

ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831

Theater presents Little Shop of Horrors

After 15 years, the musical “Little Shop of Horrors” will return to the Warrior stage.

By Kyle Patel
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Lights, camera, horror!

Deviating from the boundaries of dialogue plays, the Warrior Theater Department will perform “Little Shop of Horrors” in the Thomas Moore Auditorium April 29, 30 and May 1, 6, 7 and 8.

Set in 1950’s New York City, the plot follows protagonists Seymour and Audrey who work at Mushnik’s Flower Shop. When Seymour buys a carnivorous plant, the previously inoperative shop receives an influx of customers. However, as the plant begins to talk, it takes Seymour’s attention away from the success of the shop to the cultivation of the plant. Ultimately, the play explores his inner struggle to balance his profession with the plant’s necessities. “Little Shop of Horrors” will be the first Warrior musical production in nearly 10 years.

The musical element establishes an environment new to both audiences and cast members and highlights a shift in the genres of Warrior productions, senior Matthew Sherman said.

“It’s nice that Troy can have a new experience with a musical instead of a play,” Sherman said. “The music adds a really interesting dynamic to the drama production [because] we’re used to seeing strictly dialogue plays.”

However, the play poses a challenge for actors who are unaccustomed to musical theater by requiring them to simultaneously sing and dance, senior Quinn Turner said.

“It’s a lot harder to sing and act on stage at the same time [because] we’re actually moving around and dancing,” Turner said. “There are more dialogues, lyrics, blocking and movements for us to memorize. At the same time, I love to sing, so it’ll be fun to be able to do something on stage that I really enjoy.”

The continuous shift between singing and acting also forces students to quickly but smoothly transition between the two aspects of the musical, teacher Joe Hufferd said.

“What impresses me is that so many students can act and sing,” Hufferd said. “[The challenge is] trying to get students to feel like their acting scenes are rhythmic [because] their acting should never end when they start singing. I want to blend the two together so nothing seems forced.”



LAUREN KIM

SASS AND SCARE: Cast for the musical “Little Shop of Horrors” rehearse their parts during an after school practice.

While the production motivates students to overcome these difficulties, it also inspires them to better understand the roles of their characters by exploring new personalities, senior Allen Ortega said.

“Everyone [has been] delving into their characters and are becoming the people that they’re

portraying in the story,” Ortega said. “Throughout [rehearsals], we’ve seen [cast members] step up and take more roles and become better actors.”

Although many Theatre III members were cast in the musical, Warriors were encouraged to audition to spark their interest in drama, Ortega said.

“[Matthew Sherman] and I haven’t done theater before, and we’re both playing the lead role,” Ortega said. “We hope to show people that the opportunity is open to everyone. If anyone wants to be a part of something that they haven’t done before, they can do that. That’s one quality that makes Troy so unique.”



IDA KAZERANI

CHOC-BOARD: CHOC club board members cheer on participants by waving signs and pompons on the sidelines at the Walk for Kids hosted by the Ronald McDonald House.

CHOC members participate at Ronald McDonald Walk for Kids

Members engaged in unique volunteering opportunities by encouraging runners at the Ronald McDonald Walk for Kids.

By Lisa Mattson
STAFF WRITER

Connecting to the network of patients and volunteers, Warrior Children’s Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) club members volunteered at the Walk for Kids at the Honda Center April 12.

Club volunteers, who were stationed along the five kilometer race route, cheered on runners and raised awareness for the various problems faced by CHOC patients. The event,

hosted by the Ronald McDonald House, used the proceeds to help arrange affordable housing for families with hospitalized children; many of these patients and their families travel long distances to receive treatment at CHOC.

At the walk, students learned how contributions to the Ronald McDonald House help CHOC patients and their families, which broadened their knowledge of how the house operates, Co-President Brianna Stempniak said.

“The services [Ronald McDonald House] offers are important for a lot of people,” Stempniak said. “Because CHOC is so famous, people come from

all over the country [to receive treatment], and they cannot necessarily afford to stay in a hotel for months on end. The Ronald McDonald House is really effective in helping people manage medical and living costs.”

Volunteering on the sidelines rather than running gave club members a more fulfilling experience because they witnessed how their cheers positively affected the runners, Co-Vice President Jeanie Kim said.

“Our members held up posters and cheered on the walkers, trying to make the atmosphere more lively and fun,” Kim said. “I feel like [this method of vol-

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THIS
ISSUE

FEATURE

Learn all about the Warrior Yu-Gi-Oh! community and the players that meet everyday to battle.



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LIFESTYLE



Apple or Samsung? Read our reviews on both the Galaxy S6 and the iPhone 6 to help you decide which phone should be your next investment.

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SPORTS

The Warrior boy’s golf team (4-1, 10-4) secured in a close game to the Sunny Hills Lancers 201-192 April 14.



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Continued from page 1

unteering] worked better for us. If we were walking, we would still have been raising money but wouldn't have been serving them as directly as cheering them on."

Although the club members volunteered in a simple way, they realized their support motivated runners, Co-Vice President Yuna Seong said.

"Even though runners are raising money and participating in a walk, they might not feel like they're doing anything because they're just walking," Seong said. "When they hear our encouragement, they know that they're making a difference by being there."

The direct interaction with children allowed volunteers to fulfill the CHOC mission, Kim said.

"Our mission is to serve the children," Kim said. "While we mainly focus on the children at CHOC, [we aim] to bring smiles and joy to all children by giving them small gifts or playing with them [while still] raising money."

Through the experience, club members better understood the conditions of CHOC patients, thus inclining them to become more active in future club events, Kim said.

"I hope that our members will get more active in the club after volunteering," Kim said. "Bonding with the other members is important, but [I hope] they also gain a sense of wanting to serve even more just by knowing that there are children that are really ill and that we should do anything in our power to support them."

Junior Victor Chen achieves a perfect score on AP Computer Science A exam

With the onset of 2015 AP exams, Victor Chen strives to continue setting unprecedented records in recent Warrior history.

By Sarah Kremer
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR



DAVIS PARK

VICTOR TAKES ALL: Teacher Mike Reid assists his former AP Computer Science A student with coding techniques and computer science strategies.

Capitalizing on the benefits of the Warrior computer science program, junior Victor Chen received a perfect score on the 2014 Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science A exam.

Chen not only earned a five on the May 2014 test, which he took

as a sophomore, but he also did not miss a single question across the entire assessment. According to Total Registration, only nine students worldwide who took the exam received a perfect score. To prepare for the evaluation, Chen took advantage of the in-class reviews hosted by the Warrior AP Computer Science A teachers Don Allen and Mike Reid.

In addition to attending the review sessions, Chen succeeded on the test also because of his diligent work ethic, teacher Mike Reid said.

"Victor is not really outspoken," Reid said. "He is willing to help other people, but he is not flashy. He is intelligent and does a great job."

Chen attributes his success to not only his studious work ethic but also his attempts to solve problems alone without assistance, he said.

"Throughout the school year, [students] should try to do the labs instead of just immediately [thinking they] do not know how to approach the problem and then asking other people for help," Chen said. "Approaching problems that you do not know how to solve is a really useful tool."

Despite struggling with the test due to the time constraint and ample opportunities for mistakes, Chen still overcame the obstacles, he said.

"[The test] was really long," Chen said. "It was [also] tedious

because all the problems took way too much time. You also had to be really careful or else you would [make a mistake on] one number and your answer would be wrong. I was really surprised [with my score] because I was sure I had made a mistake somewhere."

The AP Computer Science A teachers held a demanding and beneficial review process which readied the students for the test, Chen said.

"Mr. Reid and Mr. Allen do excellent jobs of preparing their students," Chen said. "[Their] rigorous study schedule starts entirely two months before the test, and they do a lot of problems from the tests. [The study plan] shows you what the AP test is like."

Introducing him to the possibility of a career in technology, the AP Computer Science A course encouraged Chen to pursue a job in computer programming, he said.

"I do not see AP scores helping me as much as the experience I had in the class," Chen said. "I did not know much computer science going into the class, but after [completing the course], I realized it is something I really want to do in the future. Java is still a popular language for the marketplace right now. That definitely tells me that there is a future for me in this field and that I should definitely continue to work in it."

Warriors attend AP Chemistry field trip at UCI

An extension of the AP Chemistry curriculum allowed students to shadow professional chemists.

By Tiffany Hall
STAFF WRITER

Observing work done in a scientific profession, Warriors in Advanced Placement Chemistry took a tour of experimental labs at University of California, Irvine (UCI) April 22.

After meeting with professors at a development program at UCI during the summer, teacher Shannon Regli arranged the field trip to connect Warriors with UCI faculty and students. The tour focused on Air UCI department laboratories, which are dedicated to atmospheric chemistry and include labs with ice core and molecular interface research. Professors and graduate students also presented their findings to introduce Warriors to professional research.

While touring the labs, Warriors were able to see technology that they learned about in class, junior Klarisse Andre de St. Amant said.

"We never get to see a lot of the high tech equipment that we learn about," Andre de St. Amant

said. "We learn about [the devices] in theory, such as a nuclear reactor, [but] we obviously don't have one in class that we can see. Going to this lab let us witness the applications [that] we have been learning."

The field trip gave AP Chemistry students a view into the every day uses of chemistry and its career options, Andre de St. Amant said.

"What we learn in school is

[chemistry]," Chen said. "I was expecting to hear cool stories. [Graduate students] got to go to Alaska and lived [there] for three months. That takes dedication. I thought listening to their stories, seeing their equipment and being in a college lab environment was really cool."

Students learned that a diligent work ethic is needed in order to pursue chemistry as a profession, Andre de St. Amant said.

"In school, it is all about getting grades," Andre de St. Amant said. "[In life], you have to reach to discover something new in chemistry and work towards that. Seeing how people work gave me insight into what it [is like] to be a chemist."

By visiting UCI, students expanded their outlook on the work of a research scientist, teacher Shannon Regli said.

"I think experiencing a chemistry lab will give [students] a big picture," Regli said. "Also, [the field trip] shows what you [would] do as a research scientist, which I think is hard for students in high school to understand. We just do labs in only an hour, but [at UCI] they can see how research is conducted on a larger scale."

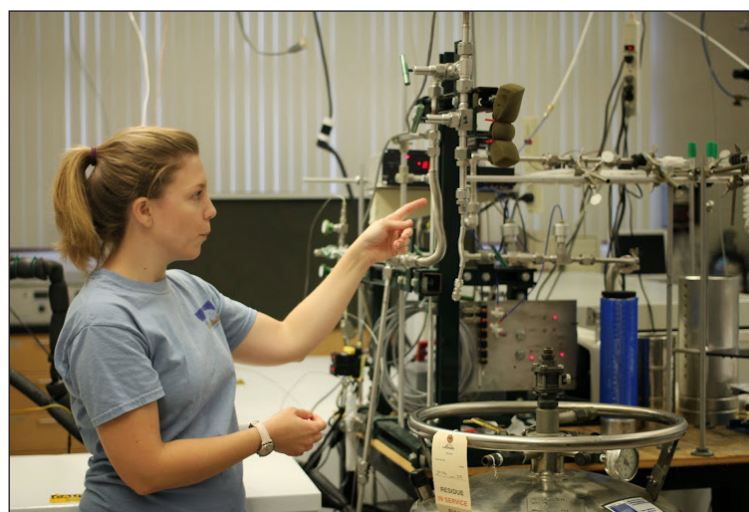
"In school, it is all about getting the grade. [In life], you have to set your own goals, reach to discover something new in chemistry and work towards that."

Klarisse Andre de St. Amant
junior

often disconnected from careers that we're eventually going to have," Andre de St. Amant said. "[On the field trip,] we saw where our schooling is going to take us."

In addition, Warriors anticipated interacting with college students to receive first-hand accounts of their professional experiences, junior Yu-Jane Chen said.

"I was excited to meet people who would totally geek out about



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHANNON REGLI

ON CLOUD NINE: AP Chemistry students explored the ice core and molecular interface research laboratories at UCI.

Celebrating
50th

BACK TO THE PAST

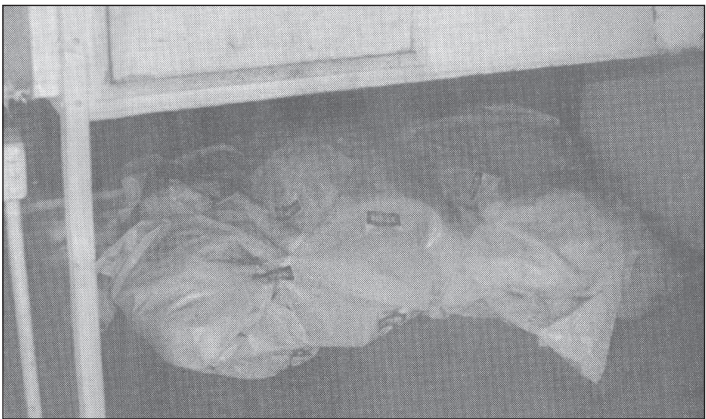
Travel down memory lane with Oracle as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. This issue features five snippets from past papers published from 2006 to 2010.

Compiled by Adrika Chakrabarty, Leanne Ho and Sarah Lee, **FEATURE EDITOR & ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR & NEWS EDITOR** and cartoons by Ariel Liu and Hanbi Ko, **EDITOR IN CHIEF & CARTOON EDITOR**

The Warrior campus joins schools in surrounding districts in implementing the ABI system.

To align the campus with district plans to conserve time and resources, the Warrior administration launched the Aeries Browser Interface (ABI) system that allows students, parents and faculty to access student information online.

From 2008



From 2007: “Packages labelled as containing asbestos were discovered under the ventilation pipes leading to the girls’ locker room.”



From 2006

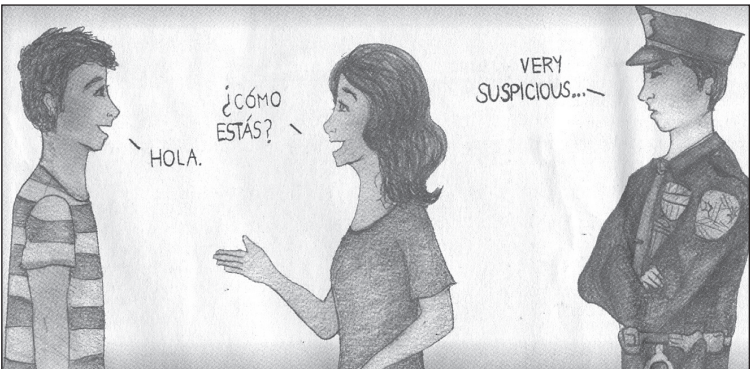
Symptoms of the H1N1 virus

A combination of the following symptoms may point toward the H1N1 virus, which has accounted for 593 deaths and 9,079 hospitalized cases so far in the United States.

Compiled by Kathryn Chang, **SPORTS EDITOR**

- Extreme fatigue
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Loss of appetite
- Coughing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills

From 2009



From 2010: “Arizona law enables racial profiling”

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Indiana Religious Freedom Law encroaches on LGBTQ rights

By Jamie Xie
STAFF WRITER

All hell broke loose in a debate about religion.

At the end of March, Indiana Governor Mike Pence signed into law the state’s own Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), which states that “a governmental entity may not substantially burden a person’s exercise of religion, even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability.” Essentially, RFRA protects the right to free exercise of religion. The LGBTQ community and its supporters cried injustice almost immediately, claiming that the broad language of the law ultimately legalizes discrimination against gays and lesbians. In response, legislators have included a revision that explicitly prohibits businesses from refusing to provide serv-

es on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. However, this revision does not offer the protection that it seems to. The public outrage stemming from RFRA should teach legislators to heed caution in the future when making such large statements about religious freedom. But more importantly, it should remind them that protecting the rights of one group cannot entail sacrificing the liberties of others.

Indiana’s RFRA marks a startling turning point in religious freedom laws, one that could possibly result in a threat to LGBTQ rights. Previously, as established in 1993 by the federal RFRA, religious individuals were protected only from the government. Now, a person’s right to religious freedom would apply regardless of governmental affiliation. Additionally, Indiana’s RFRA defines a “person” as not just an individual or a religious minority, but also as a company. This expansion is likely a result of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.* in

2014, which extended the free exercise of religion to secular, for-profit corporations.

Even more shocking, because of the lack of a statewide law prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, the revision to Indiana’s RFRA applies only in communities in which anti-discrimination protections for gays and lesbians already exist. This means that LGBTQ individuals can still be refused service. Thus, not only is RFRA now a defense for more parties against discrimination claims, but also a



HANBI KO

way to give the LGBTQ community a false sense of security.

All of this controversy draws much-needed attention to the thin line between respecting the LGBTQ community and

Continued on page 5

STAFF EDITORIAL

Peer comparison causes stress

This month, many Warriors have begun preparing for upcoming Advanced Placement (AP) tests and finals. As academically rigorous as the campus culture is in April during AP season, the year-round environment is just as intense, often pitting students against each other in the race for top grades. Though striving to be the best is admirable, self-comparison to others is detrimental in the long run. Instead of comforting us, such comparisons can create more unnecessary stress.

Undoubtedly, focus and ambition are qualities often found on the Warrior campus. But competitiveness can also act as a negative driving force when it compels students to rank their own academic performances through peer comparison. Whether through the casual exchange of test scores or class grades, validation of our own academic accomplishments through others’ can only motivate Warriors for a short period of time. Mostly, though, comparing ourselves to peers just adds stress because we end up zeroing in on their accomplishments and end up exaggerating our own shortcomings.

Additionally, whether Warriors like it or not, someone is bound to be academically better than us on a campus as full of gifted individuals as ours. Transitioning from being the top student in middle school to just another small fish

in a large pond can be a rude awakening. As a result of higher academic expectations, Warriors usually work harder in order to keep up with the tough competition. Naturally, we want to fit in and be just as well-rounded as, if not more than, others around us. But with inflated standards come increased workloads and, worst of all, higher stress levels. Stress can act as a threat to students’ health, yet many flaunt

it as a way to place themselves above others who seem less pressured, as if more mental strain equates to higher intelligence. Stress does not improve anything, much less intellect. Therefore, Warriors should set their own standards. Following someone else’s guidelines to fulfill one’s own path would be folly.

Moreover, not fulfilling a parent’s, teacher’s or one’s own expectations does

not signify failure. This is essential for Warriors to keep in mind, especially considering that we hold ourselves accountable to such high, sometimes impossible, standards. Aiming to reach certain goals is healthy only to a certain extent. Though exciting when accomplished, they should not be used to define one’s level of success. Otherwise, rather than motivating students, expectations just create more unnecessary pressure and frustration.

Therefore, Warriors should change their mentality by keeping goals realistic and emphasizing more pressing matters over inconsequential issues. Failing one test is not the end of a student’s academic career. The competitive atmosphere on campus often clouds over the larger importance of education. Rather, focus on the future and the bigger picture; a single misstep can be a stepping stone to future victories.

The need for Warriors to pace themselves and keep up with others in the race for the finish line is more than understandable. But when this compelling desire to achieve turns into an impossible contest between oneself and everyone else, stress may be overwhelming and more serious consequences may follow. Instead of modeling themselves after others, Warriors must fight their own battles and learn for themselves.



HANMIN KO

Once Upon A Troy: Monkeying Around in the Hallways by Hanbi and Hanmin Ko



OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

Should GMOs be viewed as healthy or harmful?

PRO

By Christina Meyer
STAFF WRITER

From manufactured golden rice to pink pineapples, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) have been making the news for decades. Many are already stocked on store shelves but companies, such as Del Monte, are expecting pink, cancer-curing pineapples in the near future. Some even predict purple tomatoes that can eradicate cardiovascular disease. Despite still-existent criticism about their supposed detriments, GMOs can potentially solve hardships from disease to hunger that the entire world faces today.

With 800 million people currently starving worldwide, GMOs are a potential solution. Because GMO cultivation produces larger crop yields, more food could be on the market at a lower price. In fact, the world is producing healthier zucchini in larger quantities since 13 percent are now modified to be virus-resistant. More nutritious foods are being developed as well, such as a strand of golden rice DNA that aims to alleviate global vitamin-A deficiencies. This rice may be able to combat the millions of deaths caused by insufficient nutrients in developing nations where vitamin supplements are rare.

Furthermore, many of the health concerns of GMOs are based on misinformation. Firstly, GMOs are not as unnatural as critics make them seem; they are created through gene recombination, a more precise form of cross-breeding that already occurs naturally. As for health risks, according to a study from University of California, Berkeley, scientists on both sides agree there are no connections between consuming GMOs and negative health effects. And in time, researchers predict GMOs could have significant health benefits. Though some products like the anti-oxidant-rich tomato from the John Innes Centre in the United Kingdom are not on

the market now, they are expected to emerge in the future.

Moreover, critiques of research corporations should leave GMOs out of their arguments. Though one company, Monsanto, is known to have corrupt business practices and attempts to overtake the whole farming industry, the entire practice of genetic modification should not be questioned over one corporation's ethics. Many pharmaceutical companies, such as Pfizer, which illegally promoted drugs that caused health issues, are layered with corruption. However, no one questions the importance of medical advancement, and GMOs should be treated the same.

Though the technology used for them still needs to be refined, GMOs offer some relief for hunger crises today and perhaps health crises in the future. Ultimately, they should no longer be demonized over misconceptions and moral double-standards with corporations — their future is too bright to be held back any longer. Today it may just seem like pink pineapples, but tomorrow, GMOs could improve the world for generations to come.



HANBI KO

CON

By Ariel Liu
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Even if the apple never browns, don't bite off more than you can chew.

At first glance, the advent of non-browning apples and potentially cancer-curing pink pineapples seem to be another win for supporters of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). However, despite potential benefits, several less-than-ideal circumstances leave consumers wary of these " Frankenfoods."

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulation of GMOs is unusually lax compared to that of other foods. According to its website, the FDA relies on a voluntary consultation process to verify the safety of GMOs. This policy means that the responsibility to review the safety of foods depends on the discretion of the producer. In these circumstances, the blatant conflict of interest is alarming, especially when the experimental specimen is food and the lab subjects are us.

One concern is the increased possibility of allergic reactions to GMOs. Since foreign proteins are introduced to engineered plants, consumers may react to foods they normally have no problem eating. Of course, a simple solution is to clearly label all GMOs. Yet, attempts have been made and subsequently crushed by corporate giants. In 2012, Californians voted on Proposition 37. The law sought to increase transparency in the food industry by requiring the labeling of GMOs and prohibiting them from being marketed as "natural." Just as all food products have detailed nutritional labels, GMOs should also have their own identification. Indeed, people should have the right to know what they are putting in their mouths. However, the initiative was struck down largely due to the \$7.1 million pumped into the system by Monsanto.

Named "Most Evil Corporation of the Year" in 2013 by over 16,000 NaturalNews readers, Monsanto has become synonymous with GMOs. The company is infamous for bioengineering corn and dominating the seed market. According to the Guardian, Monsanto prohibits farmers from saving their seeds for the next season and, instead forces them to purchase new seeds annually. This practice not only exploits farmers but also decreases diversity in the seed market; the plants raised become carbon copies of one another. Although proponents insist GMOs can provide food to developing countries, they fail to recognize that bioengineering can actually decrease biodiversity. Ironically, the same people who believe GMOs will bring more plentiful harvests are also unintentionally supporting crops more vulnerable to disease and drought. Not exactly the sustainable farming envisioned by them.

Admittedly, the idea of multi-functional plants has its appeal. However, GMOs can very well be a health hazard and biodiversity disaster. When so many uncertainties persist, it is best to take heed of the seed of doubt.



HANMIN KO

Oracle Staff

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Adrija Chakraborty
Nicole Kuntjoro
assistant entertainment & lifestyle

Lauren Kim
photo

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Priscilla Cheney, advisor

Jennifer Yi, ads & business

2200 E. Dorothy Lane
Fullerton, CA 92831
Phone: (714) 626-4518
Email: oracle.troy@gmail.com

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TROY HIGH SCHOOL

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endorsing it. Recently, a pizzeria in Indiana declared that it would refuse to cater to a same-sex wedding because of religious reasons, but that it would not deny any other service based on sexual orientation. This battle between rights raises questions that can no longer be avoided. Can the civil liberties of one party be greater than another? Is it necessarily discrimination if a religious individual does not want to endorse a ceremony that he or she considers sacrilegious? And is requiring businesses to provide their services at a wedding really a "substantial burden" on their free exercise of religion? We will have to wait to see how these questions play out in court. But in the meantime, they cannot be answered if we continue to pass such ambiguous laws.

Nevertheless, the enactment of religious freedom laws remains the pressing issue. Every time such laws are enforced, politicians seem to be ignoring the change in

our cultural mentality regarding LGBTQ rights and instead are focusing on appeasing their religiously conservative constituents. Support for gay rights has increased dramatically since President George W. Bush proposed a ban on gay marriage. According to Gallup, in 2004, 55 percent of the U.S. was against gay marriage, and 54 percent said same-sex relationships were "morally wrong." In 2014, 55 percent said they were in favor of same-sex marriages, and 58 percent said they were "morally acceptable." There is no denying this sudden cultural shift. Attempting to stem this changing tide is only going to cause more unnecessary civil unrest.

Though difficult to achieve, a balance needs to exist between protecting the right to religious freedom and the rights of individuals. Times are changing for the LGBTQ community, and political acknowledgement is long overdue. If anything, we should be able to resolve this controversy without the threat of legalizing discrimination.

"All of this controversy draws much-needed attention to the thin line between respecting the LGBTQ community and endorsing it."



[WARRIOR/FRESHMAN]
This dedicated gamer's motto is: "Put your trust in the heart of the cards."
ATK/1000 DEF/1850

KONAMI®

Favorite Card: Fiendish Chain
Playing Style: Aggressive

Q: "What is your favorite thing about Yu-Gi-Oh?"
A: "I can make friends from all around the world."

Yu-Gi-Oh! TRADING CARD GAME

HOW TO PLAY

When engaging in a duel, a Yu-Gi-Oh! player starts off with 8000 life points and has the ultimate goal of dealing damage and whittling their opponent's life points down to zero. There are three types of cards in the game: monster cards, spell cards and trap cards. Players must use various combinations of these cards to attack, sneak or strategize their way to victory. Join the battle and explore the game with 15 Warriors who have made the mentally demanding Yu-Gi-Oh! Trading Card Game a part of their daily lives.

Article by Yuri Ceriale, ASSISTANT FEATURE EDITOR and Grace Lee, STAFF WRITER
Photos by Lauren Kim, PHOTO and graphics courtesy of Shonen Jump and Konami

For devoted Yu-Gi-Oh! fans, the lunchtime bell transforms school-time into duel-time. Players go from learning about an organism's power of cell respiration in Biology class to unleashing a Blue-Eyes White Dragon's power of "white lightning" in the halls of the 300 Building. Instead of solving algebraic equations, duelists calculate attack and defense, and analyze how to maximize their life points. Despite often being dismissed as a simple kid's game, the Yu-Gi-Oh! Trading Card Game is certainly not child's play for these Warriors.

Every day at lunch, 15 friends meet in front of the Japanese classroom to discuss ideas, share laughs and engage in a round or two of Yu-Gi-Oh! Decks of cards are flourished as the players gather, and "duels" testing wit, skill and patience begin to unfold. To most members of this group, Yu-Gi-Oh! is more than a hobby; it is a serious pursuit, with some players regularly participating in local and regional tournaments to test their mettle as duelists. Whether competitive or casual, all members of the group find tremendous appeal in the game's thrill, strategy and ability to bring people together.

Two years ago, seniors Devon Hunter and Duncan Javie pitted their monster cards against each other in what would become the first of their many lunchtime battles. Since that day, more and more

Yu-Gi-Oh! enthusiasts have joined the two,

exposed to a more competitive environment, Javie said.

"When you go to Regionals, there are people out there that want to rip your position [in the tournament] from you so that they can make it to the top," Javie said. "Knowing there's someone out there that can beat me really pumps me up, so this year I'm going to go back. You just have to keep working on improving yourself."

Practicing with each other rather than in tournaments has its benefits as well. Observing each of the friends' trademark stratagems allows players to gain insight into one another's thought-processes, ultimately deepening their friendships with each other, Javie said.

"If a person is straightforward, they would have a playing style that's more straightforward," Javie said. "If someone thinks critically like a strategist, they think more while playing. Watching duels is a way that you can observe how your friends think and how they act in certain situations. That contributes to knowing their personalities."

Initially united by their mutual interest in Yu-Gi-Oh!, the players have evolved over time from a band of acquaintances into a group of close friends. Today, the players swap not only trading cards, but also stories and jokes, Takara said.

"My friends encourage me to be better," Takara said. "The major reason I

come to the group is my friends—not just to battle them, but to see them and talk with them. Some days, we don't even



forming a family of gamers with whom members can improve their skills, freshman Koichi Takara said.

"Having 15 people in the group helps me build up my skills and practice more," Takara said. "We ask each other how to make our decks better. Also, there are a lot of complicated rules you never learn if you only play with three friends. You can also learn a lot about how to play when up against different cards and strategies."

As for the game itself, Yu-Gi-Oh! is extremely complex, involving complicated tricks such as "chains" and "counters." Players must be able to adjust their moves to thwart any of the numerous strategies and techniques their opponents may employ, senior Mark Gonzales said.

"It is a new experience each time you duel someone," Gonzales said. "When you play, you do not know who you're going to face or what card your opponent is going to run. For me, I try to spam as many cards as I can so that I can end the game quickly, but everyone has their own style. So, it's a new but ultimately fun experience every time you play."

Students seeking to further develop their skills participate in tournaments outside of school, too. Dueling with new players allows students to advance rapidly as they are

play Yu-Gi-Oh! and just talk."

The Yu-Gi-Oh! fans are supported both by each other and the student body as a whole. The school's welcoming atmosphere allows them to duel without being constantly stereotyped by others, senior Mark Gonzalez said.

"I used to go to a school where people would be really [hostile] to you if you were different," Gonzalez said. "At Troy, you can be weird or different. People won't judge you here. Troy is the best school I've been to in terms of accepting people."

Although the occasional critic does pass by, this group knows it is no different from other student groups on campus. At the end of the day, they are a family simply doing what they love, Wongtosarat said.

"From playing Yu-Gi-Oh, I've gained new friendships, a different way to talk to people and a new viewpoint," Wongtosarat said. "Some people see us as nerdy and think that we do not have much of a social life. I don't think they understand that we do. Outside of Yu-Gi-Oh!, I play basketball, and I do a lot of other extra-curricular activities, so whatever they say doesn't affect us. Everyone supports each other. We're playing Yu-Gi-Oh! for the fun of it."

KONAMI®

Favorite Card: Consecrated Light
Playing Style: Wait and watch for an opening

Q: "What is your biggest accomplishment as a Yu-Gi-Oh! player?"
A: "I won first place in all of the unofficial tournaments at a nearby school."

Yu-Gi-Oh! TRADING CARD GAME

KONAMI®

[WARRIOR/FRESHMAN]
His current goal is to enter an official Yu-Gi-Oh! tournament.
ATK/2750 DEF/500

KONAMI®

Favorite Card: Elemental Hero Absolute Zero
Playing Style: Spam powerful monsters and stall as much as possible

Q: "What is unique about your group of friends?"
A: "We're trying to beat each other in the game, but we have good relationships as well. Other competitors don't joke around as much."

Yu-Gi-Oh! TRADING CARD GAME

KONAMI®

[WARRIOR/SENIOR]
Not only is he a skilled duelist, but he is also an aspiring chef.
ATK/2300 DEF/870

KONAMI®

[WARRIOR/FRESHMAN]
Despite its popularity, his least favorite card is the Blue-Eyes White Dragon.
ATK/1450 DEF/2200

KONAMI®

Favorite Card: Number 101: Silent Honor Ark
Playing Style: Defensive to an extent

Q: "What is unique about the Yu-Gi-Oh Trading Card Game?"
A: "I can play card games anywhere. With video games, there are certain places you can't play them."

Yu-Gi-Oh! TRADING CARD GAME

KONAMI®

[WARRIOR/FRESHMAN]
His biggest achievement as a duelist is defeating his cousin at eight years old.
ATK/1500 DEF/1250

KONAMI®

Favorite Card: Final Flame
Playing Style: Careful and conservative

Q: "What is the most challenging aspect of Yu-Gi-Oh?"
A: "Earning enough money to buy new cards!"

Yu-Gi-Oh! TRADING CARD GAME

KONAMI®

Favorite Card: Beelzeus the Diabolic Dragons
Playing Style: Rely on one giant, over-powered monster

Q: "Who is the person you would least like to face in a duel?"
A: "Devon. I don't like losing or tying in a duel."

Yu-Gi-Oh! TRADING CARD GAME

KONAMI®

[WARRIOR/FRESHMAN]
The undefeated, first place winner of the Long Beach Regionals tournament.
ATK/750 DEF/800

THE YU-GI-OH! BROS

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I very much appreciate Yannie Hoang’s recent opinion article “Vaccinations Are a Must” [published in the Feb. 13 issue]. It would have been impossible for her to try to sum up the mountain range of well-drawn evidence in favor of vaccinations, and it must have taken great restraint for her to keep from railing against the opposition for its pseudo-scientific, conspiracy-theory approach in light of the measles outbreak that was so senselessly unleashed on the public at the time of her writing.

Indeed, she or her peers could well have contracted this deadly disease. However unhappy this scenario would have been, it could still be worse if she or her friends were to fall victim to the pose of intellectualism that defines the anti-vaccination party, whose members would be laughable if they themselves were not so self-entitled, self-important, and downright dangerous to society.

That they claim science as their foundation is utterly disingenuous since whatever they assert that vaccinations do to a human, cannot be reproduced in a laboratory setting.

A Concerned Parent

Without this tool in their arsenal, they tug at this situation or that, ripping research from its contextual foundation then pointing to conclusions that are simply not there.

When inductive reasoning fails them, they turn to deductive reasoning, which fails in the major premise: Vaccinations are the cause of autism and other health problems. Without a solid inductive basis, this premise must be discarded.

Science and sound reasoning work against them again and again. When all else fails, they cite their heightened social conscience for us all (“I am working to preserve the health of your child!”) and the malfeasance and avarice of the pharmaceutical industry (“Those companies hide evidence so that they can bring in their billions of dollars a year!”), and they imply that the top scientists in the world have conducted shoddy research while they themselves have used the most powerful instruments in their armory—an active imagination and unvetted Internet sources—to disprove, well, nothing at all.

Dear Editor:

I was quite frankly disappointed in Yannie Hoang’s opinion piece, “Vaccinations are a must,” [published in the Feb. 13 issue] which was merely a rehashing of the current mass media diatribe. Contrary to Ms. Hoang’s quip that vaccines have no “measly side effects,” the truth of the matter is this: vaccine injury happens far more often than most would believe, leaving its victims stereotyped as irresponsible “antivaxxers” who are willfully threatening herd immunity due to the belief in “pseudoscience.” This type of casual dismissal in the media diminishes transparent dialogues about the abundance of reputable studies (not sensationalized by the mainstream) demonstrating the cumulative damage that toxic vaccine adjuvants have on susceptible immune systems. I would encourage Ms. Hoang to continue her research well beyond Snopes.com to critically examine the adverse events listed in the PDR and vaccine inserts. Those listed for the new Gardasil-9 vaccine, for example, should cause anyone to think twice before using this product, particularly since Gardasil’s own lead researcher has expressed significant concerns about its safety and efficacy. In addition, research on the immune impact of ingredients listed on the

CDCs “Vaccine Excipient and Media Summary” List should result in some sense of precaution when considering the number of vaccines children are given on the same day and cumulatively in their first two years.

Extreme precaution should be used before concluding that “the science is in,” as so many believe about vaccines. The case of Dr. Ignaz Semmelweis can be used to illustrate the point that the “common sense” practices of one era can be completely reversed in another. What was Semmelweis mercilessly ridiculed for in his time? He suggested that doctors wash their hands between working on bodies in the morgue and delivering babies in an effort to reduce the rate of women dying from puerperal fever after childbirth.

The final message is this: all thinking individuals, when considering any medical intervention, can only provide fully informed consent after understanding both its benefits and risks. This is the type of critical thinking that I hope Warrior culture continues to encourage.

Lore Flavell,
Parent of a vaccine injured child

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Which is Smarter?

In light of the release of the Samsung Galaxy S6, check out the two major smartphone competitors on the market.

Graphics by Rachel Lee, **GRAPHIC** and photos courtesy of Amazon

Samsung Galaxy S6

By Anthony Kim
STAFF WRITER

Does the Samsung Galaxy S6 even need an introduction? This is Samsung’s latest flagship smartphone and it is more powerful than ever.

Many feel that Samsung missed the mark with the Galaxy S5. Though by no means a let-down, it seemed to undermine the value of Samsung smartphones. With features clearly borrowed from Apple, the S5 caused many to question whether or not Samsung could compete in the ever-growing technology industry. However, rebounding in the ongoing war between smartphone companies, Samsung has recently hit a bulls-eye with the S6.

Just about every criticism leveled at the S5 has been fixed and then some. Aesthetically, the S6 might not cause your friends to turn completely green with envy, but the larger Galaxy S6 Edge—also released April 10— might. Samsung’s new color options will also leave a noticeable impression among the sea of smartphones. White and gold, or black and blue? For Samsung, this is not a controversial eye illusion. The Galaxy S6, instead, is an eye-pleaser with these vibrant colors.

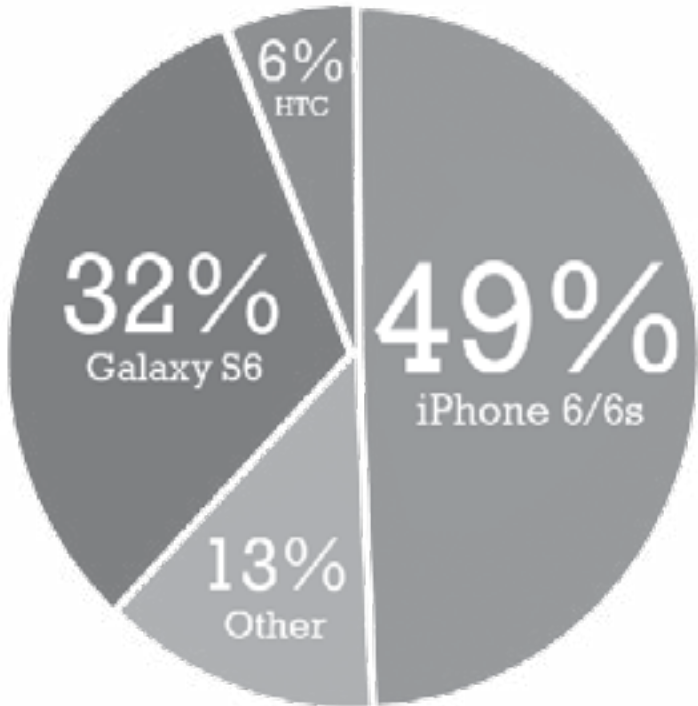
In addition, the iPhone 6’s heart of gold pales in comparison to the S6’s heart of glass. After years of customer complaints about plastic phones that felt, well, cheap, Samsung successfully created the S6 with virtually no plastic. Its front and back are made of super-tough Gorilla Glass 4, while its sides are constructed of aluminium. Now Samsung owners can have a lightweight phone without compromising functionality or quality. One such function can be to take that next profile picture for social media with the 16 megapixel camera.

Still not convinced that the S6 is a great phone? No need to fret, there’s more. Every aspect of the phone has been made to better the user experience. For instance, each phone contains 14 nanometer transistors on its data chips that allow for the perfect handheld size, while keeping a surprisingly powerful processor to perform a multitude of functions.

This slick, waterproof phone also comes equipped with the updated Android operating system, which allows owners to customize their phones without jail-breaking them. Basically, Samsung removes the restrictions of Apple’s iOS 8 software. While Apple users cannot add any personalized characteristics, the Android customer can change something as simple as the format of the apps. (Really Apple?)

The people who said Samsung had lost its mojo were clearly wrong. Inside and out, it seems like the Samsung Galaxy S6 is a brilliant handheld recreation of a MacGyver tool kit that is cheaper than the ridiculous pre-orders for the Apple Watch. In a nutshell, the best from Samsung just got better.

What Smartphone do *Warriors* Prefer?



Note: 289 students polled

iPhone 6

By Nicole Kuntjoro
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Fifth in the iconic generation of Apple smartphones, the iPhone 6 rejuvenates what had been a dying breed. Though Apple may have pioneered the way for the age of smartphones, the company has been struggling to keep up with the likes of Samsung and other Android devices. With the most recent release of the new iPhone, Apple has once again pulled ahead of the competition.

The iPhone 6, along with its older sibling the iPhone 6 Plus, does what the previous generations have failed to do. It makes drastic changes in both the exterior design and software that not only improve the usage of the phone but also prove that Apple still has the magic touch that made the original phone so appealing.

On the exterior, the iPhone 6 is not only significantly larger but also thinner. Though it might not fit into the back pocket quite so comfortably, the user can be grateful for a bigger display screen that improves functionality. The camera on the back is also better than ever, providing high resolution images that rival those of a point-and-shoot camera. Additionally, the iPhone genuinely looks good with its sleek edges and futuristic aesthetic. The only qualm to be had about the design is that the power button on the side is placed just a tad too high, out of reach for most users who hold their phones from the bottom.

However, the truly impressive strides are taken in the operating system of the iPhone 6. iOS 8 redesigns the software to be more compatible with the larger screen. It’s far more user-friendly than the past operating systems with its conveniently placed apps and logically designed appearance. It’s so simple that a toddler could probably figure out the basics of the program without much trouble. Granted, Siri is still annoying, but the concept of a voice-command system is conducive for hands-free access to the iPhone’s functions. Though others might point out that iOS 8 does not have the customizing options like the Android, it simply does not require the changes because it has already been perfected for use.

With all of these promising improvements from past iPhones, there comes the issue of the exorbitantly expensive price. Nonetheless, for those who can afford to shell out the extra cash, it’s an impressive piece of technology that reveals a bright future for the company as long as it is willing to take the leap with big changes and groundbreaking ideas.



GAME OF PHONES: *The Galaxy S6 and iPhone 6 share similar dimensions but differ in battery life and pricing.*

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Price: \$129.95



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Price: \$49.90



Brainwavz Delta Earbuds
Listen to high quality music.
Price: \$23.00

You Tube THROUGH THE YEARS

Look back on the most iconic videos in YouTube history to commemorate the ten year anniversary of the website’s first video, “Me at the zoo,” April 23.

By Adrija Chakrabarty, ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR
and graphics courtesy of YouTube

The site that began with a 19-second video, “Me at the zoo,” has now spurred a revolution in the mass media industry.

Founded by three computer science graduates—Chad Hurley, Steve Chen and Jawed Karim—YouTube is now the world’s chieftain in video sharing, receiving nearly 300 hours of footage each minute. This media empire has expanded from its modest start

to become one of the three most visited websites in America and a trailblazer of global trends. Shaping culture with its ability to popularize fads and people, YouTube has used the video-sharing technology of the Information Age to usher in a new era of humor, music and art.

Without a doubt, YouTube has seen a whole range of videos; be it Ryan Higa’s comedy sketches or Sister Cristinas’s covers, the site has gone through various stages to finally evolve into the website it is today. One of the earliest eras of YouTube was that of the home video. Simple but amusing, videos such as “Charlie Bit my Finger” and “David after Dentist” made unlikely stars out of mischievous toddlers and naughty children. However, it

was not long until the spotlight also began to shine on extraordinary pets in videos that featured feline pianists and canine yoga masters.

But for the most part, YouTube has now become a home for the closet comedian, aspiring musician and amateur make-up artist. Comedies such as “Potter Puppet Pals” and “Miranda Sings” have brought audiences various routines that do everything from

parody celebrities to provide slapstick humor for the global community. Also present in the YouTube circle are the talented cover artists. An excellent platform for those dreaming of fame, YouTube has catapulted many musicians such as Justin Bieber and Karmin to skyrocket in Internet popularity and subsequently on worldwide music charts. More recently though, the growing renown of makeup gurus, fashion pundits and lifestyle vloggers has welcomed a new era that is changing popular culture yet again by advocating trendy ways of living.

Embracing a multitude of videos, YouTube has shown us everything from diversity in the media community to the fact that fame can be only one video away.

“YouTube has used the video-sharing technology of the Information Age to usher in a new era of humor, music and art.”

Suggested Videos



Me at the zoo
by jawed
10 years ago • 19,405,416 views



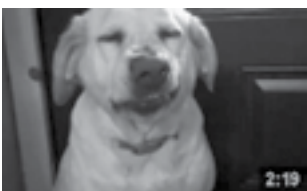
Potter Puppet Pals: The Mysterious Ticking Noise
by Neil Cicierega
8 years ago • 159,809,234 views



Cry me a River - Justin Timberlake cover - Justin singing(Justin Bieber)
by kidrauhl
7 years ago • 23,513,182 views



Charlie bit my finger - again !
by HDCYT
7 years ago • 816,477,327 views



Denver Official Guilty Dog Video
by foodplot
4 years ago • 41,499,310 views



Running Late For School | Quick Hair fixes, Makeup, & Outfit Ideas!
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CLICK, PLAY, LIKE: From clips of elephants at the zoo to tutorials by makeup artists, YouTube has given rise to many of the most sensational Internet icons.

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Track faces off against Buena Park

The Warrior boys and girls track and field team battled the Buena Park Coyotes April 16.

By Austin Shin
STAFF WRITER

Valuing collaboration over individual effort, the Warrior track team competed against the Buena Park Coyotes April 16. While the boys (2-1) surrendered a 54-73 loss, the girls (3-0) seized a 99-22 victory.

Co-captain Matthew Reyes started the Warriors off with an offensive advantage, sprinting by his opponents in the 400 meter run with a time of 53.8 seconds. Sophomore Miles Wong ran a close race in the 800 meter run and claimed a second place finish. Kicking off the field events for the Warriors, senior Okechi Apakama and sophomore Nick Rubia fell just short of the lead position in long jump. Seniors Nathan Carroll and Toby Oha outthrew the Coyotes in shot put and discus, but it was not enough to close the deficits, resulting in a final score of 54-73 for the boys.

On the girls side, senior Jadzia Nguyen-Khoa led the Lady Warriors into the meet, dashing past her opponents in the two-mile run with a time of 12:53. In the 400 meter run, sophomore Dominique Pillos and junior Chelsea Connolly reinforced the Lady Warriors' advantage by placing first and second place. Seniors Baylee Zuker and Gabby Nazi and junior Megan Lim blazed past their opponents, claiming the top three spots in the 100 meter dash. Closing out the meet with dominance in field events, senior SeRin Lee and juniors Rebecca La-



LAUREN KIM

A LEG UP: *Sprinting towards the finish line, a Warrior track athlete attempts to seize a finishing place for the Warriors. However, the Warrior boys were unable to narrow their deficit, ending the meet at 54-73.*

zuka and Alexia Amo launched past the Coyotes, cementing a final score of 99-22 and a third consecutive league victory for the Lady Warriors.

Although the boys yielded a loss this meet, the Warriors have emerged this sea-

son with stronger overall performances by adopting a more team-oriented mentality, co-captain Frances James said.

"[The coach] has been talking to everyone together as a team during breaks and before and after practices," James said.

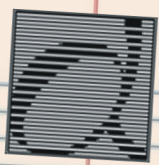
"[The coach] wants us to focus on being a team. He's pulling us together, whereas last year it was a lot more individual and while sometimes that could help, it was bad. Some people were slacking off, and they skipped practice and showed up as they pleased, but this year, if you don't show up to practice, you're not going to participate."

The Warriors have worked to place more emphasis on camaraderie despite the large number of members on the team. Overcoming the challenges presented with a big roster has allowed the athletes to grow closer, James said.

"The track team has 200 people, so it's hard to bring that many people together," James said. "But if you look around, you see kids talking and sitting around from all the different events as a team. I get that [the sport] is separated, but in the end, we're still a team. We take roll as a team and we break as a team. It's difficult, but we make the best of it."

Although individual success for participants is an important aspect of each event, the athletes are able to put the team above themselves. Overall, Warrior performance can improve by teammates forgoing personal gains, coach Chris Blume said.

"[The athletes] all have their events that they excel in," Blume said. "However, if I need them in a different event and I feel like they could do well in it, they might not score well individually but they're expected to do whatever helps the team. It's the team first, then the individual second. Track is a very individualized sport, but ultimately, it's still a team sport."



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LAUREN KIM

PUTTING IT ON THE LIE: *Aiming to regitalize the Warrior offense with a putt, freshman golfer narrowly misses the hole. The Warriors were unable to regain their initial advantage, closing out with a final score 201- 192.*

Warrior swim propels past Coyotes

Dominating their competition, the Warrior boys (4-0,3-0) and girls (3-1, 3-0) eclipsed Buena Park.

By Evan Lewis
STAFF WRITER

Continuing its undefeated league record, the Warrior boys varsity swim team (4-0, 3-0) and the girls varsity swim team (3-1, 3-0) dominated the Buena Park Coyotes with boys finishing 128-42 and girls 132-23 April 15.

Seizing a commanding lead early in the meet for the Warriors, co-

captain Meredith Lillie swept the 50 meter freestyle and 100 meter butterfly.

Co-captain Jillian Milikan followed with a victory in the 200 meter individual medley to advance the Warrior lead. Bolt-ing down his lane, junior Tanner Henkhaus also rushed past several Coyotes in the 100 meter freestyle. Junior Hana Claesson sped through the 200 meter free-style, clinching a 132-23 win for the girls. On the boys side, junior Elliot Cha carried this momentum into the 200 meter freestyle, speeding past his opponents to secure a win and seal the 128-42 victory for the boys.

Reflecting upon this win, the Warriors understand the importance of starting the season with a winning record and have thus placed a stronger emphasis on preparing for these early meets, Lillie said.

“It’s always good to start off well,” Lillie said. “We get that if we win our first few meets, we will have momentum going into the end of the season and even post season. So to make sure that we have a strong start, we’ve been training extremely hard for these opening competitions. Of course it’s important to do well all the

time, but our coach has really been pushing us to our limits so that we can begin the season as an

“We have to keep pushing to do better and to win league in a powerful fashion.”

Kenneth Mun
senior

undefeated team.”

The team’s rigorous early season training has successfully translated into victories for the Warriors, who have yet to lose a league game, senior Kenneth Mun said.

“So far, the hard work has been paying off,” Mun said. “We’ve had solid wins against Fullerton and Sonora, and beating Buena Park just solidifies the fact that we’ve been training really hard. It’s nice to see the practice time culminate into our league record. Our league record often times

Warrior Boys golf cedes to Sunny Hills 201-192

The Warrior boys golf team (4-1, 10-4) faltered in a close match April 14.

By Dallas Nguyen
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite entrusting a more pivotal role to the incoming players, the Warrior boys golf team (4-1, 10-4) succumbed to the Sunny Hills Lancers 201-192 April 14.

The first two rounds were led by sophomore Connor Nelson, who breezed through the course to fire three birdies and secure the lowest Warrior average at 35. Struggling to continue the momentum, junior Robert Lee over-committed to his drive for a round of 42 while the Lancers posted a steady 40. Freshman Paul Kang also missed the green but sank his putts to capture another birdie for the Warriors. However, freshman Mitchell Sima failed to match the Lancers’ consistent stroke game, drawing a round score of 49 and closing the game in favor of his opponents, 201-192.

The narrow gap between the concluding scores indicates the team’s improved player base after introducing seasoned underclassmen, senior William Chwa said.

“There are a lot of good fresh-

men who came in this season, who went to varsity and [who] play really well,” Chwa said. “During my freshman year, half of our team was pretty much seniors. So after my freshman year was a rebuilding process with incoming freshmen. We rely a lot on the underclassmen to get the job done. [The potential] we have with all of these good freshmen is giving us a good future.”

Though they have only acclimated to high school competition recently, the younger players are critical in determining a match’s success, co-captain Liam Roberts said.

“The freshmen are definitely key players on our team this year because freshmen play in our last group,” Roberts said. “The first few groups play evenly against other teams so a lot of our matches are really close, like against Sunny Hills. It comes down to [the freshmen] because if they win, we win, and if they lose, we lose. It’s a lot of pressure on them, but everyone and I are confident in their abilities.”

Not only do the underclassmen greatly contribute to a game’s outcome but they also supplement the team’s synergy, Chwa said.

“Our newer players really add to the social aspect to the team because golf isn’t really that much of a socially engaging sport compared to other team sports,” Chwa said. “Since there are a lot of freshmen and they’re usually social, they bring an intangible social aspect to the team with them. They are that glue of the team so we can bond more easily with each other and get along well.”

As they prepare to finish their league season, the Warriors recognize that steady growth will maximize the young team’s potential, Chwa said.

“[We upperclassmen have] come a long way since freshmen year and I’m so proud of our team,” Chwa said. “We’ve constantly improved throughout these four years. Hopefully, with these freshmen here, we can move it along. Definitely, throughout the whole season, the freshmen will be able to improve their consistency, but it’s the whole season and the whole four years. The more important part is the long term, because since our upperclassmen are inevitably leaving, we need those underclassmen to step up and maintain that high level of play.”



JEANETTE DE LA TORRE

TAKING THE PLUNGE: *Preparing for the start, sophomore athlete advances the Warrior offensive momentum and helps the team maintain its league record.*

dictates how well we do in post season and how we are viewed as a program. We really take pride in the fact that we consistently do well, and that undefeated starts should be expected from us.”

In the preseason, the team’s determination seemed derailed in lieu of a major roster cut, but the swimmers continue to discover motivation in the postseason, Lillie said.

“It’s hard not to think about postseason,” Lillie said. “Coaches always tell you that you have

to go competition by competition, but for our seniors, who are all really strong swimmers, we have our minds set on the future a lot of the time. We had a lot of seniors drop out because they didn’t see the training and regular season as worth it. But the group of seniors we have right now recognize that you have to do well in league to advance and do well in CIF.”

The swimmers know that they must keep striving to improve as the competition continues to do the same. Through a collective

mindset honed on CIF, the Warriors look to finish off league with the same dominance with which they began it, Mun said.

“We understand what we need to do to advance [to the next stage],” Mun said. “We have been doing well in league, and that is great, but there is no time to pat ourselves on the back. We have to keep pushing to do better and to win league in a powerful fashion. I think that if we can do that we will all be more than ready to dominate in CIF too.”