

# 50 ORACLE

2200 E. DOROTHY LANE, FULLERTON, CA 92831



RENEE SUSANTO

**PADS ARE RAD, PERIOD:** NOW club members help gather feminine hygiene products for the Menstrual March drive.

## NOW's Menstrual March provides aid to homeless

Warriors collected various feminine hygiene products for a shelter to lessen the heavy cost of obtaining basic sanitation.

By Sarah Kremer  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Combating the stigma associated with periods, the Warrior National Organization for Women (NOW) club held a feminine hygiene product drive from March 16 to April 2.

The drive, titled Menstrual March: Period Packages, was created to benefit individuals at Isaiah House, a homeless shelter located in Santa Ana. Through the initiative, NOW members hope to raise awareness for those who cannot access necessary hygiene items.

NOW club strives to aid the homeless at the shelter by attending to their needs and collecting a variety of menstrual products, senior Crystal Vega said.

"We're collecting feminine hygiene products including sanitary napkins, tampons and moon-

cups," Vega said. "We don't know what women at the homeless shelter are used to, [so] we want to accommodate them. These women sometimes feel unclean and dirty because they're focused on food and shelter rather than on something like a period."

According to The Huffington Post, a woman will spend around \$4,500 on feminine hygiene products in her lifetime. This drive will lessen the financial burden on the homeless who cannot afford to spend this money on tampons or pads.

In addition to collecting feminine products, the drive also attempts to diminish the shame culture that surrounds periods in high school settings, Vega said.

"We see kids at school hiding [feminine products]," Vega said. "[Periods are] natural, and they happen to women once a month, so they should not be something that [students] need to hide."

The NOW club not only fights the stigma surrounding menstruation, but it also provides a secure environment where its members can share their opinions safely,

junior Miranda Covington said.

"I joined the NOW club because I wanted to meet people who had the same beliefs as me," Covington said. "We live in a very conservative county in Southern California, and I was hoping to find people that I could feel comfortable with. [I wanted a place to] go to talk about world issues and know that I wouldn't be alone."

Through club meetings and volunteering activities, members have gained an understanding of and learned to accept the many different types of women in the world, senior Lekha Patil said.

"One thing that I have learned is to look beyond the particular subset of women that I belong to," Patil said. "Just because I am a woman does not mean that I know everything about every type of woman. I've learned that all women are part of this struggle, from transgender women to queer women [and] to women of different ethnicities than mine. I think that this club has taught me to be a lot more accepting as a person."

## TEDx Youth presents Breaking Boundaries conference at CSUF

Students will attend talks at which they will be immersed in discussions of global issues.

By Kyle Patel  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Empowering students to transcend educational and social boundaries, Fullerton Technology, Entertainment and Design (TED) youth coordinators will host TEDxYouth@Fullerton at California State University, Fullerton April 11.

As a branch of the global TED organization, TEDx tar-

gethological and entrepreneurial ventures to the influence of media to the bias of news outlets. As integral members of the coordinating team, juniors Ellen Wang and Bryan Ghaly and seniors Sharlena Luyen and Esther Chian are helping to prepare the event.

By discussing topics not touched upon in classrooms, TEDxYouth@Fullerton will inspire students to form their own opinions on both domestic and international conflicts, senior Rachel Wang said.

"We want to go beyond the material learned in [school] and introduce our audience members to current controversies that are sur-

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"[TEDx] showed me how our world is so diverse and helped me to stop looking at the world so myopically."

Rachel Wang  
senior

at a local level. TEDxYouth@Fullerton, following its theme of Breaking Boundaries, will include speeches given by professors and high school students to establish networks between youth and professionals. Because its audience primarily will consist of young adults, the event will present relevant topics ranging from

r o u n d -  
i n g u s,"  
R. Wang  
said. "In  
a class-  
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we do  
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ally talk  
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countries, so this event widens students' perspectives on everything that goes on around us."

The event, in accordance with TED's objective to promote conversation through contrasting viewpoints, will encourage the young adults to collaborate with one another on controversial is-

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RACHEL LEE

**PURSuing X-CELLENCE:** The TEDxYouth conference will stimulate attendees to discuss their opinions on local and global conflicts with their peers and their communities.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### OPINION

To counteract the declining enrollment in teacher-training programs, students should appreciate instructors.



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### LIFESTYLE

Reap the benefits of National Garden Month starting April 1 with our eco-friendly tips to healthful gardening.



Pages 6-7

### SPORTS

In a face-off against the Brea Olinda Wildcats, the Warrior softball team (4-4, 0-0) seized a narrow victory (2-1) March 19.



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# Varsity baseball plays at Angel Stadium

For an opportunity to play at Angel Stadium, the Warrior baseball team sold tickets to an Angels versus Royals game.

By Lisa Mattson & Joshua Alcantara  
STAFF WRITER & NEWS EDITOR

Fulfilling its end of an agreement with Angels Baseball that permitted the Warriors to play in a major league stadium, varsity baseball is selling tickets to Warrior Night at Angel Stadium April 11.

Tickets sold through the fundraiser will provide holders access to a Warrior-designated section of the stadium to watch the Los Angeles Angels play the Kansas City Royals at a discounted price of \$20 per ticket. A portion of the money raised will go towards covering Warrior baseball's general expenses, but the rest will return to the stadium as part of a deal that allowed the varsity team to play its first league game against Fullerton High School March 19.

Not only does the ticket sale financially support the Warrior baseball program, but it also offers students, families and faculty the chance to participate in an exclusive event, coach David Shirota said.

"One of the deals [associated with] playing at Angel Stadium is that we have to sell Angels tickets to get to use the stadium," Shirota said. "We thought, 'What better way to sell Angels tickets than have a night where we can

have Warrior parents, teachers and students [get] together and enjoy an Angels game?' It is not exactly a school event, but we wanted to do something where we could all get together on the same night."

This fundraiser is the first of its kind that Warrior baseball has held because it provided the student athletes the novel opportunity to play at Angel Stadium, co-captain Kristofer Amparo said.

"Usually all of our fundraisers are things like selling Christmas trees or golf ball drop tickets, which just helps us get money back to the program," Amparo said. "This one actually gave us the chance to play a game at a major league stadium, which is amazing. It is probably the big-

gest field we have ever played on."

Motivated by the promise of a chance to play on professional turf, varsity baseball surpassed its original quota of 250 tickets, senior Jacob Alvarez said.

"[We] were more motivated to fundraise because [the money] went toward [our] playing at Angel Stadium," Alvarez said. "Pretty much all baseball players' dreams are to make it to Major League Baseball. This is the closest most of us are probably going to get to that."

The coaches helped ensure that most of the money raised directly benefits the players, Shirota said.

"Baseball is incredibly expensive," Shirota said. "[The coaches] try to make sure that every

penny the kids fundraise goes back to them. It could go toward making the field better; it could be an experience at Angel Stadium, [or] it could [purchase] better balls or better helmets. I just try to inspire the players to fundraise for their own good because it's all for them."

While raising money for the players, the event also advertises for the Warrior baseball program, Amparo said.

"I think [the fundraiser] helps build the Troy name for baseball around the Fullerton and Brea area," Amparo said. "[For kids] that will choose their school based on their baseball team, it will attract more kids to Troy."



RENEE SUSANTO

**THE ANGELS STRIKE BACK:** Ticket-holding Warriors will gather in a designated section of Angel Stadium to watch the Angels challenge the Royals April 11.

*Continued from page 1*

sues, E. Wang said.

"I want our audience members to interact with the TED Talks and gain [exposure to] new perspectives from this event because then they'll have broader world views," E. Wang said. "[Also,] attendees [can] take these ideas back to their own communities and spread them among a larger group of people."

TEDxYouth@Fullerton simultaneously increases students' social awareness and allows them to reflect on their knowledge of the community around them, R. Wang said.

"[TEDx] expanded my field of knowledge because I not only learned about the world, but also saw how my actions affected other people," R. Wang said. "It exposed me to the idea that our world is so much bigger than what I know and what I thought I knew. They showed me how our world is so diverse and helped me to stop looking at the world so myopically."

To extend students' influence in their communities, TEDxYouth@Fullerton will ultimately assist students in applying their interests to the real world, Organizer Judy Zhou said.

"Students [often] know what they enjoy, but they don't know what they can do with that [interest]," Zhou said. "Our goal is to have students talk about their own experiences in these fields and how they can use this expertise to make a difference in the world. I hope that [this event will] inspire youth to think about where their passions lie and how they can think out of the box to make an impact on other people's lives."

April				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6 A	7 B	8 A	9 B	10 A
13 B	14 A	15 B	16 A	17 B
20 A	21 B			

A		B	
Warning Bell	6:55	Warning Bell	6:55
Period 0	7:00 - 7:57	Period 0	7:00 - 7:57
Period 1	8:02 - 10:02	Period 2	8:02 - 10:02
Break	10:02 - 10:14	Break	10:02 - 10:14
Period 3	10:19 - 12:19	Period 4	10:19 - 12:19
Lunch	12:19 - 12:54	Lunch	12:19 - 12:54
Period 5	12:59 - 2:59	Period 6	12:59 - 2:59

RACHEL LEE

**BLOCK OUT YOUR SCHEDULE:** In light of the Common Core testing required for all juniors, the Warrior administration will implement a block schedule from April 6 to April 21. There will be two different types of days: Day A and Day B. Day A will consist of two hours classes of periods one, three and five. Day B will similarly consist of two hours of periods two, four and six. Zero period, however, will be included for both Day A and B but will only last for one hour. Juniors will complete the Common Core test intermittently throughout the two-week period with their English and math classes.

# Warriors earn NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing

Among 24 Southern California winners, six Warriors received awards for coding.

By Tiffany Hall & Sarah Kremer  
STAFF WRITER & ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Promoting gender equality in the computer science field, the National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) will present awards to six Warriors at the University of California, Irvine April 11.

Female students will receive the Award for Aspirations in Computing, which recognizes the accomplishments of teenage girls who excel in programming and technology. To apply for this accolade, qualified young women must be nominated by a teacher and complete an application. Seniors Athena Knopes, Jennifer Shin, Namita Nabar, Crystal Lin, Iris Chen and Ashley Lin will receive

the local-level award.

The NCWIT program offers a chance for female computer science students to be acknowledged for their contributions to technology, teacher Don Allen said.

"It is nice that the young ladies who [are awarded] get recognition for what they have done," Allen said. "The women who have come through our [computer science] program are achieving at a

"NCWIT wants to embrace being feminine and still being in technology. They do not want [you] to lose your femininity simply because you are going into technology."

**Crystal Lin**  
senior

high level in technology."

By awarding young women in the computer science field, NCWIT aims to empower recipients and strengthen students' self-confidence, C. Lin said.

"NCWIT wants to embrace being feminine and still being in technology," C. Lin said. "They do not want [you] to lose your femininity simply because you

are going into technology. Just because you are going into technology does not mean you have to become [masculine]."

Through the program, the recipients have the opportunity to participate in a networking system that encourages young women to pursue careers technology fields, Chen said.

"There is a NCWIT Facebook group that [you join]," Chen said.

"Some girls post about the struggles they have in their computer class. I read through the comments, and they are really uplifting because people are constantly supporting each other."

Although NCWIT supports females in the science field, it promotes the development of a gender-neutral environment in which women can apply their skills, Chen said.

"Right now, women are underrepresented in computer science," Chen said. "[Even though] NCWIT is females only, it is not meant to be exclusive; it is just a way to better support all the people in the community and to encourage [women]."

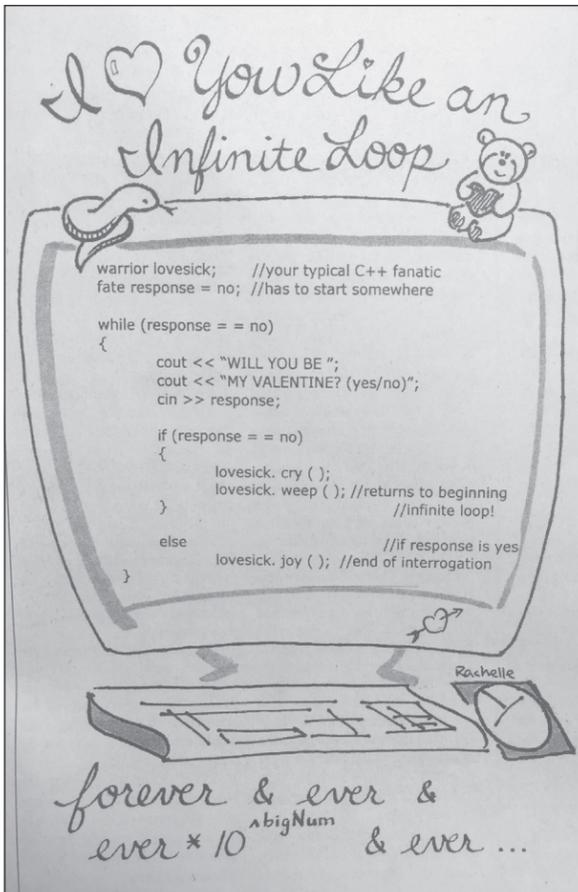
Celebrating **50<sup>th</sup>** **BACK TO THE PAST**

Travel down memory lane with Oracle as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. This issue features five snippets from past papers published from 2001 to 2005.

Compiled by Adrika Chakrabarty and Leanne Ho, **FEATURE EDITOR & ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR** and cartoons by Ariel Liu and Hanbi Ko, **EDITOR IN CHIEF & CARTOON EDITOR**

In retaliation to the terrorist bombings on the World Trade Center and Pentagon on Sept. 11, the United States launched military air strikes on specific targets in Afghanistan on Oct. 7-10.

From 2001: "The New War Front"



From 2003

Imagine a week without your television set, CD player, computer and worst of all, your beloved cell phone. Take my word. It's more than unbearable if you worship technology as much as I do.

My mom frequently complains about the excessive time I spend talking on the phone and sitting in front of my computer screen, and she has threatened to suspend my usage numerous times. So instead of risking the possibility of such punishment, I volunteered to commit to a weeklong "technology fast." Asking me to give up all modes of telecommunications is like asking a vegetarian to eat meat, but I was determined to brace myself for the ungodly challenge.

For seven grueling days and nights, I unplugged myself and abandoned a world of weeknight sitcoms, happy hour AIM conversations, emoticons, LiveJournal, RealPlayer and text messaging. No WB New Tuesday with Gilmore Girls, Will & Grace, email or phone calls.

From 2004: "Cold Techie"



A Cessna 177 Cardinal airplane made an emergency crash landing into the Warrior baseball field on April 26.

From 2002

A new year. A new test. Literally. With the arrival of the year 2005 comes the new, "more objective" Standardized Aptitude Test (SAT), which is now more daunting than ever. Worth 2400 points with an added writing section, the test features a new 25 minute student-written essay and has an emphasis on reading comprehension and algebra II.

From 2005

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STAFF EDITORIAL

# Educators deserve to be recognized for their hard work

America is receiving an “F” for teacher appreciation.

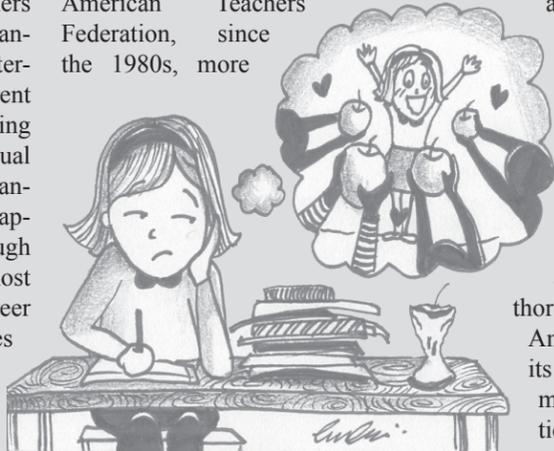
Recently, National Public Radio (NPR) reported that educator training enrollment has dropped significantly over the past few years. The study discloses some employment rates decreasing by as much as 53 percent. As researchers scramble to find a definite answer for the plummeting interest in teaching careers, current instructors are experiencing even more stress than usual due to new educational standards, budget cuts and unappreciative onlookers. Though education is essential for most if not all of today’s career paths, public opinion does not reflect its necessity. Teaching as a profession needs to be valued more.

The country’s poor treatment of educators lessens teacher satisfaction. According to the Washington Post, instructors work an average of 55 to 63 hours a week—higher than the average work week by eight to ten hours. Despite teachers spending these hours inside and outside the classroom, the same

report reveals that their salaries start lower than those of workers in other professions, such as programming or business management. Along with this systemic inequality, educators, instead of budgetary and time constraints, are blamed for schools’ shortcomings. According to the American Teachers Federation, since the 1980s, more

prove its mounting problem. A simple change of attitude towards educators has the potential to create a monumental impact. Expressing a general consideration for instructors may greatly improve teachers’ satisfaction during school hours. Additionally, communities should initiate open discussions to address the lack of educational funding. Only then can our current situation become a priority for authorities to fix.

America can boost its teacher enrollment and satisfaction by learning to appreciate educators’ work. Improving these issues would allow change to ripple throughout the school system. We can no longer wait as this problem continues to fester—we must broaden our perspective to understand teachers. Only then will we receive an “A” for effort.

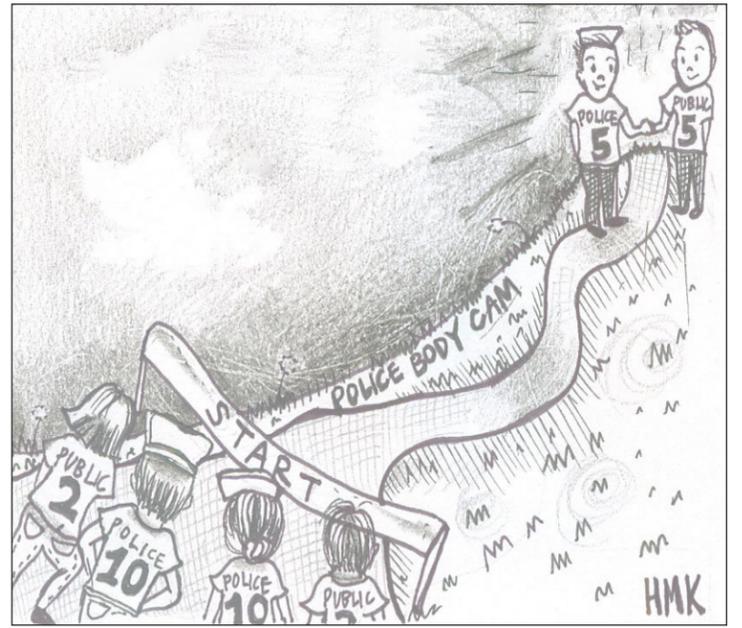


HANBI KO

instructors than ever are voicing low fulfillment resulting from poor working conditions, which in turn has caused fewer applicants to apply to education programs.

Despite the currently bleak outlook for teacher happiness and enrollment, the U.S. can still im-

prove its mounting problem. A simple change of attitude towards educators has the potential to create a monumental impact. Expressing a general consideration for instructors may greatly improve teachers’ satisfaction during school hours. Additionally, communities should initiate open discussions to address the lack of educational funding. Only then can our current situation become a priority for authorities to fix.



HANMIN KO

## Police body cameras encourage discussions

By Jamie Xie  
STAFF WRITER

Cameras can only zoom in so far; the rest is up to us.

Public antagonism toward the police has been undoubtedly high since the Ferguson and Eric Garner controversies. In response, police departments have increasingly turned to body cameras as a way to create more transparency between the police and the general public. Nevertheless, claims of racial discrimination and unjustified brutality against officers continue to rise.

The recent shooting on Skid Row has not only enraged the public, but has also put body cameras to the test. Although the Los Angeles Police Department has yet to release its videos, footage captured by witnesses has already influenced many to point their fingers at the police. Such heated disputes will no doubt continue to challenge the effectiveness of body cameras. With this in mind, we should regard these devices as only a start to preventing hostile feelings between the police and the public—not as the final solution.

Police body cameras are still relatively novel. Because of the flaws associated with the devices,

they should not be considered a permanent fix. Although a recent study conducted by Dr. Barak Ariel and police chief Tony Farrar of Rialto, California, may suggest otherwise, we have yet to see conclusive results. The study noted that after a year of using body cameras, the police department received 88 percent fewer complaints from civilians than it did the year before. Additionally, the use of force by police officers dropped 60 percent. Unfortunately, these positive statistics do not necessarily illustrate a genuine change in attitude. The second pair of eyes may just be tempo-

“Caution must be heeded, for cameras can avoid a controversy, but they can also create one.”

rarily influencing police officers and citizens to behave in a more civil manner.

Hypothetically, body cameras are a means to dissolving heated conflicts between the police and the public. Yet putting on the camera is the easy part; the hard part comes after. These cameras are of little use without certain regulations. To be legally beneficial, footage needs to be stored safely and indefinitely in case of future investigations. More importantly, privacy boundaries should be respected. In certain situations, such as when police enter homes, cameras may not only make individuals feel uncomfortable, but they may also be interpreted as an

Continued on page 5

## WARRIORS WEIGH IN

With the release of the new MacBook, Oracle asked Warriors: Which type of computer do you prefer and why?

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



“I prefer Macs over PCs because they’re easy to use ... Macs come with really nice apps and I know PCs do too, but I think Macs have more generic apps. I think

their format is a just a lot nicer... the processing part of it is also a lot faster.”

~sophomore



“I prefer a PC. It’s cheaper and more reliable ... Macs are so expensive mostly because a lot of people have

them. You can’t really open it up and change the stuff inside, like upgrade them. But you can open up a PC.”

~sophomore

### Once Upon A Troy: Second Star to the Dance by Hanbi and Hanmin Ko



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Continued from page 4

invasion of privacy. Caution must be heeded, for cameras can avoid a controversy, but they can also create one.

However, there is much more to preventing conflict than just turning on a camera; we have to rethink our current mindset. Civil interaction induced by the threat of constant supervision means nothing if hostility remains when the camera is off. Whether it is because of traffic tickets or Rodney King, the public often sees the police as the enemy. Sometimes, the sentiment is justified; other times, it is not.

Although body cameras can be beneficial, we should not assume the worst in the first place. They often need to act forcefully at a moment's notice in order to ensure everyone's safety. That job is not something we can easily understand, even with the help of a camera.

Police body cameras are not an instant panacea to misconduct. They are only the first step to preventing future controversy between the police and the public. The real problem lies in our tendency to place blame on the one holding the gun. When it really comes down to it, we can not always separate things into black and white.

# Snowball disproves climate change belief

By Ariel Liu & Yannie Hoang  
 EDITOR IN CHIEF &  
 ASSISTANT OPINION EDITOR

After years of climate change scare, Oklahoma Senator James Inhofe at long last has discovered the evidence to disprove global warming. At a senate hearing, he wielded a single snowball, incontrovertible proof that cool temperatures abound on our planet. Before Inhofe, experts had no choice but to rely on scientific instrumentation and satellite data to analyze weather trends and painstakingly gather measurements. Now that Inhofe has produced the evidence, however, U.S. citizens need not feel compelled to subscribe to the theory that the Earth is teetering on the precipice of the apocalypse. Inhofe's snowball was the much needed wake up call.

It was an epiphanic moment for all the nation's clear-minded individuals, who realized that the Earth is not warming. Indeed, it is cooling pleasantly, as Bostonians can attest to after a winter of snow shoveling. We no longer need to worry about the alleged dwindling polar bear population. Each

bear is ensured at least a good 20 square inches of ice.

The presence of the snowball revealed the global warming conspiracy. According to records, increases in temperature have mostly corresponded to rises in carbon dioxide levels. But, out-of-breath humans—many of whom have struggled to limit their carbon dioxide output—have now been given carte blanche to breathe with a clear conscience, knowing that their exhalation will not impact the environment. Scientist Timothy Bell also pointed out that carbon dioxide cannot be harmful because it helps plants to grow.

Even more compelling is the fact that other scientists also oppose global climate change. The Global Warming Petition Project boasts 31,000 signatures from believers of the snowball. These individuals insist that melting glaciers and warmer oceans are only in our dreams. Besides, believing global warming exists would mean believing humans possess the ability to significantly change the world. Such an egotistical notion can be concocted only by individuals who believe that the Earth is round.

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TROY HIGH SCHOOL

GARDENING 101

By Adrija Chakrabarty  
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Providing a respite from our busy lives, gardening allows us not only to stop and smell the roses but also to plant them, too.

With the rise of the green movement, the great outdoors has been gaining attention from both avid environmentalists and trendy hipsters alike. As seen from the many eco-friendly campaigns and copious pictures of succulents on Instagram, a love for all things nature has been on the upsurge. Still, one of the best ways to show appreciation for nature is to actually go outside. So the next time you need to distance yourself from the craziness called life, step into the fresh air (well, as fresh as it gets here in the suburbs) and treat yourself to some alone time with Mother Earth.

Taking care of your own garden can be a great first step in becoming more environ-

mentally-conscious. During a time when global warming is reaching frightening heights, gardening can be the throwback to simpler, pre-industrial days when green living was the norm. Growing plants that absorb greenhouse gases can help reduce our carbon footprint as well.

Also a great leisure activity to take your mind off of that upcoming test or difficult homework assignment, caring for plants allows you to redirect your attention to a healthy pastime rather than succumbing to unwanted stress. Gardening has been scientifically proven to have beneficial effects on people and may even prevent the onset of dementia and depression later in life. Also, the sunshine that you soak in while cultivating your greens not only boosts mental health but also raises your vitamin D intake, making your mind, bones and immune system stronger.

Whether it be the eco-friendly aspect, calming effects or merely the current hype, the gardening bandwagon is definitely one worth jumping on.

# Home Grown Harvests

With April showers and spring sunshine at hand, try cultivating a garden with these California-friendly plants.

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

SUCCULENTS

By Leanne Ho  
ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

If the word “succulents” evokes unappealing images of prickly cacti, think again. The wide variety, beauty and toughness of succulents are hard to beat.

When compared to herbaceous species, succulents are easily distinguishable due to their fleshy leaves and seemingly hostile features. Thorns and jagged leaves are common, and most cacti even come equipped with barbed spikes. However, although cacti are some of the most popular succulents, not all succulents are cacti. It’s best to explore other options to assemble a tableau of varied plants. For example, check out the snake plant (*Sansevieria trifasciata*), a hardy indoor plant with ridged yellow and green leaves. For a cozier aesthetic, the panda plant (*Kalanchoe tomentosa*) sports fuzzy blue-green leaves instead of spikes. When grouped together, the mix of colors and textures will add interest to any windowsill or terrarium.

Furthermore, because they are native to deserts and grasslands, succulents thrive in the

warm and dry Southern California climate. For many, a good soak once a week is plenty of water, a quality that suits the life of a busy or forgetful Warrior. Two such California-native plants are the Dudleya, a rosette-shaped perennial, and the Crassula, a type of shrub with chunky leaves. For a beginner, the jade plant (*Crassula ovata*) is easy to propagate—all that’s required is a stem cutting from which roots can develop. In fact, most succulents can be regrown from a single part such as a leaf or a bud, making them cost-effective as well as efficient.

For hopeful gardeners without green thumbs, succulents are a simple and satisfying introduction to horticulture. These nearly indestructible plants, which range from cacti to aloe vera, are beautiful and easy to care for.



FLOWERS

By Adrija Chakrabarty  
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

The saying that every rose has its thorn could not be more true for flowering plants. Although beautiful, many flowers are not so wonderful for the local environment. Popular non-native flowering plants pose major problems for pollinators in the area. Unadapted to these foreign flowers, many in-

sects and birds are deprived of their food sources. By consciously planting native flowers that attract bees and hummingbirds, we can enjoy both the beauty of flowers and the satisfaction of being eco-friendly.

One way to ensure that the neighborhood bees are always meeting their honey quota is to plant native flowers that bloom during different seasons. For example, planting hyacinths (*Hyacinthus orientalis*) in spring, snapdragons (*Antirrhinum*) in summer and California asters (*Aster chilensis*) in

winter would provide nectar for pollinators all year long.

However, for those who barely have time to sleep or socialize, much less garden, the California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) is a great choice. Easy to grow and available in both perennial and annual varieties, the state flower is a wonderful addition to any California garden.

As an added bonus, these native flowers are better suited for the environment and require less work and watering than foreign alternatives.

Well-adapted to California’s mediterranean climate, flowers like the coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) demand minimal attention. Since these plants do not require much water, greenhouse novices can slip up on watering without much consequence.



PRODUCE

By Leanne Ho  
ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

For the more practically-minded, it might be fruitful to cultivate plants with edible parts. Not only will it save money on groceries, but it will also result in high-quality, organic produce.

Tomatoes are one of the most popular choices for first-time gardeners thanks to their convenience and high success rate. Consider buying seedlings—young plants that have

already taken root—which are easy to transfer to a plot of land or a large pot. Or, for a true do-it-yourself project,

take a rotten tomato and bury it in the soil. Within weeks, a cluster of new seedlings will appear. Also, take into consideration that as with any vined plant, tomatoes require some sort of support system to climb on, whether that be a wall,



chicken wire or trellis.

Carrots and potatoes are also fairly easy to grow, but they’re popular targets for insects and

fungi that could endanger the garden. Tough root vegetables such as onions, radishes or rutabagas are much more hardy and pest-resistant. Another added benefit, they also grow quickly, with radishes being ready to harvest within about a month. Just

make sure to give them plenty of shade from the hot California sun; too much heat can cause radishes to dry and crack.

One other secret to making the most out of a vegetable garden is choosing complementary crops. The Native American combination of “the three sisters”—corn, bean and squash—worked because the corn provided a sturdy climbing surface for the beans and the squash shaded the soil, preventing the growth of weeds. Other well-performing combinations include: tomatoes, basil and cabbage; garlic and roses; and eggplant, turnips and pepper.

# ONWARD AND UPWARD

Rediscover the wonderful world of Disney with senior Keven Quach, whose experience at the Disney Dreamers Academy has given him the motivation to make his dreams come true.

Article by Grace Lee, STAFF WRITER and photo by Renee Susanto, PHOTO  
Cartoons by Hanbi Ko, CARTOON EDITOR

A bit of Disney magic can make carpets soar, dishes dance and mice talk. Dreams, however, require more than a little pixie dust to come true. For senior Keven Quach, it was his one-in-one hundred opportunity as a Disney Dreamer that has challenged him to start realizing his one-in-one million dreams.

The Disney Dreamers Academy is an annual event held by the Walt Disney Company in partnership with Essence Magazine and the popular talk show host Steve Harvey. The program invited Quach to a conference at the Disney World Resort and Hotel in Orlando, Florida, March 4-8. As one of only 100 out of a pool of 10,000 high school students selected, Quach met motivational speakers and participated in hands-on career simulations that gave him opportunities to explore different professions. Inspired by fellow dreamers both at the conference and at home, Quach has discovered that chasing after great dreams requires even greater dedication.

At the conference, Quach chose to explore *Imagining*—the Disney-originated profession of creating inventive ideas for rides and attractions. Quach was given tasks as an aspiring *Imagineer* that were unique to Disney, he said.

"The Academy put us through a simulation in which we were able to make any ride for either Disney World or Disneyland," Quach said. "They put us in teams of eight and each person had a different role. There was a project manager and a design team, and I got to be part of the engineering team that programmed a robot made out of Legos to run through a track."

As Quach explored various careers, he also met high-achieving students from across the nation. Being able to talk to such a diverse and select group of individuals was Quach's

favorite aspect of the event, he said.

"There were only 100 of us chosen, so everyone there had something about them that made their applications stand out," Quach said. "There were people of all high school ages. Some had written novels, some were musicians and some had started their own companies."

One trait that distinguished Quach from other applicants was his communication skills. Quach's wide array of plans for the future centers on his impressive social skills, he said.

"One of the things I want to do is be a social entrepreneur," Quach said. "I love helping people. I want to be someone who can start something creative and use that to help others. I enjoy the idea of entrepreneurship because I've had experience through leadership clubs. I also want to be a talk show host.

Part of being a talk show host is interviewing people, and I like asking questions and hearing about what makes people passionate."

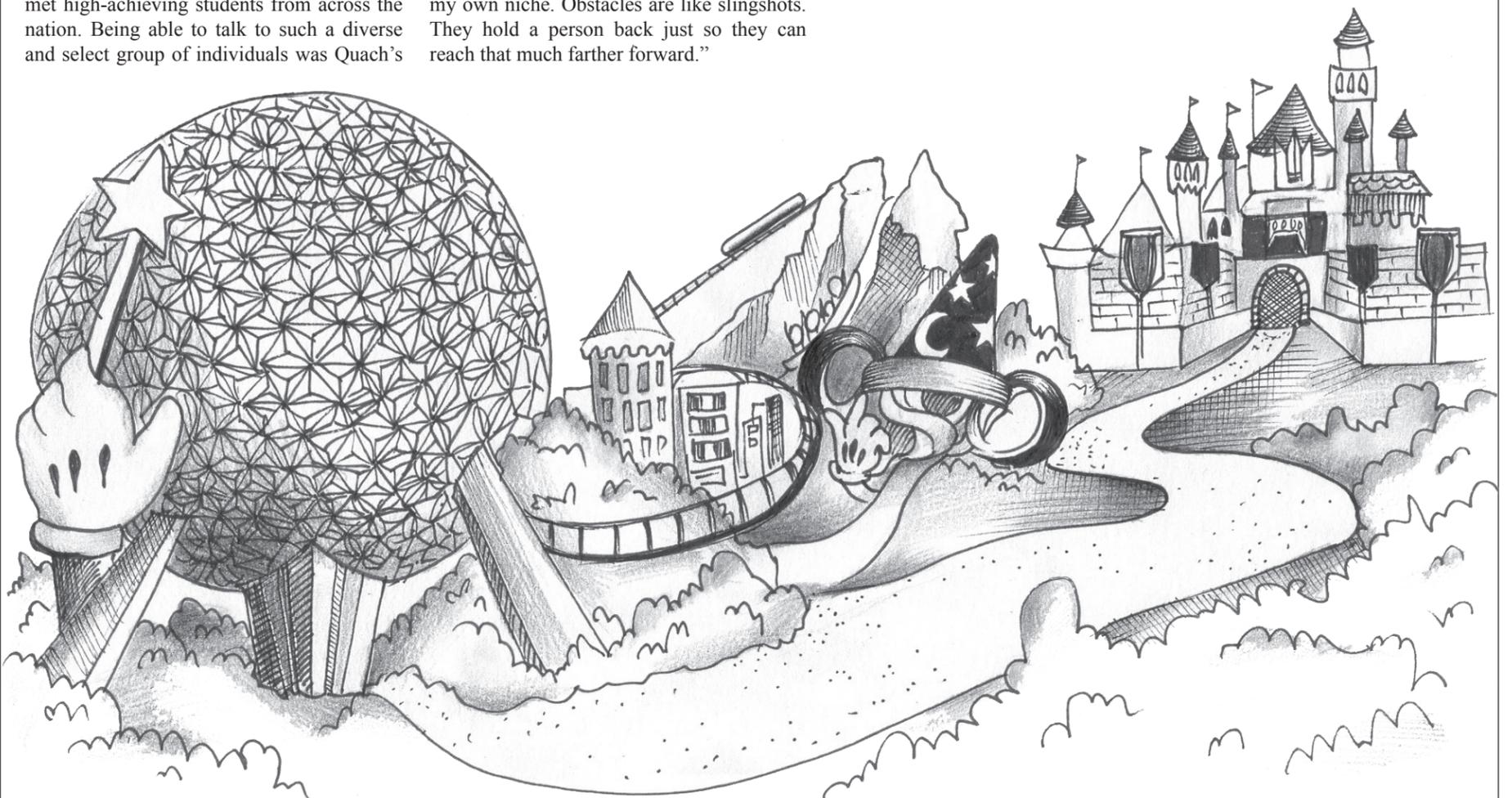
"I love helping people. I want to be someone who can start something creative and use that to help others."

**Keven Quach**  
senior

ate."

In both his future aspirations and his daily life, Quach continues to live out the conference's mission of dreaming big. His experience as a Disney Dreamer has taught him that challenges should not deter him from reaching for the stars, Quach said.

"All of the presenters told us, 'Success is going to come from people who fail the most,'" Quach said. "If I can't be president of a club, that doesn't discourage me. I should put in all my effort into finding my own niche. Obstacles are like slingshots. They hold a person back just so they can reach that much farther forward."



# R I X T O N



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONTACT MUSIC

**BRITISH BAD BOYS:** *Lewi Morgan, Jake Roche, Danny Wilkin and Charley Bagnall hit the road to promote their album this summer.*

Up-and-coming music group Rixton shows promise in its refreshingly versatile debut album, "Let the Road."

By Nicole Kuntjoro  
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Dabbling in both pop and R&B in their debut album "Let the Road," the four young men from the British band Rixton are sweeping America off its feet. Some may compare this talented group to One Direction, yet Rixton's similarities with its fellow British band only go so far as the devastatingly good looks and immense popularity with the younger generation. Without a doubt, Rixton possesses great finesse while maintaining a fresh and vibrant feel in its music.

From Manchester, England, Rixton be-

gan as the band Relics, posting covers of popular songs on YouTube before being signed to School Boy Records. The subsequent release of its hit single "Me and My Broken Heart" launched the band to international fame. One year later, the release of the album "Let the Road" marked Rixton's official entrance into the music scene, where it has been making waves ever since.

Vocalist Jake Roche is at the helm of Rixton, contributing his high-flying vocals to add a soulful depth to each track. Whether it is the simple yet beautiful a cappella arrangement in the title track "Let the Road" or the anthemic chants of "Make Out," Roche's voice is enough to earn him the title of teenage heartthrob; add his classic British looks to the mix, and he becomes the perfect package. Band members Charley Bagnall, Danny Wilkin and Lewi Morgan complete the team, adding harmonious backup vocals and instruments.

Unlike many other artists of the pop genre, Rixton possesses a genuine soul that stems from its intelligent use of vocals and instruments. Wilkin's keyboard adds yet another level of vibrant sophistication to every track. Furthermore, the variation of each song indicates that while Rixton is still searching for its true identity as a band, it has the potential to enchant listeners from every genre. Sounds from all areas of the music spectrum can be seen in "Let the Road," ranging from the folk melodies of Mumford and Sons to the pop-rock anthems of The Script. These different styles mask the sometimes redundant lyrics about love and heartbreak, which seem typical of pop music. However, that is not to say that the cliché words make the band any less enjoyable. Rather, Rixton's uncanny ability to create memorable songs from such simple ideas gives listeners further reason to applaud its artistry.

Rixton has broken the mold of the archetypal "boy band" by demonstrating that it is more than just a group of attractive boys from England. Effortlessly establishing itself in the pop scene, the band offers hope for the cliché-ridden genre that has long been dominated by pretentious artists with pretty faces. With a commendable debut album that delivers diversity and surprises, these British boys are sure to let the road lead them to success.

### ORACLE GIVEAWAY

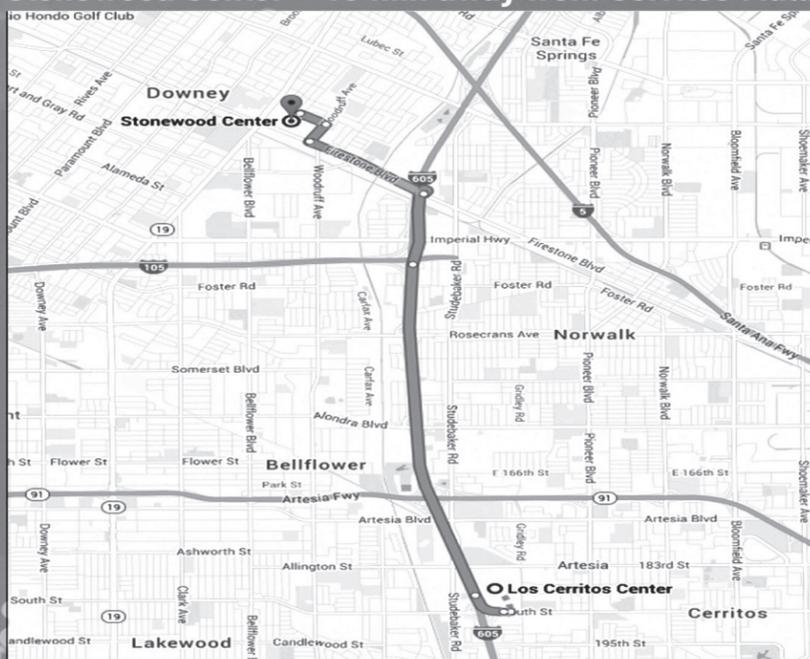
Stop by the Oracle room (Room 315) for free Rixton posters and stickers, as well as other promotional materials. Visit our Facebook page ([facebook.com/oracle.troy](http://facebook.com/oracle.troy)) for a chance to win a "Let the Road" album.

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# Warrior softball tops the Brea Olinda Wildcats 2-1

The lady Warriors (4-4, 0-0) edged out their competition in a close pre-season match.

By Evan Lewis  
STAFF WRITER

Bigger isn't always better.

Optimizing its retooled roster, the Warrior softball team (4-4, 0-0) slipped past the Brea Olinda Wildcats 2-1 March 19.

Setting the tone for the Warrior defense, senior Michelle Roh fielded a grounder and gunned it to first to turn a double play and prevent a run from scoring. Capitalizing on the Wildcats shutdown defense, freshman Jenna Beltran scored on a double to put the Warriors ahead on the scoreboard 1-0.

The Wildcats soon stormed back with a double of their own to equalize the score. However, sophomore Allison McFetridge, after fighting off several foul balls, belted a solo shot over the centerfield fence to boost the Warriors into a 2-1 lead. Maintaining their defensive prowess through another double play, the Warriors held their lead until the end of the game.

Entering preseason with a smaller roster, the Warriors have since realized their potential to

succeed, Roh said.

"We did not have very high expectations going into our first tournament," Roh said. "And it did not come from lack of talent or discipline because we definitely have that, but because our roster is [comprised of] 12 girls, we felt that we maybe lacked the depth that previous Troy teams had and current league teams have. Normally we have 14 or 15 girls, and two girls don't seem like a lot, but it usually has a big impact."

"With the bond that we have been forming since early summer, we have honestly just grown stronger and evolved into a better team."

**Michelle Roh**  
senior

The Warriors now view their team size as a tool for promoting unity and camaraderie, co-captain Hailey Danko said.

"We have learned to view [our roster size] as something that makes our team tighter and stronger," Danko said. "Last year and the year before, the teams were very [clique-oriented], and that really hurt our team chemistry. But this year I feel like we got rid of all of the cliques, and as a re-

sult, we are forming a really tight bond."

This strong bond has boosted the Warriors into a top tier contender as they approach the regular season, Roh said.

"We beat Brea Olinda earlier this year 6-5," Roh said. "And now that we beat them again, I feel like [that win] really solidifies us as a solid team. With the bond that we have been forming since early summer, we have honestly just grown stronger and evolved into a better team. I am

very happy, and I know the rest of the team is too, that we can beat Brea Olinda twice in preseason."

Without skipping a beat, the Warriors are looking forward to translating hard work in the preseason to wins in the regular season, Danko said.

"So far we are doing pretty well, but it is still only preseason," Danko said. "We still have a lot we need to work on, and that starts with putting in work at practice. Our coaches have done a good job so far with pushing us to do our best and I think that has also helped us do well. But we have to take our success in these games into league where the competition gets tougher, and the games mean more."



PHOTOS BY LAUREN KIM

**COVERING ALL BASES:** Attempting to maintain the Warrior advantage, Warrior athletes challenge the Wildcat offensive before shutting out their opposition.

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# FITNESS WITH FA'AVAE

Meet strength and conditioning coach Fa'avae Fa'avae as he whips the Warrior sports teams into shape.

By Austin Shin  
STAFF WRITER

Looking at the brightly colored training shoes of the young athletes around him, strength and conditioning coach Fa'avae Fa'avae sees his former self in every sole.

Training sports players for Fa'avae is more than a job; it is an opportunity to pass on his wisdom and experience to future generations of athletes.

Once a Division I football player at the University of California, Berkeley, Fa'avae realized early on that he would rather train professional athletes than become one. After completing two years of medical school, Fa'avae created his own training program incorporating his athletic experiences and then found a job opening at Athletic Republic of Orange County. Through this organization, Fa'avae received the opportunity to work with Warrior football and soon broadened his training with other Warrior sports.

Raised in an area surrounded by gang violence, Fa'avae found solace in athletics to escape depression. Early hardships provided the stimulus necessary for Fa'avae to focus on the nonphysical aspects of health, he said.

"When growing up in an extreme environment, you resort to certain mechanisms to help you cope with loss," Fa'avae said. "That's where I got my strong spiritual background and it helped

me form a strong mentality to push through difficult situations. [The] whole mental and spiritual component of training usually gets left out, but I like to focus on the mentality of an athlete as well as being able to connect the mind, body and spirit."

Fa'avae uses his experiences to foster better relationships with those he trains. These intimate connections allow Fa'avae to have a more profound and personal impact on individual athletes, he said.

"I speak the same language that [the athletes] do," Fa'avae said. "There's not the 'listen to me because I'm the coach

"I think the best thing about [my] job is being able to motivate the athletes."

**Fa'avae Fa'avae**  
coach



**PUMPING IRON:** Coach Fa'avae Fa'avae assists in lifting weights at Athletic Republic. His schedule is a balance between this organization and Warrior teams.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FA'AVAE FA'AVAE

**THE FACE BEHIND IT ALL:** Operating behind the scenes of many Warrior sports teams such as football and tennis, coach Fa'avae Fa'avae is pivotal to their success.

and you're the athlete so you just need to listen' factor. It's more of a combined player-coach relationship, and the athlete is able to really open up to me. When training, I bring up my experiences in life and my experiences in athletics because those are the stories that the athletes can relate to and are inspired by."

Employing aspects of being a mentor rather than simply a trainer, Fa'avae believes his most valuable lessons extend beyond the training room, he said.

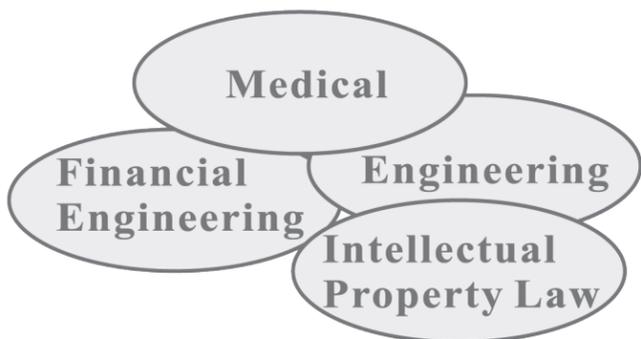
"I think the best thing about [my] job is being able to motivate the athletes," Fa'avae said. "Sports become kind of like a safe haven and an outlet for [them] to vent. I really like being able to moti-

vate them by asking 'What's the plan? What's your journey? What's your goal in mind?' That's the most rewarding part. The workouts can be grueling at times, but seeing someone progress from not lifting at all to suddenly doing their lifts with confidence is the most rewarding feeling."



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