

# ORACLE

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# ESPORTS LEGENDS

The Warrior Esports team competed against 80 other schools within the nation for the championship title.

Compiled by Angelica Sano, **NEWS EDITOR**, article by Cathy Chen and Kathleen Zhang, **STAFF WRITERS**, and photos courtesy of Google images

Strengthening teamwork between Warrior gamers, Esports Team Black participated in the League of Legends Championship at Thunder Studios in Long Beach April 27.

Hosted by the North America Scholastic Esports Federation (NASEF), the League of Legends Championship consists of the top four high school esports teams within the nation competing for the winning title through a series of live games. The winning team received a \$5,000 scholarship and a \$2,500 grant permitting their school’s esports program to upgrade their technological devices. Along with monetary rewards, NASEF also gifts souvenirs, including headsets, keyboards and shirts.

Prior to the event, over 80 high school esports chapters competed in various entry-level matches. After an eight-week period, the top 16 teams were selected to move on to the playoffs from which the final four competed at the finals. The members of Team Black, including junior Justin Wang and seniors Vince Dinh, Mark Lee, Jesse Tao and Andrew Tran, prepared for the competition by researching gaming strategies and by holding daily practice matches.

As a result of the national competition, the Warriors won second place overall. According to Esports Team General Manager

Carlos Aldaco, the students elevate their gaming skills through mentorship among teammates, which allows them to aid their peers and create lasting bonds during practices.

By relying on each other, the students develop better collaboration skills, Aldaco said. “[Students] learn how to communicate, they learn how to [work together], they learn how to coach themselves,” Aldaco said. “They depend on each other because it makes them communicate more and form a stronger bond between them.”

Established in 2017, the Warrior Esports organization is a platform through which students with a passion for gaming have the opportunity to collaborate with one another through their common interest. Although the students aim to win competitions, the purpose of participation in the program is to make lasting memories and to form friendships with like-minded individuals, Team Manager Alison Trinh said.

“[Receiving awards] is just an added bonus to their whole entire experience,” Trinh said. “When a new student comes into the esports program, we highly encourage them to get to know the other people [because gaming] is some-

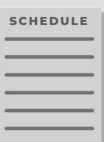
thing that they have in common, something that they can talk about frequently.”

In addition to strengthening relationships among existing members of the esports team, incoming students can also form bonds with other students through their shared passion for video games, Trinh said.

“[Gaming] really encourages the students to develop more teamwork skills, and they bond better,” Trinh said. “[The newcomers] get to know each other more and just have a great time together.”

The competition encourages individuals to openly converse about gaming and recognizes skilled students within the industry. Additionally, the leaders entrust the program to acknowledge and to introduce alternative professions within esports to its participants, Trinh said.

“These competitions help a lot of [the students] to open up [while being involved in] something that they enjoy—playing video games,” Trinh said. “We want to give people more pathways to follow. They are [now] able to do something that they are passionate about and get scholarship money towards a school and their career in the future.”





TROY TODAY

District to implement boys volleyball teams next year

Recognized by the California Interscholastic Federation and the Freeway League, the first official Warriors boys volleyball team will be formed next spring. Varsity and Junior Varsity level teams for the sport will be available to all of the schools in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District.

Cyber Defense Program organizes Warrior gaming competition

Troy Cyber Defense hosted a Super Smash Bros. Ultimate tournament open to all players April 17. The winners of the bracket-based competition went on to play in the finals at the Cyber Banquet April 18 at the Black and Gold Country Club. The champion received a one terabyte portable hard drive.

FBLA members qualify for the National Leadership Conference

National qualifiers from the Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Conference April 25 to 28 will compete at the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas June 29 to July 2. Attendees will represent Troy in business and career-related events, including presentations, production events, team role play and objective tests.

Theatre students attend annual Drama Awards

Hosted at the Thomas Moore Auditorium, the annual Drama Awards invites all Troy Theatre students to be recognized for their accomplishments May 19. The event will feature multiple performances from award nominees and will include a presentation of awards in various categories, such as Best Leading Actor and Best Leading Actress.

Warriors to compete at finance tournament

Seniors Dayne Tran and David Lee, junior Maxwell Tsao and sophomore Dale Tran will be competing at the National Personal Finance Challenge May 10 at the University of Nebraska Lincoln College of Business after placing first in the state level competition. The competitors will participate in a simulation where they prepare financial plans and the winners receive cash prizes.

# Drumline students attend regional percussion competition

Warriors competed at their first championships in over seven years.

By Mai Omoto and Jacob Wong  
STAFF WRITERS

Demonstrating musical prowess, the Warrior Drumline competed in the 2019 American Drumline Association (ADLA) Percussion Championships at Azusa Pacific University April 27.

At the competition, Drumline performed a show themed “Sid’s Toy Box,” which was inspired by the movie, “Toy Story.” The students employed music, costumes and choreography to convey a story about broken toys. Warrior Drumline competed alongside 40 high schools from Southern California and Nevada in the ADLA Regional B division.

The students performed for a panel of band instructors and professional percussion experts who scored each group based on technique and musicality. In addition, judges evaluated how the percussionists portrayed the theme of the performance. After each competition, the top three winners each received a drum head as a trophy.

Entering the 2019 season, Drumline won first place at the King High School competition April 6, which allowed the members to advance to semi-finals. The Warriors repeated their success with another first place win at Ontario High School April 13, qualifying the group for finals for the first time since 2012.

In preparation for competitions, drumline holds two after-school



COURTESY OF ANGELA DOMINGO

**BANDING TOGETHER:** *The Warrior Drumline poses for a group photo after taking third place at the Percussion Championships.*

practices every week. Specialized instructors and student captains help enhance the performance by suggesting ways to improve specific aspects of the routine, making practices more collaborative.

Percussion Championships allowed the drumline to exhibit the talents of the program and encouraged members to work to harder, Assistant Band Director and Percussion Instructor Robin Holguín said.

“[The students] consistently placed first at every show,” Holguín said. “As success breeds success, the students want to maintain

first place. That inspiration has been really encouraging to see.”

According to Battery Captain Daniel Ortiz, drumline gives students a chance to learn music and a purpose to work hard. Drumline’s impact goes beyond music to provide students with opportunities for personal growth, Ortiz said.

“We have done something more than what we usually do,” Ortiz said. “Being able to go to the championships shows Drumline that they can shoot and strive for higher. It has grown our musicianship inside of us, and our character is built on

what we do in the drumline.”

Their performance this season sets a foundation for the future of Drumline, in which they will try to focus on improving their visual performances at competitions, Front Ensemble Captain Dominic Pak said.

“This season sets the precedent for the next few years of Drumline,” Pak said. “Over the next few years, a lot of the work will go into consistently telling a story throughout the entire show. It is going to be about making the story aspect more prevalent in our shows.”

# History teachers plan Italy trip

To explore the heart of European history, students will embark on an educational trip to Italy.

By Diya Patel  
STAFF WRITER

Fostering an appreciation for exploration and travel, social science teachers will take 16 Warriors on a summer trip to Italy June 25 to July 4.

History teachers Glenn Madrid, Tiffany Wilson and Rich Liem aim to offer a cultural experience for students by hosting a trip to the Italian cities of Milan, Venice, Florence, Naples, Pompeii,

Rome and the island of Capri. The 10-day excursion includes a historical tour of landmarks, museums and religious buildings.

Teachers made the trip available to all students and parents. Because the event was not publicized by the school, the teachers who planned the trip personally communicated with students who were interested.

After arriving at Milan, the group will meet a personal driver and tour guide who will travel with them for all 10 days of the trip. In addition, travelers will participate in a unique cultural activity at each city. Though students will remain with the group for tours and

meals, individuals will be given the chance to explore the city independently in the afternoons.

According to G. Madrid, teachers opened the opportunity to travel to Italy in hopes that it would give students an appreciation for their homes. The new perspective will enable individuals to learn about cultural distinctions between countries, G. Madrid said.

“The biggest goal [for students] is appreciation and love of culture and its differences,” G. Madrid said. “Hopefully, [students see] what they didn’t realize about their own cultures back home.”

Teachers encourage this trip because it gives students a break from classroom learning to immerse themselves in the exploration of a foreign country, Wilson said.

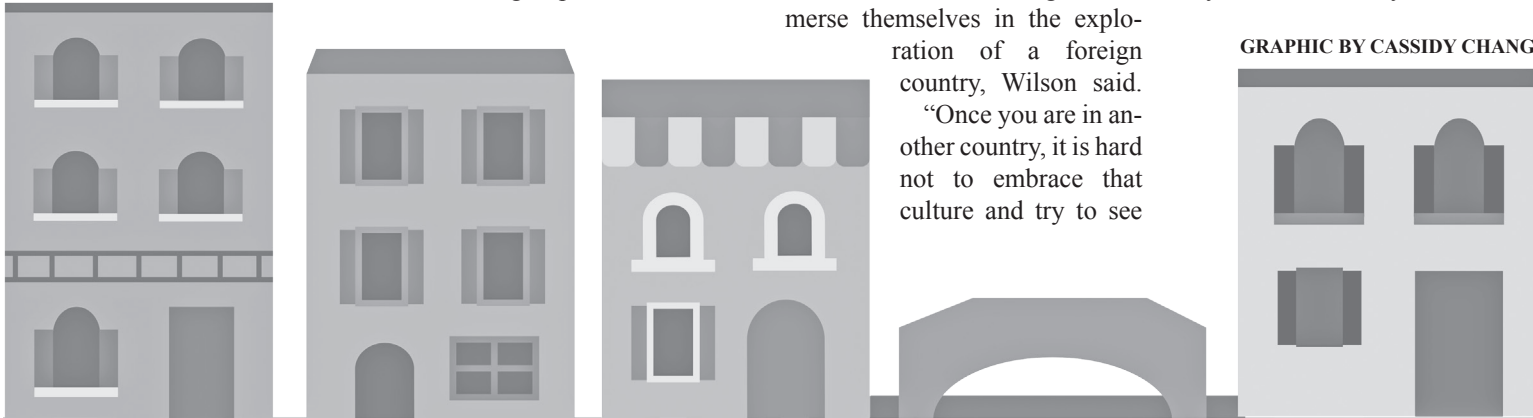
“Once you are in another country, it is hard not to embrace that culture and try to see

what it’s about,” Wilson said. “You get to see different things, get an idea of different people and explore something other than Southern California.”

Freshman Jack Madrid believes that the trip to Italy may change his viewpoint of history. The trip is a chance to learn through experience, which is not always available when studying from a textbook, J. Madrid said.

“I’m really excited to travel out of the country and to learn in a way other than sitting in a classroom and listening to lectures,” J. Madrid said. “This trip will help me become a better student and understand more about history and the beauty within it.”

GRAPHIC BY CASSIDY CHANG





# AVID classes build recreational garden outside 400 building

AVID students will finish the garden in hopes of providing a peaceful site for the Warrior campus.

By Angelica Sano and Grace Lee  
NEWS EDITOR & STAFF WRITER

Emphasizing the importance of relaxation within the Warrior community, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) students will complete the construction of the garden May 31. Created to provide a place of tranquility for students, the garden will be located outside the 400 building. The site will include benches, artwork and a variety of vegetation, including bushes, trees and succulents. Along with the AVID classes, Advanced Placement Art students have contributed by painting a mural alongside the garden. In preparation for the garden, AVID students held fundraisers at various school events, including Sadies and Mr. THS. In addition to the money raised from the students, the funds needed for the gravel and benches



JENNA SABILE

**HAPPY TO HELP:** Senior Rowena Luminarias paints intricate flowers on the mural near the garden.

are donations from the senior class, the Associated Student Body and the Pilipinos Sharing Smiles Together Club. AVID is a national non-profit organization dedicated to helping students develop studying, teamwork and organizational skills. In order to fulfill their community service project for

the AVID Service Program, the students began construction of the garden this school year. According to AVID teacher Ana Link, this project allowed the students to strengthen their leadership skills and to spread positivity to their fellow peers. In addition to the garden becoming a place for socialization, the

development process itself has served as a learning experience for students to learn how to collaborate effectively, Link said. “As people have started to see this come together, they’re starting to sense the excitement. [Students] understand that it’s a greater responsibility than they had anticipated,” Link said. “I’m

really starting to see students who are really stepping up their leadership [skills] and their ability to organize amongst themselves, but also to organize volunteers and donors for the project.” Along with improving teamwork within the class, the students were given the opportunity to bring the Warrior population closer together, senior Patty Morales said. “The reason why we’re building [the garden] is that we wanted to make this space a stress-free zone,” Morales said. “You’re just [at the garden] to relax. We wanted to say that we know how you feel and we want to help.” According to Link, the garden is more than a relaxation site for the student population. This project will encourage other students to use their talents cultivated from this event to create other recreational areas on campus, Link said. “The intent is that [the garden] will create a calm space for people when they need it,” Link said. “I’m hoping it will create a chain reaction and inspire other organizations to find spots on campus, specifically for creating spaces that are relaxing and inviting.”

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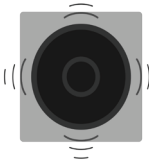





The Oracle is a tri-weekly production of the Advanced Journalism class. Signed editorials express the opinions of the staff writer and may not reflect the opinions of the entire Oracle staff. The Oracle reserves the right to edit letters to the editor for content or space.



# 2018-2019 Grade Report

From morning announcements to school spirit, Oracle evaluates some key aspects of the Warrior campus for the 2018-2019 school year.

Compiled by Amy Weng, **OPINION EDITOR**, articles by Isaac Yang, **OPINION EDITOR**, & Kaitlyn Han, **STAFF WRITER**, and graphics by Phoebe Um, **GRAPHICS**

PER	COURSE	GRADE	Citizenship GRADE	COMMENTS
1	Morning Announcements 	A	O	The morning announcements, which have significantly improved from last year, are an integral aspect of a Warrior’s day. Holistically, Omnia gives a great overview of school-wide events. Little features such as the weekly weather forecast are entertaining and informative, giving it an organized impression. There is still room for improvement as the audio and video are sometimes not synced up, and the video can be focused away from the speaker. However, these errors are an easy fix. Warriors hope that the legacy of these broadcasts will continue on.
2	Restrooms 	D	U	The state of Troy’s restrooms is completely absurd and absolutely horrendous. With leaky faucets in the boys’ restroom, toilets flooding daily in the girls’ and zero toilet paper in both, Warriors may dread using these facilities. Yet, we are the root of our own problems. Haphazardly wasting toilet paper, irresponsibly leaving trash all over the wet floors and intentionally creating other messes out of spite do not come without its consequences. If we really want better bathrooms, we better shape up and do our part to clean our own messes.
3	Library 	A	S	The extension of library hours to 6:00 P.M.—an hour more than before—is a smart decision, as the library offers a productive environment. To build on its successes, the library should add more chairs so that students can quickly get to work instead of looking for seats. While students may complain about the strict rules requiring them to show their schedule when entering the library during a period, they should realize that it is necessary to deter ditching. Undoubtedly, the library is an important aspect of the campus as a place of student studying.
4	Schedules 	B-	S	Student schedules should be flexible and do not need to be finalized months before they actually start. While Warriors can still drop to lower-level courses, even the slightest window to change schedules in the fall does not hurt. As for late starts, scheduling them after parent-student events, such as Open House, was brilliant; however, not evenly distributing them throughout the year gives the illusion that Warriors are being robbed of their breaks. As convenient as these schedules may be for administrators, how they impact Warriors must be considered.
5	Facilities 	C	N	While our school might be up to speed with the times by incorporating computers in classes such as computer science, the computers themselves are certainly not up to date. Many students can attest to the pains they go through as they endlessly wait for their ancient computers to load a file in the Oracle room or the computer science classes. Unsurprisingly, computers age too. Hopefully, the school can deliver through on its promises and actually provide new computers. Doing so would significantly improve the students’ educational experience.
6	School Spirit 	B	S	Associated Student Body (ASB) did fairly well this year. Holding more “battle of the classes” events—especially for Super Smash Bros. Ultimate—has gotten Warriors more involved in and excited for events. But, ASB is losing its creative touch. Dance release videos are getting increasingly unimaginative and downright boring. After watching undeveloped, cliché movie tropes, Warriors leave rallies more confused or indifferent than anything else. To truly improve school spirit, ASB needs to bring new and appealing activities to the students.
TOTAL GPA		CLASS RANK & SIZE		A=4.0 B=3.0 C=2.0 D-F=1.0
2.83		35 of 2494		O = Outstanding S = Satisfactory N = Needs Improvement U = Unsatisfactory
Total California high schools Courtesy of U.S. News & World Report				

Troytendo: “We’re in the Endgame now” by Kristen Perez



# Politicians, make your tax returns public for the sake of integrity and transparency

By **Miseok Kim**  
STAFF WRITER

Transparency is a crucial tenet of democracy.

With so much power at stake, politics has always been ripe for corruption. The White House rebuffed April 23—for the second time—the request to release President Donald Trump’s tax returns for the past six years. Unexpectedly, The New York Times published May 8 Trump’s tax transcripts from 1985 to 1994. While the ethicality of the newspaper’s action is debatable, the problem of the president’s transparency remains. By refusing to release his recent tax returns, Trump ignores his chance to prove his honesty to American citizens.

The contentious battle between House Democrats and the Trump administration over the president’s taxes raises questions about whether politicians are obliged to make their tax returns public. To validate their access to greater authority and privileges, civil servants should be required by law to make their tax returns public during their tenure.

Without compromising national security, public tax returns can reveal traces of illicit

activities, if committed. Specifically, tax returns require individuals to list all sources of income, deductions and tax credits as well as the total amount owed in taxes.

Currently, the Trump administration is refusing to release their recent tax returns. Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin accused House Democrats of attempting to embarrass Trump. However, if Trump has nothing to hide, then he should not be reluctant to release his taxes.

Trump has a moral obligation to prove his honesty to the American people as the president of the U.S., even if not explicitly required by federal law.

If Trump wants to win over voters in the 2020 election with his promise to make America great again, then he should first demonstrate transparency. Every president except for Gerald Ford in the past 40 years has voluntarily released their tax records. A mandatory release of tax returns would reassure the public that the politicians representing their interests are fit for their positions. This obligation to release tax returns as government officials should not only be applied to Trump, but other politicians, including House Democrats fighting to see Trump’s taxes.

With the high potential for politicians to abuse the power and authority that come

with public office, tax returns will keep them accountable—at least in their financial dealings. Members of Congress, for instance, receive annual allowances of up to \$3 million to manage their staff and offices, but also to pay for personal expenses incurred during their jobs. But this privilege is only one on a very long list. Not only are Congresspeople given huge sums of money to use as they see fit, but they are also given immunity from civil arrest while Congress is in session. With such power and immunity granted by law and finance, politicians can easily abuse them for their self-benefit.

Publicizing the tax returns of politicians will inevitably increase the public’s scrutiny on them. This scrutiny will pressure politicians to not engage in financial corruption. For example, when 2020 presidential candidate Beto O’Rourke released April 15 his tax returns for the past ten years, Wall Street Journal called him out for underpaying taxes by thousands of dollars in 2013 and 2014. O’Rourke’s campaign then

quickly released a statement announcing that he and his wife were in the process of fixing the errors. Without doubt, public tax returns could be a much-needed, valuable indicator for the voters in deciding the integrity of political figures.

Politicians—either running for state and federal government positions or currently holding them—should be required by law to release their tax returns. Specifically, Trump should realize the significance of voluntarily releasing his tax returns dating from the 2000s.

Let’s get personal dirty laundry out of the way.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE BALANCE, POLITICO AND NBC

**KEY PLAYERS:** *Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin (left) and President Donald Trump (right) fight to keep Trump’s tax returns private.*

# The violent attacks on Louisiana and Sri Lanka deserve more attention

By **Amber Wang**  
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to 2019 Bombingham. A total of nine bombings tore through hotels and Catholic churches in Sri Lanka Easter Sunday, killing over 300 people and injuring over 500 others. This terrorist attack by the Islamic State (ISIS) was a retaliation to the bloody New Zealand massacre March 15. Despite its horrifying death toll, the Sri Lanka bombings did not receive as much attention as the April 16 Notre Dame fire did.

Unfortunately, the incident in Sri Lanka is not the only tragedy overshadowed by

Notre Dame. While the tag #savenotredame flooded media outlets, the racially motivated torching of three of Louisiana’s traditionally black churches March 26 went comparatively unnoticed. The response, or lack thereof, to the two terrorist attacks highlights an underlying problem within our society—the prioritization of Western interests.

Although Sri Lanka and the three black churches deserve as much attention as Notre Dame does, the public thinks otherwise. According to Google Trends, Notre Dame reported seven times more interest than Sri Lanka. The public’s overwhelming response to incidents affecting predominantly white communities is why undercurrents of racism continue to infiltrate the media. It also explains why an unintentional tragedy like Notre

Dame received more media coverage than the deliberate terrorism in Sri Lanka and Louisiana did.

While Western media outlets do report extensively on global affairs, the people’s instinctual response to those prob-

lems reveal an alarming bias in favor of Western civilization. This ingrained attitude contributes to a gap in funding for reconstruction. Before the smoke at Notre Dame began to clear, donors collectively pledged over one billion euros to France’s precious Parisian icon. Meanwhile, the Louisiana churches’ GoFundMe page is sitting slightly above \$2 million, and Sri Lanka’s GoFundMe pages have yet to exceed \$1 million. Even with more funding efforts, it is nearly impossible for these two institutions to raise as much money as Notre Dame did. Media coverage is only the first step in raising awareness; the bigger challenge is spurring the audience to action.

The afflicted areas in Sri Lanka and Louisiana should have received more substantial aid, seeing as their importance in modern society arguably outweighs that of Notre Dame. Despite its historical, artistic and religious value, Notre Dame serves as a symbol of a flawed institution that once opposed modernization, free speech and religious liberty. Harvard University architectural historian Patricio del Real even described its burning as an “act of liberation.”

The perpetual attitude of superiority, however hidden, held by the Western public contributes to the dismissal of prevalent racial and religious issues, which are represented by the incidents in Louisiana and Sri

Lanka. The very existence of African American churches is a stab at stubborn white superiority complexes. They stand as a symbol of African American spirit, shining through centuries of discrimination. Attacks on these icons speak volumes about America’s unceasing problem of racial violence.

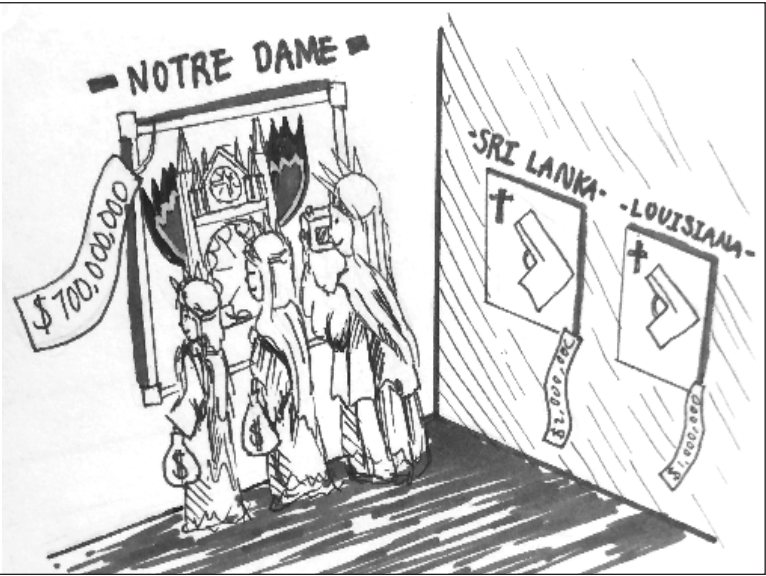
While the Louisiana churches speak for racial issues, the tragedy in Sri Lanka re-

fects a religious divide that continues to engender violence. A 2016 report by the Pew Research Center found that Christians face harassment in 144 nations while Muslims face harassment in 142 nations. Given the religious motivation behind the

devastation in Sri Lanka, the bombings illustrate the ongoing global problem of religious persecution.

Instead of existing in the shadow of Notre Dame, Sri Lanka and the three black churches should stand in the spotlight alongside France’s treasured cathedral.

The disproportionate amount of attention between Notre Dame, Sri Lanka and the Louisiana churches poses serious questions. Why does the public grieve so extensively over the destruction of a building yet express far less substantial emotion toward the hundreds of lives lost to terrorism? By shedding light on these problems, the public can help the incidents gain the rightful attention and the funding they deserve.



CARTOON BY ELLA MOON



# TURN UP THE MUSIC

Be sure to pack sunscreen and your favorite flower crown before attending this one-of-a-kind festival in the middle of the California desert. From its countercultural origins to its star-studded performances, check out Oracle’s take on all things Coachella.

Compiled by Jillian Warren, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, articles by Amy Kim and Lamya Saade, STAFF WRITERS, and images courtesy of Google

## ☆ Roots of Coachella Valley ☆

As April inches closer every year, it seems like an impossible feat to escape the flurry of chatter about Coachella. The magnetic attraction of this musical celebration does offer some explanation as to how the three-digit priced tickets for this year’s festival managed to sell out in under an hour. But with over 99,000 individuals in attendance per day, the skyrocketing popularity of festivals prompts a real head-scratcher—why the hype?

The seeds of Coachella first began to sprout in 1999. Foreshadowing the countercultural movement that would grow to symbolize, the birth of Coachella was catalyzed by the indie band, Pearl Jam, and their protest against the abusive surcharges of Ticketmaster, a dominant ticket sales company. The result: the creation of a free-spirited outdoor festival in Indio, California.

In the late 90s,



of an outdoor festival was unconventional, and most American artists opted to perform shows in enclosed stadiums where they wouldn’t have to share the spotlight. However, the most distinctive feature of Coachella’s early years was the focus on indie, post-grunge era artists. In its juvenescence, the festival primarily served as a platform for no-name performers, whose eccentric interweavings of rock, hip-hop and EDM hindered their break into the mainstream scene.

Coachella’s headliners have evolved with musical trends throughout the years, highlighting dominating hip hop and pop artists instead. Now, it’s flourishing as a monumental benchmark of success for musicians. Nevertheless, indie artists aren’t completely stranded in the dust at Coachella Valley. Relatively undistinguished performers—even international ones—are still invited to perform. That being said, Coachella’s revolutionary transformation doesn’t truly lie within the evolution of music. Although it was intended as a repudiation of the mainstream, the ultimate paradox lies in the the fact that the festival is now unparalleled in its facilitation of cultural conformity.





# The Culture of Conformity

For many, the 2019 Coachella was an anticlimactic finale after months of eager anticipation. Though the grounds were still star-studded and Instagram feeds were still drowning in Coachella-inspired snapshots, no headlines were as enthralling as the preceding hype. This could possibly be attributed towards the enjoyable, yet simply forgettable, performance by headliner Ariana Grande. But the fundamental cause is that conformity directly clashes with what actually intrigues audiences—growth and change. When the manufactured trends and culture of Coachella refuse to diversify, even an army of celebrities can't carry the burden of saving this festival at the core.

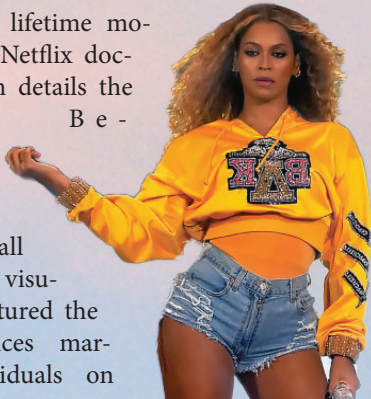
Paradoxically, both Coachella's colossal successes and failures are rooted in the appeal of conformity. The electric magic behind festivals is about consuming the music as part of a communal experience larger than oneself. Ironically, this leads to the decay of individual human identities, an ideal central to the beliefs Coachella was founded on. Nowadays, more people are drawn to the festival due to the at-

tendance of idolized celebrities, the sheer numbers of people attending or the distorted experiences that are plastered all over social media. Coachella perpetuates the commercialization of counterculture, so that their consumers actively flaunt the aesthetics of "individuality" as an ironic plea for validation. Their apparent disdain of certain norms in society would be justifiable if they wielded their criticisms to garner social change, yet most attendees silently revel in their privilege. As years go by, hopefully Coachella looks more like an authentic celebration that embraces diversity—rather than a gathering of sheep just following the herd.



# Beychella and Beyond

A single snare drum echoes, calling all eyes to the stage. As a full marching band begins to play, Beyoncé glamorously walks down the stage in a shimmering outfit complete with jewels, a grand headdress and a majestic cape. Her confidence radiates through the crowd, setting the stage for one of the most powerful performances of this generation. Filmmakers were able to capture this once in a lifetime moment in the recently acclaimed Netflix documentary, "Homecoming," which details the trials and tribulations behind Beyoncé's iconic 2018 Coachella performance. The legendary spectacle known as "Beychella," was superb in all aspects, including its stunning visual elements. Neon colored outfits captured the attention of one's eyes as audiences marched on 200 individuals on



of a full marching band, wonderfully talented backup dancers and backing vocalists with incredible ability. The invigorated performers looked as though they were just as excited to be on stage with Beyoncé as audiences were to see her. crowds cheered and sang along as their faces lit up from both excitement and the dazzling reflection of sparklers that went off on stage.

Coachella—partially known for its previous lack of diversity—experienced a complete shift in 2018, as Beyoncé's performance served as a celebration of African American culture. Artistically, Beyoncé paid tribute to "New Orleans and its horns, Houston and its chopped and screwed beats, Brooklyn and its rap velocity, Kingston and its dancehall and Nigeria and the legacy of its dissenter, Fela Kuti" as New Yorker's Doreen St. Félix describes. Beyoncé even performed a song tied to the civil rights movement called "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Her pride and confidence in her heritage gives an important and modern perspective of a culture once shamed for simply the color of their skin. Her message contrasts with the negative look African Americans are too often stereotyped with and proves that all races should be celebrated, not put down.

# The Future is Female

Tackling one important theme proved to be simply not enough for Beyoncé. Throughout "Homecoming," she provides women with a sense of achievement for conquering everyday struggles. Beyoncé takes time to highlight the struggle of mothers, who not only experience immense pain while they give birth but the challenge of handling both kids and work responsibilities. Beyoncé sets an example as she puts in a great deal of effort to balance her career and home life. Her bravery through struggle gives girls a strong leader to look up to, showing them how strong they can be.

Beyoncé's performance set the stage for the quality Coachella can provide. Most notably, the female artist at the 2019 Coachella became some of the most influential performers this year. Among the featured musicians were powerful female figures like Ariana Grande, Janelle Monáe and Billie Eilish, each drawing out massive numbers of screaming fans waiting to catch a glimpse of their favorite artist. Not to

mention, the k-pop girl group BLACKPINK gave Coachella a glimpse of South Korean culture, stunning audiences with their skillfully choreographed dance moves and excellent harmonies. From beautiful music to colorful costumes, Coachella succeeds in transporting audiences from everyday life to an artistically beautiful world. Coachella is a key celebration of expression that will influence thousands of people for generations to come. Though "Beychella" set new standards for performance with its cultural devotion and stunning musical display, it's only the beginning of a revolution to come.





# Say Hello to a Softer Style

Tired of wearing nothing but street wear? Rest assured, for a new fashion statement has taken typical men’s wear by storm. Check out the article to go behind social media’s number-one-trending “soft boy” aesthetic.

By Jade Bahng, **STAFF WRITER**, cartoons by Kristen Perez, **CARTOON**, and photos courtesy of Google



**FLOWER POWER:** *K-pop idol Jeon Jungkook from BTS dons comfy, pastel attire complimented by earrings and pink flowers.*

While walking through school or shopping at Melrose Avenue, many have noticed an unexpectedly pleasant display of pastel colors and unique textures. Florals and softer fabrics have begun to weave their way into what’s trending in stores and on social media—only this time, these features are appearing in men’s fashion. Although this trend may seem like just another absurd fad young people have adopted, this “soft boy” aesthetic is a revolutionary movement that redefines the male persona as a softer disposition not often seen by the public. The rather sudden rise of this new wave of fashion can’t exactly be dated back to one specific event, but is definitely the result of a progressive social development. A mixture of celebrity influences, increasing awareness of toxic masculinity and rising support of female empowerment has culminated into a birth of a clothing style that combines the best parts of Romanticism with modern fashion. However, it can be claimed that without the introduction of K-pop into American media,

this new fad wouldn’t be so popular. The sweet personalities of K-pop boy bands such as the Bangtan Boys (BTS) pair nicely with their inadvertently Romantic fashion statements and play a major factor in their widespread popularity. American celebrities such as Timothée Chalamet and Cole Sprouse soon began to follow in their footsteps. But whether the ideal soft boy takes the form of Jaden Smith with his avant-garde taste in clothes, or as Park Jimin with his puppy-dog eyes and cute style to match, everyone can agree that these celebrities are known for expressing their identities beyond basic men’s wear. The emerging popularity of this softer style can also be credited to acclaimed designers Giorgio Armani and Emily Bode. Their introduction of lighter colors, softer textures and slender, more feminine fits has granted men the opportunity to expand their wardrobe past the everyday jeans and T-shirt combination. The most notable downside to this trend is that there has been a significant rise in criticism for men donning more feminine clothing. When

a new trend arises, it isn’t uncommon that people will do anything to iron out the crease, so to speak. With the movement against toxic masculinity, men take this chance to portray their gentle sides—not only through their demeanor, but also through their fashion. As the movement progresses, it opens the opportunity for an outfit to be more than just clothes. The usual male attire is limited to plain garments that assert masculine dominance; however, this movement is all about showcasing a broader spectrum of the male persona with new and unique styles. Although fear of social judgement restricts people from expressing themselves, this versatile aesthetic encourages people to subvert societal expectations and embrace one’s masculinity in a new way. In other words, by portraying a boy that isn’t afraid to wear pastel colors and floral designs, the soft boy represents diversity and freedom in a changing world. Through modernizing fashion and the male persona, this aesthetic reminds people that anyone can have a soft side—and so can their closets.



## The Essentials



### THE CHALAMET

Putting an adorably foppish spin on the soft boy aesthetic, American-French actor Timothée Chalamet dons a style that embodies a modern take on Romantic men’s wear—blouson tops, eccentric patterns and a broader, more emotive color palette. In a world of white tees and blue jeans, Chalamet adds a quaint, refreshing twist to fashion that’s simultaneously classy and casual. To recreate your own ‘Chalamet’ look, combine a thick, woolen turtleneck with checkered skate chino pants. If the weather doesn’t permit a cozy outfit, opt for a woven, short-sleeve shirt paired with faded mom jeans. For additional accessories, try on circle rim glasses and leather belts for size.



### THE SMITH

Constituting the extreme side of this trend, American actor, rapper, singer and songwriter Jaden Smith challenges fragile masculinity by pioneering a new fashion movement that aims to shatter stereotypes. Wearing everything from patched mom jeans to richly patterned skirts, Smith nonchalantly redefines gender norms and ushers the media to look past antiquated tropes into the full spectrum of the male persona. If you’re looking to make his style your own, why not give a skirt a try? While it’d definitely be a statement, I can guarantee that it will be ‘en vogue’. Or, if you’re leaning towards more of a conservative ‘Smith’ look, pair a loose-fitting striped shirt with embroidered or patched dad jeans with cuffed edges.



# From High in the Sky

A sunset that paints the skies in hues of rose and gold, a blossoming firework that illuminates the night, a glimmering ocean that laps gently against the sand—meet senior Justin Kao, who captures these stunning sights with his handmade drones.

Article by Joyce Lee, Lois Lee and Lois Um, **STAFF WRITERS**, Photo by Isaiah Pro, **PHOTO**, and Cartoon by Ella Moon, **CARTOON**



The sun tucks away into the night, kissing the sand and the sea one last time with its purple and red brilliance. Filming the magnificence of Mother Earth with his handmade, specialized drones, senior Justin Kao shares his filter-free, bird’s eye view of nature in breathtaking video montages.

Despite his heavy workload from school, Kao never fails to enjoy himself when pursuing his hobbies: drone making and—more importantly—drone flying. After a long day of essays and test preparation, Kao turns to drones when he needs a break from the academic rigor of high school life. Kao’s interest began when he saw a YouTube video about flying drones. Seeing how closely related it was to his intended major, mechanical engineering, he purchased a “fly pack” of preassembled parts, but quickly learned how to create his own. This hobby, intended to be more or less just for enjoyment, has broadened Kao’s definition of fun, allowing him to find happiness even in the simplest and unlikeliest of places.

Building a drone from scratch calls for great effort on Kao’s end. Only after researching his drone, deciding what he wishes to do with it and buying each individual part from the drone store can he begin assembling his drone. At first, it took Kao at least ten hours to build his own drone from scratch. Unfortunately, his numerous hours of exertion were only equivalent to a few precious seconds in the air before his drone crashed abruptly into the ground. Even so, through blood, sweat and tears, Kao shrank his building time to about three hours.

“Others might ask, ‘Why are you wasting your time?’” Kao said. “But to me, building drones is satisfying because... [I like to] go through the whole process.”

Everytime he builds a drone, Kao not only delights in resolving any issues that pop up, but also in seeing his hard work pay off. Often, Kao leaves his house to explore and take videos of various parts of nature, whether it be the sunset’s bold and rich colors reflecting off the ocean waves of Hunting-

ton Beach or the tranquility of a deserted park, where he can experiment with more daring drone aerial tricks. During his escapades, he often wears Da-Jiang Innovations goggles, which allow him to view the drone’s footage in first person.

“Flying [drones] in general is a really surreal moment, [especially] when you have the goggles on,” said Kao. “You can’t see your surroundings. You can only see what’s going on in front of the camera...that’s my favorite part [of all this].”

Although Kao has been intending on studying mechanical engineering in the future for quite some time, this hobby has given him further conviction to explore deeper into the field. To build drones, Kao needs a thorough understanding of various physics and engineering concepts as well as the patience to fix malfunctioning parts and persevere through failures; as Kao builds more drones, he also builds a solid foundation for his future. At the same time, though, Kao is adamant about one thing regarding his drones: “It’s all for fun.”



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# Boys & girls swim teams succeed in Freeway League Finals

The teams rose victorious at the last swim meet of the season.

By Jacqueline Liu & Lucas Santos  
STAFF WRITERS

Exhibiting their poise under pressure, the Warrior boys varsity swim team (5-0) took home first place while the girls (4-1) finished second at league finals April 26. The Warriors dominated in their home pool as their familiarity with the venue helped them swim swiftly past the opposition. Clinching an impressive victory in the 200-yard freestyle, sophomore Aaron Yang, junior Kenneth Yeh and freshman Myles Tran coasted to first, second and third respectively, outclassing the opposing swimmers along the way. With a decisive start, Warriors carried their successful momentum to the 200-yard individual medley (IM) where senior Kevin Greco and sophomore Andrew Leong raced to a first and third place finish. Greco especially showed

top class performance, breaking the 13-year-old league record in the 200-yard IM and finishing in an astonishing time of 1:53.51. Displaying remarkable results, the Lady Warriors also made for fierce competition as they recorded more top three finishes for their team in the 50-yard freestyle. In that event, junior Ashley Lin, freshman Eugenia Winata and senior Sara McPhillips all placed within the top three, contributing to Warrior triumph. Continuing the success streak, junior Trinity Patron also secured a victory in the 200-yard freestyle. Throughout the meet, the crowd remained stunned by the Warriors’ superiority in the finals and heightened the atmosphere to give the team a true home pool advantage. Although the Warriors’ performance may have seemed effortless, in reality, the success largely depended on the work ethic of the team away from the bright lights and acclaiming crowds, coach Kyle Knoff said. “Repetition of skill work was responsible for the improvements to our racing starts and



ISAIAH PRO

**STEADY STROKES:** Freshman Mary Murphy freestyles across the pool, towards her next lap.

many personal best times,” Knoff said. “Simply, we learn to compete, then train to compete.” Aside from a strong work ethic, the team’s firm determination also stood as a definite deciding factor for the success at league finals, senior Joshua De Leon said. “The team has gone above and beyond the standards at which we’ve been practicing at,” De Leon said. “Our determination helped contribute to the win.” Not only are the Warriors diligent and competitive, but they also contain a sense of togetherness and camaraderie that cannot be matched by the other teams, Greco said. “[My teammates] are always around each other at practice, which is usually every day,” Greco said. “Our tight knit bonds helped us to stay focused and cheer each other on during the league finals where we were extremely successful.”

## WARRIOR ATHLETICS

# 2019 SUMMER CAMPS

### BASEBALL

JUNE 10-27 / MON - THURS  
10AM - 12PM  
COACH HOUSTON HERNANDEZ  
HOUSTON.HERNANDEZ@TROY  
WARRIORSBASEBALL.ORG

### CHEER

JULY 28 - 30  
TIME TBA  
COACH JACQUELINE GOMEZ  
JACQUELINEMGOMEZ@YAHOO.COM

### V/JV FOOTBALL

JUNE 3 - JULY 13 / MON - THURS  
2PM - 6PM  
COACH MICHAEL ECHAVES  
MECHAVES@FJUHSO.ORG

### SOFTBALL

DATE TBA  
TIME TBA  
COACH MARLON BUTTRAM  
MARLONBUTTRAM@GMAIL.COM

### VOLLEYBALL

JULY 15 - 23  
NEW: 3PM-5PM  
RETURNING: 5PM-7PM  
COACH MEGAN TOMICIC  
TROYVOLLEYBALLBOOSTERS@  
GMAIL.COM

### BOYS BASKETBALL

DATE TBA  
TIME TBA  
COACH SCOTT BLAKE  
SBLAKE@FJUHSO.ORG

### CROSS COUNTRY

JULY 1 - JULY 27 / MON - FRI  
7:30AM - 9:30AM  
COACH JANNA LANGRELL  
JANNA.LANGRELL@GMAIL.COM

### BOYS SOCCER

JUNE 10 - 21  
3PM - 4:30PM  
COACH LESTER MALDONADO  
LMALDONADO@FJUHSO.ORG

### SWIM

JULY 15 - 19 & JULY 22 - 26  
2PM - 4PM  
COACH KYLE KNOFF  
KKNOFF@FASTSWIMMING.NET

### WATER POLO

JUNE 3 - JULY 11 / MON - THURS  
BOYS: 4PM - 6PM  
GIRLS: 6PM - 8PM  
COACH JASON WILSON  
JWILSON@FJUHSO.ORG  
TROYAQUATICS.ORG

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

JUNE 1 - JULY 15  
TIME TBA  
COACH ROGER ANDERSON  
RANDE80279@AOL.COM

### FRESHMAN FOOTBALL

JUNE 3- JULY 11  
3PM - 6PM  
COACH CHRIS BLUME  
CBLUME@FJUHSO.ORG

### GIRLS SOCCER

TRAINING: JUNE 5 & 6 1:30PM  
GAMES: JUNE 7 - 28 TIME TBA  
COACH MIKE SILZER  
MSILZER@FJUHSO.ORG

### TENNIS

JUNE 8 - 11, JULY 15 - 18,  
JULY 22 - 25, JULY 29 - AUG 1  
8AM - 10:30AM  
COACH ALI ARREDONDO  
ALIREDONDO@HOTMAIL.COM

### WRESTLING

JUNE 11 - JULY 13 / TUES - THURS  
6PM - 8PM  
COACH CHRISTIAN NGUYEN  
CNGUYEN@FJUHSO.ORG



# TIME FOR ADVENTURE

As we close this chapter in our lives together, we wish these seniors the best in their new adventures to come.

Compiled by Alina Choi and Jois Talla, EDITORS-IN-CHIEF, articles by the Editorial Board, and graphic by Phoebe Um, GRAPHICS EDITOR

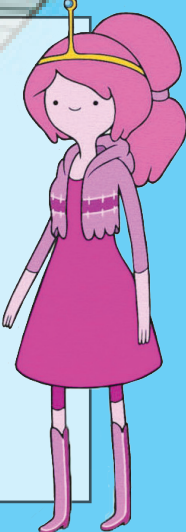


## Jenny

Ponytail? Check. Windbreaker? Check. Overflowing creativity, endless patience, irreplaceable skill and never-failing dependability? Check. Jenny, thank you for always guiding us, whether it be in the Ways™ of Photoshop or in the Ways™ of writing. Your sometimes brutal (but always helpful) honesty, which defines you as our Flame Princess, has brought all of us to levels we never could've reached on our own. You're an invaluable part of our Oracle family. We'll miss you—random reptile facts, tangerines, bad puns and all—but we're sure that you'll light up others' lives the same way you lit up ours. Good luck at CalTech! We're cheering for you.

## Ariana

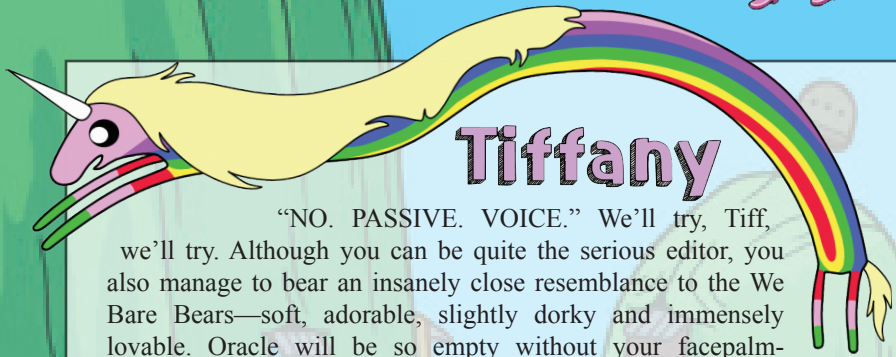
Soft but never to be underestimated, you're undeniably the most prepared person in all of Ooo—which is an advantageous quality as one of Oracle's beloved Editor-in-Chiefs. Whenever there's a sticky situation, we can always rely on your brainpower to figure out a solution. We can never thank you enough for your never-ending purse of supplies, filled with a wide-range of useful items including band-aids and lip gloss. Your tendency to plan every moment of your life is part-inspiring yet part-puzzling. Truth be told, we all love your presence and will always remember you as our Mom. Princess Bubblegum, we're sure you'll find success; UCLA fight fight fight!



Lex—Oracle's own Renaissance man. A passionate writer, a stylish artist, a keen photographer and a tech-savvy Photoshop master; you have been a pillar that we can rely on. Your brutally honest constructive criticism is always spot-on, and we can always count on your advice, whether no words to express that you have The festively generous color to the Ice King to us Op-Minions/Penguins.



## Lex



## Tiffany

"NO. PASSIVE. VOICE." We'll try, Tiff, we'll try. Although you can be quite the serious editor, you also manage to bear an insanely close resemblance to the We Bare Bears—soft, adorable, slightly dorky and immensely lovable. Oracle will be so empty without your facepalm-inducing puns and rather vocal penchant for your precious pup, Tweedy. We'll miss you and the way your eyes light up when you spot the a-peeling tangerines sitting temptingly on the back table during layout sessions. And we'll always remember you as our Lady Rainicorn (minus the Korean) and our huggable We Bare Bear.

## Katie



After maneuvering around multiple pages of Oracle for the past 3 years, you officially deserve the title of Queen of Versatility. Although you tend to stress yourself out, we can always count on you to be not only a caring sister figure, just like Jake the Dog, but a friend that we can play games with (cough Smash) during breaks. We'll miss your ability to capture the school's attention with your loud voice, and your adorable "birb" drawings that never fail to put a smile on anyone's face. Despite the fact that your artistic abilities won't appear as much as you begin your medical field journey at USC, we will always remember the way your colorful cartoons made our newspaper shine.

## Jessica

Dear Jessica, you're strictly confidential, but here's what we do know. Calm, cool and always collected, you're the Marceline of our family. Joining Oracle your senior year is tough, but you filled the business manager role better than anyone could have imagined; and for that, we are truly grateful. Every day you show up to class is a mini-fashion show. Whether you are draping on your expensive, boujee brand clothing or dressing yourself like a vintage model, your style is like no one else's. We know that you will succeed in all of your endeavors—in college and beyond.



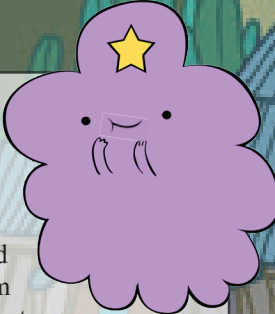
## Julianna

Balm dotcom takes a human form in you, Julianna Sabile. You know how to flaunt your fashion, even on days you decide to roll out of bed and go straight to school. No one sets the standards for the three G's (gossip, Glossier, and goddess) like you do. With a sunny-side-up sass mixed with an eye for art, you make a spunky, talented photographer. Not only that, you know how to crank it up from 0 to 100 in any given situation. And honestly, could you be any more sarcastic? Oracle was lucky to have a spontaneous spirit like you in our midst. Get out of here and have the adventure of a lifetime!



## Malika

Malika, with your dynamic personality, you naturally spread joy to those around you. From your long-lasting speeches about random Harry Potter facts to your rants about the hardships of the IB world, you're never hesitant to say what's on your mind (just like a certain space princess). We live for your passive-aggressive replies to any snarky comments made at your vegetarianism. And although we've had our fun, we're going to miss you pushing your writers to do their best—Oracle has never met someone so tough yet so soft at the same time. People can depend on you no matter the circumstances—which is something that we'll always remember you for. Don't forget to bring that same charisma to UCLA, but more importantly, don't forget about us!



Tuna! Your dramatic hair flips and flashy wrist checks will surely be missed in the Oracle room. Whether you're wearing your hot-glued Reeboks or your shiny leather boots, your well-dressed presence has been an amazing comfort and a welcomed personality as our graphics editor. Keep updating your iconic "smol" playlist on Spotify and we'll keep listening (maybe). Hope you keep up on your (sometimes) daily calisthenics and your volleyball skills into college. We wish you the best of luck on your journey as a freelance graphics editor and all of the other amazing things you will accomplish!

## Tu-an

