



ORACLE



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Supreme Court hears same-sex marriage cases

Federal discussions evaluated interpretations of the Fourteenth Amendment’s protection against marriage and gender discrimination.

By Sarah Kremer
NEWS EDITOR

The United States Supreme Court held a hearing on the legalization of same-sex marriage April 28.

The court, led by Chief Justice John Glover Roberts Jr., listened to testimonies from both perspectives in regards to gay union bans in Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky. The court will release a federal decision later in June.

Gay men and women are first-class citizens who should be given the same rights as heterosexual individuals, said Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli, Jr. in his testimony to the court.

“In a world in which gay and lesbian couples live openly as our neighbors, raise their children side by side with the rest of us [and] contribute fully as members of the community, it is untenable to suggest that they can be denied the right of equal participation in an institution of marriage, or that they be required to wait until the majority decides that it is ready to treat gay and lesbian people as equals,” Verrilli said. “Gay and

lesbian people are equal. They deserve equal protection of the laws, and they deserve it now.”

Legalizing same-sex marriage can alleviate prejudice against the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning community, Warrior Gay-Straight Alliance Vice President Elizabeth Patton said.

“What we see right now is a system where just this year,

transgender women have been murdered,” Patton said. “We see a lot of bullying [and] a lot of discrimination. These people have to deal with systematic oppression and the possibility of being murdered, assaulted or even bullied. But, there is no harm in [same-sex marriage]. Nobody is hurt in giving people the rights that they deserve.”

Allowing same-sex marriage,

however, would contradict the existing definition of marriage which limits the institution to a male and a female, Roberts said.

“[Supporters] are seeking to redefine the institution,” Roberts said. “Every definition that I looked up, prior to about a dozen years ago, defined marriage as unity between a man and a woman as husband and wife,” Roberts said. “If [proponents of

same-sex marriage] succeed, that core definition will no longer be operable.”

Opponents also state that altering such a fundamental definition could have negative ramifications on the societal view of marriage, said Special Assistant Attorney General John J. Bursch in his testimony to the court.

“It is not unreasonable for people to think about the possible consequences of changing a definition, which has existed for millennia, and that [this change] might have real consequences,” Bursch said. “To say otherwise is to say that it is irrational for a person to think that changing an idea about something will have no effect about on how [other] people think about that idea.”

Regardless of the outcome of the Supreme Court decision, the conversation about same-sex marriage advances the movement which calls for equality and acceptance of gay individuals, Patton said.

“There will always be [backlash], but success is not in one step,” Patton said. “Success is series of progressive steps. [These discussions are] the next step to creating a more equal society for people with different sexual and gender orientations. This is just an amazing time for all this to be happening at once.”



COURTESY OF CBS NEWS

JUDICIAL REVIEW: Acknowledging the controversy of same-sex marriage, the Supreme Court analyzed both arguments surrounding the issue.

Pencils of Promise fundraises with care packages for students

Fundraiser motivates Warriors as they take end-of-the-year tests.

By Brendan Brzycki & Ryan Fawwaz
STAFF WRITERS

Finals can be catastrophic, and every student needs a survival kit.

Supporting students in anticipation of upcoming tests, Warrior Pencils of Promise club members are selling care packages through May 21.

The \$2 care kit includes candy, tissues, pencils and encouragement notes. The funds will be donated to the Pencils of Promise organization, which finances education for students in developing nations. This event concentrates

on both raising funds for students in underprivileged countries and supporting the Warrior community.

Deviating from traditional fundraiser products, the survival kit gives students encouragement for finals and Advanced Placement (AP) exams, junior Baunnee Martinez said.

“There are a lot of things that I need and can’t necessarily get [easily],” Martinez said. “I wanted to sell something that would be useful and something that was not only food, although [our kit] does include food. We all need a boost during AP and finals season—you just need a pick-me-up.”

Pencils of Promise used this experience to improve the club’s cohesiveness, Martinez said.

“It’s really fun putting together packages, so during our club meetings, I enjoyed seeing all of our members putting effort into this collaborative project,” Martinez said. “We got to know each other more and saw [the product of] our work on campus.”

Meanwhile, the event also increased awareness of the conditions that prevent students around the world from pursuing a higher education, sophomore Eric Baik said.

“As Warriors, we are so involved in education that we tend to forget that there are other people in the world who struggle to get even a book to read,” Baik said. “It’s important to have that access. That’s what Pencils of Promise is all about.”



DAVIS PARK

CARE KITS: Pencils of Promise club members prepared the survival packages which contained pencils, tissue packets, treats and encouraging quotes.

INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE

FEATURE

In honor of Sandi Kossler’s retirement from teaching, follow her involvement in the Special Education program and her legacy as an instructor.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Get your summer Netflix lineup ready with our reviews of popular series including “House of Cards” and “Daredevil.”



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SPORTS

The triumphant Warrior boys tennis team (8-2, 2-4) competed in its first round of Freeway League Finals April 30.



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JEANETTE DE LA TORRE-DURAN

OLYMPIANS HAVEN'T FALLEN: *Students review study materials for their international history competition in July.*

Warrior sophomores place first at History Olympiad Nationals

Despite only studying for three months, the Warrior History Olympiad team took first at Nationals.

By Tiffany Hall & David Hou
STAFF WRITERS

Becoming legends is historical work. Developing their historical intellect through self-study, four Warrior sophomores won the National History Bowl in Washington D.C. April 24 and 25. At the competition hosted by the National History Bee and Bowl committee, participants were tested on American, European and Asian history. Contestants competed at both the junior varsity and varsity levels in timed rounds, and

top-scoring teams in each group advanced to successive rounds. At its first competition, the Warrior team received first place in the junior varsity lower division, which qualified it for the International History Olympiad in July. Warriors participated in the national tournament not only to enrich their historical knowledge, but also to promote Warrior presence in national events, sophomore Augusto Gonzalez said. “The goal was to give Troy a good ranking,” Gonzalez said. “Troy is recognized nationally for its math and science programs, and internationally for its computer science program, but [what about] history? With this [opportunity], we could have a larger English department and more liberal arts

classes. Troy could become the best at everything, both nationally and internationally.” The students’ experience at nationals gave them a better understanding of what a History Olympiad competition entails so that they can improve their performances in future events, sophomore Safwaan Khan said. “We want to do much better than [how] we did [at nationals],” Khan said. “We are going to be studying a lot harder. We have a much better idea of what to study, [and] since we know how it’s set up, I think we’ll do much better. We’ll be studying over the summer because the International Competition is in July. We’ll be having practice rounds in June.”

California introduces vaccine bill

The California Senate will vote on a bill regarding vaccine administration.

By Kyle Patel
NEWS EDITOR

Assessing legislation regarding vaccine administration among children, the California Senate passed Senate Bill 277 (SB 277) with a 25-10 vote May 14. Current state law allows parents to excuse their children from receiving vaccinations if it violates personal, religious or cultural beliefs. With the new bill, however, students may be exempt from getting the immunization only if authorized medical statements indicate that it would not be safe to administer. The bill revokes parents’ rights to refuse vaccinations for their children under the same pretext that the state law initially dictated. Should students fail to obtain proof of immunization or exemption, they will be excluded from school activities until they are vaccinated. SB 277 passed through the Senate Health Committee with a 6-2 vote, through the Senate Education Committee with a 7-2 vote and through the Senate Judiciary Committee with a 5-1 vote. Since the Senate has already passed the

bill, the legislation will now proceed to the State Assembly for a full vote. “[The bill’s] easy passage reflects that people are worried about there being an entire generation of kids who aren’t vaccinated,” teacher Michael Hinman said. “[Vaccination] is a cost-benefit [analysis] that has to be weighed. People are losing track of cost-benefit. Even though [this unease] is what the bill is intended to prevent, the mob-mentality fear people have [still exists].” This fear created by claims connecting vaccines and disorders has existed for nearly two decades when claims proposing a link between stomach diseases, autism and the Measles Mumps Rubella (MMR) vaccine were first introduced. Since then, others have joined the anti-vaccination movement and argued that vaccines can contain harmful ingredients and can cause serious side effects. However, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, both autistic and non-autistic children produced the same amount of disease-fighting antibodies when given a particular vaccine. For example, in Atlanta, when scientists conducted a study consist-

ing of 624 autistic and 1824 non-autistic children, they concluded that immunization against the MMR viruses at an early age was not a risk factor for developing autism. Nevertheless, the pursuit of additional data will allow a more comprehensive understanding of the effects of immunization, teacher James Kirkpatrick said. “Right now, there are suggestions [of] issues with [vaccinations],” Kirkpatrick said. “In terms of a direct link, there hasn’t been a solid connection. The bottom line is that more data needs to be analyzed.” Although the bill has recently sparked controversy, it was intended to guarantee that students are both inoculated against diseases and safe in educational learning environments, said Senator Richard Pan in a statement. “This bill is urgently needed to protect the health of our students,” Pan said. “This measure will ensure that students whose parents choose to not vaccinate them have several educational options that don’t put other children at risk of contracting vaccine-preventable diseases.”

Echo Foundation hosts Cafe Night fundraiser for summer music camp

The music evening features performances by club members and YouTubers in order to raise money for a musical summer camp.

By Sarah Kremer, Kyle Patel & Sarah Lee
NEWS EDITORS & EDITOR IN CHIEF

Deviating from previous methods of fundraising, the Echo Foundation will hold a Cafe Night at the Wanderwall Space May 29.

The Echo Foundation, founded by senior Emily Sim, is a student-run organization that encourages local high school musicians to benefit the community through their musical skills. Serving as a fundraising opportunity for an upcoming project, Cafe Night will consist of performances from both Warriors and YouTube singers. Club members will use Cafe Night to raise money for their summer music camp, which students created so underprivileged children in Orange County can have the opportunity to learn music, junior Lawrence Wang said. “The Echo Foundation’s goal is to host a music camp for elementary and middle school children [in order] to get them [exposed]

to music,” Wang said. “We know that there are some [students] out there who are not fortunate enough to learn an instrument. Our goal is to fund this camp so these students can have a week of learning about music [for free].” Although previous fundraisers diverged from the organization’s original principle surrounding music, the Cafe Night reaffirms the club’s purpose to influence others through music, senior Nicole Shean said. “We had been working so much with fundraisers like the American Apparel sweat-shirt sales that didn’t make much sense with the idea of Echo and its connection to music,” Shean

said. “[This is] why we came up with the Cafe Night, which raises money but also brings back the musical feel we want Echo to have as a whole.” The event provides a way to not only fundraise but also celebrate the organization’s hard work, Wang said. “We wanted to end the year with a really big event,” Wang said. “The Echo Foundation is about music, so we wanted to make this event a place where anyone can perform their music and put their heart into it.”

“Our goal is to fund this camp so these students can have a week of learning about music [for free].”

Lawrence Wang
junior



ELIZABETH LI

Science Olympiad wins its tenth National award

Science Olympiad remained national champions after the 2015 competition.

By Sarah Kremer
NEWS EDITOR

The Warrior Science Olympiad team won first place at the 2015 Science Olympiad National Tournament at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln May 16. Warriors competed in Division C events such as Scrambler, Chemistry Lab and Cell Biology. Their individual rankings added up to the lowest combined score

of 213. The team has consistently excelled at regional, state and national tournaments throughout past decades. Its most recent win in Nebraska marked the tenth National title under coach Kurt Wahl. The win was tempered by the loss of one of its former captain and mentor, Michael Wahl. Since birth, Michael has battled neurofibromatosis, which recently developed into an aggressive form of cancer. On May 13, Michael passed away. The team dedicates its victory to Michael Wahl and his family.

Celebrating
50th

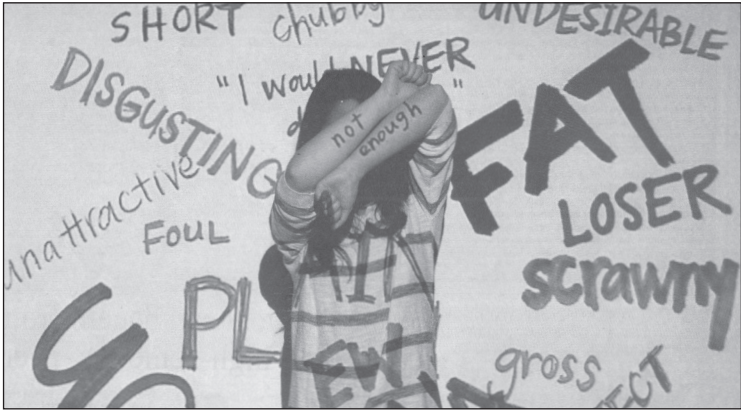
BACK TO THE PAST

Travel down memory lane with Oracle as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. This issue features five snippets from past papers published from 2011 to 2015.

Compiled by Leanne Ho and Sarah Lee, EDITORS IN CHIEF and cartoons by Ariel Liu and Hanbi Ko

Freshmen plan petition to end the bug project

From 2012



From 2013: "Body Image"



From 2015: "Dancing with the Staff"

"I just had a determination that I want to try harder than most people and I succeed."

Paul Hoffman
athlete

From 2014



From 2011: "Tiger Mom"

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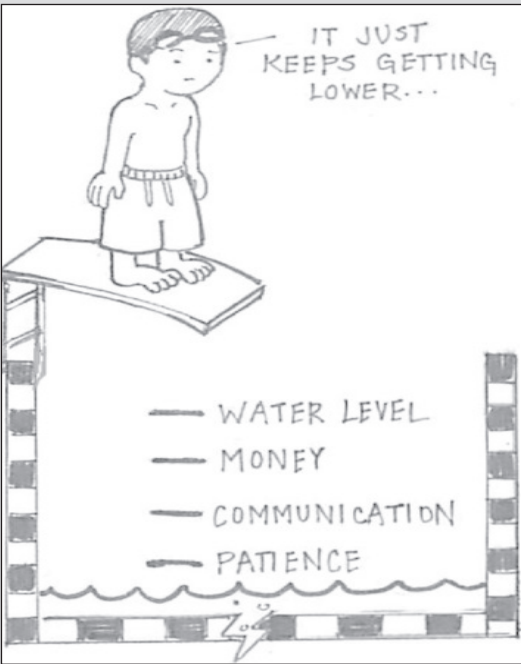
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STAFF EDITORIAL

Response to leak is inadequate

The truth about the pool leak is spilling out. Last month, NBC4 News Los Angeles aired an investigative story about wasteful pool leaks on the Warrior and Sunny Hills campuses. The report revealed that a concern raised back in September alerted the district to possible leaks. After a water meter was installed, it was discovered that each pool was losing 10,000 to 12,000 gallons of water daily. Seven months later on March 16, 2015, a second source contacted the Water District Board about the leak. In reaction, the Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD) finally published a press release stating

that the Sunny Hills pool would be beginning construction this summer for replacement and that the Warrior pool had been investigated earlier in Sept. 2014. Though the district's response may seem cautionary at first, a closer inspection of the timeline of events suggests a lack of accountability on the district's part. While the district did respond to the NBC4 story by issuing an official statement, it certainly did not follow up with the anonymous concern expressed in Sept. 2014. After installing the meters and determin-



KATRINA CHEN

ing the amount of leakage, the district merely reduced the circulation runtimes of the water pump and planned for a more thorough investigation. Because of these perfunctory actions, the leak continued for the next seven months. During this time, the Warrior aquatic sports teams using the pool were uninformed of the details of the district's proceedings and the leak. No further progress was reported until NBC4 caught wind of the story in April. Only then did the district drain the pool in order to halt the major leak. The dis-

trict's failure to take serious action between September and April resulted in seven months of water waste. This begs the question: if the issue had remained unpublicized, would the pool still be leaking and for an indefinite amount of time? More importantly, the district's inaction flagrantly dismissed one of the most severe droughts on record. Considering the emergency 25 percent reduction of water use, the gallons of wasted pool water only highlight the district's neglect to promptly address the issue. In the future, Warriors can only hope that the district will display more responsible decision-making behavior and act to conserve water.

Cultural appropriation erodes progress of racial toleration

By Christina Meyer
STAFF WRITER

Appropriation and appropriate never go hand-in-hand. Cultural appropriation has been in the news lately, especially in light of the annual Coachella music festival that is known for the fashion choices of its attendees. This year's festival featured popular trends such as South Asian bindis, a forehead decoration, and Plains Native American feather headdresses. Ultimately, these fads only make society more exclusive towards minority groups. Though exploring other cultures can be enjoyable, respectfully sharing customs and appropriating cultures are markedly

distinct. Appropriation, for example, improperly applies significant cultural aspects such as religious imagery to items of little consequence such as pop music. Whereas fusions such as Japanese-American California rolls create something rewarding for

led many minority groups to give up traditional dress. Now, however, the same clothes and practices previously deemed inferior have become interesting and beautiful so long as they are on the bodies of, for the most part, white Americans. This not only strips the tradition of their meanings but also emphasizes that the dominant White Anglo-Saxon Protestant culture is seen as the ideal thereby undermining other cultures.

Another consequence of cultural appropriation is the trivialization of traditions. The accessorizing of the Native American war bonnet, for example, undermines its actual purpose as a token of high honor. War bonnets are typically given to leaders and veterans of Plains Indian tribes,

both groups, appropriation takes a tradition solely for its aesthetics and ignores the significance. Commodifying a practice also allows the dominant culture to assert supremacy. In the past, for example, the overwhelming need to conform to American culture



HANMIN KO

WARRIORS WEIGH IN

In light of a former Air Force staff sergeant confiscating a U.S. flag from demonstrating students, Oracle asked Warriors: Is trampling on the American flag an appropriate form of protest?

Compiled by Yannie Hoang, OPINION EDITOR
and Renee Susanto, PHOTO



"You can technically trample the flag, but it's morally wrong. You just don't do something like that...you're disrespecting the country [that you live] in. You can try and change [the U.S.] but you shouldn't try and disrespect it because no one is going to listen to you... They're not going to support your cause. You're just damaging your beliefs..."

~Warrior sophomore



"[Trampling on the flag] is legal...but I feel like [the students] should have chosen something more symbolic of how detrimental our government is, [specific to] what they were protesting...instead of using the flag, which is symbolic of America. There's a certain pride to [the flag]...it symbolizes how hard [veterans have] worked for our country..."

~Warrior senior

Continued on page 5

Once Upon A Troy: The Final Chapter by Hanbi and Hanmin Ko



REPORT CARD

From Warrior empathy to club policies, Oracle evaluates some aspects of the Warrior campus for the 2014-2015 school year.

Compiled by Yannie Hoang, OPINION EDITOR

A **WARRIOR EMPATHY**
One of the highlights of the school year, Dancing with the Staff was a night to remember as students and teachers cheered on Mrs. Madrid in her inspirational battle against breast cancer. Not only did the memorable night prove the underlying unity of the school but it also featured the unique, empathetic campus culture shared within the Warrior family.

C- **SCHEDULING**
For many Warriors who had eagerly expected the number of late starts initially planned, last-minute cancellations due to lack of preparation by administration were disappointing. Still others were upset by the abrupt, unannounced transition to a block schedule that was later introduced and which seemed unnecessary for only six days of Common Core testing solely for juniors. Considering the confusion surrounding scheduling and the inconvenience for teachers who had to work around such late revisions, communication between administration and the rest of the school still needs to improve.

F **CLUB POLICIES**
Without warning, administration implemented a new policy in the beginning of the school year that required all clubs to re-apply for administrative approval, even those previously existent on campus. Warriors were just as outraged when a similar situation occurred right before the opening of International Week with the introduction of a new ticket system replacing the usual form of direct payment.

A- **LIBRARY**
Unlike the conditions from the previous year, the library this school year has greatly improved in various aspects, thanks to our new library technician. Many details that presented major issues last year have been presently resolved. Such revisions include maintaining more consistent hours of availability and increasing accessibility to Warriors who are in need of resources or refuge. On the other hand, students in the facility tend to create too much noise for those who are seeking a quiet study environment, acting as a nuisance for some Warriors.

Continued from page 4

and its ornamentation disrespects Plains culture. Sugar skulls from the Mexican holiday, Día de los Muertos, have also been used as Halloween decorations, downplaying their original significance of honoring the dead. Simply put, partaking in customs without reverence and awareness butchers traditions to the point where they become another fashion statement to uneducated observers.

Additionally, appropriation upholds false and sometimes harmful stereotypes. When Katy Perry performed “Unconditionally” dressed as a sexy geisha, she alluded to the stereotype that East Asian women are subordinate to their lovers. Selena Gomez’s “Come and Get It” performance in Indian dress, as well, sexualized traditional clothes. Both performances ridiculed Asian cultures and furthered dis-

“When people educate themselves on other cultures, they open themselves to new ways of thinking—progressing civilization forward...”

crimination. Though some would say that this is a banal matter, these distasteful actions perpetuate prejudiced notions about other ethnicities.

When admiring traditions, it is important for people to learn the true history and meaning of customs in order to respect other cultures. Educating people on other societies has brought cross-cultural innovations such as fusion food to more racial and societal acceptance nationwide. When people learn about other cultures, they open themselves to new ways of thinking—progressing civilization forward, one person at a time.

While many may have not seen the full impact of their past actions, appropriation is no longer excusable. It is time people not only learn the proper culture but also practice it correctly. Only then can we distinguish the line between appropriation and appreciation.

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TROY HIGH SCHOOL

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

An open letter to my teachers:

You know me as a student in your class, just another one of the many. You likely don’t know me as queer. But I am. There are many of us, more than you likely think. We are there, in your classes, but rarely are we made to feel included, welcome or even safe. I’m asking you to please, please help me and all of my queer siblings feel whole in your classrooms.

You set the tone of the class. You have the power to influence how we act, what we say, who we are. You have the power to validate me or make me a shadow. Because that is what you make me, a broken ghost, when you say “a husband is married to a woman” or “boys don’t be afraid to ask a girl to prom!” or when you clearly aren’t happy about the posters for GSA. That is what you do when you let my peers say “you fag” or “that’s so gay” or “being gay is a sin. That’s just my personal belief.” That is what you do when you bring up my rights to marriage as a debate and encourage my peers to debate if who I am is moral or should be hidden and shamed. I am rendered a secret, sinful pariah. My lips are forced shut and my secret queer identity becomes a dirty burden that I can’t unload ever because my presence is not welcome. In the culture of most of our classrooms, there is no place for me or my siblings.

But that doesn’t have to be. I’m begging you to change this. I’m begging you to make your classrooms safe for us. Because we are there. We are frequently faceless because we feel we must be, but we hear your words and feel the impact of your actions. And frequently, your actions are good hearted, I know. But I’m asking you to think of us and actively

try to make us safe in your classes. I’m asking you to say a husband is a man who is married and that boys shouldn’t be afraid to ask dates to prom. I’m asking you not to bring me up for debate because, while I know same sex marriage is on the national stage and you might want to have a lively discussion, it hurts me to have my peers stand up and denounce me as sinful, disgusting, and a bad example to their children. I’m asking you to regulate me and my peers and keep the classroom safe, even if we are expressing personal beliefs. I am asking you for a safe learning environment. I know you are my teachers and you care about us, about your students. I know that many of you are ready to wage war against threats to our safety or even natural disasters to protect us. I’m asking you to wage that same war in your classrooms against harmful speech and isolation. I know it may be hard and that it might not align with your personal beliefs. I’m not asking you to compromise your beliefs or to agree with me on anything. I’m asking for safety. I am human and I am a child in your school and I think I deserve to be safe and whole just like everyone else.

For those of you that are already waging this war, I thank you. You might not realize the impacts of your actions on us, but they are there. Your inclusion of queer folks in history or eagerness to put up a “Safe Zone” poster lift my soul up. They make me feel like I can exist as I am in my school.

I am asking not only for myself but also on behalf of my queer siblings, of the closeted freshman I once was, to make Troy an inclusive and safe campus and not a four year prison sentence. I am asking you to help them be people and not ghosts anymore.



Battle of the Beaches

With summer break fast approaching, check out these beach reviews to plan your next outing to the Pacific coast.

Cartoons by Hanmin Ko, CARTOON EDITOR and photos by Lauren Kim, PHOTO EDITOR

Corona del Mar

By Adrija Chakrabarty
ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

A perfect example of an upscale, Southern California coastal town, Corona del Mar sets the bar high for all other beaches. With its breathtaking scenery and dreamy ambience, this city by the ocean is a must-see for anybody craving a relaxing getaway to the Pacific.

One of the most striking aspects of this charming community is the gorgeous scenery that frames the lapping waters. Bright pink bougainvilleas, colorful wildflowers and verdant succulents line the path to the shore, adding a welcoming splash of color to the cerulean seascape. But perhaps most beautiful of all are the rock masses that emerge majestically from the foamy waters. A prime location for exploring and taking pictures, these rocks form secret coves that are homes to much of the beach's marine life.

Surrounded by several sprawling mansions that close off the beach, this lovely coastal getaway also has an inherent look of class that sets it apart from other beaches which are so often filled with shattered bottles and empty wrappers. The posh beach town has a refreshing sense of serenity and seclusion contributed by the relative quiet that surrounds the community. Also, the upper-echelon boutiques and quaint cafes add to the sophisticated beach town vibe that defines this part of old Newport.

From the stunning view to the idyllic surroundings, Corona del Mar is the place to go for a relaxing trip to the California coast.



POWER OF THE PACIFIC: The shoreline of Corona del Mar is studded with rock masses and cozy coves.

ADRIJA CHAKRABARTY

SEAL

By Anthony Kim
STAFF WRITER


The best way to beat the California summer heat is to go to the beach. However, almost everyone thinks this way too. You can get up as early as five in the morning to go to a crowded beach such as Newport or Laguna, but to no avail, get stuck in traffic and end up arriving around noon. Next time, take the turn toward Seal Beach to satisfy your fun-in-the-sun needs.

A beach is popular if it has built up a reputation over time. However, a beach is just a beach, and Seal Beach is one that can definitely compete on the same playing field.

For instance, Seal Beach offers anyone the same California beach experience of sand alongside Pacific Ocean. Compared to Newport or Laguna, Seal Beach is more popular for its surfer-friendly waters. Its location is ideal for larger, stronger waves that are great for both experts and newcomers. Speaking of which, some of Southern California's most popular surfing schools use Seal Beach to teach both beginners and advanced surfers.


Want to get something to eat after touring the beach side shops? Look no further. Seal Beach offers all kinds of delicacies ranging from burgers and fries to pizza and pasta, and even to Thai food. If you are in the mood for dessert, step outside and you will find ice cream parlors and smoothie stands up and down the streets.


All in all, Seal Beach is just as great as any other. Why don't you try catching Seal Beach's waves? They are guaranteed to make any teen shout the classic chant, "Surf's up, dude!"



SEAL APPEAL: Seal Beach is famous for its surfer-friendly waves and diverse eateries.

ANTHONY KIM





HUNTING-TON OF FUN: This beach has a lively pier life that is guaranteed to satisfy everyone's beach needs.

COURTESY OF YELP.COM


By Nicole Kuntjoro
ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Walking along Huntington, you can forget the day's troubles and just hang loose. With the Huntington Beach Pier in the backdrop, the coast feels like paradise. That is, it can feel like paradise when it isn't overrun with people. Huntington's popularity means that the beach is constantly crowded with people of every age from opening to curfew. But for those mellow weekends when the rowdy groups have gone, it's easy to see why so many people would want to visit. From sun up to sun down, there's always something to do, be it surfing or late-night bonfires with loved ones.

In the area surrounding the beach, there is a solid mix of industrial buildings and quaint shops, leaving plenty to do around Huntington. Fortunately, everything is in close proximity, making it easy to walk and see the little characteristic aspects that makes Huntington so appealing. Along the sidewalk are street performers and musicians, while on the pier, you can find a beautiful view of the city and a hearty American meal at Ruby's. Collectively, each of these unique pieces coalesce to form Huntington's laid-back beach life.


Overall, Huntington may seem more like an over-hyped tourist trap than anything. But upon a closer look, you can see the colorful culture that shines forth and gives a little taste of what the California sunshine can do for us.

HUNTINGTON



SUMMER BUCKET LIST


By Adrija Chakrabarty, ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR



HAL-LA-LUJAH: LA's art district is home to various murals.

RACHEL LEE

Be it the hipster murals found in Los Angeles Arts District or the insta-famous food hubs like Urth Caffé, a trip down to the heart of Southern California—downtown LA—is a must this summer break. A booming metropolis, this city is home to a variety of quirky shops, renowned restaurants and cultural landmarks. So this summer break, be sure to hit up the urban mecca of the West Coast.



ROLLING IN THE DEEP: The train to San Clemente goes by the shoreline.

COURTESY OF TRAINWEB.COM

Of course it is one thing to visit the beach but it is another thing altogether to enjoy a nice, relaxing train ride alongside the Pacific coast. In a day and age when mass transportation is pretty much exclusive to the big cities, taking the train can be a refreshing break from the usual humdrum of suburban life. This summer, why not travel with some class and comfort for your next beach getaway?

WISE WORDS

“Remind yourself that you are only 18 (or younger) and you don’t have to have it all figured out all the time. Besides, life is a journey—not a destination!”
Hanbi Ko

“Your life goes beyond how many A’s you got junior year or how many 5’s you scored on your AP tests. At the end of high school, you have to make choices based upon who you are and what you want for your future.”
Evan Lewis

“High school is a learning experience. You might like certain new ideas but grow to hate old philosophies you used to stand by. You learn more things you hate about yourself but also things you love.”
Rachel Lee

ORACLE SENIORS

DECLASSIFIED SCHOOL SURVIVAL GUIDE

College admissions for Warriors

THE TROY LIFE

••• 1. SLEEP •••

Grace Lee

Even if you can’t get a full eight hours of sleep, try to establish a regular sleeping cycle by going to bed and waking up at the same time everyday. For tests in subjects such as math, you’ll usually perform better by sleeping an hour or two more instead of using that time to cram in more information. And before you fall into a trap of three hours per night, do some self-assessment and see where those hours really disappear to (probably YouTube and social media).

••• 2. STRESS •••

Jennifer Yi

My favorite mantra, which got me through my junior year, is this: “Stress does not exist; stress is merely worrying about something that hasn’t happened yet.” Clearly, stress is very real. But that’s not my point. Convince yourself that as long as you’re giving 100% and working hard, you don’t need to worry about potential failure. Additionally, go out of your daily routine to do nice things for yourself. You’re never too busy to do things that ensure your sanity.

••• 3. STUDY •••

Maggie Deng

As if studying wasn’t cumbersome enough on its own, social media notifications can make it even more difficult to focus. If you absolutely need to use the Internet, take advantage of Google Chrome applications like Timewarp, which blocks specific websites when you turn it on. For your smartphone, use a productivity app like Forest, which animates the growth of a cute little tree so long as you don’t use your phone. Remember, your Facebook newsfeed will still be there for you to enjoy after you study.

Finding Your College

Jamie Xie

When deciding where you want to be for the next four years of your life, resist the allure of a “name” college. Instead, do your research and compile a reasonable list of schools that you feel will not only fit who you are, but also who you want to be. If you’re interested in certain majors, find out how much those colleges value that major. And if you still can’t decide, or if you finally realize what that \$60,000 price tag means, don’t be quick to rule out community colleges. They’re a great way to save money and fulfill the standard requirements that you’ll need to do anywhere else. Just remember: it’s not about where you go; it’s about what you do once you get there.

Extracurriculars

Lisa Mattson

When applying to college, it can be intimidating to compete against Olympic athletes, certified geniuses and kids who have been playing violin since birth. However, as tempting as it may seem, joining 12 different clubs in an effort to be competitive will actually hurt you in the long run. It’s much wiser to pick a few activities that really matter to you and dedicate your time to them. If you do what you love, it will definitely show in your applica-



LAUREN KIM

CLASS OF 2015: Oracle seniors gather to enjoy their last moments of high school together. Thank you for making Oracle amazing this past year. We will miss you all. Even when you are in college, don’t forget, Oracle is life.

tion (which, by the way, gives you only ten lines to fill in all activities).

Personal Essays

Ariel Liu

If you’re aiming for an original essay topic, just stop now. Whatever you can possibly think of has already been written forwards, backwards, and likely even in iambic pentameter. Although having an engaging topic is im-

portant, the power of the essay resides in your unique perspective. Convey a central idea about yourself, whether it is a resilient personality or prowess at sports. And keep your audience in mind; if there ever is anyone more easily bored than a teenager, it’s an admissions officer.

Standardized Testing

Elizabeth Li & Dallas Nguyen

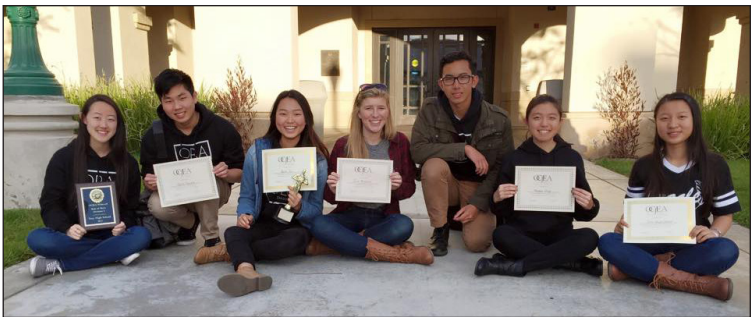
As far as AP tests go, colleges

see them only as a way for you to earn credit, so taking ten AP tests in one year won’t convince them of your academic dedication. For the SATs, avoid too many repeat testings; three sittings max for the SAT I and two sittings max for subject tests. If the SAT isn’t your thing, try the ACT. Accepted by all 4-year universities and closely resembling traditional school assessments, the ACT often boasts higher scores than the SAT.



COURTESY OF HANBI KO

WE HAVE ISSUES: We really do. But Oracle Class of 2015, we love you anyway, and we wish you all the best.



COURTESY OF HANBI KO

ONE LAST KICKER: Seniors Angela Zeng, Dallas Nguyen, Hanbi Ko, Lisa Mattson, Joshua Alcantara, Maggie Deng and Ariel Liu celebrate awards won at the Orange County Journalism and Education Association competition.

THE BIG PICTURE

Friendship

Joshua Alcantara

The road to success is riddled with treachery. Keep your friends close; keep your enemies closer. Walk not alone. All jokes aside, while we all strive to secure the position in that dream college, we ought to be civilized and cooperative people. The dog-eat-dog mentality only hurts our relationships (And when Dartmouth asks for that peer recommendation, who would even want to help you?). Of course, we don’t condone the establishment of relationships solely as ladder-rungs to success. Don’t forget the most obvious reasons for which you have formed your friendships: companionship and hangouts. And as busy as you all are, you must make time to at least enjoy being alive with other people.

Expectations

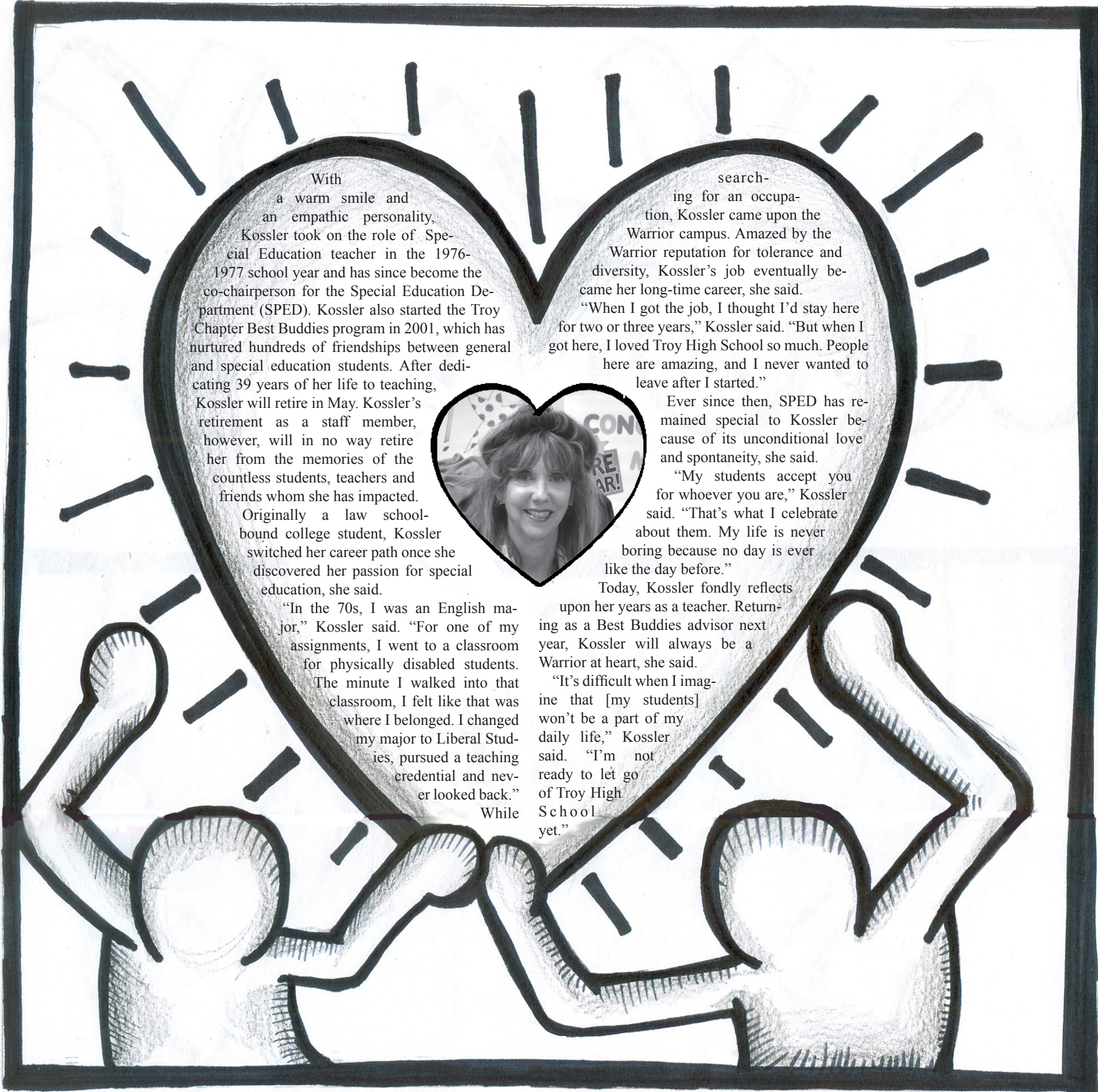
Angela Zeng

College isn’t everything. We know that’s quite a statement to make, with parents, counselors and even teachers filling our awkward teenage years with the question: which university do you want to attend? Everyone’s high expectations for college become our own, and when things seem to crash and burn, so do we. But it is okay to fail, whatever your definition of “failure” may be. Take a deep breath, continue to work hard in high school and don’t approach your college applications with the ultimate goal of getting into a brand name university. In fact, humble yourself throughout the process and be patient for the outcome. Whatever lies ahead of you is where you need to be, not necessarily where you want to be.

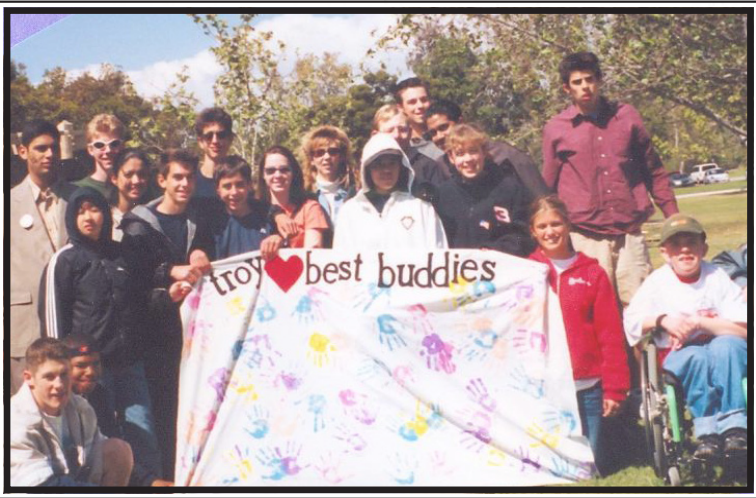
A Great Teacher - A Best Buddy

Trace the life and career of Sandi Kossler, who stepped onto campus 39 years ago as a recent college graduate, but now plans to say her good-byes to the Warrior community as a wiser, more experienced individual.

Article by Yuri Ceriale, **FEATURE EDITOR** and photos by Renee Susanto, **PHOTO** and courtesy of Sandi Kossler
Cartoons by Hanmin Ko, **CARTOON EDITOR**



YOU’VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME: Kossler and students enjoy a day at the Festival of Friendship.



HANDFULS OF HAPPINESS: Surrounded by fellow club members, Kossler displays a hand painted banner to celebrate one of the very first Best Buddies Bashes in 2002.



RUNNING THE EXTRA MILE: Kossler and staff host the Special Games, a track and field event held especially for SPED.

Noteworthy on

Exclusively released on Netflix, these television shows mark the entertainment industry’s transition from the big screen to the computer.

Photos courtesy of International Movie Database

An enthralling series that sheds light on the power plays and scandals that run rampant in America’s capitol, “House of Cards” dramatizes American politics with its masterful character development and skilled acting.

In a fragile government filled with corruption, protagonist Frank Underwood (Kevin Spacey) loses his promised seat as Secretary of State to a man who can only be described as his inferior. Underwood, frustrated with his loss, pledges to employ his political shrewdness to get back at those who usurped his position and gradually regain the power he believes is rightfully his.

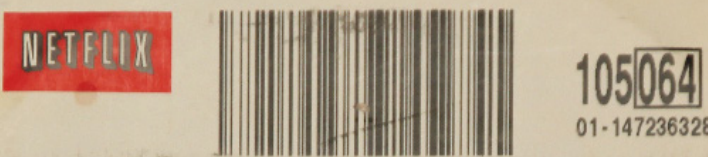
Perhaps the most defining elements of the show are the power-hungry characters themselves. Of course, there is Underwood, who makes his political prowess and desire for dominance clearer with every one of his machinations. From his forward thinking to his tactics of intimidations, Underwood expertly plays members of both his party and his opposition like a chess game. But Underwood is not the only one with lofty dreams of power. Both his wife Claire Underwood (Robin Wright) and secret press contact Zoe Banks (Kate Mara) also assert themselves as people who would do anything to rise in acclaim and influence. By developing strong, dominant characters, the show illustrates an exciting portrayal of life in D.C. that keeps audiences constantly waiting for the next move.

In addition, the cast’s superior acting adds a whole new dimension to the thrilling plot line. Even though the show’s content is dramatic and scandalous (audiences should go in with a mature mindset), the actors manage to hold an unwavering sense of cool collectedness throughout. Spacey’s slick talk and signature smirk masterfully illustrate the cunning nature of Underwood’s character. However, that is not to say that Spacey’s character is the only person with ulterior motives. Wright and Banks in their respective roles add greater depth to the plot as their con-ning characters generate interesting story arcs as they create complications for Underwood. These performances provide more insight into the different types of politicians that pervade the government.

Navigating through the murky waters of American bureaucracy, “House of Cards” depicts a riveting story of a political whip who uses his mastery of under-the-table politics to rise up the ladder of dominance.

House Of Cards

By Adrija Chakrabarty
ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR



ACES UP HIS SLEEVE: *Frank Underwood (Kevin Spacey) manipulates the crowd in his speech to Congress.*

DAREDEVIL

By Anthony Kim
STAFF WRITER



WAS BLIND BUT NOW HE SEES: *Matt Murdock (Charlie Cox) exacts vigilante justice on the streets of New York as Daredevil.*

What a year it’s been for Marvel Studios. Having dominated theaters with blockbusters such as “Avengers: Age of Ultron” and “Captan America: Winter Soldier,” Marvel has decided to concoct a new, more sophisticated recipe for its superheroes. On April 10, it took over television with the new Netflix and Marvel original series “Daredevil.”

Daredevil is yet another Marvel superhero but with a new twist. With neither superpowers nor a tortured childhood, lawyer Matt Murdock was a typical man who wants to do good in the world. Blinded due to a childhood accident, his physical disability takes the place of the stereotypical orphaned background of a hero. His blindness becomes a double-edged sword as Murdock develops extraordinary senses as compensation for his loss of vision. Using these ungauddy powers, Murdock fights crime as the vigilante Daredevil.

Without godly blood or life-changing scientific experiments, Murdock’s rise to infamy breaks the Marvel tradition of dramatic back-grounds. His humble origins are gradually revealed to the viewers in bite-sized flashbacks that further underscore his mortality and spares viewers the usual head-scratching moments during the boring first encounters.

On that note, though his vibrant costume definitely makes an impres-sion, Daredevil has no million-dollar gadgets, no unrealistically deep vigilante voice and no flashy superpowers. In fact, his enhanced abilities are never bluntly referenced by any character. He’s all knuckle to knuckle and fist to fist in a dark red suit. Fortunately, Daredevil doesn’t get caught up in the colors, but rather drops the audience right into the action.

The brutal fight sequences peel away the glossy layer of being a super-hero, bringing it down to its brutal reality. Using wide-angle shots to cap-ture every movement, “Daredevil” showcases these intense battles with gusto. One such encounter takes place early on in the series, brilliantly portraying a fistfight in epic proportions that could be paralleled to Mar-vel’s previous works. However, there is a slight disclaimer for younger viewers. The violence is considerably more graphic than the usual next-to-no-blood Marvel, so prepare yourself.

This darker portrayal of the Marvel universe is a breath of fresh air from the snarky films viewers have come to know. With its suprisingly human hero and much darker setting, “Daredevil” takes the franchise to another level.

Baseball cedes to the La Habra Highlanders 0-10

The Warrior baseball team (15-7, 10-3) fell to the La Habra Highlanders in a tough match May 6.

By Austin Shin & Angie Won
STAFF WRITER & SPORTS EDITOR

Emphasizing a new positive mindset towards its season, the Warrior boys baseball team (15-7, 10-3) surrendered to the La Habra Highlanders 0-10 in a blowout game May 6.

Senior Dominic Vaccher led the Warriors into the game, sliding to second for a leadoff double. However, due to a strikeout and two grounders, the Warriors could not gain any scoring advantage. Starting the pitching rotation for the Warriors, junior George Boller gave up two home runs and a triple before he could close out the first inning, putting the score at 0-2. In the top of the fourth, junior Spencer Ferraiz advanced two runners to second and third base with a double. Despite this scoring op-

portunity, the next Warrior batters failed to make solid contact with the ball, which led to another scoreless inning. The Warriors were unable to stop the Highlanders in the final innings, capitulating four more points to end with a final score of 0-10.

Although the team did not have its best performance, it continues to focus on each game as a dis-

stressful atmosphere, can play competitive matches without having anxiety impeding its performance, assistant coach David St. Clair said.

“The [athletes] are very [relaxed]; they don’t get stressed out,” St. Clair said, “One of their strongest characteristics is that they’re out there smiling, having fun. Sometimes you wonder if they’re ready to play, but they are. If most teams were as loose as our team is, you’d say that they wouldn’t win many games, but our kids are responding to being loose and having a good time.”

Despite the loss, looking forward to upcoming games encourages the players to gain confidence and assert their dominance in league, co-captain Kristofer Amparo said.

“At the beginning of [the year] we thought that we could compete for a league title,” Amparo said. “We started off 0-2, and I feel like that really hurt our confidence, but we knew we had the entire season left. Now we have won

ting, the next Warrior batters failed to make solid contact with the ball, which led to another scoreless inning. The Warriors were unable to stop the Highlanders in the final innings, capitulating four more points to end with a final score of 0-10.

“You never know how a season is going to end. You just have to keep playing hard and see what happens. Our saying is to just take it one step at a time. [We] just worry about the next game, then go from there.”

The team, by shifting to a less

“You never know how a season is going to end. You just have to keep playing hard and see what happens. Our saying is to just take it one step at a time. [We] just worry about the next game, then go from there.”

David Shiota
coach



IDA KAZERANI

WINDING UP: Drawing power into his pitch, a Warrior athlete attempts to overturn the Highlander advantage in the first inning of the game.

our last nine games, and we beat Sonora, which has won league the past two years. This [game] was our first time to beat them in three years, so I feel like we really got back to that attitude that says we can beat anyone. Over time, we became more confident in ourselves, and now [the team] is in first place.”

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Warrior Tennis competes at League Finals

Boys tennis (8-2, 2-4) swept the first round of League Finals to advance to round two April 30.

By Dominique Pillos & Angie Won
STAFF WRITER & SPORTS EDITOR

Benefiting from an emphasis on teamwork and unity, the Warrior boys tennis team (8-2, 2-4) concluded its season at League Finals April 23.

In the first round of singles, sophomore Ricky Sherb led the way, pounding his opponent with strong topspin groundstrokes to win both sets. Sophomore Joseph Yoon maintained the Warriors’ advantage, smashing a series of shots against his opponent to secure a 6-3 and 6-0 victory. The Warriors prevailed in singles and propelled two players into the second round of finals.

On the doubles side, the Warriors continued to dominate as co-captain Enoch Peng and sophomore Victor Vo swept with a succession of forehands, leading to consecutive 6-0 victories. Co-captain Ryan Kawano and junior David Jeong followed suit, returning with crosscourt volleys to widen the gap. Closing out a solid first round, sophomore Elliot Stahr and freshman Jonathan Lee slammed their way to a final score of 6-0.

A strong focus on camaraderie contributed largely to the team’s success at the preliminary round



LAUREN KIM

THE REACH: Lunging for a wide ball from the opponents, an athlete fires a return to clinch a win for the Warriors 6-0.

of League Finals. In the beginning, the Warriors acted more as individuals than as teammates; yet this distinction was gradually diminished as the team integrated drilling and team building activities, Kawano said.

“Coach tries to get us to all be present at practice, and he’s done drills with team bonding in

the past,” Kawano said. “We’ve had days when we strictly work on teamwork, and we practice playing with each other. But as we played and got to know each other better, more emphasis was put on [increasing] teamwork and being there for one another during the matches.”

Despite the initial struggles in

matches, the Warriors’ unity built a stronger team dynamic as the season progressed, Kawano said.

“In the past, some players haven’t been as focused on watching the matches as on doing homework or other things,” Kawano said. “This time, if there is a match going on, we are all there to support even if it is the

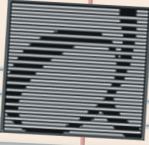
very last match of the game and even if it does not matter. This support during matches helps people that are playing and gives them a boost to play better. When [my partner and I] were at the last match and the whole team came and watched, it felt a lot better than just having the opponents’ team cheering their own players on.”

Players were able to hone their individual strokes and enhance their performance while emphasizing team strength, Peng said.

“We had some team building activities which have increased the chemistry between the players and their doubles teams,” Peng said. “This year we started doing more drills than last year. It was really helpful in practicing and improving our individual skills. [Ryan and I] separated into groups, and we tried to help focus on different [skills] with each person.”

Even though the team struggled at the start of the season, the Warriors view this game as a successful conclusion to their season of growth, Kawano said.

“Over the course of the season, the team has gotten a lot better,” Kawano said. “The team has gotten a lot closer since the very beginning of the season. We started off a bit rocky, but we got a lot stronger as the season went on thanks to practice. Right now, I feel like we have done well. Everyone has improved a lot, and we have all had a good time.”



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