

NEWS

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Video production project features 32 school groups.

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Junior scores a full-ride scholarship to UCSD.

THE TIKING 'TOK'

The Accolade investigates recent action in Congress to ban the app across the nation

HANNAH LEE

Opinion Editor

While legislators in Congress have been working toward finding a way to ban TikTok over concerns to its ties to China and its communist regime, Sunny Hills students and teachers encompass mixed feelings from the controversy, ranging from satisfaction to uncertainty.

With over 1.5 billion users, the app first faced threats of a ban in 2020 by former President Donald Trump's administration out of alarm that Americans' data could be accessible to the Chinese government, and as of December 2022, Biden enforced a TikTok restriction on all government-issued devices, according to nbcnews.com.

Although trending videos seem innocent enough, U.S. lawmakers are wary of the app disguising itself as a Trojan horse for China to collect data on American citizens.

Nationwide TikTok Ban >> Page 12



DAHEE KIM | theaccolade



ALL PHOTOS BY SUMMER SUEKI | theaccolade

CULTURAL SPIRIT: Senior Kier Regoso (left) holds up his camera to record two Chinese Club members lip sync to a part of Donny Osmond's "I'll Make a Man Out of You" on April 7 outside the gym.

NOTABLE NUMBERS

After the April 7 filming day, The Accolade recollects milestones achieved from the school-wide event:

- 32 clubs involved
- 9-minute video
- 34 different songs
- 3 audios from different countries
- 2-hour video shoot

Source: Grace Spero
Compiled by Susie Kim

SH GOES DUBBING: *Video production students coordinate their first lip dub video in decades, fostering school spirit*

ANGELINA JEONG

Cub Reporter

It all started at 9:30 a.m.

Students had a day off from school on Good Friday, April 7, while teachers came to campus for staff meetings and training.

Nevertheless, students from 32 on-campus clubs, athletic teams and academic programs gathered in the gym, as well as some teachers and staff members, to record a nine-minute music video capturing students lip-syncing to the melodies of a total of 34 songs.

North Orange County Regional Occupation Program [NOCROP] video production teacher Daniel Flores came up with the idea to produce a lip dub for Sunny Hills around January because he hoped to offer this opportunity to senior Grace Spero for her senior project. Spero, who is in Flores' third period Video Production class, immediately took charge and coordinated the event.

"Although Sunny Hills filmed a few lip dubs in the years past, the on-and-off tradition has been absent largely because of the COVID-19 pandemic," Flores said.

Spero viewed the project as an opportunity to showcase the work done in video production and the diverse school programs throughout this school year.

"Mr. Flores was like, 'Let's do the lip dub video,' and then I was like, 'I'm all in,'" said Spero, who agreed to be the lip dub director.

The final product will premiere at the Film Festival hosted by the video production program and then later release on You-

Tube, although the exact dates are unknown.

LIP DUB PLANNING

At the onset of the project, Spero emailed athletic team coaches, club leaders and program directors, inviting them and a student representative to attend an informational meeting held on March 8 in Room 136.

During the second meeting on March 29, Spero assigned a song that suited each group while each culture club personally chose an audio representing their country.

Every participating group also selected two representatives to be featured as the "singers" for that song segment and instructed the remaining students from the club to cheer with trophies and posters.

Because this was Spero's first time organizing a lip dub, she received inspiration for the various scenes from watching other schools' lip dub videos.

The planning process leading up to the shooting ran smoothly but on the day of, she realized people needed more directing and guidance.

"One of the biggest struggles was getting people involved," the senior said. "The video production team just tried our best and went to talk to the teachers and different groups."

Among the three cultural clubs participating in the lip dub, singers for the Indian Student Association club seniors Krisi Patel and Henika Patel reflected on their experience.

"We had our moments where we were freaking out on formations, lyrics and choreography but

in the end I told everyone to have fun and live the moment," Krisi Patel said.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, SING!

Spero said her production crew of 11 arrived on campus on April 7 at 8 a.m. to start setting up the decorations they had gathered the night before. The participating groups were required to arrive at the gym by 10 a.m. for a brief hearing of what to expect during filming.

From 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Spero designated set locations for the camera to film each of the 32 groups. Ranging from the Performance Art Center [PAC] to the quad, the path of the camera traversed the entirety of the campus.

To kick off the two-hour day, Dance Production [DP] performed a five-second routine to the 2007 Rihanna song, "Umbrella." Starting in front of the PAC wearing their black DP team dresses, the members danced their way down the stairs as they mouthed the words "you have my heart."

EDITING TO SCREENING

The shooting day ended at 1 p.m. with all 32 clubs running to the quad for the final overhead drone shot as the cheer squad stood holding their final pose.

Spero said she plans on submitting the finished product to a NOCROP competition.

"I have full confidence in us, and I think we will get really far," the senior director said.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com



GO LANCERS: Water polo athletes wave to a drone flying above Room 180 for the lip dub video.



THAT'S A WRAP: Cheerleaders perform a routine to conclude the school-wide lip dub video in front of the library.

‘YOU MATTER’ GOES MURAL

Art Club gets \$150 from PTSA to paint wellness-themed mural near library entrance

DAREEN HAGEKHALIL
Cub Reporter

The Art Club has obtained \$150 from the Parent Teacher Student Association [PTSA] to help pay for supplies needed to paint a new mural on an elevator wall near the library entrance.

“I’m really grateful that the PTSA is paying for the mural,” Art Club co-president senior Jacob Merioles said. “For the past murals, we had to take money out of the art department funds, which took most of the money Art Club earned from the International Food Fair.”

Merioles said he and about nine others have signed up to paint a 20-by-10-foot work dedicated to mental health awareness.

“We want students to feel like they have a place at Sunny Hills,” he said.

Once completed around May 12, the mural will feature the Lancer school colors, black and gold, adorning such images as the sun setting behind a black hill with the words “You Matter” as yellow clouds surround the hill.

Merioles suggested the theme to the rest



ONE STROKE: Senior Dylan Tran and two other Art Club members paint a black backdrop over a pencil sketch after school April 18 near the entrance of the Lyceum for the new mental health mural.

of the Art Club and drafted a small design last summer.

“When I made the very first sketch of the mural, I thought mental health has been a widely discussed topic the past few years and especially in high school,” he said.

After about 10 iterations of the design, the co-president shared the final draft with the administration at the end of March, which eventually got approved, Merioles said.

“The [phrase] needed to be simple, effective and applicable to everyone since it was going to permanently be at the Lyceum entrance,” the co-president said.

After creating the design, Art Club secretary sophomore Tiffany Che contacted PTSA president Joanne Cho to seek funding for the expected two gallons of paint to complete the project.

“[The Art Club] really wanted the mural to be about ‘you matter,’ and we supported it because the PTSA has always been about mental health for the kids,” Cho said.

The PTSA approached Art Club adviser Brian Wall in January to create a mural, when Merioles proposed mental health as the mural’s topic. Wall suggested the

NOTABLE NUMBERS

Approaching the end of second semester, the Art Club initiated the production of a campus mural focusing on mental health:

- 3, 2-hour work sessions as of Tuesday
- 2 buckets of paint
- 10 Art Club students involved
- 5 weeks to finish the project

Source: Jake Merioles
Compiled by Justin Pak

use of charcoal and a projector to sketch the design on the wall, as well as using high-quality paint to extend the mural’s longevity.

“I think it’s a super positive thing, and you can never go wrong when it’s positive,” Wall said.

Merioles said the creation of the artwork, including brainstorming designs and painting, rests in the hands of 10 of the 45 Art Club members, and he hopes it will benefit their art ability in the long run.

The planning for the mural did not begin until mid-April because many club members were occupied with other projects.

“If we can’t finish the mural by the end of the year, we will have mural painting sessions that will happen at the start of summer,” he said.

The Art Club produced a previous mural last November for the Wyland Foundation, where the members participated in a national competition with other schools to paint about protecting marine life.

“[These students] will have pride in something that they left on campus, [something] that will hopefully be there for a long time,” Wall said.

Junior Lara Martinez said the message behind the mural is important and could bring comfort to many students.

“I think it would be a great addition to Sunny Hills because it lets people who are struggling know that they are not alone,” said Martinez, who often passes by the library during break.

The Art Club will continue to work on the mural after school for a few weeks while mixing in some sessions over the weekend.

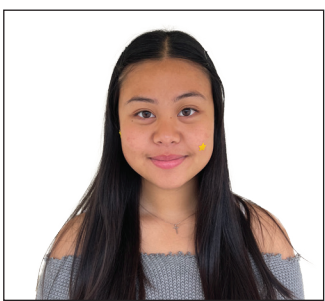
2023-2024 ASB Executive Cabinet

Newly elected members share their goals for the next school year



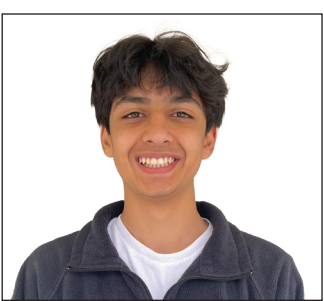
“I would say one of my goals is to make sure everyone has a memorable high school experience.”

- Nakul Bhatt, president



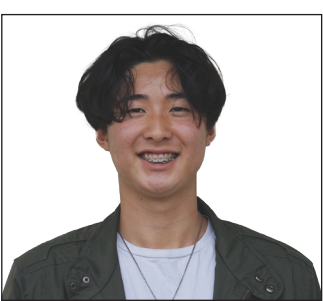
“I see so many other schools have engaging spirit activities, and I want to do the exact same here for Sunny Hills.”

- Denise Bravo, vice president



“A big goal of mine this year is becoming someone who’s really approachable and able to foster a more unified community.”

- Garv Jain, secretary



“I want us to act like role models for the students so that they could approach us any time and ask us any questions.”

- Brandon Koh, treasurer

Sophomores can take weight training PE class this fall

KEVIN LEE

Cub Reporter

For the first time, all sophomores can sign up to take Weight Training as their PE class starting this fall, school officials said.

"I am super happy the administration has allowed us to go forward with this, and I hope it does come to pass for next semester or next school year," said co-PE department chairman Jimmy Valenzuela, who teaches Weight Training. "There will be a lot of good kids in the class, and I'm hoping that it will turn into a good class."

Previously, the course, which focuses on circuit, strength and endurance training, was only open to upperclassmen because it was believed that the class would be challenging for underclassmen.

But Valenzuela pushed for the change and got approval last semester upon reviewing the 615 freshmen enrolled this school year and what could happen if all or more attend Sunny Hills this fall.

"We're doing this ... to alleviate some of those freshmen or sophomores in the PE classes," he said. "We started planning it last [semester], and we've gotten approval for it this year."

With 615 students enrolled in the Class of 2026, the average number of students enrolled in PE increased.

Valenzuela said he promoted the op-



GET FIT: PE teacher Jimmy Valenzuela (left) spots senior Brigham Catota as he lifts dumbbells during second period Weight Lifting April 20 in Room 150. The class will be offered for the first time this fall to all sophomores.

portunity to freshmen in his first, third and fifth period PE classes, asking them earlier this semester if they would like to sign up for the opportunity.

Freshman Kyle Lee in Valenzuela's first period PE class is among the nearly 50 of his peers who have added that option when they turned in their registration

packets last month.

"I thought it would be interesting, and I think it's way better than PE. ... There is nothing really to do [in PE] because you have a rotation through every sport, and honestly, I want to focus on one sport and then get big and buff," Lee said.

School officials gave only this state-

ment about the change: "It's great to be able to expand our course offerings to students."

ROP CLASS GETS HONORS STATUS

Another adjustment this fall will concern Regional Occupation Program [ROP] video production students. Those remaining in this program for a third year will receive honors designation for enrolling in Video Production Honors.

"I think it's a great decision that was made," ROP video production teacher Daniel Flores said. "I'm excited to see what we're going to implement with the addition of the curriculum, and I think it's going to be a real positive improvement to our program."

Second period ROP Art of Video Production freshman Aaron Green plans to take the entire three-year course.

"It's cool that I can get that type of credit for an art class and have it boost my GPA," Green said. "I like that I'll be able to apply my knowledge to real-world things."

In addition to Video Production Honors, the ROP approved all its classes for honors designation, which the Sunny Hills administrators will monitor to determine.

"We will be reviewing all ROP courses that we offer on our campus to determine if this is a good fit for the students and the program," Murrietta said. "The review will take place in the fall."



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COMING SOON!

Rotary recipients celebrate indoors

Administrators host the ceremony in the PAC for students, family

JENNA KIM

Cub Reporter

For the past two years, school officials have held the Rotary Top 100 awards ceremony in the quad in late March.

The annual event, which was only canceled one year during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, recognizes a total of 100 or more total sophomores, juniors and seniors who have the highest total GPAs on campus.

But this school year, administrators working with Rotary Club leaders decided on a change of scenery — from outdoors to the indoor decor of the campus' remodeled Performing Arts Center [PAC].

"Due to inflated catering costs, we've decided to permanently hold the event in the PAC for future Rotary ceremonies," principal's secretary Patty Johnson said.

Junior Bella Jacobs appreciated the transition into the PAC.

"I think I liked it better being indoors because it wasn't cold or anything," Jacobs said. "It definitely felt more formal than last year."

Likewise, junior Madison Lee who has received the Rotary Top 100 award three times prefers the new venue.

"I enjoyed the ceremony being held in the PAC because it shelters everyone from the weather conditions outside, making it more comfortable to sit through rather than it being cold or hot," Lee said.

School officials wanted to mimic the mood of last year's outdoor quad event.

"We added the Sunny Hills backdrop, balloons and lighting," Johnson said.



Image printed with permission from Rebekah Kim
SAY 'CHEESE': Senior Rotary 100 award winners display their certificates on the Performing Arts Center stage March 29 after school.

“

It fulfilled my need for academic validation, especially because I know that there are so many talented kids at this school, and I'm glad I made it my final year.

- senior Tazia Mohammad

”

"Then, [the Rotary Club] came in and provided all the food and drinks, passed out the programs and supported the Sunny Hills staff — everything fell right into place."

Though event coordinators did not issue an official theme or dress code, recipients and staff members said they felt the indoor ceremony was more formal than ones previously held in the quad.

"There was a very supportive atmosphere," third time recipient of the Rotary Top 100 award Jacobs said. "Families came, and people cheered for one another, especially the seniors."

Before the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020, the Rotary Top 100 award

ceremony was held off-site at the Fullerton Community Center on 342 Commonwealth Ave., 2.8 miles away from campus.

To ease students' and parents' comfort level post-COVID-19, school officials opted not to coordinate an in-person awards ceremony until 2021.

"Honestly, it was intimidating to see what all these seniors have done," said sophomore Matthew Ma, who received his second Rotary Top 100 award this year.

At the end of the event, SH counselors congratulated seniors with special recognition, including an announcement of their accomplishments, clubs and post-high school plans on the podium.

REWARDING ON THE HILL

As the school year comes to a close, Sunny Hills staff feature some of the most accomplished students with the following types of awards:

ROTARY AWARD

- Email invitation sent on March 4
- Assessed by total GPA
- Ceremony on March 29
- Hosted in the PAC
- Around 100 students
- Sophomores, juniors and seniors

LANCER AWARDS



- Ceremony on May 18
- Hosted in the PAC
- Students nominated for each subject department
- Freshmen, sopho-

EXCEPTIONAL EFFORT AND ENGAGEMENT AWARD

- Ceremony in May
- Hosted in the Lyceum
- Nominated by any teacher
- Invited to PTSA meeting for award presentation
- Around 15-20 students
- Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors



theaccolade file photos

Source: Patty Johnson and Genesis Perez
Compiled by Cub Data Team member Anik Jayasinghe



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REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

As Memorial Day approaches next month, The Accolade takes a look at how students, staff honor U.S. military service members

3 teachers recognize SH alumni with signs underneath the American flag

IRENE PARK

Cub Reporter

Two red, white and blue 8.5-by-11-inch pieces of paper are taped near the whiteboard underneath the American flag in Rooms 55, 184 and 185.

Written in blue text are the names and graduating years of four fallen Sunny Hills alumni, with the corners reading "IN MEMORIAM" and "FALLEN LANCERS."

Social science teacher Jeff Gordon started displaying the names of the alumni in 2007, teaching students about them at the start of the school year.

"It has been a classroom tradition for the past 16 years to honor our fallen Lancers during the Pledge of Allegiance," Gordon said. "I want my students to know that heroes have walked these halls and have sat in our classrooms."

Eventually, English 2 Honors and Theory of Knowledge teacher Scott Rosenkranz, started memorializing the students this school year — creating posters that he now hangs in his class. Social science teacher Keith Nighswonger soon joined and added the fourth name to the list.

All three teachers have a memorial in their rooms reading: Class of 1986 Cornel Chao, Class of 1994 Dion Burnmaz, Class of 2001 Shin



SUMMER SUEKI | theaccolade
IN MEMORY: The names of fallen alumni hang under the American Flag in social science teacher Keith Nighswonger's class, Room 184.

Woo Kim and Class of 2009 Christian San Nicolas.

"It's interesting to see how much he still cares for the past students," said junior Evangeline Bui, who is in Nighswonger's third period Advanced Placement Psychology class.

Rosenkranz said including the memorial in the classroom can change the perspective of students..

"You know, there might be students in our school who one day would feel called to military service, and it could be any of our students," he said.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com



Image printed with permission from Paige Bringas
RED, WHITE AND BLUE: Then-4-year-old sophomore Paige Bringas stands with her mom, waving the flag toward an arriving military vehicle during a 2010 Memorial Day parade.

Students with family in service to the country

Last Monday of May reserved for reconnecting, watching parade

CHRISTINE YOO

Cub Reporter

Sophomore Paige Bringas and her family have been watching the live stream of the Washington D.C. Memorial Day parade through her cable TV network ever since seeing it live in 2010.

"We initially watched the parades in order to adapt from Filipino culture to American culture and understand it a little bit better," Bringas said. "After my brother enlisted in the Marines, we now watch it to honor those serving and can relate to what people are saying in their speeches."

In fact, the student has come to appreciate not only the value of the United States remembering the lives lost in

service to the country, but also America's other military-related holiday.

"I find that Memorial Day and Veterans Day is a really nice time to gather together with family," she said. "Even to those who do not have relatives in the military, these holidays provide a great acknowledgment toward those who sacrificed a lot for the freedom America has."

Senior Sharon Kim's 20-year-old brother, Samuel Kim, serves his fourth year in an army base in Georgia.

Kim said she hopes more of her peers will take the upcoming holiday more seriously.

"I feel like these days people look down on the military," she said, treating Memorial Day as a time to commemorate those serving. "But they don't understand the amount of work they need to do and the amount of physical training and mental strain they go through."



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

CLUB CORNER

Deviation encourages student involvement in the art program

CLAIRE LEE

Cub Reporter

Muted green sweatshirts.

Four girls and one boy set foot onto the gymnasium floor.

The audience watching from the bleachers cheer, shouting out the names.

This was the March 11 spring sports assembly — the first time that the Associated Student Body [ASB] invited the Deviation Hip-Hop Club to showcase their talents.

"It was really overwhelming and scary in the beginning because ... it was our first assembly performance," co-choreographer sophomore Sofia Arguello said.

Deviation Hip-Hop Club, often short-

ened to Deviation, is known to be the only dance club on campus following this rhythmic genre.

Two weeks before the spring assembly, ASB adviser David Fenstermaker offered Arguello the chance for Deviation to showcase its skills.

Dance teacher and Deviation adviser Leiana Volen said she was proud.

"I think that Deviation's ability to quickly learn the choreography, have it ready and perform in front of the school speaks loudly to their commitment and passion for dance," Volen said.

Club president senior Monique Alvarado said Deviation aspires for more opportunities in other performances.



SHEILA NERI | theaccolade

DEBUT ACT: Deviation members perform to "Family Ties" by Baby Keem in the gym for the first time in an assembly on March 10.

"Deviation focuses on making new memories and friends as the team evolves throughout the years," Alvarado said.

The Deviation Hip-Hop Club meets every Wednesday after school in front of the EPIC building. The group also posts progress videos on its Instagram @shhsdevia-

tion. For more information, contact Alvarado at 600021754@fjuhsd.org.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com



Image printed with permission from Krisi Patel

COMMENDABLE: Senior Krisi Patel holds up her two honorary certificates as the 2022-2023 Advancement Via Individual Determination [AVID] Senior Standout April 18 at the Irvine Barclay Theatre, where Orange County AVID students were recognized.

JULIE JUNG

Cub Reporter

JOURNEY TO STANDOUT: AVID senior looks back on path to success

Growing up, senior Krisi Patel felt deprived of the mother-daughter relationship she thought everyone else had.

At 10 months old, her mother was diagnosed with poliomyelitis, a disease that restricts movement, Patel said.



Krisi Patel

This disability and the fact that both her parents never received a high school diploma caused Patel many difficulties throughout her life.

"It hasn't been easy being the first child nor a first-generation student," Patel said. "I've had to climb and get through it by myself."

However, she was constantly encouraged to persevere through many hardships, which led to one of the senior's greatest achievements: being chosen as the 2022-2023 Advancement Via Individual Deter-

mination [AVID] Senior Standout.

"When I found out, I cried because I'm the only child in my family and first-generation," the senior said. "It was something I never expected."

Patel joined the AVID program in 2018 in hopes of receiving academic support.

"Not only was I able to get help with my other course work, but I also met people to discuss my college plans with," she said. "It really helped me set goals for the future."

Because Patel's parents never attended college, she strives to get the most out of the education they weren't able to receive.

"I knew I had to get past high school, earn that degree and create history," the se-

nior said.

Patel said she applied to be the AVID Senior Standout because she met the eligibilities, such as a weighted GPA of 4.0 or higher, three or more years in AVID, two or more years of extracurricular activities and one or more leadership positions on campus.

On Nov. 18, Patel's AVID teacher, Lindsay Safe, made the Senior Standout announcement in Room 67 during lunch.

Safe said Patel had a unique aspect to her, making her different from other students.

"It's always the toughest decision ever to pick the AVID Senior Standout," the AVID

teacher said. "But just based on having her and knowing her, she just exemplifies an AVID student."

The senior's family also echoed Patel's joy at receiving the recognition.

"I couldn't express with any words how proud I was," Patel's mother said.

After Jennifer Papageorge shared a link on Google Classroom for the Dell Scholars program at the beginning of the year, Patel applied on Nov. 25, 2022.

She was rewarded with a \$20,000 fund, a laptop, textbook credits and other non-monetary support on March 16.

"I got very emotional and hugged all my teachers," she said. "I was beyond happy and grateful."

Patel said she plans to use these funds toward California State University, Long Beach, or the University of California, Riverside, where she aims to pursue a major related to medical programs.

"I want to work in the medical field as it's been my goal to help people in need just like my disabled mom," she said.

A ROYAL FRIENDSHIP: Prom king, queen reflect on their crowning



Gabriel Villanueva

"I just felt very happy – everybody made my night. Alyssa and I have been friends for over a decade now, so it felt extra slay to win with her."



Alyssa Galvez

"The most memorable thing was winning prom queen along with my elementary friend Gabriel and, of course, spending time with my friends and making memories before high school ends."

Compiled by David Kim

HOT, HOT, HOT: *Product to keep hands warm is trending among some students seeking to overcome the cold weather*

JUSTIN PARK

Cub Reporter

With the extension of cold weather this winter, freshman Jadyn Salud resolved to purchasing thermal clothing to withstand the drooping temperatures, yet, though insulating, his puffer jacket did not suffice.

Looking for a portable product to take to school, Salud scrolled through Amazon last December to purchase a package of hand warmers, only to land upon HotHands.

He wasn't disappointed with his first purchase.

"At first, I just rubbed my hands when my hands got cold, but when I noticed some of my friends using [HotHands], I decided to buy my first pair," Salud said. "And, I really enjoy using the product."

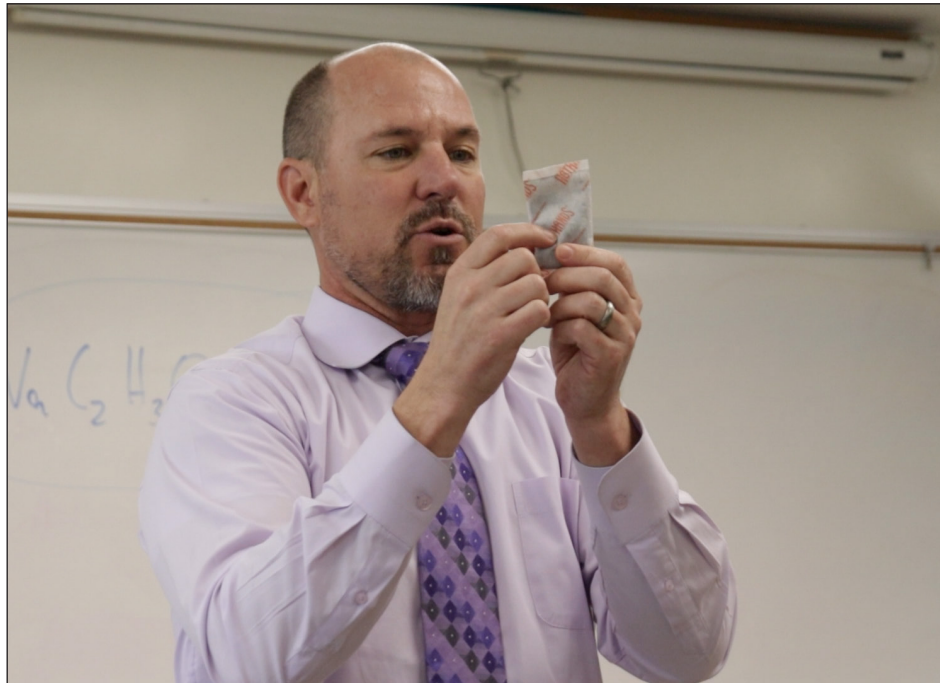
Although Japanese-owned HotHands' origins stem from 1989, sales of this product have been trending among Sunny Hills students.

According to a March 14 *Accolade* online poll, 71% of 140 responders said they've used HotHands this winter.

"I just like how long the product lasts, and I would definitely recommend this product to other students," freshman Cassiah Medina said.

Owned by Heatmax Inc., the standard HotHands costs \$6.97 for 10 pairs of hand warmers. The products vary in size with larger packets lasting up to 18 hours and can be purchased from local or online stores, according to the company's website.

Sophomore Ethan Tam said he and



NATHAN LE | theaccolade

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION: *Chemistry teacher Mason Morris holds a pack of HotHands on March 17 in his classroom to demonstrate how it works.*

his family have purchased new packs of HotHands online for the past four consecutive winters.

"Ever since I knew HotHands existed, I rely on them to keep me warm throughout winter," Tam said.

To activate the product, students must shake the bag for a few seconds as it gets progressively warmer. Once fully processed, the heat can reach up to 158 degrees Fahrenheit and can last for up to 10 hours, according to the company's website.

Alongside the surge in HotHands users, chemistry teacher Mason Morris conducted an experiment during a lesson on solubility to demonstrate heat formation on March 14.

"The demonstration went well, and it showed students how the process worked," said Morris, who has used HotHands himself on ski trips.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

HOTHANDS how to guide



1. Open outer package only when ready for use.



2. Shake to activate; warmer heats up in 15-30 minutes.



3. After use, dispose of the pack in a trash container.

ASAPH LI | theaccolade

Compiled by Giselle Suastegui

Decorative keychains charm their way onto backpacks

NICOLE PARK

Cub Reporter

According to the Guinness Book of World Records' online website, Angel Alvarez Cornejo holds the title for the largest collection of keychains after accumulating 62,257 items.

That feat was set in June 2016.

While no one has come close to surpassing that record, the trend of collecting such charms has picked up this school year at Sunny Hills, where students display their own collection as decorative attachments to their backpacks.

Watching the annual "Back to School hauls" on TikTok last August, junior Ashley Hong noticed more people decorating their backpacks with unique keychains — bringing back the nostalgia of accessorizing bags with hand sanitizers.

"I remembered decorating with sanitizer when I was in middle school so I wanted to recreate that," Hong said.

Others, like junior Emma Jang, just wanted her backpack to stand out after noticing that her black Jansport backpack looked identical to her peers.

"Since a lot of people on campus have

a bag that looks like mine, I wanted to do something so I could tell which one was mine," Jang said.

Sophomore Savannah Rantzow has six beach bracelets, which she started to buy starting in June 2022 during her visits to multiple beaches in San Diego and Orange county.

Another charm that Rantzow attaches on her backpack is a 2-inch name-engraved vial from Knott's Berry Farm that her best friend got for her at the start of their friendship.

"It means a lot because she got it for me at the beginning of our friendship at the beginning of the year," she said.

Advanced Placement Psychology teacher David Fenstermaker said that backpack accessories play a role in displaying students' identity.

"Keychains show other people who you are, what you are like and what you value," Fenstermaker said. "It's also a discrete way to show what you like without broadcasting it for every single person."

For junior Jayden Lee, his Pokémon Bulbasaur keychain serves as a piece to remember his youth.

"Pokémon was a big part of my child-



REBEKAH KIM | theaccolade

BACKPACK TWINS: *Juniors Ashley Hong (left) and Emma Jang show off their matching Sanrio keychains on April 20 that their friend gifted them after purchasing the accessories during her Hawaii trip.*

hood," said Lee, who bought his \$10 accessory at Target last November. "Since I bought a Bulbasaur AirPods case previously, I wanted to buy something similar to it."

Teaching many different grade levels, math teacher Darius Durham said he observed that upperclassmen seem to have the most accessories and anticipates that this trend will persist.

"I saw a 'Cars' [keychain] that was bright red and yellow with Lightning McQueen on it," said Durham, who noticed the keychain

on his student because it was the only backpack with an accessory on it. "The color, brightness and design stuck out to me."

Not all students are willing to invest in this trend, let alone start a collection to set a new world record.

"Speaking from experience, keychains I've received from friends have always cracked or fallen off my bag," sophomore Ezrela Chang said. "Rather than being anxious about it, for convenience, I've decided not to decorate my bag though it's cute."



A GLIMPSE OF A NEW LIFE: Junior Daniel Kim stands in front of the Sunny Hills sign commemorating his new school Sept. 23.



FINAL MOMENTS WITH HIS PALS: Daniel Kim (left) walks with his friends in Vienna a week before he leaves for the United States.



BEDROOM BALLAD: Austrian transfer student Daniel Kim strums a chord on his guitar while producing another song in his bedroom April 19.

Teen music producer transfers from Austria to SH

PRICILLA ESCOBEDO

Staff Reporter

In a small nook of junior Daniel Kim's home, a consistent string of melodic piano chords mixes with slow rhythmic beats late into the night. Besides his musical instruments, Kim often finds himself in front of a recording microphone and editing app on his computer, deeply absorbed in producing his next music mashup.

By the end of two months, Kim's mashup is available to all on his YouTube channel, @yoon_1205.

"My dream is to publish my music, whether it's on Spotify or YouTube or on any platform," he said.

His latest original piece of instrumental music is "Call Me Back," a hip-hop piece, posted on Nov. 11, 2022. Kim goes by YoON — the username the junior has been using for the past two months.

Despite facing challenges such as moving to California after living in Austria for 17 years, the teen producer's goal persists.

He said his interest in music sparked during the pandemic when he drew inspiration from various South Korean hip-hop artists and his father, formerly a YouTuber.

"Like everybody, [I thought] it was frustrating because nobody would have expected to be home 24/7," Kim said. "During that time, I became in love with music, and since then it has been my hobby as well; I was more passionate about it than anything else."

Two years into his hobby, the transfer student said he had to take a six-month-long hiatus from it when his father decided to take on a new career as a priest in the United States, following his desire to strengthen his faith and become closer to God.

Prior to arriving in California on Sept. 15, 2022, the junior said the moving process was long and difficult. Though the original plan was to stay with his brother in his university dorm in Austria while his parents proceeded with selling their former house, he wasn't able to move into the United States until their new home was bought.

The family returned to Austria on Sept. 7 last year and obtained their U.S. visa a week after starting the process.

"It was the first time that I've moved that much," he said. "[From] Austria to Korea from Korea to Austria again and from Austria to the U.S. — it was a new experience."

Arriving in California, Kim said he decided on attending Sunny Hills after receiving recommendations from people he met at his new church.

"People in our church helped us a lot because we only heard about what needed to get done, but we didn't know how to do it," he said. "They told us there's a house we could afford that was close to the church but also where I can just walk or drive to school, and Sunny Hills was just one of the schools in close proximity."

Amid transitioning into his new lifestyle, Kim posted "Call Me Back," the first clip he released upon his arrival.

"That's the song I released after the six months break from moving, so I think that's my most all-time favorite," the junior said.

Though social science teacher Matthew

Acosta, the educator whom Kim said he's been able to get closest to, did not know of the channel, he looks forward to listening to his student's music.

When Acosta discovered that Kim had a YouTube channel, he was more than happy to hear that Kim had a bigger passion for music than he first believed.

"That's so cool — you never know what the students are doing outside of school until you ask them," he said. "I'll definitely have to poke at that a little bit and talk to him about it because it's always interesting to know."

Aiming to develop a new schedule of posting a song every couple of weeks, Kim said he hopes to continue expanding his YouTube platform, including releasing another song within the next month.

"I want to have more people listen to my music, and maybe, if I'm successful in my music, people would recognize me," he said.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Wrestling mural origins uncovered

The Accolade investigates some of the mysterious history of the campus. For this issue, we look into the origins of the wrestling mural in the SH cafeteria.

SEOWON HAN

Copy Editor

It's been two decades now.

Back then, Class of 2003 alumnus JaHon Suh could be found grappling with his teammate on the mats in the cafeteria after school as part of his wrestling team practices.

Despite the sweat and struggles of being a wrestling athlete, Suh knew he could look up and find a source of motivation: a vertically shaped rectangular drawing wider than the size of a classroom door of a person riding on a horse with the words "LANCER" above and "PRIDE WRESTLING" underneath.

"The mural is inspirational as in how there in the cafeteria, we work together, we sweat together and we sacrifice together," said Suh, who competed in the 215 pounds and heavyweight divisions. "We all got sucked up into the tornado — Sunny Hills Wrestling — and we acted and functioned as a unit."

However, wrestlers no longer use the cafeteria for their practices as school officials have provided a new practice location — Room 153 — since the 2017-

2018 school year.

Despite the current wrestling teams having their separate practice space, co-captain senior Jenna Park said she knew of the mural's existence and wondered about its origin.

"I noticed that it looked kind of vintage and was super big," said Park, who first spotted it when taking Drawing and Painting in the summer of 2021. "It kind of gave off that old-school style, and I really liked it."

Because junior Cristian Gomez barely noticed the mural a couple of months ago, he wishes for Sunny Hills to display more, especially for the wrestling team, to bring new eyes and people to join.

"I would like another one to be painted in the room because it would improve people's attitude and performance level while we practice because the environment would be encouraging and look cool," Gomez said.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

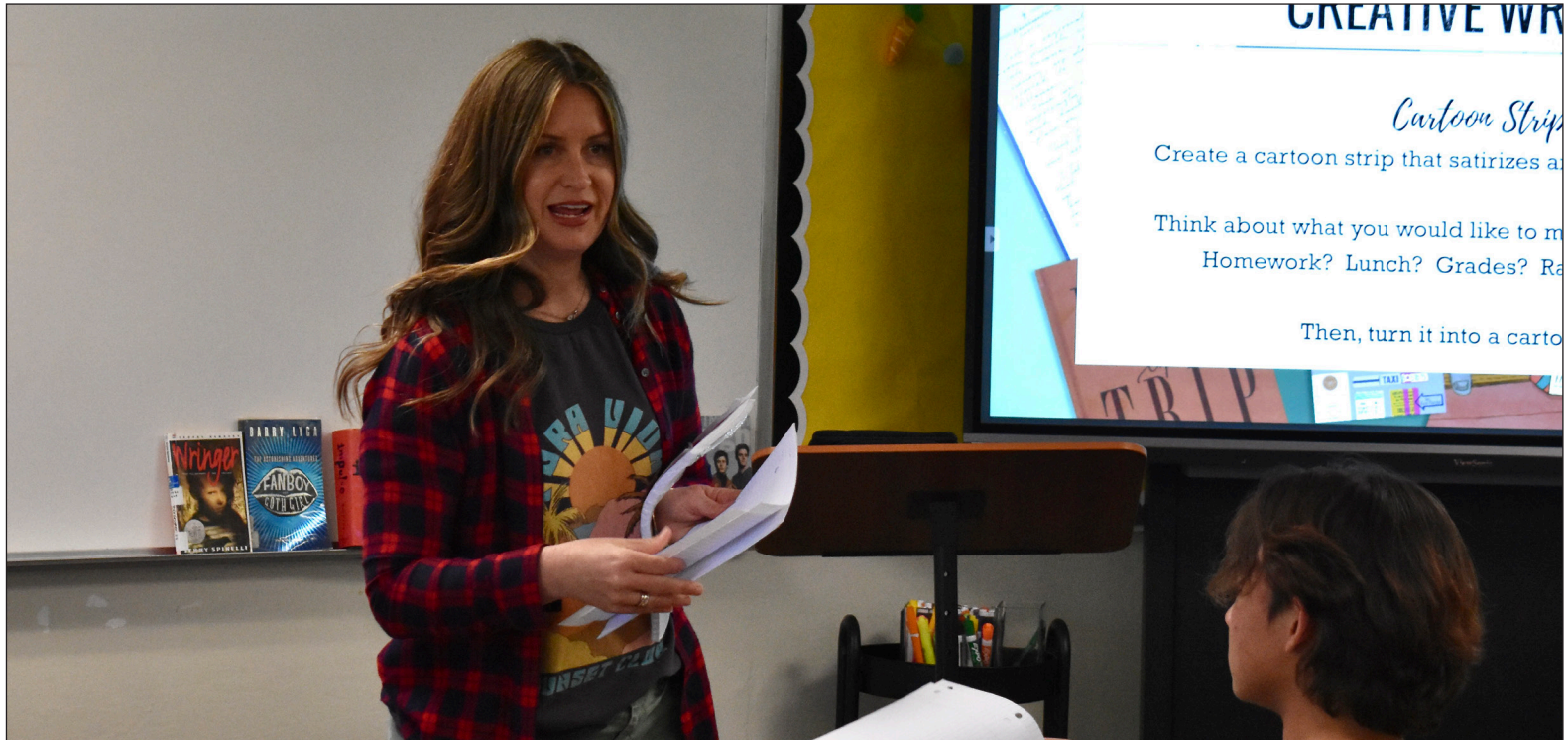


ASAPH LI | theaccolade

IN THE RING: The mural in the cafeteria displays "LANCER PRIDE WRESTLING" written in black and gold with a horse rider painted between the letters.

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REBEKAH KIM | theaccolade

FROM STUDENT TO TEACHER: English teacher Jill Lomheim explains a creative writing assignment to her fourth period English 1 class April 21 in Room 48 while handing out papers to the students sitting in the front row.

WELCOME BACK: Alumna finds way to alma mater as new English teacher

AIDEN PARK

Entertainment Editor

Jill Lomheim was on the path toward law school upon her final year as an undergrad at California State University, Fullerton [CSUF], in 2000.

The Class of 1997 graduate would have never made an impact in the education field and in the classroom if it weren't for her English professor.

"At first, I was still planning on going to law school, but then in my senior year of college my professor William Koon told me that I should consider pursuing English [as a teacher], which was a game-changer for me," Lomheim said. "When I was in high school, I used to teach swim lessons at Janet Evans Swim Complex, and I knew I

enjoyed it, so it was a weird moment where I realized I should just combine the two."

So she made the switch and enrolled in CSUF's teaching credential program the following school year, graduating with a bachelor's degree in English in 2000.

Now returning back to her alma mater, Lomheim is a high school English teacher who teaches freshman and sophomore English as well as special education classes.

Lomheim's return also gave her the opportunity to reunite with her former instructors and ex-SH classmates like Korean teacher Joe Ok.

"Half of the colleagues I am working with now were my former teachers who have their passions and interests; they're experts in their field," Lomheim said. "I just want to have the impact that they left on me."

Principal Craig Weinreich said her advanced degrees and past teaching experiences would offer more depth as an instructor.

"Not only is she an extremely knowledgeable English teacher, but she is also a Sunny Hills alumna who knows the history of Sunny Hills and is familiar with the campus as well as the teachers," Weinreich said.

Freshman Kalani Lodrigueza, who is in Lomheim's fourth period English 1 class, said she enjoys her dynamic teaching style that provides a comfortable learning environment and creates a smooth transition.

"She is very respectful, and I think her alumni status is what makes her so understanding," said Lodrigueza, who joined her class in the second semester. "She gives us balanced work and also handles students pretty well because we have a bunch of cra-

zy kids in her class."

With the remaining time left in the school year, the English teacher hopes to help students form their unique voice as writers and prepare them for a positive future in college.

"With there being a lot of meaningful conversations around social justice issues around these young people, I want to help them, as writing allows us to sort of provide students with a voice," she said. "I hope to modify that and explore that at the high school level, so I can set students up for tremendous success in college by making the transition smoother."



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

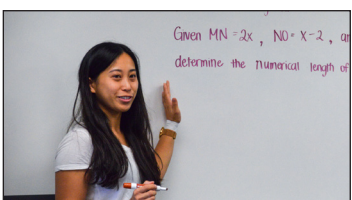
Go online to check out last semester's new hires



Readers can read new staff and faculty features on our online website under the March 8 post titled, "HEAD OF THE CLASS: Sunny Hills welcomes 10 new teachers in the fall of 2022."



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com



Fred Luna



Leslie Rains



Isai Fernandez



Randall Avalos



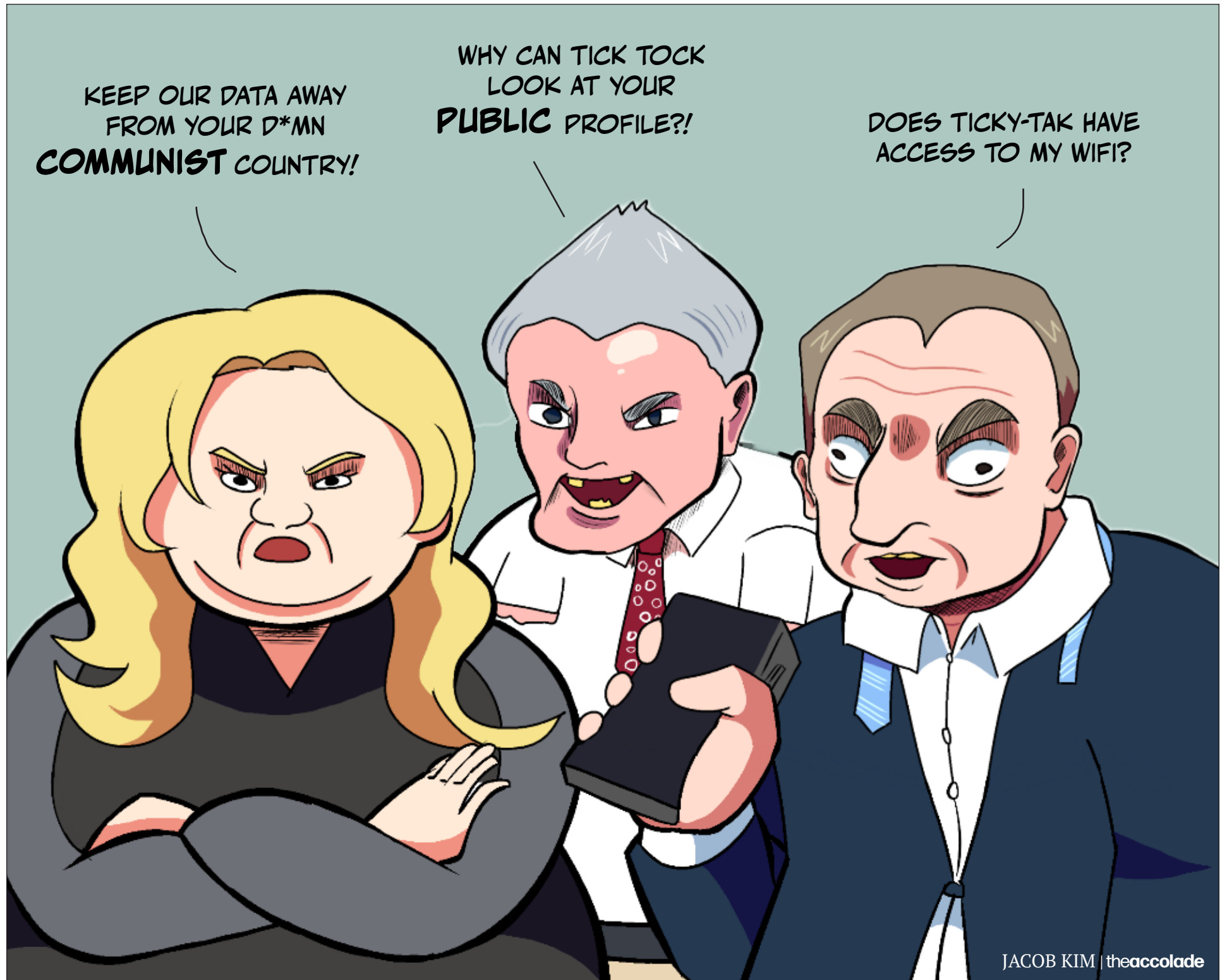
MAKING CONNECTIONS: These are Sunny Hills' campus supervisors with Randall Avalos (right) being the newest hire; find his feature story on the Accolade website.

Compiled by Jaimie Chun

DUMB, DUMBER AND DUMBEST

TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew testified at the March 23 congressional hearing over concerns about the national security threats posed by the app and its Chinese parent company, ByteDance.

Accolade illustrator Jacob Kim depicts the scene with three lawmakers — Reps. Kat Cammack, Earl “Buddy” Carter and Richard Hudson — questioning the safety of the app.



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FROM PAGE 1

NATIONWIDE TIKTOK BAN

"I use TikTok for my own entertainment but also as a job form," said the Associated Student Body [ASB] senior class president Sierra Chavez, who creates and posts TikTok videos for both the school and the Orange County Student Sections. "I would hope TikTok will stay, as it has brought me and many others, such as content creators, opportunities to connect with communities."

As of April 26, the ASB TikTok account (@sunny-hills.asb) flaunts 904 followers and over 38,000 accumulated likes on its 43 posted videos.

Although TikTok was a helpful tool in promoting school events and connecting with students, it was not the only method — thus, a potential nationwide ban would not have a detrimental impact on the ASB, according to Chavez.

"I do think [that the ban] will affect those who chose to create a lifestyle around it, but there are many other social media platforms that have been and will continue to help those connect with others," she said.

Like Chavez, senior Ellen Chun, social media manager and co-photo editor of the *Helios* yearbook, runs the TikTok account for her involved school organization.

"The account was more for showing the tight-knit bond between the *Helios* family rather than promoting the actual yearbook, so we have never relied on it to expand our sales," Chun said. "I know many influencers and companies can be affected by the ban, especially if it becomes nationwide."

Many students also resort to TikTok as a means to pass time and connect with others. On a March 29 online *The Accolade* poll, 23% of 114 responses voted that they visit the app 2-5 times a day, 14% for 6-9 times a day and 22% for 10 or more times a day.

Despite the apparent popularity of the social media platform, the government is currently threatening TikTok's Chinese owner, ByteDance, with a nationwide ban on the app if they don't sell their stakes to the United States, according to a March 15 *Wall Street Journal* article.

Some netizens have questioned the validity of the ban, voicing concerns as to whether the government is disguising its anti-Chinese sentiment as a necessary safety

measure, according to digitalworld.com.

"TikTok shouldn't be banned because it's just like other social media platforms, except the only difference is that people, like congressman Richard Hudson, think TikTok steals our information," sophomore Cameron Martinez said. "But all social media platforms can do that too, if they want, because of the terms and conditions we agree to."

Given that the United States operates largely like a free market economy, 57% of 132 responses to an online March 29 *The Accolade* poll agree with Martinez, voting that regardless of who owns the app, TikTok should remain unrestricted to all.

“

Ultimately, I assume the app is a big economic engine for both China and the United States, and as they say, money talks.

- English and Theory of Knowledge teacher Scott Rosenkranz

”

Martinez believes that the government's intent to ban TikTok is unreasonable and fueled by paranoia.

"[U.S. legislators] are passing all kinds of laws right now; mainly there are boomers asking questions like, 'Does TikTok have access to my WiFi?' and 'Can it connect to my other devices?'" he said.

"Those were some of the funny questions I saw being asked on TikTok."

However, others — like English and Theory of Knowledge teacher Scott Rosenkranz — counter the idea that U.S. representatives are racially motivated in pushing for the app's ban.

"A concern about the Chinese Communist Party is not in any way xenophobic against the Chinese people," said Rosenkranz, who does not have a TikTok account.

"I think it's reasonable to at least question whether or

not the Chinese Communist Party, which has some oppositional policies that conduct espionage, does and should have access to that information. It's short-sighted to leap from this to xenophobia."

Though junior Yeavit Kim does not have TikTok, she also believes that the government is justified in pursuing the restriction, though for different reasons than Rosenkranz.

"TikTok takes people's time away by making them addicted," Kim said. "There is also some sexually-exposing content that young people have access to, although they shouldn't."

For senior Jacob Aranki, a TikTok ban would be good news. Without the influence of dangerous trends, the senior hopes that people would make better decisions, especially at school.

"There are people who are desperate for attention, so they tend to follow TikTok trends that could possibly lead to trouble," Aranki said. "I remember last year, a lot of people got suspended or even expelled for stealing stuff from bathrooms after they saw others doing it on TikTok."

While TikTok has fostered dangerous trends, like the Devious Licks trend that previously wrecked havoc on several school campuses, including Sunny Hills, sophomore Daniel Serrano said banning the app means stealing opportunities for others and would do more harm than good.

"I don't think TikTok should be banned because it doesn't really do anything that's threatening to people," Serrano said.

"I think [the ban] will negatively affect a lot of people because a lot of small businesses have been able to become bigger because of TikTok — same with influencers as well."

Despite the ongoing lawsuits and controversy among legislators, Rosenkranz does not foresee that the Biden administration will carry through with its threats to Chinese stakeholders of TikTok.

"I don't think it's likely that a nationwide ban will happen, but my guess is that behind the scenes, the United States and China would cut some sort of deal that would allow some American version of TikTok with more secure data," the English teacher said. "Ultimately, I assume the app is a big economic engine for both China and the United States, and as they say, money talks."

COUNTING

IT DOWN



TikTok Statistics

Top Videos Users Sounds LIVE Hashtags

#ShouZiChew

#TikTokBan

#AverageMinutes

#China

New

Over 150M active U.S. users


67% of U.S. teens said they use TikTok

10h ago

#CompiledByKaydenKim_KateYang

New


50% of Americans support a government ban on TikTok



17h ago

#PewResearchSurvey #DaHeeKim

Comments



@donaldtrump

"As far as TikTok is concerned, we're banning them from the United States."

8-01-2020 Reply

73.3 K 66.6 K



@joebiden

"It's a matter of genuine concern that TikTok...has access to over 100 million young people."

9-18-2020 Reply

75.7 K 58.5 K

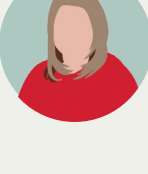


@richardhudson

"I have serious concerns about the opportunities TikTok gives the Chinese Communist Party to access."

3-23-2023 Reply

23.7 K 12.7 K



@katcammack

"You know d*mn well you cannot protect the data and security of this committee of the 150 million users."

3-23-2023 Reply

41.6 K 36.2 K



TIK, TIK, TIK: *By banning the app, U.S. government contradicts core American ideals*



GISELLE SUASTEGUI

Feature Editor

In February, a Chinese high-altitude surveillance balloon was spotted off the coast of South Carolina, where the device wandered for seven days. The Chinese government claims it was a weather balloon that lost its trajectory, but U.S. officials believe it was sent to spy on the country's military sites.

The white, billowing balloon not only deflated the peace between the United States and China with concern of espionage, but cast an ominous shadow over the future of America's use of TikTok, which is owned by ByteDance, a Chinese firm.

The Feb. 4 frenzy fueled further discussion during the March 23 congressional TikTok hearing, which demonstrated the American government's resolve to institute a nationwide ban on the app, according to a March 23 online *The New York Times* article.

Despite ongoing legislative action to ban TikTok and other foreign-based technology companies, restricting an app that 150 million American users access counters the country's values of freedom.

No substantial evidence exists to support the two cases the U.S. government presented in the committee: control over user data and algorithm.

According to a June 2022 article from *buzzfeednews.com*, over 80 leaked recordings reveal that ByteDance accessed nonpublic U.S. user data despite one of its executive's sworn testimony in an October 2021 senate hearing.

Although a Dec. 22 *Washington Post* article said ByteDance fired the four employees who participated in the Dec. 12 spying, the distrust toward the app grew during former President Trump's tenure. Such wariness led to the ban of the social media platform on government-issued devices last December.

This issue cannot be lightly dismissed. However, according to a March 21 *cnn.com* article, experts deny public evidence of espionage, and TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew publicly said the company can refuse to share data with Communist government leaders.

TikTok is a hub of artistic expression across the globe. By putting these hypotheticals over the creative content that millions of Americans view on the app, the United States would lose a vital platform.

U.S. government officials also argue that the algorithms, known as the "For You page," could be manipulated to promote an anti-American agenda or censor certain Chinese Communist Party actions like the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre — concerns

prompted by the growing fear of communism.

During the March hearing, Chew denied that the party had such control, telling Republican Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers that TikTok is a place for "freedom of expression," and users can find footage of the Tiananmen Square massacre on the app.

Even if hate videos targeted toward the United States surfaced on the app, according to the First Amendment, which protects the right to petition, religion, press, assembly and most importantly, the freedom of speech, users have the right to see and post such information and opinions freely.

According to a July 2020 *forbes.com* post, over 60% of the app's users are Generation Z. Because this demographic grew up with Internet access, they possess the remarkable ability to consume crucial information with a click of a button, thus allowing them to be more vocal about sociocultural and political issues.

Instead of cultivating future generations of leaders, these policies will send Gen Zers back to the times when it was difficult to communicate and gather knowledge about the world.

Furthermore, the data the app collects, such as age, names, region, passwords and buying habits, is equivalent to that of other social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. So, if the U.S. government were to ban TikTok, it would make sense that they prohibit other platforms with similar user data policies.

Although collected information obtained by these platforms is encrypted, *politico.com* said that much of it can be accessed through the commercial data market or cyber spy agencies. Thus, if the Chinese government really was out to spy Americans, they could view it regardless of where it's stored.

Prohibiting the app would not be the solution to secure data; instead, the government should work on strengthening projects to protect user data like Project Texas, a \$1.5-billion corporate restructuring plan, which the United States initiated in July 2022 in hopes of overseeing at instilling American confidence in TikTok's operations and security.

Outlawing TikTok would contradict our country's title as "the land of the free," which is symbolic to our nation given its history of representing all demographics. It would mean putting government control over public approval and interest.

Removal of the app wouldn't make America more secure; instead, it would weaken the confidence of the people in its freedom by normalizing censorship.

The United States has never once banned an app, and the country should not do so anytime soon.

DAHEE KIM | theaccolade

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Image printed with permission from Dareen Hagekhalil

AFTER SUNSET: Junior Dareen Hagekhalil and her family break their fast at one of many Iftar dinners throughout the month of Ramadan this year. Iftar is the fast-breaking evening meal of Muslims.

Whenever Ramadan, a holy month in Islam when Muslims fast, comes around, I usually hear these questions from my peers at school.



Dareen Hagekhalil
Cub Reporter

“So you don’t eat or drink anything for 30 days?”

“How are you still alive?”

Exactly, I wouldn’t be alive. Which is why fasting doesn’t work like that. Questions like these are shared experiences in the Muslim

community.

It may seem like I’m out to get everyone who isn’t educated on the topic, but I’m not. People who make these comments clearly do not intend to understand Ramadan and, rather, poke fun at it.

If they weren’t familiar with it and wanted to learn what Ramadan is, they

No, Muslims don’t starve to death during Ramadan

would ask, “What is that, can you explain it to me?”

To which I would say, “Of course,” and then explain how Ramadan is a holy month in Islam when observers pray, reflect and fast, when we don’t consume anything from sunrise to sunset.

This year, Ramadan lasted from March 23-April 20, with Eid al-Fitr, the celebration of the end of Ramadan and a major Islamic holiday, held on April 21.

People focus on the absurdity of fasting instead of finding out why Muslims do it in the first place.

We fast for two main reasons: to exercise self-restraint and to empathize with the less fortunate.

Self-restraint strengthens our faith, but I have always felt a stronger will to fast because of empathy. Growing up, I was confused about why we fasted. My mom said it causes us to understand poverty and appreciate our privileges. This has always resonated with me and other Muslims.

I was 8 years old when I started fasting. Most people start fasting during puberty and stop at old age. But I felt left out and decided to fast for half days.

Ramadan has taught me patience and is an integral part of my religion, so it frustrates me when people overlook its meaning and resort to baseless comments.

I’m not expecting others to be experts, but if I know what the Christian holidays — Good Friday and Ash Wednesday — are, then they should at least be willing to learn about Ramadan.

I’ll admit, sometimes people have simply never been exposed to Islam and are uneducated on the topic.

But if people truly wanted to learn about Ramadan, they could ask or look it up. My gripe is with people who refuse to learn and instead make insensitive comments.

Yes, it may seem crazy. Yes, it may seem extreme. Yes, it may seem impossible. But just remember, people would be doubled over laughing if I asked an absurd question like, “So the presents just show up under the Christmas tree?”

Style sustainably: Thrifting is the key to a greener wardrobe



Image printed with permission from Natasha Niazi
THE TRUE COST OF FAST FASHION: Sophomore Natasha Niazi holds up a T-shirt and a long-sleeve top that she has thrifted in Fullerton for \$10 and \$8, respectively. After starting her thrifting journey in 2020, Niazi has saved money while simultaneously reducing waste from packaged clothes.

NATASHA NIAZI

Cub Videographer

Upon receiving an online order for a pair of cargo jeans from Urban Outfitters three years ago, I opened the cardboard box to a bundle of plastic wrap and paper price tags pinned to the pants.

The trash bin beside me had filled up with waste from just a single package, adding to the heaps of litter already overflowing the planet.

From PacSun to SHEIN, fast-fashion brands have overtaken the industry, especially for our generation. As we see the quality of our planet deteriorate, we must do all we can to prevent such exponential destruction: For us, it starts with the wardrobe.

Shopping for clothes from local vintage and thrift stores provides consumers a frugal, eco-friend-

ly alternative to buying clothes from retail. Although thrifting has garnered more public attention since 2016 among Generation Z, many consumers still refuse to take advantage of the alternative.

Thrifting allows unwanted clothes to be relocated to people who would be more than willing to take them in. This prevents clothes from being thrown away, ultimately reducing the amount of space landfills consume.

The production of new clothes greatly impacts Earth’s natural environment. According to hemp-foundation.net, the fashion and textile industry consumes around 79 billion cubic meters of water annually. A July 2018 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe report states that 2-8% of greenhouse gas emissions are caused by the fashion industry.

Accessibility isn’t an issue,

either. Fullerton consists of over 10 thrift stores; the nearest one to Sunny Hills is called Red Hanger Thrift on Commonwealth Avenue, which is less than three miles away from our campus.

From shopping at places like Buffalo Exchange, I realized the advantages thrifting holds over buying clothes directly from name-brand stores. Since I’ve first started my thrifting journey in 2020, I estimate that I’ve saved hundreds of dollars and have since continued to keep my clothing expenses low.

So the next time you’re about to splurge at the mall, consider secondhand shopping. The satisfaction of thrifting outweighs the benefits that retail shopping has to offer.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

STAFF EDITORIAL

PAY OUR RESPECTS: *More should be done on campus next month to commemorate Memorial Day*



JACOB KIM | theaccolade

The Accolade Editorial Board unanimously agrees that school officials and program leaders should do more to acknowledge alumni from the military who have fallen in the line of duty before the Memorial Day holiday next month.

As students enter English teacher Scott Rosenkranz's classroom, if they look carefully at the whiteboard near the flag, they will notice something completely unrelated to his academic subjects.

Displayed below the U.S. flag and taped onto the whiteboard are two papers showcasing names of four "fallen Lancers" — alumni who died while

serving in the military.

Social science teachers Jeff Gordon and Keith Nighswonger exhibit similar memorials in their rooms. It's unfortunate that not more of our faculty have followed suit.

With Memorial Day nearly a month away, our community should come up with more creative ways to get students' attention about how much we should value the military.

Every Sept. 11, the Associated Student Body [ASB] organizes a memorial service to remember the lives lost from the 2001 twin tower tragedy in New York and the Pentagon plan hijacking.

Why can't we do the same the Friday before Memorial Day weekend?

With morning announcements, we can dedicate a few minutes in second period once a week for a moment of silence to remember the Lancers who lost their lives while in the line of military duty. They should not be forgotten.

Many students go through days without remembering our fallen heroes. Though overly conspicuous means are not necessary, efforts like hanging up the names of alumni veterans should be done in as many classrooms as possible.

Whether it be as simple as

morning announcements or as elaborate as quad memorials, we should begin a tradition of honoring SH alumni veterans school-wide to commemorate their sacrifices.

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

Letters to the editor

Reading Irene Sheen's Arts and Entertainment article, "Theater showcases first musical for its spring play after nearly 5 years," made me happy because I really appreciated that *The Accolade* decided to cover this story.

I was part of the production of "The Sound of Music," and we worked on the production for a long time.

It was rewarding to see that our work was recognized, and it was also interesting to read about others' perspectives.

— Claire Olsson, freshman

I think the News article, "SH opts out of AP digital exams," by Nathan Lee is very insightful because it presents contrasting arguments regarding the use of digital AP exams.

As someone who enjoys paper tests, it's interesting to see what others find attractive about online testing.

— Abigail Compton, freshman

I really loved reading David Kim's Opinion article, "LE'GOes' in the right direction to add, promote diversity with new toy figures."

As someone who grew up playing with both LEGO Minifigures and LEGO Friends, I was very interested to see how the company projects positive diversity with this new generation of toys.

It was very exciting to read about the continuation and originality of the franchise.

— Serenity Li, freshman

For the record

The Accolade regrets the following errors from the March 3 issue:

In the "NOTABLE NUMBERS" infographic for the page 4 Club Corner feature story titled, "Checkmate -- TikTok videos get more students to play old game," it should have been stated that the 30 members belonged to the school's Chess Club. The 120 million members listed represent how many are part of the chess.com community.

On page 16 in the Sports section, the explanation underneath the "BOYS SOCCER: Road to D1 finals" photo essay headline should have stated that the boys soccer team won the CIF-SS Division 3 championship last year but lost in the semifinal round at the state CIF playoffs.

the accolade

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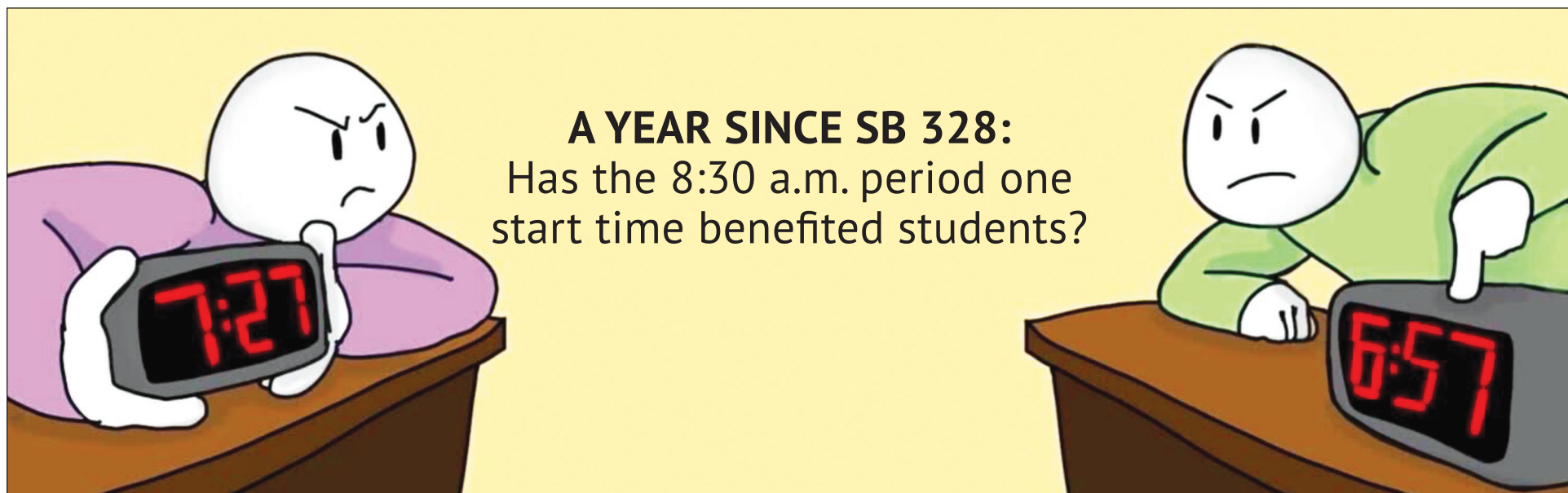
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HEAD TO HEAD



NATHANIEL COVARRUBIAS for theaccolade

PRO: Later start time says goodnight to groggy students

Listening to a Biology Honors lecture detailing the structure of nucleotides is not a feasible task for zero period



Nicole Park
Cub Reporter

students at 7:27 a.m., especially after just a few hours of sleep.

Yet, picturing the exact routine at 6:57 a.m., like the zero period students once did before the California bell schedule mandate, automatically induces

a dizzying headache.

According to the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, students should be receiving 8-10 hours of sleep every day; however, club volleyball has delayed the time I complete my homework, forcing me to go to bed at 10 p.m. and often later — one hour less than the recommended window.

With zero period beginning at 7:27 a.m. and first period beginning at 8:30 a.m., I can't imagine having to wake up earlier to go to class because I know that I wouldn't be as alert or receptive to

new information throughout the first few classes of the day.

After a year of later school start times, the mandate proves it has done exactly what it promised to do — allow students to start their days more productively.

Studying later in the morning boosts my concentration for our body clocks run 2-4 hours behind those of adults. To illustrate, if adults will hypothetically be attentive for zero period at 7:27 a.m., then students will be at peak levels of productivity at 9:27 a.m.

The 8:30 a.m. start time ensures at least a little extra sleep for me and other teens in California, which can lessen our chances of sleep deficiency that result in chronic health problems, including heart disease and high blood pressure.

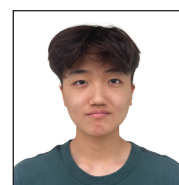
Thanks to the new start time, I can say goodbye to sleepless nights and say good morning to focused learning sessions.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

CON: New bell schedule does not help student sleeping habits

Last year, I woke up every morning to the sound of my alarm at 6 a.m., jumped out of bed, showered and rushed to school before the first bell sounded at 6:55 a.m.



Kayden Kim
Cub Data Team

So hearing that the 2022-2023 school year zero period would start at 7:27 a.m. was a relief. I brushed off my fatigue from last year and looked forward to enjoy 30 more minutes of sleep.

Despite my optimistic expectations, this year disappoints me, as I find my eyelids drooping by second period with my dark circles more prominent than ever.

I'm fine with the 8:30 a.m. start time, but what bothers me is that the bell schedule change doesn't help me.

It's only natural that daily workloads increase and sleep times move later as the school year goes by. But if the bell schedule does nothing to change sleep to

begin with, I see no point in changing it.

Whether people get more sleep or not, I don't think people are more awake during school, either. I see kids zoning out and bobbing their heads as they fight sleep in first and second periods.

They almost always lose the battle to the allure of short but sweet slumber.

In a high school with a consistent daily bell schedule, advancing to the next grade would give you more work and therefore, less sleep; so, even if we move the schedule itself back, we'll still end up sleeping less and less.

If the bell schedule itself won't help us feel more awake or get more sleep, changing it won't affect anything.

So, let's accept that new bell schedules don't actually help us and just commit to one schedule. If I'm going to be tired at school either way, I would rather end 30 minutes earlier than later.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

Girls support girls: Women should fight sexism in gaming

When I entered the first eSports meeting in September 2022, I was appalled at the underwhelming



Lindsey Um
Cub Illustrator

amount of girls present in that room — about three, including myself.

Following several monthly meetings, the number of female eSports

members dwindled to one — me.

eSports and gaming have always been male-dominated fields.

All I hear from other female gamers are horror stories about

their experiences with sexist men telling them to stop playing solely because of their gender.

When I first joined the Sunny Hills eSports team, I was extremely concerned about how the other male players would treat me.

Because of my past experiences, I expected toxicity to persist even in high school teams, so I was pleasantly surprised at my team's welcoming disposition.

It was such a refreshing break from all the widespread hate that's unfortunately so common in this game.

The uplifting and encouraging tone of my team helped me realize

that "normal gaming culture" shouldn't include sexism, and I stopped absorbing people's sexist comments.

Of course, behavioral toxicity will always exist in competitive gaming. But when people begin to attribute that behavior to something uncontrollable like gender, it becomes a problem.

That's why we, as women, must stand united and find the confidence to stand up for ourselves.



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com



ELISA ARIAS | theaccolade

Spotify 'TikTokifys' app with AI integration

TROY YANG

Cub Reporter

Most Sunny Hills students are raving about some of Spotify's recently updated new features, especially for those whose families are willing to pay \$15.99 for the music app's "Premium" level services.

The latest addition, which debuted on March 8, allows Premium subscribers to refresh existing playlists with personalized song recommendations from the app.

"I think [Smart Shuffle] was very interesting because it helps you find new music based on what you already listened to," said freshman Sarah Martell, whose family has been on Spotify's Premium plan for two years. "I like this feature because I think it's helpful; I like finding out about new music and finding things I like."

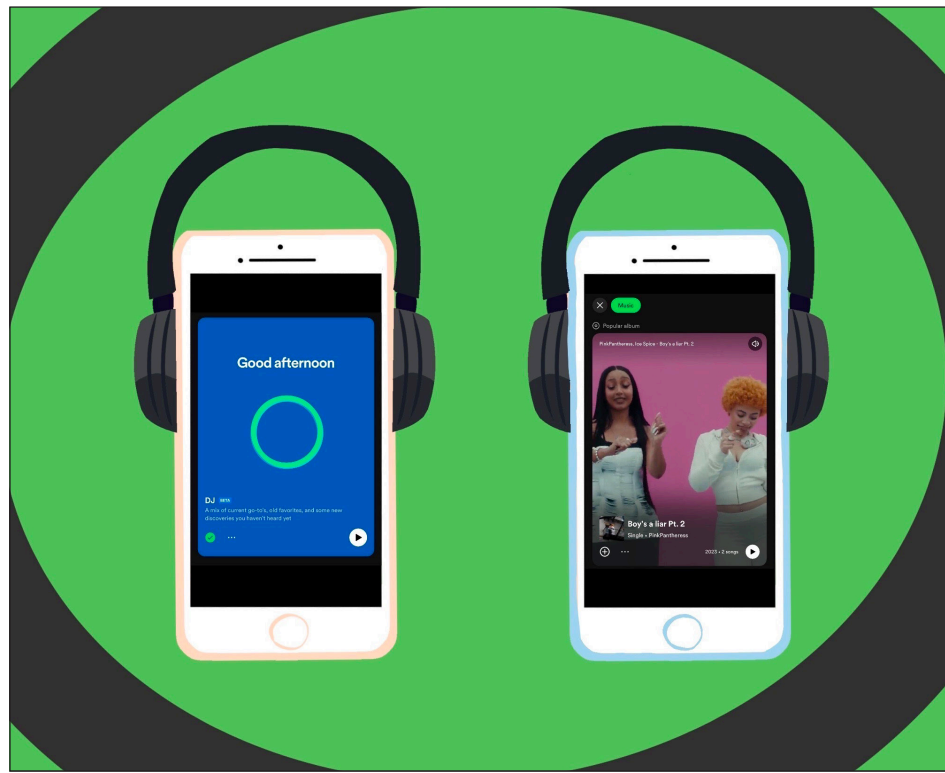
Others touted a Feb. 22-released feature — also only for Premium users — that incorporates the use of artificial intelligence [AI]. The AI DJ curates personalized playlists with a realistic AI-generated voice introducing the tracks and the artists queued, like DJs at dances or concerts often do.

Upon the AI DJ's first activation, a male voice will say, "I'm all about music, your music, I know what you listen to I see [artist you listen to frequently] there, so I'm going to be here everyday, playing those artists you got in rotation."

"I've been using Spotify for a couple of years, so these features were unfamiliar," said freshman Tyler Talag, an active Spotify Premium user who has tried out all the new features. "I find the DJ feature to be the most dynamic and will be using it more often, but maybe not all the time."

Junior Owen Dominguez said he sees a broadened consumership with Spotify's integration of AI and the DJ option, especially with the widespread popularity and use of Open AI's ChatGPT and Google's Bard.

"I think it is honestly an awesome new



JACOB KIM | theaccolade

SHUFFLE, SWAY, SING: The smartphone (left) displays one of Spotify's new feature, the AI DJ, while the other device showcases a vertical discovery feed.

way to listen to music," said Dominguez, a one year Spotify Premium user. "I think it will be a perfect way to listen to new music and upcoming artists once it is perfected by honing in what you want to listen to."

Freshman Gabrielle Rodriguez was among the few who disliked the AI DJ.

"I tried it because it seemed cool, but it's nothing special," said Rodriguez, who has been on the Premium plan for a couple years. "The concept is nice but its basically the same as an enhanced shuffle."

The remodeled home page -- billed as "For You" -- came out March 8 and is the only update that Spotify provides to Premium and free users. This "For You" page includes a vertical discovery feed, like TikTok, and a personalized recommendation

feature that suggests music, playlists and podcasts based on users previous listening history and activities.

Previously, Spotify had different sections dedicated to these features but now it is all combined into one "For You" page.

According to an *Accolade* survey posted on the online news website on March 29, of the 100 who responded to it, 52% have seen or like the "For You" look, while 30% prefer the original version.

"I think the new "For You" feature is great for Spotify as it makes it easier to find new things to listen especially when you're tired of your current playlists," said sophomore Katie Handley, a user of Spotify's free version. "The other two features definitely make me want Premium more."

Getting a beat on recent updates

The Accolade asked Spotify users: What is your favorite new Spotify feature?



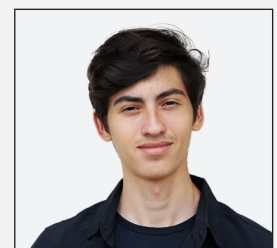
"I like the new DJ because it has personalized commentary."

— freshman Gabrielle Rodriguez



"I enjoy using the smart shuffle as it recommends new songs."

— sophomore Presley Hajnal



"The new music page helps me easily discover new artists."

— junior Julian Mondragon

TV REVIEW: 'Gotham Knights' takes off despite show's 'Bat'-less society

JENNA KIM

Cub Reporter

Superheroes are timeless: "Gotham Knights," a CW TV series that first aired earlier this year, offers an imaginative interpretation of this take by exploring what events occur after Batman's death with its unique ensemble of protagonists.

In the first episode, the police informs Turner Haynes (Oscar Morgan, "Zero") of his adoptive father, Bruce Wayne's, death and reveals that Wayne led a double life as Batman, the newly unmasked vigilante.

Soon enough, Hayes and a trio of thieves, Duella (Olivia Rose Keegan, "Daisy Jones and the Six"), Harper Row (Fallon Smythe, "Saturday Morning") and Cullen Row (Tyler DiChiara, "Our Language is Chaos") end up framed as the killers.

With no one else believing in their innocence, the teens form an unlikely alliance

to break out of jail and uncover the truth while evading all of Gotham City, which wants them just as dead as its fallen hero.

The new "fugitives" discover that the Court of Owls, a powerful underground organization that Batman was investigating just before his death, was behind the crime and is now after their lives.

With the well-known hero dead, the Owls and others wreak havoc, leaving the teens to stop them. This successfully satisfies the need for action in the show.

Living up to expectations, the following second and third episodes also leave viewers wanting more, captivating them with a continuous sense of mystery at a good pace and riveting thoroughness.

The characters themselves have their mysterious backstories, which add a variety of experiences for viewers and go beyond just an action series.

Throughout the show, the lead charac-



Image printed with permission from The CW
UNCOVERING THE TRUTH: The *Gotham Knights* continue their investigation to prove the existence of the Court of Owls by sneaking in a warehouse to steal the mob's ledger book, which records its illegal laundering activities.

ter continuously battles self-doubt, which is heavily explored through his relationship with Robin (Navia Robinson, "We Are Gathered Here Today"), a girl his age who was trusted to work alongside Wayne. With a typical teen going through unusual events, the audience can easily sympathize

with him.

By including moody teenage characters that speak in a foul yet extremely familiar manner, the director's forceful appeal to Generation Z is evident.

It's worth finding out if the *Gotham Knights* will prove their innocence.



READY, SET, FIGHT: The main antagonists of *Minecraft Legends*, the piglins from the Nether, suddenly appear from a mystical portal to seize control of the Overworld where the game's residents live. The latest *Minecraft* game was released April 18.

Not-so-legendary Minecraft spinoff disappoints fans

IRENE PARK

Cub Reporter

"Now step forward, brave Hero, and join us," says Foresight, one of the three narrators in the *Minecraft Legends* universe.

Launched April 18, *Minecraft Legends* welcomes players and raises expectations at first through the use of the title "*Minecraft*," yet quickly disappoints them with its vastly different gameplay.

The player strives to protect the world's inhabitants from evil entities, following a typical "save-the-world-from-destruction" game, created by Mojang Studios alongside Blackbird Interactive and Xbox Game Studios as a spinoff to the original game, *Minecraft*.

The game opens with a narrated walkthrough as well as a screen to choose from the newly developed 10 playable characters.

The opening cinematic trailer follows the character selection screen — something not found in the original *Minecraft* — that introduces the key figures in the plot with its clear graphics, occasional music and sound effects that add to the drama.

Then, users can play the real-time action-strategy game in one of four modes: Campaign Mode, Versus Mode, Lost Legends & Myths and Marketplace.

While Versus Mode feels similar to the original *Minecraft* with its active player vs. player style, Campaign Mode is the de-

WORTH IT?

- Cost: \$40
- Length: Roughly 12 hours of playtime
- Genres: Adventure and action-strategy
- Platforms: PC and various consoles
- From the original creators of *Minecraft*

fault story mode that the game leads you to play.

Soon enough, players learn that their goal is to build defenses and lead various entities into fights against the game's antagonists, the piglins, quickly being repetitive as the only difference being the number of enemies or strength of character variants.

While changing the focus of this spinoff, *Minecraft Legends* takes away key aspects of the game — mining and crafting.

Instead of manually working for materials, the player uses small spirits called allays to gather materials after outlining a collecting space.

The game also lacks a crafting or freely building system, as *Minecraft Legends* limits the players' creativity by only allowing the placing of preset structures, which is one of the main attractions of the original series.

These adjustments can lead the player to wonder whether the



GATHER UP: Once in the game, players can call their troops to action by raising a flag, preparing the army for battle to protect the Overworld from the hostile piglins.

game is truly deserving of the title "*Minecraft*."

Not only that, the clunky camera controls lower the game's playability as it is truly an inconvenience when changing perspectives as it either zooms straight into the character's face or to a view from an eagle-eye distance.

However, the game has a unique focus on the use of music, with many avatar actions requiring keyboard controls to produce notes from a lute, an instrument that is provided at the start of the tutorial.

Overall, the Campaign Mode takes roughly 10 hours to complete, a considerably short time for a \$40 game with a repetitive concept of fighting and defending against enemies.

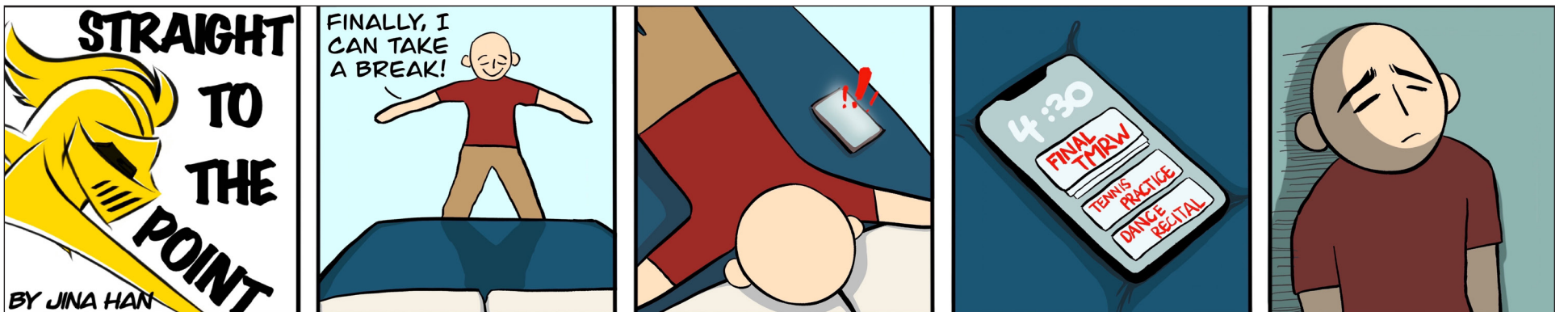
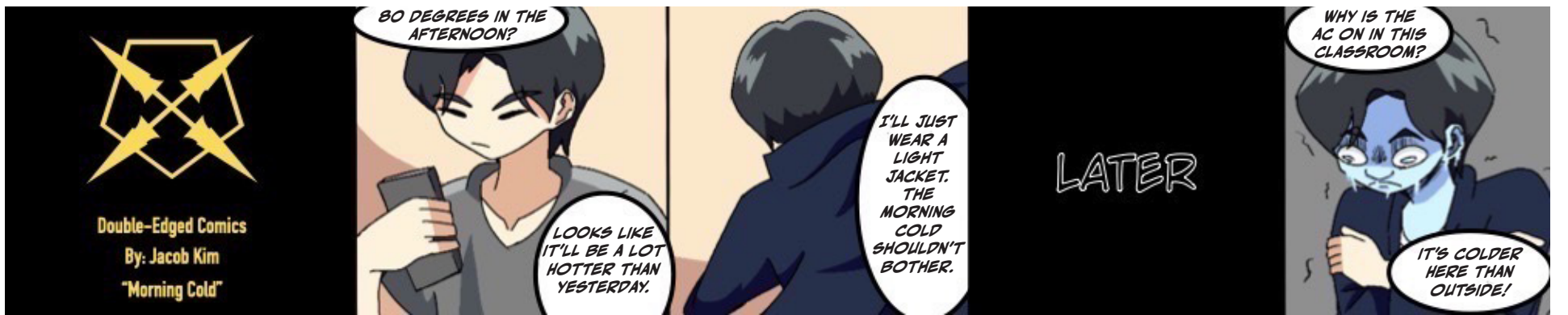
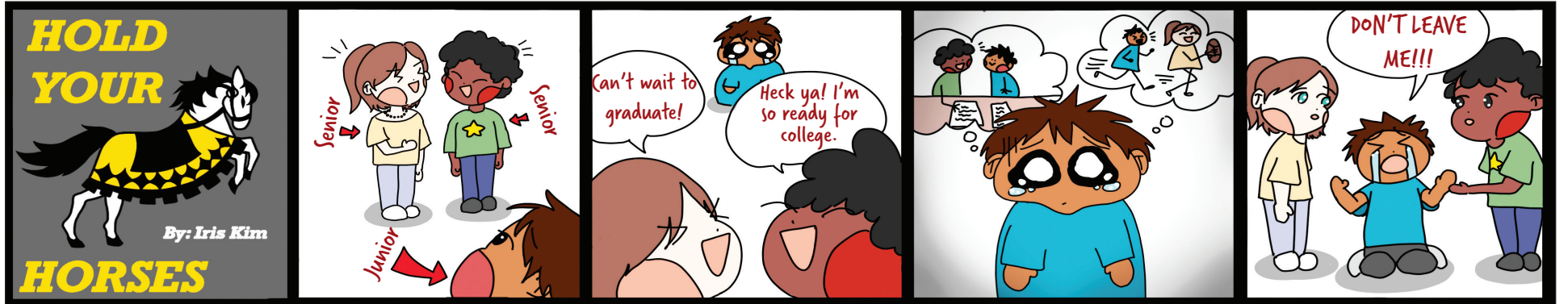
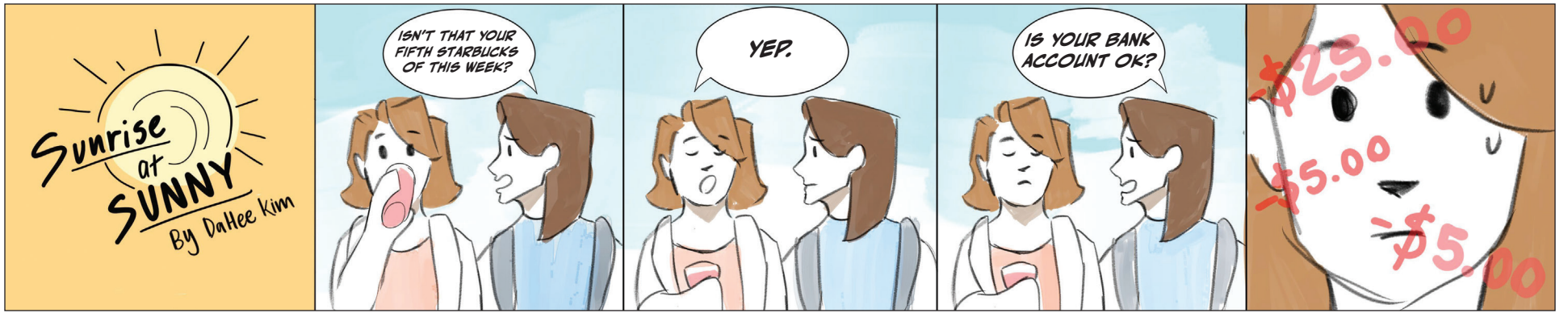
While this product has potential, the current state of the game is not worth \$40 — if anything,

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More than just a jersey number

Basketball great Michael Jordan wore No. 23 as a tribute to his older brother.

Four-time NBA champion

Stephen Curry carries No. 30 to honor his father, who also played in the NBA.



Grace Min
Sports Editor

Angels baseball center fielder Mike Trout sports No. 27 because he believes it's

his "lucky number."

These professional athletes have made their mark in their respective sports, and the numbers they designated for themselves at the start of their careers remain embedded in fans' minds.

When I started playing volleyball at age 13, I decided upon No. 12 because my birthday is Dec. 12 — 12/12.

This two-digit number has been my favorite since I can remember, and it holds even more sentimental value now that I use it in my sport — volleyball.

As a three-year volleyball starter, I represented myself with the No. 12 in all my years on the team.

My coach gave priority for number selection to the players who were on varsity the longest and, luckily, no one else wanted 12 that season when I joined during my sophomore year.

Although I don't hold a superstition about whether I perform better while wearing my preferred number, playing with No. 12 on my back gives me the boost of confidence I need on game days.

Even though I wore No. 12 on my high school team, club volleyball was a different story. In 2020, I was forced to sport No. 11.

Two years later I wore No. 6 because the club did not let me choose my own number.

Since athletes are often remembered by their jersey numbers, I feel that other players, including me, like to wear digits that have a deeper meaning to us.

I have not heard of any jersey numbers that have been retired at Sunny Hills, but I don't think that's something I am interested in.

After I graduate and the new girls volleyball season starts this fall, I also don't want to take away another player's opportunity to represent the No. 12 if that happens to be her favorite number, too.

I enjoy being a role model for younger players in the girls volleyball program, and if they want to wear No. 12 because of me, I would consider that a great honor.



SHEILA NERI, SUMMER SUEKI | theaccolade

SPECIAL NUMBERS: Boys volleyball outside hitter sophomore Lucas Saab (left), softball left fielder sophomore Zoey Matthews, baseball catcher senior Jose Rojo III and girls volleyball setter senior Stacy Kim point to their respective jersey numbers.

Athletes avoid drama over choice of uniform numbers in their sport

ALEXXA BERUMEN

Feature Editor

Game Day.

For student-athletes on the Hill, these days entail sporting their black and yellow jerseys throughout the campus in order to represent their respective teams.

With the exception of sports teams without jerseys, the back of all athletic Game Day wear displays the word "LANCERS" alongside a number of the athlete's choice.

These digits tend to have a strong influence on athletes — especially those who use their numbers as motivation after taking inspiration from a famous athlete.

With numbers being an integral part of sport culture, certain combinations appear more prevalent across professional sports organizations and school campuses.

"[I think] for student-athletes the number is really important," girls volleyball head coach Amanda Donaldson said. "It could be a really exciting thing if you get the number that you want."

However, some students do not have the opportunity to feel the excitement of getting their ideal number because someone else already occupies it, meaning they must wait until the teammate with their preferred number graduates or chooses a different one.

“

At the end of the day the number isn't really that important. It's the Lancer on the back of the jersey.

- girls volleyball head coach
Amanda Donaldson

”

"The way we do it is basically based more on how many years you have been on varsity," Donaldson said. "A lot of those times the numbers stick [to the player], ... but they don't always get the one that they want."

If they don't get their number of choice, some students may change the sequence of the digits, flip it upside down, like from 9 to 6, or even choose a new number that could become their signature digit for the rest of the season.

Senior Stacy Kim recalls her freshman year on junior varsity [JV] volleyball, after not being able to represent the athletics team with her usual number: 18.

This number, which she has been playing with through her club volleyball experience, ended up being occupied by another player, meaning Kim was required to choose another number.

Deciding on the next lowest even number, Kim landed on No. 16, which she decided to continue to use during her

school volleyball career — yet still using No. 18 for club volleyball season.

"I was sad because the number 18 was definitely my No. 1 choice," Kim said. "However, [I chose] 16, and I still like that."

Similarly, softball player sophomore Zoey Matthews has been No. 22 since her origin in club softball — until her freshman year on JV.

For JV softball, jerseys were only available to the player if they could manage to get the right size, in which Matthews struggled to find her go-to number that year.

For the first time, Matthews had to be No. 3; however, in her first year on varsity she was able

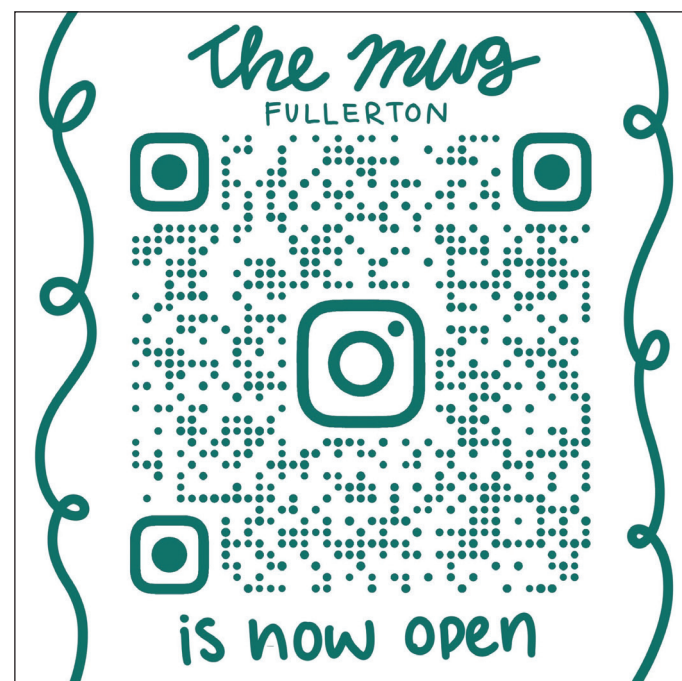
to return to her favorite number.

"[Before] I had never had any issues, ... I would just go straight to 22," the outfielder said. "But last year on JV was the first year I was not 22."

Boys volleyball player sophomore Lucas Saab has worn his jersey number of choice his entire career because it was assigned to him by his club team in sixth grade.

"When I was younger, the No. 33 was given to me not by choice but randomly," Saab said. "After multiple years of keeping the No. 33, it grew on me, and to this day I keep the same number."

Uniform Numbers >> Page 23





SUMMER SUEKI | theaccolade

BUILDING AN 'UMPIRE': Pitcher junior Maddie Moreno poses with a softball in her hand. The athlete received a full-ride scholarship to the University of California, San Diego.

Game Ball

Junior scores home run to UCSD

AASHNA DIALANI

Cub Reporter

As she took a deep breath before placing her foot on the rubber slab to snap the ball, pitcher junior Maddie Moreno, one of the two starting pitchers on the Sunny Hills softball team, recalls that nothing was different about how she approached the game that her future depended on.



Maddie Moreno

Moreno scored a full-ride scholarship to the University of California, San Diego, [UCSD], for softball when she received the offer in September 2022 through her club team, the Corona Angels.

"I was very relieved because this was something that I had been working towards for a very long time and preparing myself for," she said.

To ensure a financial scholarship, Moreno contacted the athletic scouts of multiple universities to make sure that her athletic aptitude would be showcased, she said.

Her track to softball success, however, had not been particularly easy.

Moreno tore her elbow ligament in late June 2022 while practicing softball with her father, preventing her from playing the entire 2022-2023 preseason, but managed to keep a optimistic attitude.

"My arm started to hurt constantly, but I just continued to play with it hurting," Moreno said.

NOTABLE NUMBERS

Since starting her softball career, Maddie Moreno gathered these accomplishments:

- 0.99 ERA overall in SH career
- Qualified for Tier 1 Alliance Nationals
- Won the Team New Jersey showcase
- Ranked top 10 out of 115 pitchers in 2021 National Florida Alliance Tournament
- Made the 1st team for the Zoom into June tournament
- Member of the 1st team for Freeway League
- Lancer Award Winner 2022
- Third-year varsity starter

Source: Maddie Moreno
Compiled by Christopher Lee

Despite still recovering from the injury, the UCSD commit looks forward to having new experiences in college softball.

"I consider myself a strikeout pitcher," she said. "My main goal [as a pitcher] is not to let the batter hitting the ball get on base."

Moreno shared that the UCSD coaches observed her pitching skills when she visited the campus before receiving her scholarship.

After the on-campus tryout on Oct. 1, 2022, she received a phone call from the school.

"It was around 6 p.m.," the athlete said. "I was pretty nervous since I didn't know what [college admissions officer] was going to say,"

The UCSD administration informed her that she had a full ride scholarship soon after the call.

"I was crying," Moreno said. "My parents were crying too."

The junior said she felt relieved after she received the phone call, allowing her breathe and be grateful.

"After I got offered the scholarship, my family and I prayed," said Moreno. "It was something we accomplished together and I could not have done it without them."

Although this news placed the athlete and her family on an emotional rollercoaster, her coach was aware of the decision before her.

"I knew she would end up somewhere for sure," Laws said. "I'm not surprised that she got one [scholarship] at all."

A competitive player on the field, Moreno is also a supportive teammate her fellow Lady Lancers look up to.

"My favorite quality about Maddie is her aura," catcher sophomore Riley Gonzales said.

Her teammates said her work ethic and positive energy are contagious.

"She makes you feel like you can tell her anything without receiving judgment," pitcher sophomore Alexis Perez said. "She's never down and always has a smile on her face."

Even though she does not plan on pursuing softball as a career after college, Moreno said she looks forward to playing at UCSD and pursuing a job in the medical field in the future.

"I want to go into the medical field and become an orthopedic surgeon," said the student athlete.

Softball dominates Troy in 13-1 win after mercy rule

JIWOO HAN

Sports Editor

In dominant style, the Sunny Hills softball team forced a mercy rule after just five innings of play in its game against the Troy Warriors on Monday, winning 13-1.

"This game was a little different because we can't practice on Sundays in high school; we were coming off of a day off," softball head coach Elise Laws said. "Normally, I don't play on Saturdays, but we played a Saturday game, and I think it really helped the kids ... when we're being aggressive and getting good swings on balls, it makes a difference."

The Lady Lancers are now 8-1 in the Freeway League season, only dropping a game to the La Habra Highlanders in a tight one-point loss.

Laws said the team's success is a testimony to the players' determination and the result of the legacy last year's senior class left behind.

"I think it starts with the kids that practice and put in the work," she said. "But also, this program without last year's senior class wouldn't exist since they were the ones that built it. It's hard to come in and change a culture, but the kids were really receptive to it ... they took everything we had, and they now have fed it into these kids."

Monday's win was like no other — the squad destroyed its opposition.

The Troy Warriors led the first inning against SH pitcher sophomore Alexis Perez and scored a point off a single from Troy center fielder sophomore Angela Garcia. With this early drawback, the Lady Lancers could not score in the inning.

Softball recap >> Page 23

SPRING SPORTS RECAP



Softball 9-1
1st in league

The softball team became Freeway League champs will play their first CIF game today.



The swim team became Freeway League champs title at Thursday's meet.

Girls Swim 5-0
1st in league



Boys Volleyball 10-1
2nd in league

The volleyball team won its first CIF match Thursday against Cal High 3-1.



The tennis team had its CIF matches Thursday. The results were not available during press time.

Boys Tennis 8-1-1
2nd in league



Boys Swim 4-1
2nd in league

The swim team had its finals Thursday. The boys came in 2nd place.



The baseball team won its last Freeway League game Thursday against the Sonora Raiders 5-4.

Baseball 4-6
5th in league



Track & Field
3rd in league

Qualifiers competed in the league finals on Wednesday.

Compiled by Kayla Martinez

FROM PAGE 22

SOFTBALL RECAP

However, the second inning played out nothing like the first. The Troy Warriors failed to utilize the lead they grasped in the first inning. Meanwhile, the SH athletes fought back with grit, and their offense began with a single from Marquez against Troy pitcher sophomore Raquel Alonso. The team hit a total of seven singles, along with a batter getting on base through a hit-by-pitch to ultimately score seven batters in and take the lead 7-1.

“Against La Habra, we had a hard time pulling through with hitting, but we were finally able to get it back on,” Salcido said.

The second inning was not the end of the Lady Lancers’ command. With the Warriors still unable to score more runs, the SH squad continued its momentum in the third inning by hitting five singles and two doubles to further its lead to 12-1.

“That’s kind of the way that we play,” Laws said about the team’s aggressive approach. “Our style of play is we don’t want to be taking pitches; we don’t want to be the aggressor or ever be on the defensive ... it’s kind of engraved in them.”

For the Lady Lancers, who were now ahead 10 runs, the fourth inning was another opportunity to extend their lead. The team carried on with a run batted in from shortstop junior Olivia Pedraza that resulted from her single after Holguin and Marquez got on base through a single and a base-on-balls, respectively.

This put the SH team at 13-1, and the Warriors only had one more inning to prevent a loss by the mercy rule, which states that any team with a 10 or more run lead past the fifth inning wins the game.

Troy’s offense did not find any more runs in the fifth inning, so the Lady Lancers took on the victory 13-1.

The softball team played its final Free-



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HOMERUN: Third baseman senior Gabby Flores hits a softball thrown to her by Troy pitcher sophomore Raquel Alonso. The Lady Lancers won 13-1.

“Just because playoffs start doesn’t mean we change ... we don’t change who we are, but we continue to be who we are, and that will be enough.”

- softball head coach Elise Laws

way League game Thursday against the Sonora Raiders. The SH squad won the game 7-6 through a walk-off double in the bottom of the ninth inning by right fielder senior Priscilla Cueva to take on the league

title. Laws credits the girls’ persistence.

“Every day they show up, they just grind like they’re never satisfied,” she said. “We could’ve stopped playing after it was 7-1, but we got five more runs so that we could get out of here in five innings.”

The Lady Lancers will compete today against the Calvary Chapel Eagles at 3:15 p.m., in their first CIF playoffs game at home, which Laws hopes the team continues its dominance throughout CIF play.

“Our motto for playoffs is always: One day, one game, one pitch at a time,” the head coach said. “[In terms of] preparation, it’s just making sure the kids are confident in everything that they are doing. Just because playoffs start doesn’t mean we change ... we don’t change who we are, but we continue to be who we are, and that will be enough.”

FROM PAGE 21

UNIFORM NUMBERS

Some students like Saab do not run into issues because their jersey number is uncommon, as athletes tend to gravitate toward single-digit numbers. This leaves bigger numbers untouched in most cases.

“Luckily for me, No. 33 is not a common number,” he said. “So as the upper-classmen choose the single digit numbers and the numbers special to them, by the time it gets to me 33 is still available.”

Many students have a number they hope to get every year, deriving their inspiration from various sources; for example, a relative’s birth date or the jersey of a famous athlete.

Varsity football and baseball player, senior Jose Rojo III, did not get his original choice of number, so he turned to the giants of the sports world for inspiration.

Famous athletes from various sports often have the No. 23, such as NBA player Micheal Jordan or English soccer player David Beckham.

“Since I didn’t get to pick my normal No. [43], I wanted to pick 23 because [of] all of the famous athletes that wear them,” Rojo said.

These numbers have a significant meaning to the players that have worn them, and paying respects to their efforts by commemorating their numbers, as has been previously done with athletes such as Michael Jordan or Jackie Robinson, proves to have a lasting impact on the sports community.

According to Donaldson, though numbers hold such meaning for SH student-athletes, the spirit brought to the Lancers after each win has a much more meaningful impact.

“At the end of the day the number isn’t really that important,” she said. “It’s the Lancer on the back of the jersey.”

Golfer passes on Ivy League schools

TEO JEONG

Cub Reporter

Boys golfer senior Jeffrey Kwak selected a path deviating from what the public may consider to be customary.

Last fall, the athlete said he received offers from Columbia University and Yale University to play on their men’s golf team.

While for many, the chance to graduate with an Ivy League degree would be more conventional, Kwak said he opted to play for a smaller school, Santa Clara University [SCU], which is located in the Silicon Valley in Northern California.

“I turned down Columbia and Yale because I wanted to play golf professionally,” Kwak said, who as of this week is ranked fifth in the state and 46th nationally based on the Junior Golf Board Rankings. “Going to an Ivy [League] school would be too hard to manage so I made the decision that I wanted to pursue my golfing career.”

Kwak was also among the first two to sign with the Broncos of SCU Nov. 9 during the National Collegiate Athletics Association’s [NCAA] early signing day period, joining a Division 1 program that finished fourth at the West Coast Conference Championship in the 2021-2022 season.

“We are so excited to have Jeffrey joining our Bronco Family,” Broncos head coach Andrew Larkin said in an online news release. “Jeffrey has become one of the best players in the country, most recently being selected as an American Junior Golf Association All-America. He is just scratching the surface with his potential, and we believe he could leave a major legacy during his time at Santa Clara.”

Kwak’s father, a former South Korean pro golfer who coaches many Lancer golfers, was supportive of his son’s choice to play for the Broncos.

“I am definitely proud of him, and I believe he will be a good player if he continues to be diligent in college,” JJ Kwak said.

Kwak decided to switch to the district’s iSierra online school at the start of the spring semester.

“It definitely helped my golf game,” the golfer said. “I do miss the social life [of in-person school]; however, I don’t regret my decision moving online.”



For the full story, go to shhsaccolade.com

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Another coaching legend retires

HENRY LEE

Web Editor-in-Chief

More than 830 games.
Seventeen Freeway League championships.

Twenty-nine CIF playoff appearances.

Six CIF finals appearances with three resulting championships in 1987, 2016 and 2022

After 38 years of leading the boys soccer program, head coach Mike Schade announced his retirement on April 20.

"It's really sad for me because it's what I've done ever since I stepped on the campus here," Schade said. "I've loved every minute of it and wouldn't trade the memories and the relationships for anything, but it just became time, as it got harder and harder to get out of bed in the morning."

The coach started at Sunny Hills as an assistant coach in 1985 when the program was only five years old. In 1987, he became the head coach and has since then, led the program to its



Image printed with permission from Luke Lawrence
G.O.A.T.: Coach Schade runs onto the Citrus High School field with his team after winning the CIF-SS Division 1 semifinal game against the Citrus Hill Hawks Feb. 18.

glory today.

"The greatest thing I've witnessed is our student-athletes over-achieving and then committing to other people, as they become part of a team," he said. "It's just been very rewarding."

When athletic director Paul Jones heard of Schade's retire-

ment, Jones said he was happy for him, but Jones was also sad to see another coach retire after former girls soccer coach Jeff Gordon and former football coach Pete Karavedas left.

"He's a legendary coach here as he's been coaching at Sunny Hills for 30 years," he said.

NOTABLE NUMBERS

Coach Mike Schade's accomplishments as boys soccer head coach



- 35 years as head coach
- 4x Coach of the Year, 1998 SH teacher of the Year
- 17 Freeway League Titles
- 2 CIF Championships in 2016 and 2022, 5 CIF Finals
- 5 State regionals (2015, 2016, 2018, 2022, 2023)

Source: ocsportszone.com
Compiled by: Jiwoo Han

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