate was lifted.

"I saw that the positivity rate was low in Orange County, and other factors made me feel safe taking a small risk," said Bradburn, who likes being unmasked so he can teach with expression to

keep his students' attention.

Senior Adam Assi, who chose not to get vaccinated, felt uncomfortable wearing his mask and took it off as soon as the state lifted the mandate.

"I feel like [masking] ruins the school environment in a way that it creates a barrier between people," said Assi, who contracted the coronavirus last year. "I feel good that it's optional because people have the choice where they don't have to be forced to wear it."

Two weeks after indoor masking became optional, district officials stopped sending emails to students and staff to report their symptoms.

"Due to the dramatic reduction of the SARS-CoV2 transmission rates in our community and state and COVID-19 cases, current public health guidelines issued by Occupational Safety and Health Administration and state safety agencies no longer require we conduct this daily health screening," wrote Ynette Johnson, the lead district nurse. The district would seek the guidance and direction from local and state health officials before reinstating the Qualtrics system, Johnson said.

Lancer Awards Night returns to quad again with red carpet theme

CHRISTOPHER LEE

Cub Reporter

For a second straight year, Lancer Awards Night will take place in the quad May 18 instead of at the auditorium next to Fullerton Union High School, where it had been traditionally held before the COVID-19 pandemic, school officials said.

"The ceremony went so well last year," said assistant principal Sarah Murrietta, who's coordinating the after school event. "The feedback we received from parents and students was positive."

Murrietta said a common praise she received centered on the format and its length. In the past when Lancer Night was held in the auditorium, the program lasted for two hours, and award recipients, their friends and family had to wait until it ended to take pictures.

"With the new set-up [in the quad], each student has their time to shine and be acknowledged for their accomplishments ... The new setup allows for flexibility for picture taking at various spots on campus throughout the awards program," the administrator said.

Murrietta said she will also bring back the Hollywood red carpet theme with set designs for students and their family and friends to take pictures before, during and after the ceremony.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and its protocols involving how many can be in one building at a time last year, the evening to recognize students for

HOLLYWOOD HILLS

Red carpet rolls out again May 18 in the quad at 5 p.m. with over 200 medals ready for distribution.

Illustrated by Jacqueline Chang
Compiled by Susie Kim

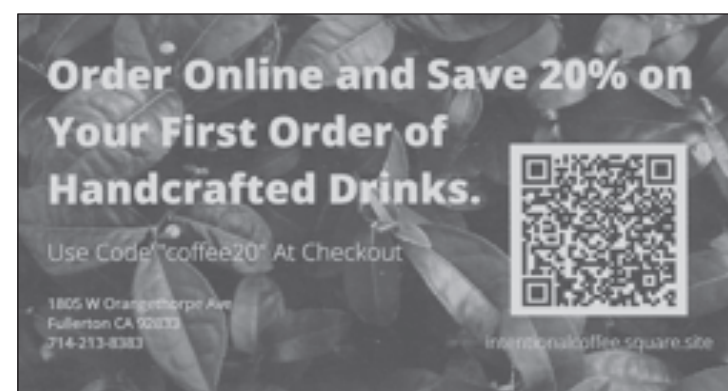
their achievements could not be held at its regular location.

Students will find out if they are invited to Lancer Night on May 1, when school officials will send them an email congratulating them for being nominated, Murrietta said. But they are not told which award they will receive.

"I honestly would have preferred the auditorium since I think it would have elevated the value of these awards," said senior Rachel Lee, who earned medals in Advanced Placement [AP] Biology and AP Calculus A/B last year. "But at the end of the day, I loved the ceremony at the quad and enjoyed how personal it felt."

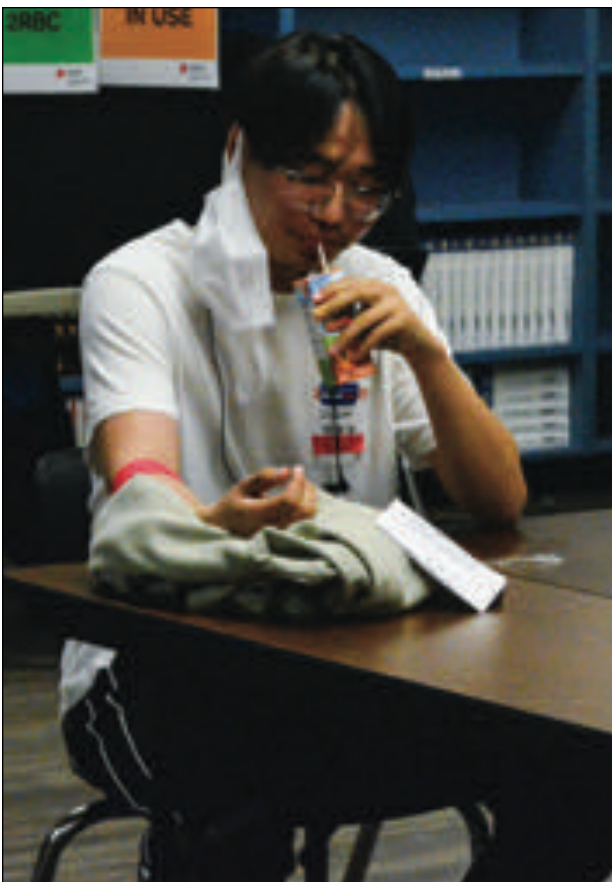
Unlike last year, award recipients will not be limited to two guests, said Murrietta, who added that no plans are set for where next year's awards ceremony will be held.

"We are looking forward to a great night where we will celebrate the accomplishments of our students in the areas of academics, arts, athletics and community service," she said.





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BRACING FOR BLOOD: Sunny Hills student senior Aute Blackwell sanitizes her arm in preparation for a regional Red Cross nurse to draw her blood.



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REVITALIZING: Sophomore Dillon Chung drinks orange juice in the canteen area of the Lyceum after getting his blood drawn.

SUNNY LIFE SAVERS

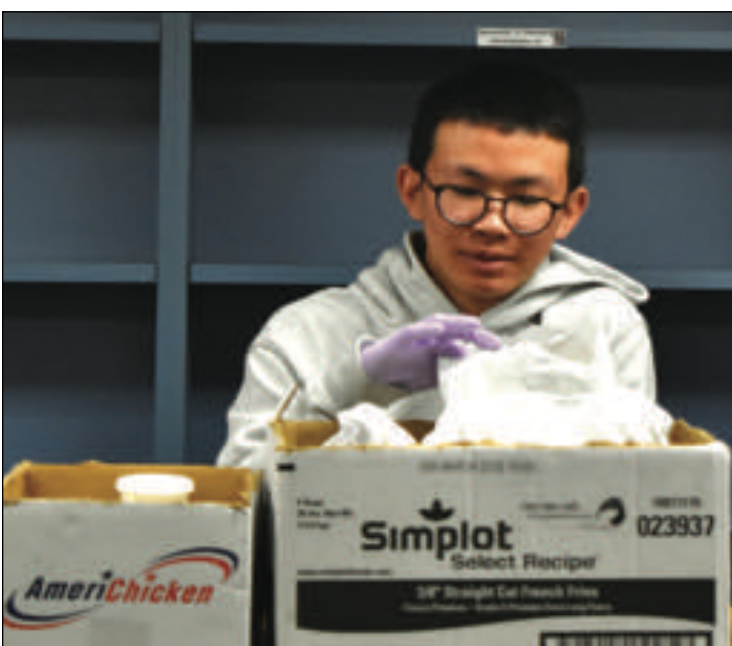
The American Red Cross Club held its first blood drive in nearly two years Thursday in hopes of reaching a goal of 75 units of blood.

To help combat one of the world's worst blood shortages, the club had 71 donors and over 15 volunteers.

— by Susie Kim, social media manager



AUDREY SEO | theaccolade
WHEN'S MY TURN?: Students wait outside the Lyceum during fifth period for their turn to be summoned to donate blood.

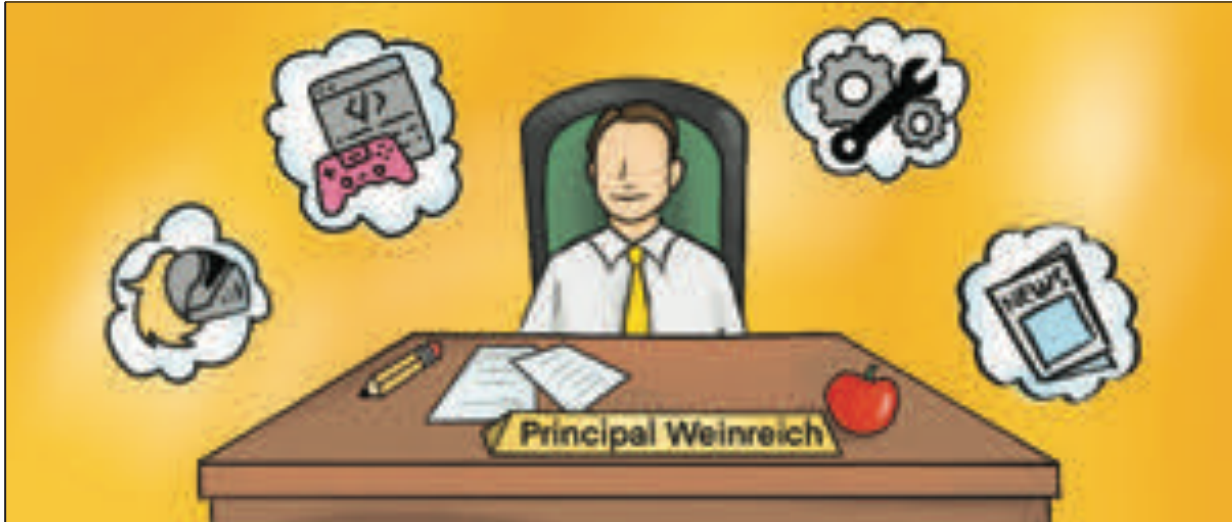


REBEKAH KIM | theaccolade
FOOD BENEFITS: Junior Kenneth Hyun sorts through a box of burritos offered for blood donors in the Lyceum as part of the 15-minute recovery period.



REBEKAH KIM | theaccolade
RESTING PHASE: Senior Paige Zell takes a break after donating nearly one pint of blood for the cause.

STAFF EDITORIAL



JACQUELINE CHANG | theaccolade

NEW PRINCIPAL: *Craig Weinreich's deep roots here make for a worthy hire*

The Accolade Editorial Board unanimously agrees with the district's decision to hire Craig Weinreich as the new principal of Sunny Hills and have him start here this month instead of waiting until the semester has ended.

The Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHS] left Sunny Hills and its community with a seemingly unpatchable hole upon promoting former principal Allen Whitten to become the FJUHS's director of Student Support Services in December.

However, we were relieved to learn that such a vacancy was filled so quickly — within three months — when district officials announced the hiring of Craig Weinreich, who started his career in education here in 1999.

Even though Weinreich graduated from rival Troy High School, the principal search committee made the right choice because it's clear that he bleeds Lancer gold.

The father of two boys did his student teaching here before accepting a position to teach English and English Language Development in 1999; by the spring of 2004, he became the head coach of the girls basketball

team, turning the program around to eventually earn its first CIF playoff berth under his guidance a year later.

With a sudden opening for an assistant principal position in the 2017-2018 school year, Weinreich was willing to step into a new role. By the end of the 2018-2019 school year, he created a gaming and coding pathway as eSports was at its peak.

With his vast experience here, the district unfortunately decided to transfer Weinreich to work as assistant principal at Fullerton Union High School before being sent the ensuing school year to La Habra High School as an administrator there.

Ironically, Whitten was an assistant principal at La Habra also before getting the lead role here. But he had to finish out the spring semester before being able to start as principal in the summer.

District officials deserve praise for having Weinreich start April 13. It's important to give him these two months to reconnect with students, staff and the Lancer community.

Weinreich has shared with one of our reporters that he looks forward to expand-

ing student participation in the Engineering Pathways to Innovations and Change and the coding and gaming pathway, which he never had a chance to follow through on when he was its brainchild three years ago.

We agree with his direction but at the same time hope that enrollment in other electives won't be impacted too much to the point that course offerings would be reduced.

In our January issue, we compiled a list of qualities Whitten's successor should emulate. Among all, we asked for a principal who possessed Whitten's approachable, engaging personality and work ethic. Weinreich models the qualities we wished for, and though we will always miss Whitten, we know the Lancers will be in the best of hands.

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.

True men are feminist; you should be, too

Few men in the United States call themselves feminists. In fact, only four in 10 men say the term, "feminist," describes them well, according to the Pew Research center, and 45% of all Americans today see the feminist movement as polarizing.



Louie Loveland
Guest
Columnist

Specifically, my demographic (white/Latinx male) is more likely to be critical of the movement.

I believe men should care about feminism, for we benefit from it just as much as women.

Truly, there are many interpretations of feminism, each with its own unique outlook, but at the core of every version stands the equality of men and women.

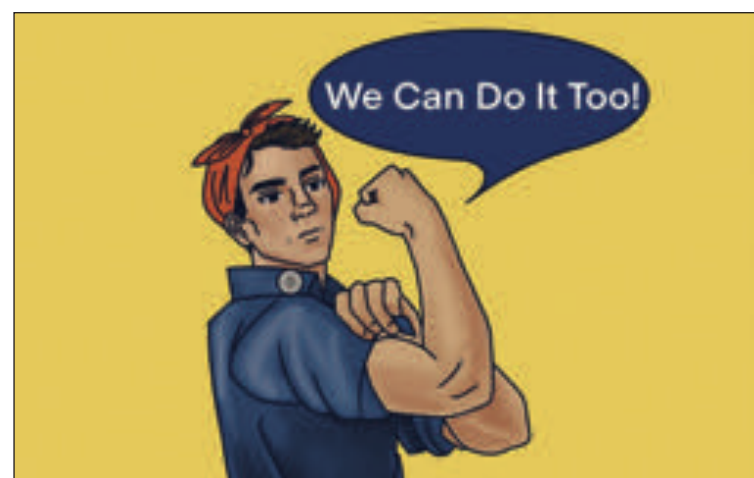
The movement is diverse in and of itself, not a monolith.

With this, it may seem that we already arrived at gender equality, and that the days of misogyny and sexism are in the past.

Yet, one in nine girls under the age of 18 experience sexual assault by an adult, compared to one in 53 for boys, according to Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network. Girls ages 16-19 are four times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape or sexual assault.

Fellow men, we are in the middle of a world we either have no awareness of or are the very reason for this despair.

Indeed, we face many issues, so calling ourselves "privileged" may seem thoughtless. Men still need to endure the trials and tribulations, too, like financial



SAMANTHA GALANG | theaccolade

struggles or discrimination.

Individually, it may seem there is no patriarchal advantage.

A woman must go through the same issues but with the added threats of sexism, domestic abuse and sexual assault, which disproportionately harm them.

Such a world is hidden from men, for we do not constantly fear this in our lives. This is not to say that men do not get sexually assaulted or suffer from domestic violence.

Male feminism >> Page 8

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HEAD TO HEAD

Is it still worth it to take the SAT/ACT?



JINA HAN | theaccolade

Bring back standardized tests

Taking a deep breath, I nervously handed my confirmation slip and school identification card to the woman sitting in front of me.

Chloe Chun
Cub Reporter

I prepared for hours, and although anxious because of my younger age and lack of experience compared to other testers, I went in for the longest three hours of my life.

Despite several universities now turning test optional or blind, I believe that taking the SAT and ACT is beneficial, and I encourage students to try it, especially if applying to private or out-of-state colleges.

GPA's are far from an accurate representation of the knowledge students have. Students with niche interests such as Greek mythology, American Sign Language or astronomy usually do not have high school classes to support that or given a chance to show it in their grades.

For instance, I'm interested in law, which can't be shown in my GPA, so I took the SAT in order to boost my application.

Also, GPA's rest on factors that students can't control. The grading system is subjective, which makes for unreliable GPA's and plays a huge role in determining which students get into higher education schools.

For mentally ill or recovering students, the fight to bring their GPA's up after

or during a struggle is difficult, and can lead to a relapse in depression or anxiety, contributing to the cycle of poor mental health and lack of opportunities.

I suffered from major depression during my freshman and sophomore years, leading my grades to drop. Thankfully, I recovered and I do all I can in order to make it to the college I desire. Taking the SAT proved to be a point of redemption for me.

To students like me, submitting a score could be our last shot to get accepted into a dream school.

Advocates for optional testing say that the SAT and ACT is biased, as wealthier students go to tutoring in order to improve their scores, whereas financially struggling students can't.

However, paying for extra help is not an issue only affecting standardized tests, and it appears hypocritical to call those out when millions of students go to private tutoring to improve their grades.

Discouraging students from taking the SAT and ACT for the purpose of tutoring only discredits the argument that students shouldn't use standardized tests, as it shows the hypocrisy within their own side.

From helping students show their capabilities apart from their school grades to providing another chance to the students with extenuating circumstance, repealing the decision to make standardized testing optional in college admissions has many benefits. To toss away an aid such as this is simply foolish and wasteful.



JINA HAN | theaccolade

These exams benefit the rich

Since my sophomore year of high school, standardized testing remained as a shadow looming over my approaching college admissions agenda.

Giselle
Suastegui
Cub Reporter

That was until March 23, when the University of California [UC] and California State University [CSU] systems announced their decisions to eliminate SAT or ACT scores from college admission requirements.

Upon hearing such an announcement, a weight had been lifted off my shoulders, alleviating a burden from my junior self.

Like me, my peers should embrace this new change that will allow for the creation of a fairer admissions system.

To prepare for the exams, most students sign up for costly tutoring classes as well as purchase countless preparation textbooks.

However, I cannot invest much money into materials that can potentially increase my chances of achieving higher scores.

For students like me, standardized tests simply serve as another barrier in which low-income college applicants are put at a disadvantage.

According to studentaidpolicy.com, there exists a correlation with annual family income and SAT scores. On average, the higher the income, the higher

the SAT score, suggesting that wealthier students were able to boost their scores through the utilization of expensive resources unavailable to those of a lower economic standing.

The recent removal of the UC and CSU's test score requirements makes way for a leveled playing field, where students of varying socioeconomic backgrounds can work hard for an equal chance to stand out in their college applications.

Critics of my argument may claim that these test scores are actually very crucial to a student's application because they provide a better idea of the individual's ability to handle academic rigor.

However, according to a November 2021 article in the Library and Information Science Network's website, researchers discovered that standardized test scores actually do not provide accurate depictions of a student's success in college.

In other words, the score from one singular test is incapable in determining students' aptitude, let alone whether they deserve to be accepted to a university.

As such, colleges requiring and even considering SAT and ACT scores to determine the fate of their applicants promotes the idea that these tests define student intelligence and capabilities, which is completely untrue.

As someone who sees past a number and understands the flaws of the system, I choose not to take the SAT/ACT.

Letters to the editor

Susie Kim's News article about the vending machine restrictions was very informative.

I had no idea that this was happening, and as someone with P.E. for first period, I would usually get a snack from the vending machine afterwards.

So, I was disappointed to hear about this new change.

— Jina Han, sophomore

After reading Chenny Kim's guest column in the Spotlight section, I have a better understanding of the tragedies that are

going on in the world right now.

I think she wrote a very astonishing story, writing about a personal story that she experienced.

It was sad to hear about the tragedy that came upon her Ukrainian friend, but I hope for the best.

— Tylo Pak, freshman

I really enjoyed reading the Staff Editorial in the Opinion section because it was my first International Food Fair.

I was super excited to try the

different desserts and other diverse foods.

My friends and I had talked about that day for a while now since we didn't experience it last year because of COVID-19, but we were both excited to have a hands-on experience.

— Raylene Estrada, sophomore

I think that Alice Shin did a great job giving an overview of what to expect from the International Food Fair in her News story.

This is especially great because many students do not know what will come about after not having the event for two years.

It's also great because freshmen like me do not know what to expect.

— Lucas Saab, freshman

The Accolade welcomes signed letters to the editor with full name and grade level emailed to theaccoladeshs@gmail.com.

The staff reserves the right to edit.

For the record

The Accolade regrets the following errors from the March 4 issue:

In a page 12 article titled, "Butter" brings the audience both tears and laughter," the fictional high school where most of the movie takes place was misidentified.

The correct campus should have been identified as West Scottsdale High School in Arizona.

Stop ‘mess’ing up the campus

Empty Hot Cheeto bags fly into the sky, half-eaten apples roll around and chocolate milk drips out of its carton onto the table and ground. As I made my way from lunch to sixth period on April 8, I only saw these discarded items — trash.

Sadly to say, I knew it would be the custodians’ job to clean up the mess as if it never existed, only for it to occur again the following day.



Aiden Park
Cub Reporter

Every time I see trash piled up throughout the campus, I feel disgusted and disappointed by the fact that my fellow peers lack basic manners and Lancer etiquette.

Rather than rely on custodians, students need to bear the responsibility of cleaning up after ourselves after we finish eating during break and lunch. This shows we are not only virtuous students but human beings with respect for others; we are expected to clean up after ourselves.

Most importantly, as we are approaching adulthood, we need to be mature enough to carry out such a simple task. If every student followed through with being litter free before returning to class, we would never have a huge mess.

We need to seriously stop making our custodians bear additional burdens that result from our laziness.

Along with keeping the campus pristine, practicing public etiquette also helps students prepare for their future.

Learning to possess good hygiene early on will condition students to maintain basic sanitary habits and prevent the spread of germs.

An unsanitary school full of litter fails to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment, for infectious diseases, such



REBEKAH KIM | theaccolade

LITTERBUGS: Head custodian Daniel Rodriguez picks up trash Wednesday in the quad after lunch. Students need to work on cleaning up after themselves.

as the infamous COVID-19, can spread more easily.

This especially applies to upperclassmen preparing to go to college because they will have an entire room for themselves to take care of and live in, which is substantially more difficult to manage than one school table.

People who plan to share the space with a roommate should be more alert of this because sustaining a clean, common space may be vital in bringing upon healthy relationships with roommates and friends. It also allows their new “home” to become a comfortable area to relax and sleep.

It should be our goal to have pride in our school and “second home” the way we do for our own personal space and try to keep it immaculate because students

spend nearly as many waking hours at school as they do at home.

Regardless, some may continue to argue that custodians were hired to keep the campus pristine, which includes throwing away any pieces of trash that students may have left behind.

But students end up harming themselves as our maintenance crew has to take time and attention away from other tasks, like the restrooms, that students are not capable of disinfecting themselves. Since swiping trash off a lunch table is incomparable to keeping the restrooms clean, as it requires no supplies or labor, students need to start having a habit of picking up after themselves.

With this, I hope to see a spotless environment with trash dispersed around the campus on my way to sixth period.

FROM PAGE 6

MALE FEMINISIM

Unfortunately, many of us aren’t told of these issues and don’t see them. Having lack of exposure renders us blind, which is what makes one privileged.

We are privileged because we aren’t even aware these issues exist. So the challenge presented to us is to listen to someone else’s experience and to feel true empathy: to put ourselves in another person’s shoes and understand what that person’s going through.

The incentive of becoming a feminist shouldn’t be based on what you gain from it; that defeats the point of feminism. It should be enough that people suffer at the hands of misogyny. Even so, being a feminist has its perks.

Feminist works suggest that following gender norms — women as submissive and men as assertive without need of understanding feelings — are damaging to both parties in heterosexual relationships.

Women married to traditional, masculine men are less content on average than women with warmer, more expressive husbands. Interestingly, men who are partnered with female feminists enjoy more stable and happier relationships.

In gender norms, men embody assertive traits, and women embody expressive traits. However, it’s no surprise that when in a romantic relationship, we want affection and understanding from our partner. So, men with low expressiveness do not readily show these traits, which causes their partners to feel less satisfied.

Lacking in expressive traits does a disservice to men, depriving them of skills that would make their relationships more rewarding. According to research, the “macho” man tends to be lonelier than men who can be expressive as well.

But just like how machismo — aggressive masculine pride — deprives their partners of the affection they need, it deprives guys, too. We teens are the most lonely demographic. Machismo does not help; it intensifies loneliness because these men are not willing to share their emotions with others.

Not all masculine men are perpetrators. Not all perpetrators are men. But the lack of feeling and emotion that compromises machismo “masculinity” can be taken to an extreme, and that is how we end up with perpetrators. One has to be extremely desensitized of other people’s pain to be able to sexually assault someone and not carry the burden of guilt.

Now, I call for men to stop harassing women, to respect them when they say “no,” to not touch them unless they have explicitly said “yes,” and to not stand by idly while they see their friend bother a girl.

But I fear the ones who need to hear this message the most will not listen to it. A perpetrator never sees himself as the menace, for he always points a finger at someone else to say, “He’s the monster. He’s done worse than me.”

Rejecting feminism is a dangerous approach to the way we treat each other and ourselves. I invite you to reflect on what a place for safety and respect would look like.

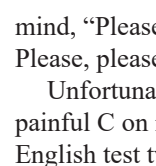
I bet it’s worth working for.

Mural, mural on the wall, how art can inspire us all

With my heart beating loudly and my hands turning clammy by the second, I

flipped over my test, cringing at the amount of red ink on my paper.

I counted the marks, totaling my grade while I prayed in my



David Kim
Cub Reporter

mind, “Please let me get a B. Please, please, please.”

Unfortunately, I received a painful C on my most recent English test two weeks ago. I thought my day was ruined, but something surprising managed to make me feel slightly better: a mural on the wall opposite the adminis-

tration wing and around the corner from Room 20.

This longstanding piece of art featured a sun in the middle representing our school name and a multitude of icons representing school subjects surrounding it like math, science and literature.

Because Sunny Hills is overflowing with talented artists, I was surprised to see no other such pieces around our campus walls.

I found myself asking the same question over and over again. *Why does a competent school like ours lack murals around campus?*

The paintings would not only be beneficial for individual students, but also for the school as a whole. Especially for outsiders visiting our



AUSTIN MAUSHUND | theaccolade

COFA-NTASTIC: A new mural honoring the Conservatory of Fine Arts has been commissioned. The art club’s work can be seen on the Performing Arts Center building.

school, unique murals could display a welcoming and positive school atmosphere that cultivates student interests.

But hope is within sight.

Earlier this month, the school’s art club has embarked on a mural project on one side of the Performing Arts Center.

This one features the Conservatory of Fine Arts [COFA]

acronym as the centerpiece with images representing COFA programs like dance, vocal and visual art.

Art club members say that it is scheduled to be completed next month.

Having more murals around our campus may help other students just like me — uplifting moods after a depressing test score.

Welcome to Mr. Rogers' neighborhood

New math teacher fills in midsemester for geometry instructor who abruptly left

NATHAN LEE

Cub Reporter

It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood / A beautiful day for a neighbor.

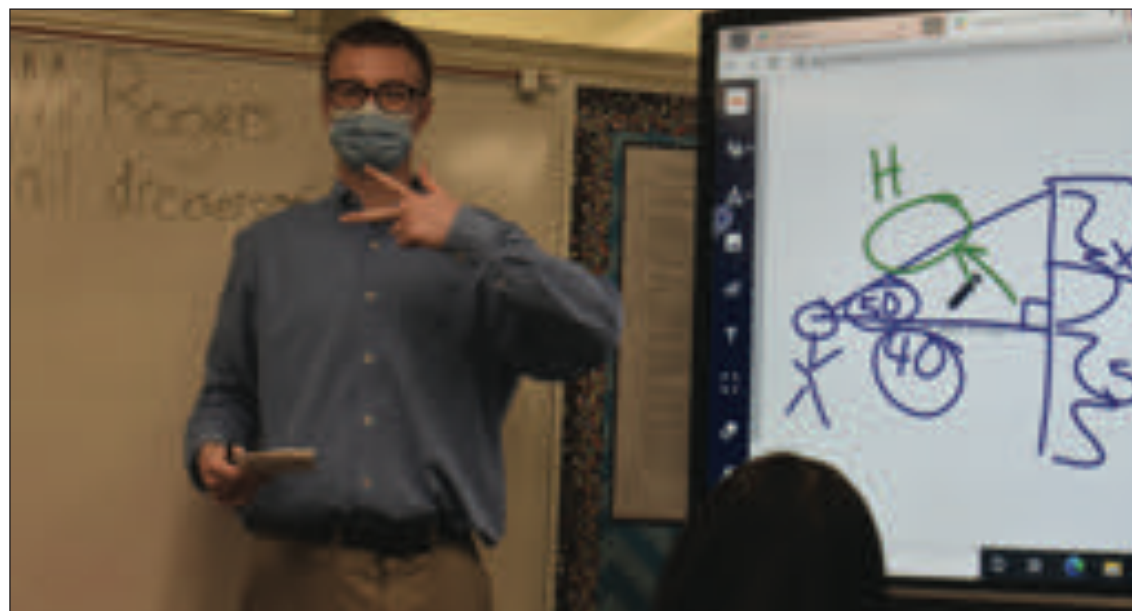
This familiar tune resurfaced in many of new math teacher David Rogers' students.

"Everywhere I've been, in almost all my classes, 'Mister Rogers' Neighborhood' has been brought up," Rogers said. "... It's a cool title."

However, unlike the popular 1966 children's TV series that explored early childhood themes, Sunny Hills's newest addition to staff is dedicated to spreading the importance of understanding specifically math concepts among his future students.

"I like math because I'm learning about how things originated and the 'whys' to things," said Rogers, who replaced former math teacher Min Ho Han in March. "I don't want people to just be memorizing things without knowing where it came from and why things are done the way they are done."

The new math teacher said he recognized his flair for STEM subjects during his four years at Brea Olinda High School, where he pursued an accelerated path that allowed him to complete up to Ad-



ASAPH LI | theaccolade

WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?: Newly hired math teacher David Rogers lectures students on an angle of elevation problem displayed on the board on April 14.

“

I like math because I'm learning about how things originated and the 'whys' to things. I don't want people to just be memorizing things without knowing where it came from and why things are done the way they are done.

”

vanced Placement [AP] Calculus BC and AP Physics.

In 2014, Rogers graduated from Brea Olinda High School and attended Purdue University to pursue his initial goal of a degree in mechanical engineering, though he later decided that it was not the right path for him.

"I think a lot of people in the engineering program had a really strong passion for programming and came in with robot building

experience, and we jumped right into it," the math teacher said. "You have to be really motivated, but I didn't feel that way about it — I really struggled and decided that's not the way I want to go."

After making this self-discovery, he went back to focusing on the skill sets he found in high school as he transferred to California State University, Fullerton [CSUF] in 2017 to pursue a bachelor's degree in math emphasis.

Following his graduation in 2020, he decided to apply his talent fresh out of college by joining Fullerton Union High School [FUHS] in 2021 as a teacher's assistant in Algebra 2 and Honors Geometry.

With a year spent at FUHS, he came across an open teaching position on the education job site Edjoin and decided to apply, regardless of his doubts.

"It was not an easy decision to

apply for the position, but after giving it some thought, I thought it would be a good experience for me, even if I did not get the job," Rogers said.

Upon receiving his application, SH assistant principal Melissa Stinson said his strong references secured him a spot.

"He came with great recommendations from FUHS staff," Stinson said. "It is often a difficult process when searching for qualified teaching candidates in the middle of the school year, so we felt very fortunate that Mr. Rogers applied for the position."

As a first-year instructor coming with three months left in the second semester, Rogers said that he encountered some challenges becoming familiar with the classroom and students.

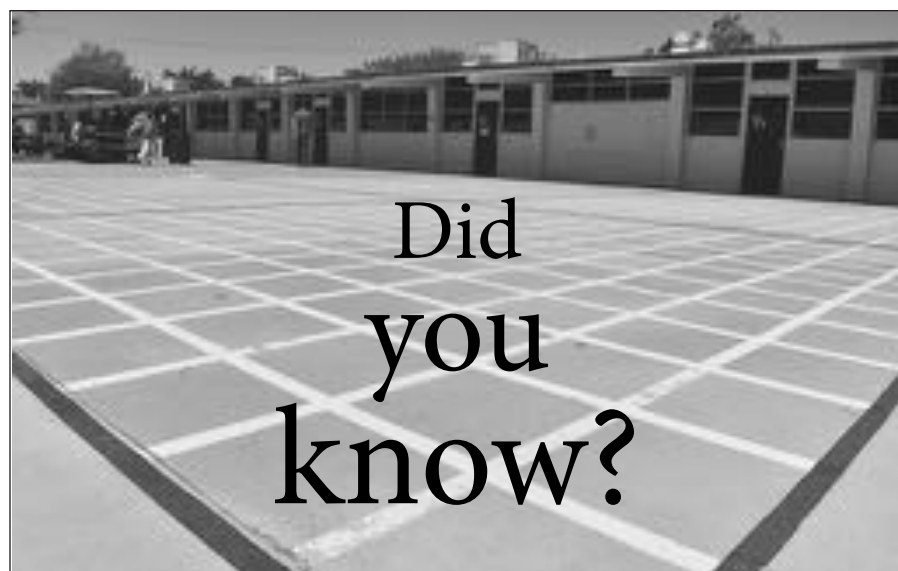
"It's so late in the semester that they don't want to open up again," he said. "I'd like to change that, but I think it's getting better."

Junior Melissa Miranda, who is in Rogers' first period, said she appreciates how Rogers makes the students feel at ease.

"Mr. Rogers is more vocal about any problems for the class workwise," Miranda said. "Mr. Han was good at that too, but Mr. Rogers definitely makes you feel like it's OK to talk to him, and he's not going to be getting upset with you."

Rogers said he looks forward to growing as teacher.

"It's difficult to quantify it, but I just want to do better every day, become a better teacher and try to do as best of a job as I can," he said.



ASAPH LI | theaccolade

As a new feature, *The Accolade* investigates some of the mysterious spots on campus. For this issue, we look into the origins of the lines spray-painted in between the 90s and 110s wings. How long have they been there? Do they form a giant-sized graph for math? Can teachers and students play another version of Battleship with the diagram? Are the squares used for chess, checkers or the Asian game, Go? *The Accolade* sends Journalism 1 student Pricilla Escobedo to investigate.

Problem of the day — label the purpose of the intersecting lines

PRICILLA ESCOBEDO

Cub Reporter

Tic-tac-toe. Four Square. Connect 4.

These are some examples of incorrect student interpretations of the painting found between the math and science buildings.

"I pass by the graph on a daily basis to my math class, but it's so strange that I've always just overlooked it," freshman Jocelyn Gaspar said.

The correct answer is an x-and-y axis, which was painted in 2016 when the math department decided to paint the graph in order to have a better visual representation for algebra students.

"We were thinking in the math department as a whole, ways we could have students more active when they learn math," Algebra 1 and Advanced Placement Statistics teacher Kari Morita said. "Some students learn best when they are actually doing the actions, and there's movement and their bod-

ies are moving around — for those students I think it's good that we come up with ways to reach them and their type of learning."

Though some math teachers occasionally took students out for their lessons pre-pandemic, they have refrained from using it after a return from distance learning.

"I think they had good intentions," Algebra 1 teacher Jae Byun said. "I just think, in high school math classes, it's sometimes inefficient to go out there and take the whole class. I have a class of 38, so it's a little tough to do."

However, some students like sophomore David Veyna express that he would like teachers to periodically implement it in their lessons.

"I would definitely enjoy having a nice break by going outside," Veyna said. "I would say that painting is the most interactive way you can get when you're learning about when you're learning about those type of topics."



AUDREY SEO | theaccolade

TAKING THE W: Senior Patrick Jimenez (left) uses his fingers to show the first letter for “win” as he greets senior Abby Hahm after the two were announced as prom king and queen, respectively, during the April 9 event held at the Fullerton Airport.

THE KING AND I

Senior class vice president savors title earned in 1st prom since 2019

SCARLETT CHANG

Cub Reporter

With the lights dimmed and the crowd hushed, anticipation grew with the pat-ters of a drum roll as the emcee, junior Ariana Choi, prepared to announce the prom king.

Though senior Patrick Jimenez, the senior class vice president, has led thousands of students at school assemblies and the sophomore basketball team to success, the atmosphere at his prom first filled him with adrenaline, then excitement as he stood victorious in front of his fellow upperclassmen.

“There was just an outburst of emotions,” said Jimenez, who was initially worried that COVID-19 and the Omicron variant would cancel his prom. “I’ve had a lot of public experience, but I felt that this moment was really special, so I wanted to be the person on stage.”

The April 9 prom, which was held at Fullerton Municipal Airport Hangar 21, was a fulfilling conclusion to Jimenez’s high school career, he said.

While Jimenez himself lacked confidence that he would take home the crown, his friends disagreed.

“I was definitely expecting him to win,” said senior Miguel Gaston, who has known Jimenez for four years. “Patrick is the type of person that makes such

a big impact on someone’s life, no matter how well or long you’ve known him.”

Along with the support of his friends, Jimenez attributes his win to the constant support from his mother, Niña Jimenez, who he FaceTimed immediately after the announcement.

“I told him to make as many memories as he can in his senior year of high school,” Niña Jimenez said. “To be involved in not only his classes, but any kind of extracurriculars because that’s the best thing of high school that he can take with him when he’s older.”

Following her advice, Patrick Jimenez, who committed to UCLA’s mechanical engineering program, said he tried to maximize his experiences by joining multiple programs, such as a Bayanihan Club since his sophomore year and Associated Student Body in his senior year as part of the technology committee.

“I met so many new people and friends because of filming,” Jimenez said. “It really allowed me to get involved with all different parts of the community at school, like sports and clubs, which I think helped me have that social connection to take home the crown.”

Wrapping up his last year at Sunny Hills, Jimenez said that his hope is to leave a lasting legacy as the 2022 prom king.

“I hope that the people I have met remember me as the one that could always make them smile, whether it be by waving or greeting them because I love spreading positivity,” he said.

Athlete gets enough ‘track’tion from peers to wear crown as queen

FAITH JUNG

Cub Reporter

Senior Abigail Hahm thought it was going to be another ordinary break full of chatting with her friends near the quad.

As she lightheartedly started getting out her snack, Hahm was ready to applaud

her peers whose names were soon to be called for one of the highlight events of their last year in high school — prom court.

Little did she know that she would not only be a member of the prom court, but also make it to the bigger stage as prom queen on April 9.

“I was eating when they called out my name, definitely not expecting it,” Hahm said. “I was like ‘Oh me? Um, can I finish eating?’ But I think it’s an honor, and I am very grateful for all the people that nominated me.”

Regardless of the unexpected outcome, Hahm said taking home the crown was one of the most memorable experiences in her senior year, especially after returning from distance learning.

“One of the biggest challenges I recently overcame was the whole pandemic,” she said. “I’m a very extroverted person, so being locked up and stuff was really hard for me.”

Alongside prom queen, the senior added being announced CIF finalist in the 100

meter hurdles last year and Orange County Athletic Directors Association’s 2022 athlete of character to her list of accomplishments in high school.

“She has been gifted in many areas in her athletic ability, her intelligence, leadership skills and is great with people,” Hahm’s mother said. “Abby has a very strong work ethic, and when she sets her mind to do something, she doesn’t do it half-heartedly.”

After not being able to make homecoming court, Hahm said winning prom queen made the experience all the more valuable.

“I was a bit disappointed about not being able to be on homecoming court, but prom queen kind of made up for that,” Hahm said. “But the fact that my friend made it honestly made it so much better because she deserves everything.”

Similarly, Hahm said that being with her friends lowered the pressure of winning.

“When each position was announced, I held hands with David [Burn] and Toni [Lee] because they were next to me, and it was comforting to know we all supported each other no matter what,” she said.

The prom queen said she was grateful that she was able to have a grande finale to her last year before moving on to major in mathematics at University of California, San Diego.

“It’s so rewarding, having my movie-like high school moment in senior year and ending on a high,” Hahm said.



Patrick Jimenez



Abigail Hahm

IN REMEMBRANCE: *Sophomore earns first place in Holocaust writing competition*

ALEXXA BERUMEN

Cub Reporter

Sophomore Katie Larson stared at the sea of people ahead of her.

"I was well-prepared, but it was still nerve racking to read in front of so many people," Larson said.

Slowly, she began reciting her essay.

"Words. Something we do not appreciate ..."

For the first time in three years, the sophomore brought home a first-place prose entry in the Chapman University Holocaust Art and Writing Contest.

"It felt good to know that I was doing my part to honor not just the survivors, but the millions of people who lost their lives in this horrible event," said Larson, who was notified of her award on March 1 and was reciting her essay March 11 at a Chapman University awards ceremony. "I was definitely not expecting to win, [but] I was really excited to hear that a panel of judges acknowledged I was a good writer."

Along with receiving the first place price of \$400, which she plans to save toward college expenses, and \$200 for the school, she will also have the opportunity to go to Los Angeles to meet members of the 1939 Society, a group of Holocaust survivors and family members.

"I am very grateful that I was given the opportunity to enter this competition," Larson said. "I am even more grateful that I was able to win and will get to have a once in a lifetime opportunity this summer."

Larson, the only Lancer who placed among three Sunny Hills contestants,



SPEAK UP: This is a screenshot from the live broadcast from Chapman's livestream of the award ceremony. Sophomore Katie Larson presented her award-winning prose about the importance of words March 11.

spent over three months crafting her essay, which she first started writing in Christina Zubko's English 2 Honors class.

The annual contest offers multiple categories for students, including art, film and poetry; however, Zubko, who has annually introduced the competition to her sophomores for about 10 years, requires her students to write in prose.

Under this year's theme of courage, resilience and hope, students based their writings on the video testimonies of Holocaust survivors available through the contest's website.

"What was interesting about Georgia Gabor, who was my inspiration, is that she never went to a concentration camp," Larson said. "She was hiding for a couple

of years without her family, and I haven't really heard a story like that before."

The sophomore said she tried to accentuate the importance of words, which is what she later titled her entry because she wanted to shed light on the topic of censorship and the bravery it takes to speak on the Holocaust terrors.

"She really picked up on the idea of the importance of words and how once someone dies, those words basically get buried with them," said Zubko, who was involved in the process of selecting the entries alongside English teachers Scott Rosenkranz and Suzanne Boxdorfer.

Participants were able to take creative liberties through various literary devices past the 500-word requirement of the

"It takes courage to share these words, so we must be 'grown up' and sit with the discomfort they evoke rather than silence them. Without these words, books and stories, we leave ourselves blind and unarmed to fight for a better future.

I choose to set the unsettling truth of words free, not to bury or burn them."

— excerpt from Katie Larson's "The Importance of Words"

prompt.

"I wrote in first person as if I was her, and then I shifted back to my point of view," Larson said. "I did that because I feel like it allows you to connect with the person more if you're writing as if you were them. It allows me to think how they would think, trying to actually get in their head makes you think differently about them."

Larson's mother complimented her daughter's introspective nature.

"She is an emotionally intuitive person who is able to see things from another perspective," Amy Larson said. "She had to really understand the perspective of the Holocaust survivor about which she was writing."

Russia-Ukraine war creeps closer to home arouses fear, cancels awaited visit

SAMUEL KIM

Cub Reporter

Sophomore Daniella Chekardzhikova craves her grandma's *au gratin* potatoes, which continues to linger in her memory since her last visit to her native country nine years ago.

"I've had *au gratin* potatoes many times growing up, and it's one of my favorite foods," said Chekardzhikova, who has visited Bulgaria a total of three times. "I've had a good experience there every time; it's a beautiful country, and it's always nice to see my family."

She was only a few months away from reuniting with her grandparents — and *au gratin* potatoes — after planning to book a flight during July. However, the ongoing dangers of visiting Eastern European countries caused by the Russian-Ukraine war and Bulgaria's announce-

ment on Feb. 24 to allow Ukraine refugees to reside in its country abruptly shattered her anticipation to do so.

"I can't imagine how rough that situation is," the sophomore said. "I was shocked at first — the whole situation is concerning to me."

The perilous situation led Chekardzhikova and her family to postpone her summer plans to another date.

"I've been wanting to go for

months," she said. "However, my mom said no because of the crowds and the worry of danger, so she wants to play it safe."

Chekardzhikova's parents declined a request for an interview.

Alongside Chekardzhikova's worries, the sophomore said that she is proud of her country for taking a stand in this war.

"I'm very glad they're providing comfort and safety to those in need, and I'm proud to call myself Bulgarian."

Accolade poll results about the recent Russian invasion/war against Ukraine

58%

I am very interested and have been following the news.

17%

I am not interested in what's happening overseas.

25%

I am confused about why Russia is even at war with Ukraine.

*From 121 responses
Compiled by Kate Yang

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SAMANTHA GALANG | theaccolade

KATE YANG

Web Managing Editor

Passed by the House of Representatives Nov. 19, 2021, the Build Back Better Act allocates billions of dollars to expanding job opportunities, rebuilding the middle class, investing in children's education and caregiving and other significant provisions.

"[The bill] is something that we have been needing to do in this country because we're behind when it comes to other parts of the world," Advanced Placement Government and Macroeconomics teacher Greg Del Crognale said.

THE ACT'S EFFORTS TOWARD CONSERVATION

The Build Back Better Act will bolster conservation efforts by launching projects to build wind turbine blades, solar panels and electric cars using American steel and other domestic material, according to [whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov).

Within the bill lies a \$60 billion project dedicated to encouraging the purchase of electric vehicles with tax credits, and Del Crognale views this investment as a large stride taken toward environmental efficiency.

"[Implementing tax credits] is kind of a big one and more of a long term deal," he said. "It would mean that you probably have more people willing to purchase electric cars rather than purchasing oil, gasoline cars that are more polluting."

Before learning of the Build Back Better framework's incentivizing project, senior Tomás Soh, who has yet to get his driver's license, planned on purchasing a hybrid, gas car like his mother; however, upon learning of Biden's multi billion project, he shifted the vision for his future car.

"Now that I think about it, conserving

White House becomes green with \$2.4 trillion Build Back Better Act

the environment is a top priority that more people should get into the habit with," Soh said. "The tax incentive gives me more reason to reconsider my decision for sure, because it will be one way for me to easily practice conservation."

THE BILL'S RELEVANCE TO STUDENTS

The Build Back Better framework aims to evenly distribute high-quality education beyond high school to low-income students and DREAMers — an immigrant youth who qualifies for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors [DREAM] Act, according to americasvoice.org.

To fulfill such a promise, the act will increase the maximum Pell Grant — a subsidy the U.S federal government provides to students in need of a college tuition — by \$550 to \$7,045 for the next three academic years.

"This would lift a load of weight off of those who are struggling financially, so this is extremely helpful to them," junior Brigham Catota said. "It will be easier to receive the education that people want so that they can pursue their career goals. The more people that can meet this goal, the better, as it will result in a better quality of life for people in general."

Though not a DREAMer or low-income student himself, Brigham votes in favor of the bill's passage, so his bright, yet low-in-

come peers can apply to colleges otherwise a distant dream without the increased grant.

Cafeterias handing out free or reduced-price lunches close their doors with the closure of the school year; however, the children relying on such meals cannot

“The more these climate change activities are delayed, the more it will cost us financially and socially in the long run

— sophomore Kasey Lee

simply close the door to nutrition hardship. The bill proposes to invest in nutrition security year-round, not just the school semesters.

According to [whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov), the federal government will expand free school meals to 8.7 million children during the

school year and provide a \$65 per child per month benefit to families of 29 million low-income children to purchase food during the summer months.

Brigham often picks up the free lunches offered by the school after fifth period, and though not for financial reasons, he thinks of the framework's proposal as a productive, beneficial idea for the youth of America.

"Children shouldn't have to deal with the burden of buying themselves food for lunch at school," he said. "Even if the consequence for this action would be the spending of a rather large sum of money, the end result would be the nourishment and the well being of children who need it."

THE FEDERAL BUDGET

According to Health Affairs, 220 of the 221 Democrats in the House of Representatives voted for passage of the \$2.27 trillion bill, with only one liberal joining all of the Republicans in voting against it.

The bill, according to the Congressional Budget Office, will result in a \$367 billion net increase in the nation's budget deficit within the next 10 years.

"I think that the overall practicality of this large sum depends on whether our government will be faithful in executing this bill," said sophomore Kasey Lee, who serves as the Director of Fundraising and Activism for the Sunny Hills Junior State of America [JSA] club.

"So I'm really hoping Biden follows through with what he has planned."

Congress will fund the Build Back Better Act by utilizing savings from the repealed Trump administration's rebate rule and monetary support from the nation's largest corporations and upper class taxpayers.

EARTH DAY: SH students, faculty offer input on 2022 Earth Day Theme following the organization's two-year hiatus

NEVYA PATEL

News Editor

For the first time since 2019, Earth Day events will be held live today with its theme calling for governments, businesses and individuals to get involved in saving the planet, according to the organization's press release.

Many Sunny Hills students have made plans to do their part to "Invest in Our Planet."

"I think the theme is incredibly fitting, and its call to action is very much needed," said senior Danielle Gonzalez, who plans to donate an unspecified amount of money to Ocean Conservancy, an organization that aims to help pollution cleanups.

"The best way to stop a problem is to get to the source, and if we as a human race can stop pollution and waste at the source before it gets the chance to touch the Earth, that is all that matters."

According to the earthday.org website, students and staff can participate to save the planet by either finding nearby events, such as learning about composting at the Discovery Cube in Santa Ana, or attending the Aquarium of the Pacific's 21st annual Earth Day celebration in Long Beach.

To fulfill his role in accommodating environmental issues, junior Kaneiya

ADMIT ONE

Local Earth Day activities on Saturday:

- "Earth Day at the Bay" from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve
- "Party for the Planet: Spring Into Action"; at 9 a.m., Long Beach cleanup at a nearby wildlife habitat

Source: Orange County Register
Compiled by Irene Sheen

Desai adopted a more sustainable lifestyle, which includes driving a plug-in hybrid vehicle since September and recycling from a young age.

"I personally feel that gas-powered cars are major factors contributing to pollution, especially in California, and can be combated in the long-run if more people make the switch to fuel efficient cars," said Desai, who does not drive a fully electric vehicle because of the high costs.

Science teacher Andrew Gartner suggests simple solutions like installing

solar panels on buildings and manufacturing environmentally sensitive products.

"If people want to buy something that is environmentally sustainable, designed or built, then that's going to be more encouragement for businesses to do it that way," said Gartner, the school's only Advanced Placement Environmental Science teacher. "More than anything, it's less 'I'm holding you accountable,' and more like 'I am going to buy from the person who does it the right way.'"

Ecology Club, the only active environmental awareness group on campus, will post a recap about its projects, such as the recycling bins placed around campus and cleanups it has hosted over the past year on its Instagram page, @shhsecoclub.

"The most recognition will come out on social media," Ecology Club president senior Louis Lee said.

"That's the way to reach people efficiently. Hopefully we get a few more followers and bring some awareness to what we've done so far."



MICAIAH GIRMA | theaccolade

Anyone interested in getting more information about what to do for Earth Day can check out the earthday.org home page.

Ecology Club inspires recycling with Peppa Pig

IRENE SHEEN

Social Media Manager

Originally setting off as a British children's cartoon show, "Peppa Pig" exploded into one of the biggest social media memes among older teens all across the world and outside of the production's intended audience.

Sporting the same bright pink Peppa Pig illustrations, the school's new set of recycling bins aim to promote climate change awareness on campus grounds.

Amid a global environmental emergency, the Sunny Hills Ecology Club hopes to encourage ecological consciousness with these colorful bins that were placed throughout the quad early March.

With containers provided by the Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHSD] in accordance with new statewide bills — Senate Bill 1383, Assembly Bill 341 and Assembly Bill 1826 which mandate stricter recycling and food waste composting efforts on all district campuses — these teens are piloting a school-wide recycling competition that will last until the end of the spring semester.

Faint ideas inspired from past



IRENE SHEEN | theaccolade

ECO FRIENDLY: Sophomore Prysilla Ahn places her used plastic bottle in the blue recycling bin designated for 10th-graders in the quad during break April 13. The Ecology Club instituted a school-wide recycling competition to promote environmental consciousness on campus.

club activities turned into an official school-wide recycling initiative after SH custodial and grounds supervisor Danny Rodriguez reached out to the club to inform them of the latest statewide orders.

"When this kind of mandate first came about and seeing the

requirements that were made to combat climate change and global warming, Louis and his club were the first people that I thought of who could support in our endeavors," said Rodriguez, who supplied all of the recycling bins the Ecology Club painted and used.

"I reached out to them, scheduled a couple of meetings and right away, the student body received it really well, and they were enthusiastic and came up with a lot of great ideas and plans."

Sunny Hills Ecology Club president senior Louis Lee be-

lieved Rodriguez's advice was the catalyst for setting the club's pre-established recycling ideas into motion.

"Our [Ecology] club held an event [during December] where we dumped the school's trash bins onto the quad and sorted through all of the trash," SH Ecology Club co-project manager junior Sharon Kim said.

"There was an alarming amount of recyclables and food waste that shouldn't have been going to the landfill, [so] we decided that we should start a recycling program at our school."

Without an efficient method of recycling available for other SH students, the Ecology Club took matters into its own hands and decided upon a contest-based initiative to boost student engagement.

"I, along with Summer Sueki, felt that turning this into a competition would be a good way to increase awareness of the harmful effects of incorrect waste disposal and would also encourage students to participate," Kim said.

Sunny Hills assistant principal Melissa Stinson praises Lee and the club's many endeavors.

Eco club competition>> Page 16

EDITORIAL

EV cars will drive toward conservation

ALEXXA BERUMEN

Cub Reporter

From color, model to price range, the wide selection of available new and used vehicles prompts a conflict for most first-time motorists – especially teenagers who’ve just gotten their driver’s licenses. One factor they should consider now more than ever when making such an investment is a car’s impact on the environment.

As stated by CalMatters, the future of the Earth’s environment relies on the choices made now. Although the damage that has occurred is nearly irreversible, making a conscious effort to remediate these issues may lessen future damage.

On September 23, 2020 Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Executive Order N-79-20, which pushes for the sale of solely zero-emission cars in California by 2035, to combat such environmental concerns.

The state’s attempt to decrease tailpipe emissions will be passed onto the shoulders of emerging drivers, and according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration [NHTSA], approximately 5.3% of them are high school students.

To make this goal feasible, high school drivers must educate themselves on the benefits of electric vehicles [EV] and should be encouraged to consider them for future vehicle purchases.

One advantage is the safety of EVs.

Highway Loss Data Institute conducted a study involving nine models of electric and gas-fueled cars, looking at collision, liability and injury claims. They concluded that statis-



IRIS KIM | theaccolade

tics for EVs were over 40% lower than conventional models.

Although, a common reason against purchasing an EV has been the higher cost, according to Enel X, a worldwide provider of energy transformation services, a new gas car costs about \$35,000, while a new EV costs about \$55,000.

The prices of a new car may be daunting, but many second hand ones are affordable. It is only a small price to pay for a safer environment for the current and future generations.

The Clean Vehicle Assistance Program

also provides means of economic support in order for buyers to purchase hybrid or electric vehicles.

The program strives to help Californians reach zero-emission vehicles and allows clientele within a certain income range to take advantage of the grants available, with a total of \$21,552,905 granted already.

Another way to drive eco-friendly on a lower budget is to lease a car. Paying upfront a small portion of the investment and later adding in monthly installments allows for more preparation for each upcoming fee.

With a rise in gas prices, owning an EV

is also financially conscious as a much lower price needs to be paid in order to fuel the vehicle. Currently, anywhere from \$256.86-\$313.94 per gallon is spent yearly, with a total of approximately \$1255.76 in gas.

In the case that the pattern of climate change and greenhouse emissions continues, adolescents now are the ones that will have to deal with it as they grow older.

High school students can play an important role when it comes to the environment, and which vehicle they choose to drive to school could be the first step toward curbing the problems endangering our planet.

GREEN FULLERTON: City council members vote in favor of a default 69% renewable energy usage plan

AIDEN PARK & GISELLE SUASTEGUI

Cub Reporters

Buena Park, Huntington Beach and Irvine.

Leaders in these cities opted in on a plan to use 100% renewable energy earlier this year.

In Fullerton, its city council members agreed on increasing its renewable energy usage Feb. 1.

Though many residents and climate activists spoke in favor of choosing the 100% op-

tion, Fullerton city officials scaled back and agreed to a 69% renewable energy plan starting October because of pricing concerns.

With carbon dioxide emissions of 33 billion tons from fossil fuels per year, according to the World Nuclear Association, Fullerton mayor and city council member Fred Jung emphasizes that it is time to focus on dealing with the issue head-on.

“Climate change is the biggest essential threat, [and] we as adults have the responsibility to find the solution,” said Jung, vice chairman of the Orange County Public Authority a Sunny Hills alumnus.

Making this decision means Fullerton will

have to leave Southern California Edison, which served as its main electricity provider with the usage of 36% renewables.

The city will make a switch to work with the Orange County Power Authority [OCPA], a Community Choice Energy program that enables local governments to manage the energy purchased for the city under a single supplier.

While local residents will automatically be enrolled into a 69% renewable plan, those who wish to use other tiers can switch to the 38% option, 100% option or rejoin the current Southern California Edison plan, Jung said.

Though the 100% plan requires residents to pay an extra \$6.38 per month, the default 69% one will require them to pay, on average, an extra \$4.25 per household each month.

“It’s a good first step,” said Kathleen Treseder, co-founder of the advocacy group, OC Clean Power. “I’m hoping that the customers will appreciate it and see that it works well and ask for even more.”

Despite its higher price, Jung believes that opting for the 100% continuous energy plan will benefit residents even more.

“A 70% renewable plan means a 30% in which we can do better,” he said. “We pay the price now, so we don’t have to pay the

price later.”

Of those who supported the 100% plan, Climate Action Campaign policy manager Ayn Craciun said the combined efforts of all four cities will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1.7 million metric tons.

“We are very excited that Fullerton is basically doubling the amount of renewable energy that families in Fullerton are getting today from [Southern California] Edison,” Craciun said.

Fullerton resident and Advanced Placement Environmental Science teacher Andrew Gartner supports this decision to use renewables as it will create a cleaner and more sustainable environment.

“I think the overall idea [to go renewable] is good,” said Gartner, who has been teaching the subject for nine years. “I think it’s a kind of rough timing where things cost a lot right now ..., [but] I think any kind of increase in the amount of renewables [will sustain] further into the future, so it is a good choice.”

The council hopes to use this fall as a method of seeing what the public believes in and possibly readdress the situation next year.

“We only have one Earth; there’s no other one,” Jung said. “We are duty-bound to save it.”

OC cities that offer renewable energy



Buena Park



Fullerton



Irvine



Huntington Beach

The above cities have opted for either a 70% or 100% renewable energy plan.

Source: OC Register
MICAIAH GIRMA | theaccolade

FROM PAGE 14

ECO CLUB RECYCLING COMPETITION

"I was excited when I heard that Eco Club was going to be supporting the [FJUHS's] initiative to enforce Senate Bill 1383, Assembly Bill 341 and Assembly Bill 1826," Stinson said. "The energy that Louis and the rest of the Ecology Club members have brought to this project has been great, [and] their excitement grabs the attention of those around them and brings positive attention to their efforts."

Allocating four large recycling bins for each grade level, students can deposit their recyclables in their respective receptacles in the quad.

"It's all about the students being able to organize their waste according to the systems that we have set up in place, and it will help us and the custodians out more as we recycle and process all the waste we collect throughout the months," Lee said.

"The quad bins are only for glass, bottles, plastic bottles and aluminum cans."

While the blue recycling bins were put away momentarily over instructional concerns after students threw away non-recyclable items, the club has publicized the competition details through morning announcements, posters and social media post, and reinstated the receptacles.

"Everyone [in the club] helps out, and we have a rotating schedule of people taking and emptying the bins each week," Lee said.

Ecology Club plans to utilize Ponce Recycling Center located in Amerige Heights Town Center to exchange the



Image printed with permission from the Sunny Hills Eco Club

AN ARTISTIC TOUCH: Members of the Sunny Hills Eco Club pose with freshly-painted recycling bins bearing images of the popular cartoon "Peppa Pig" to be placed in the quad for the recycling competition.

collected items for money that will go toward an end-of-the-year prize for the grade level that gathers the most funds.

Although the club members originally aimed to invite an In-N-Out Burger truck onto campus grounds for the winning grade, they decided that the more environmentally-friendly and rewarding option would be to donate a portion of the collected funds to a nonprofit environmental organization that can continue the work they started on campus.

"Our overall goal for this event is to encourage recycling and eliminate the amount of waste produced at Sunny Hills," co-project manager junior Summer Sueki said.

"We hope to collect around 200 pounds of recyclables by the end of the year and get students well-informed regarding recycling."

Putting his faith in the club's activi-

ties, Lee believes that students' lifestyles can change with simple habits that start at school.

"Although it is a very small part, our hope is that, through recycling, we'll be able to at least reduce the carbon footprint by even a little," Lee said.

"We hope that this whole campaign will be able to at least get more school involvement with the students to recycle and further incentivize people to recycle their bottles wherever."

With big hopes, the Ecology Club wishes to continue this year-long project in following school years.

"We are members of a community, and therefore, by part, we also have a voice in the community," Lee said.

"We hope that this whole event will be able to get more school involvement with the students to recycle and further incentivize people to recycle their bottles."

STUDENT CLIMATE CHANGE GROUPS

For Sunny Hills students looking to take action in the fight against climate change, The Accolade put together a list of organizations in Orange County to volunteer at.

Climate Action Campaign
(619)419-1222

Orange County Environmental Justice
patricia@ocej.org
keila@ocej.org

South OC chapter of the National Surfrider Foundation
(949)625-5700
southoc@surfrider.org

Sierra Club
(213)387-4287
info@angeles.sierraclub.org

Compiled by Irene Sheen

FROM PAGE 13

BUILD BACK BETTER BILL

Even with the hefty cost, Lee views the Build Back Better Act as an implementation necessary to secure environmental safety.

"The more these climate change activities are delayed, the more it will cost us financially and socially in the long run," Lee said. "Unfortunately, these funds and projects won't immediately solve our world's environmental concerns, but it's relieving to know that our politicians are trying to make an effort to bring change to our environment."

POLITICAL CONFLICT STALLS BILL

To advance the Build Back Better Act past the Senate, the Democratic Party requires the support of all its 50 senators to overrule the 50 Republican votes against the suggested legislation — vice president Kamala Harris holds the tie-break-

ing vote.

West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin and Arizona Senator Kyrsten Sinema, however, stand as the only Democrats of their party against the bill.

Rather than funnel such a hefty sum of money into internal improvements, Manchin advocates for Congress to invest the time and money toward paying the nation's growing debt. He holds concerns over the bill's demanding finances and potential to spark inflation.

Sinema, another adversary of the Build Back Better Act, opposes raising income taxes for the upper class, thereby contributing to the forestallment of the act's approval in the Senate and sinking any effort made toward bipartisanship.

"Bipartisanship means that you have both Republicans and Democrats vote for it, so the idea of having two posing groups in favor of something is usually a good thing because it means they're compromising," Del Crognale said.

With no Republican support in the House of Representatives, Del Crognale does not

view the Build Back Bill Act as a substantial step toward strengthening the nation's bipartisan system.

STUDENT AND TEACHER REACTIONS

According to a new UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies poll co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Times, nearly two-thirds of Los Angeles voters say extreme heat poses a serious threat to public health and safety. 8 in ten voters say the same about the air pollution caused by the use of oil and natural gas.

Members of the SH community share such an outlook and express an urgent need for the passage of the Build Back Better Act to prevent further environmental destruction.

Catota, who joined the SH Eco Club several months ago, views climate change as a global concern pressing enough to sacrifice adding to the national debt.

"I think, or I hope, that if there is so much money being spent on the bill [then] it can really only produce a good

outcome," Catota said. "Yes, it will put us in a lot more debt, but the benefit is too great to lose out on."

Like with any legislative bill, Americans will not perceive immediate effects in their surrounding environment; despite such a fact, Catota still supports its enactment and encourages his peers to patiently do the same.

"The long wait doesn't make me less inclined to support it because any project that is this big is going to take years to take place," he said.

Del Crognale, too, acknowledges the inconvenient timeline of the Build Back Better Act, but he sees its efforts as necessary for the development of the nation, even with the several years Americans may have to wait through.

"I think in the long run, [the bill] should be a really good thing because it's again something we've been needing in this country," Del Crognale said. "[America] used to be the best, but then we didn't do anything for 50 years, and now we have to catch up again."

BILL AT A GLANCE

The following are the key aspects of the \$21.4 trillion package, one of the most extensive in history:

● **COST:** \$2.4 trillion in spending with over \$2.2 trillion gained in offsets

● **GREEN EFFORTS:** \$555 billion goes directly toward fighting climate change

● **EDUCATION:** Makes higher education affordable, through grants for millions of students

● **TAX CREDITS:** Credits for clean energy and electric usage

Source: whitehouse.gov
Compiled by Krishna Thaker

LORDS OF THE FLIES

Novel about students stranded on island adapted for the stage

CHLOE CHUN

Cub Reporter

After two years of virtual performances because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the theater department has returned to a live performance in front of audiences with the play, “Lord of the Flies.”

Based on a stage adaptation of William Golding’s 1954 novel, the 22-member cast had its opening night Thursday at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) courtyard with 80% capacity.

“I’m just excited to get kids performing again,” said theater teacher Christian Penuelas.

The play will continue with performances today and Saturday at 7 p.m.

Penuelas said he opted for a survivalist thriller because it gave him the chance to explore the idea of an outdoor instead of the traditional indoor approach.

“As the show descends into darkness, so will the set and the surroundings, and everything is going to become more vibrant — the lighting and the effects,” he said.

Known for its violence and harsh truths about how teens can resort to extreme behavior without adult supervision, the play follows a group of stranded British schoolchildren after a plane crash on a desert island.

While they attempt to survive to-

gether in the beginning, they quickly split into two groups: one led by Ralph (sophomore Phoenix Jarman), who strives for cooperation, and the other ruled by Jack (senior Daniel Johnson), who turns toward savagery.

Penuelas said he originally chose the show for the spring production because it accommodated the COVID-19 protocols that were still in effect last December.

“It’s very high energy; it has a lot of endearing characters, and it has a lot of high action and movements,” the first-year theater teacher said. “It is a lot of fun to do; it’s a lot of challenging acting, and it’s something everyone can recognize.”

Many cast members shared the same sentiment.

“It is a lot — it’s intimidating,” said Jarman, who last semester played Humpty Dumpty in the fall video recorded performance of “Alice,” an adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* and *Alice Through the Looking Glass*.

The pandemic had

FLIES >> Page 18





ASAPH LI | theaccolade

FIRST TAKE: A more than 80% capacity audience watches the opening scene of “Lord of the Flies” Thursday night at the Performing Arts Center courtyard.



SUMMER SUEKI | theaccolade

GETTING READY: The cast has its first dress rehearsal Tuesday night.



ASAPH LI | theaccolade

CHECKING IN: One of the audience members before Thursday’s performance uses his phone to scan a QR code to access a digital program of the play.

FROM PAGE 17

FLIES

limited the program to virtual performances, which disappointed theater students who had never had the live experience yet. With “Lord of the Flies” being the first in-person performance in two years, the members are excited they are finally able to perform live with an audience.

“It’s nice getting back into [acting in-person],” said senior Samantha Stanfill, who plays Ralph’s supporter, Piggy. “It feels normal again, and this is what I wanted for my senior year.”

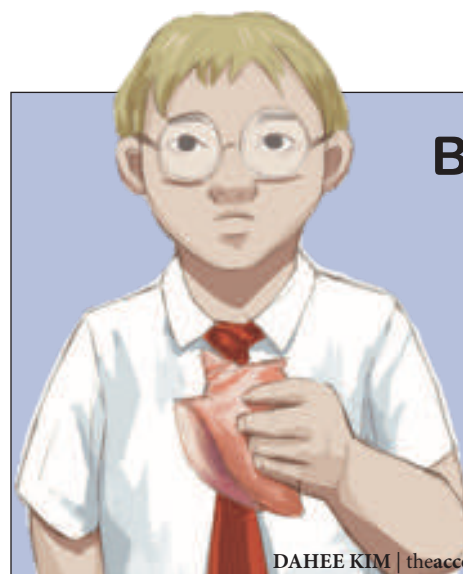
The courtyard was full of audience members that came to watch Thursday’s opening performance. Sophomore Jerika Mae Tabuada, who was among the audi-

ence, shared her thoughts on the play.

“‘Lord of the Flies’ was a well-acted play that really made me consider all the hours the actors and the stage managers put in,” Tabuada said. “I appreciate the immersion of nature and setting they implemented by having the play performed outdoors.”

Although the novel features only boys, Penuelas said he didn’t mind giving some of the male roles to girls. Penuelas appreciates all the work his students put in to perfect this play and hopes his cast will really bring to the stage what they prepared throughout these past couple months.

“It’s going to be a fun and pretty intense show, just the way it was written and the way we’re doing it,” Penuelas said. “But I know that the students are going to feel proud of the work they’re doing up there.”



DAHEE KIM | theaccolade

BACK IN ACTION

- Performance times: Today, Saturday at 7 p.m.
- Location: Performing Arts Center [PAC] courtyard
- Tickets sold before the show at the PAC for \$15 or online at shhstheater.com with a \$2 convenience fee; use discount \$5 promo code: LOTF_STUDENT

Compiled by Panth Savalia



AUSTIN MAUSHUND | theaccolade

CAN’T WE ALL GET ALONG?: Sophomore Phoenix Jarman (left) plays Ralph, who joins his peers in a pretend-fighting scene early in the show.

AIDEN PARK
Cub Reporter

Whether it be from pages or from screen, the “Harry Potter” series always had that magic to immerse audiences in a world of wonder and excitement.

So the experience of revisiting the Wizarding World through the film series “Fantastic Beasts” initially seemed like a huge blessing to fans, who have been in a drought of “Harry Potter” content since the 2011 film, “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part II.”

But the third installment, “Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore,” ironically broke the spell of unconditional love fans had for the “Harry Potter” series.

Even in considering the obstacles the film faced during production, such as replacing lead actor Johnny Depp with Mads Mikkelsen, “Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore” still contains too many flaws — providing an anti-climatic ending to a trilogy and lacking character development of the protagonist.

Directly picking up from its previous iteration, “Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald,” Gellert Grindelwald (Mads Mikkelsen, “Chaos Walking”) quickly makes a name in the wizarding world as the most



PREQUEL TO “HARRY POTTER” CONTINUES: *Jude Law plays Albus Dumbledore (left) as he compliments Dan Fogler’s character, Jacob Kowalski, for his bravery in the third installation of the “Fantastic Beasts” series.*

wanted criminal.

Unlike the first two films in which Grindelwald worked as a discreet villain killing off his rivals with magic spells, audiences get a more “mastermind” side of the antagonist as he runs for the office of Supreme Mugwump — an elected position, similar to that of a president — and this time tries to take control of the entire world.

Noticing the villain’s sinister plan to exterminate all Muggles — “Harry Potter” term for non-magical people — influential professor Albus Dumbledore (Jude Law, “The Nest”) recruits a group of brave wizards and witches, including protagonist Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne, “The Trial of the Chicago 7”), to bring Grindelwald down once and for all.

The overall plot does indeed come out to be quite interesting. Fans of the “Harry Potter” world will most definitely rush into the theater, curious to find out about the long-stalled secrets of the iconic Dumbledore. In the last book, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, J. K. Rowling provided a brief description about how Dumbledore may not be as pure and good as he comes out to be and that he has long overdue problems with the infamous Grindelwald.

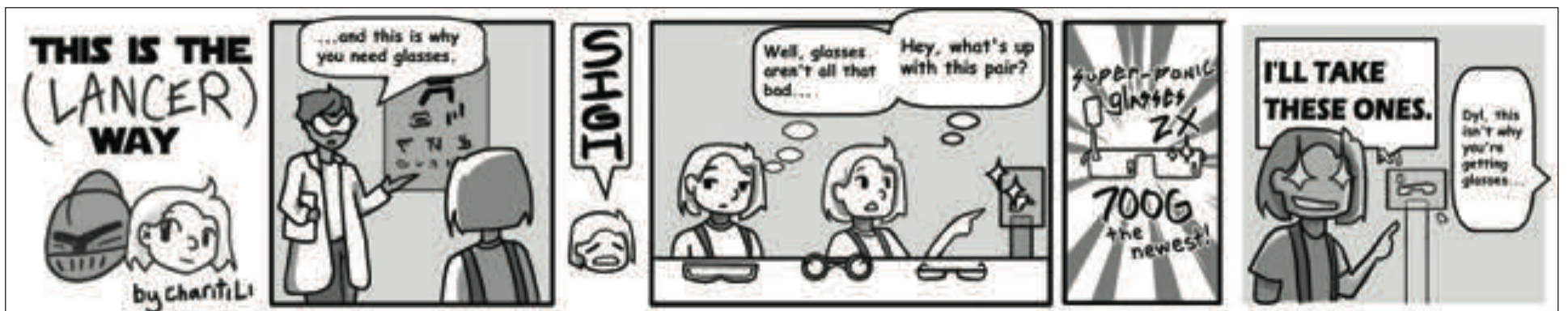
This film should have finally expanded on the “secrets” of Dumbledore and Grindelwald’s strange history, but it utterly fails to do so.

This error may come from how the film attempts to cover so many plot points in its 143-minute run time. Because director David Yates (“Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald”) chooses to focus on too many “side” and insignificant characters, the film does not provide enough runtime for Dumbledore’s backstory and even leads to a lack of character development for Newt himself.

Though some diehard “Potter” fans may want a fourth “Fantastic Beasts,” it’s best if producers end it with this one.







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Senior runner shatters hurdle record

EUREE KIM

Cub Reporter

2009 — Onyi Apakama set the Sunny Hills 100 meter hurdle record for track and field at 16.07 seconds.



Abigail Hahm
Senior

Nearly a decade later, senior Abigail Hahm topped Apakama’s history, not once, but twice in her senior year — one in March and one in April of 2022.

Coming into The Qualifier Covina High School Invitational March 19, Hahm had been training for over 10 hours a week in and out of school.

“The invitational in March was a bunch of Southern California schools meeting to get a feel for who would run in the CIF,” Hahm said. “I was just excited because it was an invitational — invitationals are just supposed to be fun.”

Cutting nearly 0.6 seconds from her previous time, Hahm took the record for the first time in her senior career with a time of 15.93 seconds.

“It was 100 meter hurdles, and it was cool making the record,” Hahm said. “I wish I had the year we lost in COVID-19 because I feel like I could’ve been better, but ultimately I’m satisfied.”

Just 17 days later, at the April 5 Freeway League Quad-Meet, Hahm bested the record once again, finishing her race within 15.75 seconds.

“It felt rewarding to see how much I



Image printed with permission from Abigail Hahm | theaccolade

BREAK A LEG: Runner senior Abigail Hahm gets ready to race in the 100-meter hurdles in the Freeway League Quad-Meet #1 at Fullerton High School on Tues. April 5th.

improved,” she said. “I knew I could push myself more, so it was nice knowing I could go farther... the work that I put in is paying off.”

Ever since Hahm started her track journey freshman year — since her first varsity appearance in her sophomore year — she has been aiming to break the record.

During his three years coaching Hahm, head track and field coach Jacob Holloway

said Hahm has surpassed his expectations as an athlete.

“It’s not a coincidence; it’s hard work,” Holloway said. “I was surprised... she was on a mission and just knocked [the record] out.”

Aside from Hahm’s competitiveness, her teammates talk about her lively personality off the field.

“Abby is the most energetic person I

RUNNING PAST THE 100M HURDLE RECORD	
	16.07 seconds Onyi Apakama, 12 - May 2009
	15.93 seconds Abigail Hahm, 12 - March 2022
	15.75 seconds Abigail Hahm, 12 - April 2022
compiled by Grace Min	

know as she is always smiling,” runner senior Jasmin Jones said.

Though Hahm remains undecided on continuing her track and field career on the collegiate level, Hahm has received offers from many different colleges, such as Chapman University, Occidental College and Hope International. However, Hahm plans to attend the University of California, San Diego [UCSD] to further her academia in mathematics.

“They were really nice, but I don’t think I will attend those colleges,” Hahm said. “I can run at UCSD and compete if I reach a certain standard and time.”

Track at Sunny Hills has not only taught Hahm running, but it has also taught her to achieve her goals and encourage people to find something they appreciate and love.

“Running track has definitely taught me to always get over the hurdles in life and to keep going no matter what,” Hahm said.

SPRING SPORTS' FREEWAY LEAGUE RECORDS

Boys Tennis 10-0
1st in league

Boys Volleyball 10-0
1st in league

Boys Golf 6-0
1st in league

Girls Swim 5-0
1st in league

Baseball 9-3
1st in league

Boys Swim 4-1
2nd in league

Softball 5-3
3rd in league

Track & Field
2nd in league

compiled by Grace Min

Sunny Hills hits a ‘home run’ with incoming baseball coach

KAYLA MARTINEZ

Cub Reporter

With more than 15 years of coaching experience under his belt, the first-year baseball head coach Ryan Bateman looks to win the Freeway League Championship—the first since 1991.



Ryan Bateman
Head Coach

“We talked about winning championships from the first day I stepped on campus; we’re one win away from getting into the playoffs for Division 5,” Bateman said.

Before accepting the head coach job at Sunny Hills, Bateman played baseball for Cerritos College as catcher, first and third baseman. He coached baseball and football at Santa Fe High

School from 2005- 2015, baseball at Fullerton College until 2017, then finally returned to the high school ranks as he found them to be more fulfilling.

“I feel that I have more to offer the younger athletes in terms of personal growth,” he said.

Bateman was hired at Sunny Hills in August 2021; he was weighing between three different positions at local high schools but ended up choosing Sunny Hills for long-term stability he was looking for as a head coach and special education teacher.

“Sunny Hills was just a place that I felt where I wanted to be,” Bateman said. “There’s always been something special about Sunny Hills.”

The Lancers are 15-10 overall and 9-3 in league, placing first in the Freeway League as they head into the last few games of the regular season.

Bateman is currently building personal relationships with play-

ers, including left fielder junior Dustin Staggs.

“I think that Coach coming into the program was a much needed thing, and the assets that he brings are like no other coach I’ve had,” Staggs said.

Athletic director Paul Jones said that Bateman embodies the goals of the athletic program, which is to build championship human beings out of students.

“He’s a very good communicator, have the same coaching philosophy, and that coupled with his communication skills makes him my top choice,” Jones said.

Instilling a form of perpetual success for all athletes, the head coach hopes to continue building relationships with the players and work on attitude and effort in the future.

“I’m trying to establish a situation where people want to come here and want to be a part of something special,” Bateman said.

SOPHOMORE TAKES FLIGHT

Keiley Shea defies gravity and its risks while competing on her BMX bike

YEIHN LEE

Staff Reporter

Sophomore Keiley Shea recalls bracing herself as she rides over a boulder on her DK Professional Series racing bike during one of her practices last year. Strong and dusty winds abruptly force her to stop, throwing her sideways onto her shoulder and breaking her collarbone.

According to olympics.com, 38% of bicycle motocross [BMX] cyclists suffered injuries in the 2016 Olympics in comparison to merely 8% for Olympians competing in other sports.



Keiley Shea
Sophomore

"It is a constant battle to learn to be comfortable with being uncomfortable and to be able to take big risks; on the other hand, the slight fear around it all is what gives the sport the adrenaline rush I love so much," Shea said.


"Risk is definitely a huge part of this sport, but I have been fortunate enough to have never had any severe or long-lasting injuries."


Shea said she started BMX racing nearly a decade ago at the age of 6 after seeing her older brother, Riley Shea, race.


"When I first began coming to the track, I was very intimidated by the starting gate; it's where the race begins, but it also makes a loud bang when it drops," she said.

"This was very scary for me as a kid, and it took me getting over that fear to

BMX FAX

BMX Stands for Bicycle Moto-X. 

 BMX started in the late 1960s in California.

The small BMX bike ensures the cyclist can swing their bike. 

compiled by Kristima Aryal

start racing."

BMX stands as a competitive male-dominated cycle sport in which eight racers go through a series of obstacles on bicycles with the goal to be first to cross the finish line.

"[Being a female racer] is honestly one of the best things ever," she said. "My favorite thing is having a younger girl tell me that they look up to me and want to be like me, and I love having the opportunity to be a positive role model for young girls in the sport."

She even represented Team USA at the BMX World Championships in 2017, placing in the Top 40.

"I felt extremely honored for the opportunity, and I was very excited to be able to compete with the best in the world," said Shea, who was among 24 girls who represented Team USA for her age.

Besides that, she placed first seven

times in her district, second in California in 2021, won a gold cup twice in the U.S. Southwest Championship Series and even ranked eighth in the nation in her age group in 2018 and 11th in 2020 and 2021.

"I love competing, probably almost too much," she said.

"I'm super competitive, and my drive to win gives me motivation to train."

Her next BMX competition will take place on the weekend of May 14 in Tulsa, where she will be racing for the title of Junior National Champion in the Junior National Championships, the stepping stone category to becoming a professional.

"I wish BMX was well known because it's a really great sport for everyone, and professionals in BMX deserve more recognition than they get," Shea said. "The benefit of winning would be to qualify for the junior elite category and having the opportunity to represent USA."

The racer participates in strength training in the gym and practices on the track six days a week for one to three hours a day.

Shea's mother, Cari, said she admires her daughter's love for BMX and supports her despite the sport's dangers.

"Life is a bit dangerous and full of risk; find something you love to do, and do it the best you can," the mother said. "I love to watch Keiley ride her bike."

The young athlete plans to turn professional in a few years and qualify to represent Team USA at the World Cham-

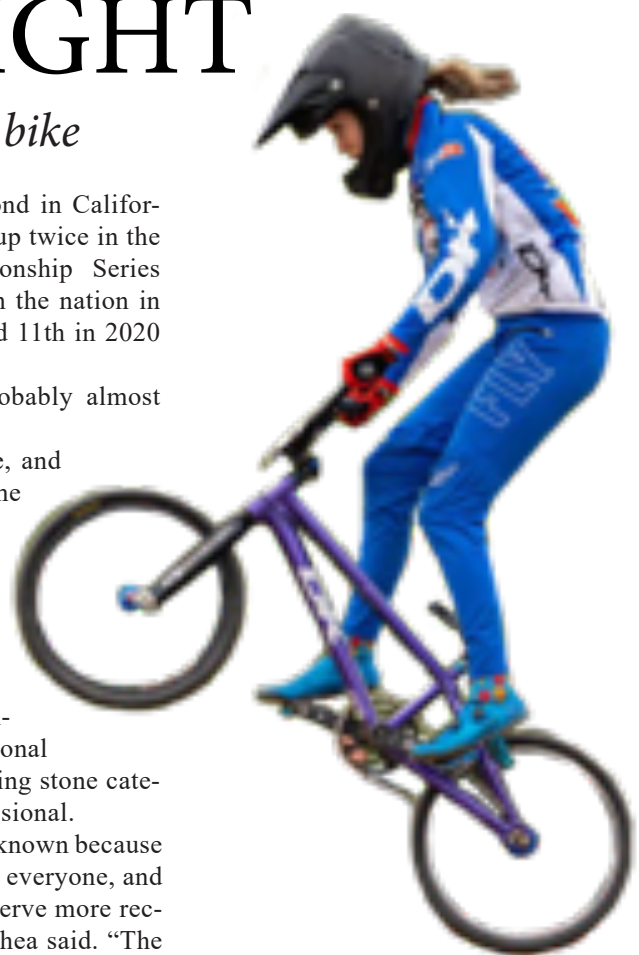


Image printed with permission from Keiley Shea
RISKING IT ALL: Sophomore Keiley Shea performs a stunt on her DK professional series BMX racing bike at the San Diego BMX on March 13.

pionships in 2022 in France by achieving a good result at the Junior National Championships.

"For any future BMX athletes, I would suggest ignoring any fears or doubts," Shea said. "BMX is definitely intimidating, but once you realize how much fun it is, it's addicting."

"The BMX community is extremely supportive and very welcoming to new riders of all ages."



KRISTEL LACESTE | theaccolade

DON'T FALL BACK: Pitcher sophomore Maddie Moreno footdrags on the pitching mound while pitching to a Coyote in a home game on Tues. at the softball field.

Softball strikes out Buena Park in 7-0 game

MINJEONG KIM

Co-Feature Editor

Despite a weak start to the game, the Sunny Hills softball team claimed a victory against the Buena Park Coyotes in a home game Tuesday, April 19.

"We started out the game a little slow, and we didn't score until the later innings," said second-year head coach Elise Laws. "Ideally, we want to come out the same way we ended the game to finish stronger."

Laws referred to key players of the game, including pitcher sophomore Maddie Moreno, who contributed to leading the team to victory by giving up one hit and allowing no runs to the Coyotes, as well as having nine strikeouts.

"I had high expectations for today's game because we beat them 17-7 in our last game," Moreno said.

"I'm pretty happy and satisfied with how my team and I

did because we performed really well, especially in the last inning."

Senior third baseman Jasmyn Morales said the team was mentally prepared to make quick decisions throughout the game, which allowed them to get Buena Park's baserunners out.

"We helped our pitcher by making double plays or getting the out," Morales said. "We were also experienced enough to know when to get a certain out in certain situations, and that helped us lead in the game."

She also referred to her teammate Moreno's achievement that helped keep limited base runners.

"Maddie pitched a great game," Morales said. "I think she only had a two hitter game, meaning there were only two hits out in the game."

Although the Lady Lancers dominated the Coyotes with a complete victory, the team experienced a major struggle that

has been present throughout the season: lack of energy.

"We were really flat when we came out, so we had to put out all our efforts in the later innings of the game," Laws said. "Instead of just thinking we can show up and beat teams, we need to come out with more energy to minimize the number of hits and mistakes."

Morales also pointed out that the key to the team's future wins will derive from the escalated energy that athletes need to improve on.

"Our team's goal is to win every inning, meaning not let our opponents score and us scoring at least once every inning," the third baseman said. "We definitely need our bats to pull together some runs and not get too relaxed after scoring."

Coming from a 7-0 victory against Troy on Thursday, the Lady Lancers will head to their next away match against Sonora on Monday, April 25.



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