2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831

# Virtual ASB ELECTIONS: Edition

ASB hosted its first virtual elections for the 2020-21 school year to accommodate to the quarantine regulation enforced throughout the nation.

Compiled by Kathleen Zhang, NEWS EDITOR, article by Kaelyn Kwon, STAFF WRITER, graphics by Cassidy Chang and Phoebe Um, GRAPHIC EDITORS



Adapting to the limitations posed quarantine, Associated Student Body (ASB) held a virtual election for the 2020-21 school year April 17.

During campaign week April 13-16, candidates utilized various social media platforms to advertise their initiative for the virtual election. In an effort to display their campus communication tions, students skills, candidates posted promotional music videos and sent direct messages to the student body. Students submitted their votes

through an emailed Google link. Forms

With aims exemplify to their leadership skills, candidates produced digital posters detailed that their names and slogans, and uploaded videos that explained their plans. In contrast to onelechad the opportunity to register as a candidate through an application via email. During previous elec-











tions, approved candidates hung up posters around campus and conversed with other students in-person.

Coordinated to clarify specific segments of their aspect [to elections], but you campaign, candidates held brief live streams to promote themselves and acknowledge any of the Warrior' questions, 2020-21 Sophomore President Ahsha Jones said.

"A lot of candidates would [have students ask] them questions about their campaign," Jones said. "[Candidates also] used polls year of activities, Wong said. and had students write "[Virtual elections] are not down what they wanted, [which] was engaging."

2020-21 According to ASB President Alyssa Wong, communication was more difficult because interaction was limited between the campaigners and Candidates were voters. unable to fully express their spirit, Wong said.

"There is always a virtual lose the interpersonal aspect of elections," Wong said. "Every candidate showed a lot of what they had to offer, but usually [their intent] is expressed even more."

Regardless of the circumstances, the elected students aim to provide the Warrior population with an exciting

going to really affect activities for next year, unless this quarantine continues," Wong said. "I believe that the people who were elected are still extremely qualified and passionate about the school."

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

You've seen Animal Crossing New Horizon take over the world by storm! Read about the highly enjoyable game and the new additions to the series.





#### **FOCUS**

Meet our seniors and help their contributions to the Warrior publication and the great things they will accomplish in college.

#### Pages 6-7



#### **OPINION**

Get our take on College Board's firm decision to host Standard Aptitude Test examinations from the comfort of your homes if schools do not reopen this fall.



Pages 8-9



# CyberPatriot teams advanced the National Chanpionships Chanpionships

CyberPatriot tournaments adapted to an entirely online format to meet current regulations regards to social distancing.

By Mai Omoto and Isabelle Liang STAFF WRITERS

In an effort to defend the national title, four Warrior teams competed in the CyberPatriot tournament March

Introduced as a competition for students to gain insight about the world of cybersecurity, the team serves as a platform for students to learn how to defend themselves against

cyber threats through critical thinking and inductive research.

Divided into three sections, the six-hour competition included two master security challenges and one networking portion. Team members collaborated to resolve security deficiencies present in Windows and Linux systems' virtual machines. With the incorporation of Cisco system concepts, participants completed a 10 question quiz and Packet Tracer assignments based on instructions given by the competition officials.

In the month-long preparation for the fourth round of the tournament, experienced members and alumni advised the students of various strategies at the after school sessions. During practice rounds, the students tested the virtual machines for potential vulnerabilities and researched methods to mitigate the issues. Along with online research and notes, the teams created programs that would automatically secure the images at the competition.

For the semi-finals, Team

"With this competition, students learn to defend themselves against cyber threats as well as how to critically think and conduct research."

> Jimmy Li team captain

Troy Tech Support placed second in the Open Division. In the All Service Division, Teams PICNICS placed second, Subtle Cyber Traits placed third and Fight for Tyler placed fourth. Out of the 24 teams that competed in the semi-finals, the Warrior teams advanced to the National Championship as four of the top twelve teams May 2.

According to Troy Tech Support team member Rahil Shah, the competition showcased an accurate representation of all their hard work. The competition assessed the skills that the members gained throughout the course of the year in order to demonstrate growth, Shah said.

"As a whole, the competition means a lot to us and we try to perform to the best of our abilities," Shah said. "When you put a lot of hard work into

something, it feels really good to see the fruits of your labor."

Due to the fact that the majority of the tasks

> are online, the competition was able to adapt and meet the circumstances. Certain features shifted from the in-person aspect of team communication, but many of elements the remained,

Team Captain Jimmy Li said.

"Over the last four years [we] have already had many memorable experiences with each other," Li said. "Although this is a drastic change, [we] are all hopeful that the finals are still a valuable learning experience."

Even amidst the quarantine, senior members strive to have an unforgettable year as Warriors attended the final competition of their high school career. In preparation for the last event of the year, the team worked to research new protection strategies, organize notes and employ past experiences, Li said.

"Our goal was to achieve

similar results this year and possibly repeat last year's success," Li said. "This year, the competition was more significant as I have already had many memorable experiences with my teammates over the last four years, and I wish to end high school with a joyous moment."



## Best Buddies hosts virtual movie ease stress and loneliness night to

through an online movie experience via the Neflix Party Chrome Extension.

By Kelly Wen STAFF WRITER

Encompassing students from the school to help them cope with the quarantine, the Best Buddies Club arranged a movie

Peers and buddies interact night that featured A Wrinkle in Time through Netflix's Chrome extension party April 8.

Due to social distancing regulations, administrators canceled numerous events at school to contain the spread of COVID-19. In an attempt to soothe frustration and combat boredom safely, board members prepared a long distance movie night for the club. The event provided the opportunity for

the buddies to destress and socialize with one another.

Founded in 1989, Best Buddies is a non-profit organization intended to help students establish personal connections with their peers from the Special Education Department. In hopes to create a more inclusive environment on campus, club members planned activities such as Halloween Trick or Treating, Super Bowl Sundays and quad

> cook-outs throughout the school year. Amid the ongoing quarantine, the club aims to raise about the effects of social isolation on students Intellectual Development Disorder.

For future events, Best Buddies plans to host a virtual

spirit week around the beginning of May and organize other social distancactivities as well. Especially for those who do not have access to technology, the organization ensures that the members can communicate together through a practical online platform. Despite the inconveniences of quarantine enforcement, the club continues to pro-

mote positivity and intermutual support among the buddies.

According to Co-President Ethan Nguyen, the event strengthened the bonds of the participants and offered a chance for the buddies to spend quality time together. With the stayat-home orders, the members shared a similar matter of concern which brought a sense of connection, Nguyen said.

"[The movie night] was a nice change of pace for some people because it was a good two hours where [club members] could just talk to their friends and enjoy the movie together," Nguyen said. "Especially now, we have to be together and be



supportive of each other because when we are all feeling kind of lonely, it is nice to have these friendships that we can rely on."

With social media, people have the ability to stay updated with the world and contact cherished ones from long distances. During this time, a message from a friend can impact a person in a meaningful way, Nguyen said.

"[The board members] know it is hard to stay indoors, but just a simple thought of sending a message to somebody you care about is really helpful," Nguyen said. "We do not know what [our friends] are going through and it is nice to know that somebody is thinking about you."



NEWS 3

# Theater short film looks into life during quarentine

Students used the video project to share different coping mechanisms they adopted in quarentine.

By Erin Jang and Diya Patel STAFF WRITERS

Shedding light on the impacts of the pandemic, Warrior Theater Department released the video "Cancelled Prom - A COVID-19 Story" April 20. Inspired by Associated Student Body's (ASB) student appreciation video, Theatre 2 and Theatre 3 created a project in an effort to motivate students. The video depicted activities students engaged in throughout the quarantine to the tune of "prom dress" by mxmtoon.

Prior to the filming of the video, students created a chart that listed the positive and negative impacts the virus had on students' lifestyles. The class conferenced in multiple Zoom Video Communication calls to discuss the incorporation of music and transitions. Theater students aimed to provide perspective on the multifaceted effects of the quarantine.

In hopes to maintain a social environment, Theater Director Joe Huffered participated in a Zoom conference charades game with his students. The developmental process allowed students in theater to further develop collaboration and communication skills, Reyes said.

"The class was able to work on



**QUARENTINED DANCING QUEEN:** Dressed in her prom dress, Senior Amelia Takahashi reveals her thoughts on the pandemic's effect on her class.

designing cool transitions on a computer [by blending concepts] similar to the class's ideas," Reyes said. "Creating the video was a team bonding [experience] and the class got to work together to make sure that the production was seamless rather than something thrown together."

Through the depiction of different coping mechanisms, the video reminds students that their peers are going through similar situations in quarantine. The students' main goal was to produce a distinct video made directly by Warriors in the Theatre program, Reyes said.

"There are some things that people have been able to do during

quarantine, and there are things that people miss, so we just wanted to give perspective," Reyes said. "As the Theatre Department, we wanted to show more of the initiative and leadership and take our own spin on [the video idea]."

Throughout the film, students showcased developments in quarantine such as a college acceptance or the opportunity to spend time on their hobbies. The creative process strengthened personal relationships among the students, Reyes said.

"Everyone agreed on [the idea] and did their best, so that our video would have the best quality," Reyes said. "All of us worked together and made sure

what we produced was seamless and purposeful, rather than something thrown together."

By the different views on how to cope with quarantine, the context of the video highlighted the ability to continue activities in homes. While selfisolation generates boredom, the most important objective was to reveal the positive aspects of the situation, Reyes said.

"The department wanted to show how each student viewed this quarantine and how they cope with it," Reyes said. "Our hope is to give the message that students are not alone and that we will get through this as a department, as a school and even as a nation."

#### **TROY TODAY**

UC Schools adjust admissions process

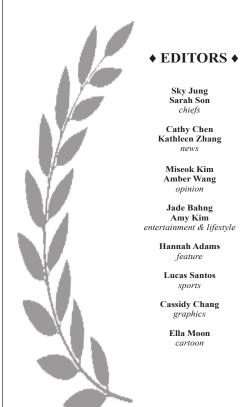
Alleviating the stress presented by the quarantine, the University of California announced the temporary relaxation of undergraduate admissions requirements for students March 31. In response to the sudden altercations to the lockdown, Regents approved a short-term series of measures for students whose achievements would be prevented. With the temporary adoption of a "pass/fail" grading system and the cancellation of multiple standardized test dates. UC Admissions will suspend the letter grade requirement and standardized requirement for students who will apply for the fall 2021 freshman admission. In addition, the system will award college credit for the modified Advanced Placement exam content and format. Due to potential complications. UC will not rescind admissions offers that result from absent official final transcripts. The deadline will be extended to July 1 and will allow schools to notify the universities with the date on which the transcripts will be available if students require an additional extension.



Staff share Troy student appreciation video

Following the one month anniversary of online instruction, Warrior staff members compiled a video with messages of encouragement to the student body April 8. Due to quarantine and social distance regulations, multiple schools cancelled activities such as the Prom dance, senior graduation, sports events and club meetings. In an effort to bring light to the situation concerning the novel coronavirus outbreak, the staff spread words of reassurance in hopes to encourage students to end the year on a positive note. The video depicted the teachers engaging in stay-at-home activities and games and sharing their families' quarantine experiences. After the video was shared through social media and posted on the Associated Student Body's Instagram page, Theater Department and multiple sports teams followed the example and shared their own motivational films with the student body.

## ORACLE STAFF



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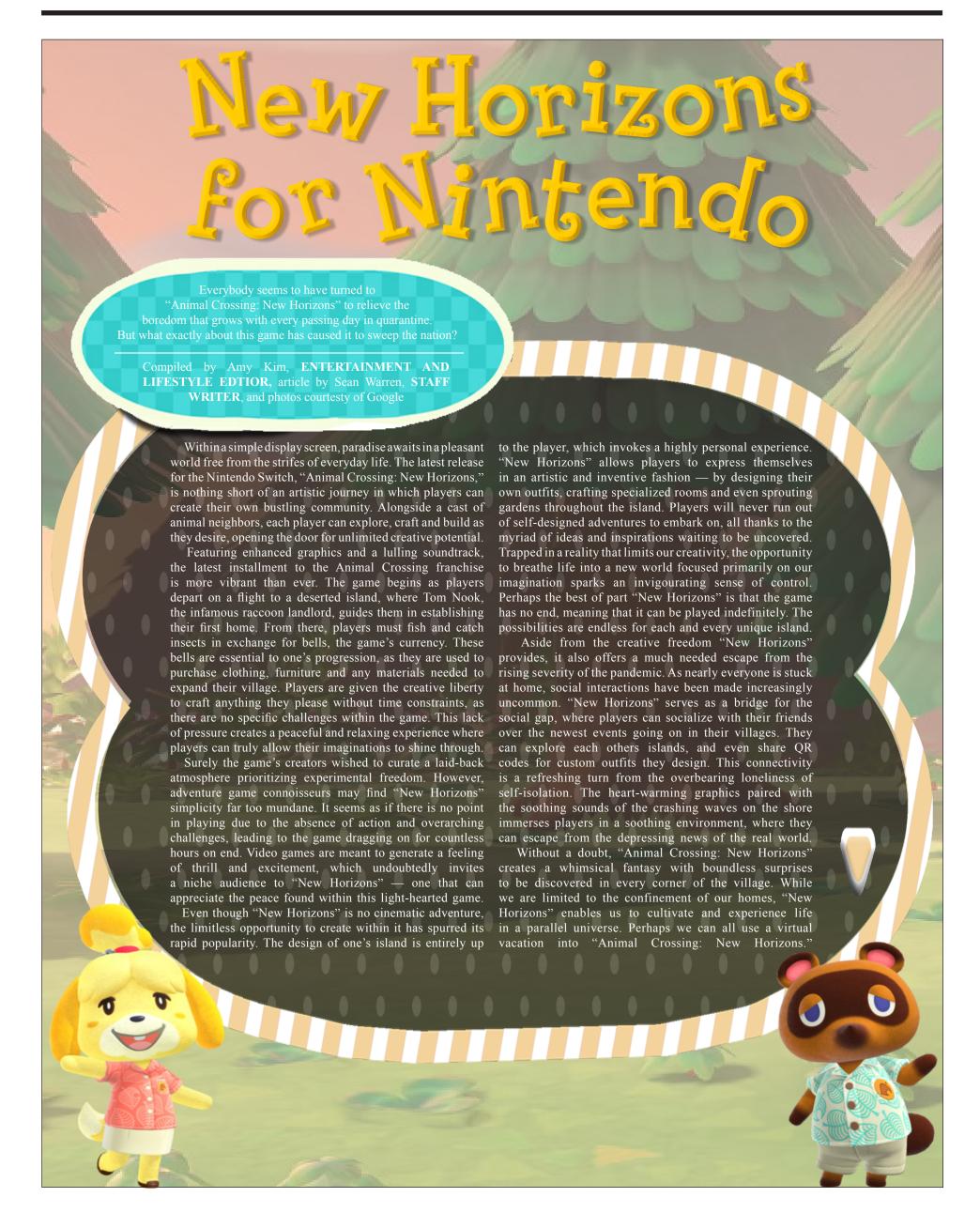
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Phone: (714) 626-4518 Email: oracle.troy@gmail.com Website: www.troyoracle.com Instagram: @troyoracle Facebook: www.facebook.com/ oracle.troy/ Troy High School does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities.

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TROY HIGH SCHOOL



# By Amy Kim, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR,

and photos courtesy of Google



"A Series of

In this television adaptation of *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, both the dark humor and hopeless dread underlying the original plotline is vibrantly brought to life. Despite the absurd scenarios that the Baudelaires find themselves entrenched in, the audience can't help but develop an emotional attachment to the children as they're taken along this three season journey of twists and turns. This show is the perfect balance between a subtle comedy and an emotional roller-coaster that will have audiences in both stitches and tears.



"Never Have Ever" Devi, an Indian-American sophomore in California, struggles with handling typical teenage turbulence and accepting her Indian heritage. Though some moments of the show are simply unrealistic, the emotions that Devi has to learn to embrace—grief, confusion and anger—resonate for viewers everywhere. A balance between classic teenage drama and the deeper turmoil of both embracing and rejecting one's culture is brilliantly maintained. Tune in for a heartfelt portrayal of heritage in a coming-of-age comedy.

MAY 8, 2020 FEATURE **5** 

# FROCKARIM MING PRESIDISE

From exploring social media trends to sleeping for half of the day, we all have our methods of coping durng quarantine. See how Sammy Hajhamid turns a simple Minecraft server into a social hangout below.

Compiled by Hannah Adams, FEATURE EDITOR, written by Coco Gong, STAFF WRITER, and photos courtesy of Sammy Hajhamid and Minecraft

A dog's soft woof, a parrot's chirp as it dances to a jukebox, a hiss of a creeper followed by a frightened gasp—familiar sounds flood through a pair of headphones as the Minecraft world comes to life.

Inspired by the computational magic produced by typed commands, freshman Sammy Hajhamid uses programming to build virproject includes a Minecraft server, pepsipu. com, and a spicy plugin, Pepper, to address a common issue for everyone during quarantine: boredom. The plugin utilizes TNT to add taste to Minecraft player versus player combat, featuring vibrant and dynamic explosions that ignite both the carrot farms in the game and the competitive spirits in his friends. box of imagination that breaks the boundaries of his usual utility projects and revitalizes Driven by perseverance and a deep personal interest, Hajhamid sets out to solve problems for his community through programming.

Ever since quarantine began, the familia complaints about long biology assignmen

and the cheers about successful English tests have slowly faded into the soft drone of a lonely laptop fan. Hajhamid felt as if the thrilling experiences and compassionate connections with friends were lost. Seeking a solution, he turned to a much-loved cube game, Minecraft, and uses programming to give it more flavor. With spruce villages, elytra flights, and nether portals, Hajhamid restores those spirited moments with a touch of fun.

"I want my server to sort of make people feel like they're back at lunch," Hajhamid said. "If I get to do that, then

Not only does programming teach Hajhamid how to transform simple text into applications, it also gives him fortitude. Like a stream of water cutting through rock, his tenacity and fascination with programming catalyzes his success in the long and strenuous process. Some days, the time is 4 a.m., and the subdued tapping on the keyboard is the only sound to be heard. A warm cup of tea on his desk has been long cold, but despite hours of work, the program still results in errors. Suddenly, a query from hours of

endless Google searches turns up with the answer. Throwing a mental party, Hajhamid furiously writes a solution and falls into bed, relief washing over his fried brain.

"That perseverance is what makes people better programmers, because it forces you to get the job done," Hajhamid said. As he continues to explore the immense

As he continues to explore the immense field of programming, Hajhamid looks back and passes on his enthusiasm and experience to the rookies. When he was starting out, a small group of programmers had guided him through arduous trials and helped him perfect his skills. Hajhamid knew, if he was ever genuinely stuck and no omnipotent search engine could find the answers, there was a cluster of friends that could help him out. Now, with years of assiduous work and constant honing of his abilities, Hajhamid begins to do the same, often lecturing and guiding beginners with materials that he once struggled with.

"I guess it's sort of like a loop—starting off, you consult others, and as you get better, you start to consult people who are also new," Hajhamid said. "And so, it's always about getting help, but you also have to give help too."



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# The Oracle



These seniors have our best blessings as they say their goodbyes to their weekday jobs in the Oracle.

Compiled by Sky Jung and Sarah Son, EDITORS-IN-CHIEF, articles by Editorial Board, and photos courtesy of Google Images. im Aliiloqeəga i

OHITE DUCKER

Strict. Stoic. Serious. Alina, you're the Oracle's very own Angela. But underneath those rather scary triple-S covers, is the silly, meme-loving Editor-in-Chief we know today. Future layout sessions will feel empty without you dancing and singing along to the latest TikTok songs. Yes, you may be a chaotic evil in the eyes of our very own office, but you're also an intelligent, reliable and quick-witted friend. We wish you the best at UC Berkeley! We're sure you'll shine there as much as you did here. n dere Wiener SPÖ aber



Creative, outspoken and responsible if Oracle was the Office, Jois would be our Darryl. Just like he contributed valuable ideas to corporate, your layout edits and suggestions made each page the best it could be. Of course, the Oracle is more than paper, but like Dunder-Mifflin's warehouse foreman, you kept us on track every issue, leaving no time for fooling around. That being said, you weren't a total stickler; when it came down to it, you were friendly with everyone, even during layouts. Wherever the future leads you, we know that you'll have no qualms with taking it by the horns; good luck out there!



Although you seemed shy at first glance, we can't underestimate our fierce opinion editor, Amy Weng. With your sharp eyes intensely scanning behind your wire-rimmed glasses, you'll catch all the errors on your drafts. Just like Phyllis, you'll stand up for your choices when needed. In the crazy Office of Opinion, we will certainly miss your levelheadedness. We wish you only the best in your future endeavors! Good luck at Duke! We'll still be in room 315, rooting for you.



Jillian—the mastermind behind stunning layout after layout. Though Pam may have failed art school, your artistic prowess is unmatched. Patient without fail, your sweetness always eased any tension I felt, even on the most stressful days in Oracle. Just like a certain secretary-turned-saleswoman, your unwavering kindness put a smile on every face in Room 315. Though soft-spoken, your sharp eyes always caught any minuscule grammar mistake and any inconsistency in tone, breaking life into each and every article. Though we'll miss your incredible

layouts and brilliant writing, we'll miss the creative spirit you brought to Oracle most of all.



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On the outside you were shy, but as everyone got to know you better, you turned out to be just like Toby occassionally talkative and out-of-the-world crazy but most times quiet and rather reclusive in your small corner in the back. After some time, we found out that your calm demeanor was only a front to your insanity. Insanity regarding your work ethic, that is. You sat, in your little office, working away on your computer without a peep. You didn't move from your seat until your layout was finished—or you just had to take one of your infamous bathroom breaks. Isaac, you've fully evolved into a great editor and leader in the Oracle team and you'll be missed. All of your hard work did pay off in the end. Good luck at Duke!



CUS MAY 8, 2020 **7** 

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# phoebe

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Phoebe! To the coolest filmmaker and the best graphic designer of all time, you have truly blessed us with your talent here in room 315. From your quirky remarks to your chill personality, you are the Jim of Oracle. Much like Jim, you care for those around you and use your skills to teach those in need. You never fail to tell us your film recommendations, especially ones that represent the Asian-American community. We will miss you a lot. Remember us when you become a famous filmmaker. Dominate in USC like you've been dominating in the Oracle. Go Trojans!



angelica

To the brightest, most overtly enthusiastic person in the office—er, classroom, here's to Angelica! Kelly could be your second name at this point. You always have something entertaining to say, whether it be workplace gossip or hilarious anecdotes. But you also know when to take your job seriously (perhaps unlike Miss Kapoor). You bear a remarkable sense of responsibility, which is just as remarkable as yourself. You've battled and defeated so many figurative villains throughout your journey here. It's time to move on, now. But your employment in this office will never be forgotten. Angelica, stay lovable and most importantly-stay #nofilter!

# kristen

Kristen—from your truly out-of-the-world, ethereal space-themed cartoon strips to lovable character drawings, you have never failed to brighten up the pages of Oracle. With your hair tied up with a scrunchie and pencil and blending stump all in one hand, your quick yet intricate rough

sketches always amazes us. Just like Oscar, you can be quite strict over the use of Uncle Sam in editorial cartoons, but your calm and reserved personality always eased the tensions through our most stressful times (six cartoon assignments!). We'll always remember your willingness to contribute brilliant cartoon strip ideas. Thank you for being our creative, artistic and talented cartoon editor!

# amber

You might not manage an extensive beet farm or wear the iconic taupe suit, but you, Amber, are truly unforgettable. Though your personality is dorky and offbeat (pun not intended), you are undeniably the sweetest and most lovable editor. You're the perfect amount of unpredictable and you never cease to amaze me with your eccentric hair and endless creativity. Painful chuckles from scrolling through the sparse features. Always on-point constructive comments. "Only make puns of honor." Changed our lives. (But for the better.)



# kaitlyn

Kaitlyn, carrying with you an aura of optimism and warmth, you ensure that everyone feels comfortable and welcome in the Oracle family. Much like Holly, you willingly offer assistance to anyone who needs it, and the magnitude of your kindness is immense. Your hard work and ability to step up for any challenge as needed is admirable and inspiring. Thank you for all your contributions to the Opinion team, and we are going to miss you terribly. We know that, armed with your kind heart and fierce determination, you will undoubtedly succeed in all your future endeavors. We are rooting for you!



# sejin

He wakes up. He goes to school.
He gets math homework from his cub. He goes to sleep. Simple!
Nah, in Oracle, he actually does a lot more than most people think.
You don't think he does? This man can do it all. Sejin, your dark humor will never

dark humor will never cease to shock us every 2nd period and we wish you the best of luck in the future! If—no—when you become a successful businessman, hit us up!

8 OPINION TROY HIGH ORACLE

# 2020 Grade Report

From communication to school spirit, Oracle evaluates some key aspects of the Warrior distance learning for the second semester.

Articles by Cage Hawley, Vivian Lee and Andrew Sung, STAFF WRITERS, and graphics by Cassidy Chang, GRAPHICS EDITOR

PER	COURSE	GRADE	Citizenship GRADE	COMMENTS
1	Homework Assignments	B+	S	Online homework assignments provide flexibility but leave some room for improvement. Students are able to pace themselves and complete assignments prior to the school's "release" at three p.m. However, while more flexible due dates may appear exclusively helpful, students who procrastinate will need to muster up more discipline than ever to avoid facing an overwhelming pileup of work. Hopefully, Troy staff can make a few adjustments in order to compensate and address the concerns of students.
2	School Spirit	<b>A-</b>	O	ASB has successfully kept up school spirit through social media. Their quarantine spirit week connected students by recognizing the little things going on at home. Their most recent spirit week, Warrior Wuv Week, recognized the hard work students have been doing and brought attention to different clubs and programs. Although quarantine makes it difficult for those who don't have social media to participate, it is commendable that ASB continues to connect students with their virtual themes and spirit days.
3	Communication	A	O	The fact that Troy was almost fully prepared to take school online just after it was announced is incredible. With the help of programs such as Google Classroom and Zoom, teachers and students have overall stayed as efficient as possible on coursework despite the challenges presented by social distancing measures. Administration has also been on top of keeping the student body updated via email. And not to mention, the student appreciation video from the teachers has been a source of great encouragement to Troy students. Keep it up, Troy!
4	Test and Quizzes	В	N	This unprecedented situation has been making it more difficult for teachers to find a way to fairly assess their students' understanding of key concepts. In some cases, teachers have decreased the overall point values of their tests, due to school going online. In other cases, tests have been weighed more significantly to prevent students from becoming complacent and less hardworking. Either way, it is not necessarily fair to make it harder or easier for a student to earn the grade they want at the end of the semester simply by altering point values.
TOTAL GPA  CLASS RANK & SIZE  3.50  CLASS RANK & SIZE  Total California high schools Courtesy of U.S. News & World Report  A=4.0  B=3.0  C=2.0  N = Needs Improvement U = Unsatisfactory				

# APP RATINGS



During distance learning, Zoom plays a major role in maintaining face-to-face interactions between students and teachers. It can easily bring together up to 100 participants with little loss in video quality. Although there have been concerns regarding privacy, Zoom still stands as a critical component of distance learning.





Although most teachers usually use Google Classroom as a supplement throughout the school year, it now stands as the focal point of distance learning. From its ability to efficiently facilitate feedback to its user-friendly interface, Google Classroom allows distance learning to be implemented effectively and quickly.





EdPuzzles are perfect for teachers to assign video lectures and ensure that their students have watched it. It contains many features, such as locking the ability to fast-forward a video. However, this feature can be an inconvenience for students who work faster and don't require extensive step-by-step explanations.

Space Adventures: Quaranthings To Do by Ella Moon



MAY 8, 2020 OPINION 9

# Open or Stay Shut?

Read our writers' opinions on the most controversial debate in the United States: should we reopen in May or stay closed?

### Reopen in May: Better Now Than Later

By Cage Hawley STAFF WRITER



By warding off sickness, we are killing

President Donald Trump unveiled "Guidelines for Opening up America Again" April 16, a set of standards for states to meet before reopening their economies. During the same week, 4.4 million more Americans filed for unemployment as more non-essential businesses shut down due to the current coronavirus pandemic. Judging from the available data, reopening is necessary to avoid the next Great Depression. As long as state governors follow Trump's guidelines and use their best judgment, they can safely reopen their states starting this month.

Currently, the economy is completely crumbling, and temporary solutions like stimulus checks merely serve as unsustainable band-aids for the gash of unemployment. The International Monetary Fund has reported that our economy will likely

depress by three percent this year. In contrast, the devastating 2008 recession caused a contraction of only one percent. More alarmingly, the recent Department of Labor report showed the unemployment rate approaching 20 percent, twice the 10 percent in 2008. Since the 2008 unemployment crisis did not recover until 2016, our current decline will likely take even longer to recoup.

More importantly, the cost of the stimulus program which was approved in March is already a tremendous burden.

GRAPHIC BY SUNG JUN LEE The Washington Post reported that the Although unemployment has mostly im-\$349 billion loan approved for small busi- pacted adults, teenagers are especially nesses was depleted in only two weeks. On prone to alarming mental health issues. top of that hefty bill, the government simply cannot support more than 26 million unemployed citizens since the pandemic's insurgence. These people will remain devastated, unable to pay for rent and bills without some level of economic reopening. In addition to encouraging economic

PHOTO COURTESY OF EPA



UNPREDICTABLE FUTURE: In Florida, hundreds of people wait in a crowded line to apply for unemployment insurance benefits.

stabilization, White House guidelines promote the recommended curve flattening. The first requirement before the implementation of reopening phases is 14 consecutive days of decreases in coronavirus cases. The White House has affirmed that its three-phase plan is based on counsel from public health professionals, including residential medical advisors Deborah Birx and Anthony Fauci. Thus, a 14-day pattern of decrease is an apt indicator for a strong downturn in infection rate.

Moreover, the states make the final decision. If some states feel that their hospitals and testing abilities may not be able to accommodate possible surges, they can choose to delay the reopen. While some criticize

> Trump's plan as "vague," this characteristic is by design. Considering that the 50 states have drastically varying numbers of coronavirus cases ranging from under 1,000 to over

300,000, allowing governors to decide for their respective states is more prudent than

26,000,000

**AMERICANS** 

**FILED JOBLESS** 

23 MILLION JOBS

**AFFECTED** 

SOURCE:

MARKETWATCH

UNEMPLOYMENT

RATE 15-20%

imposing a national guideline. Furthermore, as states work to increase testing rates, businesses are also contributing to the effort. Walgreens, Kroger and Walmart announced that their stores will offer free tests, which make self-testing easier.

Although often overlooked, deteriorating mental health during the pandemic is devastating the United States in a manner comparable to our decaying economy. According to The Hill, calls to the Disaster Distress Helpline increased 333 percent between February and March.

According to Amy Learmonth, president of the Eastern Psychological Association, physical isolation from peer groups caused by current social distancing could damage adolescents' ability to form meaningful relationships in the future. With the mental well-being of the citizens in mind, we must return to normalcy as soon as possible.

> Undoubtedly, we need to get back to work. Trump's plan details a malleable approach to a much-needed economic reopen while addressing public safety and healthcare availability. Currently, our methods of curbing the dangers of mass-unemployment amount to little more than shoddy patchwork. Staying quarantined, unemployed and depressed deteriorates our economy and eventually us.

## **Stay Closed:** Lives Matter More

By Andrew Sung STAFF WRITER



The United States must not prioritize dollars over lives.

As of May 7, 62,359 confirmed cases of coronavirus have been reported in California alone. Overall, the United States has more than one million cases, the most in the world. But the worst is yet to come. A recent model from the University of Washington has predicted about 135,000 coronavirus-related deaths in the nation through the beginning of August. During this critical time of the pandemic, we must especially prioritize public health goals in-

stead of hastforcing the reopening of our economy.

President Donald Trump has published a plan to reopen the economy as soon as May, but his plan lacks detailed instructions governors. According plan, the governors

decide whether their states are ready to reopen. However, the plan cannot ensure that all fifty state governors are consulting with health experts beforehand and keeping public health concerns in mind. Without a clear, systematic approach in deciding when a state should reopen businesses, reopening the economy in May is anything but wise.

Currently, the lack of widespread testing in states prevents governors from safely deciding when their states should reopen. Out of roughly 330 million people living in the United States, only about seven million have been tested for coronavirus, a mere two percent of the entire population. Be-

fore reopening, the testing rate must be drastically increased so that the virus's spread can be easily tracked and contained. Then, governors and mayors will be able to make better, informed public health decisions.

But some states. especially the most overwhelmed, may not be able to purchase the necessary number of test kits and set up testing centers without assistance from the federal government. While Maryland's governor was able to spend \$9 million to

purchase 500,000 testing kits from South Korea, not every state has enough financial resources to not only pay for the kits but also lab tests. Charity efforts may help, but they are not sufficient to test the majority of 330 million people in the United States and put down a rapidly spreading virus.

By reallocating a significant portion of the \$2 trillion stimulus package towards public health, the federal government can drastically improve the monitoring of the virus and eventually relieve the overwhelmed health care capacity.

Indeed, the United States government must ensure that its economic plans uphold public health goals. With over 26 million Americans who have filed jobless claims due to business shutdowns and millions of businesses that have asked for financial aid, the federal government is under immense pressure to distribute funds to all those that need it. However, in the long run, funds



#### **CARTOON BY PEARL YOON**

to increase testing rate and better prepare states' public health sectors will help the nation during the potentially deadlier second outbreak this winter.

At this critical moment, making hasty decisions without thoroughly considering the consequences will cause the coronavirus to overwhelm the nation. While plans to reopen the economy should continue to be in the works, ensuring the public health of the nation must be our top priority in the following months. Prioritizing money over the lives of Americans by reopening the economy before the nation is ready is not only counterintuitive; it is foolish.

### PHOTO COURTESY OF KCBD



RACE TO TEST AND DELIVER RESULTS: State governments have been struggling to obtain enough coronavirus test kits and set up efficient test centers for millions of Americans.

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# The College Board must prioritize the integrity of their standardized tests

By Vivian Lee STAFF WRITER



Digital weak. The College Board announced April 15 that if schools do not reopen this fall due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, it will administer an online, take-at-home version of the Standard Aptitude Test (SAT). Although the College Board claimed that the virtual test would be secure and fair, many critics, including university profes-

sors, education experts and teachers. have voiced concerns about the validity of the new test. The College Board

"The digital SATs present too many obstacles and unfair advantages to be properly implemented."

should not give virtual SATs because the million American students who do not have a integrity of the test will be compromised.

Currently, the coronavirus pandemic has created a difficult environment for some students to study and prepare for the SAT, as students have more private concerns outside of their school work. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as of April 30,

there have been more than 1.1 million cases and 63,733 deaths in the United States. The sheer volume of infected Americans suggests that many students with sick family members now have to take on more responsibilities around the house, such as cooking, cleaning and taking care of younger siblings. Thus, they won't have the ability to delegate time to studying for the SAT.

Another obstacle to virtual testing is the accessibility of technology in poorer neighborhoods, which mainly affects students of low socioeconomic statuses, who are already at a disadvantage when it comes to standard-

> ized tests. The College Board has promised to provide devices to anyone who needs one, but it cannot feasibly purchase and distribute devices to all of the 1.5

personal computer at home. Worse, according to the Voice of America, twice the aforementioned number of students do not have access to broadband internet. Although the College Board has given guidelines regarding the lack of devices, they have not given any as to how they will combat the lack of accessibility to wifi. More importantly, the College Board cannot guarantee the integrity of digital SATs. There are numerous ways to cheat on the internet, such as Mathway.com, which allows students to input a math problem and receive an answer within seconds, and Quizlet, which provides free study sets that can be used during the test. Although Advanced Placement (AP) tests were modified this year to

ANSWER

be free-response questions

to prevent cheating, this approach is improbable for the SAT because SAT test scores reflect the number of correct questions while AP tests are about reaching a certain threshold. Although there are rumors that the College Board discourage cheating by monitoring students with video cameras, this is un-

likely because it is not possible for them to hire proc-

tors for each of the three mil-

Cheating on a digital SAT is unfair not only for students who took the test at physical locations, but also to the students who decide to cheat. Awarding cheaters with

lion students that take the test each year.

a higher score than they deserve teaches them that they can compromise their study habits and still accept scores they didn't work for. It is also unjust because their scores could be higher than the scores of students who took the test

> at secure test centers, which might decrease the credibility of SAT results in future college applications.

The digital SATs present too many obstacles and unfair advantages to be properly implemented. The best choice would be to cancel all SATs, both physical and virtual, and to resume them after the pandemic is resolved. Maintaining the integrity of the SAT should be the College Board's top priority.

CARTOON BY PEARL YOON



Integrity of the test cannot be guaranteed.



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Students take on new responsibilities.

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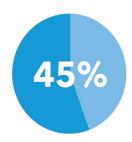
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# **SAT 2019 Statistics**

million students in the class of 2019 took the current SAT

45% of SAT takers in the class of 2019 met both college readiness benchmarks



The mean total SAT score for the class of 2019 was

Source: College Board

GRAPHIC BY CASSIDY CHANG



**12** SPORTS TROY HIGH ORACLE

# Jalen Green: pioneer or NCAA menace?

Green's groundbreaking career path choice may have just changed the future of both professional and college basketball.

#### By Jacqueline Liu STAFF WRITER

High school basketball star Jalen Green, the number one prospect in the 2020 ESPN 100, is a pioneer in the professional basketball world. Green made history Thursday, April 16, by announcing that he will bypass college basketball to take part in the National Basketball Association's (NBA) G League.

The G League is the NBA's official minor league for elite prospects who want to gain firsthand experience in a professional playing field. The goal of this program is to allow players to assimilate into the NBA and grow into a new lifestyle. Although the league does not offer players the star-studded opportunities of playing in March Madness in front of fans on national television, it offers players the ability to play against NBA-caliber talent and be introduced to the NBA's style of play and rules.

The NBA has reformed the original program to overcome past hurdles in securing participants for this program. Several incentives for NBA prospects include an increased salary of around \$500,000 as well as professional coaching from the NBA community. Green will take part in the new one-year development program in addition to the original team structure. These adjustments offer players an irresistible offer: you can develop your skills under the wing of NBA professionals while being compensated for games played, completing community events and attending life skills programs.

Paving the way for future basketball players, Green's decision to join the program is an example for top prospects who are looking for an alternative to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) programs. The G League is an opportunity for players who want to develop their skills in a professional setting to put themselves on the NBA's radar.

The NCAA has long profited from college basketball while student-athletes are restricted from gaining financial benefits when playing on college sports teams. Although these players do receive scholarships for free education, many are frustrated that they are unable to receive outside compensation for their athletic success in college. Following Green's lead, potential pro players can now join the NBA's program as an alternative and be free of the NCAA rules. With the G League, players are free to accept sponsorship and deals from companies that have their eyes on these players.

Now, the NBA is setting its sights on ending the one-anddone draft model, which requires students to wait for one year after

high school graduation before entering the NBA draft. Proponents of the G League believe that it has the potential to lead the way towards the end of this rule. G

particiworld, the the NBA's G pants l i k e League is a significant finan-Green can now cial investment. serve as college an exsports condiample for tions remain unplayers who certain in the coming want to go year, this program could be profesthe solution in sional in the United providing potential NBA States immediately afplayers a safe ter high school. environment With to develop their skills under the coronavirus paninstruction of profesdemic now affecting professional coaches. sional

THE YOUNG PIONEER: 18-year old shooting guard Green signed with the G League despite heavy recruitment from multiple colleges.

G League participants like Green can now serve as an example for players who want to go professional in the United States immediately after high school.

# holds

Coping with difficulties of a world under quarantine, NFL held its first virtual despite concern the draft format.

By William Song STAFF WRITER

The long-awaited 2020 National Football League (NFL) draft finally took place in late April, just not in the way fans expected. Held from April 23-25, the draft moved to an online format due to the recent coronavirus pandemic. Broadcasted from ESPN and NFL Network, this was the first-ever virtual draft in league history.

Although in the midst of the pronavirus pandemic, the NFL decided to move on with the draft for two primary reasons.

First, there was no guarantee that the social distancing guidelines set in place by the government would change soon. Since the NFL's teams are dispersed among 22 different states, all states must release their guidelines before teams are allowed to go back to their facilities.

Second, there was an opportunity for great exposure. As most major sports leagues were canceled, holding the NFL draft had the potential to attract many fans who were looking for anything sports-related.

The draft took place with almost every person working from home including the Commissioner of the NFL, Roger Goodell. This required a huge technical effort to ensure that reliable and stable internet connections along with equipment were available for all. All 32 teams were connected through one video conference, which was where picks were announced.

The draft was like other drafts in the fact that all teams conducted mock drafts and consulted with key advisers to make the best picks possible. Picks were made by passing information along directly to league officials. Three individuals from each team were granted the authority to submit picks to avoid

potential technical difficulties. Teams were not granted any extra time and received the default time for picks in each round.

Although this method of conducting the draft followed social distancing guidelines, it led to new potential problems, perhaps most notably: hacking. Video conferencing companies

such as Zoom reportedly have had hackers access company accounts and more than half a million Zoom accounts have been put up for sale on the dark web as reported by Forbes. This resulted in hacking becoming a legitimate and serious problem as hackers could potentially watch and record team calls and meetings without anyone knowing.

Safer and more secure alternatives to Zoom such as Microsoft Teams were recommended to teams by the NFL, but were not required.

The draft consisted of seven rounds that were split over three days. Rounds were split with round one being on the first day, rounds two and three being on the second day, and rounds four, five, six, and seven being on the last and final day. In total, 255 players were drafted with 32 or more players being picked in each round. Southern California's local teams, the Los Angeles Rams and the Los Angeles Chargers each made nine and six picks respectively.

uncharted territory with the 2020 NFL draft, it was able to successfully maneuver through it and give sports fans long-awaited entertainment. Even with obstacles such as internet connection, hacking and other complications that came with the draft going online, the NFL showed the world and its fans what it was capable of achieving.





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