

ORACLE

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LINK BOO SCAVENGER HUNT

Grab a partner and join Link Crew’s first major Halloween event! Link Leaders will pair up with their Freshmen mentees to solve an array of limericks that lead to the classrooms of mystery teacher participants.

Compiled by Cathy Chen, NEWS EDITOR, article by Erin Jang, STAFF WRITER, cartoons by Kaila Perlas, CARTOON, graphics courtesy of Google Images

In an effort to foster a collaborative connection between the classes, Link Crew will host a Link Boo Scavenger Hunt around campus Oct. 25-27.

Centered around a Halloween theme, Link Crew will organize a three-day scavenger hunt that encourages students to explore the school and communicate with teachers. Catered towards freshmen and sophomores, the event challenges participants to analyze several clues placed around the school to complete a stamp sheet. Students will be able to win bundles of candy based on the total number of stamps collected by the end of the event.

Through the lunch periods, participants will collaborate with their peers to solve the various clues distributed by Link Leaders. Partnered with the faculty, Link Boo committee members created clues in the form of limerick poems that lead students to a specific teacher on campus. Upon students’ arrival in the specified classrooms, staff members will add a stamp to the Link Boo stamp sheets.

As a student leadership program, Link Crew is a group of upperclassmen who act as role models and help facilitate an easier transition into high school for the freshmen. The juniors and seniors plan activities for the underclassmen to increase engagement within the student body.

During orientation, Link Crew divided the freshmen into groups of five to eight students and paired each group with two Link Leaders. Throughout the academic year, the freshmen are able to ask questions and receive support from their upperclassmen leaders.

According to senior Aaron Romero, Link Leaders learn essential leadership, organization and collaboration skills with different peers. Link Crew wanted to start an activity that will help freshmen connect with others and develop new friendships, Romero said.

“Link Leaders want to give back to the school and to show the freshmen what it is like to be a member of the Warrior community,” Romero said. “Because we support the freshmen in their endeavors, we want to promote interaction between the freshmen and Link Leaders.”

Hosted by the students, the preparatory meetings for this event involved leaders




in constant detailed discussions to produce a memorable activity, Link Crew Coordinator Carrie Snipes said.

“The scavenger hunt pushes the freshmen and other participating students to travel around the school with more open eyes as they search for clues,” Snipes said. “[After the activity], freshmen will less likely be afraid and get lost because they will no longer be unfamiliar with the campus.”

In the past, Link Crew had offered small candy distributions to the freshmen without a formal event. After a pandemic year, Link Leaders believed the school needed a fun activity that would invite a significant amount of participation from freshmen, Snipes said.

“Our main goal of the scavenger hunt is to facilitate an event where leaders can reconnect with the freshmen,” Snipes said. “We wanted to get our freshmen out and moving around on campus and learning more about some of the teachers, hanging out together and doing an activity that is a little challenging but also very rewarding with their Link Leaders.”



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OCTA begins free ride service program for local youth

The OCTA Youth Free Ride Service program supports the Department of Transportation’s goal to reduce pollution.

By Brianna Vu
STAFF WRITER

Introducing a convenient and safe form of student transportation, Orange County Transportation Authority began the Youth Ride Free program for youth to travel in September. As a six-month promotional program, the Youth Ride Free Pass allows youth ages 6 to 18 to ride all Orange County Buses for free. In partnership with local K-12 schools, OCTA will distribute Youth Free Ride Passes to students and parents who apply through a request form online or at the OCTA store. The pass is a physical card with a magnetic stripe students can swipe on the bus. Based on the success of the Community College Pass Program, OCTA created the youth program to aid low income families that need to commute daily. The typical cost to ride the bus is \$2 per ride or \$5 for a day pass. Through OCTA’s efforts, the agency aims to support economic recovery for families within the county. According to OCTA Chairman Andrew Do, OCTA initially in-



PHOTO COURTESY OF OCTA

FINANCIALLY FAIR: Blue OC bus travels to various stops throughout the county. The bus service recently added nearly 300 new routes to the system and provided a wider span of service hours for riders.

tended for the program to benefit youth up to 13 years old. Through a vote by OCTA members, the bus cooperation increased their age groups in order to help over 520,000 students, Do said. “Expanding the free pass to 14 to 18-year-olds means we also reach high school students, helping them access education and jobs as they enter the workforce,” Do said. “Allowing our youth in Orange County to ride

the OC Bus for free will encourage a new generation of riders to discover how convenient and affordable the bus system is.” The California Department of Transportation aims to reduce traffic congestion and car usages on local roads in order to improve the county’s air quality. With an average passenger vehicle emitting about 404 grams of Carbon dioxide per mile, the California Climate Investments funded the program

with the California Air Resources’ approval. The California Climate Investment is an initiative that aims to improve the environment and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through bus programs. The Youth Ride Free Pass allows for students to travel along the bus’ route without the confines of a parent’s schedule, Santa Ana Unified School District Superintendent Jerry Almendarez said.

“Providing free public transportation to students who use this service to travel to and from school will serve as a vital resource for our families,” Almendarez said. “We know many of our students rely on OCTA each day to commute not only to our campuses, but also to their jobs and other activities. This program will help further meet the needs of young people in our community.”

Warrior NJROTC program introduces after-school student formation practice

The student-led formation practices aims to teach students discipline and help the cadets gain confidence in organization skills.

By Jamie Lee
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to develop the cadets’ skills in drills and other essential training, Warrior Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps implemented a new after-school formations program. In order to increase the cadets’ participation, NJROTC participates in hour-long formations training every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Through the practice, students aim to improve drill skills discipline. During formations, the department heads, the Cadet Company Commander, Cadet Battalion Executive Officer and Command Master Chief lead the practice. NJROTC organized their cadets into four companies The companies are alpha, bravo, charlie and delta.

The leaders carry out formations based on the cadets’ companies at the basketball courts. Established to instill a value of citizenship in students, NJROTC helps the cadets develop leadership skills and precision in their drill formations. During class period, cadets receive physical training and academic lectures about discipline, cybersecurity or NJROTC practices. The program helps students learn about responsibility and orderliness. NJROTC’s new senior science naval instructor Lt. Cecil introduced formations practice to bring improvements to the program. Cecil brought the idea of formations from his previous workplace to increase Warriors’ engagement and knowledge. Carried out to allow cadets to practice their skills beyond class time, formations help Warriors gain confidence in their drill skills and become organized as a team, freshman Ashley Park said. “Formations allows us to practice how to march and do our poses. Since we are required to attend, it gives us a lot of time outside of our normal class period to go to



PHOTO BY ISAIAH PRO

CONCENTRATED CADETS: NJROTC students improve their discipline and organization through after-school drill team practice.

drill and orienteering,” Park said. “The practice helps us especially during inspection days since we acquire more knowledge and it helps the cadets become sharper.” While no strict regulations are enforced, the officers expect all cadets to participate in the practice and show improvement in their

skill. All cadets must also dress according to the practice dates. The cadets do not have a dress code but they are required to wear their uniforms every Wednesday. As the year progresses, commanding officers hope to make improvements to formations, Bowman said.

“Currently, we are focusing on drill and marching practices. For an hour, the instructors give commands and students practice getting into their formations,” Bowman said. “In the future, we hope to add more practices to help the students improve their skills more effectively.”

FAFSA opens financial aid for the new academic year

Students apply for financial aid through FAFSA and the College Scholarship Service Profile websites.

By Kaelyn Kwon
STAFF WRITER

The application period for Free Application for Federal Student Aid for the 2022-23 academic year opened Oct. 1. In an effort to teach students about the financial aid process, Pitzer College Director of the Office of Financial Aid Kara Moore hosted an informational Zoom meeting for Warriors Sept. 29. Open to upperclassmen and parents, the presentation incorporated financial aid information from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Topics included the cost of attendance, expected family contribution, financial need, types of financial aid, sources of monetary support and special circumstances. Categorized into need-based and non-need based aid, financial aid provides assistance for tuition, room and board, transportation, books and supplies. In order to determine students' eligibility for financial aid, agencies calculate financial need, which is based

on the difference between cost and attendance and expected family contribution. Sources of financial aid include private agencies, the state government and the federal government.

Classified as self-help or gift aid, the types of financial aid are dependent on the category and source of funds. Organizations offer students gift aid in the form of grants, scholarships and awards and do not expect the recipients to repay the financial aid. In contrast, students must eventually return self-help aid, which encompasses loans and work-study employment.

Issued by the federal government or private companies, loans have different conditions for accumulating interest and can be need-based. Based on these conditions, federal loans are categorized into direct subsidized loans, direct unsubsidized loans and parent plus loans.

In order to apply for a federal loan, students must submit an application through the FAFSA or the College Scholarships Service Profile websites. Every school

requires the FAFSA application, and only certain schools request the CSS Profile as a supplement. In order to apply for FAFSA, students must create a Federal Student Aid identification on the organization's website.

As another opportunity to earn financial aid, the Cal Grant is a form of gift aid that can be used at any California postsecondary institution. CA state scholarships and grants also require students to submit the FAFSA by March 2, so the organizations can consider applications. In order to apply for the Cal Grant, students must be a resident, meet income and asset requirements, reach grade-point average con-

ditions and attend a CA college.

Under the California Dream Act, undocumented and non-resident students in CA can receive certain types of state financial aid. Applicants who meet the nonresident tuition exemption are eligible for financial aid based on financial need as well as academic achievement. More information about the Dream Act and the state's financial aid process is available on the CA government website.

that as the standard for all 58 counties in the state. At the end of the day, we can do this now as we administer more doses, prioritizing our teachers, with more vaccines in people's arms."

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

FINANCIAL AID CONSISTS OF FUNDS PROVIDED TO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES TO HELP PAY FOR SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES

SOURCES

- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
- STATE GOVERNMENT
- INSTITUTIONS
- PRIVATE AGENCIES
- EMPLOYERS

CATEGORIES

- NEED BASED AID
- NON-NEED BASED AID

INFOGRAPHIC BY DAVID LEE

Warrior VSA chapter helps renovate Buddhist temple

Warrior Vietnamese Student Association helped trim rose bushes and rake leaves at the Chua Pho Hien temple.

By Diya Patel and Neya Jakan
STAFF WRITER AND NEWS EDITOR

Introducing students to Vietnamese culture, the Vietnamese Student Association participated in a renovation project at Chua Pho Hien temple in Garden Grove Oct. 10. At the event, approximately 25 participants cleaned the Buddhist temple and repainted the statues. Throughout the day, members raked leaves from the garden, trimmed rose bushes, and painted the front sign of the temple as well as the Laughing Buddha statue. In a display of gratitude, the temple served volunteers vegetarian Vietnamese food. In preparation for the event, VSA board members contacted the Universal Virtue Buddhist Charity institution and conducted meetings to discuss volunteer opportunities. The VSA board advertised the event through an Instagram post that provided participants with an overview of the renovation activities.

Buddhism is among one of the largest religions observed in Vietnamese culture. The event allowed for participants to broaden their perspective on how Buddhism integrates into the culture of Vietnamese ppl, Secretary Joseph Nguyen said. "The event helps participants gain a [better] understanding of Vietnamese customs and traditions," Nguyen said. "Buddhism is a very big part of Vietnamese religion, and cleaning up the temple is a great way that club members can relate to Vietnamese culture." Through the event, the club hopes to build connections with local Vietnamese communities, President Tina Tran said. "The main purpose of this event is to support Vietnamese-American institutions, as well as



PHOTO PROVIDED BY VSA

PERFECT PAINTERS: VSA students paint a laughing Buddha Statue at a local temple in Garden Grove.

to introduce our club members to the type of community service we will be doing this year," Tran said. "Through this event, we hope to help our Vietnamese-American community and bring our members closer together by providing them with a space to collaborate." The collaboration allowed members to establish relationships through their

service to the Vietnamese community, Nguyen said. "We hope that, students will see what a difference they can make by volunteering to help our community," Tran said. "Since the institution is a Vietnamese-American owned establishment, we hope that students can appreciate our community and find a purpose for themselves in it."

CLUB CORNER Sunshine Club

Brightening the lives of pediatric cancer patients, Troy Sunshine Club is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raise awareness for pediatric cancer research. As a branch of Bryson's Sunshine Foundation, the club holds fundraisers, virtual Walk-a-thons, and guest speaker sessions who speak about other nonprofits for pediatric cancer. Members can become virtual tutors for childhood cancer patients and earn volunteer hours throughout the year.

Troy Sports Broadcasting

Spreading sports news for the public audience, the Troy Sports Broadcasting Club offers students opportunities to learn about sports through the medium of podcasts. With meetings held every Thursday in room 403, members can sign up to speak and commentate over sports live streams. The club supplies students with the necessary materials, such as cameras and microphones, to make their own podcast episodes. Partnered with Omnia, the club publicly shares the broadcasts made by the members.

Note Forge

Forging student-created music, the Note Forge Club provides opportunities for students to learn about modern music production. During meetings, students create music with online software programs, such as Soundtrap and Bandlab. The club does not require members to have prior experience in composition or music theory. In order to promote a creative environment, the club will host its own music competitions and teach music theory.

Alzheimer's Associatoon

As the largest 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization, Alzheimer's Association aims to raise awareness and spread positivity to senior citizens who have Alzheimer's disease. Through fundraisers and events, the club hopes to increase the global research and educate others within the community about the effects of the disease. Members earn volunteer hours through activities like writing letters to senior citizens in homes and participating in other fundraisers.

Showing
Live!

THE RETURN OF CONCERTS



Your favorite artists are finally returning to the live stage! However, new COVID-19 safety guidelines may have changed concerts forever. Read further to learn more.

Compiled by Sean Warren, ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR, article by Jessica Chin, STAFF WRITER, and photos courtesy of Google

With loud music, bright lights and eager fans all around, concerts and music festivals are the epicenter of excitement for music connoisseurs. After being placed on hold for almost two-and-a-half years due to COVID-19, concerts are finally back and dedicated fans are thrilled to see their favorite artists return. Yet, think twice before flocking to an overpacked concert—as COVID-19 cases continue to rise, concerts may not be back after all.

As more and more artists are releasing their concert schedules, the first artists to return to the stage were met with alarming success. Headlining the St. Joseph Health Ampitheater, Pitbull’s “I Feel Good” concert was packed with 17,000 attendees, a near sell-out crowd. Luckily, the concert venue was located outdoors, but a clear lack of concern for COVID-19 was ever-so apparent at this event. As masks were not mandatory, most attendees’ attire did not feature the lifesaving garment that has been essential in controlling the pandemic,

creating a high-risk environment for all those present. Olivia Rodrigo also experienced overwhelming support at her performance at the Austin City Limits TV taping. As her first ever full concert performance, Rodrigo hosted a smaller, yet still impressive, crowd of 1,300 indoors. Although enthusiastic fans were checked for vaccination cards and recent negative COVID-19 tests at the entrance, mask enforcement efforts were nonexistent. Despite thoughtful measures to set up designated mask zones near the stage, these plans were not imposed, exposing all concert-goers to the masses of germs circulating through the air.

Following the constantly changing circumstances of the pandemic, California officials have created new guidelines for large gatherings, especially with concerts. In hopes of lowering COVID-19 related hospitalizations, indoor events with 1,000 people now have to provide verification of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test. Though the new guidelines are improvements to

maintaining the health and safety of Californians, guidance for mega-events have not been altered. It is baffling that regulations for smaller events, which impact less people, are more forcefully imposed than those for much larger, more dangerous gatherings. The risks present at these large events pose a threat that is too overwhelming for the barely mediocre recommendations that have not changed. State officials fail the public by only recommending masking for large outdoor events, something that will have drastic effects as concerts continue.

Though attempts to implement new guidelines for public gatherings may assist in curbing the pandemic, these regulations are too often dismissed at concerts and music festivals. Without the strict enforcement of safety procedures, these events should be prohibited for everybody’s health and safety. Fans also endanger themselves and their favorite artists by ignoring the guidelines, overlooking the protection they provide. Although it is understandable that people wish to

attend these events, the obvious risk that they pose to the health of communities is not worth a couple of hours of music. Festivals and concerts are places to jam out to exciting music with friends, but without the enforcement of guidelines for vaccines and masks, they are dangerous situations that could worsen the pandemic.

The return of concerts is definitely something that music connoisseurs have longed for, but the threats posed to our health and safety are not worth risking. Without the dedication of the concert goers and venues to follow the advice of California officials, the new guidelines fail to stop the continuing rise of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. But as supporters scramble to buy tickets, the complete lack of responsibility and care for public health and safety shows a clear ignorance among concert-goers. So before clicking “done” on that ticket order, remember being packed into a venue with excited fans loudly chanting the lyrics to your favorite song is exactly the worst place to be in a pandemic.

UPCOMING CONCERTS



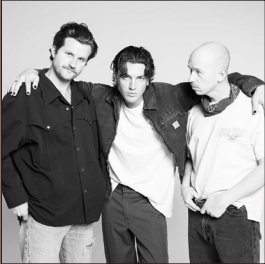
BTS

Nov. 27 & 28
SoFi Stadium



88RISING

Nov. 6 & 7
Rose Bowl



LANY

Nov. 13
The Forum



HARRY STYLES

Nov. 17-20
The Forum



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Of Songs and Stories

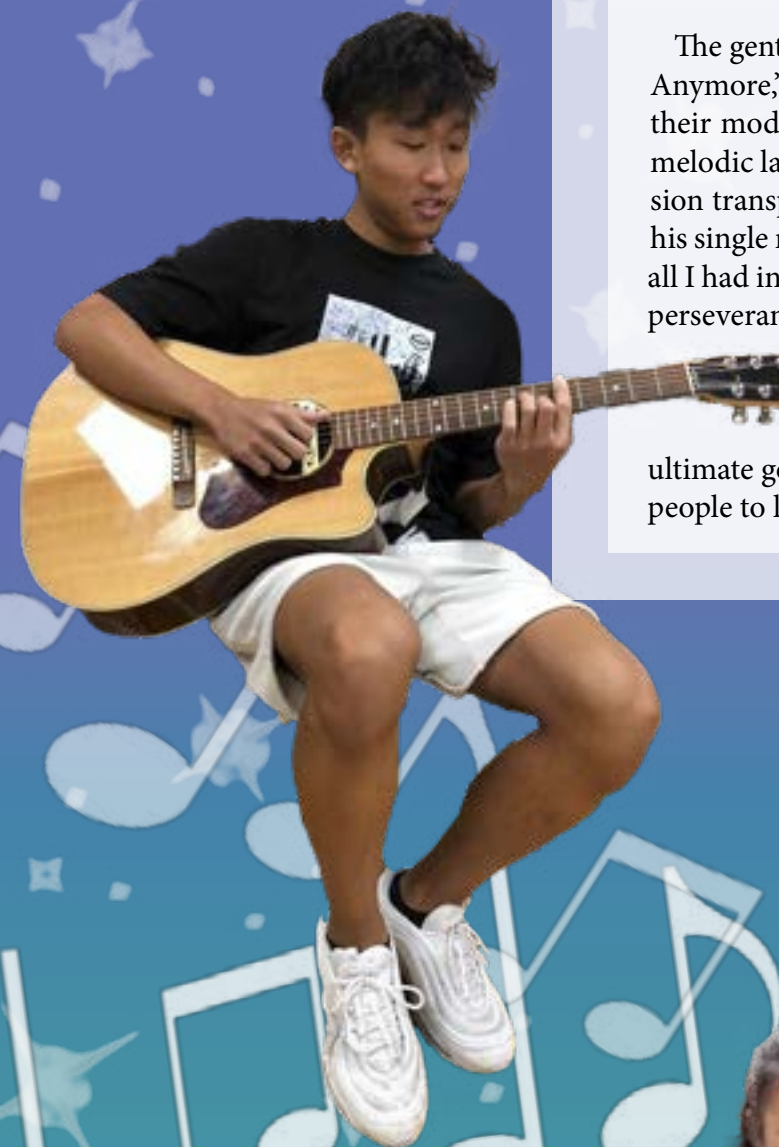
Sharing their melodic tales with the world, seniors Ivette Chen and Jabez Lee join Mr. Tom Mosig in a journey of music. Check out the unique stories of our fellow students as well as our multi-talented physics teacher!

Compiled by Coco Gong, **FEATURE EDITOR**, article by Mary Kim, **STAFF WRITER**, and photos courtesy of featured students and Tiffany Vo, **PHOTO**



With the harmonious power of music, generations gather together to make sweet memories and songs, giving life to a joyful community. A important part of this community is Mr. Mosig, a long time member of the German-American Brass Band of the Alemannia Music Foundation for more than 35 years, and a man of multitudes of talent. Mosig expresses the lasting bond of musicians, where people with diverse professions, including teachers just like him, weave bridges between themselves with simple harmonies. Bringing unity and cohesion, the band's lively notes spark the body and soul to motion, even having the effect of older folks getting up to sing and dance while reminiscing their own childhoods. Mosig explores a wide range of cultural, traditional and folk songs, resurfacing old memories while also creating new ones. They play music from not just Germany, but also tunes from Czechoslovakia, Austria and Hungary. In the name of community, Mosig's love for music melds into a powerful defining factor of identity, no matter what differences may exist.

"In some ways, it is literally a family," Mosig says. "You build friendships with people... You're working together and there's that cohesiveness."



The gentle strum of the acoustic guitar resounds as senior Jabez Lee's first single, "I Don't Care Anymore," plays on Spotify. An aspiring sound engineer and artist, Lee hopes that others find their mode of self-expression as he did, regardless of quality or genius. Through a love for this melodic language, Lee grew from viewing music as a hobby to pursuing music as a career, a decision transpiring in his sophomore year. Weaving tapestries with melodies of rhythm and guitar, his single reflects his heartfelt wish to make relatable imprints among his peers. The lyrics "gave it all I had in store" resonates with listeners, serenading them into remembering past experiences of perseverance and grit. The magic of his music washes over the mind, allowing a glimpse into his thoughts. Lee's compositions extend to an avenue of self expression and freedom with creative genius; they drive him to progress his musical career.

"I like making music because I think it's fun and it's more than fun," Lee said. "The ultimate goal, I'd say, is to just make stuff that I'm actually proud of, something for me and other people to listen to."


A powerful melody, deep and sonorous, resounds across the hall, finding its way to rest upon the hearts of its listeners. Senior Ivette Chen lifts her bow, letting the last notes of her solo echo, a breath faintly releasing into oblivion. The cello's voice transposes emotion like longing, joy and sadness just as well as a human's, something Chen expresses through dynamic sonatas and concertos. After attending a concert of her eventual teacher, the harmony of emotions emanating from the cello brought comfort to Chen through the song-like notes at the early age of nine. While competing in several international competitions like the Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians, Chen also uses her talent to play for nonprofit organizations, using music to raise money for people who can't afford to learn. Even though these performances are high caliber, Chen's message is simple. She views herself as messenger, portraying the theme and character of each piece, the way the composer originally imagined it to be. Music itself is subjective, a characteristic Chen plays upon with every bow stroke and ring of vibrato. The cello expresses grandiose melodies as well as somber harmonies, an instrument capable of multitudes of emotions.

"I'm a big advocate for making the cello sound like a second voice," Chen said. "It's not just a wooden box, it's someone who can sing."



KEEPING UP
WITH THE
OPINION
EDITORS


By Vivian Lee
OPINION EDITOR



When colleges decided to drop their SAT and ACT requirements last year, the entire college preparation and application process changed. Because several schools became test-optional, many students did not submit—or even bother to take—the once crucial standardized tests that could make or break an entire application. Of the students who wrote the Common Application last year, only 44% submitted SAT or ACT scores—a devastating drop from the usual 77%. For this very reason, SAT should not be taught as a curriculum in American high schools; it is illogical to spend so much time and energy on a standardized test that more than half of the students will not even take. Although critics may argue that the low number of submitted SAT scores could just be an outlier statistic and an unfortunate result of the pandemic, the same logic still applies. According to FairTest, 75% of all four-year colleges in the United States are test-optional for the class of 2022 and will most likely adopt this change for at least a few more years. It is unnecessary to have a mandated SAT curriculum when the SAT itself is not mandated by most colleges. If the SAT was not taught in schools before, there is even less of a reason now to do so when colleges are going test-optional. However, it is important to consider the possible benefits that may ensue from this hypothetical change. Many proponents of the in-school SAT curriculum bring up the correlation between SAT scores and average household income. If schools were to teach the SAT, this could give low-income students a better chance at performing well on standardized tests and, as a result, a better chance at getting accepted into colleges. But consequently, the SAT would then become a measurement of the school’s and its teachers’ teaching abilities. The SAT intends to reflect students’ retainment of common skills learned throughout their education, such as reading comprehension and simple algebra. If these skills are taught in schools, not only will this be a repetitive curriculum, but the test would then become a reflection of the school’s teaching rather than the students’ knowledge. SAT tests are meant to show what students get out of their education, not be the actual education.

Minority women deserve equal representation in media

By Manal Ahmed
STAFF WRITER



Minority women deserve better from our media. On Sept. 11, 22-year-old Gabby Petito was reported missing, igniting a search involving around 50 law enforcement officers. Although the media continuously focused on Petito’s life and her story, she was not the only missing person case at that time. 31-year-old Lauren Cho also was reported missing not long before Petito, but her disappearance received far less media attention and help from law enforcement. This distinction illustrates the overall contrast in attitude when race is factored in. In an epidemic of missing women in the United States, the media’s bias in ethnicity further perpetuates stereotypes of minority women. This phenomenon of media focusing far more on missing white women is nothing new; the term “Missing White Woman Syndrome” was coined nearly two decades ago by journalist Gwen Ifill. The syndrome refers to the disproportionate media coverage and sympathy given to white women, whereas women of color are often ignored and given fewer resources and aid. The lack of attention for indigenous and minority women has been well documented, yet law enforcement and the press are still reluctant to change. The media’s portrayal of minorities as financially worse off than white people adds to the lack of coverage and help they receive. The Black and Missing

Foundation reported in a 2014 study that out of the 635,155 people missing, 37% were a person of color. This persistent racism against minority women, extends to modern media, as white women are traditionally seen as victims of crime and as good people who were in the wrong place and the wrong time. Since society stereotypes Latino and African American women as coming from dangerous neighborhoods, they’re typically associated with precarious situations. The media should combat this generalization, as it’s dangerous to normalize future violence against minority women. One’s perceived economic status should not be a factor in the amount of press coverage and law enforcement effort to find victims. Media portrayal of missing persons has shifted to neglect the plight of minority women. Native Americans are statistically the most likely demographic to be abducted, but unfortunately, the Sovereign Bodies Institute reported in 2020 that around 62% of Native American missing persons cases go unreported, repeating the tragic trend of media ignorance towards minorities. Native Americans are a historically disadvantaged group in the US, and the lack of reporting is yet another form of ignorance toward their plight. But, there has been change as evidenced by recent plans by the government to create a new Missing



& Murdered Unit to address the age-old epidemic of missing Indigenous people. However, this is not enough to address the wide-scale issue that has already plagued communities for years. Women of color deserve more attention, not only from law enforcement but also from our national media and press. The current lack of attention feeds into the narrative that the lives of minority women don’t matter as much and contributes to the lack of effort put into finding them. The attempts of the government to rectify the missing cases are too little and too late, as more action needs to be taken in order to address the severity of the issues. The recent disappearances of Gabby Petito and Lauren Cho are a tragic reminder of the systemic issues that still pervade our society. All missing victims should be given an equal opportunity to be found. The systemic issue of biased reporting must go, and the only way to do so is by directly addressing the unconscious societal biases that the media continues to portray.

Large private property should contribute to the community

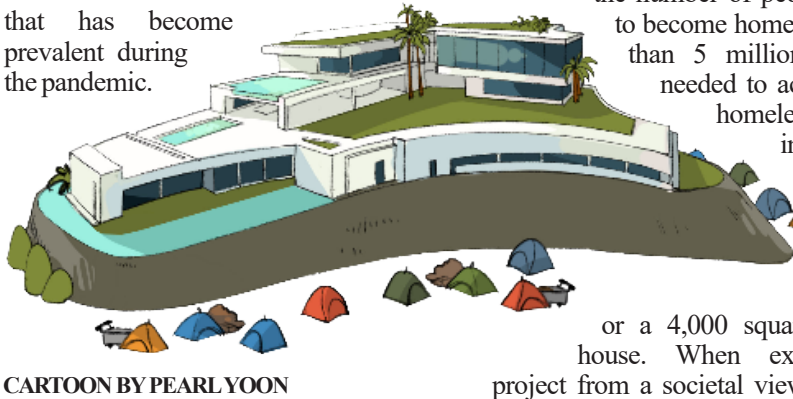
By Mai Omoto
STAFF WRITER



A \$500 million home is a wasteful addition to the already overcrowded Los Angeles. A megamansion in Bel Air known as “The One” is currently undergoing a large real estate fight. With 105,000 square feet of land, project designer Nile Niami intended to build the most luxurious property in the world, featuring seven pools, a 50 car garage, a moat and an on-premise nightclub. The original plan was to sell this extravagant home for \$500 million to a single family. However, due to a lack of interest from buyers, the house is currently unsold and owned by the bank, highlighting its unnecessary lavishness. Especially when LA is in a housing crisis, this mansion is a waste of resources and space. Since 2020, there has been a 12.7% increase in the homeless population. Society must take responsibility for the homelessness issue that has become prevalent during the pandemic.

Huge buildings like “The One” could offer greater utility as a community building than a single house and would combat this homelessness emergency in California. The construction of this megamansion has depleted resources needed to properly fight this housing emergency. Due to the lack of building materials in the United States, the prices of lumber, paint and other materials have skyrocketed and have become more difficult to purchase in bulk. Although this shortage was not solely caused by the construction of “The One,” it wasted many resources on just one building when it could have been allocated to several others. These resources should not be used to benefit such a mere single family; instead, this project should be used to benefit the homeless and low income populations. Since “The One” is not currently being used, it would be more beneficial if the space could be donated to help a larger group of people. It is completely unethical that project designers like Niami are easily able to reserve over 100,000 square feet for one home. The US needs to build over 5.2 million homes in order to account for the imbalance in the supply of homes and the number of people that want to become homeowners. More than 5 million homes are needed to account for the homeless population in LA. Practically no one needs a 50 car garage or a 4,000 square foot guest house. When examining the project from a societal view, this private

megamansion is completely useless. It benefits the maximum number of people by using “The One” as a community space, as seen from a utilitarian standpoint. This house is evidence of apathy towards the homelessness issue in LA; however, the fact that no one in America is willing to spend \$500 million on a house only reveals that extravagance has a limit. Using this space for charitable events would allow this project to be used for a good cause. Charities and non-profit organizations such as Downtown Women’s Center could make use of this space for fundraising events or other ways to better their organizations. The Downtown Women’s Center works to end homelessness in Los Angeles by providing health care, housing and other valuable resources to the unhoused population. “The One” could be used as a space for the DWC to gather large groups of disenfranchised folks to provide medical services or to construct more permanent housing units. With 100,000 square feet, DWC and other non-profits could help thousands of people. By addressing the housing crisis in this area, society could greatly improve the lives of many. These organizations could determine the best way to utilize this space to help those in need. LA, and specifically Bel Air, flaunts a culture of lavish houses and excessive wealth. Many celebrities have spent up to \$15 million on houses in LA, but a \$500 million dollar house is beyond exorbitant. With the stark contrast between the economic classes, it is our responsibility as a society to be aware of the skewed distribution of wealth. We must do our part to alleviate this crisis and turn liabilities such as “The One” into opportunities to do good for the community.



CARTOON BY PEARL YOON

Legalization of cannabis would benefit our diverse economy

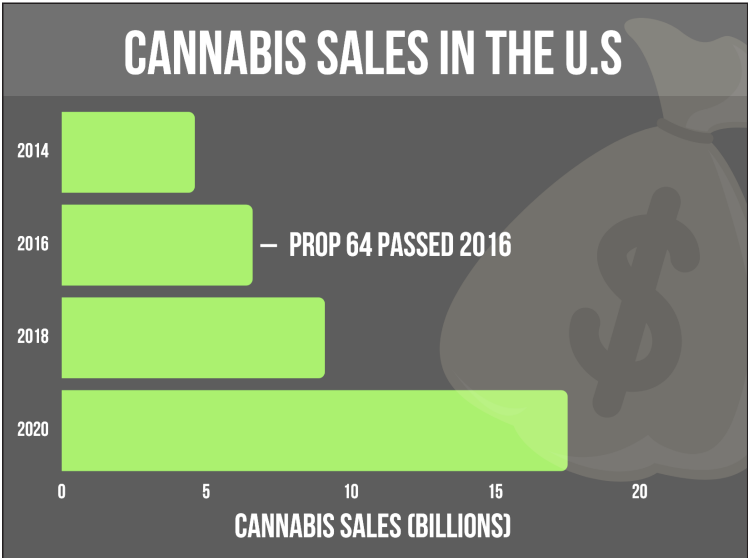
By Audrey Na
STAFF WRITER



The movement to legalize marijuana is at an all time high with the American public. On Sept. 27, the Los Angeles District Attorney’s office dismissed 60,000 marijuana convictions to undo harm caused by previous drug enforcement policies. Prior to Proposition 64, which was approved in 2016 and a recreational use of marijuana for adults over 21 in California, individuals were arrested for possession of marijuana. In spite of concerns regarding marijuana on the market, nationally legalizing cannabis would not only boost our economy, but also benefit overcriminalized neighborhoods in America. The U.S. government should consider legalization because a majority of Americans support legalization. According to a 2020 Gallup poll, about 68% of American adults support the legalization of marijuana. Though a majority of Americans are in approval, only 18 states have legalized recreational marijuana, including Arizona, Colorado and California. More concerning, the conviction of marijuana possession is discriminatory against minorities and impoverished communities. The American Civil Liberties Union states that although usage of marijuana is equal among both Black and white people, Black people are 3.73 times more likely to be arrested for possession of marijuana. Due to the disproportionate impact on people of color and the fact that marijuana is a relatively minor crime, marijuana should be legalized. Additionally, those who are released face issues when trying to find a job, rent a house, or even attend school. Citizens should be able to reintegrate back into society, without their past charges haunting them for the rest of their lives. The war on marijuana possession has negatively impacted minority groups, and the only way to address these issues is to legalize marijuana and dismiss the

charges of those who were convicted. Furthermore, the economic impact of drug enforcement hurts Americans. States should not be spending billions of dollars to clamp down on something as minor as marijuana possession. Legalizing cannabis would save an extraordinary amount of funds, resources and time. According to the Center for American Progress, legalization would save the nation \$7.7 billion dollars annually— an amount that could send over 650,000 students to university each year. That money could also be spent on rehabilitation programs, shelter for the homeless, and cities’ social welfare programs. State and federal governments should be spending money to help their citizens, not imprisoning them for possession of a drug that most Americans want to be legalized. Moreover, the development of marijuana dispensaries across the nation is beneficial because of the potential economic benefits. According to Flowhub, the U.S. marijuana industry, which saw a 67% increase in sales during 2020, is now worth \$61 billion. The expansion of the marijuana market should be viewed positively, especially when considering the 22.1 million Americans who lost their jobs during the early pandemic. Legalizing marijuana and expanding the market could provide job stability for struggling Americans and boost our economy as a result. Although concerns have been raised over the potential repercussions of legalizing marijuana, no major consequences have yet occurred in states that have done so. A survey of Colorado high schoolers

showed that teenage marijuana usage had declined following legalization. This proves that, contrary to popular belief, legalizing cannabis would not negatively impact teens but rather discourage them from using it. This trend can be seen in other nations as well, such as in the Netherlands, where the legalization of cannabis has resulted in a decrease in both lifetime and recreational marijuana use. Critics of legalization also claim that marijuana would lead to an increase in reckless driving. However, a study published in the American Journal of Public Health, which studied car crashes from 2009 to 2015, reported no increase in fatal car accidents after the legalization of marijuana. Evidently, legalization would not necessarily lead to immediate harm and disastrous consequences for local communities. Though decriminalizing cannabis may not seem favorable in the long run, the positive benefits largely outweigh the potential downfalls of it. Legalizing marijuana may seem counterproductive, but it would strengthen the American economy. Likewise, the legalization would also finally address the racial discrimination found in marijuana sentences. It is time for America to strengthen its economy and diversify its markets with marijuana.



GRAPHIC BY DAVID LEE

KEEPING UP WITH THE OPINION EDITORS

By Andrew Sung
OPINION EDITOR



TW: Trigger warnings don’t help as much as they seem. As society continues to parse through what is and is not politically acceptable, we must re-evaluate the practicality of trigger warnings in social media. Trigger warnings have emerged as a mechanism for people with traumas to avoid disturbing content. While trigger warnings are put in place with good intention, they are not the most effective when it comes to addressing disturbing content. Trigger warnings are counterproductive to the goal they are meant to achieve. A 2020 Harvard study by Dr. Payton J. Jones, showed that trigger warnings were not only ineffective in alleviating negative responses to upsetting material, but in some cases they even reinforced the idea that trauma is an essential aspect of one’s identity. By emphasizing the magnitude of the fear, trigger warnings can actually generate anxiety in the people they are meant to protect. Especially in the context of Internet culture, the public is in no position to counterproductively therapize others. By suppressing negative thought through avoidance, trigger warnings provide an unrealistic perspective on the real world. Trigger warnings can only go so far to protect innocence, which may deprive people of understanding important coping mechanisms when it comes to facing unpleasant experiences. Those who have difficulty facing a certain topic should not necessarily turn away from it altogether—they should seek better cognitive therapies to overcome their triggers. Thus, Internet users should not encourage people to evade their fears—instead, they should productively work to share and streamline access to mental health resources for those who need it. The idea of safe spaces is a great way to promote inclusivity, but trigger warnings aren’t the way to go.

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Students should not stress over rankings when it comes to choosing a college

By Brian Woo
STAFFWRITER



As seniors begin cranking out their college applications, they must consider which college they would want to attend. While some prospective college students may consider factors such as cost, location, programs offered, graduation rates, it seems one has an unpleasant influence on students. Seniors often look to college rankings as the ultimate factor in choosing which college to attend. A school’s ranking should not be a deciding factor in one’s college of choice as it does not give an accurate representation of all aspects of a school and must be fixed to consider more factors.

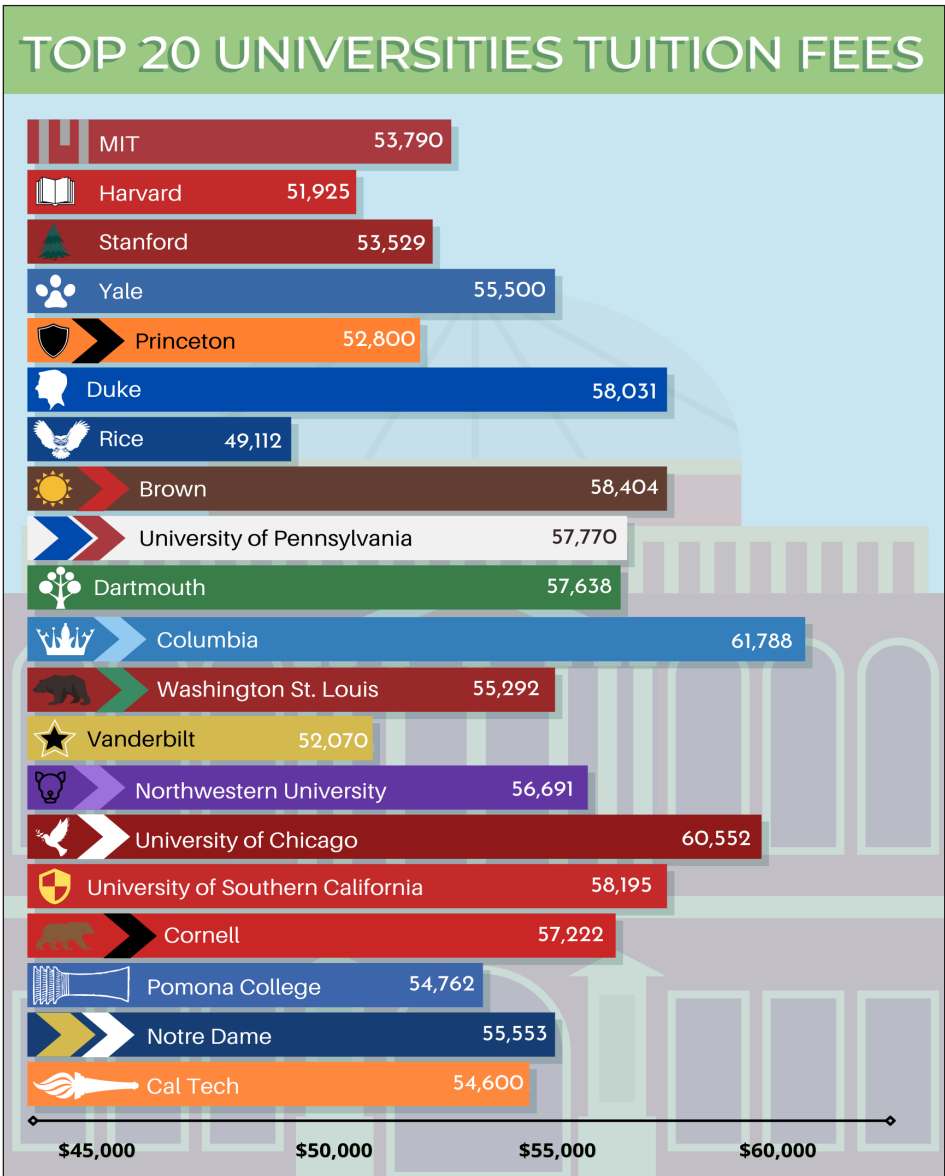
College rankings are based on limited criteria and may not be an accurate representation of a school. According to the U.S. News 2022 criteria, a major part of the total score of U.S. ranking is based on reputation. Gathering a group of deans, principals, and provosts of admission, they rate each college on a scale from one to five. Sources have shown a flaw in how schools are rated. Scoring schools on such calculations is limiting as it evaluates colleges on a small scale, and leaves the scoring to a select group of people. In response, students should take the current rankings with a grain of salt when it comes to choosing the college of their choice.

Compared to the ranking, finding a

school that matches one’s budget and one’s educational needs is much more crucial than going to a higher-rated school. As shown by Forbes, college costs have increased almost 1000% percent since 1980 from \$2,500 to the current average of \$26,820 for public schools. Looking at the present day, students often find themselves in debt with the national average being around \$30,000. For students, taking in the costs versus benefits of a certain college is crucial to one’s overall success in the future.

Students need to account for other aspects of collegiate life. Weather, school life and location of the school can also play a massive role in choosing a college. College campuses can be ranked based on their environment allowing students a wider perspective about such colleges. While one may enjoy the school they attend, the location of it can change the outcome of the experience. Similarly, the size of the college and classes may be an important factor for some students. Currently, college rankings do not take account for such factors, and should do so to provide a more comprehensive outlook for students. However college rankings lists such as niche show resolution to accounting student life, by ranking the quality of life. More school rankings need to take into account quality of life.

School rankings should not matter when it comes to choosing a college or university to attend. Rankings could be inaccurate and do not



GRAPHIC BY DANIELA KIRSTEN HERRERA

provide an fair representation of all a school has to offer, nor does it provide the costs and benefits of the school. Therefore, college rankings should not be a major determining factor in the college of anyone’s choice and should be reworked to account for the numerous aspects of college.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE

Hello, Autumn! by Kaila Perlas

sweater weather

fall flavored treats

SAT/PSATS

thanksgiving break (soon)

Warrior Football team commands the field in their debut league game

The football team rose victorious with their new offensive formation in the first league game.

By Jacob Ballon
STAFF WRITER

The Warrior football team (5-1) dominated their first league game against the Buena Park Coyotes (0-6) Oct. 1. They produced turnovers in offense, defense, and special teams, emerging victorious with a final score of 50-7. The Warrior defense kept the opposing team at bay as junior linebacker Daniel Everest split two Coyote receivers for an interception before they could capitalize on a quick screen pass. On the Warriors' second offensive drive, the offensive line accelerated down the line of scrimmage and formed a formidable flank, allowing junior running back Kieran Klingsberg to score the first touchdown of the game. All night, the Warrior trenches attacked the Coyotes front seven relentlessly. The physical line drove the Coyotes yards off the

ball, opening holes and allowing the backfield to run for many explosive touchdowns. Junior quarterback Ryan Maturo capitalized on the trenches' success as he dashed towards the goal line. Seizing this rare opportunity to run the ball, Maturo spun into the endzone, sending a tackler flying past him for another Warrior touchdown. In a display of the team's defensive prowess, Everest sacked the quarterback, causing a cracking sound that rang throughout the stadium. The Warrior sideline went wild. The defense stopped the Coyotes again, maintaining the Warrior 43-0 lead. Once the opposing defense shifted to stop the Warrior run game, the offense incorporated a rarely seen facet of their play through the passing game. Junior Aydan Corrales sprinted down the field, putting the defenders on ice as he jab-stepped left, but ran right. Maturo saw Corrales open, and slung the ball far into the sky, placing just the right amount of spin behind it so that it fell right into the hands of Corrales for a touchdown. The Warriors extinguished

any flicker of hope for the Coyotes, leading 29-0 at the half. Dependent upon a strong offensive line, and shifty backfield, the football team's new Wing-T offensive formation is hard for defenses to stop. When executed, the Wing-T demoralizes teams through physical blocks and tricky motions. "We built our identity around the Wing-T because it plays into all of our strengths," co-captain Joshue Blume said. "Our offensive line is fast and strong, and our backfield is smart enough to run a large selection of plays which is extremely confusing to opposing defenses." Both defensively and offensively, the team is demonstrating unparalleled grit and toughness, forging an identity as true Warriors. "Every member of the team has completely bought in," co-captain Zackary Darker said. "There are guys that are hurt who just get in an ice bath, tape themselves up, and play through pain, backing down from no pain or adversity." As wins keep rolling, the Warriors' future looks bright. For the first time in years,



COURTESY OF CHESTER LIANG

FAST TACKLE: Co-captain Cade Bailor tackles the Coyote quarterback, maintaining the impenetrable Warrior defense.

a CIF and Freeway League championship look attainable. "There's no doubt in my mind that we're CIF contenders this year," co-captain Isaac Torossian said. "We know what it takes to win, and are willing to sacrifice so much for a CIF ring."

RIGHT ON TARGET

Bulls-eye! Read all about Mr. Hot Shot Leo Hong and his passion for archery, inspired by his coach's journey of growth competing in the Olympics.

Compiled by Jacqueline Liu, SPORTS EDITOR, article by William Song, STAFF WRITER

Senior Leo Hong notches an arrow onto his bow and takes a deep breath before drawing it to his cheek. Eyes locked in on the target, he lets the arrow fly. It's a bullseye. Hong was first introduced to archery in the seventh grade when he took a thirty-minute lesson out of curiosity. From that moment on, he was hooked. He took an extra hour-long lesson the very same day and began taking lessons on a regular basis. As his interest in the sport grew, he bought his first bow and began entering competitions. Now in his sixth year competing in archery, Hong is an accomplished athlete with several distinctions and awards. Hong ranked third in state in middle school, and tenth nationwide in his division last year, a result of his continued excellence with the bow. He fondly remembers his third place finish at the national Gator Cup tournament in Florida, where he proved that he could compete against other elite talent. "It was rewarding because I proved to myself that after five, six years of shooting, I have a certain level of competence," Hong said.



COURTESY OF LEO HONG

Hong's experience with the sport has taught him the importance of mental and physical endurance. Endurance is essential for competitions as archers must focus intensely for prolonged periods of time, not just in short bursts. "The biggest challenge is not your physique, but more about maintaining long term shooting," Hong said. "It is not about going 100 percent. Instead it is more like can you maintain 80 percent for three hours on end." Practice is essential in polishing shooting mechanics. Hong devotes several hours

each week to practicing at shooting ranges, where he spends the majority of his time making his shots as accurate as possible. Hong attributes a lot of his success to his coach, Hyang Soon Seo, whom he met during his lessons at the shooting range. Seo is known for becoming the first female Olympic gold medalist in South Korean history. Her stories about preparing for the Olympics and becoming one of the best archers in the world have inspired Hong to strive for greater heights. "My biggest role model in archery is my coach, Hyang Soon Seo," Hong said. "She started archery in elementary school where her coach told her she was so bad she should quit. She ignored that and kept practicing, becoming an Olympic medalist." Although archery has taught Hong many lessons, he believes his most important takeaway is having grit in the face of adversity. "A single bad arrow can really hurt your position, but it is not over until it is actually, completely over. There is always a chance of recovery," Hong said. "The biggest lesson is that even if you keep failing, you can always bounce back."

SQUID GAME

Ready...Set...Play! Take your chances with this article and you might find your wealth in knowledge. Read more to find out about the roots of Squid Game.

Compiled by Isabelle Liang ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, Article by Kira Chen, STAFF WRITER, cartoons by Kirston Dingston, CARTOON

Outshining American games with its fantastical jumpsuits and nail-biting rules, “Squid Game” presents the latest trends from Korean American’s earliest childhood activities. In a show where action-packed scenes leave fans grasping at their covers at night, the cultural significance lying behind the show’s childish yet twisted competitions is paving the way for media surrounding Asian culture.

Colored by sentiments of popular childhood pastimes, the opening round Red Light Green Light evokes a sense of familiarity from many viewers. The universal rules are simple: contestants must reach the finish line without being spotted. Players can only make their moves upon hearing the words, “mugunghwa kkoci pieot seumnida (the hibiscus flower has bloomed),” a symbol for South Korea’s national flower. While immersing viewers in Korea’s diverse culture, the game transports them back to their school days

and reconnects them to a care-free era.

The colorful ambience of street markets seem to be a part of every Asian child’s recollections, with mazes of booths packed with native street foods. Dalgona can be found in virtually every nook and cranny of Korean markets, perfuming the air with delectable aromas of caramelizing sugar. Heated until fluffy, the sugar and baking soda mixture is then poured onto a sheet and pressed flat into a circle, shaped into the desired impression. As a way to attract children and make the sweet experience more fun, street vendors frequently offer small prizes to those who successfully etch out the impressed shapes in the honeycomb toffees. This sweet treat is more than just a piece of candy—it is a piece of culture that will forever resonate with the hearts of Koreans.

Named after its squid-like diagram drawn on the ground, the show’s final round Squid Game strikes a sentimental chord with many Koreans. While global viewers may identify the challenge as a simple round of hopscotch or tag, the game unravels a connection of a popular Korean pastime. The original game of “Squid,” which “Squid Game” adapts from, separates players into two teams, with

attackers trying to dominate a home base and defenders trying to stop them from invading the lines. With it being the most physically active and exhilarating, the game allows children from all neighborhoods to come together and establish a communal relationship. As crossing boundaries is the name of the game, students can cross into their own territories by bringing a piece of Korean culture into their own schools.

Tapping into inner childhood memories, the games do not fail in providing the raw sentiment that many films in the industry lack. By broadening the horizons of one’s cultural realms, each level in “Squid Game” delves into an aspect of culture Hollywood rarely touches. Though the number of K-pop acts and dramas have skyrocketed the past few years, only a handful have been able to capture audiences with their cultural takes. With its overnight success, “Squid Game” serves as the ultimate stepping stone to the many possibilities of world cinema.

