

# ORACLE

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# PETER PAN



Warrior Performing Arts whisked audiences away to Neverland with their enchanting performance.

Compiled by Rachel Kang, NEWS EDITOR, article by Jenny Huang, STAFF WRITER, graphics courtesy of David Ko and Pinterest, photos courtesy of Allison Wong

Bringing audiences back to their childhood with a nostalgic story, Warrior Theatre performed *Peter Pan* in the Thomas Moore Auditorium Oct. 19-20 and 26-27.

Faithful to the classic tale, *Peter Pan*, the play follows young Wendy Darling as Peter Pan and Tinker Bell spirit her away to the whimsical world of Neverland, where she finds herself entangled in conflict with Captain Hook and his band of pirates.

With a light, comedic approach to the story and a theme revolving around a boy who does not want to grow up, the classic story may serve to remind audiences of their youth, Theatre Director Joe Hufferd said.

“I hope that [the audience] reignites their childlike joy in life and appreciates what it is like to be young,” Hufferd said.

After Hufferd held auditions and assigned roles, rehearsals began in late September. For two hours every day, the cast practiced in the school auditorium after school. According to Hufferd, cast members contributed heavily to behind-the-scenes set preparation.

“[We] cannot do this without students who take leadership roles and huge responsibilities,” Hufferd said. “I supervise every aspect of [our shows], but they are all

student-created and student-developed.”

Although the storyline of the play aligns with the traditional *Peter Pan* plot, Theatre modified the story by excluding the characters of John and Michael, Wendy’s brothers, and renaming the Natives to the Forest Band to avoid the racist depiction of Native Americans, cast member Mark Sy said.

The cast also used a version of the script that did not include flying. According to cast member Andrew Hong, who plays Peter Pan, this change offers a new version of the play audiences are less familiar with.

“One of the things people most associate the story of *Peter Pan* with is the idea of flying,” Hong said, “but since we are limited on space in our theater in terms of height, we are using a different way of flying that is almost comedic.”

Limited space on stage was an issue for the cast, who had to be creative about how the set was arranged. According to Hufferd, Theatre Tech had to construct backgrounds for each of the four different scenes in the play.

“We do not have any offstage space to put the scenery, so it is a challenge on where to put pieces that you create for

one scene when you do not need them,” Hufferd said. “It comes down to the Tech program and how [quickly] they are able to get things [on and off stage] so the audience does not notice the changes.”

In order to create a more engaging experience, the cast included their own touches to the script. Student-choreographed fight scenes added excitement to the show, Hong said.

“[I enjoy] the fight scenes just because of how dynamic they are and [how] there is a good splash of comedy in there that we added,” Hong said. “Doing the fight scenes in the moment is very electrifying.”

To ensure a smooth final performance, the actors attended eight-hour rehearsals on weekends. After dozens of hours spent working on the production, the dedication pays off when the audience enjoys all of the cast’s hard work, Hufferd said.

“I cannot imagine being a part of anything more exciting than trying to make a show work and giving it to an audience,” Hufferd said. “It is always a challenge, always a headache, but every time the audience is enjoying the show and the kids are getting applause and people are leaving happy, you feel great.”

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As autumn makes its entrance, read about some of the hidden treasures in OC hiking trails.

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Jam out with our take on League of Legends’ promotional music, featuring New Jeans, for the World 2023 Championship.

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# International Teen Association escorts Congress members and assists with Korea Daily Parade



PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL TEEN ASSOCIATION

**PARADING IN LOS ANGELES:** *Korea Daily Parade participants drive through the streets in traditional costumes for the annual ceremonial autocade amidst the festivities.*

In recognition of the 120th year of Korean immigration to the U.S., International Teen Association attends the Korea Daily Parade.

By Salman Waheed  
STAFFWRITER

New club International Teen Association participated in the Korea Daily Parade in Los Angeles to assist with operations and escort

VIP attendees Oct. 14. As a first-time experience at a cultural awareness event, the International Teen Association club attended the Korea Daily Parade where Warriors observed Korean culture. Members of the club attained volunteer experience by setting up for each performance and carrying equipment into the area for orchestra and band groups. Founded to offer Warriors unique cultural volunteering

opportunities, the club also intends to provide members with ventures that introduce them to different work industries. Club members receive the opportunity to shadow government figures of diverse ethnicities, act as extras and oversee production on Korean Drama TV sets, and model for Asian clothing brands such as MeeHee Hanbok. Korea’s first English-language daily newspaper

Korea Times hosted the Korea Daily Parade to celebrate the 120th year anniversary of Korean immigration to the U.S. and the 50th anniversary of Korea Times. The parade occurred between the cross streets of South Vermont Avenue and West Olympic Boulevard. The event’s itinerary consisted of several Korean cultural and interpretive dances as well as orchestra and band performances. In preparation for the parade, ITA held a club meeting Oct. 10 to discuss coordination and how to direct groups performing during the parade. Other organizations helped assist in the event such as the Los Angeles Police Department, Boy Scouts and the Orange County School of Arts. According to Vice President Dana Zins, the event introduces students to the beautiful aspects of Korean culture. At the parade, attendees can come together to indulge in authentic Korean street food and enjoy the ornamentation that the event showcases, Zins said. “Cultural activities that helped us engage in the customs were traditional Korean

dances and musical pieces performed by the orchestra,” Zins said. “There was also decor exhibited on cars and parade floats traversing through the event displaying intricate tapestries and paintings.” Acting as escorts for high profile attendees, ITA members accompanied Congresswomen Michelle Steel and Young Kim as well as Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass throughout the festivities. The club also brought out vendors and enlisted several Korean dance companies to contribute to the event. According to President Ria Choi, the parade conveys the authenticity of Korean culture to its attendees. Through its preservation of traditional customs, the parade gives Warrior students a rare opportunity to view what Korean culture truly is as opposed to how it is portrayed in entertainment, Choi said. “A lot of our members identify with Korean culture and I think it is also important to destigmatize the standards of what many think Korean culture appears to be in the media or in the press,” Choi said. “There is so much more to it than what you would expect.”

# New club develops curriculum to teach machine learning to high school students

Machine Learning Club creates a custom curriculum to cater machine learning to Warrior students.

By Paulina Lee  
STAFFWRITER

Established in September, Warrior Machine Learning Club takes a new approach by developing a custom curriculum as part of their mission to teach Warriors machine learning more effectively and efficiently. Following the merge of four different machine-categorized clubs, MLC’s mission is to help make machine learning accessible by providing a custom curriculum and opportunities for active participation in this field. Due to the seemingly obscure language of machine learning, the board and instructors hope to create an approachable learning environment for programmers. To achieve this goal, MLC created a curriculum focused on all levels of machine learning and the different aspects of it. Board members and student instructors collaborated to create lessons that combined members’ ideas. Inspired by lectures and resources

from MIT and Harvard University, club instructors aimed to produce more straightforward lesson plans for efficient learning. According to Lead Analytics Instructor Avni Patil, the collaboration represented an effective blend of each member’s respective strengths. With different perspectives and areas of expertise, the club worked to produce an accurate and reliable curriculum. “It has been a journey of us figuring out what works, what we understood, and applying that knowledge to get the basics of it down,” Patil said. “So this custom-made curriculum is really just from our own experiences and what we found the best because machine learning does not have any specific curriculum out there.” At club meetings, instructors use an online coding platform called Kaggle for information on competitions, datasets, notebooks and models. MLC plans to participate in the upcoming Titanic competition on Kaggle. This competition challenges participants to use data analysis and predictive modeling to determine which passengers aboard the Titanic survived.



PHOTO BY REAGAN LI

**CLUB LECTURE:** *Lead Instructors Ivan Zimmerman (left) and Avni Patil (right) lecture club members on machine learning concepts in preparation for the Titanic competition.*

According to Vice President Gabriel Barretto, the club plans to provide members with new research opportunities next semester. Their curriculum ensures members have the experience necessary to conduct research such projects independently. “Right now our idea is to work in groups on this research with those [club] instructors,” Barretto said. “But we want to also make sure that

when you do it yourself, you have the experience necessary to be able to do these research projects on your own.” In contrast to a typical high school curriculum, MLC’s curriculum focuses on using personal experience with machine learning. The club also provides information about science fairs, awards, competitions and scholarships that members can attend or apply for.

According to Patil, their new curriculum is inclusive of all machine learning skill levels, including non-programmers. “Even though we are a new club, we are doing our best to make sure that our members can get the most efficient way possible. There is something for everyone at our club,” Patil said. “So whatever type of programmer you are, even if you’re not a programmer, we have everything for you here.”



# Troy Support Organization hosts plant sale fundraiser on campus to start annual tradition

The TSO plant fundraiser aims to bring awareness to the environment in hopes of becoming an annual Warrior event.

By Samantha Luo  
STAFFWRITER

In hopes of sprouting a new tradition on campus, the Troy Support Organization hosted its first plant sale at the front gate outside the North Gym Oct. 9 to 13. Former Warrior club Troy Tree Huggers originally started the idea for a plant sale in November 2022, but the arrangements for a plant sale were eventually passed on to TSO. Previous club events included teaching students about the environment and raising money to

buy bonsai teachers for teachers, as a way to appreciate the environment. As a non-profit education-oriented foundation, TSO provided over \$1.2 million in additional funding for Troy’s various programs. Founded in 2005, TSO has raised money to aid a number of school wide efforts, including funding for renovations around campus and various types of equipment. As part of the plant sale, student volunteers and TSO members sold various types of plants after school, including succulents, bonsai trees and a variety of flowers. From pre-sale online orders and purchases made in person, the profit was around \$700. All profits will be managed and donated by TSO. Former president of the Tree Huggers club, Maxie Xie, initially

contacted California Succulent Garden as a potential supplier for the fundraiser, but due to logistical and financial issues, plants were instead sourced from Martinez Nursery. Plants were then bought in bulk and transported to Troy for resale. As a public school, Troy faces limitations due to institutional reliance on state funding, said Rachel Xie, gala co-chair of TSO. “TSO was created by parents who wanted to ensure that these gaps in funding would not affect their children’s ability to receive one of the best educations in California,” Ms. Xie said. “[By] creating seamless collaboration between parents, faculty, administrators, and students, TSO’s mission is to ensure the continued educational quality of Troy High School through fundraising

events and corporate donations.” TSO picked up the fundraiser in hopes of making it a tradition at Troy. This plant sale is a way of spreading the legacy of the Tree Huggers club, Maxie Xie said. “[This] fundraiser is more of a trial run, to see how successful [it] will be,” Xie said. “If it is successful, then hopefully in the future TSO and I can bring more plant sales to Troy.” Donating the funds to TSO helps everyone buying plants support a common cause, but the plant sale is not only about raising funds, said Ms. Xie. “Even more important than the money is our hope that this Plant Sale can become an annual or seasonal tradition at Troy,” said Ms. Xie. “[It is] a regular reminder that we should all appreciate and welcome plants into our lives.”



CARTOON BY ALICIA YOON

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## TROY HIGH SCHOOL



# dang good beats

Junior Nicholas Dang is making himself heard through his R&B hits. Tune in now to listen to his journey of self-discovery and creativity.

Compiled by Eileen Um, **FEATURE EDITOR**, article by Helen Fang, **STAFF WRITER**, graphics courtesy of Canva, photos courtesy of Nicholas Dang

Pulsing drum beats meld with the soft twang of guitar strings, filling the room with a whirl of soft harmonies and melancholy themes. Junior Nicholas Dang shuffles his notes and mounts his microphone, weaving dreamy lyrics into his tracks, replacing the day’s stress with soothing tunes in the sanctuary of his room. Under the name “asumuh,” Dang’s fusion of bedroom pop and indie beats has over 115,000 monthly listeners on Spotify and has garnered over a million streams, an electric rise attributed to his love for music. Each one of Dang’s songs is a window into months spent mixing beats and composing lyrics, as Dang explored different artists and styles to find his own unique voice.

The first notes of his musical career resounded from a desire for a new creative outlet. During the pandemic, 13-year-old Dang tinkered with his microphone and recorded a song on a whim. This first song opened the floodgates to a world of artistic expression, turning what began as a simple motif into a symphony of ideas. Wading deeper into the art of songwriting, Dang invested a few hundred dollars in professional music making software like Albeton, Logic Pro and FL Studio. With no prior experience, Dang dove into a sea of sounds, entwining strands of instrumental samples and digital beats to synthesize the right mood for his pieces. Each song idea began with an emotion expressed through the lines of a poem or the storyline of a movie, inspiration found in shows like Crash Landing On You and Descendants of the Sun that focus on romantic relationships. Dang echoes these themes of love and happiness in his lyrics, addressing the struggles and joys that come with having a significant other. Dang took his first steps into the music industry when he privately uploaded his songs onto Spotify. His first upload rippled into music

clips on Tiktok before cascading into a wave of public releases on Apple Music, Youtube and Spotify. As he amassed a large following of listeners, Dang landed a management deal with a collective of Asian artists at OSV Records and was taken under the wings of other rising young artists like Rocco, Kidsnot\$aints and Malcolm Todd.

“I was just self taught by playing with buttons,” Dang said. “And now I’m part of a team with big brothers I look up to.”

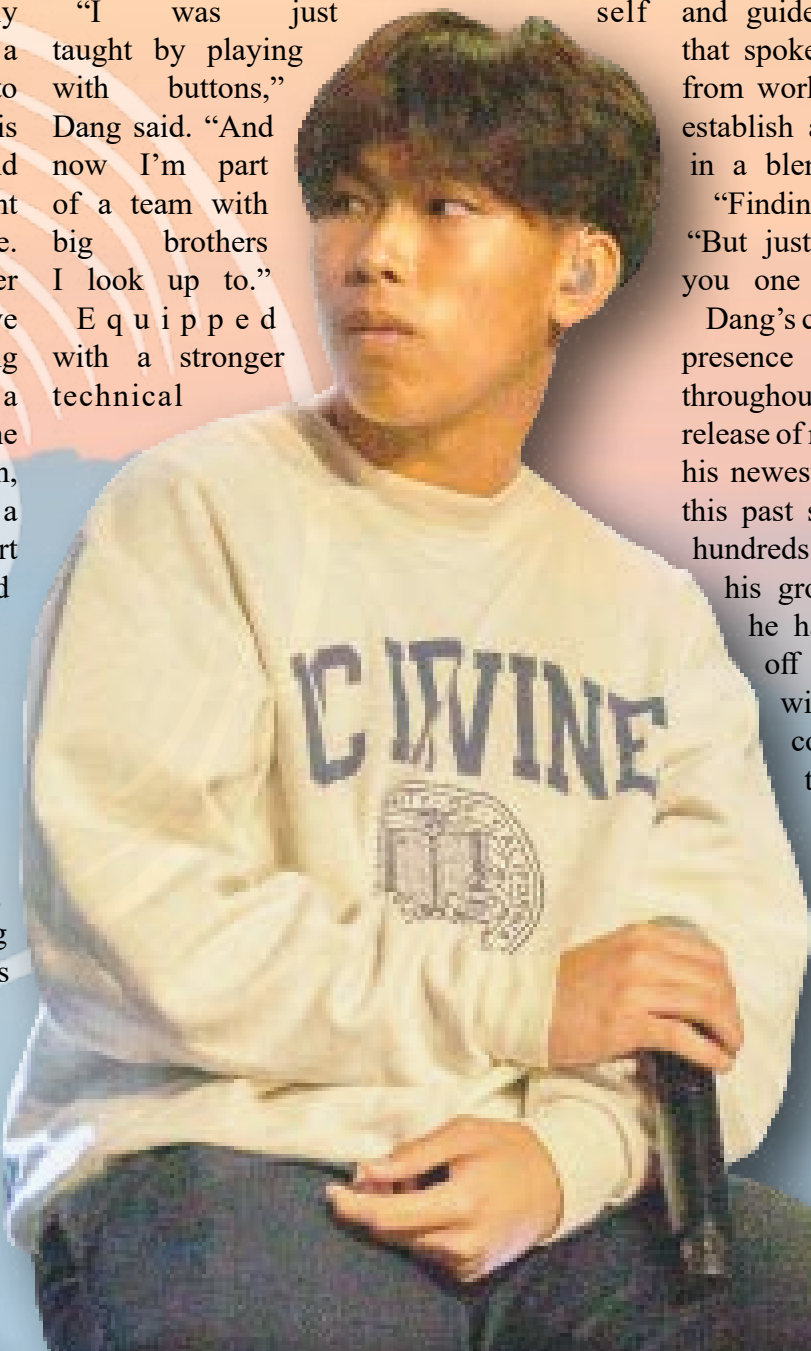
Equipped with a stronger technical

foundation, Dang navigated murky waters and put more time into his projects to find his personal style. While his first songs took root after a few hours of brainstorming and mixing, Dang’s more recent hits grew from months of thought and deliberation. Fine tuning the final product with his fellow artists exposed Dang to different songwriting styles and guided him in his search for a genre that spoke to him. The insight Dang gained from working with his team allowed him to establish a love for R&B, finding his niche in a blend of lofi sound and indie beats.

“Finding your style is hard,” Dang said. “But just listening to what you like helps you one day develop your own genre.”

Dang’s commitment to establishing his music presence and his own identity reverberated throughout the music community with the release of music videos for his hit “infinity” and his newest song, “what if i told u.” Released this past summer, Dang’s single already has hundreds of thousands of views, showcasing his growth as an artist and the lyricism he has refined over the years. Coming off his first show a few months ago with VietQmedia, Dang is currently coordinating with his management team about a potential show in LA by 2024. Knowing firsthand the moments of obscurity that come with establishing one’s identity, Dang encourages others to take everything one step at a time in their journey to finding clarity.

“Trying to learn more about your voice is a process,” Dang said. “The first time anybody records their voice, it sounds awful to them, but it gets better with learning as you develop your own music.”



infinity 1,301,950 streams



happy exists 1,306,375 streams



what if i told u? 297,972 streams

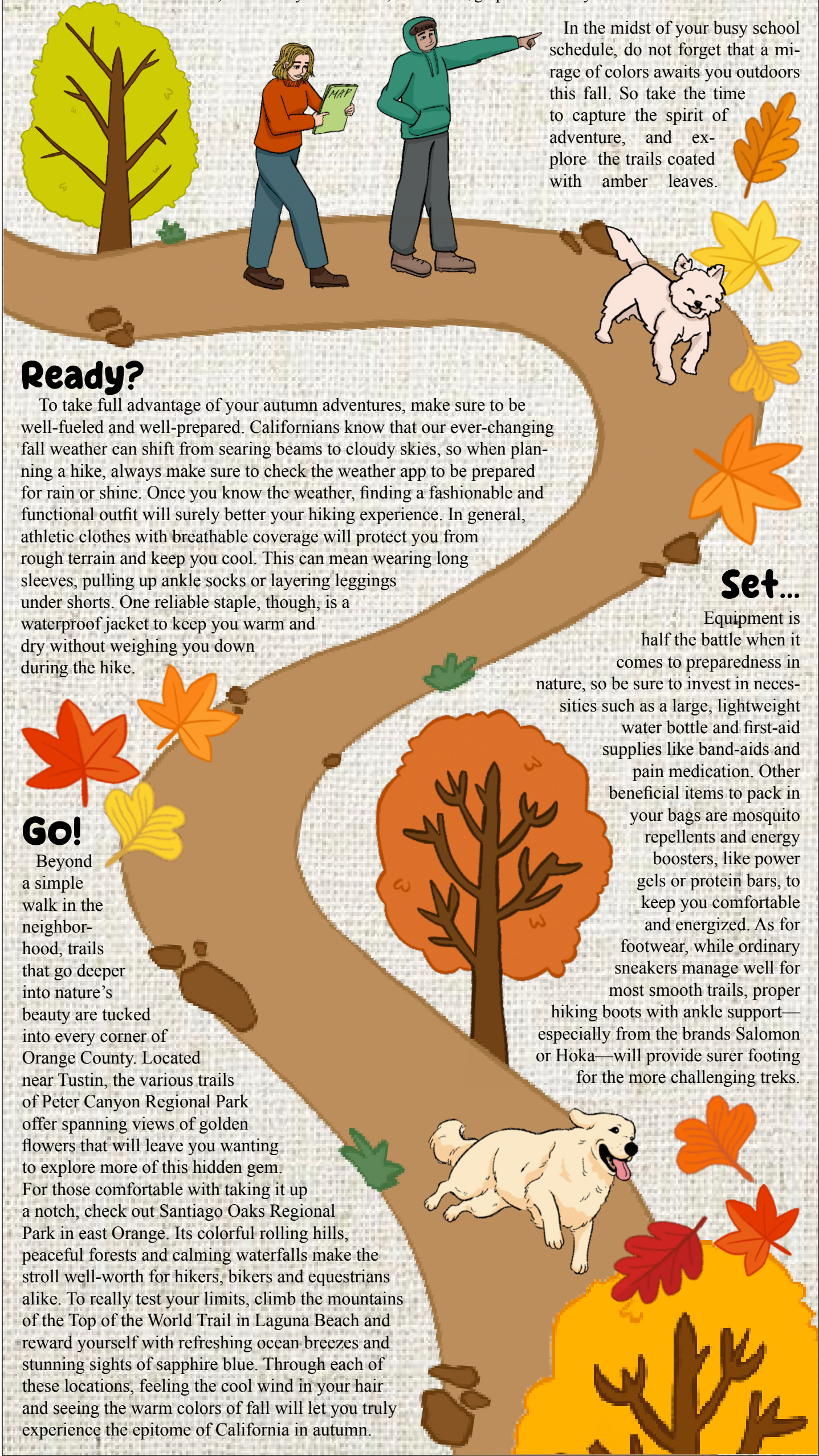




# Autumn Adventures

As the red-orange hues of autumn breeze into our Californian landscape, it is the perfect time for students to explore the hidden treasures of OC hiking trails!

Compiled by Zoey Bahng, **LIFESTYLE EDITOR**, article by Celeste Hollingsworth, **STAFF WRITER**, cartoons by Alicia Yoon, **CARTOONS**, graphics courtesy of Canva



In the midst of your busy school schedule, do not forget that a mi-  
rage of colors awaits you outdoors  
this fall. So take the time  
to capture the spirit of  
adventure, and ex-  
plore the trails coated  
with amber leaves.

## Ready?

To take full advantage of your autumn adventures, make sure to be well-fueled and well-prepared. Californians know that our ever-changing fall weather can shift from searing beams to cloudy skies, so when planning a hike, always make sure to check the weather app to be prepared for rain or shine. Once you know the weather, finding a fashionable and functional outfit will surely better your hiking experience. In general, athletic clothes with breathable coverage will protect you from rough terrain and keep you cool. This can mean wearing long sleeves, pulling up ankle socks or layering leggings under shorts. One reliable staple, though, is a waterproof jacket to keep you warm and dry without weighing you down during the hike.

## Go!

Beyond a simple walk in the neighborhood, trails that go deeper into nature's beauty are tucked into every corner of Orange County. Located near Tustin, the various trails of Peter Canyon Regional Park offer spanning views of golden flowers that will leave you wanting to explore more of this hidden gem. For those comfortable with taking it up a notch, check out Santiago Oaks Regional Park in east Orange. Its colorful rolling hills, peaceful forests and calming waterfalls make the stroll well-worth for hikers, bikers and equestrians alike. To really test your limits, climb the mountains of the Top of the World Trail in Laguna Beach and reward yourself with refreshing ocean breezes and stunning sights of sapphire blue. Through each of these locations, feeling the cool wind in your hair and seeing the warm colors of fall will let you truly experience the epitome of California in autumn.

## Set...

Equipment is half the battle when it comes to preparedness in nature, so be sure to invest in necessities such as a large, lightweight water bottle and first-aid supplies like band-aids and pain medication. Other beneficial items to pack in your bags are mosquito repellents and energy boosters, like power gels or protein bars, to keep you comfortable and energized. As for footwear, while ordinary sneakers manage well for most smooth trails, proper hiking boots with ankle support—especially from the brands Salomon or Hoka—will provide surer footing for the more challenging treks.

## Fashion Feature

Check out the Oracle's inside look at the stylish students representing campus chic!

Compiled by Zoey Bahng, **LIFESTYLE EDITOR**, article by Celeste Hollingsworth, **STAFF WRITER**, photo by Reagan Li, **PHOTO**



With her bold interpretations of a romantic goth aesthetic, sophomore Sienna Velarde gives the typical autumn outfit of Uggs and knits a run for its money. Incorporating corsets and platform boots in every outfit, Velarde's looks hold a sense of individuality and excellence that gives her a unique fierceness. First familiarizing herself with this alternative style in seventh grade, Velarde took inspiration from Lydia in "Beetlejuice," who often incorporated accent shades of dark red and purple into outfits of classic blacks and grays. For those trying to find their individual styles, Velarde recommends browsing through the endless inspiration of Pinterest. Although Velarde feels like her approachable personality is not reflected through the sharpness of her outfits, to her, fashion is simply a way to express her love for maximalism. Upon first glance, her fashion may seem like something that sets her apart, but Velarde treasures the sense of community that comes with her alternative looks, as she remarks that many others within the alternative clothing community "are really cool people who are really nice."



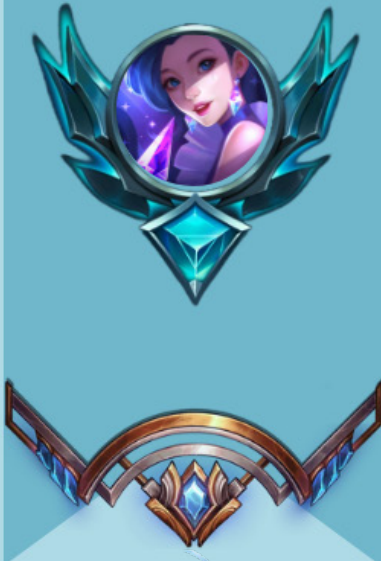
# LYRICISTS OF LEAGUE

League of Legends' Worlds Championship event is bursting with excitement and thunderous beats! Explore the newly released songs and past history of League's music as fans anticipate this exciting finale.

Compiled by Kaitlyn Zhang, ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR, article by Bianca Naranjo, STAFF WRITER, graphics courtesy of League of Legends and NewJeans

## VIRTUAL VICTORIES

K/DA



Open your eyes to the dazzling sirens of song in character-based bands K/DA and True Damage! First debuting in 2018, K/DA is a virtual K-Pop girl group consisting of fictional characters from hit game League of Legends, voiced by singers and actors, like Soyeon and Miyeon of G-IDLE, Madison Beer, and Jaira Burns. Their music takes in a layered approach to their vocals, blending in elements of rap, serene synth-pop, and high-energy pop, often accompanied by animated music videos reaching hundreds of millions of views on average. Following the success of K/DA, League introduced True Damage, a virtual co-ed hip-hop group featuring other champions from the game, and taking on a delivery of mixed vocals similar to K/DA's music. Both bands have greatly strayed from the battle-exclusive action in the game, introducing a separate artistic element to the already popular game. Pop and hip-hop may seem out of place for a franchise centered on in-game violence, but new audiences have been nothing less than excited about these high-spirited renditions of League's dark overtones. Although no new releases are currently anticipated by these bands, an increase in streaming has been welcomed by Worlds 2023, with dedicated fans coming back to their classics during this exciting annual event.



## ORIGINAL OR OVERDONE?

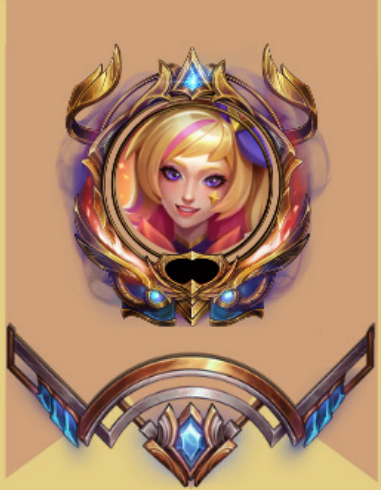


NewJeans' new release "Gods" sounds like it should be divine enough, but is it just a copy-paste of League's past anthems? NewJeans has risen to K-Pop prominence in the past year with their sweet yet spunky vocals, instilling the harmonies of puppy love and teenage drama through dance-pop hits like "ETA" and "Super Shy." However, in this new release, the group takes on a more dramatic tone, weaving in an air of victory with lengthy, dramatic vocals. Not only do the lyrics of "Gods" reflect a powerful narrative, but the featured animation arrives hand-in-hand with this lyricism, describing the story of Deft, a professional League of Legends player. The animation shifts back and forth between his various struggles as his career proceeds, adding yet another chapter to League's animated proplay history. Although NewJeans has switched up their style significantly with this release, this action-packed, dramatic flourish is old news for any long-term viewers of League's featured music videos. With releases like "Legends Never Die," "Warriors" and "Ignite," League is no stranger to spectacular anthems; however, the circulation of so many similarly rousing songs can make them start to blur together. Even though League's music remains widely popular, this specific lack of variation draws in a new necessity to diversify their featured songs.

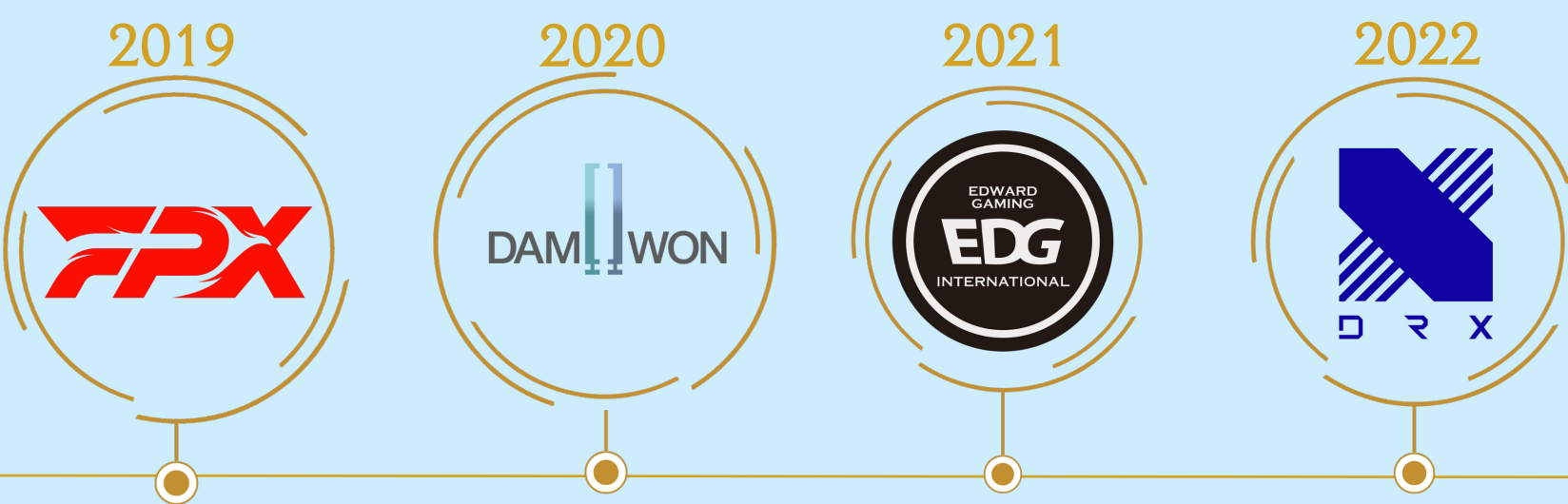


## MULTIGENRE MEDLEYS

Variety is the spice of life—and by no means is this neglected by the diverse music of League's featured artists. NewJeans isn't the only trending artist to have collaborated with League of Legends; various other artists of different genres have been previously featured as part of League's musical promotions. Last year, Lil Nas X collaborated with them to formulate the catchy, mood-inspiring "Star-Walkin'" and a corresponding animation. League has extended their realm into alternate universes, packing dance and electronic pop into the Star Guardians event. Imagine Dragons is another contributor to the musical world of League, beginning with their action-packed hit "Warriors," in 2014. Not stopping there, the Imagine Dragons have continued to build their legacy as League collaborators in the past decade, prominently waving in a new audience with their 2021 song "Enemy," featured on the game's TV adaptation "Arcane." This historic incorporation of music promotion with popular artists has landed League as a prime example of gaming advertisement; their appeal isn't exclusive to frequent gamers, but extends to followers of trending music and fans of beautiful animation. Furthermore, League's integration of individual music styles by various artists offer what most video games cannot: many types of music that can essentially appeal to anybody. This shaping of a multigenre, artistic empire has allowed League to flourish into a franchise known beyond its in-game activity; it is rooted in creativity and will continue to blossom with the encouragement of fans.



## WORLDS' TIMELINE



WORLDS 23



# Should essential workers be allowed to go on an organized strike?

By Shailey Patel  
STAFF WRITER

America experienced the largest U.S. healthcare strike ever recorded on Oct. 4, consisting of 75,000 Kaiser Permanente healthcare employees. Claiming years of untenable working conditions, these workers advocated for wage increases, relief from exhaustion and burnout and calls for more staffing. While the wants and needs of these protesters are valid, the impact that the strike has upon Kaiser’s patients must be recognized. A strike should not have the power to put millions of lives at risk in the process.

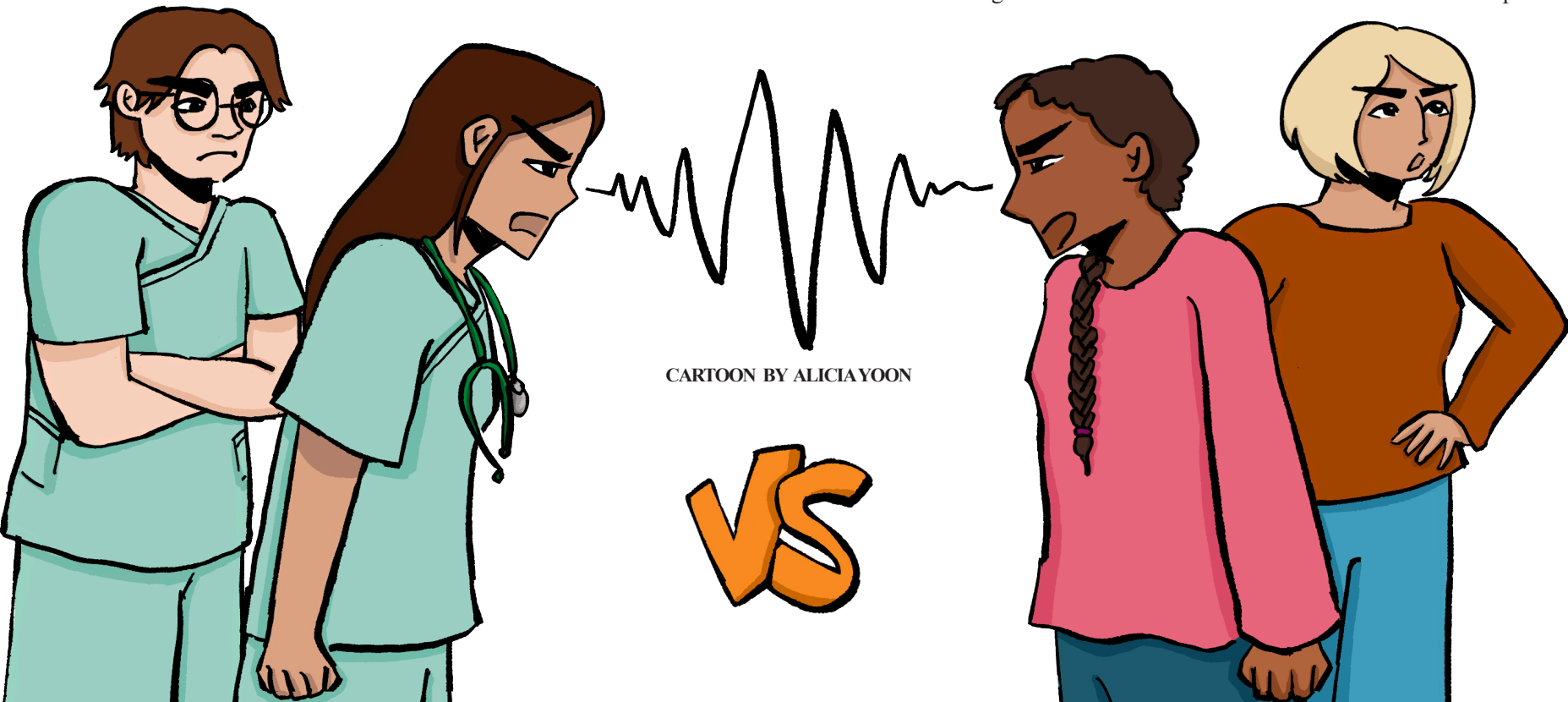
There is no way that hospitals can guarantee quality care to their patients if their staff goes on strike. According to the American Academy of Urgent Care Medicine, approximately 60-80 patients are seen by an Urgent Care Center in a day. When forced to come up with such a large staff in a short amount of time, hospitals have to give up quality care to make sure that each sector of the hospital is taken care of in some manner. In the absence of these employees, a new staff unfamiliar with the hospital or the way things work would be able to fulfill basic care at best, leaving patients susceptible to incomplete care.

Healthcare workers have a public responsibility to their patients that comes before their beliefs in compensation. Before joining the workforce, healthcare professionals swear a Hippocratic oath, a commitment to act in the best interests of their patients and to the fullest of their abilities. When going on strike, these workers disregard this commitment by leaving their patients alone without a guarantee of care for the days that they are on strike. Even if a small group of people may be assembled in that short period to fill in for those on strike, the people are hurt by the pushing and delaying of procedures and appointments.

Rather than completely taking a stance barring medical professionals from striking, America should put minimum service levels into effect. Currently, the United Kingdom brought forward the Strikes Bill, legally requiring a minimum level of service during a strike in crucial

industries such as healthcare, fire and rescue and transport services. This would allow employers in these services to issue work notices to roster the workforce required to service the minimum service level needed on a strike day. By doing so, hospitals and essential jobs could limit the impact that the strike would have on the lives and livelihood of the public and avoid taking risks that unnecessarily put the lives of millions at stake.

A patient’s right to life and right to the best treatment should never be something compromised in the event of a strike. While medical professionals have the right to bring about change, leaving hospitals with no plan or help in the event of a strike disproportionately puts patients at risk. Gambling on the lives of millions of patients by refusing to care for them both breaks a commitment that all of these professionals make to their patients.



CARTOON BY ALICIA YOON

By Kate Berger  
STAFF WRITER

Healthcare workers deserve the right to strike. On October 4, 2023, various Kaiser Permanente medical professionals ranging from receptionists to surgeons came together to strike against low wages, inadequate working conditions and understaffing. The medical concerns the strike has raised regarding the shortage of workers during the three days of protest bring up the question of whether or not a strike is ethical. While medical strikes may be temporarily risky, medical professionals ultimately have the right to strike, and strikes prove to be beneficial for healthcare workers and patients in the long run.

If successful, the medical strike would create beneficial change for both healthcare workers and patients. An increase in wages would motivate all medical personnel to become more dedicated to their work, benefiting their patients

tremendously. In a recent interview with Allison Norful, an assistant professor at the Columbia University School of Nursing, Norful stated that, “Meeting the demands for care increased [after the pandemic], and ethical challenges emerged from rationing care.” A strike has the potential to alleviate such taxing demands for care, and it should absolutely be implemented in the medical industry. They draw attention to workers’ concerns about their workplace and can cause serious change within an industry, exemplifying the importance and effectiveness of strikes.

As stated in the First Amendment, citizens must be able to express their opinions regarding their workplace. The recent strike exemplifies U.S. citizens exercising their right to strike against their wages and work conditions, which should not be viewed as unethical. In the past four years, COVID-19 has hit the medical industry the hardest, exemplified through overcrowded hospitals and particularly low wages. Along with the

large number of patients to take care of, most workers’ wages have not increased, resulting in turmoil within the medical industry. Nurses deserve a higher salary for their grueling work than the national average of \$35.93 per hour. The inadequacy of healthcare jobs after the pandemic emphasizes why healthcare workers deserve to exercise their right to strike.

Three days have the potential to transform an entire industry into one that pays its workers adequately and employs devoted workers who prioritize one patient at a time. The Hippocratic Oath is a sworn agreement made by individuals when they become doctors, requiring doctors to swear that they will do everything within

their power to help their patients and act in their best interests. A strike does not break this oath, as workers are still acting in their patients’ best interests. While it is true that patients will be negatively affected during the three days of strike, those three days can improve work conditions and abolish understaffing, drastically changing the future of Kaiser Permanente for the better.

Healthcare workers have been through an extensive amount of obstacles in the past four years of COVID-19, especially considering the surplus of hospitalizations and low wages. Medical personnel should always have a voice regarding their workplace conditions, and a strike helps to enforce that voice.





# The impending shutdown reveals the instability of the U.S. government

By Chelsea Engelhardt  
STAFF WRITER



Republicans are patriots until they have to put effort into protecting their government. Congress passed a stopgap bill that delays the shutting down of the government until Nov. 17th. This bill includes reductions such as cutting back aid to Ukraine, resulting in the hesitation of some representatives. However, more importantly, over 4 million government jobs would be sacrificed, leading to the collapse of the government. The uncertainty of our government's future raises concern over whether the government should be focusing on foreign policy rather than solving domestic issues.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEW YORKER

The overall need for the stopgap bill is a clear and scary sign that the government is unreliable and unstable. The Republican party should focus more on protecting their government. Republicans are seen as the resistant party in putting our government first in research done by The Guardian which shows the results of the bipartisan voting as 335 in agreement and 91 opposed. Out of the 335 people in agreement with the stopgap bill, 209 were Democrats and 126 were Republicans and, out of the 91 people who didn't agree with the bill due to its neglect of Ukraine, 90 of them were Republican. Although Joe Biden stated he talked to the previous Speaker of the House about creating another bill to still provide them with aid, Republicans were unwavering. Unfortunately, Congress is in a political paralysis with their bold move of firing Speaker of the House, Kevin McCarthy. The leaders of the government are being headstrong when they should be collaborating to come up with a solution. Due to the stubborn government, federal agencies that should remain open are at risk of closing. The Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 raised the ceiling for federal debt and postponed the government shutdown: the result of legislation not passing essential bills for the executive branch. This causes all non-essential functions within federal agencies to cease. If this were to happen, federal workers and agencies would no longer get paid and could still be required to work. Not only would it be the government's fault for shutting down but it would also put their jobs and economy in



GRAPHIC BY EDYN MAI

jeopardy. With the impending shutdown, the U.S. government has passed safety bills to avoid these problems for the future. However, as time passes, the shutdown gets closer. They have less than a month to reach an agreement on which provisions to include in a long-term spending bill. Amidst this catastrophe, the economy and politics of the U.S. government are at extreme risk. The ousting of the Speaker shows the immaturity within the Republican party. The forceful removal of McCarthy by Republican representative Matt Gaetz is a scary example of the instability within our governing body. Now, most of the House is deadlocked with an impending shutdown. This expulsion stalls the progress in agreeing on a more permanent bill to prevent a shutdown. With less than a month left to save the economy, this is yet another stall that sets our lead-

ers back. Overall, if the government can not come together to avoid shutdown, the future of the U.S. government is unstable.

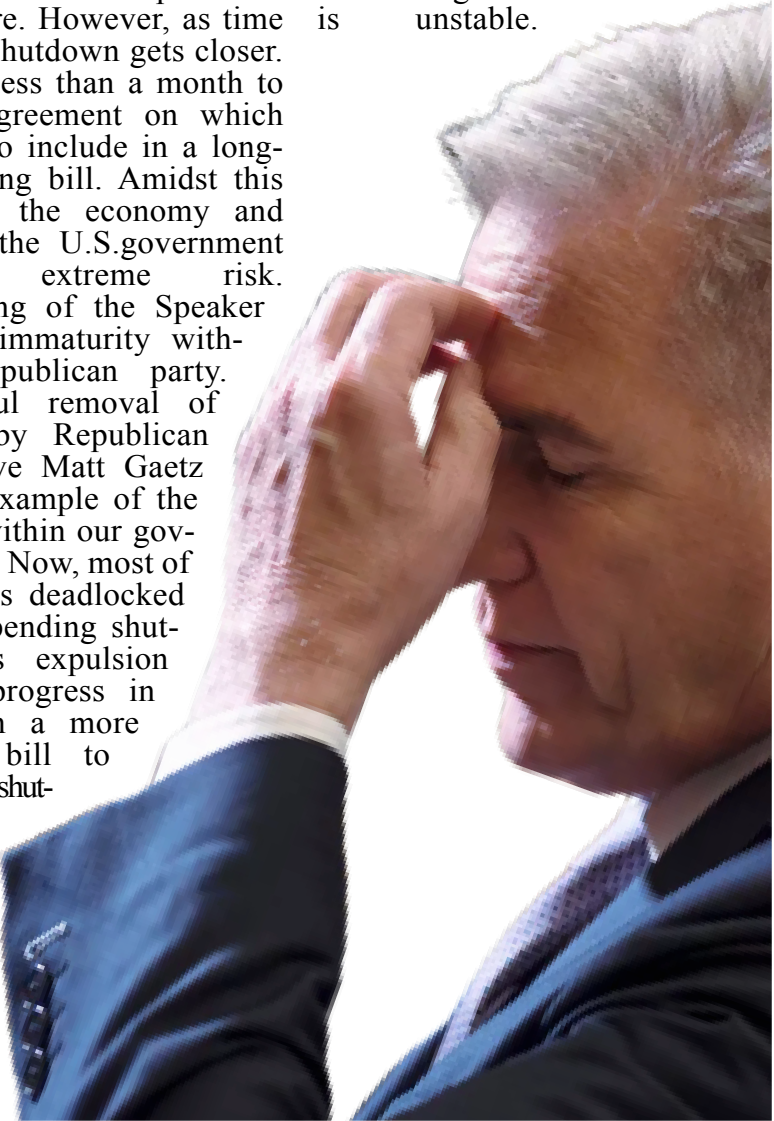


PHOTO COURTESY OF WINK NEWS

Late Sleep by Alicia Yoon

Panel 1: A man and a woman talking. The man says, "late start tomorrow!" and the woman replies, "extra hr of sleep".

Panel 2: The woman says, "I can sleep an hour (or more) later!".

Panel 3: The woman gives a thumbs up and says, "TROY MATH!". A small character in the background says, "uh wait that's not..."



# Silence is golden: public figures need not take binary stances in the Gaza conflict

By Victoria Yang  
STAFF WRITER



Public Figures Need Not Comment—Binary Stances on Gaza Conflict Diminishes Complexity

Militant conflicts between Israel and Palestine originated a century ago when religious differences divided the Islamic and Jewish populations. In 1947, the United Nations divided the previously British-controlled area into Muslim Palestine and Jewish Israel, hoping for peace. Jerusalem, a city of religious significance to both, remained under an international regime. However, years of disputes have caused territorial conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. Despite numerous attempts at peace, the issues dividing the two sides seem to be getting worse.

On Oct. 7, Hamas launched a violent attack on Israel, killing more than 1400 Israeli civilians, mostly during the initial assaults. Israel fought back with airstrikes—killing more than 5700 Palestinians as of Oct. 24. Through the bloodshed, social media went wild with public figures taking sides. But seeing the conflict as

simply binary disregards its intricacies. Celebrities and influencers need to recognize that violence is not a bandwagon to fame or popularity—they do not need a stance on everything.

Clearly, many celebrities are ill-informed on the issue. For instance, Justin Bieber voiced his support for Israel, but the picture attached was one of Gaza. Similarly, Jamie Lee

Curtis posted a photo with the caption “TERROR FROM THE SKIES,” thinking it was of Israeli children. It turned out to be of

Palestinians dodging Israeli airstrikes. The list goes on. These stars do not even bother to fact-check an image, making elementary mistakes that reveal their ignorance. Unlike most people, they have millions of fans following their every opinion. By commenting cluelessly, these public figures are misleading and misinforming their fans. Most of these celebrities are removed from the conflict—and they should remain so if they do not know all the facts.

Even when public figures have the accurate information, their often binary stances gloss over the complications involved. Most either condemn Hamas for terrorism and antisemitism or condemn Israel for its

continued oppression of Palestine. Each side believes they are on the moral high ground. In reality, no such high ground exists. The blockade imposed on Gaza ruined the lives of innocent Muslims, including young children who knew nothing but violence and poverty. But terrorism is not the answer and the attack on Israel took the lives of many Jewish people, who had long suffered under great tragedies. A century of conflicts cannot be condensed into an Instagram story motto. While public figures reserve their right to comment, they need to stop treating the Gaza conflict as another public relations opportunity.

Taking it a step further, many influencers are capitalizing on the wildfire of extreme stances by posting inflammatory and fake news. With polarized opinions, each side quickly accepts any so-called evidence in their favor. On X, formerly Twitter, accounts can pay for a verified checkmark. One such post from Sulaiman Ahmed, a verified account claiming to be an investigative journalist and Ph.D. candidate, stated that the Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Porphyrios in Gaza was bombed. Although the author admitted to lying, the account still has more than 100K followers. Similar influencers are disregarding and misrepresenting the heartbreaking violence common Gazans and



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Israelians are living through, all for likes, reposts and money from popularity. The increased public fixation on the conflict is being used as a social media influencer’s cruel gateway to fame.

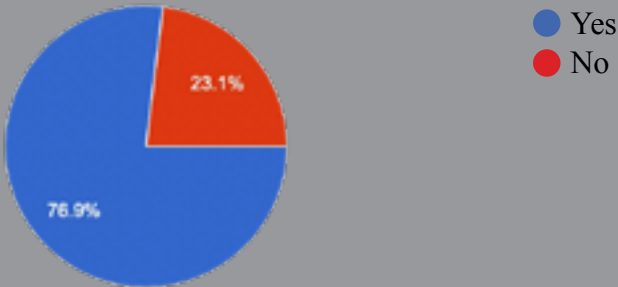
For Americans inside their bubbles, conflicts like this seem like a faraway tale. But there are real lives at stake, not just the random hot takes on Instagram or X. The opinions voiced by public figures should be genuine, carefully considered, and well-informed. With nothing valuable to say, silence is key.

## mark my words

Warriors speak out on campus issues

Read what our Warriors have to say regarding the parking permits at Troy.

Despite the price and ethical dilemma, do you believe the parking permits are needed?



“It’s expensive enough to have to drive ourselves to and from school everyday. We are students, thus we aren’t working full time; why should we be spending 40\$ on a permit to park?”

- Jude Emperado, senior

“Student cars are parked for the entire day, and parking permits are a good way to keep track of which cars are allowed to stay in the parking lot for such a long period of time.”

-Hayoung Lee, freshman

“It is ethical because there are many more students who can drive than there are parking spots. Therefore, it makes sense for only those who have parking permits to be able to park at Troy.”

- Salman Waheed, sophomore

“My understanding is that a parking permit is \$40 for an entire school year and that there are 180 days in a school year. Therefore, parking costs approximately \$0.22 per day, which seems like a good deal to me!”

-J. Bennie Zhu, senior

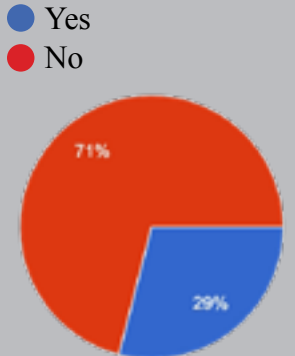
“The use of parking permits would organize the current parking “system”(there is no system)”

-Daghan Balli, sophomore

“The only time I’ve spent that much money on parking was at a Harry Styles concert. Troy is not worth 40 dollars.”

- Natalia Paoli, senior

Do you believe the price of the parking permits is reasonable?



“As someone who bikes, I think it’s pretty important for all people with cars on campus to be cleared to be there. No one wants to get into an accident.”

- Omika Raina, freshman

“I don’t believe the school should be charging money for students to park. Many students already spend a lot of money on gas driving to the Troy so they shouldn’t have to pay to park, especially as high school students most of whom don’t have job. Also if each permit is forty bucks times 100-150 students that’s about \$5,000 which we don’t know where it goes.”

- Owen Katz, senior



# RISE-ING TO THE CHALLENGE

After an incredible win against La Habra, the Warriors reflect on how this is the result of dedicated work, a positive changed mindset, and overall promising program progress.

Compiled by Tyler Cordova, SPORTS EDITOR, articles by Finley Dalley, PUBLICITY, and Kusuma Kothamasu, STAFF WRITER, photos by Reagan Li, PHOTO, and Kusuma Kothamasu, STAFF WRITER, graphics courtesy of Canva

When the clock stops and half-time begins, Warrior football Head Coach Michael Echaves calls his players around him to discuss the disadvantageous score of 7-14. After an encouraging pep-talk, the Warriors ran back onto the field prepared to play aggressively and win definitively. With this renewed mentality, the Warriors executed an incredible performance. The La Habra Highlanders were destroyed 27-21, ending their school's seven-year league winning streak, expressing the vast improvement of the Warrior football program.

"I felt absolutely blown away by the fact that we had achieved something that only three years ago wasn't on our radar," Echaves said. "I have tremendous pride and joy in how far we've come as a program."

Warrior football prepared relentlessly prefacing this remarkable win. From four-hour summer practices, mental preparation drills and strenuous pre-league games, the players all put their best efforts, resulting in an incredible performance this season. When prompted on how the players are remaining disciplined in this strive

for excellence, Echaves reflected on the strict structure of their practices. These practices are formatted with the intent of the players knowing the schedule, and therefore being able to follow it as easily as possible. As an average practice can consist of lifting weights, running plays, watching film, scouting reports or developing skills, Echaves comments on the importance of doing everything in moderation and to the best of their abilities, so the team will remain fresh and ready to play their best on game days.

"We're focusing on what's important right now," Echaves said.

"If we're lifting, let's lift great. If we're stretching, let's stretch great.

If we're watching film, let's watch film great."

When Echaves entered the Warrior football program a matter of years ago, he immediately recognized room for improvement and development. Echaves wanted his players to be courageous, aggressive and passionate about playing the game. To achieve this goal, he implemented new regimens into the program, which have resulted in teaching the team to work together towards a common goal, rather than individually, for

their own personal glory.

"We have to learn to say their glory is second to the team and what the team needs," Echaves said. "We have worked really hard to sacrifice for each other, and that happens from developing relationships and loving each other."

Echaves highlighted several players who played especially remarkably against the Highlanders, noting that juniors Rudy Alcala, Tomi Inoue, Vander Ploog and Caleb Quiroz all had phenomenal games stemming from their dedicated hard work and love for the sport.

The milestone win against La Habra shows great improvement within the Warrior football program and its players. However, Coach Echaves is adamant about not allowing it to impair the work toward their goal of constant advancement.

When prompted about the Warrior's final league game against the Sunny Hills Lancers, Echaves remained rooted in his disciplined ideology.

"When that time comes we're going to prepare just like we do now,"

Echaves said. "We don't worry about the opponent as much as we worry about how we can prepare ourselves as best as possible to play great football Friday night."



# MINDFULNESS MATTERS

The Warrior football and opposing football team fiercely wrestled for the ball that was heading towards a touchdown as the crowd cheered—a loud variation from their calm, quiet and sensible mental preparation just minutes prior. As an important part of the football team, the new arrival of Coach Laura Penton helps the team increase their mobility and their mental wellbeing. More specifically, she works with the athletes on breathing exercises, stretching, mindfulness, warm ups, strength, conditioning and mental rehearsal of their game to calm their minds and bodies.

"[I help them] offload emotional and mental weights," Penton said. "When you do that, you feel lighter and [more free] and not held by the 'what ifs' and worry or anxiety so you could play the level you practiced because you believe in yourself more."

Throughout the season, Penton attempts to instill the idea that each

athlete has a different strength. That strength, she says, should be used while playing the game and as the athletes sit out to drive the team to victory.

She also tries to emphasize that each athlete is a big part of the team, and that it is not about one person, but about the team as a whole.

Penton developed an interest in learning about kids with a traumatic past and how it affects their life and brain. With that interest and her hobby in athletics, she grew to take credentials to work as a mind and body coach for sports teams.

"I love getting to know the [athletes] and seeing them overcome adversity. It doesn't matter if they're the best or just backup, [I just want to] see growth," Penton said. "The La Habra game was amazing, and I think it was just their belief and just staying present in the moment."

With the season coming to an end, Penton hopes the football team can find

their gift and be a part of something much greater than themselves.

"Personally, I find it really fun to see the kids believing in themselves and their teamwork," Penton said.

"I love doing what I do, connecting with the [team], and building relationships that is probably the best part of my job."



**SUCCESSFUL STRETCHING:** Coach Penton leads her mobility stretches before the Homecoming Game Sept. 28.



I started off as a personal trainer, overtime, I went on to coach for the Biola women's soccer team with Coach Mike Silzer as a hobby. Four years later, I began working on Lionsfield through Covid. There, I met a quarterback coach who hired me to work on mobility. Later, I met Coach Echaves through church, who brought me to Troy to work as a mind and body coach.



# BATTLE OF THE CANDIES

Check out Oracle's favorite Halloween treats!

Compiled by Kira Chen and Mary Kim, EDITOR-IN-CHIEFS

The flowchart 'BATTLE OF THE CANDIES' features a central point from which various candy brands branch out. On the left side, brands include Reese's, Baby Ruth, 100 Grand, SNICKERS, Almond Joy, TWIX, and M&M. On the right side, brands include SOUR PATCH, Butterfinger, Nerds, Air Nerds, Milk Duds, and KitKat. The flowchart is decorated with Halloween-themed illustrations, including a ghost, a skeleton, and children in costumes.

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