

ASB may shift from fifth to third period

ELECTIVE RESPONDS TO NEW BELL SCHEDULE WITH PROPOSED CHANGE
KATE YANG

Web Managing Editor

To accommodate for the new bell schedule that positions lunch before break, the Associated Student Body [ASB] received tentative administrative approval to move from fifth to third period.

“We generally have, in the past before our new schedule, had our ASB period right before lunch because we had a lot of lunchtime activities,” ASB co-adviser David Fenstermaker said. “With lunch following the third period next year, we wanted the ASB period to coincide right before lunch like previous years.”

Junior Jacqueline Woo, the ASB president-elect, believes the shift will make organizing lunch time events more convenient.

“Having ASB before lunch is always a benefit because it will help us when we have to set up a table or something to sell grams or prepare for lunchtime games and activities,” Woo said.

Besides the move to third period, Fenstermaker said he also plans to switch ASB’s double period assemblies from second to third period before the 11:36 a.m. lunch.

“Assemblies and lunch activities are going to necessitate some third period callouts next year,” he said.

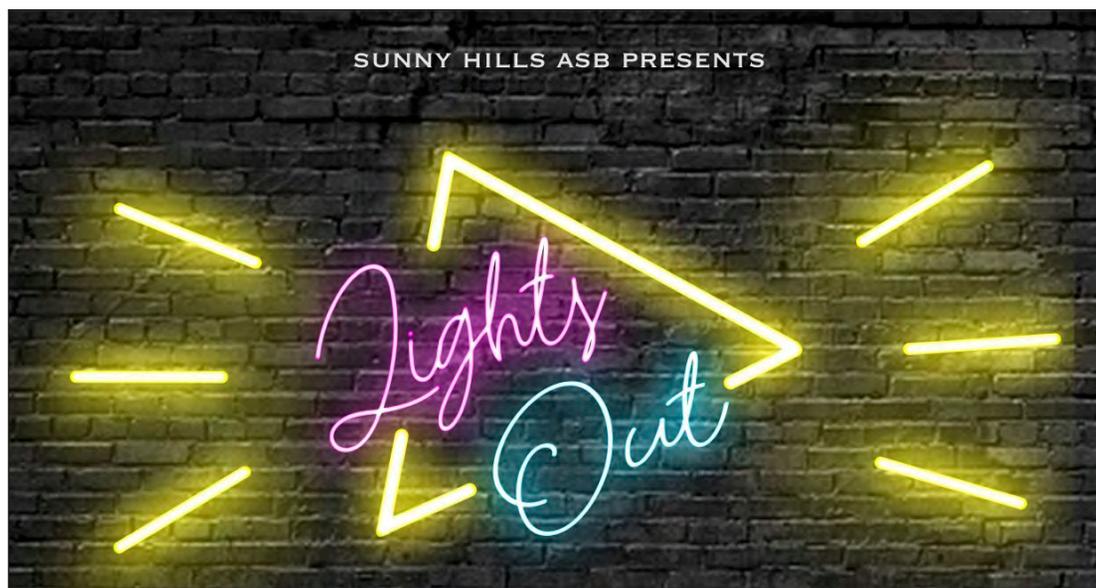
Upon learning last week from Fenstermaker about the ASB’s proposed move to third period, English and journalism teacher Tommy Li has also asked administrators if the Journalism I elective can be moved to third period and the Advanced Journalism class after that.

Administration traditionally scheduled multiple electives for the same period to prevent students from enrolling in *The Accolade*, ASB and *Helios*. However, with the ASB period switch, students may be tempted to enroll in more than one elective.

“This issue will be handled case by case,” Fenstermaker said. “I don’t want to tell students that they can’t do something, but I think it has been beneficial to all of our programs that students enroll in one program and not multiple.”

RELATED STORY

Staff Editorial: ASB period switch plan deserves praise.
See Opinion, page 16.



MAKING A COMEBACK: *The Associated Student Body’s poster promotes the theme for the school’s first stag dance May 20 — the first since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020.*

LAST DANCE

AFTER TWO-YEAR HIATUS BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, STAG RETURNS TO THE GYM MAY 20

HANNAH LEE

Copy Editor

The Associated Student Body [ASB] plans to organize a stag dance — the first and last of the school year — on May 20 from 7-10 p.m. in the gym.

“This dance is always a big celebration because it’s a good marker to know the year is almost over,” ASB co-adviser David Fenstermaker said. “It’s an opportunity to celebrate the end of the school year.”

An ASB-produced video broadcast on the jumbotron May 6 released the “Lights Out” theme to viewers.

Because COVID-19 restrictions had previously forced the ASB to cancel stag in the past two years, underclassmen have never experienced a stag before.

“We’re going to try to do some cool effects and try to

NOTABLE NUMBERS

● **COST:** \$15 with a Gold card and \$20 without

● **TIME:** 7-10 p.m., May 20

● **TICKET INFO.:** Can purchase via SH webstore any time — even on day of dance



Compiled by Susie Kim
Image source: Canva

bring in some outdoor things like video games, but it’s a little bit more relaxed,” Fenstermaker said. “Homecoming had 1,200 people, so if we get anywhere like that, it’ll be great.”

Because of updated COVID-19 state and county health and safety guidelines, next week’s event will once again be allowed indoors, contrary to the October 2021 homecoming dance, which was held

in the quad, Fenstermaker said.

“Since the mask mandate has been lifted, [the ASB] thought that an indoor stag would be appropriate for the theme and more fun for students, so we suggested it to administration, and they allowed it,” ASB social commissioner senior Micah Desai said. “It’ll be a nice event for everyone to come in and have fun.”

Tickets can be bought from the school’s webstore.

ASB president-elect Jacqueline Woo named 2022-2023 student board rep

KATE YANG

Web Managing Editor

Associated Student Body [ASB] president-elect junior Jacqueline Woo has been selected among 16 other applicants to join the five trustees of the Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHS], serving as the student representative beginning



Jacqueline Woo

in August.

“I feel some pressure because I really want to do a good job and represent Sunny Hills well,” said Woo, who will replace the 2021-2022 student board representative, senior Grace Lee from Buena Park High School. “It’s a huge role to fill.”

Before the board elected Lee, Class of 2021 alumnus Jenna Beining assumed the role of FJUHS student representative. Like Woo, she served on the ASB cabinet as the secretary.

Lee introduced Woo as her successor during Tuesday’s FJUHS board meeting.

“I’m really excited and grateful for this opportunity to be serving as the student board member next [school] year,” the Sunny Hills junior said.

Within her brief introduction, Woo introduced the board members and meeting attendees to her older sister and parents and thanked ASB co-adviser Mike Paris for encouraging her to apply for the position.

Board Member >> Page 3

TRIPLE BACK TO DOUBLE

MAY 25 ASSEMBLY WILL BE HELD TWICE DURING PER. 2

ESTHER OH

Staff Reporter

After having to organize triple-period assemblies in the gym for much of the school year to meet COVID-19 health and safety protocols, the Associated Student Body [ASB] will be allowed to go back to a double-second period gathering May 25, school officials said.

“We wanted to go back to the double assembly schedule all along, but the district did not allow us to because of the state law,” said ASB co-adviser Mike Paris, referring to a previous state policy restricting indoor gatherings in public buildings to 1,000.

That COVID-19 protocol was eventually lifted on May 2 to have no capacity limits, according to a state public health department news release.

The last time the ASB was able to put together a double-second period assembly was Aug. 20 for the “Welcome Back” event — the first of the school year.

The final indoor student gathering of the 2021-2022 school year is traditionally known as the “End-of-the-Year” assembly.

During that event, students will watch an ASB-produced video of teachers and ASB students performing a skit called “Sunny Hills Live,” derived from the American late-night live television sketch comedy and variety show on NBC, “Saturday Night Live.”

“There’s a lot to look forward to,” ASB assembly commissioner senior Manishi Jayasuriya said. “We’ll be having Dance Production and Broduction perform.”

Broduction, a team of 10 senior boys, made their first appearance in the Dance Department’s [DP] Spring Show in April with a performance choreographed by the DP.

The ASB also prepared a slideshow presenting images from the year, including memories from events like Club Rush and the International Food Fair.

“I haven’t been able to experience an in-person, end-of-year assembly yet, so I’m excited to see what ASB [has] prepared,” sophomore Jacob Kim said. “I feel like it’ll be more crowded in the gym since it’s only two assemblies, but it sounds like a lot of people prefer that, so I’m excited to finally experience the pre-COVID assembly schedule.”

And the winner is ...

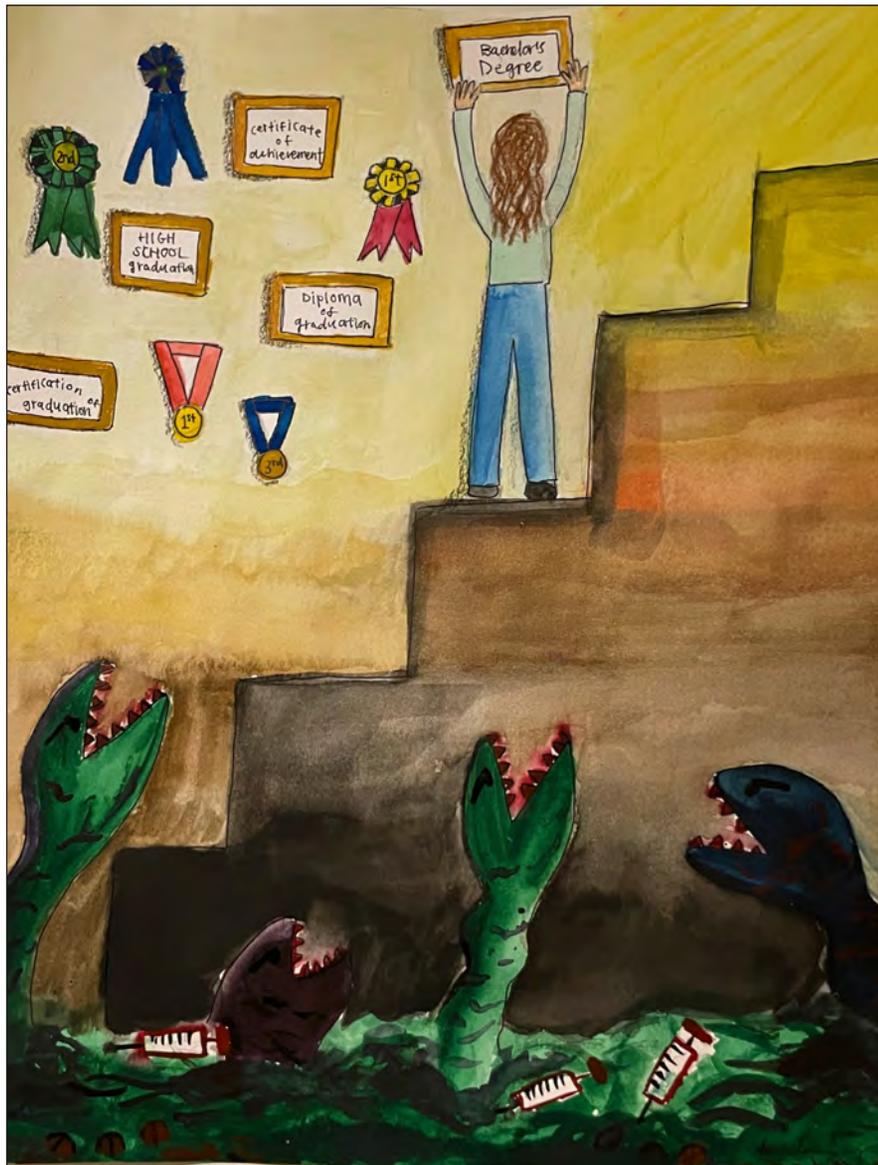


Image printed with permission from Friday Night Live
STAIRWAY TO SUCCESS: *The Friday Night Live club announced May 4 freshman Angelina Jung as its first-place winner in the club's inaugural drug prevention contest. Jung's depiction of a student achieving her academic goals while avoiding the "monsters" representing drugs and drug paraphernalia earned her a \$20 Starbucks gift card.*

ALL DRESSED UP

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES WORK ALONGSIDE DISTRICT OFFICIALS ON REVISED ATTIRE POLICY

KRISHNA THAKER

Special Sections Editor

Following concerns over the outdated nature of the Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHSD] dress code, board members have approved an updated version that district officials collaborated on with the Student Advisory Council [SAC].

"Coming back from two years of having normal school for most people, I think that there were adjustments needing to be made," principal Craig Weinreich said. "We can look at what we have done in the past, how we can move forward and the things we need to update."

Since last semester, district officials and members of the SAC — consisting of Associated Student Body [ASB] representatives from each FJUHSD school — have met to come up with new language for Administrative Regulation 5650, which lists March 29 as the approval date.

"It's been an ongoing discussion at the SAC meetings ever since the issue came up," said ASB vice president senior Ellen Kim, who attended many of these meetings. "District officials asked us for our input and came back with drafts, taking our remarks into consideration."

The new version of 5650 now has a section titled, "The purpose of 'Student Dress Standards and Guidelines,'" with the first bulleted item featuring such language as the attire policy "ensure[s] that all students are treated equitably without regard to gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, reli-

gion, and personal style."

"[SAC] basically focused on two main issues: the dress code itself and the implementation of the code," Kim said. "The district really took what we said into account."

Another addition addresses the wearing of midribs: "Clothing must cover all areas of the midribs when arms are down. Minimal exposure of the belly button is permitted when raising arms or moving."

Weinreich said that because the code has just recently been updated, he and his admin team will need to discuss items like the midriff before the start of the next school year when 5650 will go into effect.

"The spirit of the dress code is going to be the same for everybody, but there are certain specifics that each campus culture has," he said. "We will be revising ours a little bit to put it in 'Lancer terms,' as opposed to district terms."

According to an *Accolade* Instagram poll, 80% of 50 respondents said they were not aware that the district had released the updated version of the dress code.

"I am glad that the administration was actually willing to listen to student voices and make appropriate changes to their legislation," said junior Tazia Mohammad, who was among those unaware of the revised attire policy.

Others involved in pushing for change last semester had mixed feelings.

"I am relieved that the wording has been changed, but personally, I think the language is still discriminatory," said Chloe Serrano, who as a junior at Fullerton Union High School created an online petition last year on change.org challenging the district's dress code.

FROM PAGE 2

BOARD MEMBER

The SH student body elected Woo as president of the 2022-2023 ASB executive cabinet on March 11, and soon after, Paris encouraged her to apply for the student board representative position.

"I felt that Jacky would be the perfect fit for the position because she is a natural leader and outstanding communicator," he said. "We are all extremely excited and proud of her, [and] she will be an outstanding student board member."

Paris expects her experiences as junior class president to guide her through the challenges that may arise with her district position.

"This year, she was responsible for the planning and organization of prom, and, in addition, has taken an active role in planning dance, promotional videos, marketing and chair-

ing meetings," he said. "She is a poised and confident public speaker as well: she has a natural ability to communicate and make people around her comfortable."

Woo's new role will allow her to cast what the board calls a "preferential vote," which means she gets to participate in the duty of the other elected trustees to make their views known on various agenda items. However, her decisions will have no bearing on final decisions made by board members.

As student board representative, Woo will bear the responsibility of giving a report at the beginning of each board meeting about what's happening in each of the high schools in the district.

"I went to a board meeting to see how Grace gave her report and was in awe at her eloquence — she was such a good role model," she said. "I wanted to try something big even though I wasn't sure I was going to get the position; I was still excited

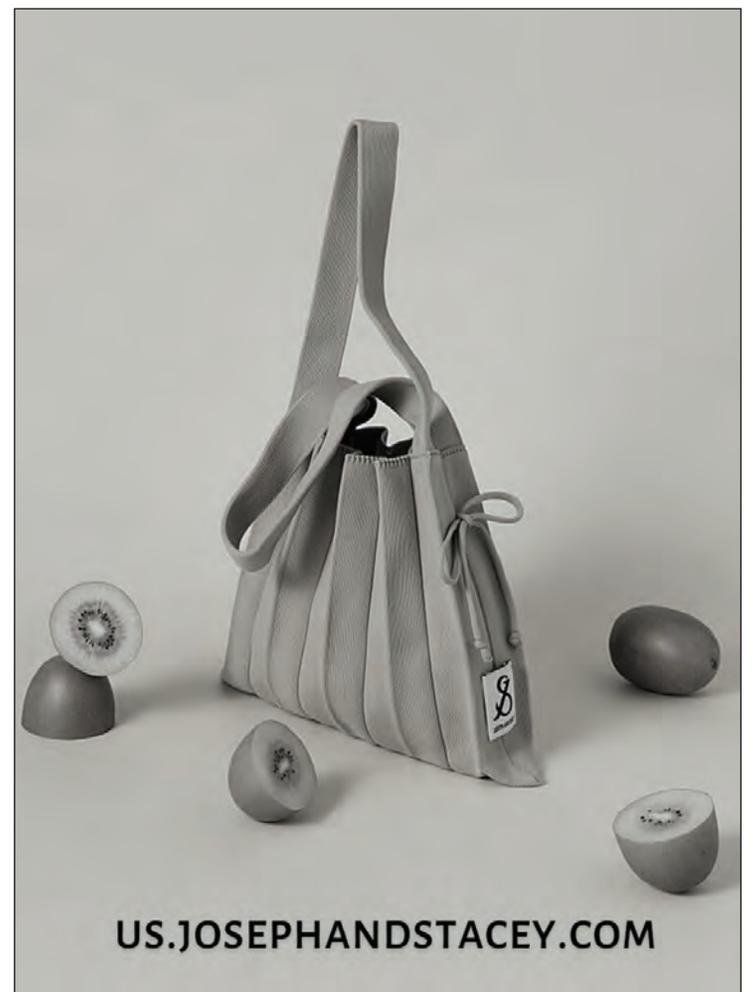
about trying."

She said she expects to be sworn into the position during the board's scheduled Aug. 9 meeting. Meanwhile, Woo has already begun brainstorming an itinerary for her one-year term.

"Each year, the [Student Advisory Committee] board focuses on a different topic, [and] this year was the dress code," Woo said. "For next year, I want to make Student Advisory Committee meetings fun and effective each month to try to unify the schools of the district as a whole community."

As she undertakes the role of student representative, Woo aspires to build upon her existing strengths and adopt new skills for the job.

"I really hope I can get more confidence around others and learn how to work in professional situations around adults," the junior said. "I'm excited for the opportunity and am proud that I can represent Sunny Hills and fill a big role in the district."



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Helios set to hand out yearbooks May 19

KRISTIMA ARYAL

Web Editor-in-Chief

For the first time in two years, the *Helios* yearbook is slated for distribution before summer, beginning May 19 after school in Room 80.

“Having the yearbook come out on time and being able to watch people sign their yearbooks is a big deal for us,” yearbook co-editor-in-chief Joyce Pau said. “In-person reactions like ‘How did they get that picture of me?’ or ‘I don’t remember this happening’ are always exciting.”

Since yearbook adviser Lindsay Safe will not be on campus May 20, Safe said those who don’t pick up annuals the day before will have to wait until the next week to pick theirs up during lunch only.

Titled “It’s Time. We’re ready, are you?” the annual covers every week of the school year along with the traditional student body photos sorted by grade level and staff and club images, she said.

“The fact that we had time in our theme lent us to create a chronological book,” she said.



theaccolade file photo

NO MORE SUMMER DISTRIBUTION: Math teacher Nicole Knutson (left) helps yearbook adviser Lindsay Safe (center) give annuals to those driving up to the Performing Arts Center parking lot in June 2022. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the printer for the *Helios* yearbook was unable to deliver books for distribution in May for the past two years.

“The students have spent so much time at home, and we’re ready to be here and share memories.”

The yearbook staff also shifted

its app used to produce its pages from Adobe InDesign to Herff Jones’ eDesign, a program created by *Helios*’ publishing compa-

ny. That allowed Herff Jones to extend the submission deadline by two weeks, which also meant spring sports could be covered in

NOTABLE NUMBERS

- May 19 after school distribution in Room 80
- Starting week of May 23, students can only get their yearbooks during lunch in Room 80
- More than 900 sold so far
- \$100 with an ASB gold card; \$115 without

Compiled by Susie Kim

the yearbook. In the past, a spring supplement was added with the book.

As of May 12, no specific senior yearbook, signing day is planned as in the past before the COVID-19 pandemic, Safe said. Yearbooks can still be purchased through the Sunny Hills webstore until supply runs out, selling for \$100 with an Associated Student Body gold card and \$110 without it, and prices will increase on distribution day



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Valiant Valedictorians

The 14 valedictorians of the 2021-2022 school year share their “royal” secrets to success and their hopes for the future.



Sharon Choi

*University of Southern California
Fine Arts*

Q: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

A: In New York. I would be in either marketing or real estate, but I don't really have a set plan for the future.



Tesneem Hassan

*University of Southern California
Architectural Engineering*

Q: What motivated you to keep your grades up?

A: I'm a perfectionist, and I don't like to let myself down. It was more of a competition with myself than anything else.



Casey Kim

*UCLA
Biology*

Q: Who helped you the most during your high school career?

A: I would say “shout out to Mr. Kim.” He really helps me with managing Key Club and get way better at loving my favorite subject, which is biology.



Curtis Kim

*University of Pennsylvania
Sociology*

Q: What is your favorite quote?

A: “Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently” - Henry Ford



Justin Kim

*John Hopkins University
Neuroscience*

Q: How have you changed since freshman year?

A: I am a lot more organized and easy going instead of being tense and stressed out over the little things.



Nathan Kim

*UCLA
Neuroscience*

Q: What does it mean to you to be named valedictorian?

A: Honestly, I did not expect it; I just wanted to keep my grades up. It's a great honor, and I'll carry this for a long time.



Ryan Kim



Kaylen Lathrum



Rachel Lee

*Brown University
Business Economics*

Q: What advice do you have for students starting school at Sunny Hill?

A: Don't try doing everything by yourself. Sometimes having a fellow classmate or friend work with you will get the job done faster and even better than you could've done alone.

*Creighton University
Biology*

Q: How have you changed since freshman year?

A: I think since then, I have definitely become more confident, and I have gotten better at making friends.

*Harvard College
Neuroscience*

Q: What was the hardest class you took that risked your perfect GPA?

A: [It] was probably freshman English; my writing was inarticulate and my reading comprehension skills were not as developed then, so the exams were extremely difficult and my essays were mediocre.



Caleb Park



Dane Sprague

*Cal State Fullerton
Nursing*

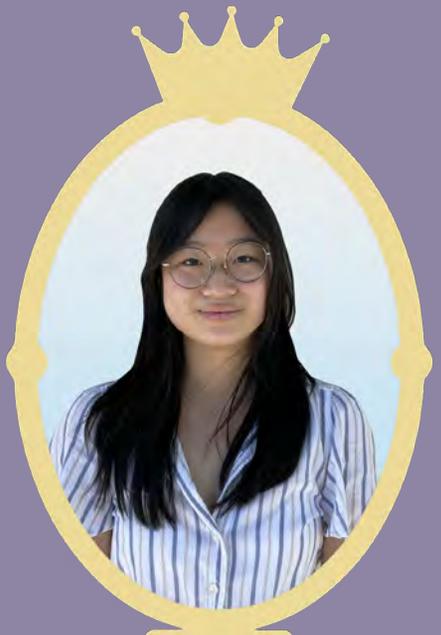
Q: What is the hardest class you took in high school that risked your perfect GPA?

A: A summer course I took before my senior year. I am the least artistically creative person to exist on this planet.

*University of Southern California
Philosophy, politics and economics*

Q: If you could switch lives for one day with a faculty staff member who would it be?

A: I would pick Mr. Oudega, because I'm too lazy to read all the books that he's read, but I want the knowledge from them.



Eunice Yi



Rachel Yun



Lucas Zhuang

Cornell University

Psychology for Human Development

Q: What words of advice do you have for fellow students?

A: Don't regret not doing something, and just do it if you really want to do it. Don't look back and regret that you didn't do something.

University of California, Berkeley

Statistics

Q: What will you miss the most about Sunny Hills?

A: I'll miss all the friends and memories I made as a student athlete and being a part of *The Accolade*.

University of California, Irvine

Computer Science and Engineering

Q: How have you changed since freshman year?

A: I am much more mature than I was in freshman year and less impulsive. However, my curiosity and knowledge have not changed.

Compiled by Michelle Sheen and Kristima Aryal

HOW CAN YOU BECOME A VALEDICTORIAN?

32 minimum honors semester classes



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All A's and B's at 3rd quarter grade report senior year



8 minimum honors semester classes senior year



10 minimum academic honors classes in senior year



No Academic Honesty violations



Source: Sunny Hills Lancer Handbook
Compiled by Kristima Aryal



Image printed with permission from David Burn

RECOGNITION: After having joined Dance Production [DP] in each of his four years at Sunny Hills, senior David Burn — DP's only male performer — earns the Orange County Register's top dancer award as a commercial dancer.

Orange County Register taps senior David Burn for a top dancer award

GRACE MIN

Staff Reporter

Entering a female-dominated field as a boy, senior David Burn faced rude remarks and ignorant stereotypes at a young age.

"I definitely hid [being a dancer] a lot more when I was in elementary school because I was worried how people would view it," said Burn, who first started performing at Fullerton's CF Dance Academy at 9 years old. "When I started talking about [dancing] in middle school, people would stereotype me, but over time, I did my own thing and didn't listen to them."

As an upcoming Chapman University

major, Burn received recognition earlier this month from the *Orange County Register* as top dancer for commercial dance and a finalist for Artist of the Year, a title awarded to "someone who can demonstrate how their art is reaching out to and involving the community around them," according to the *Register*.

The local newspaper acknowledged Burn as top commercial dancer alongside three other girls — Danielle Silver as Artist of the Year for the entire dance category, Michaela Capulong for concert dance and Mia Amaris Lopez for world/cultural dance.

With the help of Sunny Hills dance director Leiana Volen, the senior stood out among 646 applicants as a finalist for the Artist of the Year title and 90 dancers for top dancer recognition.

"While I was thrilled [that he was a finalist], I was not surprised," said Volen, who coached Burn all four years of his high school career after making it into Dance Production. "David has all the qualities, charac-

teristics and capabilities of what makes an Artist of the Year. He is so deserving of this recognition, and I'm proud to get to see him through this exciting experience."

The dance teacher said she nominated Burn for the honor. From there, it was up to the senior to apply on the *Register's* Artist of the Year website by submitting dance performance videos, a resume and four writing supplements.

After being selected as a semi-finalist, Burn said he had an in-person interview with a panel of judges and performed two dances for them.

"I was really excited to be nominated by Miss Volen because it shows that I've made an impact on her throughout my four years of high school," said Burn. "Finding out that I was a finalist was a great accomplishment since out of all [90] students that applied, I got to the Top Four."

He hopes to take this title as an opportunity to advocate for young male dancers who might lack the confidence

he's developed throughout his years of success.

"I am a representation for all male dancers through the Artist of the Year program, and although it's a lot of pressure, I feel really excited to be that representation," Burn said.

Burn's peers, such as senior co-dance production captain Tara Kim, describes her teammate as an inspiration to everyone.

"David stands out as a dancer because of his positive, optimistic personality that shows he is always willing to take on challenges," Kim said.

Burn committed to Chapman University on April 30, where he plans to continue concert dance, workshops and master classes to pursue a career in the dance industry after college.

"All I can say is that no matter what anybody says, if you love something you need to do it and continue to do it," he said. "You'll enjoy life a lot more doing what you love."

CLUB CORNER

Getting lit up — teen writers aim to get first lit mag printed

SUSIE KIM

Social Media Manager

Summer of 1983.

That was the last time Sunny Hills students produced a magazine featuring literary and long form journalism pieces.

Sold for \$1 per issue, the *Excalibur* came out once per season and was produced by the school's journalism students.

Nearly four decades later, a group of students has formed a club in hopes of creating the school's first literary magazine.

Writers Alliance earned ASB approval last semester but didn't start posting its flyers around campus calling for "various forms of prose, poetry, playwriting and more" until early April.

"The students are really motivated, and they're the driving force behind [the literary magazine]," said Writers Alliance adviser Thomas Butler, who teaches sophomore honors English and is a self-published author of fiction. "Most of the time, I just try to pose some questions that they might have not considered and offer some advice on how to ap-

proach it."

After promoting the group through Instagram and flyers posted around campus, the club managed to gather eight writers and two graphic designers, club president sophomore Binny Park said.

Non-club members can also share submissions.

Digital interest forms for writing, editing and designing have been available to interested students since April 12 on the club's website; the team will be accepting submissions until September of the next school year to publish



SUSIE KIM | theaccolade

CREATIVE ZINE: Writers Alliance president sophomore Binny Park (left) discusses names for a new literary magazine with club members during a Monday lunch meeting in Room 34.

the final product by November, Park said.

"My biggest concern is our lack of club members as we're promoting the club in order to find all people interested in all

forms of writing, literature and storytelling," said the club's secretary, sophomore Dylan Gutierrez.

LEAVING THE HILL

ASB co-adviser, '78 SH alum retires after 38 years

JIWOO HAN

Staff Reporter

Care, concern and commitment. These were the motifs of social science teacher and Associated Student Body [ASB] co-adviser Mike Paris, who will retire after this school year is over.

"I have planned for many years to retire in 2022," Paris said. "The retirement benefits have reached a good level at this point for me."

With 38 years of experience as an educator at Sunny Hills — his alma mater — Paris had notified his ASB students about this being his last year during the fall semester.

"It all just kind of worked out," he said. "With pensions and all, I knew that my retirement would probably be in 2022, so like most people, I've been planning it for a long time."

After graduating as a Lancer in 1978, Paris never really left the halls of the SH campus.

The next year, he returned as a walk-on coach for the SH sophomore football team for one year, eventually being hired as the defensive coordinator for varsity football in 1980, he said.

During his football coaching

ANOTHER TEACHER RETIREMENT:

- John Marvin, hired in 1984; Spanish instructor and former president of the Fullerton Secondary Teachers Organization.

tenure, Paris got hired to work as a World History and Physical Education teacher in early September of the 1984-1985 school year.

"I just wanted to [teach] a subject I liked, and I've always enjoyed history," the SH alumnus said.

Besides World History, Paris said he has taught U.S. History, Learning Lab and Health.

Paris added a new role as the ASB co-adviser starting the 2014-2015 school year.

"I was first attracted to ASB for a new challenge and a new experience," Paris said. "There are numerous events that I recall fondly but most of all, I remember the people — both the kids working and those attending, who are very special to me."

Senior class president Jasmine



Image printed with permission from ASB

TO PARIS WITH LOVE: Members of the 2021-2022 Associated Student Body [ASB] put on bald caps to surprise ASB co-adviser Mike Paris on Oct. 28, 2021, for "Dress-up As Your Favorite Teacher" day during Red Ribbon spirit week. The ASB wanted to thank Paris for his hard work.

Lee, an active ASB member for three years, has nothing but gratitude for the adviser's commitment to the program.

"I remember Mr. Paris being so positive and such a light in our everyday lives," Lee said. "I want to thank him for always supporting us no matter what and never being disappointed."

Myra Deister, math teacher and

eSports club adviser, also expressed her appreciation for Paris' service.

"In conjunction with [Allen] Whitten, I think they've turned around students' involvement, and I've seen a big difference with students' attitudes and their [sense of] belonging ever since he's been involved with ASB," Deister said. "His involvement at Sunny Hills will really be missed."

Paris said he plans to spend time with his three grandchildren and travel on his sailboat around the Southern California coast.

"My hope and wish is that, in some way, I have made students' lives better — both now and in the future," he said. "I think it is really important to believe in people, care about them and show them all of the good that they do."

FROM PAGE 8

WRITING MAGAZINE

For Park, she said the idea of publishing a literary magazine caught her interest because of its ability to capture a wide range of literary and artistic genres.

In elementary school, Park said she frequently flipped through issues of the Stone Soup magazine lying around in her fourth grade teacher's classroom, which she enjoyed browsing for its short stories and artistic media.

She said she envisioned the magazine to be a creative outlet and a way to encourage students to publish their work.

Writers Alliance has yet to come up with a name for the lit mag, and they are looking more into the Excalibur for inspiration — hoping to get it figured out by the end of May.

"Our club cabinet members hope to bring more awareness to creative writing and create more connectedness in that field," Park said.

Literary magazines encompass creative writing works in genres including fiction, poetry and screen writing.

After being informed of Troy High School's literary magazine, the only one in the school district, she considers integrating films and songs.

Park anticipates a presale for their first issue, although she is unsure of how many copies will be produced.

"It depends almost completely on supply and demand: if only a few people want to buy the physical print, then we won't print many," she said.

After getting students' works published through this media, she hopes it will fuel motivation to submit to future competitions.

"I have faith that this will come out well," Park said. "A lot of work will have to go into it, but seeing the end result will be very rewarding for everyone."

In the midst of collecting responses, Park said she is still figuring out how to sell and distribute the publica-

tion, but she aims to produce one issue per year.

As of May 12, the club has received two finished science fiction and poetry pieces, while four others in various categories are still under progress.

"As a writer, I know the feeling of insecurity that comes with sharing our work with others, even in smaller portions," Gutierrez said. "That being said, I feel very proud of my fellow club members and myself for being able to overcome anxiety and eventually publish our hard work."

Students interested in writing for the Writers Alliance can contact @writersallianceshhs on Instagram or visit its website, writersallianceshhs.weebly.com.

SUBMISSIONS OPEN
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accepting various forms of prose, poetry, playwriting and more
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or scan the QR code below

Image printed with permission from Binny Park

GET PUBLISHED: Writers Alliance calls for student submissions to include in its literary magazine. Students can scan the QR code to submit work.

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'Doctor Strange' sequel gifts a thrill

JAIMIE CHUN

Copy Editor

Strange plus mad — “Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness” has the perfect ingredients for a thrilling blockbuster to bewitch viewers.

With Sam Raimi (“Umma”) back at the helm of a superhero franchise — Raimi originally directed the first Spiderman trilogy from 2002-2007 that paved the way for subsequent Marvel projects — the May 6-released film continues where Stephen Strange left off in “Spiderman No Way Home.”

The opening scenes of the sequel to 2016’s “Doctor Strange” instantly give viewers a dizzying preview of the events to come: Our protagonist and a new face to the Marvel cinematic universe [MCU], America Chavez (Xochitl Gomez, “The Baby-Sitters Club”), are running from a terrifying, tentacled monster moving through a cosmic obstacle course.

Among other scenes, this introduction truly flaunts the bold, computer-generated effects that audiences were disappointed in from earlier Marvel stand-alone movies like “Black Widow.”

Moreover, the ultimate adversity — Wanda Maximoff, portrayed as the Scarlet Witch (Elizabeth Olsen, “Love and Death”) — and her emotional arc is what truly sets this 126-minute movie apart from the previous Marvel flicks.

Those not familiar with the MCU will



Image used with permission from Walt Disney Studios

MULTIVERSE BLAST: *Doctor Strange clashes with Scarlet Witch at the Kamar Taj, the training grounds for mystic arts. Since its release, the Disney/Marvel film has shattered box office numbers of over \$50 million.*

need to watch the 2021 “WandaVision” series available on Disney+ to get a comprehensive backstory on the traumatic events that led to Maximoff’s anguish-driven transformation.

However, missing out on those nine episodes won’t hinder the audience’s understanding that the Scarlet Witch is trying to hunt down Chavez’s ability of being able to travel between the rips of the universe for herself. In doing so, Maximoff hopes to reach

to a cosmos where her children are alive.

Giving the villain a tragic motive to her madness makes Maximoff a unique antagonist compared to other Marvel evil icons as the Scarlet Witch seamlessly embodies the grief that follows maternal instinct and longing for a far away, happier reality.

The decision to replace some of the corny jokes that formerly lightened the mood with terrifying imagery, such as the vivid resem-

STRANGE MAGIC

Latest Marvel movie pits sorcerer vs. witch; here’s the backstory of each character.

From 2016’s “**Doctor Strange**”:

- The protagonist’s origin story begins when Stephen Strange, a medical surgeon, loses his ability to perform surgery after a car accident.
- Despondent over the end of his career, Strange gets selected to learn the dark arts in the Sanctum Sanctorum.

From 2018’s “**Avengers: Infinity War**”:

- After joining the Avengers, Wanda Maximoff must destroy the Mind Stone, thus ending her beloved Vision’s life and temporarily preventing Thanos from getting full power.

From 2021’s “**WandaVision**” on Disney+:

- Grief-stricken over Vision’s death, Maximoff casts a spell that brings back Vision while living in a town she controls.

Compiled by Jaimie Chun

blance of the Scarlet Witch to a zombie and grotesque deaths, that perfectly fits the psychologically dark aspects makes the blockbuster worth the ticket price.

The interactions between Strange and Chavez will also remind viewers of the mentor relationship that Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr., “Dolittle”) had with Holland’s Parker. In fact, the mentor-mentee trope teases the future of the MCU as well as what’s in store for the young heroine.

The continuation of one of the most loved sorcerers, MCU has just made the possibilities for future films stranger for the good.



Image used with permission from EPK.TV

MAKING HISTORY: *Apple TV+’s “Pachinko” focuses on generations of a Korean family dating back to World War II.*

'Pachinko's' references to bitter history between Korea, Japan makes it a must-see

IRENE SHEEN

Social Media Manager

Shah-la, la-la-la-la live for today.

With The Grass Roots’ timeless 1967 rock classic, “Let’s Live For Today,” playing in the background, the camera captures cast members flaunting their disco moves in a flashy pachinko parlor (Japanese casino-like establishment).

While disturbing at times, “Pachinko” guides a much-needed conversation about the ugly moments of history — war, poverty, dis-

crimination and death — all from the lens of a fragile, yet fervent Korean mother.

Though its historical context may be challenging to understand for Western audiences, the series details a relatable story of an immigrant family from the predecessors’ perspective who sacrifice their life and liberty, as well as the descendants, burdened with their family’s expectations.

Adapted from author Min Jin Lee’s 2017 novel under the same title, “Pachinko” covers the story of four generations of a Korean family through two time periods set

during the 1920-1930s and 1989.

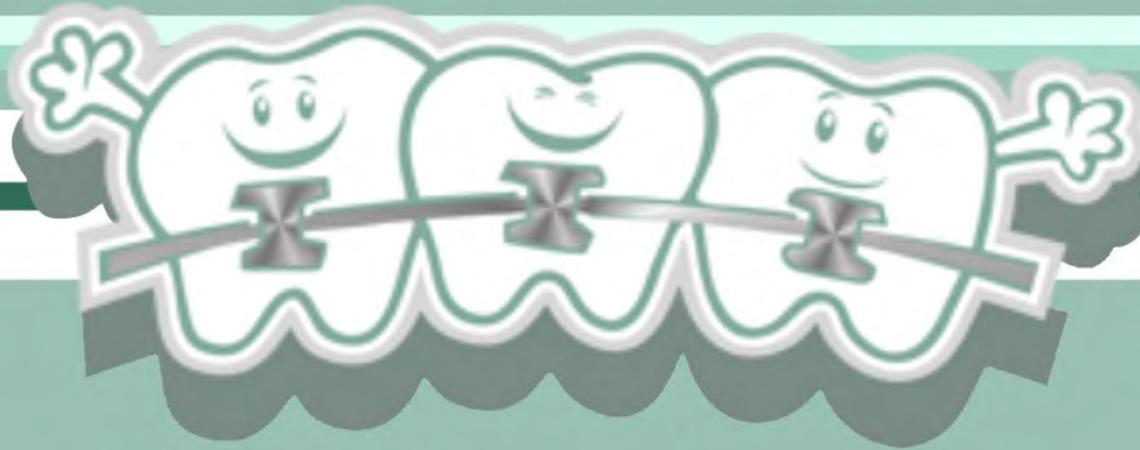
The series introduces the main character — teen Sunja (Minha Kim, “Main Street”) — who was raised in Yeongdo during the Japanese occupation of Korea. In an ill-fated relationship with a wealthy merchant, she becomes an unwed expectant mother who moves to Osaka, Japan.

With her poignant storytelling and old Busan satoori, a regional dialect in South Korea, Kim carries the audience through angst and tears while preserving the untold stories of mothers.

Despite the growth of Korean films on international platforms, “Pachinko” is an original immigrant series centered around an underrepresented minority population and time period. By creating personal moments between the viewers and Sunja, the series teaches individualistic American audiences a cultural lesson about sacrifices made by older generations.

The show leaves many unanswered questions about the origins and storylines of pivotal characters, so season two is a much-anticipated production that will further explain the four-generational saga.





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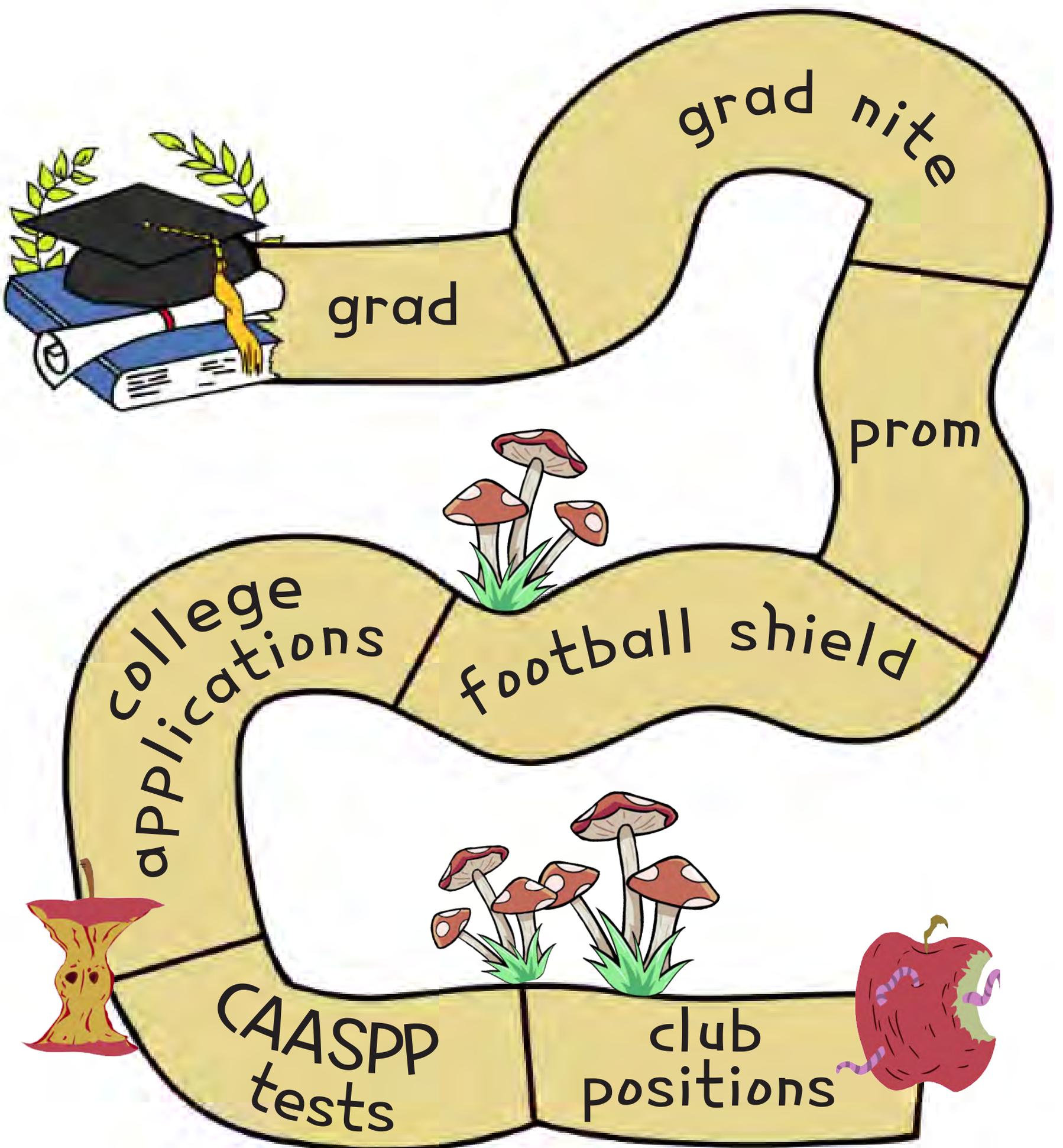
Stick With Us

The Accolade asked senior staff members to write a note for the publication and its returning staff. Although their graduation is less than a month away, the legacy of the Class of 2022 will always continue to *stick with us*.

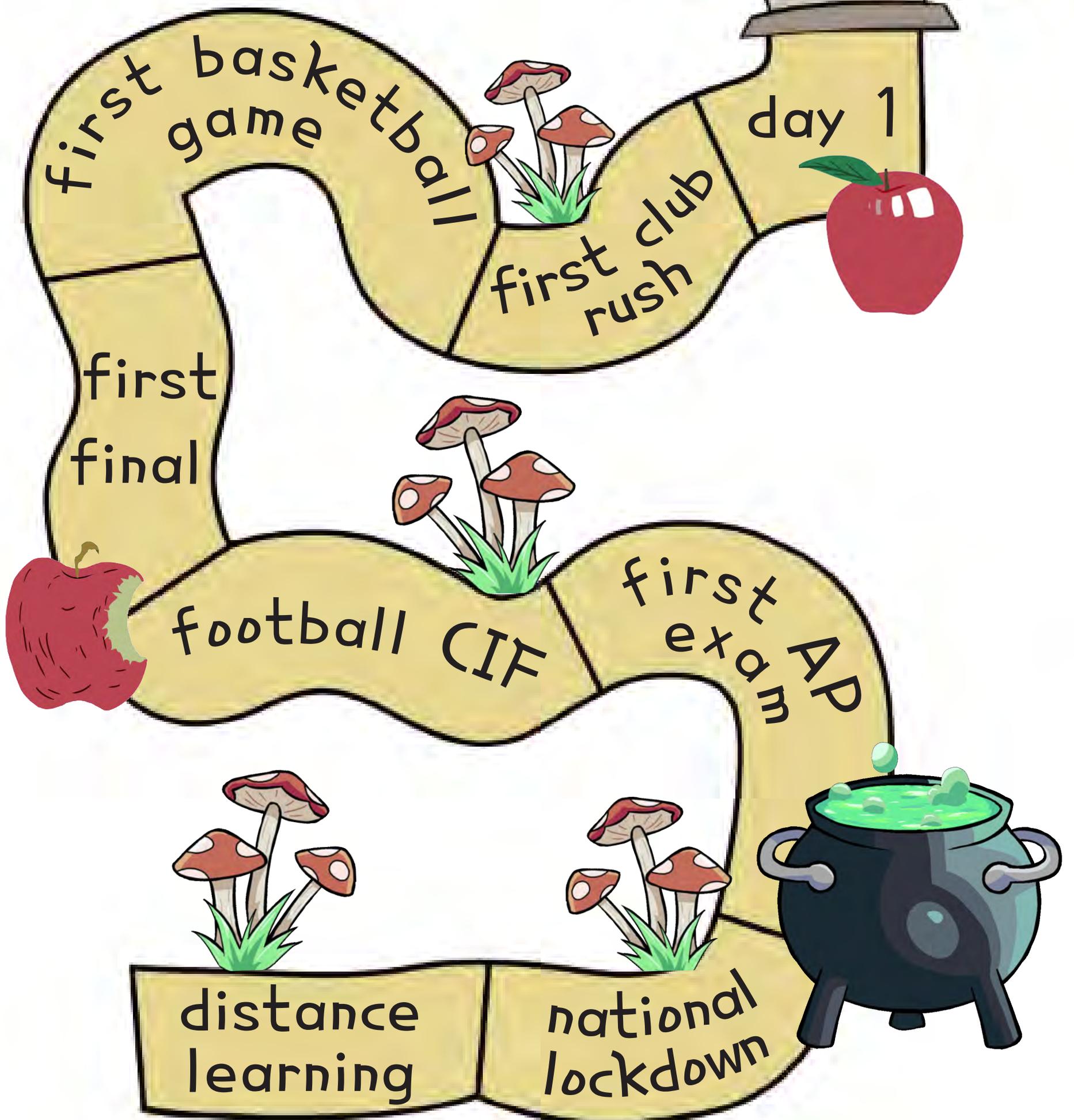


the Game of (Lancer)

LIFE



From the unforgettable athletic matches to the sleepless nights, the four years we spent as Sunny Hills Lancers flew by before we ever had the chance to buckle our seatbelts. Join us as we adventure through the 1461 days we will never be able to relive.



STAFF EDITORIAL



DA-HEE KIM | theaccolade

NEW BELL PRIZE: *Lunch starting first before break opens up new opportunities for ASB, other electives*

The 2022-2023 Accolade editorial board unanimously agreed that next year's bell schedule will benefit the multiple electives and student body of Sunny Hills.

To prevent student burnout, the three main electives at Sunny Hills all rested on the same period before lunch.

But with Gov. Gavin Newsom's signed legislation on Oct. 13, 2021, that stated high schools should start after 8:30 a.m. starting this fall, schools have been adjusting their schedules.

Expected to be in effect at Sunny Hills this upcoming fall, electives with designated periods, such as *The Accolade*, the Associated Student Body [ASB] and *Helios*, are considering a shift from fifth period to accommodate for the new bell schedule.

The new schedule not only starts school an hour later but also places lunch before break.

Because the ASB class, a fifth period elective, relies on lunch as an extended period to work, the new schedule for the 2022-2023 school year compelled it to make this shift to Period 3, which has

been tentatively approved by administrators.

Additionally, our adviser, Tommy Li, has asked administrators if it's possible to move the Advanced Journalism class from period five to four and the Journalism 1 class from period four to three.

The rationale for that proposal is that it would allow for students more time to read the school newspaper when it's distributed before lunch (the Journalism 1 class usually is in charge of delivering the issues to each classroom).

Helios adviser Lindsay Safe told us that she is open to move her current fifth period yearbook class to fourth if that's what's best for her new and returning staffers.

As of now, we applaud ASB officials in asking to move the elective to before lunch time, and administration deserves praise for showing such support.

The ASB will be able to use this time to play longer videos on the jumbotron, such as for prom and homecoming theme reveals.

We also encourage returning

students in the upcoming school year to stay on campus during lunch so they can show school spirit and participate in other ASB-related activities like quad games.

In addition, during sports rallies, student athletes can get more well-deserved attention from on-lookers; the longer lunch will enable them to do more than snap a quick picture after having their accomplishments briefly mentioned.

Despite these benefits, the change in periods for these electives could tempt certain students or their parents to see if Lancers can participate in the ASB and yearbook or ASB and *Accolade*.

The ASB and media programs had previously grouped together in one period to purposely prevent students from committing to more than one elective and bulking up their college resume.

Nonetheless, our adviser has informed us that administrators have been alerted about such a possibility and are supportive in preventing students from stretching themselves too thin and possi-

bly facing burnout.

If these students happen to be selected for vital positions for a program such as an editor-in-chief or the president, too many responsibilities will be dumped on the student, and the effort that would have been emphasized for one program would diminish.

If that were to be the case, the selection of someone participating in only one program will be beneficial to both programs and students.

But as the change is bound to occur in the next school year, *The Accolade* hopes these switches in class periods will encourage students to enjoy the benefits of this upcoming schedule.

And read our newspaper.

The *Accolade* editorial board is made up of the top editors and section editors on the new 2022-2023 staff 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 theaccoladeshs@gmail.com.

Letters to the editor

Reader responses to the April 22 "Lunch before recess" News article:

I believe the News article "Lunch before recess?" helped many students get informed of the new schedule for the next school year.

Eating lunch before having a break is something that is unexpected for all students, and it could definitely be confusing for many.

Though it may be hard to adjust, I can't wait for the changes that are to come for the upcoming school year.

— Olivia Kim, freshman

In the "Lunch before recess?" News article, I agreed with the points made because having an early lunch will be a large change

in the school day for students.

As an incoming sophomore with a zero period next year, I agree that it will be a struggle to go through four difficult classes before a break.

— Alyssa Brencius, freshman

Reader responses to other sections in the April 22 issue:

I found Chloe Chun's Opinion article, "Bring back standardized testing," very interesting.

Although I'm still a freshman, my parents are already pushing me to study for the SAT, but I never thought the SAT was this important until now.

Her article provided me with an understanding of why standardized testing is still important when applying to colleges.

— Elijah Chou, freshman

Susie Kim did a good job in her News photo essay, "Sunny Life Savers," with pictures showing how the American Red Cross can combat blood shortages.

I did not know there are people donating blood in our school, and it is interesting to know that they offered free food afterwards.

I am sure that the American Red Cross club has been working hard to reach its goal.

— Hoon Ryu, freshman

the accolade

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MY NOTEBOOK: *Reflecting on my turbulent journalism journey from a novice writer to the Editor-in-Chief of The Accolade*

MICHELLE SHEEN

Editor-in-Chief

I stood behind a line of students, two quarters clinking in the palm of my hand.

As I drew nearer to the front of the line, I felt a rush of excitement — the same kind I feel on Christmas mornings — as my Journalism adviser Mr. Li handed me a thick wad of lined paper.

My first reporter's notebook.

Filled with hurriedly scrawled-out notes from past interviews and observations I made, this bundle of paper represents the start of my journey as a reporter and the growth I made as an interviewer.

"Potato latkes. Aunt Irene's Mandel Bread (like a biscotti)."

Crowded with my messy handwriting, these notes came from my interview with Jewish cook Judy Bart Kancigor, whom I wrote a feature story about in my very first contribution to *The Accolade* as a Journalism 1 student.

Though I was nervous and made mistakes while interviewing Kancigor as a rookie journalist, the experience became a stepping stone for me as I ventured to improve my interviewing skills.

"Think of your neighbors who may be struggling."

I scribbled this quote out while interviewing Fullerton council member Ahmad Zahra about the ban on fireworks in our city — the first story I wrote as a reporter, and not a Journalism 1 student, on *The Accolade*. Though the prospect of talking to an elected official scared me at first, I learned that leaders like Zahra are eager and open to answering my questions.

This 15-minute phone call not only encouraged me to break out of my shell, but it also helped me realize the importance of interviewing professionals and leaders in a given field for their input to strengthen my article's credibility.

Through this experience, I would go on to interview a wider range of people, including, but not limited to, the Buena Park district mayor, a lecturer at San Francisco State University, a graduate student studying at the University of California and a representative for California.

"In order for us to get back to normal, we need to put all the different pieces together, and it's going to take time."

This quote comes from an interview I conducted with the Fullerton

Joint Union High School District's Director of Food Services about the supply chain shortage in the first semester of my senior year for the "Running on Empty" Issue — our fourth issue of the school year.

By this time, I had become a more seasoned reporter with a notebook containing more ink than blank space.

I had become a reporter able to dig deeper to uncover the facts: to uncover the truth for my readers.

I've now abandoned my fear of making the rookie mistakes in interviewing, and instead of anticipating the worst, I now look forward to getting to know my sources to interact with people I normally wouldn't if I didn't choose to write articles for *The Accolade*.

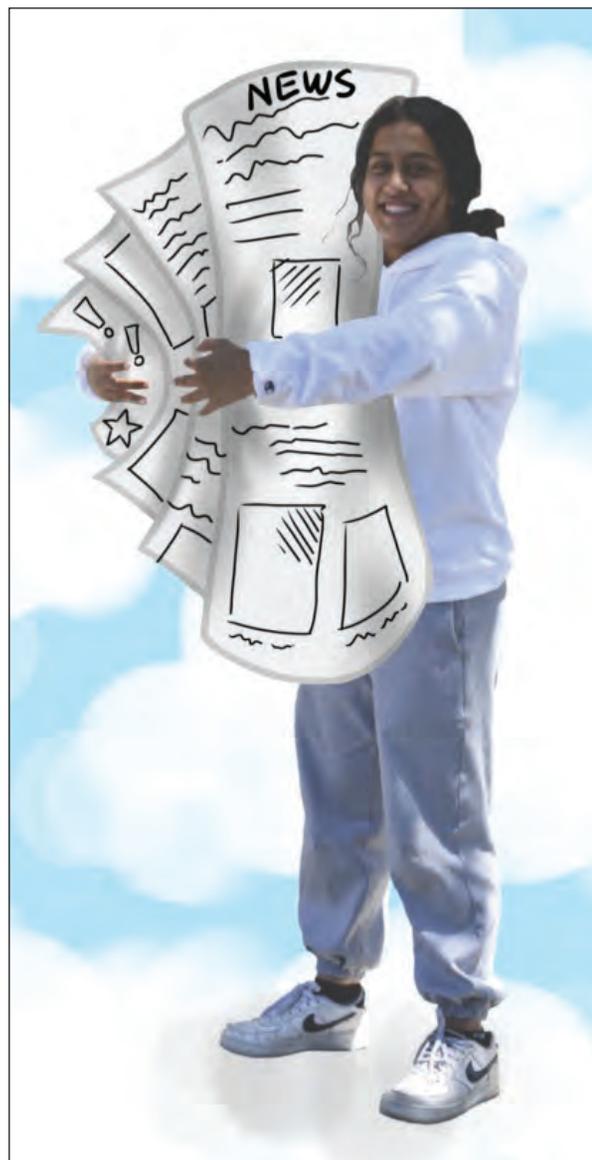
My reporter's notebook, which has now accompanied me for the past three years, is full of notes and doodles that, like a diary, illustrate the priceless lessons I have learned about journalism and interacting with people.

With the knowledge I've gained while writing countless stories for *The Accolade* publication, I hope to carry on in the future in the same way, with an open mind, marking new beginnings with every page I flip open.



IRIS KIM | theaccolade

Accolade will forever be in my heart



IRIS KIM | theaccolade

KRISTIMA ARYAL

Web Editor-in-Chief

Though I never planned on joining the SH newspaper staff as an incoming freshman, my interest in the subject eventually piqued, for I hoped it would break me out of my introverted shell.

In my sophomore year, I adjusted to the ropes and attempted to forge a path for myself within the new environment of *The Accolade*.

In my junior year, navigating distance learning while trying to take on the duty of the sports section editor was challenging, but I prevailed.

Taking on the responsibilities of not just a Journalism 1 student or staff reporter, but a section editor, I found where my strengths and weaknesses lie in design, reporting, editing and interview.

My confidence soared through my experience, no longer was I afraid to raise my hand in class, rather I volunteered to voice my opinion.

My weaknesses no longer scared me, they provided me with the incentive to expand my skillset and better the stories, the section and the paper as a means of bettering myself.

As a member of *The Accolade*

staff, I became a liaison for differing perspectives inside and out of the SH campus.

Whether it was the student body's favorite Girl Scout cookie or the challenges of social media on mental health, I sought out students, teachers and administrators to interview and stepped into their shoes.

As the editor of the sports section, I unraveled the mentality of athletes — poking at their brains for a glimpse of insight into momentum-changing game moments.

No, I hadn't memorized every line of the golf or volleyball handbooks, but as *The Accolade* released consecutive print issues, I found myself able to quickly draft interview questions for coaches and athletes to deliver to my audience quality pages and quality stories.

"In a world filled with technology, humanity wins."

The words of Rob Curley, previous vice president of Product Design for the *Washington Post*, stuck with me as I undertook this responsibility for the Advanced Journalism program.

Thus, sharing the stories of those around me, allowed me to share my own story.

There are many different experiences in life that have changed or strengthened a part of me as a

person.

But, nothing so profoundly changed my views and outlook on life than the time I spent in *The Accolade* as a staff reporter, sports editor and web editor-in-chief.

Room 138 became my home, Computer 32 my most reliable companion and journalism my passion.

With each story and interview, I grew a better writer and person.

With each new relationship I built, I grew as a leader.

With each new student, teacher, parent or administrative perspective I grew my mindset and constructed my own journalistic style.

Through designing the 16 to 24 pages of our print issues, I was able to step into a different sphere, a digital sphere of journalism.

Hours of daydreaming and tinkering with artistic, handwritten and formal fonts soon transformed into its own unique narrative.

But more importantly, seeing our student body, coaches and administration appreciate the nuisance and love I poured into my section motivated me to continue.

The newspaper is a morning miracle — piecing together the hard work, dedication and late nights we poured into each 16-page or 24-page issue. I will treasure the tears, laughter and love — forever and always.

Pursuing my lifelong dream through *Accolade*

GRACE JOHNSON

Web Managing Editor

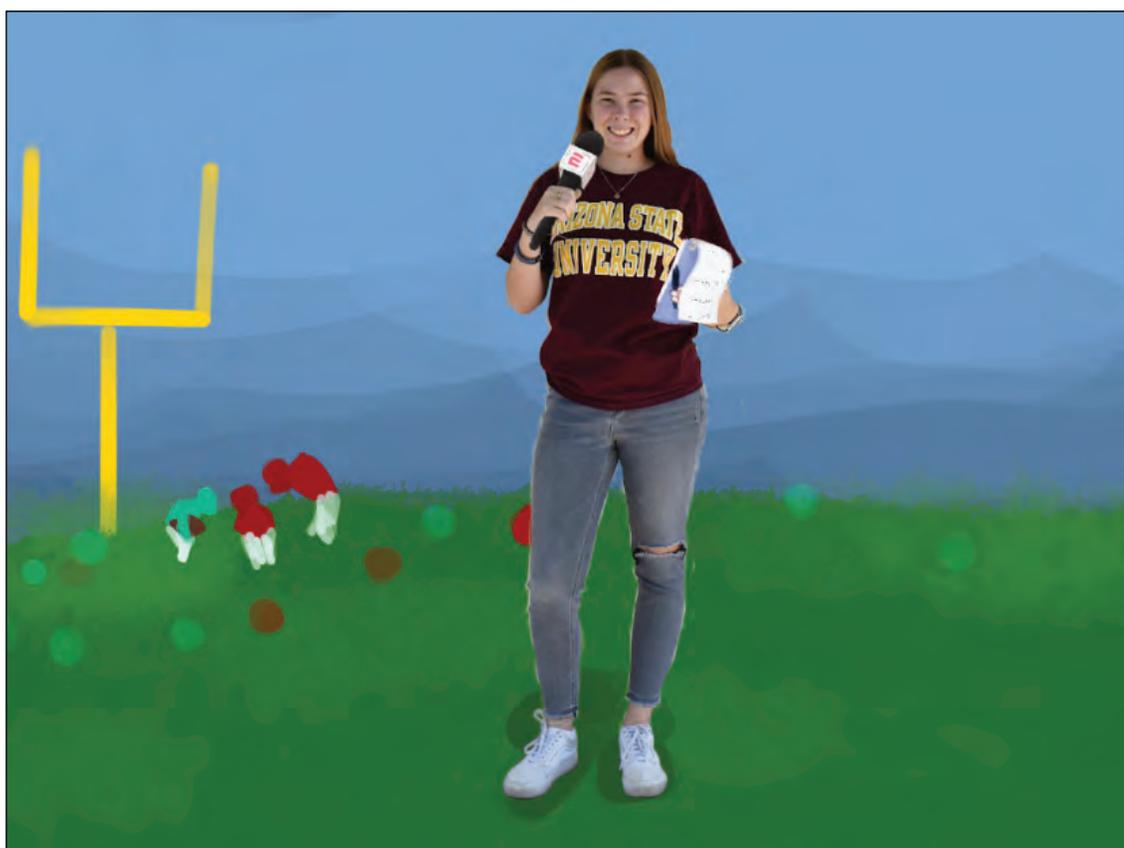
When I was a little girl, all I ever wanted to be was a dolphin trainer at SeaWorld. It was my dream, at that time, to just dance in the water with them all day and put on shows for people.

But I soon grew out of that dream.

One day in fifth grade, I was sitting on my living room couch and watching a baseball game with my dad. Suddenly, an awe-struck feeling washed over me as this young woman appeared on my TV, holding a microphone to an athlete's face, asking pressing and emotion-driven questions. It was clear that she understood sports — it was that moment I realized sports journalism would be my future.

I soon became obsessed with my new dream --- the perfect combination of my love for sports with my passion for writing. This caused me to dive deeper into exploring the ambitious world of journalism.

Enrolling in Journalism 1 in my sophomore year was one of the best decisions of my high school career because it gave me an experience of a lifetime. This not go without saying that there were also many people along the way who helped me become the person and journalist I am today.



JINA HAN | theaccolade

When I first joined *The Accolade* staff, the then web editor-in-chief Andrew Ngo took me under his wing and became a mentor figure in my life.

I can still remember how ecstatic I was when he told me I could come down on the field to cover a football game with him for the first time.

With our shared passion for sports, we soon bonded, and he taught me all of his sports

journalism knowledge. He taught me how to stalk sports teams, interact with professional journalists and how to always have fun reporting in a professional way while representing our school.

That's where I got the opportunity to meet and grow closer to my next person to attribute, head football coach Peter Karavedas, who has enthusiastically gone above and beyond to answer all of my interview questions and

always allowed me on the football field.

But one of the main people who ignited my passions for journalism and really made me excited for this career was *Accolade* adviser Tommy Li.

He has not only provided me a great experience being on staff, but he has also given me a realistic experience of journalism in the actual world and what I can expect in the future.

But even before joining *The Accolade*, I could not have accomplished anything without the extremely supportive and caring foundation that my parents graced me with.

As a senior who is proudly chasing to obtain her 5th grade dreams, I offer three pieces of advice to everyone who wants to pursue their dreams: Do what makes you happy, have confidence in yourself and, most importantly, do not be afraid to put yourself out there.

Though many people told me it would be hard to get into the journalism industry because you had to either be a famous ex-athlete or have personal connections, it never has or will stop me from achieving my dream.

But the main point I want to stress is to never be afraid to put yourself out there. Once you start to take initiative, people will notice that you are bold, and it will open up so many possibilities.

With the right amount of confidence, it will enhance your mental mindset and help you accomplish almost anything.

Though 5-year-old me would miss fantasizing over what to name her dolphins and what costumes to wear as their trainer, I cannot wait for what is ahead of me as I continue my dream at Arizona State University with a major in sports journalism.

Learning to make a difference

RIDA ZAR

Opinion Editor

Growing up, we're often told how impactful our voices are. That we should be the change we want to see and that anything is possible if we put our minds to it. But realistically, I never believed it to be true.

To enact change, influence of some sort would be necessary, and that was inaccessible to a person of my age.

Regardless, I found myself caring deeply about issues that portrayed to women's rights, civil rights and social justice. As I learned of the heavy impact these issues had and would continue to have in my life, I became more passionately dedicated to learning of prevalent matters and utilizing that knowledge to take the next steps in my journey of political insight.

This eventually led me to joining to the Junior State of America, where I found myself

surrounded by individuals with the same devotion I felt, dealing with the same internal debate — how much impact can I really create, and how much do others really care?

The first campaign I was introduced to was "Fight Apathy," which directly addressed that concern. After joining the state cabinet department who ran these programs, I worked to encourage a sense of leadership and community within the organization members.

With my role as a member of the Executive department this year, I had the privilege to contribute to the way our junior state was run. With this opportunity, my peers and I dedicated the year to increasing participation from students attending underprivileged schools, encouraging civil discourse and providing members with the opportunity to join organizations that shared their views.

Regardless of party affiliation, our goal remained to raise

an educated and fully informed body. Especially in today's political climate, this is more important than ever.

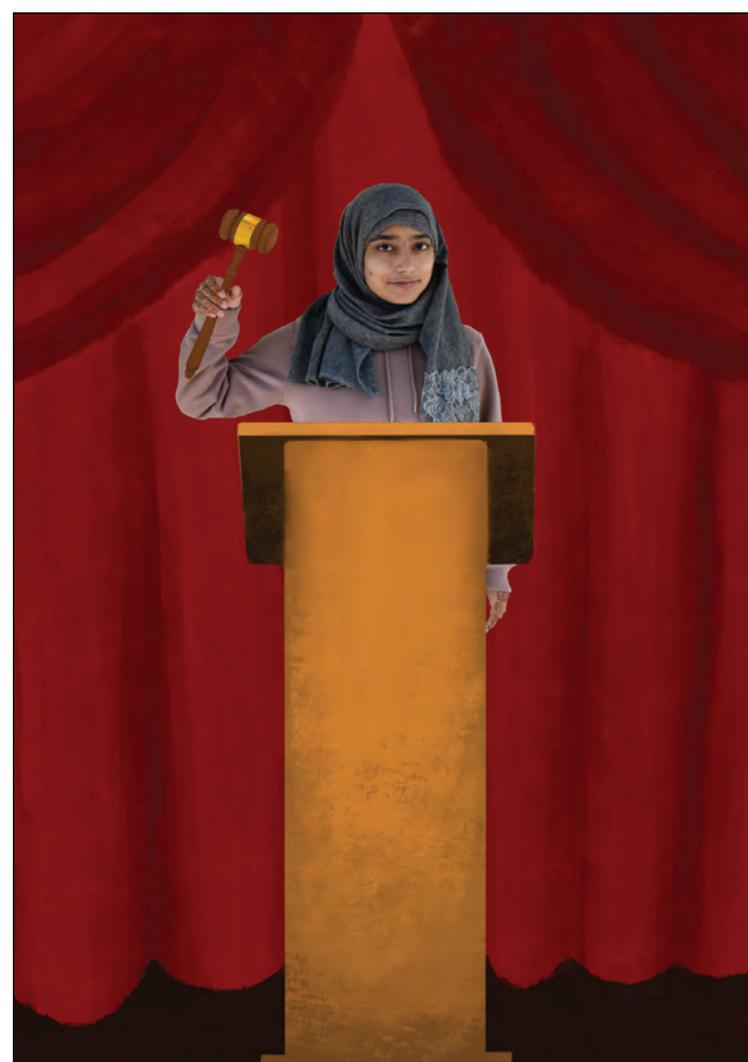
As tomorrow's leaders, it's our responsibility to take note of the issues prevalent in our society and strive to solve them in order to create the future we want to live in.

It's not easy. Ignoring the problems that don't directly affect you is tempting. But by doing so, we hinder the development of our own communities.

Getting registered to vote, following non-partisan media sources and signing petitions are all baby steps we can take to end political apathy. These can develop into volunteering for campaigns and parties you care for or even speaking your piece at protests.

Our participation is critical in getting to the final destination: a society nurtured on the devotion of its people to its progress.

All it takes is a push in the right direction to get you started.



JINA HAN | theaccolade



JINA HAN | theaccolade

Learning to love myself through skin care

RACHEL YUN

Sports Editor

People always say it's right to be the bigger person; however, I despise it. Growing up physically fitting in with boys rather than girls, I felt like an oddity and became self-conscious of my bulkier and boyish appearance.

From slouching to wearing glasses, I hoped that these adjustments would mask my inability to conform to societal femininity standards of a dainty physical frame. However, these insecurities swelled, climaxing in middle school where I was haunted by periods, emotional turmoil and hormonal acne.

I thought to myself that if I couldn't change my physique, I would resolve to craft people's first impression to be about my vibrant and smooth skin, rather than my unseemly masculinity. It kicked off

with a change in my moisturizer — leading my curiosity to take a “What Kind of Skin Do You Have?” quiz online, and eventually surfacing my entire YouTube with skincare associated videos. What once started as a means to an end, bloomed to a hobby that would end up as an integral part of my life.

Frankly, my educational process in skincare wasn't smooth. From trying out snail mucus moisturizer to inadvertently giving myself a chemical cheek burn from a low pH cleanser, I dealt with ceaseless trial-and-error. I prioritized understanding the questions, “What ingredients were in the products I was applying and how exactly were they altering my complexion?”

After countless indexing of unique product ingredients and taking notes on hundreds of online tutorials, my skincare proficiency transformed into an awareness of all skin types and their distinct characteristics. This newfound

talent served as a creative outlet to assist others alleviate their own skin complexion issues: boosting their self esteem by developing personalized skincare routines and recommending specific products for individuals.

Through this journey, I developed a new dimension of confidence within myself. Growing up in the United States as a child of two loving Korean immigrants, I was never able to fully identify myself with either beauty standard. However, through assisting others with their complexion, I not only broadened my skincare expertise, but I also first-handedly learned that everybody intimately struggles with their insecurities.

Beauty is NOT a “standard”: it's an “acceptance” of who we are. My improvement in self-esteem came from overturning my prior concept of “beauty,” and only through this have I been able to feel comfortable in my skin.

Once a journalist, always an activist

KRISHNA THAKER

Special Sections Editor

Growing up, the fact that the U.S Constitution protects all citizens from cruel and unusual punishment never did stop my Asian immigrant parents from constructing the most creative ways to discipline their children.

While my sister received all the traditional punishments — getting grounded, losing television privileges or not receiving an allowance — my parents were forced to improvise with me; traditional punishments would be no match for an antisocial nerd who spent all her time reading.

However, there was one punishment that never failed to anger me to my core: forcing me

to read the newspaper.

As an avid reader of all things fiction and fantasy, I could not possibly imagine a fate more dreadful.

Unlike the books I spent all my time reading, newspapers were mundane and dull.

Regardless of my prejudice against them, I began reading the *Orange County Register* every Sunday morning.

The more I read about my community, the sadder I felt because of countless problems all around me: problems that I could not even begin to understand how to tackle.

I found myself thinking hopeless thoughts constantly.

How can I ever fight against climate change when so many emissions are released every single day? With so little representation of women who look

like me in government, who am I to think I have a future there?

However, after the initial sense of existential dread faded, I felt unbelievably empowered to join the fight against apathy, ignorance and injustice.

Through programs like the Junior State of America, the California Democratic Party fellowship and *The Accolade*, I learned how to impact my community by putting my voice out there.

Whether it be a recap on the recent girls water polo game or a comprehensive feature on the district dress code, the stories I was lucky enough to get to write throughout my time on staff all left a lasting impression on who I am as a person and an activist.

I would be remiss not to give credit to the countless amazing peers and teachers that have



JINA HAN | theaccolade

guided me throughout my high school journey.

The counsel of our advisor, Tommy Li, served me irreplaceably throughout these past years.

Thank you to my editor-in-chief, and best friend, Michelle Sheen for all that you have done for our program.

Your dedication and drive for

journalism motivate me every day in my endeavors.

As I close this chapter of my life and move on to the next, I will deeply miss every member of the “Accolade family.”

Regardless, there is no doubt in my mind that our legacy of producing award-winning journalism will continue for years to come!

The Accolade helped me hit a home run

NEVYA PATEL

News Editor

I sat in my interview chair with my hands over my mouth to muffle a scream.

The Angels Scholar interview board just gave me the news that would change the next four years of my life.

I was officially an Angels Scholar with a full-ride scholarship to the University of California, Berkeley: tuition would be paid by the Angels Baseball foundation.

After I thanked the seven people who interviewed me, I let out a scream in my car before I drove home with a smile — one that would definitely result in wrinkles as I got older.

I reflected on how I ended up at this point in my life. I thought about my ac-

complishments and how those led me to this momentous day.

I was going to be an English major on the pre-law track at my dream school with almost all of my expenses paid for.

There are many people I have to thank, including *The Accolade* as a whole.

The main reason I joined was because my freshman English Honors teacher Jennifer Kim informed me that journalism would boost my legal career aspirations. As a result, I requested Journalism 1 as one of my sophomore year courses and started my *Accolade* journey.

This program gave me a chance to grow as a writer and pave the way for the rest of high school. Before, I had zero passion for neither reading and writing nor did I ever think I would willingly

apply to college as an English major.

Although many factors went into determining my acceptance into the Angels Scholar program, I know that my experience on staff and the opportunities I was presented helped my application.

Now that my senior year is coming to a close, I cannot help but think of the ways my life turned out differently than my freshman self predicted.

I never thought I would be a student journalist or even get into the college of my dreams. I definitely did not anticipate such a huge honor from Angels Baseball. I predicted more failures than successes.

As I parked my car after getting home from receiving the best news of my life, I realized that I can leave my high school years behind me without any regrets.



IRIS KIM | theaccolade

I don't regret applying ED to Boston University

ESTHER OH

Staff Reporter

After several weeks of pulling stressful all-nighters from building my college application, which was then followed by even more weeks of waiting in anticipation, I finally achieved my end goal — what I had been tirelessly working toward for the past four years of my life.

While studying for my Advanced Placement Calculus BC final on Dec. 14, 2021, I unexpectedly received an email that read, “The Board of Admissions has reached a decision on your application for admission to Boston University. To view your decision, log in to the MyBU portal.”

I was with my friends at the library when I received this email, and we were all extremely shocked because we were expecting the decision to be released the next day. With cold, trembling fingers, I logged in to the portal.

It was August 2021 when I started coming up with a college list and writing my applications. I knew I was going to apply to the Universities of California, but I still was not sure of which

private schools to apply to, and I had no idea of whether I was going to apply anywhere early decision or not.

After hours of research, consideration and discussion with my parents and counselor, I decided on applying early decision to Boston University.

I finished and sent in my application on Oct. 30, two days before the Nov. 1 deadline, along with five other early action applications to private schools in the east coast.

A couple days before I sent in my application, I had reconsidered my decision. I asked myself if this was a good decision, and if I wouldn't regret it, especially since I wanted to stay in-state if possible.

I concluded that I wouldn't regret it, and sent in my application, believing that whatever decision given is best for me.

So with this thought in mind, I signed in and waited for the portal to load. After about 20 seconds of waiting, a burst of confetti came up on my laptop screen, and that's when I realized.

I made it. The weeks of waiting were over, and I immediately went outside of the library to call my mom and dad.



JINA HAN | theaccolade

It felt like the greatest reward for all the work I put in during the past years. High school wasn't the easiest for me, and playing instruments and sports for the past 10 years of my life were definitely not easy either.

Many people have asked me since my admission and now if I regret my decision or not, and every time, I reply with a firm no.

There were definitely times when I asked myself questions like, “What if I got into UCLA?” like most seniors from Califor-

nia, I would love to be a UCLA student. But I concluded that I made the best decision and that I'm excited to be a college student in Boston.

I've always wanted to live in a different location, and I think college is the best opportunity for that. Although the tuition is a lot more expensive than public schools, I think it is worth it if I take into account the private school education I will be getting along with the full college experience in Boston, which was titled the best city for college

students by Qs Quacquarelli Symonds.

So if there are any incoming seniors wondering if they should apply early decision, I encourage them to do so. Once I received my admission letter, my stress levels definitely lowered and I felt free. I was able to go out with my friends and stay in bed binge-watching shows without the anxious feeling of having an endless list of tasks to do. In addition, I got closer to my mom by spending more time with her since I had a lot of free time.

'IB'elieved in my future

DIVYA BHARADWAJ

Feature Editor

Looking back at the past four years of high school, I'm proud of everything that I have accomplished and eternally grateful for my teachers and friends who have helped me along the way.

Juggling the International Baccalaureate [IB] program and its council along with my editor position at *The Accolade* and other extracurriculars has been a strenuous journey, but it has given me the opportunity to grow as both a person and leader.

My responsibilities as co-feature editor this year motivated me to work hard spotlighting students and faculty from around campus who strove to better our Sunny Hills community. Without this experience, I never would have grown close to any of these valuable individuals who are found throughout my articles, creating a sense of community I would not have been exposed to if not for the school newspaper.

I'm extremely proud of my Wheel of Fortune feature on Mrs. Falletta's game show experience,

along with my feature on College Essay Gals, a college essay editing startup by three SH alumni. My work is a result of the countless hours spent interviewing and getting to know those around me as well as perfecting my writing style to the best of my ability.

Though I am thrilled about my achievements, I am well-aware that this fruitful end result is not solely from my labors alone. The effort I put into spotlighting people across campus would not have ever been possible without the help of *The Accolade's* editors, especially my feature co-editor Minjeong Kim, and I'm thankful that I was presented with the opportunity to grow closer and become a part of the newspaper community.

Surrounding myself with several other dedicated students, all with similar interests and goals as me, enabled me to thrive in a supportive environment, one that only aided in my personal and academic growth.

My experience as president of the IB council has taught me the importance of community once again, as I strived to connect

the IB classes after pandemic learning. This year I was able to strengthen the connection between these classes and bond with classmates I didn't know as well last year. Growing closer to them this year has been extremely rewarding.

As president, I'm proud to have hosted socials almost every month in order to foster relationships we missed out on because of COVID-19. I'm also extremely grateful for our IB coordinator Mr. Wall who has given me the space to focus on promoting connectivity this year.

I've found it rewarding to connect with those around me and make the best of my high school experience.

After experiencing four years of both failures and successes in my high school career, I am confident that the lessons and skills I've gained throughout this process have properly equipped me for whatever the future may have in store for me.

Four years of high school passed by so fast, but whether it be in the classroom or out, I have no regrets.



IRIS KIM | theaccolade

Gordon era ends after nearly 4 decades

GRACE JOHNSON

Web Managing Editor

For the past 40 years, the Sunny Hills girls soccer team only had two coaches — Kenn Gordon and his son, Jeff.

During this Gordon era, the team won 19 Freeway League and three CIF-SS titles in 2005, 2007 and 2019.

But after coaching for 36 years, 32 of which were at Sunny Hills, the younger Gordon, who took over from his father, announced his retirement from coaching on April 21 via an Instagram post.

“As a head coach, it takes a lot of time and everything if you want to have a successful program, and you have to be all in,” the social science teacher said.

Jeff Gordon first started coaching girls soccer in 1986 at his alma mater, Brea Olinda High School, where he remained for four years before moving to Sunny Hills to coach with his dad.

After this season, Jeff Gordon said he decided it was time to step down from coaching here and start spending time with his wife and two children.

“This [decision] is all about my kids, as they are approaching high school,” he said. “I want to go watch them play all of their games, but I can’t be here [coaching] and be going to their games at the same time.”

Though retirement had been in the back of his mind for years, Jeff Gordon decided to close his high school coaching chapter when he started working with his daughter’s soccer and his son’s baseball teams.

“It was just such great quality time,” he said. “Being a dad on the sidelines, watching them, made me realize this is some-



CIF CHAMPS: Girls soccer head coach Jeff Gordon holds the CIF-SS Division 2 championship plaque in celebration with his team on Feb. 3, 2019, at Warren High School in Downey after defeating Mira Costa High School, 2-1.

thing that I want to do and need to do for my children in the next five to six years before they move on to college.”

When Jeff Gordon told athletic director Paul Jones of his retirement three weeks prior to the announcement on April 21, Jones was surprised.

“Initially anytime a coach tells me they are going to retire, it is a shock and self-ish disappointment because it sucks for us, but you’re happy for that coach,” he said. “But I understand coach Gordon’s position because his kids are in seventh and eighth

grade, and he wants to be present.”

Jones added that Jeff Gordon will forever leave a mark at Sunny Hills.

“He is Sunny Hills girls soccer,” he said. “He is a legacy, and he has left a legacy of competing at high levels, being in battles with Troy High School and winning league and CIF championships.”

Along with being a successful coach, Jeff Gordon has influenced players’ lives.

“I had tears [when I found out], because I know how much this program means to him, and he will always still be our coach in our

COACH GORDON'S ACHIEVEMENTS

32 years as girls soccer head coach



600+ wins with the Lady Lancers

Three CIF titles



19 Freeway League titles

compiled by Jiwoo Han

hearts because tradition never graduates,” forward junior Cheyenne Dohan said. “He has dedicated his life to this program, and we will forever carry on the legacy for him and his dad.”

Dohan said the team will adapt to a new head coach, but she has no doubt the girls will come together to perform as a group.

“We have to keep the same mindset and adjust to the new coach no matter who it is so we can carry on the tradition,” she said.

Jeff Gordon said he will miss the high school players he met and hopes they’ve learned something from him.

“You learn those lessons about commitments, being an excellent teammate and overcoming adversity,” he said.



Image printed with permission from Dominic Siañez

BLOCK PARTY: Middle-blocker senior Ezra Vlad celebrates after a successful block against San Gabriel Academy in a CIF second round away game Monday. The Lancers won in straight sets.

Despite being a second-year team, boys volleyball makes it to CIF finals

DANIEL KONG

Business Manager

In just its second season of becoming an official program, Sunny Hills boys volleyball (22-5) will be heading to its first-ever division 5 CIF-SS finals appearance this Saturday 4 p.m. against Carpinteria High School (21-7-1) at Long Beach City College.

“It’s been such a surreal experience seeing the growth and dynamic of the team,” said head coach Albert Soliguen. “Everyone played an important role in getting us to where we are now.”

Middle blocker senior Ezra Vlad is proud of the team, and the progress it made in the short history of the establishment of the program.

“We set our sights on being CIF champs since the beginning of the season and with

this weekend coming up, everything is lining up for it to become a reality,” Vlad said. “I feel like all of our work has paid off and that now going into the finals we can really show everyone how far we’ve come.”

The team played three matches in the Division 5 CIF-SS bracket, winning all games in straight sets, making outside hitter senior Zachary Tan confident about Saturday’s match.

“Having won every match 3-0 definitely puts more pressure on us to do well against Carpinteria,” Tan said.

“If we play how we have these past few games, I can’t see us not bringing the trophy home.”

Libero freshman Payton Yang, a newcomer to this year’s varsity program, proved to be a good addition to the team.

“I feel like I contribute a steady source of energy and

excitement for our team while being consistent defensively as a libero,” Yang said.

Middle blocker senior Sebastian Bonca was enthusiastic not only about making it to the finals but also hearing that there would be no limit on the number of spectators allowed.

“Last year, because of the pandemic, there was a restriction that only allowed family members to watch the games,” Bonca said.

“Knowing that a lot more people, including my friends, will be watching the finals on Saturdays makes me excited to play on the biggest stage.”

The team is ready to bring home their first CIF title.

“My expectations for Saturday’s game is for everyone to play with no regrets,” Soliguen said.

“All I ask for is for everyone to pour their heart and soul into this championship game.”



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DON'T STOP ME NOW:
Senior Noah Flores races to the finish line in the 3200-meter run at the CIF-SS Division 1 Track and Field Prelims on May 7 at Trabuco Hills High School. Flores set his new personal record at 9 minutes and 55.49 seconds.



CIF SPRING SUCCESS

Take a look into all nine spring sports that qualified for their respective CIF-SS playoffs. While boys and girls swim, boys tennis, baseball, boys golf and boys volleyball placed first in Freeway League, softball ended second, and track and field placed third. Each sport found some form of success in its pursuit of a CIF-SS title.

— by Grace Min, Staff Reporter

Images compiled by Grace Min and Jiwoo Han



Image printed with permission from Chloe Kang
FOLLOW-THROUGH: Pitcher sophomore Maddie Moreno throws a pitch to a Capistrano Valley Cougar in a CIF-SS Division 3 second-round away game Tuesday. The Lady Lancers secured the 1-0 victory, advancing to Thursday's quarterfinal away game.



Image printed with permission from Riley Godfrey
TEAM WORK: Boys 400-yard freestyle relay swim team junior Preston Shin (from left), senior Skyler Kao, sophomore Daniel Kim and freshman Liam Weinreich place fifth in the CIF-SS Division 3 final on May 9 at the Marguerite Aquatic Center in Mission Viejo.



Image printed with permission from
Dominic Siañez

BACKHAND: Junior Owen Taylor (right) returns the ball in a rally alongside partner senior Enoch Chung at the CIF-SS Division 2 first-round tennis match against Cypress High School on May 4.



KRISTIMA ARYAL | theaccolade
CURVEBALL: Pitcher sophomore Brayden Chen gets ready to face the next batter against Apple Valley High School in a CIF-SS Division 5 first-round home game. The Lancers beat the Sun Devils in extra innings, 5-4.

Image printed with permission from Riley Godfrey
ALL SMILES: Girls 400-yard relay swim team freshman Mia Carley (from left), junior Raine Parker, senior Kailee Chow and sophomore Samantha Burgess celebrate fourth place in the CIF-SS Division 2 final May 9 at the Marguerite Aquatic Center in Mission Viejo.



Image printed with permission from Dominic Sianez
JUST DO IT: Senior utility runner Jasmin Jones stays focused in the 100-meter hurdle event at the CIF-SS Division 1 Track and Field Prelims at Trabuco Hills High School May 7. Jones finished with a 16.47 time.



Image used with permission from Scott Enrico
DRIVE: Freshman Dylan Lee swings his first tee shot in the CIF-SS individuals match May 2 at the California Country Club in Avocado Heights.

Image printed with permission from Dominic Sianez
OFF TO FINALS: Boys volleyball holds up "W"s to signify its CIF-SS Division 5 semi-final win against San Gabriel Academy at an away match Monday. The Lancers take on Carpinteria High School in the Division 5 final May 14.





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