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Rachel Kim // The Accolade

Narcissistic. Lazy. Incompetent.

Generation Z is often overshadowed by and misrepresented as its predecessors, the Millennials. However, under this superficial layer of assumptions, it's time Generation Z shows a true reflection of itself and its capabilities as the new era.



# New focus leads to health trends

#### JUNE LEE

A & E Editor

The older generation occasionally criticizes teens today as unhealthy, spoiled and inactive. But it turns out that Generation Z is more conscious about their health than previous generations might realize.

Generation Z's perspective toward health isn't significantly different from its preceding group, the Millennials. However, they are more wary of the benefits of exercise and eating properly.

A widened access to the Internet most likely led Generation Z to this trend. Most teens do not hesitate searching for methods to remain fit. People post hundreds of ways to live healthy on their social media, updating their viewers with recipes for nutritious meals or lead to building a healthier funew exercises. According to ture.

huffingtonpost.com, 80 percent of this generation eats and exercises for the sake of preventing ailments.

One problem that Generation Z has yet to solve is obesity. According to the World Health Organization, obesity rates have risen about 8 percent among adolescents in 2016, a significant increase than when only 1 percent was obese in 1975. Despite this setback, the next generation isn't hopeless. Obesity rates have declined and are close to stable, indicating an opportunity to improve.

In retrospect, these teens are more aware of their well-being than their predecessors. By no means are the older generations any worse. Rather, the current generation is making the next step and taking the

# en z vs.

Gen Z is 2x more likely to want to shop on a mobile than Millennials

> We care less about material items and more about experiences we can share on social media like Instagram and Snapchat

JAIME PARK | theaccolade

# Non-binary gender option not for me

#### **AUDREY JO**

Assist. News Editor

In a few months, I plan on taking my driver's permit test; a couple months after that, I should be registering for my driver's license.

However, now, instead of two gender options, female and male, I will most likely see the option of registering as "non-binary."

Since I identify myself as "female," I would pass on this choice to be known as a third gender; on the other hand, for many others who underwent hardships and fought for public recognition, this is the fruit of their labor.

Dubbed the Gender Recognition Act, the new law, passed Oct.15, now accepts a third gender, non-binary, to be represented on driver's licenses, passports or any other form of identification documents.

Though this may be a breakthrough for California, this is not an entirely new concept to the modern world. In fact, other countries such as India and Australia had adopted this practice in 2011 and 2014.

Also, according to nbc.com, the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO], an organization that specializes in air navigation, had already supported the idea of having a third gender since 1996, represented by the letter "x," to be used for passports.

So one could ask: why has California adopted the "non-binary" option rather than the standard "x" for other countries?

Everything seems to lie within the recent sensitivity to gender identification perfection, as Generation Z might put it; in recent years, everything from incorrect pronouns, misinterpretation of gender transitions and confusing whether someone

was pansexual or bisexual caused public outrage as the awareness to these touchy subjects emerged.

Based on this acute sensitivity, my generation seems to understand far more than I do, even though they are stereotypically considered privileged, lazy and ungrateful.

Whether it be attending rallies for transgenders or for the defense of the gay community, people born into the Generation Z age have shown a truly humane compassion and concern of protecting the freedom of expression.

According to minnpost.com, studies have shown that Americans have become more tolerant to change within each generation; the biggest shift occurred between 1946-1964, when the trend of acceptance of opinions and differing lifestyles started its upward trend.

Millennials and Generation Z are described to be some of the most progressive and accepting people.

The lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community [LGBT] support has also gained popularity through media such as pro-LGBT YouTube videos and mainstream music. A recently trending short animation "In a Heartbeat" along with the song "1-800-273-8255" by Logic depict the hardships and final acceptance of the gay community. Speculating on this,

it is safe to say that the younger generation offers more sanctity to those who feel the need to express themselves outside the norm.

More than often, these generations have been labeled as passive and over-indulged because of their earlier exposures to new technology and cushy lifestyles.

> Yes, I may identify as a female, and yes, I do not know the struggles of the LGBT community. However, I do know this: Millennials are genial and Generation Z is criticism-free.

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# New terminology sparked by creativity

#### **EUNICE LEE**

Managing Editor

The start of a new generation brings forth a new set of slang terminology. Trendy words that thrived during the Millennial age such as "YOLO," "swag" and "hashtag" fade into the background as the lexicon of Generation Z slang arises.

This development of new slang can be attributed to a significant increase in participation on social media sites. A study from the Pew Research Center reports that in 2016, nearly 65 percent of American adults used social media daily, compared to only 7 percent in 2005. The advent of these online platforms has facilitated the process of popularizing words and phrases such as "it's lit," "dank" and "I'm ded." Personally, I have become more familiar with these buzzwords and started using them

once I saw many others incorporate them into their text messages. Not only do these popular words change generation after generation, but it also evolves within a certain period of time. Trending sections found on social media platforms such as Twitter and Youtube are prime examples of how quickly a fad may come and go. These trends and slang are merely reflections of our dynamic society and the extensive impact of modern technology.

It is with this constant exposure to these buzzwords that we experience changes in how we communicate and express our opinions, both online and offline.

Ttyl, Eunice.



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less than an hour of traditional television per day 1965-1979

1980-1994

48% of Gen Z identify as exclusively heterosexual as compared to 65% of Millennials

Our attention span is estimated at just 8 seconds, comparative to 12 seconds for Millennials

Designed and compiled by Annie Choi Information from Forbes.com and hartman-group.com

# Tech connects but kills old industries



JAIME PARK | theaccolade

#### EUNICE LEE

Managing Editor

Technology has become a key marker in measuring how far humans have developed throughout the generations. Millennials were the pioneers that witnessed the advent of many technological advancements that are commonplace for the average Generation Z.

The birth of social media has created an online network that has allowed Generation Z to gain a worldly view of their surroundings. Unlike millennials, who have been introduced to modern technology as a child or adolescent, Generation Z was born into this technologically advanced era.

Also, as Generation Z opens doors to new opportunities and businesses, they render older businesses obsolete and out of style.

For example, Sears, a once powerful retail conglomerate, experienced a major plummet in sales and popularity, closing 721 stores and losing \$748 million in 2016, according to Bloomberg. com. Meanwhile, Amazon, an online retail giant, increased 25% in North American sales. The option to leave service reviews online allow customers to review restaurants at the comfort of their own home. The new generation's takeover has also led to the rise of streaming and delivery services, which provide universal content that helps us connect as a generation.

Despite this economic growth and productivity, technology has also taken a toll on Generation Z's ability to maintain long attention spans and concentration. A study conducted in by Microsoft found that the average attention span shortened from 12 seconds in 2000 to eight seconds in 2013. Furthermore, as we expect a projected 6.9 billion mobile phone subscribers worldwide by 2020, there is no doubt that we are becoming dependent on advanced technology.

The rise and fall of these stores not only reflect our current economic situation, but they also provide insight into how technology has radically enhanced the discourse of future life for Generation Z.

# **Remakes and reboots:** modern classics

#### **ROSIE JANG**

Copy Editor

Moviegoers love certain movie plots so much that they've got to see them again and again, all the remakes and then some.

Most plots start to lose its loyal fanbase by the third remake, however, there are a few exceptions.

For example, the recent hit "Beauty and the Beast," with no doubt, accumulated a significant audience in its box office, garnering more than \$1.263 billion, according to google. com. Another example would be the beloved "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," as the remake is still enjoyed by Generation Z.

Real-life remakes of animations breathe new life into each character, as if viewers were witnessing a storybook turn into reality.

However, remakes of some movies such as "Fantastic Four" seems merely repetitive and uninteresting for this generation compared to the last, with al-

most no new element incorporated into each

scene. And of course, this reflects on its success at the theaters (\$168 million in 2005 versus \$330.6 million in 2015 at the box office, according to google. com).

An example of a plot that substantially improved after each remake would be "Godzilla." Of course, the first movie did come out more than six decades ago, so improvement would be inevitable, due to the constantly improving computer generated imagery technology and ever-so-heightening expectations.

Although I did not love the plot, I still saw the betterment in the successive movies (currently, there are 32 "Godzilla" movies, and I admit I have seen only around 2-3 of the most popular ones).

Our generation simply seems to be interested in not just reboots, but certain qualities that make up each movie.

A remake would lack originality, but in order to entice the audience to come watch it, it must have spectacular graphics and talented cast.

To put it simply, directors should not be making remakes of movies if there are no substantial improvements.

In "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," the aesthetic aspects of the 2005 movie is timeless; it still lives up to its name today.

If they are a mere repeat of the last with no freshness or distinctiveness, producers should be wise enough to realize that no one will pay more than \$10 to see them at the theaters, thus resulting in a failure at the box office.

Repreinted with permission by GoFundMe.com

New ways of raising money

Students opt for

How I fared in creating

# GoFundMe to earn \$\$

#### **CHRISTINE CHOI**

#### Staff Reporter

Repreinted with permission by TheMetro.com

Revolutionary movements of social fundraising platforms engulf the internet with a new way of raising money quickly and easily.

Previously, fundraising would only take place through mutual connections and doorto-door donations.

These interactive platforms such as Go-FundMe, KickStarter and Crowdfunding transform traditional methods of raising money, such as through phone calls or media.

According to gofundme.com, the San Diego non-profit organization has helped people raise over \$4 billion from 40 million donors since its inception on May 10, 2010. Through this, GoFundMe proclaims that it is "changing the way the world gives."

These fundraising platforms are for, but not limited to, medical, emergency, sports, pet, family, school, service, business and faith issues. Although GoFundMe promises that recipients will "keep every donation," it still charges a \$0.30 processing payment per donation.

However, these policies differ from site to site as Kickstarter takes 5 percent of the total amount of funds from the project.

Senior Brittney Cruz utilized GoFundMe in July 2017 to raise money for her chronic pancreatitis condition and was surprised to discover that 45 people cared enough to donate \$3,115 in three months.

With the money she received, Cruz was able to receive the diagnosis she needed from the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles County.

She believes that fundraising on online through GoFundMe allows her to reach a wider range of people effectively.

"It was easy to raise money [when] you share it with the right people," Cruz said. "It had a huge impact because the money helped so much in getting some more information and steps on what to do next with my condition."

**Kickstarter** campaign

#### **CHRISTINE CHOI**

Staff Reporter

#### \$15,616.

That is the amount of money my team and I raised through Kickstarter, a social media platform to raise money, for React!, an Organic Chemistry board game.

Started on April 25, 2017 by 13 University of California, Berkeley Chemistry and Biology students, React! is a board game that makes learning organic chemistry fun by turning the rigorous course into a challenging, yet exciting activity.

The creators, Prerak Juthani and Billal Ahmed, found that while attending UC Berkeley, many students struggled with organic chemistry because unlike other sciences such as biology and inorganic chemistry, it is not offered as a course in many high schools.

Because I was interested in organic chemistry and the revolutionary way of fundraising money through Kickstarter, I asked Berkeley graduate vice president Jami Wang to be part of the campaign.

As a campus ambassador, I spread the word regarding the funding online using Facebook and e-mail. With an important job that required me to handle more than \$15,000 from 291 backers, I realized the significance of being part of a team to accomplish a common goal.

Partaking in this project changed my perspective of raising money since I no longer had to go door-to-door and ask for donations.

In a way, I felt like I was part of a modernist movement when the old means of communication transformed through innovative technology (in this case, through online fundraising)

Through this experience, I was able to learn how to target the right people for an important cause. Not only do I know how to communicate with others online, but I also became knowledgeable in how to start and manage future projects.

Raised by 418 people in 2 days

\$23,740 of \$50k



### By Tiffany Lee, feature editor

\*Name has been changed for confidentiality.

Nov. 30, 1993: President Bill Clinton signs a military policy that prohibits openly gay and lesbian Americans from serving in the military.

June 24, 2016: The U.S. Supreme Court announces one of the most momentous events in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender [LGBT] history: gay marriage becomes legal.

To some, 20 years do not seem like much. However, in the United States, the LGBT community has made milestones in the past two decades.

Throughout the world, this change over time has manifested itself in multiple ways, including in one Sunny Hills student.

Gaining 2,825 likes and 16,917 retweets in almost two months, junior \*John Smith's @commegaygarcon) tweet published Sept. 24 with the caption, "Just a tad bit homo @ hoco," about him and his boyfriend attending the homecoming dance received a significant amount of attention.

Along with his tweet, Smith's boyfriend junior Louie Torres' (@LouieTrs) tweet published on Sept. 24 with the caption, "No homo but hoco was cool," garnered around 16,100 retweets and 93,100 likes, numbers even larger than Smith's.

The positive feedback represents the change in attitudes about people's lifestyle choices, Pacheco said.

"I don't think I would gain this type of recognition [in the Millennial years]," he said. "I feel like because of everything that's been passed like marriage equality, people are more accepting of the LGBT peoples."

One main reason for the change is society's access to the internet, which allows more people to become educated about LGBT issues, Smith said.

"Since so many public figures are either coming out or saying that they're accepting of the LGBT community, more people are going to be more willing to accept us," he said.

Social media affects the public's thoughts on the gay community not only because of celebrities' influences, but also because of the people involved in the community itself, he said.

"[Before social media], people

used to only know what's happening in their communities," Smith said. "But now, we know more about other communities, [and] are accepting of gay people or are gay themselves."

Because people have become more open to various sexualities, the online world provides more opportunities to meet other openly gay people, he said.

"I wouldn't've met my boyfriend without Twitter, so I feel like social media has done a lot for me," Smith said.

As an active member of the Gay Straight Alliance club at Sunny Hills, junior Jesus Flores feels that the club would not have received as much support in the early 2000s compared to now. He echoes Smith in attributing the shift in attitudes to social media.

"On Twitter there would be [trending] LGBT topics and people who don't know about it might be like: 'Let me know more about that," Flores said. "Social media would be a huge outlet to influence other people's lives, and that positivity spreads not only through the nation, but [also] throughout the world."

# Teacher's iPad spices up chemistry class

News Editor

**NOAH SOMPHONE** 

screen," he said.

The chemistry teacher was referring to apps such as Notability, which acts as an electronic whiteboard, and Scanner Pro, a program that scans any document and turns it into universal, usable files for all students. Colomac said his handheld device also allows for increased freedom throughout the room, allowing him to write and address problems immediately instead of being restricted to the whiteboard at the front of the class.

Socratic seminars offer chance for discussions

#### **CAMRYN PAK**

Asst. Feature Editor

Rosenkranz has noticed gradual changes in student engagement following his students' participation in these student-cen-

Swiping, tapping and typing with just one finger.

Those are among the common activities that students of Generation Z are accustomed to doing on their smartphones or hand-held devices.

And when they are given the opportunity to do the same in an academic setting, students tend to stay more engaged with the day's lesson.

That's what chemistry teacher Andrew Colomac discovered when he tossed the traditional whiteboard marker for his personal iPad two years ago in the last quarter of the semester.

"Doing all these things [with these new devices] is just the same as doing it on a piece of paper, but if you try to use current technology, there is more buy-in," he said.

Colomac occasionally starts the foundation of example an problem in the notes and lets other students finish the rest of the work.

For much of his other lessons, the iPad is in his hands as he uses it to project mirrored TOP OF THE STACK: Chemistry teacher images of assign- Andrew Colomac holds his personal iPad to ments onto his project an example on the white board. screen in front of the class.

"I've had a SMART Board that I got about eight years ago, and it's aging," Colomac said, referring to an interactive whiteboard that allows for electronic usage through special pens and other writing devices. "A lot of the pens don't work, it lagged [a lot] and I was just more frustrated with it more than anything else."

Discovering the iPad's educational prowess two years ago completely changed how the class functioned, Colomac said.

"There's some really amazing programs that seamlessly allow you to write, erase and easily upload documents so the student's exact handout appears on the

He uses his iPad to draw graphs for some of the hardest concepts in chemistry.

"It makes learning interactive and allows for better explanation of the lesson," junior Kurtis Liang said. "He is able to draw a visual representation of each concept and go deeper into each one."

Senior Joshua Jung recalls the time in Advanced Placement chemistry when he was in awe of his teacher's use of the iPad for a certain lesson on rate laws.

"We were all amazed by [Colomac's] 'amazing' ability to draw straight lines 'by himself' for a long time, but it was actually just a normal iPad function," Jung said.

However, some drawbacks of this electronic usage include the lack of an indicator to point out where his NOAH SOMPHONE | theaccolade stylus is, Colomac said

> "Instead of writing on the board, [because of the po-

sitioning of the iPad], I feel like I write on my hand," he said. "In the future, it would be better if the programs I [use] would have a cursor or a pointer."

New technology also allows students to feel enjoyment while learning, Liang said.

"It brings more fun to learning chemistry because [Colomac's] funny personality combined with his unique and modern teaching style makes all of his lessons interesting," he said

Though not every student will end up in Colomac's chemistry class, most hope to see more opportunities to swipe, tap and type onto Generation Z's most familiar way of interacting with the world around them.

With the rise of Common Core State Standards and an emphasis on application as opposed to memorization, teachers have begun to stray from conventional teaching methods.

At Sunny Hills, new peer-oriented teaching styles influence the classroom environments of social sciences teacher Robert Bradburn and English teacher Scott Rosenkranz.

The two teachers are among the many instructors around the world who incorporate Socratic seminars into their classroom settings. These seminars provide students with ways to further their knowledge through discussions with each other.

"In 2017, California reminded teachers to help students always be curious and work together smoothly," Bradburn said. "So as part of this new 'California Way,' my student teacher, Chelsea Garcia, and I decided to emphasize Socratic [this seminars school year].

Bradburn, who has been holding these seminars for several years and participated in them as a teenager, felt as if the idea of Socratic seminars would help students

said. "[Students] actually start to be curious about stuff, and when [students] feel safe admitting that they don't know something, we see them grow up a little."

Rosenkranz, on the other hand, has incorporated Socratic seminars into his classroom environment ever since 2007.

"I took a three- or four-day course in Socratic seminars from a lady out of University of California, Los Angeles, named Jenee Gossard," he said. "And over the course of that training, I became convinced that [Socratic seminars] were something that would be valuable for student learning."

tered activities.

"I think seminars have a way of promoting student agency that calling on students does not," he said. "Socratic seminars really give students the reins of learning and communication in a way that nothing else does.'

These student discussions are not only held in high school classrooms, but they are beneficial in the university setting as well because students are able to form their own discussions, Stanford assistant professor Rob Reich said in a college news release.

"The Socratic teacher uses an ad hominem [direct] style of interrogation to probe students' core beliefs and values," Reich said. "The teacher is not interested in mak-

ing arguments or asking questions designed to convince them of a particular view."

Theory of Knowledge se-Timothy nior Lee, who has additional experience with these seminars from his freshman and sophomore years, says that they helped him open his "mind's eye."

"I think since a lot of the topics that we

had were more relevant to controversies we face today in society, there were some intense mo-

ments during the seminars," Lee said. "But of course, that didn't mean that we didn't learn anything useful from each other."

CAMRYN PAK | theaccolade

Some of the topics that were discussed in Rosenkranz's Theory of Knowledge class include justice, religion and particular rights of individuals, which made a significant impression on Lee.

One of the aspects of Socratic seminars that Rosenkranz likes is the way that they are more peer-oriented.

"It's really about the synthesis of knowledge and seeing students apply knowledge in a social context that is dynamic and multidimensional," he said.

learn more efficient- SEMINAR IN ACTION: Junior Tara Desai (left) and junior Grace Park present an "To me, the sem- idea for a Socratic seminar discussion with

inars help students history teacher Bob Bradburn. see that they aren't babies anymore," he

# Legends top League tourney

The rise of eSports, incomprehensible for the last generation, has led to a whole other field of



Reprinted with permission from Nathan Park **TAKING FIRST PLACE:** Sophomore David Jun (left), senior Joseph Lee, junior Christopher Kim, junior Nathan Ly, senior Jason Chang pose after taking first place at the SH League of Legends Tournament.



Reprinted with permission from Nathan Park

**UNDERCLASSMEN LEGENDS:** Freshmen and sophomore members of the eSports club take second place at the final tournament that was held on Oct. 28, after a preliminary tournament on Oct. 20.



Reprinted with permission from Nathan Park **GETTING READY:** Team Becky (left) and team TSM fanboys prepare to battle it out in the final tournament for the winning title, team Becky went on to win the best of three games.

#### **KIHOON KIM**

Opinion Editor League of Legends, a game that has logged over 1.8 billion hours by 100 million players worldwide, has captured the interest of Sunny Hills students. The large player base within the school includes a variety of skilled players, a few who even reach the same level as professional gamers. Freshman Erik Kim, who plays under the name "diamond cuck," and junior Nathan Park, also known as "Yakubyoukami," are not only students of Sunny Hills, but are also part of an elite group of high-leveled players within the League of Legends community.

body. The games were played from Oct. 21 to Oct. 29 off campus at home, and the finals were held at the newly opened PC cafe, Reboot. "It went very well; we were able to secure around \$250 worth of free prizing from Riot Games [the developers behind the game] and the players all seemed to have fun," Park said. "The games were also streamed on Twitch for anyone else to watch." Park said League of Legends and eSports in general is a rapidly growing industry, attracting players and fans from all over the world in just around a decade mainly due to the modernization of the new Generation Z. Nowadays, people will follow eSports just as normal sports fans would follow their favorite football or baseball teams; pro gamers can even be included within fantasy leagues for fans to play the same as they would any normal sport. This recent influx in popularity has allowed eSports to receive the same recognition as Major League Baseball or the National Basketball Association. According to usatoday.com, an average of 27 million people watched the League of Legends Season 4 World Championships; whereas, the 2014 NBA Finals between the Heats and the Spurs only estimated around 15.5 million viewers. "Our current generation, [also known as Generation Z], and the gap between video games played for leisure and video games played for competition is slowly getting smaller," Park said. "Not only are there a rise in gamers, but [there is] a boom in the workforce for the gaming industry including jobs from coaches and analysts of eSports teams, programmers, game shout casters and many more."



"At my current rank of Diamond 4, I currently place around the top [0.04 percent of North American players]," Park said.

In League of Legends, the ranking system consists of seven different ranking levels, and Kim and Park fall under the Diamond level the top 1 percent of the player base—after which comes Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

"[During] my first year of competitive League, I had trouble getting into Diamond, and I would [enter into a loss streak] or what players commonly call 'tilt," Park said. "But after a gap year and restarting my competitive season, I was able to reach it with relative ease."

Because of his high rank, Kim has faced against some big name personalities within the League of Legends community.

"I've played against Pokimane once and lost, and I've also played another game against Tobias Fate and won, even while he played his signature character, Gangplank," Kim said.

Pokimane is a noted Diamond Lux main with over 550,000 subscribers, and Tobias Fate, the famous Diamond Gangplank main has over 510,000 subscribers.

Kim said reaching the level of pro players at such a young age gives him a choice that most players normally don't have--the choice to play professionally. This would allow Kim, if given a chance from another professional team, to drop out of high school and play at official League of Legends tournaments.

"I've thought about going pro of course," Kim said. "After hitting Diamond, I realized that I have the skill, so I'd be lying if I said I didn't think about it."

The eSports club recently arranged a League of Legends Tournament with free entry available for anyone within the student

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ELLYSSA PAIK and EUNICE LEW | theaccolade

AGAINST ALL ODDS: The Sunny Hills football team reached new heights this year, leaping to a 5-0 record at the beginning of the season. The Lancers were led by captain seniors Joshua Neumann, Brandon Won, Nick Sheffer, Cade Caffrey and Marquis Knighten, qualifying for CIF for the third year in a row while ending with an 8-2 record. The team plays in the first round of CIF today at Garden Grove High School, hoping to end a championship drought of 20 years.



unny Hills athletes competed in the California Interscholastic Federation [CIF] tournaments with boys water polo reaching the first round and girls tennis advancing to the second round last week. Football (above) and cross country (below) will begin CIF play tonight and on Veterans Day, respectively. Golfer senior Hannah Ko (left) remains in contention in CIF individuals.



Reprinted with permission from Hannah Ko **DRIVING FOR BIRDIE:** Senior Hannah Ko hits off the tee at the CIF sectionals at the River Ridge Golf Course in Oxnard on Nov. 2. Ko later shot a round of 77, qualifying for the next round today.

Reprinted with permission from Candice Tseng RUNNING FOR THE GOLD: Sophomore Jared Alcaraz (left), seniors Jordan Al-Rawi, Kyle Al-Rawi and Kurt Kaihara lead the pack in their Freeway League Finals race at Craig Park on Oct. 31. The Lancers will compete next on Saturday in the first round of CIF at the Riverside City Cross Country Course.

### SH spreads environmental awareness with innovative solar light

#### HANNAH YI

#### Staff Reporter

Sunny Hills is going solar-a first among the schools in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District [FJUHSD].

Between the rear of the 100s building and the tables in front of the roundhouse stands a \$3,000 light pole completely powered by one solar panel collecting energy from the sun.

"We arranged to test that unit this year, and it just got installed [in October]," said Todd Butcher, the FJUHSD director of facility and construction.

School officials have wanted more lighting for that area but couldn't find a way before because it was too difficult to connect the pole to a power line. Then came juniors Rebecca Park and Sohae Yang, two of the leaders in the school's Eco Club.

"We thought that our club needed to do something more than recycling, so we talked to [principal Allen Whitten in September] about [possibly] implementing a solar panel," said Yang, Eco Club vice president. "We decided [to do] a solar panel light, and now we're in the process of getting funds for solar panel outlets."

Whitten then pitched the idea to school district officials, who then worked on the plans



GOING GREEN: Senior Minji Lee walks near the newly installed solar light in front of the roundhouse during passing periods Wednesday.

for installing it on campus the next month.

"The new light is a perfect addition to campus cameras, allowing them to see more clearly," Whitten said. "After we test this out for a while, I am hoping that we can spread this idea [to other campuses in the district]."

The principal then notified Eco Club members by taking them to the location of the pole during an early October lunch meeting.

"I thought they'd be taller, but then I realized that the height has to do with the angles in which the panels get sunlight," Yang said. "I'm looking forward to seeing the lights when I come to the talent show tonight."

Meanwhile, the district will continue to work toward finding more ways to use clean energy not only at Sunny Hills, but at its other campuses.

"We're in the calculation phase of our solar program," Butcher said. "We still have to figure out how many solar panels we need districtwide."

Even if the light is currently just in an experimental stage, the girls who recommended the idea consider it an important step in spreading environmental awareness.

"This allows Sunny Hills to turn to alternative methods of energy that are clean and will effectively reduce our carbon footprint on the atmosphere," said Park, Eco Club president.

#### Sports Lancer Regiment



Marching band takes top honors in two recent field tournaments.

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Sports



Check out the musical, artistic and theatrical talent of students in this photo essay.

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#### A&E **Thor: Ragnarok**



This new Marvel movie captivates audiences with a superb plot and many comedic scenes.

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#### Opinion **A Plead For Privacy**



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# got talent?

Sunny Hills students will perform tonight at 5 for the top spot in a "Mean Girls"-themed talent show with performaces ranging from singing to making voice impressions. Tickets are \$5 with ASB and \$7 without today at break and lunch in Room 170 and the same prices at the door.

U N D E R -CLASSMEN DYNAMIC DUO:

Freshman Allison Lee (left) and sophomore Katherine So perform a cover of Ed Sheeran's "Photograph," practicing Wednesday for more than three hours in preparation for this event.



Reprinted with permission from Kaylee Kim





# Student Senate digest

The information listed below is based on the third Student Senate meeting of the 2017-2018 school year, held Tuesday in Room 53.

If students would like to offer feedback on the items, please contact staff reporter Minji Kim, who is among the 30 representatives of the Student Senate at theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com.

• The ASB co-adviser Mike Paris informed senators about a discussion with the administrators about active shooter trainings in case an active shooter is present on campus during passing periods.

• The administrators told Paris to inform senators that teachers should not reward students with extra credit opportunities for not using the restroom during class time.

• Senator senior Raina Patel said Senior Sunrise was a fun experience but thought the process of buying tickets and food was confusing. Patel questioned why some students had to pay for burritos, while others got it for free. She suggested that the ASB provide better clarification.

• Paris said students and staff raised approximately \$2,800 for the Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser, with each class donating an average of \$25. Senator junior Shaan Sheth said social sciences teacher Robert Bradburn gave candy as incentives for students to donate money.

• Senators felt students mainly came to the Conservatory of Fine Arts Fall Festival for the food and left early after receiving it.

Senators took a trip to the renovated gym and agreed that the slick black letters above the bleachers, "Home of the Lancers," enhanced school spirit.
Senator junior Sohae Yang believed that the wrap of the Sunny Hills students showing school pride against Troy High School gave a nice finishing touch to the gym.

Reprinted with permission from Seoyun Choi

Reprinted with permission from Kaylee Kim WHO AM I? (ABOVE): Senior Reynaldo Salas mimics Aladdin and the Genie projected on the slide behind him as he utilizes his vocal talents to create various impressions of recognizable characters.

**STEADY (LEFT):** Junior Keahlani Alagao performs "the airplane" with her kendama, a toy that originates from the Japanese classic cupand-ball game.

The next Student Senate meeting will be held Dec. 5 in Room 53 during fifth period.

## Art at the Muckenthaler Students from art teacher and International Baccalaureate adviser Brian Wall's Advanced Placement art and Regional

Two Cats, Acrylic / Senior Vi

Students from art teacher and International Baccalaureate adviser Brian Wall's Advanced Placement art and Regional Occupational Program photography classes had their work showcased at the Muckenthaler Cultural Center on Nov. 2. The Florence Arnold Young Artist Exhibition 2017 runs until Dec. 31.

Loteria, Mixed Media | Junior Claire Choi

EUNICE LEW | theaccolade

Standards, Mixed Media | Senior Soo Choi

# FEATURE-

FOCUSED IN: Junior Rebecca Park plays her cello during the orchestra's "La La Land" medley.

# COFA Fall Festival

**CREATING HARMONY:** Freshman Ellyse Ramirez plays the vibraphone in the front row of the Lancer Regiment.

LS HIGH SCHOO

With multiple arts programs on campus, the Conservatory of Fine Arts held a two-hour showcase in the quad on Oct. 30. All photos by Accolade photo editor Eunice Lew.

SUNNY HUSHIGH SCHOOL ANCER REGIMEN



**MUSICAL DUET:** Junior Breanna Reyes (left) and junior Sama Suliman lip sync to "Let Me Love You" by Mario.

**TRIUMPHAL ENTRY:** Sophomore Ana Contreras waves her flag during the Lancer Regiment and Color Guard performance.

**CRAFTING DESIGNS:** Senior Autumn Senn (left) gets her hand painted by senior Celine Generette at the face painting booth.

Students share Veterans Day experiences

#### LAUREN KIM

Staff Reporter

Every Veterans Day, since he was 10 years old, senior Mathew McTigue calls his older brother to thank him for his service in the Marine Corps as a sergeant.

For fourteen years on the same day, McTigue also wakes up every Veterans Day morning and thanks his father Marvin Mc-Tigue, who received the highest ranking as an enlisted man: Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. During the day, he spends time with his father by playing golf or going over to his brother's house for a barbeque.

"Because veterans are the reason why we celebrate a day off of school, they deserve to be celebrated," McTigue said. "While people don't necessarily have to go out of their way to celebrate Veterans Day, if they know a person who served in the military, the least they could do is thank them for their service."

McTigue is among some of the students at Sunny Hills who have immediate family members serving or having served in the armed forces and will participate in various activities to honor veterans.

Besides public government and school closures on Friday (because Nov. 11 falls on a Saturday this year), several restaurants are honoring American soldiers by offering specials on meals Nov. 11.

Fullerton's Sizzler will honor veterans with a free beverage and lunch until 4 p.m., Fullerton's IHOP

will offer a free stack of red, white and blue pancakes from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and nearby Buena Park's Olive Garden will offer a free entree of the list of their six most popular dishes (with breadsticks and a choice of a soup or salad included).

Meanwhile, Buena Park's Knott's Berry Farm pays tribute to active and retired U.S. Military Personnel by offering free admission for themselves and one guest from Nov. 1-16 and Nov. 27-Dec.15.

"Veterans Day makes me appreciate their sacrifices for our country," said Choi, whose father served as a Reserve Officer in the U.S. Air Force for 12 years. "It gives me a better understanding of their military service, which makes me even more proud and grateful to live in America." Though it wasn't on Veterans Day, Choi recalls the time when his father took him to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs during spring break in 2016.

"It helped me understand the difficult experiences my dad went through during his college years," Cameron Choi said.

McTigue's father entered the military as an enlisted man, which means he did not receive a college education. This prevented him from becoming a pilot; so, to this day, McTigue aims to accomplish what his father hoped to achieve when he was his age.

"I'm trying to get a college education first so [that] I can be a pilot," McTigue said. "That was always my [father's] dream, so I'm [trying] to live in his dreams."



Reprinted with permission from Mathew McTigue

**PAYING TRIBUTE:** Senior Mathew McTigue replicates a photo of his father standing in front of a plane.

### FEATURE



FOCUSING THE LENS: Senior Yechan Choi adjusts his camera Wednesday as he prepares to film a new video for Sunny Hills High School's COFA department.

# Aspiring videographer takes charge

#### SHINE LEE

Staff Reporter

For most students, the usual after-school priorities include hanging out with friends, finishing homework or cramming for tests the following day; however, senior Yechan Choi makes videos for the Conservatory of Fine Arts [COFA] department.

"I started [to make videos] because I wanted to be better with the camera and try shooting videos as a hobby," Choi said. "Working in an environment where you're constantly talking with actors, brainstorming ideas with your team [and] editing helped me to become better at organizing and getting videos done on an orderly basis." Impressed by Choi's great ability as the director of photography

and videography, COFA adviser Brian Wall is thankful to have Choi work under the previous director and take over the role his junior year. "Yechan is a young man

with a talent and passion for photography and video production and has done excellent work for COFA," Wall said. "He has full autonomy to lead his staff and create promotional videos to help grow and publicize [COFA]."

Although there is a jumbotron, Choi's job remains the same—leading the 11 people in his staff and creat

people in his staff and creating videos to advertise certain events.

After working with Choi in COFA for a year, senior Jennifer Songalso ob-

"In the future, I want to [shed] light onto major problems in this world... and use film to solve [those] problems."

#### -Yechan Choi | senior

served Choi's distinctive video style. "I think for a high schooler, Yechan's videos are good quality," Song said, who is a member of COFA and helped Choi edit videos in her sophomore year. "He has the techniques down: cam-

era angles, writing, lighting, editing, music and timing." For the past two years, Choi made videos for certain COFA events, including Fall Festival, which played on the jumbotron Oct. 26 and 27.

"I think the promo videos for events are great, but the Laureate Ceremony videos really make you somewhat sorrowful, especially — to those who are receiving their laureates," Choi said. Before creating such videos, the directors of COFA hold meetings with the teams to assign video with a deadline. After the teams begin making scripts for that video, the video team casts interested actors and actresses and sets up a day for shooting.

"Videos can take anywhere from a couple hours to a whole year, but I would say the average would be two weeks," Choi said. "Actual shooting often happens at four and ends at six, [but] editing takes much longer."

Though Choi has a hectic schedule with orchestra and Advancement Placement classes, he is willing to put in an average of two hours a day into producing videos.

"In the future, I want to [shed] light onto major problems in this world that people aren't noticing and use film to solve [those] problems," Choi said.



Students showcase gratitude toward



**PRACTICING CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Deviation members gather Nov. 1 to practice a new routine.* 

# Club Corner: DEVIATION

As part of an occasional series about the different clubs on campus, The Accolade looks into a student organization that allows Lancers to express themselves through hip-hop dance.

#### **MEGAN SHIN**

Staff Reporter

With upbeat rap music blaring, a diverse group of students dances to the routine that the choreographers created and perfected for them.

When co-president senior Rafaela Pia Liz works on improving her routine with her group, she creates new bonds with the other members.

Although this sounds like a normal dance class at Sunny Hills, it is different in the way that people can move freely without feeling restricted in the technical aspect.

With after-school meetings every Wednesday, Deviation club brings guest choreographers who have taught professional hip-hop every two weeks to teach aspiring dancers new routines in the genre of hip-hop.

Deviation club, with 40 members, was approved by the ASB in August after Liz's inspiration from her experience of taking a hip-hop class July with Ysabelle Capitule, a famous choreographer.

"Being in the hip-hop community does not matter if you are good or not," Liz said. "It is more about being happy, and I wanted to bring this

to Sunny Hills."

Liz came up with the club's name through the idea that the group dancers are different from the SH Dance Production. However, they manage to come together to make a number work.

"Dance Production has such high standards that most people feel like they cannot do it," Liz said. "[However], for Deviation, if you want to have fun, you can have fun, and if you want to dance, you can just dance."

She then shared her idea with co-president junior Syrrus Marapao through her social media in summer, and they eventually worked to propose the club to the ASB.

"My friend Rafaela and I wanted to bring a new style of dance into the school rather than conforming to what we have here **D**A already," said So Marapao, one **pr**o of 10 males in the group.

Sophomore Amanda Flewellen, a member of Deviation club, believes that the club has a positive atmosphere as the members bond during the meetings.

ELLYSSA PAIK | theaccolade

"Everybody tries [on their routines] to be a part of it," said Flewellen, who became interested in hip-hop dancing since seventh grade. "I feel like I belong because we all work with each other and care, so you feel cheerful."

No matter what, Liz hopes for the best in all club members.

"My goal is to just have each individual gain confidence in their [own selves]," Liz

**DANCING THE DAY AWAY:** Sophomore Amanda Flewellen practices her dance routine. Sophomore Amanda Flewellen

# their teachers

#### LIRA JEONG

Staff Reporter

After a grueling test, teachers usually allow students to do homework for other classes, or they will give



them permission to study for another exam for their next class. Some will even let students put their heads down and sleep or rest.

But at the beginning of the school year, teacher Jina Shia came up with another option: doing some arts and crafts and creating thank you cards to give to students' teachers.

"There is no profound reason to why I started doing this," said Shia, who teaches algebra foundations and honors geometry. "I just wanted my students to connect with their teachers."

She first announced this "Write a Card" opportunity to all of her classes, telling her students she would collect the letters and put them in teachers' boxes in the main office.

"I didn't really get much of a response from [my students when I first told them]," Shia said.

Freshman Alice Chung, howeber, expressed her fondness for the assignment.

"I like the assignment because it's a way we can acknowledge people around us through letters," she said.

She had more than a handful to put in various teachers' boxes like Korean teacher Esther Lee and English teacher Greg Brown.

"I didn't know that my students [thought] that I'm positive and I was surprised that some students appreciated the small things that I did for them," Lee said.

Shia's students have shown their dedication to this process.



LIRA JEONG | theaccolade SPREADING POSITIVITY: These are among the many letters students wrote for teachers.

"I've seen students make such beautiful cards that I was wowed by their effort and creativity," Shia said.

Besides teachers and students being the beneficiary of her students' generosity, Shia feels she has gained valuable insight.

"Personally, I got to know my students better in the beginning of the year after reading their cards," Shia said. "I have had a student [who] has never approached me in person write the longest card with a heartfelt message."

As the year goes on, Shia plans to carry this process further into the students' personal lives.

"I am planning to expand [this project to] family members so students can express their thoughts to their family and loved ones," Shia said.

If that works out, it will represent a giant step toward reaching the goal she had set for herself and her students.

"I want my students to leave my class at the end of the year with more kindness and positive attitude [about being a better person in general]," Shia said.

#### $\stackrel{\circ}{\dashv}$ accolade • November 9, 2017

# Arts&Entertainment —



Images reprinted with permission from Marvel Studios, copyright 2017

**REVENGERS ASSEMBLE:** (from left) The Hulk, Thor, Valkyrie and Loki prepare to confront Hela, a goddess of death who threatens to destroy Asgard.

# **'THOR' RETURNS TO SHOCK VIEWERS**

#### Film goes out of this world and succeeds in balancing action and humor, exceeding the audience's expectations.

#### NOAH SOMPHONE

News Editor

With hilarious gags, actionpacked plot and superb cinematography, Marvel's "Thor: Ragnarok" surpasses its audience's expectations albeit a mediocre previous cinema in "Thor: The Dark World."

Despite the lack of thrilling plot twists in similar films such as "The Avengers," Marvel constructed this movie as one similar to "Ant-Man," a comedic work that attracts an audience of all ages. "Thor" enhances its appeal with a never-ending line of jokes that provide some laughter in the midst of a serious narrative. Implementation of many characters in the Marvel universe such as Doctor Strange and the Hulk also boosts guiding the story.

Normally, a "Thor" movie consists of Thor interacting with his human friends to save humanity.

However, this film takes place in his homeworld and other alien planets, only giving Earth a 10-minute cameo. Furthermore, it does not show his human counterparts at all, who played a crucial role in his development in the past two works. Admittedly, because Earth's usual involvement in Thor's life is so significant and entertaining, this takes a little to get used to. Nevertheless, the implementation of other worlds into the mix proves enjoyable at the very climax.

Chris Hemsworth ("Ghostbusters"), Tom Hiddleston ("Kong:

immense interest as critical points in Skull Island") and Mark Ruffalo, a new addition to the Thor world, ("Now You See Me") play an outstanding role of their characters (Thor, Loki and Bruce Banner, respectively) that its predecessors didn't have. Their acting displays an excellence in performance and emotion as they not only show their lighter side, but perform well in some serious scenes as well. The main villain, Hela, proved to be a persistent problem that continuously moved the narrative forward, increasing its likeability.

Above all, the movie's ending seamlessly transitions into one of the most anticipated films of 2018: "Avengers: Infinity War." During the post-credits scene, a giant spaceship-piloted by Thanos, the movie-setting a suspenseful encounter between good and evil.

As a result of its highly entertaining comedic elements, exceptional

key villain in the next Avengers acting and a well thought-out plot line, "Thor: Ragnarok" is sure to make a hammer-sized dent at the box office, surpassing the other two "Thor" films before it.



# Smith brings the `Thrills'

#### **ROSIE JANG**

After an all-too-long hiatus of 18 months, Sam Smith

Copy Editor

a harmonized choir that flatter his delicate vocals, while in "Palace," "Scars" and "One Day at a Time,"

the guitar strums in company of his sweet voice. In "HIM," Smith seems to sing of the struggles of his sexuality and religion, as the lyrics state that "it is him I love, it is him" and "Holy Father, judge my sins." His atonement continues in "Pray," grappling with his lack of faith through his words: "I have never believed in you, no, but I'm gonna pray" and "You won't find me in church (no) / Reading the Bible (no)." Smith not only sings

of his heartbreaks, but also discusses modern conflicts (such as debates against gay pride or atheism)—problems that affect a larger audience than purely himself.

passionate art lover, I have often

As a



June's MonthLee:

Simplicity isn't abstract

2009.

visited *june*Lee Entertainment Editor museums

to appreciate the avant-garde works from the ominous Cara-

vaggio or the extravagant Vincent van Gogh. However, when it comes to abstract art, many artists seem to have misinterpreted the difference between abstractness and pointlessness.

"Art can be simplistic, and it doesn't need a meaning; however, Richter's work lacks both aesthetics and a reasonable theme."

I question why a such a simple work can cost so much. Art can be simplistic, and it doesn't need a meaning; however, Richter's work lacks both aesthetics and a reasonable theme.

A prominent example of abstract art would be works like Pablo Picasso's "Guernica," a reference to a massacre that occurred in Guernica. While his style is bizarre

> and unrealistic, the black, white and gray color scheme captures the horror and tragedy that unfolded in the unfortunate town. The

distorted faces

of his characters stun the audience with chaos and disorder, conveying the darkness of war and death.

Unlike Richter's artwork, Picasso's painting conveys a clear theme that relates to its title. Abstract art requires the viewer to find subtle meanings or beauty in the artist's work, but if all we get is a single-colored canvas or a cup filled with trash on top of a stool, we really cannot waste our time and money and call it a work of art.

returned Nov. 3 with his second album-The Thrill of It All-and definitely, it lives up to its billing.

Smith continues his ongoing streak of tugging at his fans' hearts with tear-jerking songs, which are mostly ballads that compliment his deep, melodic voice with some piano-infused elements. The album seems to be titled based on a track of the same name to emphasize how the song's emotions underlies the other tracks. Songs such as "Pray," "Nothing

Left for You" and

"Burning" feature

Courtesy of NPR.com



Overall, the album has only one featured artist: YEBBA. The female underground vocalist joins hands with Smith to produce "No Peace," recounting a lovelorn experience through the lyrics: "You held my heart in your fingertips / So now I drown in my bitterness."

Throughout each song in the 14-track album, Smith's silvery falsetto sings of loneliness, a prevalent theme. His second album continues the blueprint of his first, pouring poignant accounts of past heartbreaks and, more importantly, wrenching the hearts of loyal fans and new listeners alike.

#### WANT FREE CONCERT TICKETS???

Enter for a chance to win concert tickets to Amine!!!!

Search for a secret word hidden somewhere in this issue. Once you find it, come to **Room 138** with the newspaper in your hand. The first 10 people to arrive will be allowed to participate for a raffle. Contestants must bring the newspaper with them and spell out the secret word. A raffle between these contestants will take place, and the lucky student will win two tickets to Amine's concert on Nov. 16. Hint: <u>song title, female name</u>



It never ceased to amaze me

how some of the most expensive

artworks are some of the most

dull ones. On one occasion, I

saw a piece created by German

painter Gerhard Richter called

The only color the viewer

see no meaning and no emotion,

let alone any relation to the title

other than the word, "red." Sur-

prisingly, as plain as it appears,

it was sold for \$1.1 million in

sees is red and nothing else. I

"The Blood Red Mirror."

### November 9, 2017 **OPINION** 12 **STAFF EDITORIAL** HELP! MASCOT WANTED Time for a new Winston the Lancer

If you have ever attended a professional sports game, then you have most likely seen a person dressed in a colorful, bright costume dancing around and leading the crowd in cheers and jeers. That is the mascot. Many people disregard them, but the mascot is very important to a team and its crowd's morale.

During sports games, mascots are there to save the day with their entertaining chants and dances. They have the ability to lead a defeated crowd into a loud, spirited bunch, rooting for their teams regardless of the score.

With the upcoming Lancer basketball season, it's time that our school gets a proper leader to bolster our spirit and cheer for not only our basketball teams, but all the sports teams as well.

Many current students may be unaware of this, but our school used to have an actual mascot, Winston Creel (the inspiration behind the name, "Winston the Lancer"). Creel would dress up as a knight holding a lance, and during football games, he would ride his horse around the track to boost school spirit similar to how the Trojan horse is trotted out in the Los Angeles Coliseum after every USC touchdown.

Upon a suggestion from his daughters who were seniors at Sunny Hills, Creel first posed as Winston on the last game of the 1986 football season against then rival Fullerton High School, and from then on, he was present at every home football game until the end of the 2015-16 football season.

Unfortunately, following his final season, he needed a knee surgery, and during the year after his recovery, Winston's horse passed away.

With the departure of Creel, we have been in the need for someone to continue the legacy of Winston the Lancer.

We don't need someone in a full-on Lancer knight costume riding a real life horse, but it would be nice to have something or someone to help guide the cheers for our sports teams.

If anything, the mascot could join or help the cheerleaders in their routines and dances as well.

The original purpose of mascots was to bring luck to one's side or team. It's time we bring back that luck and continue the traditions of Winston the Lancer.

A person dressed up in a costume isn't the only kind of mascot available. Clipper Darrell, a well-known superfan of the Los Angeles Clippers basketball team, has attended every single game since 2001. He dances, chants,



Reprinted with permission from Winston Creole

WINSTON THE LANCER: Winston Creel used to dress up as Winston the Lancer and ride around on a real life horse.

#### out the entire game.

If not a second Winston, is there a call for a Lancer Darrell? Of course we don't need people to completely dedicate themselves to that extent, but it would be nice to have anyone try and guide the support for our sports teams.

the middle of the gym during half-time, dancing to some '80s hit like The Go Gos' "We Got the Beat", it is bound to create some kind of hype that may even go viral.



Editor-in-Chief Selina Chong

**Co-Managing Editors** Annie Choi **Eunice Lee** 

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Artists **Michelle Lee** Haley Pae

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**Contributing Photographer** Anna Lee

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If we could just see that mascot walk onto

### **Overreaction over cereal illustration**



In our everyday lives, we continuously face the issue of racism by various means, whether it be through *selina*Chong white suprema-Editor-in-Chief cists' rallies or racist tweets.

But have we ever considered that something so miniscule as a cereal box cartoon can be labeled as an act of racism? Kellogg's was accused of having racially insensitive art on the back of its Corn Pops cereal boxes after receiving an Oct. 24 Twitter complaint from Marvel Comics writer Saladin Ahmed.

The drawing on the packaging depicts cartoon characters shaped like corn kernels populating a shopping mall while participating in human activities such as shopping and playing arcade games. Amid all the yellow corn pops, one brown-colored kernel dressed up as a janitor is shown to be pushing a floor waxer.

After noticing this jarring detail, Ahmed expressed his anger by posting the following on his Twitter account: "hey @KelloggUS why is literally the only brown corn pop on the whole cereal box the janitor? this is teaching kids racism." Ahmed also added in a subsequent Oct. 24 post: "Yes it's a tiny thing, but when you see your kid staring at this over breakfast and realize millions of other kids are doing the same ...."

Kellogg's responded to Ahmed through Twitter about five hours later: "Kellogg's is committed to diversity & inclusion. We did not in-



CERRIK CHIN, Guest Artist

tend to offend-we apologize. The artwork is updated & will be in stores soon." Ahmed's post quickly went viral, receiving over 18,200 likes and 6,013 retweets. Several Twitter users supported Ahmed's post, believing that having a single darker-colored corn pop working hard on its own was questionably racist.

However, a majority of the 7,755 comments responded against his post, considering it to be overly sensitive. After Ahmed's post went viral, he received numerous abusive tweets, which criticized his false judgment of Kellogg's cartoon. Some of the Twitter responses included: "Are you being serious? It's food it's not a race," "It's a cereal box. This is all you have to do with your time?"

Taking this situation into consideration, it is worthwhile to note what meaning racism has in today's society. Are people too quick to label an act as racist? Nowadays, the term has become overused to the point where people blurt out something as racist without considering its true definition. People have become so overly sensitive that they misinterpret everyday interactions, which in turn can result in further frustration and hostility.

Although a single darker Corn Pop may seem slightly odd after shedding a spotlight, it should not be necessarily labeled as an act of racism.

Did Kellogg's cartoonist have the intention of excluding a "brown" color pop from the rest of the "yellow" corn pops to spread a racist message? Or, people will have to realize that racial sensitivity has gone too far to the point where people are quick to misinterpret and wrongfully judge.

Recognized this year as the Best High School Newspaper at the 59th Southern California Journalism Awards sponsored by the L.A. Press Club.



#### Letters to the editor

I really enjoyed reading about Megan Shin's movie review. It gave me insight on what other people think of the movie as opposed to my own opinions.

—Alexandra Carbajal, sophomore

I loved how the upcoming games for our school sports were announced at the end of The Accolade. Sometimes, the announcements during second period are inaudible or forgotten, so it was nice to be reminded by The Accolade.

-Meagan Kimbrell, freshman

I really liked the staff editorial. It was interesting to see other students' opinion on a topic such as gun control. Something I didn't really like was how short the news section was. I usually like reading that section to see what's going on in our area or in our school, but since it was really short I didn't get all that information.

-Tyler Pak, freshman

I agree with arts and entertainment editor June Lee's criticisms on how remakes of certain films like "Death Note" failed to catch its main characteristics and became a failed piece of work.

—Alex Park, sophomore

The article about the senior making tables for a Scouts project was most interesting. When I first saw it on the school campus, I was confused as to why it was there or who put it.

- Hannah Jeong, sophomore

The Accolade welcomes signed letters to the editor with full name and ID number sent to Room 138 or theaccoladeshhs@ gmail.com.

# **GUEST COLUMN PISSED ABOUT THE LACK OF BOUNDARIES** Guest columnist requests that the school installs urinary dividers

the question.





*cerrik*Chin Guest Columnist

fects every boy who attends Sunny Hills. The lack of urinal dividers. Without dividers, bath-

To pee or not to pee, that is

There's a problem that af-

rooms lack privacy, efficiency and cleanliness. All these problems can be traced back to the issue of personal space.

Boys typically choose a urinal farthest from one that is occupied to maintain a comfortable proximity. When personal space at the urinal is disturbed, it's common for male teens to feel slightly anxious and uncomfortable.

This concern has caused me to avoid using the urinals and instead opt for the more private toilet stalls. As a result, I have had to wait long lines to use the few available stalls, which also contributes to my class tardiness. With dividers, bathroom users are more likely to use urinals adjacent to ones that are occupied, greatly increasing the overall efficiency of the bathroom.

When male students use the toilet stalls instead of the urinals, their less than adequate aim tends to make more of a mess, covering the seats with urine. People who use these same stalls are burdened with wiping these seats clean. Installing these dividers clearly come with a cost. According to allpartitions. com, plastic laminate urinary dividers cost \$95 each. Installing dividers at the three major male restrooms (40s, 90s, 170s building) on our campus would cost around \$1,300 without construction fees.

At first glance, this may seem like a large sum of money, but this addition will be worth it in the long run. The bathrooms will become more convenient to use, and the students will feel more secure in their personal space.

Although some may consider the lack of urinary dividers as tolerable, it has become a serious concern among the male population. In fact, other highly populated places, such as movie theaters, fast food restaurants and amusement parks, have implemented urinary dividers to address this problem. After discussing this issue with several dozen male members of the student body, I have come to the conclusion that a majority of the male population believe it is absurd that we do not have urinary dividers in our restrooms

The guys at Sunny Hills High School want uriary dividers for a cleaner, more efficient and more private bathroom. Pee-ple of Sunny Hills, are you



# CANDID



"It feels awkward to take a piss right next to someone without a barrier."

- Austin Jung, 9



"It's embarrassing someone peeing right next to me can just look at me."

- Woo Chang Kim, 10



SHOULD THERE BE URINAL DIVIDERS?

"Yes. I think we should install dividers because it provides more privacy."

- Hayan Khan, 11



Brennen Harrison, 12

# All signs lead to new world language offering



Spanish. Korean. German. Chinese. Students need to take at least two years of a world language other than English to

subject require-

michelleBuckley fulfill their A-G Staff Reporter

ments. Sunny Hills offers the opportunity for all students to take diverse language classes.

Although world language classes are available to students, a less recognized form of communication is not offered: sign language.

Based on American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate's data for 2012, about two to four out of every 1,000 people in the United States are functionally deaf, while fewer than one out of every 1,000 people become deaf before 18 years of age.

Through sign language, users can communicate manually to convey meaning as opposed to the spoken form. In the United States, an estimated 100,000-500,000 Americans use a primary method of communication: American Sign Language (ASL).

Colleges such as the University of California accept ASL to fulfill a language other than the English requirement, proving the value of ASL being taught at schools today.



Based on the California Education Code, ASL is deemed as a course in foreign language. Thus also sign language should be taught as an optional language class here as well for practical reasons.

A method like ASL can enhance teachers' careers by helping teachers' communicate better with students who have hearing disabilities. Additionally, a student with an impairment may feel excluded from interactRACHEL KIM | theaccolade

ing with the rest of the class. With a possibility that students will feel left out or avoided because of a disadvantage, teachers should work with them to prevent exclusion.

The use of sign language can also boost brain activity by improving a person's creativity, problem-solving skills and academic development. Sign language would be a beneficial class toward a student's scholastic abilities because it benefits their work

progress and creates more activity within the classroom.

Learning ASL can help people connect better with the deaf culture. Since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, ASL continues to increase popularity in colleges and universities.

Sign language is also just a beautiful language. When I see people communicating with the deaf, it warms my heart to see them putting in the effort to interact with those who lack the ability to hear. This skill reminds the deaf community that they are not forgotten and that they have as much equal access to communication as anybody else does.

With benefits of sign language, money plays a big hand in the involvement of this language.

If many students end up interested in taking a sign language class, they may need more than one teacher for interpretation. Despite the efforts necessary for a new language class at Sunny Hills, the benefits override the cons.

Overall, sign language is definitely a lifelong skill that allows deaf people to feel included, despite any disadvantages. Because it allows for interaction with those who are less privileged, sign language should be offered as an elective or even a language course at Sunny Hills.

**UNDERCLASSMAN HOTSHOTS** 

# Zoe Ip kicks her way to ranking

Nationally ranked, midfield attacker on airls soccer sauad motivates and leads her teammates to success.

#### **LIRA JEONG**

While keeping up with schoolwork and having soccer practice every day, attacking midfield player sophomore Zoe Ip is one of the few high school athletes nationally ranked within Orange County.

Staff Reporter sophomore

zoelp

"I wasn't as ecstatic midfield attacker as people might think," Ip said. "It was an ac-

knowledgement of my

hard work, but I knew there was much more to improve."

When she first discovered that she was nationally ranked, an online article had been written about a few players accepted into the top 150 players in the nation.

At age 14, when she found out her rank, the website [topdrawersoccer.com] contributed to the excitement of her reaction.

To add to her ranking, she received several awards including Rookie of the Year from her varsity team, Second Team All League and Second Team All CIF.

"I felt like I earned my place on the team being a freshmen," Ip said. "I was happy because I got an award that recognizes what I do on the field."

The road to national recognition wasn't so smooth for the 5'4 10th-grader.

"I went through a big slump where I wasn't playing well," Ip said. "This played with my confidence because I feel like soccer is a big mental game, too."

Throughout the years, her coach and parents have encouraged her by giving her constructive criticism on how to improve.

"They are always encouraging me to do more and work harder so that I can [make] progress and become better, [and] because they know that I have the potential to grow as a player and as a person," Ip said.

Without the support she receives, she believes that she would not have the motivation to continually practice.

"I think I am going to continue soccer as of right now because I want to improve on my



NATIONALLY RANKED: Sophomore Zoe Ip, among the top 150 U.S. girls soccer players, practices her kicks Wednesday after school at the Sunny Hills field.

first, and then [she] puts in extra hours of training to excel at soccer; her hard work is going to take her to [NCAA Division I] soccer."

After a year of guiding Ip on the team, the coach looks forward to what the sophomore has to offer this upcoming season.

"As a freshman, Zoe was a defensive stopper, marking and shutting down the opponent's best attacker," Gordon said. "This year we expect her to do that and also show her great attacking skills."

Because Ip is extremely quick, anticipates well and plays with intensity, she is one of the best defensive players he has ever coached, he said

"Zoe came into our program from a very good Fullerton Club team and has made it a goal to be nationally ranked," he said. "We are proud of her and think she's amazing.'

As her teammate, sophomore left forward and attacking midfielder Jocelyn Pineda said Ip is a leader who helps the team stay motivated to win games.

"Her biggest [contribution] to the team is her ability to see the field and stay calm while she plays decisive balls through and around players," Pineda said.

Ip also encourages her teammates to do better during practices, and she also guides them during the games they play, she said.

"She not only contributes to the team through her decision-making on the field but also brings good energy and intensity to the come better players," Pineda said. team," Pineda said.



# SPORTS

### JYI: #MeToo seeps into sports world

#### JANA YI

Sports Editor

The #MeToo campaign raises awareness for sexual violence of all genders through personal testimonies, recently been introduced into the sports realm

of social media.



*jana*Yi Sports Editor

Many people have been contributing to this campaign; however, the sports world has been sharing more and more testimonies from athletes who have experienced sexual violence.

An article published by The Nation explains that more athletes have been speaking out on this topic. Though many sports radio talk shows input commentary on games, one ESPN program called "The Dan Le Batard" has mentioned the #MeToo campaign last week.

Like WNBA Seattle Storm basketball star Breanna Stewart, other athletes have also shared brave testimonies about their personal experiences with sexual violence. Her testimony shed light on former doctor and trainer Larry Nassar with allegations for a total of 22 counts of first degree sexual assault.

This campaign has helped many women confidently share their testimony. Not only does it highlight the importance of this campaign, but it has also brought attention to the ignored victims of sexual assault.

With personal connections to sexvual violence victims, I can clearly see the difference it makes.

Though I cannot specifically name these victims, I know that they have been sexually assaulted by their closest family members, creating an unexpected type of trauma. They have felt alone and scared to tell anyone about their experiences; however, this campaign allows them to feel thankful even if they cannot share their own experiences

From this movement, the victims who have shared their testimony bring attention and comfort to those who have endured through the same pain. Seeing this enforcement has helped empower people afraid to announce their experiences as well.

skills and become better," Ip said.

Head girls soccer coach Jeff Gordon feels fortunate to coach a player like Ip in the varsity team as he pushes her to do her best.

"Zoe is dedicated to being a great student athlete," Gordon said. "She is a great student is able to give us direction to help us all be-

Zoe is a dedicated player who shows her skill while playing the game and practicing, she said.

"Because she knows the game so well, Zoe

As of now, Ip's goal is to get accepted into a top-tier college after graduating high school.

"I don't want to play professionally [after college] or anything like that," she said "I want my team to win CIF of course; that's every high school player's dream."

# **Cross country dominates Freeway League finals,** advances to CIF prelims Saturday in Riverside

#### **OGE OKPALA**

Staff Reporter

Heading into Saturday's California Interscholastic Federation [CIF] preliminary meet, the Sunny Hills cross country team has momentum on its side, especially after a dominating Halloween performance at Freeway League finals.

The team earned first place on all levels for the second consecutive year at the finals held at Craig Regional Park in Fullerton.

Boys runners took first through seventh place for its level, winning a fifth consecutive league title in addition to being ranked seventh in the county for Division II. Girls won their sixth consecutive league title with runners finishing in second, third and sixth place.

"Sweeping was kind of the goal since we did it last year," head coach Daniel Scott said. "We wanted to see if we could do it two years in a row because it's never been done before in our league."

The Lancers put the scare in their opponents during the Halloween League finals.

"[Before the race], I felt that we were going to do well," Scott said. "I'm very proud of all my runners, and I'm happy that for two years in a row, we swept all five levels [in the finals]."

In preparation of the league finals, the team has been practicing since its summer training, Scott said.

"We started tapering off the last four weeks of the season [with]

lighter mileage and a little more speed," he said.

Out of the six other Sunny Hills runners who placed among the top seven for the boys team, runner senior Gideon Pichardo placed first with a time of 15:30.

"I think that this was a placement that was good for me, but I was really going for time," Pichardo said. "I also feel relieved and happy because we got seven Sunny Hills runners in the top seven, and I believed that was what we were going for."

The team having the top seven dominated exclusively by its runners is a step up from last year, when there were only six runners in that placing.

"I think that was just about as much as we could improve, so that was good," Pichardo said.

Despite feeling nervous before the race, the four-year cross country team member focused on breaking his previous record to finish strong.

"The mentality I had going in was, 'I'm going to race myself today," Pichardo said. "I really wanted to beat my personal record from last year, and I did, so I'm happy."

Although runner junior Angelina Paredes placed second in the league finals for girls with a time of 18:48, she felt disappointed that her Sonora High School rival junior Coraline Statina managed to beat her and take first place.

"It's always between me or [Statina] who wins," Paredes said. "I was planning on winning, and I really wanted to beat her, but she was more competitive that day."

The CIF preliminary race will take place on Veterans Day at the Riverside City Cross Country Course starting from noon.

Pichardo hopes that the Lancers' win will help drive the team as they advance into this next round.

"As a team, we swept it, so I think that is a really good motivation for us going into CIF," Pichardo said.

#### **MEET MVPS**

- Senior Gideon Pichardo: first place boy's varsity
- Junior Angelina Paredes: second place girl's varsity



# SPORTS November 9, 2017 15

#### 

# Golf coach retires after 33 years

#### ANDREW HONG

When the boys golf team heads off to practice next spring at Los Coyotes Country Club, they will see the familiar black timDevaney

and white accented golf carts scattered among the course

golf coach

and players carrying their bulky golf bags around the field.

But the one mainstay that has epitomized boys golf for more than three decades will be missing.

Its head coach, Tim Devaney.

"Ι just thought that it was finally time for me to step down and let someone new take control of the

position," said Devaney, who has guided boys golf since the 1984-85 school year--the longest tenure of any current head coach on campus. "I'm going to miss having interactions with the [athletes] and seeing their successes and failures. Watching them grow and become better players was always a pleasure to see."

A decade later, he guided his squad to his first state CIF championship followed by another one

in 2008. And from 1996 to 2016, Devaney led his players to Freeway Staff Reporter League titles.

In a maxpreps.com article about the 2008 CIF state title, Devaney described the experience as a "day to grab the brass ring."

His successes attracted several top golfers--male and female. This was before Sunny Hills athletics fielded a boys and girls golf team.

That 2008 championship squad included freshman Kristen Park, the fourth youngest winner of the U.S. Junior Girls Amateur Championship at age 14, and senior Inah Park, a former Nevada State champion.

"He has contributed a lot to our program, and it's sad to have him

– golfer Jaden Kim | senior

known Devaney since his freshman year. "He always did the little things like [giving] us yard measurements and [mapping] out the courts for

leave,"

Jaden

golfer senior

said, who has

us, as well

said

Kim

[helping as us] strategize before playing our games."

Golfer senior Hannah Ko is among Devaney's last group of girls who were part of the boys golf team.

"He would always tell us to come out and practice every day [as a] team, which helped us prepare mentally [and physically] before our games," Ko said. "During our CIF sectionals, Coach [Devaney] would bring us out to the field to describe the course as well as encourage us to



Reprinted from a May 18, 2007, Accolade file photo

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS: Boys golf head coach Tim Devaney joins his six-member team after they won the CIF-SS division title May 10, 2007. Devaney has decided to retire this school year.

take notes "

Devaney's attention to details can also be attributed to his 19 years of coaching Lancer football from 1980 to 1999, winning 12 league titles and three CIF championships. He was part of the Sunny Hills staff while coaching from 1984 to 2007 when he retired as an educator to focus solely on coaching.

"He was such a big part of the Sunny Hills culture, and a lot of people are sad [to see] him go," principal Allen Whitten said. "[The 2016-17 season] is the year that he finally pulled the trigger and called it his last year."

Taking over for Devaney will be English teacher Scott Enrico, who has decided to step down from

coaching track and field next spring.

Although Devaney has retired from coaching, he still looks forward to seeing his former students in their future matches.

"I will be there encouraging the players through their wins and losses," he said. "I am not a coach anymore, just a supportive patron."

# Football player tackles refereeing Pop Warner games

WARNING! GAMES ARE JOMING **GIRLS SOCCER** 

"He had contributed a lot to our program, and it's sad to have him leave."

#### **ALLISON LOUIE**

On a Friday game night, running back and strong safety senior Daniel Briones takes as many handoffs as he can to break through Troy's team.

When he gets flagged by the referee for holding, Briones, danielBriones although frustrated by his mistake, is not one to question the call.



Staff Reporter

That's because he knows what it's like for those wearing the zebra-striped shirts and white or black caps to blow the whistle.

"I used to feel like the referees didn't know what they were doing," Briones said. "But now [that I'm a referee], I'm more sympathetic because it's much harder than it looks and everything is so fast."

The senior is referring to his parttime job working at Tiny Mite to Midget football games on the weekends since August. Briones, the only person on the football team who works at the Long Beach Football Official Association for youth football program Pop Warner, gets paid \$50 a game.

"My dad got me the job since [he's] a referee for high school, but I only do Pop Warner," Briones said. "I signed up to be part of the [referee] unit two years ago, but I was under 18."

Although he did not know anyone before he got the job, Briones has adult co-workers who guide him in refereeing.

"It felt weird, but it doesn't bother me anymore," he said. "I enjoy having mentors who help me make sure I stay on track in refereeing."

To officially earn the job, Briones had to earn 16 hours of meetings as certification to become a referee.

"I had to go to these meetings every Tuesday, watching a film on how to go over bad mechanics and how we can be in the best position to make the right call," Briones said. "You have to sign yourself in to get the hours, and once you reach the requirement, you're certified as an official referee."

After accomplishing the task, Briones started off his first experience on the job with sev-

eral mistakes.

"In my first bad experience, we called this inadvertent whistle in the first game, where you blow the whistle and the play is dead," he said. "I blew the whistle where the play wasn't dead, and we had to redo the play, but I learned to be patient and to make calls when I [am] certain."

Briones, hoping to avoid making the same mistake in future games, seeks advice from coworkers as well as National Football League [NFL] referees on managing difficult games and how to determine the close calls.

"I've worked with some guys who have been refereeing for 20 years; they taught me how to do mechanics-you have to be smooth in making the call or you don't make the call, and you have to be 100 percent sure," Briones said. "A couple of NFL referees come down and talk to us, like [Tony] Corrente, [who is] also a teacher at La Mirada High School."

While working on the part-time job, Briones reflects his perseverance in tough situations in football as well, football coach Peter Karavedas said.

"He's a great kid who works super hard and always puts great effort, no matter the situation," Karavedas said.

As Briones is occupied with the job, his father Daniel Briones Sr. notes that he struggles to balance schoolwork and football at times.

"[Daniel] is often exhausted from all the things that he is involved with," Briones Sr. said. "When he struggles, I would encourage him to keep his faith and confidence in his abilities and maintain focus."

Despite the struggle, the younger Briones manages to do well in school and football.

"He's been a really important part of our team, and I'm glad at how well he's doing," Karavedas said. "He's a responsible kid and has pretty good grades, so I think he does a good job of balancing it all."

As for the future, Daniel Briones hopes to work hard enough to referee for football in higher levels, and even in the NFL.

"I have a lot to learn right now, but if I stay committed to learning the game and working on mechanics and all the games I can get, I'll be on track to do well," Briones said. "If I become an NFL referee one day, I look forward to working with the best athletes in the world and going to professional football games."

When: Nov. 21 at 5 p.m. Against: Esperanza Where: Esperanza

#### BOYS SOCCER

When: Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. Against: Servite Where: Servite

#### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

When: Nov. 18 at 1 p.m. Against: La Quinta Where: La Quinta 

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

When: Nov. 27 Against: Godinez high school tournament Where: Godinez

**GIRLS WATER POLO** 

When: Nov. 29 at 3:15 p.m. Against: Whittier Where: Home

#### WRESTLING

When: Dec. 21 at 5:30 p.m. Against: Fullerton Where: Sonora



### SPORTS



**WORKING ITS HARDEST:** The Lancer Regiment performs Nov. 3 at the halftime show of the Lancer football team's last game of the regular season against Buena Park.

# Marching band takes first

Lancer Regiment tops four other schools during its competition Monday in Covina; percussion also earned first place in a Nov. 4 Los Altos Field event

#### **ALLISON LOUIE**

Staff Reporter

A two-week camp from July 31 to Aug. 11: noon to 8 p.m.

Practice four days a week after school on the field: 3 to 6 p.m.

Final practice while missing a school day to prepare for a competition: 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Coming on the heels of the Lancer Regiment's percussion placing first in the Los Altos Field Tournament Nov. 4, the marching band topped its competition again Monday at the Covina District Field in Covina.

"[We were] pleasantly surprised,

flower High School and Yorba Linda High School; its next competition will take place Saturday at Ramona High School in Riverside.

The regiment's performances so far this season has reflected how hard each member has worked and practiced, Ting said.

"Season has been going well so far," she said. "My expectations coming into the season were to continue building musical excellence and to just have fun competing, along with getting better throughout the season."

Another main reason for its successes is because of the commitment learning music, as playing and learning music takes a lot of time, dedication and a lot of hard work," she said. "You have to just really put in the time and put in the effort to learning the music, learning all the choreography, learning all the drills."

Despite such difficulties, Ting feels that the team's strong camaraderie and ability to work with each other contribute to the regiment's success as a whole.

"Certain sections like the Color Guard have a lot of enthusiasm and a lot of school spirit," Ting said. "Just in general, the whole group just has that every member puts into learning a lot of pride in what they do." Alto-saxophone player sophomore Ryan Cha are among those who have seen the benefits of practice time.

[on Monday] because coming home knowing that you had just won first in a competition gives you a sense of accomplishment," Cha said. "Although practicing can be quite tiring, it feels worth it in the end if you win."

Working many hours on practicing the routines made all the members of the Regiment much closer as everyone works well with each other, Cha said.

"I think that the Lancer Regiment is a great experience, as it has introduced me to new people that I consider as family, along with teaching patience, teamwork and friendship, however, I do feel that some people in the group could be more positive and more outgoing toward [other teammates]," he said.

timate friendships with other members, but also learned to manage his time well in order to meet his obligations as the regiment's one of two secretaries.

"The Lancer Regiment is my second family, and I joined because I heard that it was a very competitive group," Lee said. "The group is special because of the amazing relationships you make."

Overall, Ting feels proud of the regiment's overall efforts because it is very difficult to keep up with the constant choreography, marching and music.

"These kids have been working really hard, and highlights from the season include finishing our show," she said. "They've been learning their show, so I'm excited to see how everything turns out at the end."

as they had a lot of good competition," instrumental music director Whitney Ting said.

The regiment competed against marching bands from Azusa High School, Patriot High School, Bellan eight-minute field show that is normally challenging to master with over 100 students on the field, Ting said.

"There's no real shortcuts in

"I feel so relieved after winning

Similarly, trumpeter sophomore Albert Lee not only developed in-

# Penner ends tenure as head tennis coach

#### MINJI KIM

Eleven straight California Interscholastic Federation appearances. Three Freeway

tenniscoach League titles in 2013, 2015 thomas Penner and 2016.

Staff Reporter

А

league match victory against rival Troy High School.

Those are the accomplishments that Thomas Penner will take with him, as he has decided to end his 11-year tenure as boys tennis head coach.

Penner follows two other longstanding walk-on coaches who have decided to hang up their whistlessoftball coach Art Jarman and boys golf coach Tim Devaney.

"Our best year was 2016 when we lost in the quarterfinals by a really close margin against Cypress High School," Penner said. "The match was heartbreaking, since we'd been leading into the last round."

Though Penner enjoyed every moment of coaching at Sunny Hills, he decided to dedicate his attention to his children and life at home.

"Along with my career as a coach, I am also a writer, a teacher and a family man of three [school-aged] children, so life seemed too short sometimes," he said. "There's not enough time in the day to achieve all we need to do."

Penner actually attended Sunny Hills from 1975 to 1976, playing both singles and doubles on the boys tennis squad since his freshman year.

Twenty-eight years later, he was hired to replace his former coach and mentor. Steve White.

"For years, Sunny Hills ruled tennis in the area with some of the best [tennis] teams in the nation," Penner said. "There used to be the Sunny Hills Racquet Club and great players washed up to the school routinely, [so] I wanted to rekindle that spirit."

Singles player junior Stephan Choi has noticed the contributions his coach has made.

"I'm really going to miss him because he was a really good coach for [us these past] two years, and he helped me with my techniques-especially with my serves," said Choi, who was notified of Penner's departure by fellow singles player, senior Andy Lee.

Penner indicated that one of his proudest moments as a head coach was during a 2013 league rematch against the team's rival, Troy High School.

"I can't count how many times we lost to Troy by a hair," he said. "It took 14 tries before we finally beat them [on] one gray and cloudy afternoon, and that was a near miracle."

The SH staff was first notified of Penner's departure in an Oct. 11 email from Mason Morris, assistant principal of student affairs.

Besides boys tennis, the email mentioned three other sports in need of coaches-track and field, softball and boys golf, which officials



Reprinted with permission from Thomas Penner

LOOKING TO THE PAST: Thomas Penner (first row, center) celebrates with his boys tennis players after reaching a milestone—defeating rival Troy in a 2013 Freeway League match.

confirmed will be guided by former track and field head coach Scott Enrico.

As of Thursday, school officials were still looking for head coaches for track and field and softball.

Athletics director Jon Caffrey said the school has hired girls tennis head coach Madeline Heer to take charge of the boys tennis squad.

"Our girls tennis coach jumped at the opportunity," Caffrey said. "Since she's experienced, it should be a smooth transition."

Despite his decision to end his coaching at Sunny Hills, Penner nevertheless continues to help young athletes through private lessons.

"It is no doubt my biggest regret turning over my coach's cap," he said. "I will miss my place at the school helping shape young people's lives for the future."