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<p>INSIDE THIS ISSUE</p> <p>OPINION Find out about the Warrior community's take on the early release of Stanford rapist Brock Turner after a three-month prison sentence.</p>	<p>Pages 4</p> 	<p>ENTERTAINMENT Check out our review of British indie pop band Bastille's album "Wild World," which was released on Sept. 9.</p> 	<p>Page 5</p>	<p>SPORTS Under the guidance of coach Wendy Mahan, Warrior Tennis defeated the Cerritos Dons 12-6 to maintain its winning streak.</p> 	<p>Page 12</p>
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Warrior campus prepares for evaluation

Late start meetings focus on improving school accountability and communication.

By David Hou
STAFF WRITER

In anticipation of an upcoming visit from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), Warrior administration and faculty are working to prepare for a midterm school review next spring.

WASC, a third-party organization responsible for public high school accreditation in California, will conduct a review that is scheduled for March 2017.

The WASC accreditation process, which must be completed on a regular basis, involves an initial visit, a self-reflection report to be completed by each school and a full visit and follow-up. According to Assistant Principal of Instruction Sonje Berg, each reviewed school is certified for up to six years, and some schools undergo a mid-cycle review between regular accreditations depending on certain school-specific determiners such as accountability and communication. The Warrior campus, which was last accredited in the 2013-2014 school year, is due for its midterm



IDA KAZERANI

EARLY BIRD GETS THE WASC: On a late start day, teacher Sara Velarde addresses a committee of faculty and staff in preparation for the upcoming WASC review. Warrior parents and students also take part in these early morning sessions.

review.

By enabling an independent, non-governmental group to conduct a thorough evaluation of school environment and curriculum, accreditations and reviews facilitate faculty discussions that lead to continuous improvement. According to WASC Coordinator Ana Link, the school accreditation

process allows teachers to evaluate the effectiveness of their teaching.

"[The WASC process] encourages us to self-assess," Link said. "[We] cannot grow and get better unless [we] are constantly evaluating what we're doing. There are students who struggle and who have different needs and [we]

have to evaluate our progress to be better educators and make sure [our] students are actually learning."

To prepare for the review, all Warrior staff members are working with other community stakeholders, such as Warriors and their parents, in committees that convene on late start mornings.

According to Assistant Principal of Pupil Services Laura Rubio, the committees are discussing and drafting a report that details prospective goals and recent improvements undertaken to remedy concerns raised during the last accreditation, such as lapses in communication and accountability.

The committees, which have been preparing for the review since last May, will finalize the report by November so that it can be sent to the WASC review board prior to their visit. During their two-day visit, the WASC panel will tour the campus, interviewing teachers and students at random as well as examining the implementation of outlined goals and changes.

According to Link, unlike previous years, the review committees will now work to make all Warriors aware of how both administration and faculty are working to improve the campus learning environment.

"The goal of the WASC process is that everyone [is] aware of what our critical needs are and what we're doing to address them," Link said. "It's not enough if only a [few] people know what's going on. [The goals and changes we outline are] is supposed to represent the entire school."

Girl Up members attend regional leadership summit

The conference inspired the club to take initiative on campus and in the community.

By Michael Kao
STAFF WRITER

Empowering girls to discover their potential as leaders, Girl Up club members participated in the Southern California Coalition Girl Up Leadership Summit at Marlborough School Sept. 17.

Girl Up is an internationally recognized United Nations Foundation program designed to support adolescent girls domestically and internationally. The organization is comprised of more than 1,000 clubs in 51 different countries working toward im-

proving girls' healthcare, education standards and overall quality of life. Collaborating with other branches worldwide, the Girl Up Club provides humanitarian aid through economic and educational opportunities, collective fundraising and gender equality campaigns.

Organized almost entirely by girls, the Girl Up summit fostered the leadership skills necessary for members to help girls around the world. Attendees attended workshops designed to introduce new members to the basics of fundraising and club planning and to help returning members engage in the advocacy of the Girl Up program.

According to President Daniela Lee, attendees networked with

other club members in Southern California and cooperated on planning various programs targeted at helping underprivileged girls. In addition, members attended lectures delivered by keynote speakers to learn about topics such as encouraging female engagement in politics and overcoming gender stereotypes in the workforce.

"The summit helped us meet new people, plan future events together and learn more about how we can improve our club," Lee said. "Our keynote speakers covered subjects on women's rights like the overwhelming prevalence of gender-based violence and child marriages in third



HANNAH RO

SPEAK UP FOR GIRL UP: Junior Shine Kim discusses female empowerment in media with YouTuber Liza Koshy.

Continued on page 2

“Girl Up” cont. from page 1

world countries. We don’t necessarily know about [these crises] since these issues are not covered [much] in the media.”

According to Treasurer Shine Kim, the summit gave members an opportunity to organize their own projects and work with impoverished girls to empower one young woman at a time.

“We had specific projects organized almost completely by members to support girls emotionally and economically,” Kim said. “For example, we formed pen pal programs with many girls and sent letters and notes of encouragement to morally support them. We also planned fundraisers specifically targeted towards individual girls, and help them through their education.”

Recently, Girl Up members collaborated with Sunny Hills High School and Glen A. Wilson High School to encourage a Cambodian girl aspiring to attend college, yet unable to do so for financial reasons. The club plans to fundraise later in the year to support her education.

Southern Coalition Leader Morgan Pak recognized the enormous impact that Girl Up has had on her identity through leadership development events such as the summit.

“[In the] world, there are a lot of stereotypes and attached expectations, and Girl Up has allowed me to separate myself from that realm of expectations and discover who I am as an individual,” Pak said. “From experiences like the summit, Girl Up helped me realize I was so much more than what people told me I was, that I could do so much more than what people told me I could do, and ultimately it helped me develop into who I am today.”

Best Buddies club receives 12th Outstanding Chapter recognition

Best Buddies International acknowledged Warrior Best Buddies for their commitment to forming lasting, one-to-one relationships.

By Ariana Chow
STAFF WRITER

Commended for the exemplary dedication and initiative of its members, the Warrior Best Buddies club was recognized as an Outstanding Chapter by Best Buddies International July 2016.

The Best Buddies program promotes community awareness and student involvement with special needs students by pairing them with buddies in general education. Through the use of a personality test and the information from their interviews, the Warrior members of Best Buddies are matched with compatible buddies. They then bond through engaging activities that include the upcoming Carnival Dance and Queen of the Court tournament.

These occasions are especially designed to encourage members to meet and talk with their buddies, and they aim to promote the growth of camaraderie between Special Education and general education students. Their commitment to forming lasting, impactful friendships has won Warrior Best Buddies its 12th consecutive Outstanding Chapter accreditation—a success that can be attributed to the cumulative efforts of every participant in the club.

Co-advisor Glenn Madrid and former Special Education Department co-chairperson Sandi Kossler work to oversee club activities. According to Madrid, his involvement with the Best Buddies program has revealed to him the fellowship which unites members of the organization.

“In the last 11 years, I have [formed] strong beliefs in what the club does and am surprised by why there are not more people in the club,” Madrid said. “I think all the students here should be either peer buddies or associate mem-

ties between the special education students and the general education students. As a whole, the club works to advocate campus-wide community.

Segal and Van Schooten also said that the board works constantly to coordinate enjoyable events so that the students can really get to know their buddies.

“I think we affect the relationships a lot because what we’re doing is we’re providing those meeting times that [the students] can be with their buddies,” Segal said. “We’re providing events that they can attend with their buddies, and then if something happens we fix it. We’re the ones making sure everything is running smoothly, so we affect the club greatly, as the club affects us.”

According to Best Buddies secretary Joyce Khalil, the true value of Best Buddies is far beyond the activities, acclaim and awe of the club. Ultimately, Khalil believes that the experience of building friendships with special needs teenagers subconsciously influences the general education students profoundly and transforms them into different people.

“We don’t really help [the Special Education students],” Khalil said. “It’s more like they help us, in the way that they show us how to be patient and more open-minded toward other people. It’s mostly been [patience] for me—I’m really an impatient person, but being part of the club, I’ve learned how to spend time with people and get to know them. I’ve just become a better person.”

“We don’t really help [the Special Education students]. It’s more like they help us, in the way that they show us how to be patient and more open-minded toward other people.”

Joyce Khalil
secretary

bers. Best Buddies is a fantastic club that has a very beautiful message. It is about friendship.”

Best Buddies Presidents Jonathan Van Schooten and Dharam Patel and Vice President Sarah Segal organize and publicize the club bonding experiences. As the leaders of Best Buddies, they seek to encourage thriving relationships and inclusion of special education students. Segal emphasized the importance of recognizing the similar-



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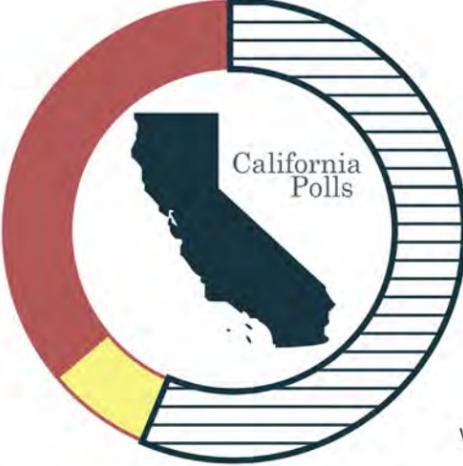
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2016 ELECTION UPDATE

"33,000 Americans a year die [from guns]. It is time for us to say we are going to have comprehensive background checks. We are going to close the gun show loopholes."
-Hillary Clinton





California Polls

⊖ CLINTON 55.2% ● JOHNSON 7.0% ● TRUMP 36.2%

"The right of self-defense doesn't stop at the end of your driveway. That's why I have a concealed-carry permit and why tens of millions of Americans do, too. That permit should be valid in all 50 states."
-Donald Trump



PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE



SEPTEMBER 26

HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY
IN HEMPSTEAD, NY

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE



OCTOBER 9

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
IN ST. LOUIS, MO

COMPILED BY JULIANNE KIM, OPINION EDITOR AND GRAPHIC BY TU-AN NGUYEN

STAFF EDITORIAL

Competition among districts stimulates academic excellence

In today's public education system, numerous schools draw in students from outside their districts by offering specialized and advanced curricula. The new cybersecurity pathway is the most recent program to be introduced to the Warrior campus. This brings to light the importance of specialized programs and the impact competition among schools has on education today.

Initially, academic competition may displace high achieving students from schools with less rigorous curricula. When a school offers an engaging academic program, students are more likely to transfer out of their home districts, leading to a loss of funds and students. Furthermore, competition can lead to an unfair distribution of high achieving students heavily concentrated in schools offering such academic benefits.

Though these issues may seem disconcerting, the short-term consequences of competition among schools are overshadowed by the long-term educational benefits that eventually result.

First, competition encourages students to consider why they want to attend a specific school. When students are deciding on a high school, they must examine factors such as academic rigor and quality of instruction before committing to a program. This encourages students to seriously consider what they want from their high school education overall. Furthermore, schools with specialized programs draw a large number of students who choose to compete in the same fields because these schools offer advantages that other schools do

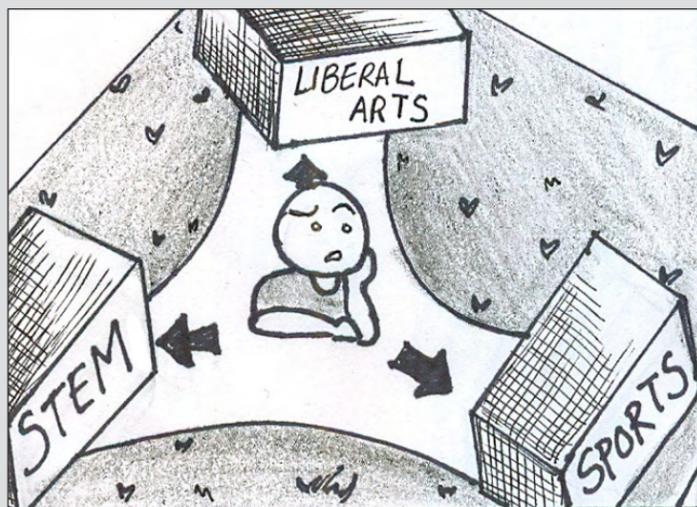
not. The resulting magnet effect leads to a competitive academic environment in specific subjects. Additionally, when families fill out transfer request forms, they must also indicate their motivation to attend the Warrior campus

out high school. Thus, a school that attracts ambitious learners through competitive academic programs is able to quickly progress and helps students achieve their maximum potential.

Looking ahead, competition in high schools will keep education constantly improving. With a rising number of specialized programs, schools that may be of lesser caliber are forced to improve their courses in order to maintain their student population. If one school generates competition by introducing a specialized program, it begins a chain reaction that affects all the schools around it. In turn, the educational atmosphere surrounding students, teachers and administration becomes significantly more involved and driven. Certainly, schools are beginning to incor-

porate science, technology, engineering and math education related programs into their curricula after seeing the success of Troy Tech. The loss of students in schools due to rising competition may be damaging, but it would be much worse if less rigorous schools decide to do nothing. On a larger scale, pressuring more schools to reach higher standards of education will help level out the playing field and create equal opportunities for students in every school or district.

Competition inherently drives the advancement of education. Although inter-district transfers negatively impact schools and districts when students leave, they spur new and better programs that attract more motivated young minds. In the long run, competition has a net positive impact, increasing educational standards and ultimately benefiting today's students. While competition in schools pulls at both sides of the educational magnet, the benefits outweigh the negatives.



LUCY LEE

whether it be Troy Tech or Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps. This process helps students identify what they want to accomplish in the specialized courses. Presumably, with a clear academic goal in mind, they will continue to work hard through-

Troy Universe: Superhero Suit Up by Hanmin Ko



mark my words

personal perspectives on social issues

On July 2, Stanford student athlete Brock Turner was found guilty of raping a 22 year old girl. He was sentenced to a six-month confinement at the Santa Clara County Jail and three years of probation. Many argued that this term was inadequate for a crime of such mag-



nitude. They accused the judge in the matter of white male bias. Just last week, Turner was released three months early for "good behavior." Here, Warriors responded to Turner's recent release. Due to the sensitivity of the topic, the Oracle staff has decided to keep contributors' names anonymous.



"After crying while reading the victim's letter, all I could think of was **how corrupt our justice system is today.**

The blatant white privilege was unmistakable when court decided that Turner deserved a shorter sentence."

Doubting Justice, sophomore

"Any atrocious action, no matter how brief, is nonetheless atrocious.

Time is no measurement of crime."

Questioning Humanity, senior

"[This] opened my eyes to the reality of white male supremacy which is still evident in America today. As a woman of a minority race, I am **deeply horrified** by the fact that the victim was not listened to and **angered** that Turner believes he doesn't deserve the 'harsh' sentence he was given."

Feeling Frustrated, junior

"It was an **honest mistake.**

If anything, [Turner] should be **cleared** from the sex offender list."

Everyone Makes Mistakes, sophomore



COMPILED BY JULIANNE KIM, OPINION EDITOR
PHOTOS COURTESY OF PINTEREST AND GOOGLE IMAGES

Society must reverse its misguided stigmatization of mental illnesses

By Julianne Kim & Brandon Ann
OPINION EDITOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Today's teens do tend to be overdramatic. After we fail a test we are "depressed," and we want to "kill ourselves"; liking Coldplay then changing our minds makes us "bipolar." This use of such mental health terminology in non-medical contexts has become an increasingly apparent trend. However, by trivializing these terms, we demonstrate our failure to understand issues related to mental health in today's society. Negative stigmas paint those with mental illnesses as personally flawed, belittle those who are actually struggling with diseases such as depression and anxiety and ultimately discourage individuals from seeking professional help. To address this growing issue, society must recognize that mental illnesses are not human weaknesses, but rather diseases that can and should receive proper medical attention.

Oftentimes, people fail to recognize the prevalence of mental illnesses and marginalize the mentally ill population. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, approximately 61.5 million adults are diagnosed with mental disorders in a given year. However, a large number of these Americans deny having poor mental health and refuse to receive treatment because of stigmas surrounding psychiatric illness. Dr. David Susman, a clinical psychologist, states that over 56 percent of individuals diagnosed with major depression are not

treated, largely due to the way society negatively views mental disorders. Individuals suffer from these mental illnesses and fear insensitive labels such as "mental" or "psycho." Consequently, many who suffer from mental illness choose to conceal their symptoms, dreading the judgment of those around them. However, this habit can be detrimental because without a proper support system, individuals who suffer from disorders such as major depressive disorder or bipolar disorder often commit acts of self-harm. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, 90 percent of teen suicides are related to mental health disorders. Thus, it is important to dissipate societal stigmas and encourage the mentally ill to find help.

On a brighter note, the stigmas surrounding mental illnesses can be eliminated if they are acknowledged, discussed and understood. First, students should avoid using pejorative terms when referring to the mentally ill. These words downplay the severity of mental disease and further isolate those who are actually mentally ill. Additionally, society must learn to separate the person from the condition. If tumors and broken bones don't define an individual, neither should mental illnesses. Rather than discriminate against those who may be mentally ill, students should encourage them to find professional treatment. Whether they be triggered by genetics, stress or trauma, mental illnesses are diagnosable health problems, not personal failures. Just

as an accidental fall can result in a broken leg, the loss of a loved one can similarly result in clinical depression or anxiety. There should be no difference in the way we treat those with diabetes and those with depression; both are serious health problems, and failing to recognize the gravity of mental sickness only increases the number of mentally ill individuals who do not receive treatment. Rather than sweeping talk about

mental health under the rug, we should bring discussion to the forefront of society.

Ultimately, mental health stigmatization can be reduced if people understand the critical circumstances of those affected and avoid downplaying the severity of their illnesses. The first step is simple: people need to become better educated on mental health issues and change the way they treat those who have these illnesses.

"Society must recognize that mental illnesses are not human weaknesses, but rather health problems that can and should be medically treated."

ORACLE STAFF

STAFF

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Tu-An Nguyen
Elizabeth Park
Jenny Tran
Caroline Zhu

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

EDITORS

Brandon Ann
Dominique Pillos
chiefs

Brendan Brzycki
Hannah Ro
news

Julianne Kim
opinion

Ryan Fawwaz
entertainment & lifestyle

Ashley Fan
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Tiffany Hall
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Review: 'Wild World' surprisingly predictable

A band reputed to take messy topics and wrap them up neatly in a pop-rock bow, Bastille has created high expectations for its new album "Wild World." But while the record may have some promising tracks, its glaring monotony suggests that the group may have just run out of hits.

By Christopher Lee, STAFF WRITER

After a meteoric rise to pop-rock stardom with its debut album "Bad Blood," Bastille made a name for itself as a band with a definite focus: to top the charts. Having this ambition in mind, lead singer and primary songwriter Dan Smith created pop anthems drenched in a predictable yet disarming charm from his South London bedroom. With the band's sophomore record "Wild World," it is evident that Smith still has the ability to write epic radio hits. The dazzling production and Smith's pop sensibilities shine in the album's monumental choruses and earworm melodies, but the record's radioplay ambition is rendered by its inevitable monotony.

Regardless, the album's first few songs remain quite strong. The opener, "Good Grief," features the band launching into a verse backed by a simple yet groovy bassline, followed by an epic chorus—just the first of many glamorous hooks that become the highlight of the record. With the following three tracks, "The Currents," "An Act of Kindness" and "Warmth," Bastille unites classic rock and roll with various elements of 21st century electronic dance music to create

a uniquely modern musical experience. The problem arises with Bastille's self-conscious successes and its obvious attempt to duplicate its stardom, rather than build on its reputation for originality. This leaves the listener with 13 indistinguish-



able songs. The tracklist does not stray from the three and a half minute formula, resulting in a collection of songs that seems bland by the end of the album. The only real deviation comes with "Two Evils," which exclusively features Smith's heartfelt singing and a heavily reverberated guitar, creating a soothing experience overall. But even with "Two Evils," "Wild World" still feels five or six songs too long.

Although the uniformity of the songs may be annoying, some of the repetition can be forgiven thanks to Smith's varied lyricism. As seen with Bastille's debut record, Smith draws inspiration from various areas, including history ("Pompeii"), mythology ("Icarus") and cult television shows ("Laura Palmer"). The new album's lyrics are rooted in the present, but Smith's storytelling still shines. "Good Grief" sets the tone with a discussion of coping with life after death, and "Warmth" deals with the wildness of today's political climate seems, hence the album's title.

Despite suffering from its length and consequent tedium, "Wild World" is not an awful album. The powerful hooks coupled with Smith's stunning voice definitely make up for some of the repetition. If you are a fan of Bastille, there's nothing to dislike about "Wild World," but for anybody else, just listen to the first half and you've essentially heard the entire album.

Tracklist

1. "Good Grief"
2. "The Currents"
3. "An Act of Kindness"
4. "Warmth"
5. "Glory"
6. "Power"
7. "Two Evils"
8. "Send Them Off!"
9. "Lethargy"
10. "Four Walls"
11. "Blame"
12. "Fake It"
13. "Snakes"
14. "Winter of Our Youth"



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Tracing Our

Compiled by Brendan Brzycki

“ I think what has been true throughout the history of the organization has been that [we have had] committed parents that really want to see the best for Troy. ”

Laurie Downum
Troy Tech Coordinator

“ I believe that being involved in a parent organization, whether it's PTSA or TSO or our booster groups, is really important for parents because we need to advocate for our children. ”

Cathy Kubo
TSO President

The Troy Support Organization continues to make lasting impacts on Warriors through their newest fundraising campaign, #thetroydifference.

By Caroline Zhu
STAFF WRITER

Collaborating with the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) to enhance the Warrior high school experience, the Troy Support Organization (TSO) will use money from the new #thetroydifference fundraising campaign to cultivate a stronger academic environment.

Founded in 2002, TSO is a nationally recognized non-profit organization that financially supports Warriors and their academic, athletic and performing arts programs. Originally, TSO was known as the Troy Tech Support Organization because it provided funding only for the Troy Tech Program. However, stakeholders decided to widen the focus to the entire student body. To reflect its larger scope, the name “Troy Support Organization” was adopted.

Now, TSO distributes the generous financial donations of corporate donors, grantors and Troy parents to programs and activities across the school. Recent gifts include 41 computers for the Computer Science Department and one John Deere athletic tractor. According to Troy Tech Coordinator Laurie Downum, TSO was created through the efforts of parents and students alike to form a support structure for the entire student body.

“Parents are an important part of [TSO’s] success because they bring their children to Troy, and

our hard-working students do what it is today,” Downum says. “We help our students be the best in anything else they [choose] to do. We have funding available for programs needed, public school funding.”

TSO launched #thetroydifference campaign with the PTSA seeking to promote core values: excellence, leadership, and preparation. This year, #



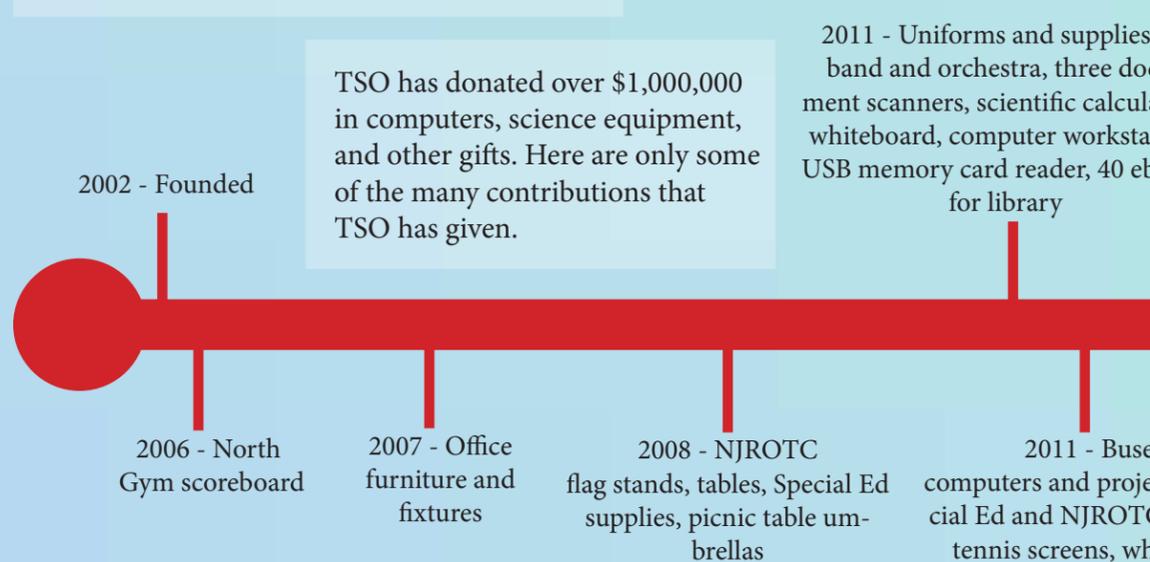
provide capital to employ coaches, AVID coaches, etc. to improve student success. TSO President Cathy Kubo says, “The updated Troy Tech program will allow students to gain professional skills such

Supportive Beginnings

Troy Support Organization (TSO) has been broadening student horizons since the 2001-2002 school year in order to supplement public school funding. The organization provides resources to Warriors by securing both parent and corporate donations. Originally named the Troy Tech Support Organization, the foundation focused on using this money to fund both the Mentor Breakfast and Troy Tech fair. As TSO developed, board members expanded the organization to support the campus through monetary donations and volunteers. The foundation was then renamed the Troy Support Organization to reflect the broadening of its efforts. TSO continues to help the entire campus by putting more technology in the hands of both educators and students. With this purpose in mind, TSO developed the “#troydifference” campaign in conjunction with the Parent Teacher Student Association in the hopes of increasing fundraising through their union. This merger connects the donation pathways of both organizations and gives the two foundations a unified voice when speaking to parent donors. Throughout its 15 years, the foundation has demonstrated its dedication to empowering Warriors by improving campus facilities and student opportunity.

TIFFANY HALL

TSO Contributions



PTSA Contributions

ur Support

i and Hannah Ro, NEWS EDITORS

ents are [what] make Troy num said. "Our goal is to e best, in [academics] and hoose to] pursue. We want ble when teachers, depart- d additional support. In the ing can get us only so far." ydifference as a joint camp- eking to reinforce Warrior , community and lifelong #thetroydifference will pro-

composing formal correspondence before entering their senior internship. #thetroydifference will also provide funding to integrate technology into classrooms, beginning with Chromebooks and other digital learning tools.

"We want to use this money to pay for more student scholarships [and] to expand our [internship] program," Cusick said. "All of the money we raise will go to the students, to enriching their education and experiences. My hope is that #thetroydifference will allow us to do even more for our students and make a difference for each and every [Warrior]."

Unlike previous TSO campaigns, #thetroydifference was created in conjunction with the PTSA to manage parent contributions such as volunteering and donations as one large body rather than two separate organizations. According to PTSA President Kim Cusick, the two organizations will work toward building on The Troy Difference: academic excellence.

Because #thetroydifference was launched only recently, the joint TSO and PTSA campaign is still under development. According to Kubo, the campaign will continue to grow as the year progresses. PTSA and TSO members are seeking to create a process and a foundation that will support the students and maintain the core values of the Warrior community. These goals will require extensive planning, Kubo said.

"[TSO wants] to have a lasting impact," Kubo said. "We have a long-term vision, and we want to see what the impact will be on Troy in [several] years. Even though most parents are only [involved] for four years, during our term we try to improve quality of student life for all [Warriors], both present and future. In the end, we want everyone to [succeed]."



Troy Tech pre-internship and digital literacy coach-support services on campus, Kubo said.

Tech junior pre-internship students to learn important skills such as writing resumes and

#thetroydifference

"Since industries are modernizing, better technology helps us get used to what the real world is using."

Aagam Vadecha
senior

"Chromebooks make note-taking and working on presentations so much easier."

Kera Mckeon
junior

for cu-ators, tion, ooks

2012 - Math software, three Canon cameras, skeleton models and five gel electrophoresis systems for the Science Department, 20 LCD projectors, a wireless keyboard, 11 document readers, band instruments

2013 - Library detection system, mobile scanners, projectors

2014 - 65 classroom document cameras, HD docks and graphics cards, John Deere Gator tractor for athletics, refurbished tubas for Marching Band

2016 - Classroom rewiring, 41 new computers, NJROTC underwater robots, theater sound equipment

es, ctors, Spec supplies, eelchair

2012 - Locker painting, shade canopies, computers for Ilium and Oracle, Naviance software

2013 - Disaster supplies, prizes for annual Troy computer programming contest

2014 - Library tables and chairs, emergency equipment and supplies

2015 - Chromebooks, field trips



& The New Girl in TOWN!

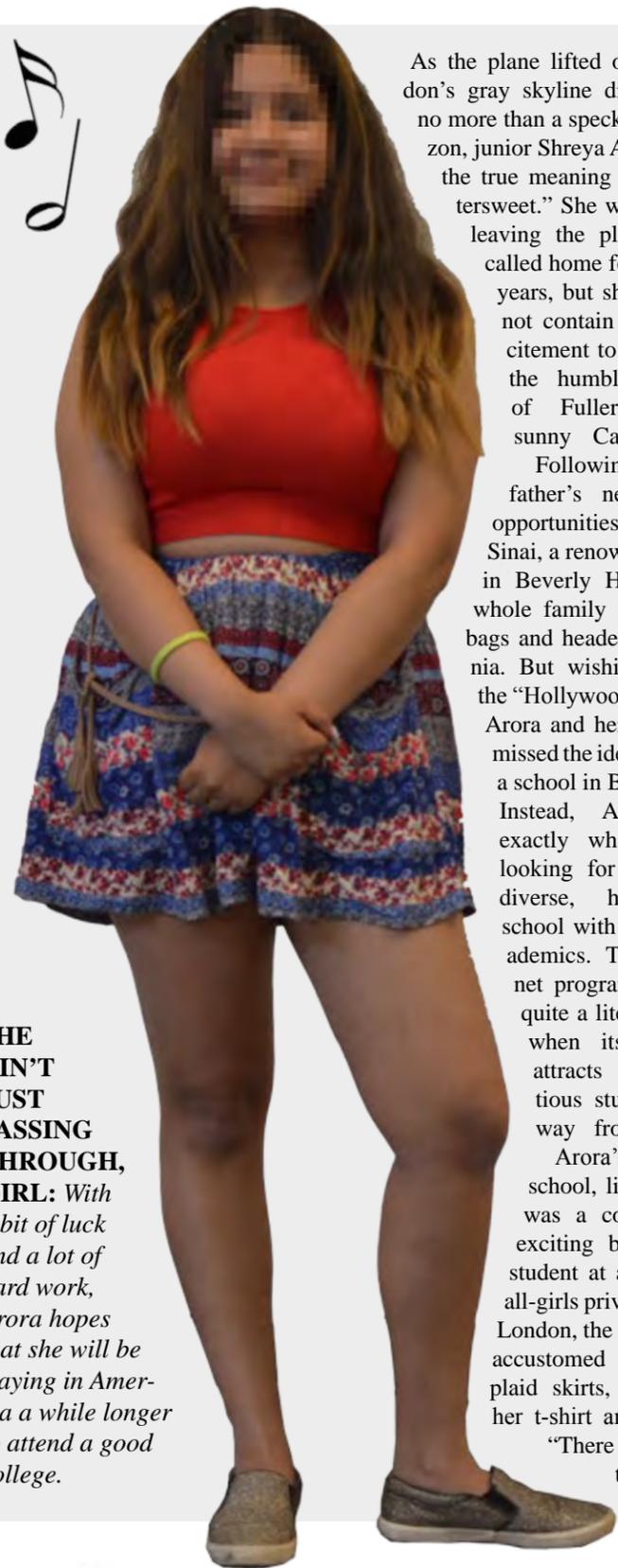


“The new girl in town! Who just came on the scene? The new girl in town! Can’t be more than sixteen...”

Can there be a better song to make an entrance to? New Warrior Shreya Arora has come all the way from London to sunny Southern California, ready for a unique challenge: junior year at Troy High School.

By Jenny Ji, STAFF WRITER

Cartoon by Hanmin Ko, CARTOON EDITOR, and photo by Ida Kazerani, PHOTO



SHE AIN'T JUST PASSING THROUGH, GIRL: *With a bit of luck and a lot of hard work, Arora hopes that she will be staying in America a while longer to attend a good college.*

As the plane lifted off and London’s gray skyline diminished to no more than a speck on the horizon, junior Shreya Arora learned the true meaning of “bittersweet.” She would be leaving the place she called home for many years, but she could not contain her excitement to explore the humble town of Fullerton in sunny California.

Following her father’s new research opportunities at Cedars Sinai, a renowned hospital in Beverly Hills, Arora’s whole family packed their bags and headed to California. But wishing to avoid the “Hollywood influence,” Arora and her family dismissed the idea of going to a school in Beverly Hills. Instead, Arora found exactly what she was looking for in Troy—a diverse, highly-ranked school with rigorous academics. Troy’s “magnet program” takes on quite a literal meaning when its reputation attracts an ambitious student all the way from London!

Arora’s first day of school, like anyone’s, was a confusing but exciting blur. Once a student at a prestigious all-girls private school in London, the new Warrior, accustomed to ties and plaid skirts, felt free in her t-shirt and flip-flops.

“There were a lot of things I had

to leave behind, but I think a change is good for anyone,” Arora said. “I had been looking forward to the first day, and in the heat of the moment, I don’t really miss home.”

“The world is a changing place with globalization. I don’t want to miss out on all of these potential opportunities to grow.”

Shreya Arora
junior

Though she expected the “Mean Girls” stereotype of a typical American high school, Arora did not find herself eating her lunch in the bathroom stall. Instead, many classmates, some enamored by her British accent, welcomed Arora to their tables with open arms and kind words. Her new friends even introduced her to In-N-Out, a vital part of SoCal culture!

Arora, in return, recounted her fascinating stories about saluting the royal family and singing on stage with One Direction with her choir. Eyes sparkling, she told of Harry Styles winking at her among a sea of students. Old memories were revisited, and new ones were made as each of her friends, all from different backgrounds, shared their own cultures and customs.

“There’s just so much diversity [at Troy],” Arora said. “At Club Rush there’s Vietnamese club, Gay Straight Alliance and all sorts of clubs that show the diversity in the school, and that’s [what I] really appreciate.”

Striving to become assimilated into her new campus while maintaining her own personal interests, Arora created a brand new book club that brings together literature from America and England. Taking advantage of what Troy

has to offer, Arora is also applying for the International Baccalaureate diploma to broaden her horizons and her future. “The world is a changing place with globalization,” Arora said. “I know London. I know England. I [cannot continue] to live in one place my entire life because I don’t want to miss out on all of these potential opportunities to grow.”

Once her whole world was England, but now Arora sets her eyes on an entire world of possibilities. Though England will always occupy a special place in her heart, Arora is hopeful that she will have greater opportunities here in America.

Perhaps one day Arora will be an accomplished doctor like her father, grateful for the choice she made long ago to come to Troy.



CHIPS OR CRISPS?: *The transition from the bustling city of London to Fullerton was difficult for Arora at first, but she is already settling into the busy life of a Warrior.*



fall FESTIVITIES

Break out your sweaters and pumpkin spice lattes, because fall is officially upon us. Learn how you can kick off the season by reading our overview on the best fall festivals in Orange County.

By Christopher Lee, STAFF WRITER, and Ryan Fawwaz, ENTERTAINMENT AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR, and cartoons by Lucy Lee, CARTOON

Tustin Tiller Days

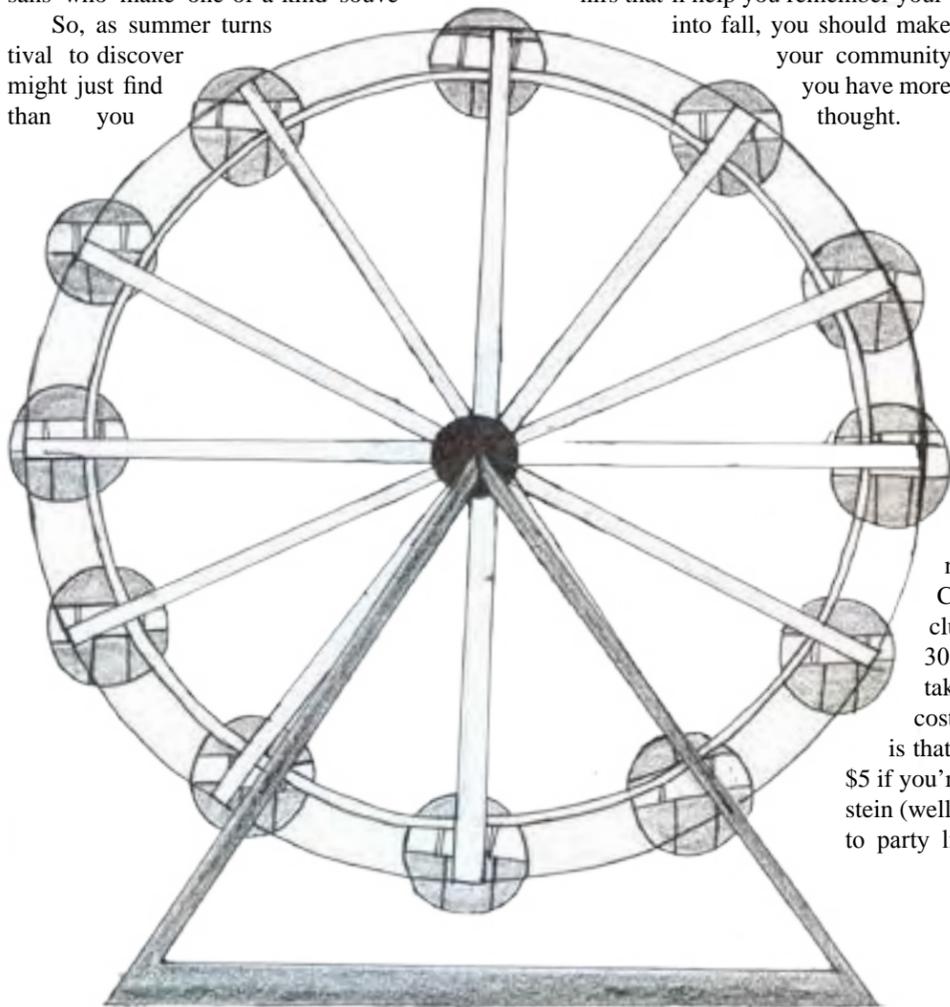
Curious about Orange County's past but sick of hitting the books? If so, give Tustin Tiller Days a chance. This annual festival is one of Orange County's most popular celebrations created to appreciate the region's unique heritage. Because Tustin Tiller Days runs from Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, make sure that you don't miss out on the exhilarating games, rides and shows that will add some excitement to the lull of your daily routine.

I don't know about you, but the first thing I look for at a carnival is food. Goods such as barbecue and shaved ice are a staple to the fair experience, and Tustin Tiller Days does not disappoint. But what makes the fair truly unique is its contribution to the community: most of the stands will be hosted by organizations that are raising money to support their ongoing projects. For example, every year the Boy Scouts of America sells Philly cheesesteaks to support its local troops. So, don't feel bad about indulging in your guilty pleasure, because you can now use your bad eating habits for the good of the community.

Adding some thrill to the festival experience, Tustin Tiller Days has many traditional carnival attractions that will help you relive those childhood days spent at the fair. Make your day one to remember by trying out the various rides the festival has to offer, such as the swings and the Ferris wheel. However, if you're anything like me, you can avoid the rides and go straight to the game booths, where you'll be able to try your luck at darts or whack-a-mole and win some prizes while you're at it. Either way, you'll get a noteworthy festival experience that'll be well worth the cost of the attractions.

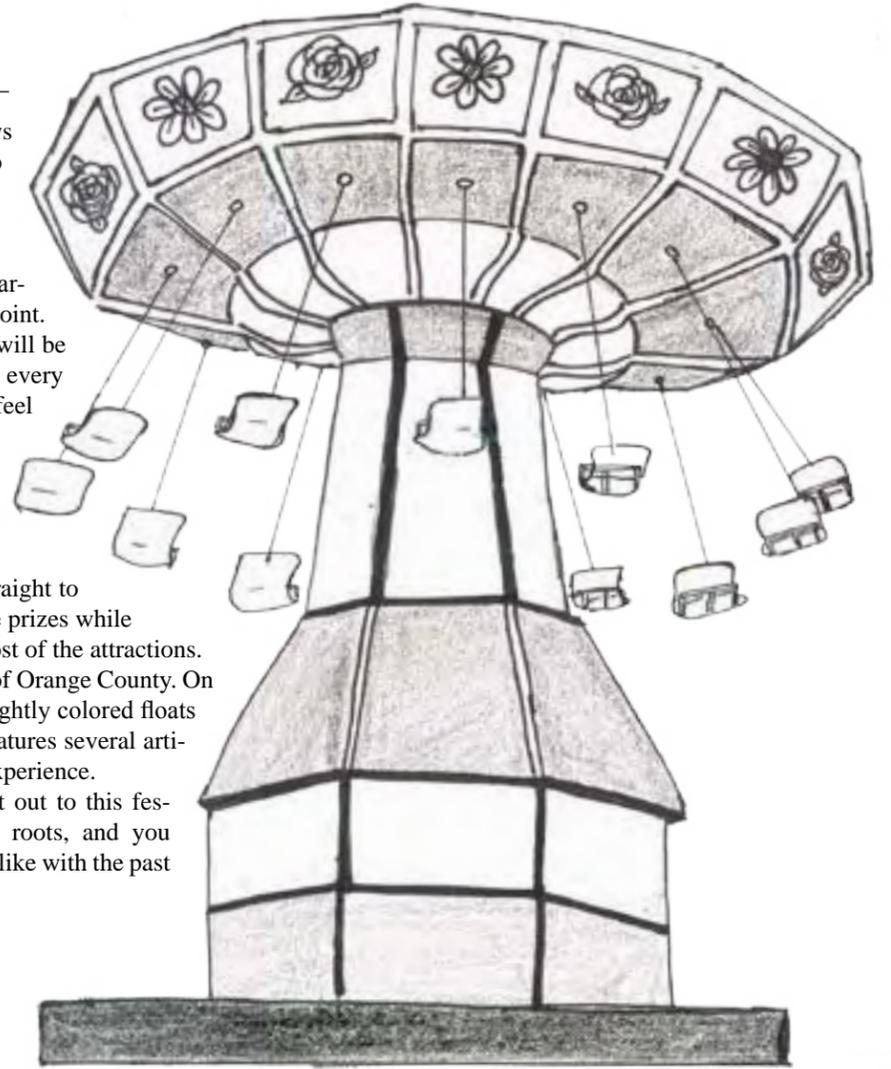
Perhaps what makes Tustin Tiller Days truly exceptional is its focus on the cultural heritage of Orange County. On the first morning of the festival, a parade takes place to celebrate the county's growth with brightly colored floats and spirited performances. Although the parade is only a one day event, Tustin Tiller Days features several artisans who make one-of-a-kind souvenirs that'll help you remember your experience.

So, as summer turns into fall, you should make it out to this festival to discover your community's roots, and you might just find that you have more in common with the past than you thought.



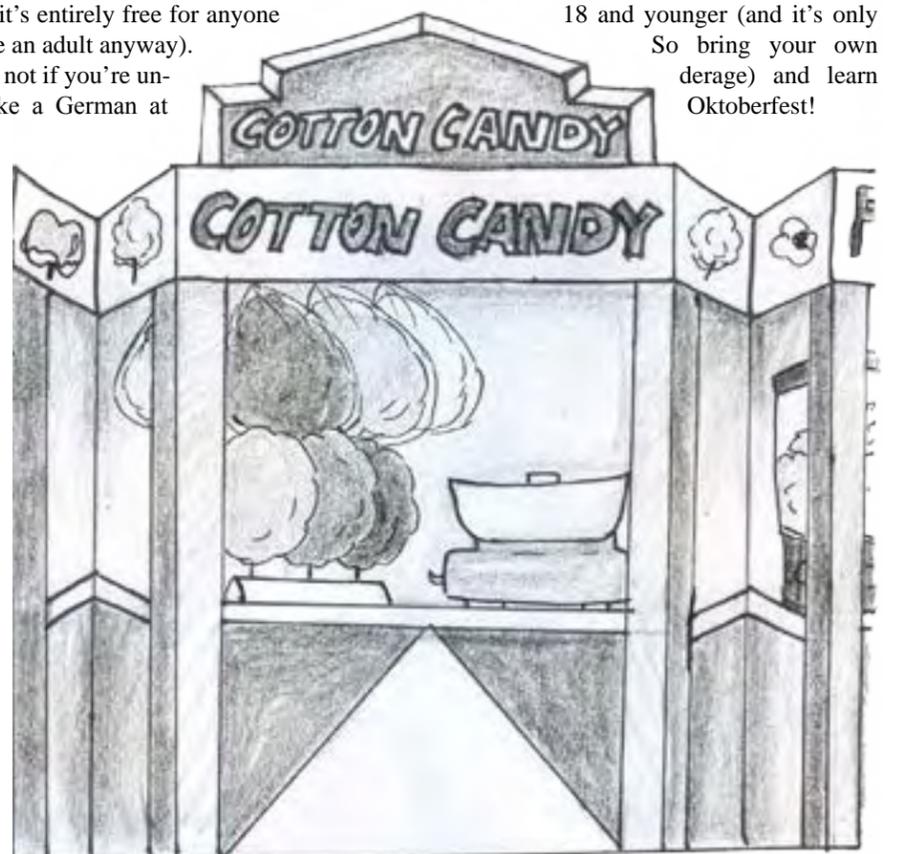
Irvine Global Village Festival

As fall begins, appreciating the culture around you in an entertaining atmosphere will help you start off the season right. What better way to do so than checking out the Irvine Global Village Festival? Deviating from the traditional carnival theme, the celebration has multiple cultural attractions to offer, such as an international foods marketplace. When you make your visit, be sure to stop by the various food stalls with cuisine from all over the world, such as Bolivian meat pies or Dutch pancakes. If you're tired of the daily turkey sandwich, try out something new here and see what you enjoy. Once you've eaten your fill, work off those calories by participating in various cultural demonstrations. For example, groups such as Vibe Entertainment will be there to teach small classes, so take this chance to learn something new. But don't worry if you're not athletically inclined like me, because the festival features an international market where you can check out the regional vendors selling unique art pieces. In addition to surveying the beautiful jewelry on display, you can learn about the different fabrics from China or art from Africa, so listen in and maybe buy a few souvenirs. In brief, the Irvine Global Village Festival offers a truly unique setting in which you can learn to appreciate the medley of cultures surrounding you.



Anaheim Oktoberfest

If you want to enjoy one of the world's most popular internationally recognized festivals but don't have the resources to fly all the way to Munich, Germany, look no further than the myriad of local Oktoberfest celebrations in Orange County. With California being home to the most Americans claiming German heritage, it comes as no surprise that you can find multiple major Oktoberfest celebrations here in Southern California. One of the largest, most popular events comes to Anaheim at the Phoenix club. The festivities will be held over seven weekends, starting Sept. 16 and ending Oct. 30. Although students may not be able to enjoy the imported German beer, they can still take part in the festivities by enjoying the traditional live music, sausage eating contests, costume contests, polka lessons and even a bouncy castle. And the best part about it is that it's entirely free for anyone 18 and younger (and it's only \$5 if you're an adult anyway). So bring your own stein (well, not if you're un-to party like a German at Oktoberfest! derage) and learn Oktoberfest!



Tennis backhands Cerritos Dons 12-6

Warrior girls tennis (0-0, 6-1) aced the match against Cerritos Sept. 14.

By Vincent Kang
STAFF WRITER

Adopting a more aggressive mentality to prepare for Division 1, the Warrior girls tennis team (0-0, 6-1) dominated the Cerritos Dons in a blowout preseason victory 12-6 Sept. 14.

The Warrior singles lineup steadily kept a substantial lead for the entire match. Captain Julia Aguirre took the helm and finished her first round with a score of 6-0. Although her second opponent put up a tough fight, Aguirre maintained her winning streak, finishing with a 6-3 win. Keeping her opponents on their toes, junior Anna Tifrea overpowered every adversary with her dynamic serves, capturing 6-1 and 6-0 wins. Another pair of 6-1 and 6-0 victories solidified a Warrior triumph as junior Kaylee Kang breezed through her rounds.

Further bolstering their lead, the Warriors prevailed over the Dons on the doubles side as well. Sophomores Hannah Kim and Julianna Sabile swept their first two rounds with 6-0 and 6-1 wins before briefly losing their momentum in the third round, but they recovered and emerged as victors with a final score of 6-2. In



ASHLEY BRANSON

SERVES YOU RIGHT: Adding to the Warrior winning streak, a Warrior ceaselessly rallies the tennis ball against her opponent.

an evenly contested first match, senior Michelle Lau and freshman Shannon White showcased their synergy to secure victories in each of their three rounds. Although the third doubles lineup of sophomores Irene Jo, Sabeen Lohawala, Karin Sherb and freshman Erin Bhan did not fare as well, the Warriors triumphed with an overall dominant display of their abilities 12-6.

With this victory against the Dons, the Warriors aim to carry their astounding preseason momentum into league, Aguirre said.

“So far, we have been really successful,” Aguirre said. “We only lost one time during the preseason, and it was a really close match. We lost to a good school, so we are happy with our performances.”

The team’s success in the preseason can be attributed to the implementation of a more aggressive, determined approach to the game, interim coach Wendie Mahan said.

“We try to stay focused and fight hard,” Mahan said. “[We] don’t give up, and we just hang in there with good attitudes and sportsmanship. The game plan is to fight for every point and cut

down our errors. We just need to keep working.”

In addition to the returning players’ motivation, the freshmen consistently deliver praiseworthy performances, Mahan said.

“We have a couple strong new players who are a real asset to the team,” Mahan said. “I think that their double sense is good, their volleys are also strong. Overall, they are solid hitters.”

Preparations for the season have been smooth thanks to Mahan’s adept knowledge of tennis, despite the unexpected resignation of their main coach at the beginning of the season, Aguirre said.

“We had one coach who came in all summer and then unexpectedly quit,” Aguirre said. “So now we have the [junior varsity] coach who moved up to [manage] the varsity team. She is extremely qualified, and we’re just excited to have her.”

Although competition will become significantly tougher in Division 1, the team remains confident about their chances of reaching the California Interscholastic Federation finals, Mahan said.

“We are currently ninth in Orange County for Division 1,” Mahan said. “Some of our girls are definitely stronger than last season. I am looking forward to see what they are capable of doing.”

GAMES CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2016

GAME TIMES:
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

10/5

TROY VS SUNNY HILLS

WHERE: TROY

10/12

TROY VS FULLERTON

WHERE: FULLERTON

10/14

TROY VS CERRITOS

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

WHERE: CERRITOS

10/19

TROY VS SONORA

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

WHERE: TROY

10/20

TROY VS BUENA PARK

WHERE: BUENA PARK

GAME TIMES:
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

10/4

TROY VS BUENA PARK

WHERE: BUENA PARK

10/6

TROY VS LA HABRA

WHERE: LA HABRA

10/11

TROY VS SUNNY HILLS

WHERE: SUNNY HILLS

10/13

TROY VS FULLERTON

WHERE: TROY

10/15

TROY VS SONORA

WHERE: SONORA

10/20

TROY VS BUENA PARK

WHERE: TROY

BOYS' WATERPOLO

GAME TIMES:
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

10/4

TROY VS SONORA

WHERE: TROY

10/6

TROY VS BUENA PARK

WHERE: BUENA PARK

10/11

TROY VS LA HABRA

WHERE: LA HABRA

10/13

TROY VS SUNNY HILLS

WHERE: TROY

10/18

TROY VS FULLERTON

WHERE: TROY

GAME TIMES:
7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

10/7

TROY VS LA HABRA

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

WHERE: TROY

10/14

TROY VS SUNNY HILLS

WHERE: TROY

10/21

TROY VS FULLERTON

WHERE: FULLERTON

10/28

TROY VS SONORA

WHERE: TROY

GIRLS' TENNIS

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

FOOTBALL

WTA R R T O R



**Warrior Girls
Basketball Captain**
Committed to Cal Berkeley

**Ranked #21 in the
nation (ESPN)**

All-State

All-CIF

**Kianna
Smith**

Cross Country flies through Tri-City Park

Warrior cross country competed in the Tri-City invitational Sept. 10.

By Joshua Kim & Austin Shin
STAFF WRITER & SPORTS EDITOR

Implementing newfound training techniques to offset the lack of veteran runners, the Warrior boys cross country team outtraced opponents in a sweeping victory, while the girls cross country team similarly trumped competition Sept. 10.

Co-captain Noah McGranahan led the way to the forefront of the competition, completing his race with a time of 16:14. Finishing fourth with a 16:44 time, junior Derek D'Amelia compensated for a moderate start by inching past lagging competitors throughout the race. Following seconds behind, junior Johnny Choi banked on his quick strides to post a 17:07 time, and trailing in eighth place junior Nathan Spidell boasted a time of 17:11.

Also displaying remarkable results, the Lady Warriors similarly outpaced rival athletes. Flying through the course, sophomore Veronica Chen and co-captain Dominique Pillos completed for-

midable 19:56 and 20:08 races, respectively. Not far behind, freshman Keziah Farien trailed hot on their heels with a time of 20:12.

Although the team lost many of its quickest athletes, experienced team members continue to perform well in meets and compensate for graduated runners, coach Rick Chorpenning said.

“The goal is to run in a pack to finish in a group. People think cross country isn't a team sport, but it really is.”

Jonah Lee
co-captain

“We lost our top runners,” Chorpenning said. “To improve on that, we need to run as a pack and pull each other along. Although we lost [key runners] last year, we have a core, and they're going to do really well.”

The team's successes were facilitated by the determination of these calloused runners, but the frequent and intense workouts have fashioned the remaining members into stronger athletes, co-captain Jonah Lee said.

“I think we are doing a lot better training-wise than last year,” Lee said. “We have a lot more

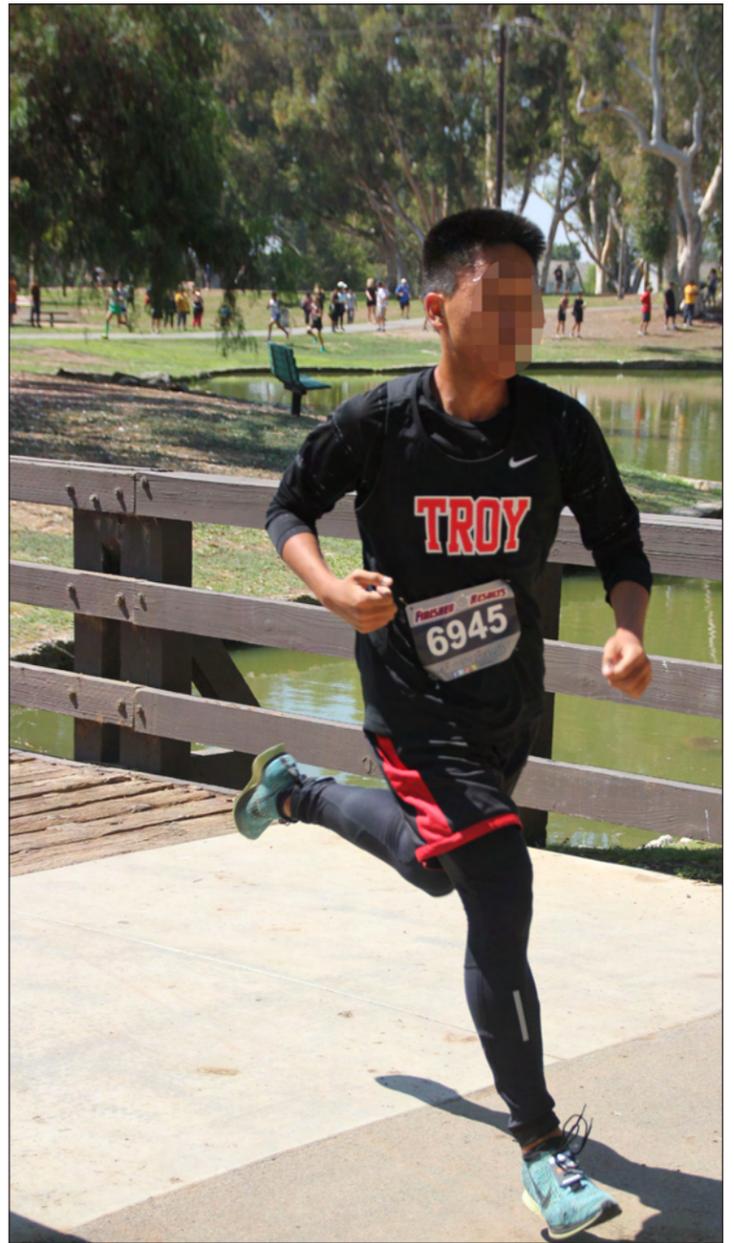
people that are dedicated. The rigor of the training is good for the team because it will help us see our true potential, and show us that we can get better and encourage us to improve.”

Maturing the younger runners through training has decreased pressure on the veterans and provided the team with a unique edge over the competition, Chorpenning said.

“We have enough running experience under our belts, which enables [us] to accomplish a couple of things,” Chorpenning said. “[We] have the ability to move up and get faster. It looks like the girls will be faster than last year, so we are looking to be solid. The boys [are going to] do really well too.”

The team continues to plow through difficult practices, striding towards future victories and aiming to further cultivate its younger runners, Lee said.

“I agree that we lost our core runners,” Lee said. “That definitely pushes us to work harder, and makes us grow stronger and faster as a team. The coach believes in our potential and will put us in harder races to push us to our limit.”



LAUREN KIM

BEST FOOT FORWARD: Confronting the three-mile Tri-City cross country race, a Warrior strides swiftly across the course bridge.



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