

ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OPINION
Read our staff editorial on the ongoing teacher salary negotiations that threaten to send some of our best teachers leave the district.

Page 3

ENTERTAINMENT
With the imminent return of Wonder Woman to theaters, we explore the evolution of women's roles in popular media.

Page 9

SPORTS
Learn about the Warrior athletes who have impacted their teams in sports such as basketball, soccer, water polo and wrestling.

Page 10

LATEST UPDATES

Warriors to participate in National Science Bowl

After placing first out of 23 teams at the Regional Science Bowl competition at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, sophomores Patrick Cai, juniors Mike Bao and Daniel Coleman, and seniors Victor Chen and Junyu Yang will advance to the National Science Bowl competition in Washington, D.C. Apr. 27 through May 1. The last Warrior team competed in 2001 and placed second. The competition, which is recognized by the United States Department of Energy, offers various scholarships to national finalists.

FBLA Places First at Annual Sectional Conference

For the 11th straight year, Warriors earned recognition for placing first in the Southern Section of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) conference at Biola University Feb. 6. Nine individuals placed first: Bryan Ghaly, Catherine Wang, Ahmed Abdalla, Alyssa Deng, Shari Wei, Elliot Stahr, Ashley Fan and Joseph Jeong. Warriors collectively won 58 top five distinctions.

Instrumental Music Program to host Festival Concert

The Instrumental Music Program will host two separate festival concerts in the upcoming season. First, the Warrior Band will perform a range of music from its festival repertoire Feb. 25 in the North Gym, followed by the Symphony Orchestra and Advanced String Orchestra, which will perform a selection of its songs March 4 in the Lecture Hall. Both concerts will start at 7 p.m. and tickets will cost \$3 with an ASB card and \$5 without.

IMPASSE

Teachers' salary negotiations stall

After ten months of deliberation, teacher-district wage disputes have not yet been resolved.

The Oracle's analysis of the ongoing salary discussions continues on the center spread, pages 6 and 7. The "Take a Stand" feature investigates the many aspects of the negotiations such as contract expiration, picketing and mediation.



DAVIS PARK

BE FAIR TO THOSE WHO CARE: Board President Robert Hathaway (top left) and a Warrior (top right) speak at a district board meeting. Warrior teachers (bottom) express their dissatisfaction with current contracts by picketing.

Warriors participate in annual math competition

Mathletes anticipate competing in the AMC, offered to all high school students.

By Zina Patel
STAFF WRITER

Improving their problem-solving skills in mathematics, Warriors will participate in the American Mathematics Competition (AMC) at California State University, Fullerton Feb. 17.

Previously, Warriors took part in an AMC examination on campus Feb. 2. The Mathematical Association of America prepares and administers these annual exams. Since 1950, high school students across the nation have been given an opportunity by the association to compete in a series of math contests. Students first take the AMC 10 or AMC 12 exam, depending on their grade level.

The AMC 10, offered to freshmen and sophomores, covers algebra and geometry curriculum while the AMC 12, offered to juniors and seniors, covers concepts up to precalculus.

The top 2.5 percent of AMC 10 test-takers and the top five percent of AMC 12 competitors advance to the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME). Both AMC and AIME scores are evaluated to determine the qualifiers for the next level. The top 230 AMC 10 and AIME mathletes

"To me, a score means nothing. The knowledge you gain from the experience is what really matters."

Mike Bao
junior

move on to the United States of America Junior Mathematical Olympiad (USAJMO) whereas the top 270 AMC 12 and AIME contestants advance to the United States of America Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO).

USAMO are invited to train at the Mathematical Olympiad Summer Program to represent the United States of America at the International Math Olympiad. Math competitions encourage students to discover problem-solving techniques using well-known concepts, senior Victor Chen said.

Math competitions encourage students to discover problem-

solving techniques using well-known concepts, senior Victor Chen said.

"Mathematics is about finding the right way to solve a problem that you have not seen before," Chen said. "Mathematicians observe complex problems and strive to find creative ways to solve them. Every year, a group of intelligent mathematicians creates challenging AMC problems that use common strategies in different and unique ways. I believe that being able to formulate and apply these special techniques is how one gets better at competitive math."

Students prepare by taking practice tests in order to become familiar with the types of questions on the AMC exam, teacher David Booze said.

"AMC" continued on page 2

St. Jude YLT to host yearly ShowCare event to fundraise for the uninsured

Members put on a talent show in order to help local organizations.

By David Hou
STAFF WRITER

Hosting a performance to benefit those that are underprivileged, Warriors in the St. Jude Medical Center Youth Leadership Team (YLT) are holding the 4th annual ShowCare talent show at the Fullerton Community Center Feb. 12.

The student-run organization encourages its members to vol-

unteer and fundraise, supporting community outreach programs such as Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Care for the Poor. Started four years ago by a local student, the organization has rapidly grown; the group's fundraising amounts have doubled every year, with more than \$10,000 last year. Although members attend various high schools in north Orange County, students still work together and in conjunction with St. Jude Volunteer Services to host their major annual event.

The team is hosting ShowCare to fundraise for St. Jude's Care

for the Poor program, which provides free basic medical services to the poor through community clinics. According to Team President Kevin Kuntjoro, they began preparations for the show in November. Groups featuring Warriors, including the Vietnamese Student Association and the Ohana Club, as well as Warrior individuals, will perform at the event. Tickets cost \$5 for students and \$10 for adults and can be purchased from team members before or at the event.

When planning ShowCare, the YLT encountered problems with venue and fundraising but continued working to ensure that the event will go smoothly, Newsletter Team Leader Emily Liu said. Members found a new venue, requested grants and planned an opportunity drawing at the event to reach fundraising goals.

"[Our problems have] made us stronger as a team," Liu said. "Knowing that we started out with a \$1,000 deficit just made us want to raise even more, so this year we received bigger sponsorships. We're more motivated to go seek [fundraising]."

Through their struggles, team members have learned to work together, developing stronger management and communication skills, Kuntjoro said.

"You don't get [to experi-

ence teamwork] a lot at Troy because you're trying to be competitive with everyone," Kuntjoro said. "With the team, [you learn to] put other people in front of yourself."

Members are excited to host the event because they want to help the local community, and are proud their efforts will benefit many lower-income individuals who might otherwise not receive medical treatment, Kuntjoro said.

"Being able to provide [funds to help the poor] is something that's very much worth the time and effort because you're giving these people [hope]," Kuntjoro said. "With this program, you can say you're making a difference in many people's lives."

The group has larger plans for ShowCare in the future, director of volunteer services Gian Santos said. The team hopes to increase fundraising amounts and attract more performers and attendees in the following years.

"My vision is that we have only scratched the surface," Santos said. "I can see this increasing enthusiasm starting with Troy, with the great support we already have, and moving to Sunny Hills, Fullerton [and other high schools]."

"AMC" continued from page 1

"I keep old tests in my classroom to help students understand the style and format of the test," Booze said. "Most of the kids that take the AMC are used to the rigour since they have taken practice exams over and over again. The most common preparation is practice because the test is created to challenge students, which is the reason why a lot of Warriors like to take it."

Through comprehension of the core ideas inherent within each AMC problem, students enhance their critical thinking and arithmetical skills, junior Mike Bao said.

"The AMC test is very rigorous," Bao said. "Mathletes have to understand the fundamental concepts behind AMC problems and know where each equation and each formula is coming from in order to achieve success in this competition. The most important skill [a student needs in order] to do well on the AMC exam is mathematical comprehension. To me, a score means nothing. The knowledge you gain from the experience is what really matters."

The next AMC test will be held at California State University, Fullerton, room MH 682, on Wednesday, February 17 at 6:00 p.m. To register, Warriors can contact Professor Bogdan Suceavă at bsuceava@fullerton.edu.



JEANETTE DE LA TORRE-DURAN

STOP, DROP & POINT: Warrior members of Vietnamese Student Association take time after school in the quad to rehearse their dance routine for ShowCare, the talent show hosted by St. Jude YLT.

DR. ANNA HOU
DR. LIU

OPEN SATURDAY & EVENINGS

- Family Dentistry
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Tooth Whitening
- Kids Dentistry
- Digital X-Ray w/80% Less Radiation
- Insurance, Healthy Families Program & Medi-Cal Welcome
- Latest Sterilization Techniques For All Procedures
- Payment Plan Upon Approval

Specialist in IMPLANT DENTISTRY
Dr. Chang

ONE HOUR ZOOM! TEETH WHITENING

We Love Kids

Se Habla Español

562 690-3551 • 714 671-1612

971 N. Harbor Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631
Northwest Corner Of Harbor Blvd. & Whittier Blvd. By Stater Bros & Rite-Aid

DENTAL

DR. ANNA HOU & DR. LIU

Abierto Sábados y en las Tardes

- Odontología Familiar
- Odontologoga Cosmética
- BLANQUEO DENTAL
- Odontología Para Niños
- Rayos-X Digitales Con El 80% Menos De Radiation
- Aceptamos Seguros, Programa Healthy Families y Medi-Cal
- Las Mas Modernas Técnicas De Esterilizacion En Todos Los Procedimientos
- Plan De Pagos Previa Aprobacion

Blanqueo Dental con Zoom! En Una Hora

Nos Encantan los Niños Nos Preocupamos por los Niños

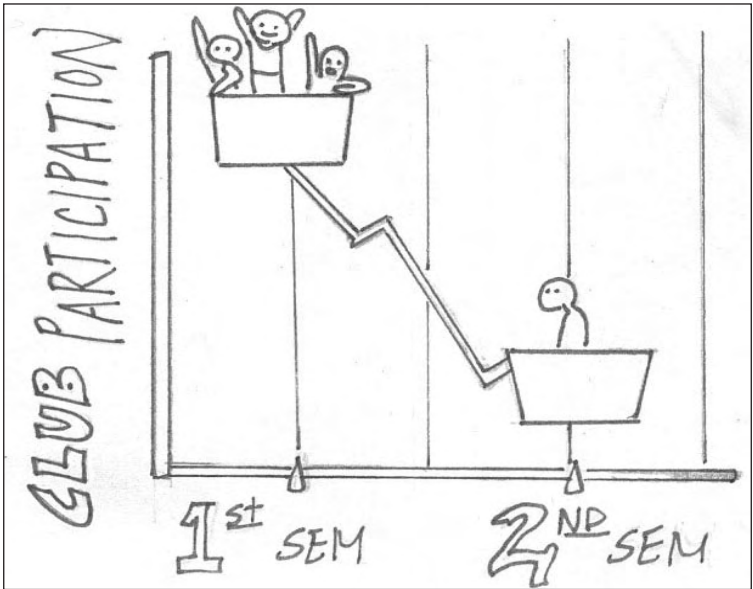
Especialista en ODONTOLOGÍA-DE IMPLANTES
Dr. Chang

Se Habla Español

562 690-3551 • 714 671-1612

971 N. Harbor Blvd. La Habra, CA 90631
En la Esquina Noroeste de Whittier Blvd. y Harbor Blvd. Cercas de Stater Bros & Rite-Aid

www.harbordentaloc.com



KATRINA CHEN

Clubs’ decline remains a perennial predicament

By Julianne Kim
STAFF WRITER

September’s for Club Rush, but January’s for Club Slump.

Each year, club participation declines as Warriors enter the second semester. Fewer members come to meetings, and board members generally seem less motivated. Recently established clubs, in particular, rarely make it through the crucial, first months of the second semester. Though there may be several causes, the main culprits behind the decline in club participation appear to be students’ skewed motives for creating clubs, lack of commitment and interest and bias in board selection.

As college admissions become more competitive, extracurricular activities and leadership experience become critical, so some students start organizations with only board positions in mind. While colleges do look for leadership positions and club activities as signs of student initiative, many clubs appear to be perpetuating everything but these virtues. For example, if students create an Alopecia Areata club for the sake of board positions, they demean the fight against the disease and those afflicted with it. Once second semester rolls along, these student organizations, managed by undedicated leaders, cannot function properly or attract other club participants. In addition, most board positions are inherited through seniority, with limited regard to actual qualifications. In such cases, there is a greater chance that

incoming board members will be incapable of or unwilling to fulfill their roles, and with club authority in the hands of incompetent board members, communication with advisors can be minimal, preventing competitive clubs from attending tournaments and conferences. Moreover, leadership clubs cannot develop effective management skills in their members if their own boards are chosen without consideration for competence.

Rather than fervently hunting for board positions, students should aim to gain new friendships and nurture interests through club participation. Originally, clubs were meant to give back to the community, invoke change or rally students for a certain cause. Clubs such as Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and Speech and Debate allow students to build skills not usually taught in classrooms. Furthermore, clubs such as California Association of Student Councils (CASC) and Youth Leadership Collective (YLC) give students opportunities to form networks with peers and attend conferences outside of school. Overall, Warriors should recognize the positive impact of clubs beyond board positions and reap the benefits of participating in club activities.

To prevent drops in club participation, students ought to invest time only into those clubs in which they are truly interested. Instead of joining clubs with fingers crossed for board positions, students should wholly commit to certain clubs and work to earn board positions. Once dedicated students head clubs, the declination trend during second semester can substantially decrease.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Students stand united with Warrior teachers on campus

After eight years without a raise, it’s time to receive fair pay.

This mindset has led our justifiably frustrated teachers to protest the lack of progress in the contract negotiations with the Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD). The movement was established following the district’s measly two-percent proposed raise to the teachers’ salary schedule. In response, Warrior educators have ceased providing recommendation letters and academic and club advising before school, after school, at break and at lunch. Instead, as of the contract negotiations Jan. 26, teachers have begun working strictly by their contracts. Despite these potentially detrimental measures, Warriors have supported their instructors and have organized their own protest group, Students for Teachers. For the sake of all Warriors, the district must recognize the crucial role of teachers and compromise.

First and foremost, teacher motivation greatly influences student success. Prior to the strike, the teachers devoted their free time to furthering students’ educations. For instance, Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB teachers provided after-school homework assistance for struggling students. However, insufficient financial compensation has caused teach-

ers to resort to working by their contracts. Consequently, students are missing a key component of their learning processes. Additionally, now that teachers take advantage of duty-free lunches, many clubs have been discontinued. Clubs play a vital role on campus, providing students with valuable skills not taught in class. For instance, organizations such as Speech and Debate teach Warriors to be proficient orators. If the district truly values quality education, it needs to reevaluate its contract proposal so that Warriors can return to learning with all the assets possible.

Furthermore, the district risks losing some of the best teachers in the nation, potentially jeopardizing the quality of education on campus. In 2014, due to their unmatched ability and motivation, Warrior teachers guided students

to passing AP exams on an astonishing 88.3 percent of their AP tests. Additionally, Warrior instructors have led extracurricular programs such as Science Olympiad to national recognition. However, due to contract negotiations, teachers may leave the district, taking these opportunities for academic success with them. The district should be especially worried because the Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) and other districts provide a salary schedule nine percent higher than that of the FJUHSD. If unfair compensation continues, teachers may leave.

Ultimately, the FJUHSD must realize that a higher salary schedule is non-negotiable. After years of compliance, the time for a raise is now.



HANMIN KO

Tampon Tax takes away necessary goods

By Christina Meyer
STAFF WRITER

The tampon tax is not a luxury that women can afford to pay.

Recently, Assembly Bill (AB) 1561 was proposed to ban sales taxes on feminine hygiene products. Citing the expense of products, and supporters of this measure have rallied support across many news outlets. Ultimately based in ignorance, the tampon

tax is unjustified and targets already-disenfranchised Americans.

Many lobbyists designate tampons and pads as nonessentials, an opinion contrary to reality. Approximately 52.3 percent of the American population has periods, and these items remain crucial to their health. Without regular access to hygiene products, the prevalence of septic shock, an infection caused by bacteria that can propagate easily in unclean sanitary products, increases. Not having pads or tampons places

people’s health at risk; therefore, to claim that these products are not necessities is incorrect. However, because they are currently designated as nonessentials, feminine hygiene products are subject to taxation—despite the fact that they are already priced at upwards of \$10 a package. Including taxes, many of them cost upwards of \$12 per pack.

Because tampons and pads are indispensable for many, they should not be classified as luxury

“Tax” continued on page 4

Teacher Feature: Mr. Castillo’s Cupid Shuffle by Hanmin Ko



“Tax” continued from page 3

goods. By definition, a luxury tax is imposed only on expensive items that a majority of Americans cannot afford, such as costly cars. Despite this fact, the tax affects over half of the population and, according to sources in AB 1561, generates \$20 million in taxes in California alone. Clearly, this tax has a much larger impact than any other luxury tax. Furthermore, Canada has already set a precedent; the nation recently reclassified menstrual products as necessities, thereby abolishing the tampon tax. The U.S. has also labeled other critical goods, such as groceries and prescription drugs, as necessities and has subsequently made them tax exempt in the past.

Moreover, several counterarguments spread misinformation or blatant bigotry. One common misconception is that periods are controllable, upheld mostly by cisgender—in other words, not transgender—men who also tend to be the lobbyists setting tax codes. Thus, because of misunderstanding about menstruation,

many lobbyists falsely view tampons and pads as comfort luxuries rather than basic needs. Furthermore, critics believe that these products do not warrant a tax-exempt status since the tax is only a few dollars. However, they do not account for the elitism of this argument. Not only can these few dollars make these products even more inaccessible to some of the most disadvantaged Americans, such as poor women and trans men, but this seemingly low tax certainly adds up over time. This small burden on most Americans becomes a more serious issue when many poor and homeless Americans have to decide whether or not they can afford to purchase hygiene products each month.

As measure AB 1561 reports, the tampon tax is completely unnecessary. It disproportionately attacks some of the most vulnerable populations in America, and promotes ignorant thinking based on misconceptions. It is time for lobbyists to see the necessity of period products and designate them as necessities by making them tax-exempt.



KATRINA CHEN

2016 ELECTION UPDATE

IOWA CAUCUS results

DEMOCRATS

CLINTON

49.9%

SANDERS

49.6%

REPUBLICANS

CRUZ

27.6%

TRUMP

24.3%

RUBIO

23.1%

DROPPED out of the RACE

REPUBLICAN

GRAHAM

HUCKABEE

PAUL

SANTORUM

JINDAL

PATAKI

DEMOCRAT

O'MALLEY

UPCOMING DATES

South Carolina

Feb. 20: Republican Primary

Feb. 27: Democratic Primary

Nevada

Feb. 20: Democratic Caucus

Feb. 23: Republican Caucus

COMPILED BY YANNIE HOANG, OPINION EDITOR AND GRAPHIC BY ALEX VAZQUEZ

A to Z Driving School

Serving Orange County Since 1996

[Online Driver's Education]
[Only \$28 Work at your own pace and START TODAY!!]

[One on One Behind the Wheel]
[\$261.00 for 6 of training. Pick-Up/Drop-Off/Insured and Bonded]

[In Class Driver's Ed & Behind the Wheel]
[\$305.00 for 6 Hours of training & In Classroom Lesson]

Spring Break Classes:
March 21, 22, 23, & 24 // March 28, 29, 30, & 31
[Held from 9:00-3:15pm]

Call/Visit our office today and receive \$10 off any package!!

Contact us
[A to Z Driving School]
[2612 W Lincoln Ave # 106, Anaheim CA 92801]
[714-828-6147]
[www.a2zdriving.com]

A Home To Call Her Own

Six years ago, teacher Brinda Johnson and her husband became loving parents to two middle-school age foster children, Mariah and Cami. Flash forward to 2016, and the older sibling, Mariah, has made the big decision to become Brinda’s adopted daughter. Follow the footsteps of this family from their initial introductions to their enduring relationship today.

By Ashley Fan, **STAFF WRITER**
Photos courtesy of Brinda Johnson



QUINCEANERA FOR A QUEEN: At the age of 15, Mariah dressed in a dark blue gown for her Quinceanera birthday celebration.



CHILDHOOD MEMORIES: Foster sisters Mariah and Cami are in their late teens today, but their everlasting bond has existed since they were children.

When I first met my parents, I was 14 and didn't want to be adopted by them. I went to live with them because my sister was there, and she wanted me to be with her. It was a year later when I realized that I loved my parents and actually wanted to be adopted by them. Not for my sister's sake, but for my own happiness.

-Mariah Nicole Johnson

One sister got a Quinceanera, and the other got a Sweet Sixteen. One wanted to get adopted, and one wasn't ready just yet. But despite their differences, the two sisters have shared laughter at birthday parties and Disneyland trips, as well as an avid love for manga and anime. All this fun was made possible by their loving foster parents, teacher Brinda Johnson and her husband. As their foster daughters, these lucky girls, Mariah and Cami, were able to enjoy their high school life in Johnson's warm and accepting home.

The family's story began six years ago, when the sisters met Johnson and her husband for the first time in San Diego. The Johnsons' home, already filled with two crazy dogs, seemed lively and welcoming—a perfect place for the young girls. They soon moved in and settled there for three dynamic years, until the end of high school.

Surprisingly, the most special memories made in those years were not the once-in-a-lifetime birthday parties. Big events came and went, but the daily routines and little discoveries about the girls' personalities were the most memorable, Johnson said.

"The girls are very sweet and thoughtful," Johnson said. "Mariah would always offer to help with cooking or help her friends. I'm taking care of her, yet she has the heart to help and I really appreciate having her in my life."

Johnson initially decided to foster children because of her belief that no child should go through life alone. By becoming a mother figure and a reliable role model, she played a great part in the sisters' development as individuals, Johnson said.

"Fostering or adopting children is so important because then they can have individual attention," Johnson said. "They need someone who's going to help them be organized, give them love and attention, give them that birthday party, or help with the homework and daily routines. It's just parenting, really."

But ask any parent—raising children is not all fun and laughs. More often than not, kids can be a handful. It was challenging for Johnson's daughters to continuously adapt to new surroundings and equally hard for Johnson herself to keep up with her spirited teens. Even through their growing pains, Johnson remained a loving mother and provided all that she could, she said.

"Foster children are hurting, and they need someone patient," Johnson said. "You don't have to worry about being a perfect parent to be a foster parent; no one is perfect. Most children recognize, especially later on, that 'they graduated from high school because of you,' like my daughter has."

With her mother's help, Mariah is headed down the path towards her life goal to become an English teacher in Japan. Mariah, who has already graduated from high school and is attending college, is ready to explore the world on her own. In the end, Johnson just wants her daughter to be successful and happy with her life, she said.

"The ultimate goal for Mariah is that she can be an independent woman and have her own career," Johnson said. "I really hope that she can reach her goal. I know she can because she's a very smart girl and she works hard. She's made all the decisions on her own. Raising Mariah was hard work, but good work. Was it worth it? Absolutely. I'm very proud of my daughter."

And by "my daughter," Johnson really means that. On Jan. 19, Mariah was officially adopted as an adult. That day, after years of court dates, mounds of paperwork and a heap of legalities to deal with, Mariah finally became Mariah Nicole Johnson. It was a long and sometimes bumpy process, but the fun along the way was what mattered the most; both she and her family agree—it was all worth it.

"Raising Mariah was hard work, but good work. Was it worth it? Absolutely. I'm very proud of my daughter."

Brinda Johnson
teacher



BONDS THICKER THAN BLOOD: Though they are not all biologically related, Cami, Mariah and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have forged unbreakable family ties.

TIMELINE

Expired Contract & Negotiations

The teachers’ contracts expired at the end of the 2014-2015 school year. Negotiations for a new agreement began April 2015 and continued throughout the summer and into the new school year. As 2015 came to a close, the district proposed a revised contract that included a two percent raise but also required teachers to pay independently for health benefits. After teachers rejected this proposal, the district filed for impasse. The request for impasse was rejected by the neutral third party, PERB, and negotiations continued. The district offered the same contract Jan. 28, and the teachers yet again rejected it. The district once more filed for impasse.

Warrior Responses

In response to recent offers by the district, the teachers decided to protest by working to their contract, beginning in early January. Since then, teachers have limited their work to 40 hours a week. Most teachers now close their doors at lunch, no longer serve as club advisors, suspend after-school tutoring and do not write letters of recommendation. In response to cutting hours, students have had mixed responses. Many students support the teachers and sympathize with their cause. However, many other students have voiced their concerns and worry about letters of recommendations for college admission and scholarship applications.

STUDENTS FOR TEACHERS

IT’S OUR TURN: “I am a product of excellent teaching. Teachers have poured countless hours into making me who I am and now I intend to repay them. I am a Student for Teachers!”
—Brooke Sinek, senior

Picket in Protest: Feb. 2

To voice their opinions about the wage dispute, Warrior staff members picketed on the front sidewalk along Dorothy Lane before school, during lunch and after school Feb. 2. They were joined by supportive students sporting signs that embraced the teacher protest, bearing messages such as “No Educators? No Education!” and “Students, parents, and teachers together—where education happens.” Teachers also encouraged drivers of passing cars to join their demonstration, urging them to honk their car horns to indicate support for the teachers’ perspective on the salary dispute. The picketing will continue every Tuesday starting Feb. 16.


District Meeting: Feb. 9

The district held its First Regular Meeting of February, 2016, which was open to the local community. At this meeting Feb. 9, students, teachers and parents from across the district arrived early to protest and picket along the cross streets of Bastanchury and Euclid. In addition, many students and parents had the opportunity to voice their opinions during a thirty minute comment session open to the public. After the district discussed matters of public concern outlined in the agenda, teachers spoke for an additional thirty minutes at the very end of the meeting. The entire meeting was broadcasted live using the Periscope app.


Looking to the Future

After the most recent negotiations meeting Jan. 28, the district filed for impasse again. The impasse was accepted and a mediator will speak with both parties beginning March 16. Here are the next few steps to take place regarding the ongoing negotiations:
The mediator will make a suggestion to the school board.
If the school board rejects the proposal, an arbitrary fact-finder will examine past accounts and records. The fact-finder will then make another recommendation to the school board.
If the school board still rejects the proposal, the teachers may then vote within their union to strike.

DECISION OR DIVISION: Warrior parent Karima Razi expressed her concern at the district meeting.



“There are comments circulating, from parents and students, that say ‘Teachers, you got into your profession not to get rich. You have your profession because you love working with kids.’ This is true. I think everybody in this profession did it for [the kids]. But, we have families. We have financial responsibilities. It is absolutely true that I never expect to get a year-



David Bainter
teacher

ly bonus for the outstanding job that I do. We sign off on stuff like that. But not being able to keep up with the cost of living, so that I don’t have a chance to put my kids through college and pay my bills, that is where we feel so disrespected. It’s not about us expecting grandiose bonuses. It’s about treating us fairly and showing us some respect.”

“Why do you believe teachers deserve a raise?”

“Love for our teachers is what has motivated a group of students including me to start a student protest movement, Students For Teachers. The issues of this district have, without a doubt, affected the students. It’s unreasonable for me to say, no matter how much I love my teachers, that their actions haven’t affected me. Of course they have— I’m in a position where I constantly see classroom doors closed at lunch. However, these effects are negligible compared to the sacrifices my teachers have made



Warrior senior

in the past decade. They’ve watched the cost of living in Orange County rise, and classroom sizes multiply, while their paychecks have remained at a standstill. From the bottom of my heart, I would gladly sacrifice tutoring services, lunchtime reviews and hours of my own time organizing protests, sit-ins and email campaigns because it’s the very least I can do to repay all that my teachers have done for me and for students like me. They have always supported us; now, it’s our turn to help them.”

TAKE A STAND


Read about how teachers and district board members are attempting to compromise in negotiations regarding teachers’ salary schedules.

Compiled by Sarah Kremer & Kyle Patel, NEWS EDITORS & Leanne Ho, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, graphics by Alex Vazquez, GRAPHIC, photos by Lauren Kim & Davis Park, PHOTO

How much is \$31.3 million?


FJUHSD allegedly has \$31.3 million dollars in reserve funding. What is that worth?

966 years of college (242 bachelor’s degrees)




According to College Board, the average cost of tuition and fees for the 2015–2016 school year was \$32,405 at private colleges. At Universities of California, which cost \$12,240 a year, \$31.3 million could fund 2,537 years of tuition and fees.

4.2 million burritos



At \$7.50 each, that many burritos could feed every Warrior on campus—a thousand times over.

7.9 million coffees



That’s enough tall Caramel Frappuccinos (\$3.95) to fuel you every morning for the next 21,710 years.

The Finances

By Brendan Brzycki, ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Since March 2015, the Fullerton Joint Unified High School District (FJUHSD) has offered Warrior teachers a two percent raise in salary, without increase in health benefits. Unsatisfied, the Fullerton Secondary Teachers Organization (FSTO) has responded with a request for an eight percent raise from teachers’ current salaries that includes full coverage of health insurance, to be implemented during the current school year, as well as an additional five percent raise for the 2016-2017 school year based on these increased wages.

According to FJUHSD, the current average salary of teachers within the district during the 2014-2015 school year, as reported to the California Department of Education, was \$91,578. A two percent raise would result in an average salary of \$93,410, while an eight percent raise would increase this figure to \$98,904. In total, the district’s offer and FSTO’s proposed salary raise would result in an increases of \$1.01 million and \$4.04 million in pay, respectively. After an additional five percent raise for the 2016-2017 school year, the entire increase in salary would tally to \$10.61 million.

Using data found on the FJUHSD website, teacher David Booze calculated that \$31.3 million is kept by the district in reserve funding. Furthermore, the state government has offered an additional \$15 million endowment to the district, projecting to raise the reserves to \$46 million by the end of the 2016-2017 school year. If the raises proposed by FSTO were accepted, the budget surplus will reach nearly \$35 million, a net increase of about \$4 million.

According to Assistant Superintendent Ed Atkinson, district reserve funding serves as a means to “weather changes in the financial climate” over the next few years. During the most recent recession, these reserves were used to mitigate layoffs and thereby benefit employees, students and parents.

However, FSTO argues that since the end of the recent recession, during which no raises were given due to the turbulent economy, enough funds are now available to accommodate pay raises.

Step-and-Column Raises

By Tiffany Hall, ASSISTANT ADS & BUSINESS MANAGER

Debating what constitutes a raise, teachers and the Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD) negotiation teams have concluded that step-and-column is separate from ongoing talks. Also commonly referred to as the salary grid, step-and-column is a system in which teachers are paid small subsidies by the district on top of their starting salaries. These small increases in pay reward teachers for working a certain number of years with a certain amount of college credits and degrees. Higher salaries are awarded to those with more years instructing students and a higher degree level from college. Therefore, rates often change depending on the length of teacher tenure.

All of these questions regarding step-and-column raises lead to another: do these subsidies play a part in the teacher request for an eight percent increase in wages for the 2015-2016 school year? In these deliberations, teachers hold firm that these increases in pay should not be considered as the raises they are requesting, and the district agrees. Indeed, the district recognizes the difference between the step-and-column raises and the cost of living raises. Such cost-of-living increases have not been increased in the last eight years. They believe increasing the cost of living raises will keep teachers within the district. Both parties have been meeting at the recommendation of the Public Education Relations Board (PERB) in order to compromise on an agreeable raise for cost of living, along with other disputes that have caused discontentment among personnel. Both groups aspire to reach a successor contract, an amended contract, and have reached out to PERB for assisted mediation in order to resolve this as soon as possible.

COST OF LIVING VS FJUHSD TEACHERS’ AVERAGE SALARY



WAGE DISPUTES: The average salary of an FJUHSD teacher in 2008 was around \$50,000. Since then, teachers have not received a cost of living adjustment. The cost of living has outpaced teachers’ salaries. The American Institute of Economic Research Cost of Living Calculator was used to calculate values.

How We Compare

By Tiffany Hall, ASSISTANT ADS & BUSINESS MANAGER

Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) is similar to FJUHSD in regards to the number of schools, average daily attendance and average student population. With these similarities, teachers believe they should receive a raise in order to remain competitive with HBUHSD. Currently, teachers in HBUHSD have higher salaries across the board than those in FJUHSD. However, FJUHSD board members maintain that they cannot meet the teachers’ request because they must provide a buffer in financial reserves to keep programs afloat in economic crises. In addition, FJUHSD has multiple specialized and highly ranked programs, including a nationally-recognized Science Olympiad team and Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, which HBUHSD does not offer its students.

Huntington Beach vs. Fullerton

WAGES

Huntington Beach Union High School District (HBUHSD) **OUTPAYS** Fullerton Joint Union High School District (FJUHSD) by **9%**

DAYS WORKED

HBUHSD works 183 days a year

FJUHSD works 186 days a year

FJUHSD has taken 11 furlough days

HBUHSD has taken 0 furlough days

HEALTHCARE

HBUHSD pays for all benefits

FJUHSD pays for some benefits

STUDENT-TO-TEACHER

HBUHSD has a 23.5 student to teacher ratio

FJUHSD has a 28.5 student to teacher ratio



SALMON

By Anthony Kim, ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

“One fish, two fish, red fish, blue fish.” Dr. Seuss is right, it’s all about fish. Though any type of fish works, one in particular is swimming to the top of popular, healthful foods: salmon. Sure, the classic hot dog is a favorite to the taste buds, but it isn’t as friendly to the waistline or the arteries. For a protein-packed dish, try salmon. Salmon’s health benefits are innumerable and great. Salmon contains the perfect dose of omega-3 fatty acids, which reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease and increase levels of high-density lipoprotein (good cholesterol). Though these benefits sound like those of any other superfood, salmon is also versatile in the kitchen. Perhaps the simplest way to prepare salmon is on the grill. Add lemon juice for that extra punch; it complements the crunchy texture of the salmon skin that hides the tender meat underneath. Also, sushi or sashimi—whichever you prefer—retains the raw flavor of the fish and pairs nicely with the optional rice, sauce, wasabi and seaweed. For anyone looking for a healthful and flavorful dish, I recommend salmon. “One fish, two fish, add this healthful dish!”



AÇAÍ

By Christopher Lee
STAFF WRITER

Slightly over a month ago, you probably told your friends and family that your New Year’s resolution was to “eat healthily.” You attempted to exercise and diet for about a week and then reverted to the good ol’ holiday tummy. Instead of trying to do a complete 180 degree turn and suddenly acting like a professional athlete, you should take small steps towards a more healthful lifestyle. To help you on your journey is the “superfood,” the açai berry. Being the smart human that you are, you are likely to be wary of anything with the label “super.” And quite frankly, you aren’t entirely wrong to be skeptical of such exaggerated titles. That a single berry can—according to its marketers—assist weight loss, relieve arthritis and improve the immune system is hard to believe. However, dismissing the açai berry would be a mistake. Açai is incredibly rich in antioxidants, fiber and healthful unsaturated fats. Additionally, these berries are quite appetizing. They taste like blackberries with an aftertaste of rich dark chocolate. Although you shouldn’t eat these berries believing they will live up to the hype, açai’s proven health benefits should be incentive enough for you to pick them up on your quest to live a fitter life.



QUINOA

By Adrija Chakrabarty, ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

As the daughter of a nutrition enthusiast, I have consumed my fair share of über-healthful “superfoods.” Labeled the “Supergrain of the Future” by advocates of the green-juice-and-yoga lifestyle, the newest addition to my pantry has restored my faith in health foods. Quinoa is a protein-packed seed that is as nutritious as it is delicious. Quinoa has been a hearty source of nutrients since its domestication by the Incans 4000 years ago. Equipped with all nine amino acids essential to the human diet, this supergrain remains a great source of protein to this day. Although this seed is packed with a laundry list of health benefits—let’s face it—few people are willing to buy a bag of pricey quinoa unless it’s tasty. Luckily, there are numerous quinoa dishes, including burrito bowls and fried rice. Since quinoa is a quick-cooking grain that can be included in numerous plates, Americans have found creative ways to reap the benefits of the South American supergrain in the most delectable ways possible. Quinoa may seem like another fad for health fanatics to clamor about, but it really isn’t. This potent seed has the capability to make wholesome and palatable dishes.

Superfoods for a Super You

Check out our superfood reviews and meal preparation plans to help you stay on track of your clean-eating resolution.

Photos by Ida Kazerani, PHOTO and courtesy of Pinterest



Quinoa Salad

Lunch can be more than just a sandwich; it can be a gourmet meal. Look no further than the quinoa salad: a scrumptious lunch that is surprisingly easy to make. Throw in some quinoa, fresh kale and crunchy bell peppers to add a sweet touch for your palate and voilà! You have yourself a hearty lunch whose health benefits parallel its flavor. To complement your salad, try some veggies such as cucumbers, carrots or celery with hummus dip.



Turkey Wraps

For a quick and easy lunch option, try the “To Die For Turkey Wraps.” Not only are they aesthetically pleasing but also unbelievably easy to make! Simply lay out spinach, kale and other greens of your choice and wrap up in a layer of sliced turkey. Plus, the celery sticks, energy bite and hard boiled egg round off the meal. Additionally, this lunch dish is perfect for tired students who don’t want to put in too much effort into lunch preparation.

Wonder Women

From comic books to reality television, women in popular media are dramatically redefining traditional gender roles in many aspects of society.

By Ryan Fawwaz, ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR and graphics by Alex Vazquez, GRAPHIC

After years of hard work, dedication and unforgettable performances, women will, no doubt, continue to make a mark—a big one—on the big screen.

Compared to their helpless and dependent 1950 media counterparts, women are now portrayed as a force to be reckoned with. In fact, characters such as Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence), a fiercely independent revolutionary from the Hunger Games franchise, send the message that men are unnecessary for a woman’s well-being. Although women in real life still face adversity in areas such as wages, the evolution of female roles in media reflect their ongoing progress on a wider scale—indeed, fewer and fewer women are being reduced to the ornamental positions they held in the past. Through the film industry, they are contributing to a cultural revolution by advancing their roles both on and off the set with every new show and movie.

A catalyst for the increased awareness of this phenomenon, the return of comic book heroine Wonder Woman has raised speculation about gender roles in the media. In “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice,” fans of the Amazonian princess can watch her official return to theaters March 25. Following her comeback, Wonder Woman’s origin story will undergo a reboot



PUNCH LIKE A GIRL: *Wonder Woman made her first appearance as a comic book character in 1942, drastically altering the conventional view that only men can be superheroes.*



POWER AND KONTROL: *Enjoying the limelight in one of the most successful reality television shows, Kourtney Kardashian and her sisters consistently prove that matriarchy matters.*



BRAINY BRAUN: *Through her portrayal of the ambitious Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter series, Emma Watson has fostering a drive for success in girls of all ages.*

in her own title movie, making it the first major film centered on a female superhero since 1974. Why was there such a long period between these movies? The answer is simple: until recent years, women have been restricted by societal expectations. Girls played with dolls and boys, action figures—rarely the reverse. No doubt, the production of this long-awaited movie symbolizes the opening of new doors to women today. Such a film teaches young girls that they, too, can be superheroes; they, too, can tackle the social problems of their day.

Wonder Woman’s legacy is everywhere. Society is welcoming a new generation of empowered females open-armed. For instance, using brains over superhuman brawn, Emma Watson inspired girls ev-

erywhere by her portrayal of Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter series. A studious and enthusiastic student, Hermione often outperforms both boys and girls her age and uses her expansive knowledge to save her friends in deadly situations. From the young age of 11, Emma Watson has been giving girls the confidence they need to have success if they simply put their minds to the task at hand. All of the traditional “only men can save the princess” notions are thrown out the window. 14 years later, Emma Watson is still advancing gender equality through the United Nations’ “He-ForShe” campaign.

Straying from the film industry, a regard for values in modern pop culture is crucial when considering the roles of women in media at large. One of the most success-

ful empires of reality television, “Keeping Up with the Kardashians,” provides insight into the rising power of the matriarchal society. Throughout the show, one of the most consistent themes is female leadership. Despite their own flaws, the Kardashian sisters frequently have to solve the men’s problems, whether it be Scott’s addiction issues or Rob’s depression. Yes, it is true that these episodes are probably scripted. However, the underlying message that girls can run the program still has authenticity.

If there’s one lesson that can be learned, it’s that there are no boundaries to the progress women are making. These shows and movies teach us that women will constantly question and redefine their positions in the world—society just has to change with them.

Hollywood’s Heroines

Since the beginning of the entertainment industry, portrayals of women have reflected the progression of their roles in society as a whole. Whether they are hot-shot spies, maids-turned-activists or dazzling starlets, actresses and their characters are advancing the cause of gender equality by defying traditional gender roles.



STACKING THE DECK

Take a look at the winter season’s trading cards and get to know the stars of Warrior Athletics.

Compiled by Angie Won, SPORTS EDITOR, Dominique Pillos, ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR, and Austin Shin & Hannah Ro, STAFF WRITERS

SHELBY MALDONADO



JEANETTE DE LA TORRE-DURAN

Regardless of which side of the pool she is on, senior captain Shelby Maldonado proves in every game that she is a force to be reckoned with. Maldonado leads not only as the team’s top scorer but also its strongest defender. Throughout the season, her aggressive playing style became the model her teammates strived to emulate.

BARBARA SITANGGAN



LAUREN KIM

As a four-year varsity player, a two-time league MVP, a three-time all-state athlete and a McDonald’s All American nominee, co-captain Barbara Sitanggan guides the Lady Warriors to victory as the starting point guard. With a scholarship to Pepperdine University, Sitanggan is able to test her skills at the collegiate level.

KATELYN CARTER



JEANETTE DE LA TORRE-DURAN

Kicking off this season is senior captain Katelyn Carter, the team’s dependable goal-keeper who has only let in two goals. At her end of the field, Carter observes both the offense and defense and adjusts her defense accordingly. After several years on varsity, her skills have earned her a well deserved scholarship to the University of Oregon.

RYAN MICKLE



JEANETTE DE LA TORRE-DURAN

This season, senior captain Ryan Mickle has never failed to keep his composure during games. He recognizes opportunities to throw a pass or to swish a game-saving basket in the heat of a match. Both on and off the court, Mickle sets an example for his teammates and invites constructive criticism from all players.

ADRIAN DIAZ



LAUREN KIM

With excellent tournament standings, Senior Adrian Diaz is a standout on the Troy wrestling team. He made a name for himself through his consistent performance. His achievements include placing sixth at the El Dorado tournament, finishing fifth at the Brea tournament and taking first at the 2016 Troy Classic.

THOMAS NGUYEN



LAUREN KIM

Senior Thomas Nguyen improved the entire soccer team by demanding more effort from both himself and the rest of his teammates. After preseason losses, he became a leader, stressing the importance of communication. He established himself as an MVP because his faith in his teammates’ skill motivated the team as a whole.

ORACLE STAFF

◆ EDITORS ◆

Sarah Lee
Leanne Ho
chief

Adrika Chakraborty
management

Sarah Kremer
Kyle Patel
news

Brendan Brzycki
assistant news

Yannie Hoang
opinion

Brandon Ann
assistant opinion

Adrija Chakraborty
Nicole Kuntjoro
entertainment & lifestyle

Ryan Fawwaz
Anthony Kim
*assistant
entertainment & lifestyle*

Yuri Ceriale
feature

Angie Won
sports

Dominique Pillos
assistant sports

Lauren Kim
photo

Hanmin Ko
cartoon

◆ EXECUTIVE ◆

Priscilla Cheney
advisor

Elliot Cha
Julia Sumera
ads & business

Tiffany Hall
assistant ads & business

◆ STAFF ◆

Katrina Chen
Yaen Chen

Jeanette De La Torre-Duran

Ashley Fan
David Hou

Ida Kazerani
Julianne Kim

Christopher Lee
Christina Meyer

Junghyuk Davis Park

Zina Patel
Hannah Ro

Austin Shin
Alex Vazquez

Bernice Wang
Caroline Zhu

The Oracle is a tri-weekly production of the Advanced Journalism class. Unsigned editorials are written with the collaboration of the Oracle staff and are the sole responsibility of the Oracle. Signed editorials express the opinions of the staff writer and may not reflect the opinions of the entire Oracle staff. The Oracle reserves the right to edit letters to the editor for content or space.

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

TROY HIGH SCHOOL

Be Mine, Valentine!

Cut out these convenient (and adorable) cards to share with friends and loved ones.

Cartoons by Hanmin Ko, CARTOON

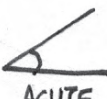
$9x-7i > 3(3x-7u)$
 $9x-7i > 9x-21u$
 $-7i > -21u$
 $7i < 21u$
 $= i < 3u!$

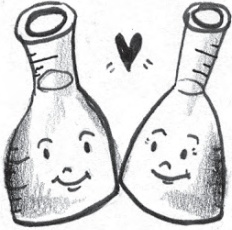
Naturally,
I select
you!

are you
made out of copper & tellurium?
because you're

29
Cu
Copper
63.546

52
Te
Tellurium
78.96

YOU'RE  VALENTINE.
ACUTE


We have perfect chemistry

Sadies 2016



Couple package A

2(5x7)'s
&
40 wallets

\$49.55^{+tax}

Couple package B

2(8x10)'s
&
40 wallets

\$59.64^{+tax}

Individual

A- 5x7 & 20 wallets
or
B- 8x10 & 10 wallets

\$27.53^{+tax}

Groups (3+)

A- 5x7 & 10 wallets
or
B- 20 wallets

\$15.60^{+tax} per person

Book your appointment today!

Bring this coupon for
20 FREE wallets on
couple packages
(a) or (b).

only valid with package purchase.
not valid on reprints.
coupon must be present to redeem.



Say Cheese Photo

344 Stonewood St.
Downey, CA 90241

562.869.5555

Located inside the Stonewood Mall
in front of Macy's







GS · LOVE

\$10 OFF

WITH PURCHASE OF \$50 AND OVER

OR

\$25 OFF

WITH PURCHASE OF \$100 AND OVER

PRESENTING VALID HIGH SCHOOL ID

Let's get social!      

gslovesme.com

LOS ANGELES ▪ TUSTIN ▪ FULLERTON ▪ WHITTIER ▪ ANAHEIM ▪ EASTVALE ▪ PICO RIVERA
LONG BEACH ▪ PLACENTIA ▪ REDLANDS ▪ LYNWOOD ▪ WALNUT PARK ▪ MONTEREY PARK
FONTANA ▪ SOUTH GATE ▪ DOWNEY ▪ UPLAND ▪ SANTA CLARITA ▪ CHINO ▪ SUN VALLEY

Must present valid high school student/faculty ID with offer at the time of purchase. Entire coupon/flyer must be surrendered at the time of purchase/use. Not valid with any other offers/promos.
Discount applies before sale taxes. All items purchased with this discount are final sale. Offer ends Dec. 31, 2016. Promo subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Restrictions may apply.